

# THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301  
Volume 37, Number 3, March, 2010

## Most Rev. William F. Medley Ordained As Fourth Bishop Of The Diocese Of Owensboro

By Dawn Ligibel

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Bishop William Francis Medley, who was ordained as the fourth bishop of Owensboro on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 in the Owensboro Sportscenter, seemingly slipped into his new role as Bishop and shepherd of the Western Kentucky faithful with the apparent ease of a man slipping into a pair of familiar and comfortable slippers.

After completing the rites of ordination, Bishop Medley was led to his chair, known as his cathedra, by Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, the Archbishop of Louisville and the principal ordaining bishop. When Bishop Medley took his seat he literally beamed as the congregation of more than 5,000 people gave him a standing ovation. If a smile could be measured in the same units as a light bulb, Bishop Medley's smile may have reached 10,000 watts.

Following the ovation, each bishop in attendance approached the new bishop and offered him a fraternal kiss of peace, which symbolizes his incorporation into the College of Bishops. During this rite and the blessing of all those present, which took place after communion, Bishop Medley's broad smile remained firmly in place.

After the blessing, Bishop Medley spoke to the crowd, although he teased that they nearly skipped his opportunity to speak. "They almost didn't let me talk!" he exclaimed to the delight of the crowd. He went on to explain that the "prescription" for his remarks instructed that they be kept "brief." When preparing his remarks, he consulted with Archbishop Kelly about what to say, and Archbishop replied, "Bill, it's not the academy awards!"

His opening remarks were indicative of his entire address which was sprinkled with humor while interwoven with humility and gratitude. "I speak what every person on earth should say every day, to God be the glory," Bishop Medley proclaimed.

Bishop Medley then recalled the phone call he received on December 3, 2009, from Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the Papal Nuncio to the United States. After being asked to accept the appointment as the Bishop of Owensboro, Bishop Medley told the crowd that his first thought was "Oh, goodness." Once again those gath-



At the heart of the ordination ceremony, Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, Archbishop of Louisville, laid hands on William Francis Medley invoking the power of the Holy Spirit to ordain him as the fourth Bishop of Owensboro. The ordination ceremony was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the Sportscenter in Owensboro. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



Newly ordained Bishop William Francis Medley took a seat in his cathedra and beamed while receiving a standing ovation from a crowd of more than 5,000 people. Bishop Medley was ordained as the fourth bishop of Owensboro on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

ered erupted in laughter.

When addressing the faithful in attendance, however, Bishop Medley said, "I'm strengthened in confidence with all these holy people praying for me. The size and enthusiasm of this gathering tells of the vitality of the Church of Western Kentucky," he stated. "This gathering evidences that this Church has been well led," he added.

Another rousing ovation took place when Bishop Medley honored and thanked Bishop Emeritus John McRaith for his many years of service. Bishop McRaith shepherded the Church of Western Kentucky for 26 years before retiring. "If my ministry as bishop in some small way mirrors yours," he said speaking directly to Bishop McRaith, "it will indeed be fruitful."

Some say that the measure of a man can be taken in the way he treats his mother. If this is the case, Bishop Medley's measure reaches great proportions, particularly when he speaks of his mother, Dorothy. "The family is where faith is nurtured and grows," claimed Bishop Medley. "My mother embodies that Catholic spirit," he added. After expressing great joy in the fact that she was well enough to attend

his ordination, the Bishop said, "I get in trouble every time I do this, but I'm going to ask her to stand up." Once again, the crowd was moved to an extended applause when Dorothy Medley stood.

The lightheartedness in Bishop Medley's voice diminished as he remembered his father. "My father left us 35 years ago and I've missed him a lot the past few weeks, more so than usual," the Bishop said with a thickening throat.

"I have been humbled and overwhelmed by the welcome I have received," Bishop Medley continued. "I embrace this calling with faith and confidence. I must be a good listener and a good student. I must listen and learn from you and to the wisdom the Holy Spirit has imparted on this Church," Bishop Medley added with humility.

The Bishop then made reference to the growing Hispanic community in the Church of Western Kentucky. While he admitted that he had not yet had the opportunity to associate with a Hispanic community, he said, "That changes today." He then poked fun at himself about his ability to speak Spanish and said, "I will make a feeble attempt to greet you" and proceeded to speak in Spanish.

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## 2 Most Rev. William F. Medley Ordained As Fourth Bishop Of The Diocese Of Owensboro

Bishop Medley then concluded by first joking at the need to wrap up his remarks for them to still be considered "brief." He finished by saying, "I am happy to be your shepherd and your servant. I love you and will serve you as long as I am able, to the greater glory of God."

Before Bishop Medley enjoyed the spotlight as the fourth bishop of Owensboro, the Bishop-elect sat quietly before his ordination. Although he was already wearing his stole, chasuble (a ceremonial cloak open on the sides) and zucchetto (the small cap worn at the crown of the head) as indicated by the Roman Rite, he didn't receive the other signs of his office until after the ordination was complete.

The ordination itself was carried out primarily by Archbishop Kurtz, who was accompanied by Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith and Archbishop-emeritus Thomas Kelly, who was Bishop of Louisville when Bishop Medley was ordained a priest and for most of the years Bishop Medley was a priest in that diocese. After Archbishop Kurtz presented the Bishop-elect to the gathering, Sister Joseph Angela Boone, O.S.U., the Chancellor of the Diocese and a member of the Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters, read the Apostolic letter, which is a letter sent by the Holy Father appointing Bishop-elect Medley as the fourth bishop of Owensboro.

After the letter was accepted by all in attendance, Archbishop Kurtz addressed the crowd with his homily. Initially he spoke of how a bishop's mission is to serve with love and humility and how one must be a bishop at heart. "We have come to know our Bishop Medley and we pray with confidence that he will become a bishop at heart," the Archbishop stated.

Archbishop Kurtz also called attention to Bishop Medley's formation in faith. "His formation began in Loretto, Kentucky, and at the table of the Medley family," Archbishop Kurtz said. He referred to Bishop Medley's family as a "great source of faith." With a chuckle, Archbishop Kurtz recalled what Bishop Medley's mother said after her son received the call from the Papal Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Pietro Sambi. "I have always known that Bill was special, I just didn't know anyone else knew," Archbishop Kurtz quoted Dorothy Medley.

Addressing Bishop-elect Medley directly, Archbishop Kurtz implored the soon-to-be Bishop to recall the gifts God has given him and to use them boldly, not timidly. "Be faithful and lead others to be faithful to the sacraments," he said. He then instructed Bishop-elect Medley to act not as a weathervane, simply reflecting

the current condition of the Church, but to be more like a compass needle. "Be a compass that leads to Christ, who is the way, the truth and the light," explained Archbishop Kurtz.

Following the homily, Archbishop Kurtz posed numerous questions to the Bishop-elect regarding his resolve to uphold the faith and to fulfill the responsibilities of his office, to which Bishop-Elect Medley firmly responded, "I will." Later during his remarks, Bishop Medley jokingly referred to how "the Church takes no chances" by asking so many specific questions of the Bishop being ordained.

After answering each question with confidence, the Bishop-elect prostrated himself before the three ordaining bishops as the litany of saints was prayed. Bishop-elect Medley then knelt before Archbishop Kurtz. As Archbishop Kurtz laid his hands on Bishop-elect Medley, he invoked the power of the Holy Spirit to ordain him as Bishop. At this point, which is the heart of the ordination ceremony, the crowd of more than 5,000 was virtually silent. The co-ordinating Bishops, as well as the other 12 Bishops and 2 abbots in attendance, followed suit by laying their hands on the Bishop-elect. Over 250 priests and 10 deacons from the neighboring dioceses vested and concelebrated the Mass.

While still kneeling, the Book of the Gospels was tented over the Bishop-elect's head by two newly ordained transitional deacons as a sign of his bearing the full responsibility for the Gospel. Archbishop Kurtz then anointed the new Bishop's head with Chrism followed by presenting him with the Book of Gospels saying, "Receive the Gospel and preach the word of God with all patience and sound teaching."

At this time, the new Bishop was invested with the signs of his office: the ring, miter and crosier (pastoral staff). Placing the ring on the ring finger of the right hand, Archbishop Kurtz said, "Receive this ring, the seal of fidelity, adorned with undefiled faith, preserve unblemished the bride of God, the holy Church." The miter was then placed on his head in silence. "Receive the crosier, the sign of your pastoral office, and keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as Bishop to govern the Church of God," Archbishop Kurtz said when handing Bishop Medley his pastoral staff. The new Bishop was then led to his chair, which is a symbol of his pastoral teaching office, while broadcasting his 10,000 watt smile.

The apparent ease with which Bishop Medley accepted his new role and the symbols of the office in no way diminished the humility with which he received them.

He seems to be a man humble enough to be aware of the awesome responsibility of his new office, yet confident enough to be grateful for the opportunity. Additionally, if the enthusiasm of the crowd gathered for the new Bishop's ordination was any indication, God, through Pope Benedict XVI, has made a more than suitable selection for the fourth bishop of Owensboro.



**Bishop William Medley**  
Bryan Leazenby Photo

### Bishop William Medley's Calendar for March, 2010

#### Tuesday, March 2

- 9:00 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center Staff Meeting
- 11:15 a.m. ACE Notre Dame Survey Presentation, St. Pius X, Owensboro
- 6:00 p.m. Serra Club Charter Night

#### Thursday, March 4

- 10:35 a.m. Owensboro Catholic High School Mass

#### Sunday, March 7

- 10:30 a.m. Youth 2000 Mass, Brescia University

#### Wednesday, March 10

- 12:00 noon Rotary Club Meeting

#### Thursday, March 11

- 10:00 a.m. Ongoing Formation Day of Prayer, Location TBA

#### Sunday, March 14

- 2:30 p.m. Scouts Religious Emblems Mass, St. Pius X Parish, Owensboro

#### Monday, March 15

- 9:30 a.m. Personnel Board
- 1:30 p.m. Priests' Council

#### Tuesday, March 16

- 9:00 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center Staff Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Age Group 2 Gathering

#### Wednesday, March 17

- 5:30 p.m. "Together, Not Torn" Prayer Vigil for Immigration Reform, Saints Joseph & Paul Parish, Owensboro

#### Thursday, March 18

- 9:30 a.m. Bowling Green Deanery Meeting
- 1:30 p.m. Gasper River Retreat Center Tour
- 5:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Vocations Apprec. Dinner, Bowling Green

#### Friday, March 19

- 10:00 a.m. Saint Joseph Interparochial School Mass, Bowling Green

#### Tuesday, March 23

- 10:00 a.m. St. Mary's School System School Mass, Paducah

#### Thursday, March 25

- 8:00 a.m. Trinity High School and St. Mary of the Woods Grade School Mass, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
- 12:00 p.m. Hispanic Ministers' Retreat, Ferdinand, Indiana

#### Sunday, March 28

- 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral

#### Tuesday, March 30

- 6:30 p.m. **Chrism Mass, Sportscenter**

## NOTICE: Two Important Dates in the Diocese of Owensboro

The Owensboro Diocesan Chrism Mass will be held at the Owensboro Sportscenter on Tuesday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m.

On Holy Saturday, April 3, twilight will occur across our diocese at approximately 7:40 p.m. To insure complete darkness, therefore, the Easter Vigil, should not begin before 7:45 - 8:00 p.m. (To determine the exact time for end of twilight in your city, visit: [http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS\\_OneDay.php](http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS_OneDay.php))



# The Coat of Arms of Most Reverend William Francis Medley, D.D.

**Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky**

By Deacon Paul J. Sullivan

## Significance

The episcopal heraldic achievement, or bishop's coat of arms, is composed of a shield, which is the central and most important part of the design, a scroll with a motto and the external ornamentation. The design is described (blazoned) as if the description was being given by the bearer (from behind) with the shield being worn on the left arms. Thus, it must be remembered, where it applies, as the device is viewed from the front that the terms sinister and dexter are reversed.

By heraldic tradition, the arms of the bishop of a diocese, called an "Ordinary," are joined (impaled) with the arms of his jurisdiction, in this case the Diocese of Owensboro in Kentucky, that are seen in



the dexter impalement (left side) of the design.

These arms are composed of a silver (white) field on which is seen a red cross, of The Faith, throughout. On this cross are a palm branch (erect), the symbol of a martyr, between two rocks, all in silver (white) to honor the titular of the Cathedral-Church in Owensboro, Saint Stephen, the deacon and Proto-martyr of The Church who gave his life for The Faith by being stoned. The upper portion of the diocesan arms are taken from the seal of the State of Kentucky and it shows, on a red field, two clasped hands, in silver (white) a symbol of friendship, cooperation and trust among all of the people of this great state.

For his personal arms, His Excellency, Bishop Medley has adopted a design that reflects his heritage and his ministry as a priest of Jesus Christ. These arms are composed of two sections. The upper portion, a silver (white) field with three stars and four small bars (barlets) all in black, are the family arms of the Medley family. This design is joined to the lower portion, a gold (yellow) field with a red cross between four red fleur-de-lis, which are the Hayden family arms. By the use of these

two achievements, joined as one, His Excellency honors the heritage of his parents James and Dorothy (Hayden) Medley. In the center of the family arms is a smaller blue shield, called an escutcheon, and it is charged with a silver (white) monogram of the Blessed Virgin Mary ("A" "M" – Ave Maria). This charge expresses His Excellency's deep devotion to Our Blessed Mother.

For his motto Bishop Medley has selected the phrase "HOLY IS GOD'S NAME." This phrase from Saint Luke's Gospel (Luke 1:49) expresses the awe, wonder and majesty that is the reality of God . . . who is holy!

The achievement is completed by the external ornamentation which are a gold processional cross, that is placed in back of the shield and which extends above and below the shield, and the pontifical hat, called a "gallero," with its six tassels in three rows on either side of the shield, all in green. These are the heraldic insignia of a prelate of the rank of bishop, by instruction of The Holy See, of March 31, 1969.

*Rev. Mr. Sullivan is a Deacon of the Diocese of Providence (RI-USA)*

## Lenten Sacrifice



### ABSTINENCE

No meat can be taken by those 14 and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays.



### FASTING

A limit of one full meatless meal by those 18-59 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



### SELF-DENIAL

Voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended on weekdays during Lent.



### PRAYER and CHARITY

Can include daily Mass, Scripture study, Stations of the Cross, almsgiving and showing mercy and kindness to others.

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## Conversion breaks bonds of selfishness, pope says in Lenten message

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Conversion to Christ gives people the strength to break the bonds of selfishness and work for justice in the world, Pope Benedict XVI said in his message for Lent 2010. "The Christian is moved to contribute to creating just societies where all receive what is necessary to live according to the dignity proper to the human person and where justice is enlivened by love," the pope said in the message released Feb. 4 at the Vatican. Latin-rite Catholics begin Lent Feb. 17 while most Easternrite Catholics begin the penitential season Feb. 15. The theme of the pope's message was, "The Justice of God Has Been Manifested through Faith in Jesus Christ." The common understanding of "justice," he said, is to give each person his or her due. But because people are created in God's image, they not only need food, water, shelter and jobs; they need God and they need love, he said. The greatest sign of God's love is the gift of salvation in Christ. When people accept that gift, the pope said, they recognize that they are dependent on God.

*Editor's Note: Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.*

*Fasting as explained by the U.S. bishops means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast and around midday or in the evening—depending on when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal.*

*Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat.*

Source: <http://www.americancatholic.org/features/lent/faqle9902.asp>

## Divine Mercy Sunday

April 11, 2010, 1:30 P.m. – 4:00 P.m.

Blessed Mother Church, 601 East 23rd St., Owensboro, Ky.

## THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Official Newspaper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, Ky.  
Story Deadline: 15th of month prior to publication. The Western Kentucky Catholic is published monthly except June and July from The Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY. 42301

Publisher: Most Rev. William F. Medley,  
Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky.

Editor: Mel Howard, e-mail: [mel.howard@pastoral.org](mailto:mel.howard@pastoral.org)

Adm. Assistant and Spanish Translator:

Tami Schneider, [Tami.schneider@pastoral.org](mailto:Tami.schneider@pastoral.org)

Business Address: Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301 Phone: 683-1545. Fax: 683-6883 Internet Address: [www.owensborodio.org](http://www.owensborodio.org) Subscription Cost: \$10.00 per year

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## 4 Bishop Medley Goes Straight to Work as Our New Bishop

By April Dickens

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Bishop Medley Confirmed 4 young men and 5 young women at Precious Blood Catholic Church here on February 14, 2010, at the 8:00 am Mass. He noted in his homily that he had only been the Bishop of Owensboro for 3 ½ days, and that he had already been to St. Francis de Sales in Paducah the night before for confirmation.

During his homily, Bishop Medley told the confirmandi that he would be praying for them that they will be open to God's call for their life's vocation. And that he would look forward to 12 -14 years from now possibly laying hands on one of the young men again, as he ordains them a priest. He also said that he will be watching for the day when one of the young women among the confirmandi makes her vows for religious life.

*April Dickens is Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper for Sts. Joseph & Paul Catholic Church, Owensboro.*



Lance Dickens, at right, watches in awe as Bishop Medley blesses his brother's confirmation gifts; also pictured, at left, Brandon Trogden. In photo at right, Bishop Medley with Luke Dickens and altar servers: Lane & Lydea Dickens.



Luke Dickens being anointed with oil by Bishop Medley. Also picture: Fr. Bruce McCarty and Tyler Trogden.



## Guthrie Recognizes Brescia University for 60 Years of Leadership in Higher Education

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Brett Guthrie (KY-02) introduced House Resolution 1043 today, Tuesday, February 2, 2010, recognizing Brescia University, in Owensboro, Ky., for 60 years of leadership in higher education. Below are the congressman's remarks:

"I rise today in support of House Resolution 1043, recognizing Brescia University for 60 years of leadership in higher education.

"Brescia University, located in Owensboro, Ky., has provided a quality liberal arts education and worked to prepare its students for successful careers since 1950.

"The only Catholic University in western Kentucky, Brescia's mission and spirit emphasizes 'Making a difference,' encouraging students to serve others in the community.

"So, for over 60 years, the faculty, staff and students have carried out the vision of their founder, St. Angela Merici, who believed that education creates a stronger and more just society. These individuals have given so much to the Owensboro community and the entire region.

"Students at Brescia enjoy a more personalized education with a 12 to 1 student to teacher ratio.

"Brescia takes pride in creating an atmosphere of community, while paying close attention to the individuality of their students.

"The university offers 6 different degrees in over 60 different programs, as well as 15 athletic teams that participate in National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.



Precious Blood Confirmation Class 2010 (Front row: Abby Dickens, Brooke Logsdon, Emily Paul, Shelby Swift; Back row; Will Sims, Nathan Jacobs, Fr. Bruce McCarty, Bishop Medley, Luke Dickens. Photos by April Dickens)

of Intercollegiate Athletics.

"I am proud to represent Brescia University in Washington, and I am proud to represent the Owensboro/

Daviess County community in which it is located.

"I ask my colleagues to support this resolution and join me in commending

Brescia for its commitment to service, faith and education."



# “Can It Be That God Dwells On Earth?”

*Editor's note: Bishop-elect William Francis Medley delivered the homily for the Tuesday Evening Prayer Feb. 9, 2010 in St. Stephen Cathedral. He graciously agreed to allow the Western Kentucky Catholic to print the text here.*

## Vespers on the Eve of Ordination February 9, 2010

“Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below; you keep your covenant of mercy with your servants who are faithful to you with their whole heart. Can it indeed be that God dwells on earth? If the heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain you, how much less this temple which I have built!” Solomon speaks these words of praise and thanksgiving on the occasion of the dedication of the great temple. A dream come true. Decades God's chosen people dreamed of the temple, and their greatest king of all, David, could not make it happen. Decades more they planned and labored. Its construction and its dedication became the pinnacle of Solomon's reign.

Tens of thousands had labored for years to create what was to be the grandest edifice of the entire world known to the Israelites. And it was splendid to behold. And it is not with disappointment or let-down that Solomon acknowledges that this magnificent temple cannot contain the mystery, the might, the magnificence of God.

In fact, after these decades of design and labor and skill, one might even sense that Solomon is relieved that the endeavors of human ingenuity have but glimpsed the grandeur of God. He acclaims the obvious: “there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below,” and yet, “you keep your covenant of mercy with your servants ....”

So, even in the midst of great human accomplishment, it is all about God. Here we stand in our cathedral, our 21st century temple, and we gather God's people from across 32 counties, 79 parishes, 65,000 strong faithful Catholics, schools and universities, convents and religious houses, shelters and pantries and all that we represent cannot contain a God who cannot be contained in heaven and on earth. Friends and believers have traveled from coast to coast and no one of us can suggest we know any temple that might contain our God.

And thus Solomon asks, “Can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?” And for generation after generation and century after century faith-filled people have an-



**Bishop-elect William Francis Medley delivered the homily for the Tuesday Evening Prayer Feb. 9, 2010 in St. Stephen Cathedral. Photo by Bryan Leazenby, [www.onsiteimages.biz](http://www.onsiteimages.biz)**

swered, “Yes.”

God can dwell on earth.

I stand before you this evening as one called to serve. It is indeed a humbling moment in my life and priesthood to come to this temple, this cathedral, built of human hands and representing the temples built of human lives and to know that I have been called to serve you as your bishop. It should not surprise you that in recent weeks I have done a lot of reading and talking, striving to learn the story of the Catholic Church of the Diocese of Owensboro, the Catholic Church of Western Kentucky. And a grand story it is. From pioneer Catholics spreading across this vast region bearing little more than their faith, to the building of churches and schools. And for all the building none can contain the glory of God. None can house the almighty God.

Thus Solomon's question: “Can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?” And down through the ages we have answered his question with a resounding yes. From the first verses of the first book of the bible we are reminded that we have been created in the image and likeness of God, little less than a God according to the psalmist. And it is this marvel that has driven men and women to build altars, temples, churches and shrines to the greater glory of God. The most primitive of peoples identified sacred spaces, marked those places, made pilgrimage to those places, and adorned those places as holy. It is more than mere ritual and tradition that drives us to light a sanctuary lamp where we may encounter the person of God. It is our essence as human beings.

Tomorrow this church, the people of God, gathers in great pomp and ceremony to do something for only the fourth time in seventy-two years, to ordain and install a new bishop to serve this church. Hundreds of people and scores of committees have been

working for at least a year to ready the church for this moment. When a church has such an opportunity we might often reflect upon the gospel story of the Transfiguration of the Lord, when Jesus took Peter, James and John to the mountain where, joined by Moses and Elijah, he was transfigured in glory before them. And Peter's words, “Lord, it is good that we are here.” So good, in fact, that Peter wanted to erect a dwelling and stay there. But Jesus knew better – he knew that the work of the Kingdom could only be glimpsed on the mountain. The work was to be done in the plains and valleys, and indeed on the road to the cross.

I have also read much in recent weeks about the ministry and office of a bishop. I have studied and prayed over the rite of ordination almost to the point of memorizing it. The first question that I will be asked tomorrow: “Do you resolve to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ with constancy and fidelity?” Elsewhere I will be reminded that the faithful preaching of the word of God is the pre-eminent obligation of the office of bishop. When my appointment was announced some weeks ago and I returned to the parish where I was pastor, I told them, I don't know what a bishop does on Monday morning, but I do know what he is called to do and called to be when he stands at the ambo, the altar of God's Word; be that an elaborate monument or a simple desk. I do know what he is called to do when he approaches an altar, to call people to encounter their God in a mystical and profound way in elements as simple as bread and wine. So, whatever it is I need to do on Monday morning, there are good people around to guide me if I but focus on the ambo and the altar.

Amidst all my reading and poring over church documents about the ministry of bishop, I discovered again that often the poet cuts through all those weighty words and thoughts to lay bare essentials. And so, I rediscovered a poem first read more than thirty years ago. It is from the priest - theologian - poet John Shea and written for a friend who had been named a bishop. He has mined the gospels to draw together the best and the worst of the first apostle, Peter – one of many biblical characters who seemed unlikely to fulfill the mission to which Jesus called him.

Tonight Bishop McRaith will bless several objects that tomorrow will become important insignia of my new office and calling. Because of my appreciation of history, which is another way of saying an appreciation for our place in the Communion of Saints, some of these items will be doubly blessed because they have represented the faith and service of some who have gone before us.

**The ring** I will receive as a seal of fidelity was the ring of bishop Charles Garrett Maloney who for more than 50 years served the Archdiocese of Louisville. He confirmed me in 1960, but I was but one of an estimated 80,000 young people he confirmed in his years as a bishop. This particular ring was a gift to him from Pope Paul VI, a gift the Pope gave to all the fathers of the Second Vatican Council. Thus it will represent not only my fidelity to this local church, but my affection for Bishop Maloney, and my appreciation for the New Pentecost that the Second Vatican Council was to the Church.



**Bishop William Francis Medley's ring. Photo by Bryan Leazenby**



## 6 “Can It Be That God Dwells On Earth?” *(Continued from page 5)*

The pectoral cross that I will wear tomorrow is even older. I have borrowed it from the treasury of the Archdiocese of Louisville. It belonged to Bishop Benedict Joseph Flaget, the first bishop of Kentucky. He was appointed bishop of Bardstown on April 8, 1808. A footnote to history, he did not arrive on the Kentucky frontier until 1811 — so I might do some research as to exactly how one manages a three year vacation between appointment and arrival. This cross ties me and all of us to that splendid history of the faith of those Catholic pioneers who came to the frontier seeking freedom to worship God and who kept the Catholic faith vibrant through generations of toil and labor.



Attired in choir robes with pectoral cross, Bishop William Francis Medley is seen entering the Hines Center in Philpot, Ky. Feb 10, 2010, for the reception after his episcopal ordination in the Owensboro Sportscenter. Photo by Bryan Leazenby



Bishop William Francis Medley's crozier. Photo by Bryan Leazenby

The crozier blessed here this evening is gift tome from the priests of Owensboro. It is a sign of my pastoral office and comes with an admonition to keep watch over the flock that the Holy Spirit has entrusted to me. I will honor the covenant this gift represents.

The mitre is a cherished gift from Bishop McRraith. From him I am receiving a church strong and vibrant, a prophetic church, and a holy church. While he has been supported in his ministry by wonderful priests, sisters and lay leaders, the strength of this church is a reflection of the wisdom and holiness of the one who has been their shepherd from 1982 until 2009. If my service is but a dim reflection of his, we will all be judged well. Thank you, Bishop John.



Bishop William Francis Medley's mitre. Photo by Bryan Leazenby

The church must also acknowledge and thank Fr. Mike Clark who for thirteen months has been the diocesan administrator. He was elected by his brother priests upon Bishop McRraith's retirement last year and has served nobly and generously. By his own admission, no one will celebrate tomorrow with greater glee when he can return to his day job.

Our prayer tonight and our celebration tomorrow are akin to Solomon's dedication of the temple. It is good that we do these things, that we do them well, that we do them grandly. For we worship a God who cannot be contained in heaven above or on earth below. And to elevate our spirits, we reflect that we are indeed created in the divine image.

But grand celebrations and wonderful cathedrals and temples, and sports centers, are but empty facades, just drama and theater, if they do not reflect a grace-filled church carrying out in cities, town, villages, hospitals, convents, homes and workplaces the gospel mandates of love and justice. We have no right to gather here if we are not doing our work there — and especially amongst the poor. All of us have been burdened in recent weeks to see the tragedies of Haiti unfold, hundreds of thousands dead, millions homeless and displaced. The church of Owensboro has joined the church of the world to respond. In the words of Mary in the Magnificat, “He has filled the hungry with good things.” Ah, this world filled with the good things of God — good things that are ours to share as God has shared. And I see that already as I come into the midst of the wonderful Catholic church of western Kentucky. Already I have seen and heard of our gospel witness to the least among us: the endangered and threatened unborn, vulnerable children and youth, families struggling to live out their vocation in

marriage, the migrant and the stranger in our midst, the frail and vulnerable who too often our culture discounts. These are God's favorites and they are the favorites of this holy church family.

We have all been chosen, been called to serve. In but a moment we will sing the great Song of Mary from Luke's gospel, the Magnificat. Mary stands as the first amongst the unlikely whom God has chosen throughout the ages to accomplish his will and his work in the world. She was but a young girl in an impoverished hillside village of Nazareth. Later it would be said of Jesus, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” But here she was living a life of obscurity and poverty and she was chosen to be God's mother. When the Angel Gabriel announced God's design to her she was incredulous. But being poor and living in an obscure place did not mean that she was not faithful and trusting. To the angel's request, her response simply, “Let it be.”

Later, visiting her cousin Elizabeth, herself an unlikely one chosen by God to break the Word of God dramatically into the world, she uttered her glorious hymn. “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed; the almighty has done great things for me, and Holy is God's Name.”

We gather as a church so richly blessed and our proper response must be that of Mary, that all is gift, and gift that we must use to continue to honor God. “Can it be that God dwells on earth?” Solomon asked. Tonight we resoundingly say, “Yes,” for “there is no God like you in heaven above or on the earth below, and you keep your covenant of mercy with your servants.”

+ William F. Medley Vespers -  
Saint Stephen Cathedral, February 9, 2010

## Historic Moment

Bishop-emeritus John McRraith, right, witnessed Bishop Medley's signatures on the Oath of Fidelity and the Formula of Faith, documents which are sent to Rome. Mel Howard Photo





# Bishop William Medley's Ordination Address To The Diocese Dedicates Local Church To the greater glory of God

*Editor's note: Bishop-elect William Francis Medley delivered this acknowledgement statement toward the end of the Mass for his Ordination in the Owensboro Sportscenter on Feb 10, 2010. He graciously agreed to allow the Western Kentucky Catholic to print the text here.*

## Ad Majoram Dei Gloriam

February 10, 2010

The rite of ordination is specific in detail when it prescribes that the newly ordained bishop may, at this moment in the ritual, offer brief remarks. And I look out upon this wonderful gathering of the church I know then that cannot call each of you I know by name, nor find a way to meet each of you. In light of this prescription for brevity, I asked Archbishop Kelly, "Well, what should I say, whom should I thank?" And his wise counsel was pointed, "Bill, it's not the academy awards."

Thus I must speak what every person on earth must speak every day: "To God be the glory!" We are so abundantly blessed to come together to give God praise and adoration. A few weeks ago I had an opportunity to visit St. Martin dePorres Church in Louisville where I was pastor from 1988 - 1993. They sang a favorite song of mine: "The Lord our God is mighty, the Lord our God is magnificent, oh, the Lord our God, he is wonderful!" You sing that refrain for about 20 minutes and it lifts any day. So, thanks be to God.

Though he could not be here today, I want to acknowledge Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the papal nuncio to the United States. On December 3rd of last year he called me and asked me to accept the appointment of Pope Benedict XVI to be the fourth bishop of Owensboro. I shall always remember his words as he took a few minutes to lead into the question. He spoke of visiting the Holy Land and standing by the Sea of Galilee where Jesus had called the disciples to abandon their fishing nets to follow him. He noted, "They were asked to abandon their wills to the will of God." And then he added, "Fr. Medley, I am calling you to do the same."

I thank Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, Archbishop Thomas Kelly, and Bishop John McRaith. They have so powerfully gifted me by consenting to act in the ancient tradition of the church by ordaining me as a bishop. And I thank the other bishops who journeyed here to join us in prayer and celebration. As I look upon this great gathering of the Church of Western Kentucky that the Holy Spirit has convened today, I am strengthened in

confidence that with all these good and holy people praying for me, God does indeed have good things in mind for us as we continue his work in the world.

The size and the enthusiasm of this gathering is a tribute to the vitality of the Catholic Church of Western Kentucky. You have been well-led and well-shepherded by the priests and sisters and lay faithful who day after day abandon their wills to that of God. This gathering evidences a healthy church and today I want to thank and honor Bishop McRaith. Twenty-six years he was the shepherd of this church — and I know that these thousands here are here first to worship God, but also to honor this humble man. Thank you, Bishop John. If my ministry as a bishop can in some small way mirror yours, my years ahead will be fruitful and happy.

My family has gathered from all over the country, but mostly from central Kentucky, to come and support me and pray with us today. The family is the place where for most us faith, pure gift from God, is nurtured and grows. Our faith is that inherited from the Catholic pioneers of Kentucky who came here expressly to find the freedom to practice their Catholic faith. My mother embodies that Catholic spirit and it is one of the greatest joys of this day that she is well and able to be here with me at this moment in my life. I want your acknowledgment of her to be an acknowledgment of all mothers and fathers and the sacrifices they make. In recent weeks I have missed my father more than usual - but I know too that had he not been praying for us from heaven in these past 35 years that perhaps what is happening today may never have happened. In my mind he represents the communion of saints. Thank you to all my family for your love and support and challenge.

Because Archbishop Sambi could not travel to Owensboro today it fell to Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, the chancellor of the diocese, to read the Holy Father's appointment. While Archbishop Sambi is missed, it seems providential that so central an aspect of this ritual would be proclaimed by one whose witness to the church has been so powerful. And in assuming this position of honor, it pleases me that she can represent all of the women religious so faithfully serving our church in prayer and service.

I have been humbled and overwhelmed by the outpouring of welcome and support that you have offered me since I was first introduced here on December 15th. The priests and seminarians have



**Bishop William Medley speaking to over 5,000 people gathered to witness his ordination as the Fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky. Photo by Mel Howard**

welcomed me as a brother. The rite of ordination calls for me to be brother and father to them, and I embrace that calling with faith and confidence.

I have been asked many times in recent weeks what I expect to do first as Bishop of Owensboro. Well, fortunately, the church takes no chances. The Rite of Ordination tells me that the faithful preaching of the Gospel is the preeminent obligation that is mine and I will do that enthusiastically, prayerfully and studiously. This obligation was visibly demonstrated when the Book of the Gospels was held over my head by the deacons. Likewise, as a successor to the apostles, I am to protect and promote the teaching and tradition of the church. This means that in the coming months and years that I must be a good listener, a good student — one who receives and teaches in union with Pope Benedict and the college of bishops, but also that I listen and learn from the immense wisdom that the Holy Spirit has imparted to this particular church.

You have much to teach me and I pray that I will be a good and earnest student. I am particularly aware of the blessing this church has experienced in the last 10 - 20 years by the growing presence of our Latino sisters and brothers. My priesthood up to today has not engaged me in this community very much — but

today that changes. And thus, with some gentle coaching and guidance, I will make a feeble attempt to greet you:

Mis hermanas y hermanos

... que han traído la riqueza de su cultura hispana a nuestra iglesia de Kentucky Occidental, les saludo con gratitud y afecto profundo.

Como se daran cuenta todavia no puedo hablar bien su idioma hermosa.

Pero, aun asi, reconozco y celebro la generosidad y fe catolica que traen a nuestra iglesia.

Estoy encantado de que muchas de nuestras parroquias, ministros y sacerdotes los hayan acogido y bienvenido y que se esfuercen para serviles y rezar con ustedes.

En los meses y anos venideros me esforzare por ser u buen pastor para con ustedes, y con la ayuda de Dios, estar mas preparado para hablar con ustedes y tambien escucharlos.

When a church is called upon to celebrate a grand occasion such as this, it takes scores and even hundreds of people

**Continued on page 8**



## 8 Tune In To [http://www.rcdok.org/\\_multimedia/ordination/](http://www.rcdok.org/_multimedia/ordination/) For News

By Mel Howard

The February 10, 2010 ordination of Most Reverend William Francis Medley, D.D. in the Owensboro Sportscenter was videotaped by Cliff Russell of Gideon Productions, and his associates. Cliff also videotaped the February 9, 2010 evening Vespers service in St. Stephen Cathedral.

The internet is an amazing feature of modern technology, and one which Pope Benedict XVI has encouraged and asked the world's priests to use. The Pope is very aware of the fact that anyone can make a video of events today, and within minutes make that video available to the whole world through the internet. Jesus asked his followers to go out into the whole world to spread the Good News about his birth, life, death, and resurrection can, and what this means for the relationship between all mankind and God - that Jesus' sacrifice has made reparation with God for original sin, and opened the gates of Heaven to each human soul.

Working to fulfill that mandate from our Church's founder and the teaching of our Holy Father in Rome, the Diocese of Owensboro makes available to the whole world through its web site a video of Bishop Medley's ordination at [http://www.rcdok.org/\\_multimedia/ordination/](http://www.rcdok.org/_multimedia/ordination/). Log on within [rcdok.org](http://www.rcdok.org) at \* *Watch the February 10 Ordination online.*; it is truly an amazing video program. Many people are to thank for its existence; all one has to do is watch the video and you will see, hear, and know many of those responsible for this evangelizing video. The technology committee who did a lot of work on getting the video made and broadcast are Matt Monsour, Technology Director for the Catholic Pastoral Center, Cliff Russell of Gideon Productions, and Chris Ford, computer guru from Brescia University.

The person at the diocesan offices who makes the web site click is Martha Hagan. She may be contacted at [webmaster@rcdok.org](mailto:webmaster@rcdok.org).

As of press time, a two-disc set of the Feb 9. Vespers service in the Cathedral, and the Feb. 10 Ordination of the Fourth Bishop of Owensboro was in post-production and packaging to be made available for people to purchase. Keep logging on to [www.rcdok.org](http://www.rcdok.org), the Owensboro diocesan web site, for information about how to order your copy.

Many people brought their cameras to the Sportscenter to take video and still images of the ordination Mass. For the most part, everyone followed the request not

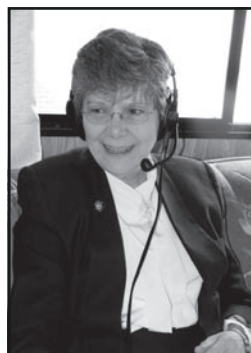


In the photo above, Brescia University's Network Administrator Chris Ford, left, teamed with Matt Monsour, Diocesan Computer Technician, and Cliff Russell of Gideon Productions sending out a live stream video to online viewers across the world for the Dec. 15, 2009 press conference announcing Bishop-elect Bill Medley as the fourth Bishop of Owensboro. This team later teamed up to put the Feb. 10, 2010 Ordination Mass for Bishop Medley online and, using a video uplink truck, put the video out for TV outlets around the world to capture. 21 Countries tuned into the Feb. 10 program. Mel Howard Photo

to use flash photography during the ordination. If you watch the Super Bowl on TV, you can see thousands of flashes from cameras in the seats, some coming from up near the roof of the stadium. Those beams of light reach out a good 10 to 12 feet, but the action is perhaps hundred of yards away, meaning the people flashing their cameras did not get the picture.

Knowing this, the diocesan planners for the ordination hired a professional photographer to get pictures of Bishop William Medley's ordination, and a gallery of those still images is being made available on the diocesan web site for all to see. Log on to the still images gallery at \* *See some of the highlights from Feb. 9 & 10.* Also, after the ordination, during the reception for Bishop Medley and his family, diocesan planners arranged for the professional photographer to take a picture of Bishop Medley with whomever wished to have that keepsake image from Feb 10, 2010. Those pictures are available for purchase at [www.onsiteimages.biz](http://www.onsiteimages.biz).

Lastly, many people took pictures of the Feb. 10, 2010 ordination ceremony and its sur-



People who tuned in to the video program for the Feb. 10, 2010 Ordination Mass from the Owensboro Sportscenter heard the voices of commentator Ernie Mitchell, at right, from Paducah, and theologian Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU, who provided the background and explanations of the symbols, prayers, liturgy, and other events surrounding the ordination of Bishop Medley. Photos by Matt Monsour

rounding events. *The Western Kentucky Catholic (WKC)* invites people to send in pictures from the Feb. 10, 2010 celebration and written information about who is doing what in the picture to the editor, Mel Howard at [mel.howard@pastoral.org](mailto:mel.howard@pastoral.org). Persons who can write Spanish are invited to send in photos and written information about who is doing what in the image to the Western Kentucky Catholic's Spanish translator, Tami Schneider at her email address, [schneidert@pastoral.org](mailto:schneidert@pastoral.org) for consideration in the Spanish section of the WKC, *Católico de Kentucky Occidental*. Persons without access to

## Bishop William Medley Calls Diocese To Visible Service Together For The Poor

(Continued from page 7)

to plan and prepare. And in the end, they make it look easy – but we know better. I will never be able to thank everyone who contributed to this day because most of you remain, as you wish, anonymous in your service. Thank you. You have served us and thus served God well. But there must be a special acknowledgment to the choir and musicians. From across our 79 parishes you have joined voices and helped us to pray and pray well. Thank you.

Last evening at the vespers at the Cathedral I spoke of the grandeur of that cathedral church and of our actions then and now today. Our church indeed has a triumphant face. But I noted that such triumph is but drama and theater if we do not embody day in and day out, year in and year our witness to the poor and vulnerable in our midst — to the unprotected unborn, to children and youth who turn to us for formation, to the hungry, the homeless, the abused, the immigrant, the stranger and the powerless. So long as our witness to them is powerful and prophetic our triumphal song and liturgy is pleasing to God. The response of this local church to our suffering sisters and brothers in Haiti is evidence that the Gospel is alive and our Church is strong. If the preaching of the Gospel is my preeminent obligation, may it be most visible in our service together to the poor.

Lest I violate a specific directive of the Rite of Ordination, let me draw my remarks to an end while there may still be some claim of brevity. I am happy to be your shepherd and your servant. I love you and I will give to you all my faith and service for as long as God permits me.

To all of the Church of Owensboro, to all the Church, and especially to my dear Ursuline Sisters, teachers, and friends who first taught me these words: Ad Majoram Dei Gloriam! To the greater glory of God!

+ William F. Medley,  
February 10, 2010

email may send photos and texts to Editor, The Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.



Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro, KY

## Pastoral Associate/Director of Faith Formation

Religious Education/Catechetical Ministry

Full Time Employee; Experience: prefer 3 years; Education: Graduate Degree  
Base Pay: Based on Diocese of Owensboro guidelines.

**JOB DETAILS:** Parish of the Immaculate in Owensboro, KY, a vibrant parish of 850 households grounded in the spirit of Vatican II, seeks a Pastoral Associate/Director of Faith Formation to engage adults in active participation in parish life by promoting and supporting parish catechetical ministries. This person would be responsible for overseeing volunteer catechetical ministries, coordinating faith formation with parent-child sacramental processes, and faith formation opportunities for adults and children as well as other parish programs and resources. Requirements: Prefer 3 years of Pastoral/Catechetical ministry; Master's degree in Pastoral Ministry, Theology or Scripture or related field preferred, but will consider candidate with Bachelor's degree in related field. Candidate must have strong interpersonal and organizational skills; must be an independent worker but a team player. Working knowledge of current Microsoft computer programs and e-mail would be required.

Preferable start date is July 1, 2010. Send resume with cover letter by April 1, 2010 to: pastor@immaculateparish.org or mail to Father Tony Jones, 2516 Christie Place, Owensboro, KY 42301. FAX 270.926.9016.

Detailed job description available at [www.immaculateparish.org](http://www.immaculateparish.org).

## Diocesan Review Board Members Ready To Respond To Calls

The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett, Dr. Charles Bohle, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Ms. Teresa Henry, (Chairperson), Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, and Rev. Pat Reynolds. Ms. Louanne Payne serves as the Diocesan 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](mailto: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.



**Congratulations  
Bishop Medley!**

from  
**St. Francis of Assisi and  
Holy Cross Parishes  
in Marion County**

*"If the preaching of the Gospel is my preeminent obligation, may it be most visible in our service together to the poor."*

*Most Rev. William Medley, Feb 10, 2010*

## Catholic Charities and the St. Vincent De Paul Society Teamed to Help 2009 Ice Storm Victims

**By Richard Murphy, Director of the Diocesan Office for Social Concerns**

The January 2009 ice storm has been called the storm of the decade. Just about all of the 32 counties in the Diocese of Owensboro received an accumulation of one quarter-inch to 2 inches of ice. The storm lasted less than 24 hours; however it contributed to widespread power outages for up to two weeks, or more, for some families in the dead of winter, caused significant damage to property and 36 deaths across Kentucky. A Kentucky Public Service Commission report issued in November 2009 on the ice storm estimated that there were a total of \$616 million in damages caused by the storm throughout the state. So it was with welcome arms that Catholic Charities of Owensboro received \$10,000 from Catholic Charities USA to help with disaster recovery.

Catholic Charities of Owensboro partnered with Mr. Chuck Payne, the Diocesan President of the St. Vincent de Paul Society to work together to get the dollars to as many affected families in the Diocese as possible using its network of chapters. Funds were also used to reimburse area shelters for added costs related to caring for a large number of homeless refugees from homes not receiving electricity during the power outage. The St. Vincent de Paul Society chapters in the diocese helped 25 family units and spent \$6441.80. This was an average cost of \$258 per family.

Five emergency shelters were reimbursed \$3,558.20. The shelters housed an estimated 308 people. The average cost per person was approximately \$12 (\$11.55).

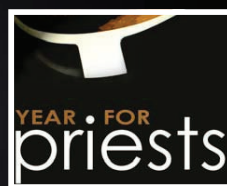
Several area churches and homeless shelters worked in cooperation with the Red Cross and Emergency Management to provide temporary shelter for affected individuals. Catholic Charities funds were used to help the shelters with uncovered expenses to aide people in need after the storm.

Storms can come with surprising destruction and damage to wreak havoc on a lifetime of efforts. They have a way of putting things in perspective for us. They teach us how valuable each life is. It is clear that we all are in this together and it brings out the best in us as we share in love and generosity with one another. Perhaps next time, and there is likely to be a next time, we can be better prepared to meet the challenges that disasters bring. Thanks for all those that shared so freely with those in need during the storm especially Catholic charities USA, area shelters, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

## Priesthood is a life marked by compassion, pope tells Rome clergy

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Priesthood isn't a job that one fulfills a few hours a day, but it is a way of life focused on serving as a bridge between God and suffering humanity, Pope Benedict XVI told priests of the Diocese of Rome. Priests are called to live not just "in blessed contemplation," but "to enter like Christ into human misery and take it up, going to the people who are suffering" and sharing their pain, the pope said Feb. 18 as he led the clergy in "lectio divina," a prayerful reading and meditation on selections from the Letter to the Hebrews on the mystery of priesthood. Priests are called to be "real mediators between humanity and God," he said, and in order to do so they must be totally dedicated to God, yet fully human and deeply compassionate in the face of the concerns, anxieties, joys and sorrows of others. The pope, speaking without a prepared text, reflected at length on the New Testament letter. He explained the possible meanings of some of the words in their original Greek and referred to other Scripture passages, liturgical texts, the ancient Greek philosophers Plato and Socrates, the seventh-century St. Maximus of Constantinople, St. John of God, the German Scripture scholar Adolf von Harnack and Cardinal Albert Vanhoye, a specialist on the Letter to the Hebrews. The pope said the letter's description of Christ as the high priest makes it clear that Christ offered God the perfect sacrifice by willingly giving his life for the sins of humanity, but he also offered God his tears for the sorrows of the world.





## Priests we love

**What virtues of character, what qualities and attributes do Catholics value and appreciate in priests? Here's a list that's certainly not exhaustive.**

**Priests we appreciate are:**

- Prayerful and holy  
Prayerful and holy.
- Caring and empathetic.
- Good listeners.
- Joyful.
- Homilists who preach from the heart.
- Individuals who exude a welcoming attitude to all.
- Those who think the best thing they do every day is preside at Mass.
- Someone who loves children. Youngsters intuitively flock to them because they pay attention to children and include them and their interests when preaching.
- Men who make you and every member of your parish feel you are part of a loving family.
- There when you need them most.
- Involved. They know about and support every ministry and activity that goes on in their parish and community.
- Quick to know your name.
- People for others. They never think twice about making whatever sacrifice is called for to be a priest to someone.

— Bob Zyskowski

*"Conformed to Christ, every man and woman may be regarded as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father."*  
Pope Benedict XVI



**"every man and woman may be regarded as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father"** — Pope Benedict XVI



### St. Patrick's Day Mass for Immigration Reform

#### Together, Not-Torn

Join Bishop William Medley in recalling our immigrant roots on St. Patrick's Day as we pray for a just solution to fix our broken immigration system.

Wednesday, March 17th, 5:30pm

at Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish,

609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY

followed by a multicultural meal in the parish hall.

*(If you'd like to bring a dish to share from your heritage, please do!)*

*Ready to take the next step? Join others from around the Diocese as we travel to Washington, DC to join "March for America" and a Lobby Day on March 21st & 22nd.*

*Check out <http://changetakesfaith.org>*

*For more information about either event call or e-mail Patti Gutiérrez: (270) 302-2782 [Patricia.Gutierrez@pastoral.org](mailto:Patricia.Gutierrez@pastoral.org)*

## Study: Catholics at Catholic colleges less likely to stray from church

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- A new study finds Catholic students at Catholic colleges are less likely than Catholics attending public colleges to move away from the church's teachings on a variety of issues. However, on the issue of same-sex marriage in particular, newly released research from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate found that many Catholic students at Catholic and public colleges disagree with church teaching.

CARA, which is based at Georgetown University, presented the results of its "Catholicism on Campus" study Jan. 31,

during the annual meeting of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, held in Washington. The CARA report relied on national surveys of the attitudes of 14,527 students at 148 U.S. colleges and universities, conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The data was collected from students when they were freshmen in 2004 and again when they were juniors in 2007. CARA classified its research into two groups. The first covered beliefs and attitudes about social and political issues,

including abortion, same-sex marriage, the death penalty and reducing suffering around the world. The second focused on religious behavior, such as frequency of attendance at religious services, prayer, reading of religious texts and publications.

*Editor's Note: For information about attending a Catholic University located within Western Kentucky, log on to [www.brescia.edu](http://www.brescia.edu)*

**A view of the clock tower and chapel entrance on Brescia University's campus. Brescia Photo**





**Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award***Previous Recipients*

1999-2000	Sr. Maggie Cooper, SCN	2000-2001	Carol York
2001-2002	Sr. Ann McGrew, OSU	2002-2003	Sr. Margret Ann Aull, OSU and Rosemary Payne
2003-2004	Sr. Julia Head, OSU	2004-2005	Sr. Marie Michael Hayden, OSU
2005-2006	Franki Durbin	2006-2007	Denise Long
2007-2008	Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU	2008-2009	Danny May

The Offices of Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, and Lay Ministry and Formation are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient of this award will be announced at the Appreciation Dinner for Catechetical and Youth Ministers on May 10, 2010 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Anyone from the Diocese of Owensboro may nominate an individual for this award. Nominees should be professional ministers working for a minimum of 5 years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Some ministerial roles to be considered are Director of Religious Education, Coordinator of Religious Education, Pastoral Associate, Youth Minister, etc. The recipient of the award is a role model as an outstanding human being; committed to Diocesan, Parish and Community service; shows a deep sense of spirituality; is knowledgeable, and committed to continuing their intellectual, spiritual and collaborative growth.

The deadline for nominations is April 16, 2010. The Core Committee for Religious Education, consisting of the Diocesan Directors of Religious Education, Youth Ministry, and Lay Ministry and Formation will discern and select the recipient. All nomination forms should be mailed to the Religious Education Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130 by April 16, 2010.

*Nominee* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address* \_\_\_\_\_

*Parish* \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominated by: Name* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address* \_\_\_\_\_

*Phone* \_\_\_\_\_

*Relation to nominee* \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate page, please comment on the nominee's performance as a Catechetical Minister. Please describe the nominee's performance in the following categories:

- Why should this person be honored with the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Award?
- Describe this person's commitment as a Catechetical Leader.
- How has this person aided Catechists and/or Youth Leaders to improve their ministry?
- How is this person a Christian role model for Catechists, Youth Leaders and parishioners? Give an example.
- Does this person volunteer time and talent to the community apart from parish and diocesan duties? If so, give details of her or his involvement.
- How well does this person work with the pastor, professional colleagues and parishioners?

## Indiana Catholic school students pray and promote the rosary

BEECH GROVE, Ind. (CNS) -- "I pray the rosary." Eighth-grade students at Holy Name School in Beech Grove are proudly wearing T-shirts they decorated with this message. They made the T-shirts after watching a YouTube video during religion class about a teenager who promoted his Catholic faith as well as his devotion to Jesus and Mary in this way. Benedictine Sister Mary Nicolette Etienne, a member of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove and the religion teacher at Holy Name School, said she enjoys teaching students to pray the rosary as part of their vocation to know, love and serve God. She also distributes rosaries she makes each week to the students. During a recent religion class the eighth-grade students said their teacher inspires them to pray because she has a strong faith and deep love for Jesus. Some of the eighth-graders told a reporter from The Criterion, newspaper of the Indianapolis Archdiocese, that the rosary was a good way to talk to God.

**CHRIST in EVOLUTION**

The Contemporary Woman Program of Brescia University delights in welcoming Sister Ilia Delio and invites the public to her presentation. A member of the Franciscan Sisters of Washington, D.C., Sister Delio is professor and chair of the department of spirituality studies at Washington Theological Union. She is the winner of the 2000 Templeton Course Award in Science and Religion, and the author of *Crucified Love, The Humility of God, and Christ in Evolution*.

Presenter: Ilia Delio, OSF

Date: **Thursday, March 25** from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Taylor Lecture Hall, Science Building, Brescia University

Cost: \$10 (Students \$5) • Tickets available in advance or at the door.

For tickets, contact Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, 270-686-4275

**SOUL GARDENING with ANGELA MERICI**

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## 12 Our New Bishop Has A Truly Pastoral Heart, Guides With Humility

By Tami Schneider

*Consumatum est.* "It is finished." Although these final words of Christ were spoken in a much more definitive way as He breathed his last, I could not help but breathe them myself as I pulled out of the Hines Center following the final reception. After 13 months of waiting, two months of preparation, and two days of celebration, it was finally finished. We have a new bishop!

For some reason, it seems I am consistently a part of transitional periods, bringing in the new. I remember being among the first to be a part of a new school in Rhode Island as a teenager, one of those to break in a new formation center in Mexico as a young adult, among the faithful to welcome a new pope after 27 years and now a member of the staff to welcome a new bishop after 27 years. So what will this new point in time bring? If the past two days were any indication, it will bring many wonderful things.

After the December 15 press conference announcing the Pope's decision to the world via television, radio, internet and the written word, the diocese flew into a flutter of activity in preparation for the February 10 ordination of William Francis Medley as the Fourth Bishop of Owensboro. Satellite trucks rented, live streaming connected, cameras poised, instruments tuned, choir rehearsed, ministers prepared, ushers in place, programs printed, clergy vested, environment decorated, community gathered, the celebration began. 12 bishops, 2 Abbots, 10 deacons, and approximately 250 priests and 5,000 faithful came together at the Owensboro Sportscenter for this historic event.

The former Fr. Bill Medley made his profession of faith and oath of fidelity during evening vespers on February 9th. The Episcopal insignia were also blessed by Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith. The following day, the entire community prayed for him as they sang the Litany of the Saints while he lay prostrate on the ground. Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, the Principal Ordaining Bishop, prayed the prayer of ordination, anointed Medley's head with oil and then laid his hands upon his head, as did the other 11 bishops. Archbishop Kurtz then placed the ring on his finger, the miter upon his head, and the crosier in his hand. The ring symbolizes his fidelity to Christ and his espousal to the Church. The miter signifies the Bishop's resolve to pursue holiness. The pastoral staff is a sign of his ministry as a spiritual shepherd.



**Bishop William Medley went first to his mother, Dorothy Medley of Loretto, Ky., to give her his first episcopal blessing during his Mass of Ordination Feb 10, 2010, in the Owensboro Sportscenter. Bishop Medley's family accompanied their mother from Kentucky's "Little Holy Land" for the celebration. Photo by Tami Schneider**

After some brief remarks, newly-ordained Bishop Medley went straight to his mother and leaned forehead to forehead, placing his hand upon her that she might be the first to receive his blessing. He then proceeded to walk throughout the Sportscenter, with a huge smile on his face as he gave his blessings to the people who now called him their shepherd.

Bishop Medley strikes me as someone who is truly authentic. After

a Staff Mass and meeting on December 15, several happenstance hallway greetings at the Catholic Pastoral Center, Vespers and the Ordination, he stands out as someone special, just as his mother, Dorothy Medley, said. He is natural, balanced, amiable, and has a great sense of humor, which draws people to him. Yet he also possesses the poise, confidence, intelligence and speaking skills indicative of a great leader. Perhaps what hit me most of all he has said so far is: "If I have been a good pastor, it is because the people have taught me how to be a good pastor. If I am to be a good bishop, it is you who will teach me how." He is ready to guide us with humility, with a truly pastoral heart.

### Dear Friends of the Diocese of Owensboro,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the preparation of the Ordination of Bishop Medley.

Each of the events surrounding the Ordination were perfect and seemed so effortless, however we are sure that was certainly not the case. We can only imagine how many individuals were involved in making this celebration so special for all attending and we thank each and every one of you.

The warm welcome which was given by the entire Western Kentucky Catholic Community was overwhelming and so appreciated.

We had the pleasure of meeting some of the gracious people from the area and look forward to meeting more of you in future visits. We're sure Bill will feel right at home.

Please take good care of Bill and keep him and all of us in your prayers.

Gratefully yours,  
Bishop Medley's Family  
Dorothy Medley  
David & Laura Ferriell  
Fred & Betty Howell  
Phil & Lynn Medley  
Brian & Julie Franklin

**In The picture at right are, front row: Laura & David & Ferriell, Bishop Bill Medley, Mrs. Dorothy Medley, Julie Franklin; back row: Betty & Fred Howell, Phil & Lynn Medley, and Julie's husband, Brian Franklin. Photo by Bryan Leazenby**





# Bishop Medley's ordination illustrates apostolic succession

13

By Michelle Bivins

The Archbishop of Louisville, Joseph Kurtz, ordained William Francis Medley the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky. on Feb. 10th, 2010 at the Owensboro Sportscenter. The Rite for the



Sr. Mary Faustina Koenig, D.C.J., folded her hands in prayer during the Communion of the Mass for the ordination of Bishop William F. Medley. Photo by Bryan Leazenby

Episcopal Ordination contained ancient symbols, prayers and other components, illustrating the universal aspect of the Catholic Church, which has been handed down over the last 2,000 years.

As I watched Bishop Medley's ordination, the Rite of Ordination to the Episcopate, with all the ceremonial gestures, continuously exemplified apostolic succession. From the moment Jesus laid His hands on St. Peter to the moment Archbishop Kurtz laid his hands on Bishop Medley, apostolic succession has continued. For 2000 years, the Catholic Church, the bride of Christ, has carried on the mission of Jesus, especially through the Bishops.

In *Lumen Gentium*, promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1964, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church wrote, "[B]ishops by divine institution have succeeded to the place of the apostles, as shepherds of the Church, and he who hears them, hears Christ, and he who rejects them, rejects Christ and Him who sent Christ."

*Lumen Gentium* defines that every bishop is a part of apostolic succession, directly succeeding the apostles, who Christ



personally called 2000 years ago. The entire Episcopal Ordination reminded me of the significance the position of bishop has in the Catholic Church.

Before the conclusion of the ordination, Bishop Medley spoke to the congregation. He recognized His Excellency the Most Reverend Pietro Sambini, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, who could not be at the ordination because he was snowed in within Washington, D.C.

Bishop Medley recalled a Dec. 3rd, 2009 phone call from the Papal Nuncio. Before asking Bishop Medley to be the fourth Bishop of Owensboro, the Papal Nuncio spoke of a past trip to the Sea of Galilee. As he stood there, he recalled the moment when Jesus called the original bishops, the apostles, asking them to submit to His will. Then, the Papal Nuncio asked Bishop Medley to be the Bishop. The Second Reading during the Holy Mass was from St. Paul's second letter to

Timothy. In his homily, Archbishop Kurtz reminded the congregation that Timothy was one of the first bishops. St. Paul wrote his second letter to Timothy about 30 years

after Christ's death. From the very beginning of the Catholic Church's existence, bishops have been shepherds for flocks around the world.


In addition, Archbishop Kurtz began his homily by quoting St. Augustine of Hippo. Archbishop Kurtz recalled St. Augustine's homily from an ordination of a bishop in 410 A.D. The theme of St. Augustine's homily was the mission of a bishop, which Archbishop Kurtz quoted as the "service of God and neighbor in the spirit of love and humility." St. Augustine's homily, 1600 years old, applied to the ordination of Bishop Medley because the mission of a bishop has not changed significantly over the last 1600 years.

Archbishop Kurtz continued his homily quoting Pope John Paul II. The former Holy Pontiff wrote a book titled *Gift and Mystery* on the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination about priestly vocations. Archbishop Kurtz recounted the Holy Father's view of his own prostration during his priestly ordination.

John Paul II wrote, "There is something very impressive about the prostration of the ordinands, symbolizing as it does their total submission before the majesty of God and their complete openness to the action of the Holy Spirit who will descend upon them and consecrate them."

Watching Bishop Medley lay prostrate in front of Archbishop Kurtz reminded me that every bishop, priest, deacon, and even Pope Benedict XVI lay prostrate at their ordinations before God in "total submission before the majesty of God."

In the picture at left, Bishop William F. Medley lay prostrate on the floor of the Owensboro Sportscenter during the Rite of Ordination of a Bishop Feb. 10, 2010. Photo by Bryan Leazenby




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**St. Pius Tenth Parish Family extends a warm welcome to**  
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*We cordially invite Bishop Medley to attend all of our parish  
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 Parish Picnic - June 12   Reid's Apple Festival - October 16 & 17  
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# Vocation

Commit yourselves with every spiritual energy, to realize the heavenly Father's plan of salvation, cultivating in your heart the ability to be astonished and to adore Him.

## Diocese of Owensboro Celebrates Three Ordinations to the Transitional Diaconate

January and February 2010 brought many graces to the Diocese of Owensboro. There was excitement in the air. Not only were the faithful involved with preparations for the arrival of the new bishop, they were also celebrating four young men who made the leap from layman to clergyman. Brandon Williams, Uwem Enoch, and Steve Hohman were ordained for service in the Diocese of Owensboro, and will be ordained to the priesthood on May 29. Br. Austin Litke was ordained as a member of the Dominican order and will be ordained to the priesthood in a year and a half. May God send his abundant blessings upon these men for their generosity in service to God and His Church.



**Rev. Mr. Br. Austin D. Litke, OP**  
Ordained January 9, 2010  
Basilica of the Immaculate  
Conception, Washington D.C.



**Rev. Mr. R. Brandon Williams**  
Ordained January 9, 2010  
Sts. Joseph & Paul Church  
Owensboro, Kentucky



**Rev. Mr. E. Uwem Enoch**  
Ordained January 16, 2010  
St. Leo Church  
Murray, Kentucky



**Rev. Mr. Steven A. Hohman**  
Ordained February 6, 2010  
St. Anthony Church  
Utica/Browns Valley, Kentucky

### By Deacon Austin Litke, OP

During the Rite of Ordination of Deacons, the newly ordained deacon kneels in front of the bishop who hands him the Book of the Gospels. The Bishop then instructs him: "believe what you read, teach what you believe, practice what you teach." This seems like sage advice for any Christian, not just the deacon. Then why is it part of the ordination of deacons? I think because it is in becoming a deacon that a man takes on the official, public persona of a minister of the Church. Of course, every Christian ought to give witness to Christ in his or her life of faith. Ministers of the Church, however, do this with their entire lives. Our very souls are marked by the sacramental character of Holy Orders and thus it requires that we heed the command to "read, teach, and practice." The first deacon we read about in Scripture, St. Stephen, fulfills these commands. We read in the Acts of the Apostles (7:57-59) that he was stoned to death—also becoming the Church's first martyr—while preaching the Word of

**Continued on page 16**

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*

### By Deacon Brandon Williams

The morning of January 9, 2010 dawned bright and beautiful. The morning sun glistened off the freshly fallen snow. Winter was in full force. The frigid temperatures, however, were no match for the fire of the Holy Spirit warming the hearts of family, friends, and parishioners alike gathered at Sts. Joseph and Paul Church for a long-awaited Diaconate. What a joyous occasion for this parish family and the Church of Western Kentucky!

Family played an important role in the time leading up to my Diaconate ordination. While I firmly believe that God has called me to the priesthood, God has been able to carry out this call through the faith-filled Catholic upbringing I received from my family. For me, family is everything. It is through our families that we receive the seeds of our faith, and those seeds are planted within our hearts and nourished throughout childhood. My family planted the seed of faith within my heart and soul from an early age. My father Rick, my mother Jody, and my

**Continued on page 17**

### By Deacon Uwem Enoch

The training of a priest is undoubtedly long and for some takes longer than usual. Ironically, some people compare it to the training of a medical doctor. This takes such a long time because of the importance we attach to our physical self. The priest is a different kind of doctor, a doctor of souls. No wonder it takes such a generous amount of time to prepare a young man to take on this noble task. As I reflect upon my journey this far, after recently having been ordained to the Transitional Diaconate, I can definitely say that every day of my seminary years was worth it.

The seminary, defined as a "seedbed" for nurturing vocations, made more sense to me, coming from a farming background. During planting season at home it was customary that we go to the farm after school to prepare the ground and plant seeds. Though it was hard work since we had to do most of the planting by hand, at harvest time we knew that it was worth it, and we would do it again come next planting season. I can still see

**Continued on page 18**

### By Deacon Steve Hohman

I was ordained as a transitional deacon on February 6, at St. Anthony's Church in Brown's Valley. While there are many things I could say about it, what struck me most was this: It was a beautiful, outward manifestation of what it means to be "Church." While I was the one getting ordained, the day was not about me, it was about the Church. By that I mean both the local parish of St. Anthony's, as well as the wider Church of the Diocese of Owensboro.

I am pretty sure this was the first time an ordination has ever been done at St. Anthony, and it was a celebration of the Church itself. Many parishioners took part in this liturgy, whether it was the choir, servers, ushers, gift bearers or lectors. Beyond that, many offered great help putting together a phenomenal meal for the reception afterwards (truly a manifestation of the loaves and fishes). Even more important was the actual presence of people, who joyfully participated in the liturgy and the whole spirit of this day. My family and other

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## Rev. Br. Austin Dominic Litke

*Continued from page 15*

God. His life had become one of service to Christ and His Church such that he was able and willing to give up his life for Christ.

The grace of giving one's life up to follow Christ is one given by God. In other words, it is not something we do, but something that God does in us. Thus, no background or training makes one "worthy" or "ready" to accept such responsibilities. Nonetheless, we all come from somewhere. I personally come from a family where hard work and dedication were not so much counseled as expected. These were modeled for me day in and day out through faithful service within the home and within the office. It was lived out in sustained sacrifice which enabled my parents to send me and my brother to Catholic schools and give us many other opportunities. It was lived out in ways that I am only now able to recognize in adulthood. So, as I take up my duties, I do so as a Dominican friar, with a particular formation and particular way of doing things based on that formation.



**Rev. Br. Austin Litke poses with the ordaining bishop and his family immediately following his ordination at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. From right to left are Nancy Litke, Br. Austin Litke, Fred Litke, Most Rev. Martin D. Holley, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington DC, Sarah and Justin Litke. Photo by the Dominican friars.**

Nonetheless, I am still the son of my parents and have come to see the ways that they formed me to live a life that is not disconnected from the people around me, but that is lived in the service of others. I like to think that God takes those natural dispositions and uses them for his own purposes in preaching His Word, in caring for His poor, in service to His Church.

The last 10 years of my life have been in formation for the priesthood. They have been both academic and practical in nature. I have studied the great Tradition of the Catholic Church in order to preach the Word of God to that Church. I have been trained to act as an official minister of the Church. But for the 18 years before to that, in the home of my parents, I was trained in what it means to "teach what you believe" and "practice what you teach." I pray—and ask your prayers—that I may now be worthy and able to teach and practice, not for my own good, but for the good of all of the Church.



**Br. Austin Litke kneels as Bishop Martin Holley hold his hands while he promises obedience to the local ordinary. Photo by the Dominican friars.**



**The newly ordained Rev. Br. Austin Litke receives the Blood of Christ from Bishop Holley as he stands among his brothers. Photo by the Dominican friars.**

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*



*Continued from page 15*

sister Ashley inspired me with their love of God and the Church. From the very beginning my parents raised my sister and I to place our trust and hope in God's enduring love. Mom and Dad are faithful people, and they truly believe that God has blessed them tremendously throughout their lives. Prayers of thanksgiving were commonplace any time we attended Mass, prayed the blessing before meals, or knelt down as a family to pray the rosary together. Gratitude to God for His abundant blessings was a seed my parents planted deep within their children's hearts. This seed later blossomed into a vocational calling to priesthood. I wanted to give to God as best I could. There was no better way for me to do this than to say yes to God's call in my life to serve His people through the Church. I am pleased to say my family gave me their full support.

While I am blessed to have my family's support, I am equally blessed to have the loving support of a vibrant, energetic parish family as well. Sts. Joseph and Paul Church has been my parish family from the very day I was born. They have loved and nurtured me throughout the course of my life. Gratitude and thanksgiving to God for his many gifts and blessings has been a focal point in my upbringing by my parish family. This is expressed most clearly in my parish's love of God and neighbor. Sts. Joseph and Paul parish has raised me in their love of liturgical excellence, reverent prayer, and humble service of God's people throughout Owensboro and our diocese, our nation, and the world. Their missionary zeal is captured well in their parish mission statement "We give our hearts to God and our talents to His people."



**Brandon Williams lies prostrate on the floor of Sts. Joseph and Paul Church as the congregation kneels to pray the Litany of the Saints. Photo by Carol Alvey.**



**Newly-ordained Deacon Brandon Williams embraces Pastor and friend, Fr. Carl McCarthy after he vests him in stole and dalmatic for the first time. Photo by Carol Alvey.**



**The laying on of hands is the heart of the ordination ceremony. Here, Bishop Emeritus John McRaith invokes the power of the Holy Spirit upon Brandon Williams. Photo by Carol Alvey.**

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*

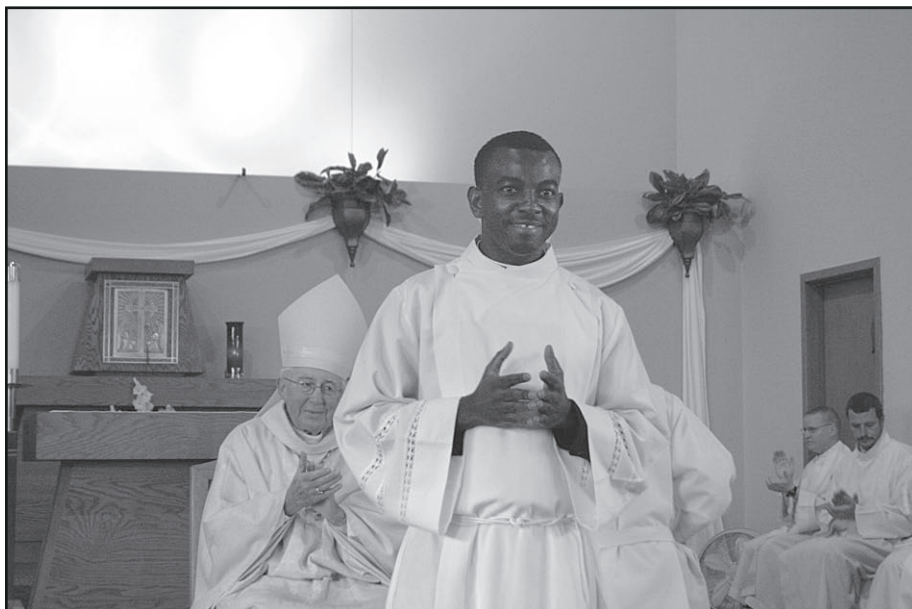


**Deacon Brandon Williams stands with his mother, Jody, his sister, Ashley, and his father Rick, during the reception after his ordination Mass at Sts. Joseph and Paul Church on January 9. Photo by Carol Alvey.**

On January 9, 2010, in the presence of family and friends, I was able to give my heart to God that day. God has called me to service in priesthood. The first step toward this service is ordination to the Diaconate. Service of God and neighbor is the primary focus of being a deacon. What better examples do I have in doing this than my mom, dad, sister, and parish family? Through their prayers and the help of God's grace, I too give my heart to God and my talents to His people.

**Mark your calendars for the Priestly  
Ordination of Deacons Brandon Williams,  
Steve Hohman and Uwem Enoh  
on May 29, 2010.  
Location to be determined.**





Uwem Enoh turns to face the congregation as he is presented before Bishop McRaith and the Church as a candidate for ordination to the Transitional Diaconate. Photo by Larena Lawson.

*Continued from page 15*

my father's face as he harvests his yams and shares some with others whose farm did not produce as well.

My family not only taught me how to make a good seedbed and nurture viable seeds to fruition, but planted another kind of seed in my heart. Just like the farmer gently spreads seeds on a well prepared soil, my family cultivated my vocation through support, encouragement, prayers, and advice, etc. The birth of new life, though beautiful is painful and violent. For instance, the seed that is planted has to die for the new plant to thrive. As good farmers, my parents watered and fertilized my vocation through thick and thin. During the "drought times" they went on their knees and prayed to God. They taught me that though nothing good comes easy, with God all things are possible.

his generosity and detachment. Originally from Nigeria, Africa, Uwem is the first African to be ordained for the Diocese of Owensboro. At left, parishioners of St. Leo Church (Murray, Ky.) and friends congratulate newly ordained Deacon Uwem at the end of his ordination Mass. Since Uwem's family and friends were not able to come from Africa for the occasion, his parish and his friends become his new family. Photos by Larena Lawson.

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*



Fr. Jason McClure, Pastor of St. Leo Church and Fr. Cyprian Davis, OSB, of St. Meinrad Archabbey vest Uwem during his ordination on January 16. Photo by Larena Lawson.

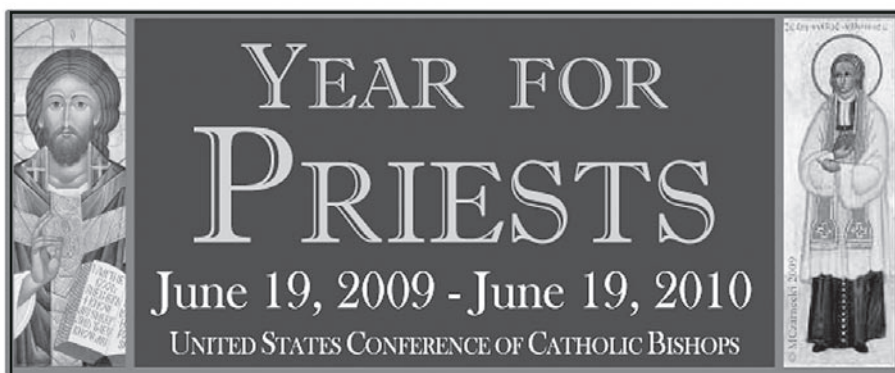


Above, Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith shakes Deacon Uwem Enoh's hand, thanking him for

## Prayer for Vocations

Lord, through Your Holy Spirit, we ask for Your blessing as we pray for vocations. Inspire many men and women to hear Your call to serve God and the Church as priests, deacons, vowed religious and lay ministers. Give them courage, renew their faith and inspire them with confidence to answer Your call. We ask this through Jesus' name.  
Amen.

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*







Fr. Andy Garner, Director of Vocations and Seminarians for the Diocese of Owensboro, and Steve Hohman share a smile as Fr. Andy proclaims Steve has been found worthy for ordination. Photo by Tami Schneider.

*Continued from page 15*

visitors commented to me several times how they were impressed with the closeness and openness of the people of the parish.

This is Church. This is what St. Anthony's has given me, and this vocation is their gift to the diocese. They have fostered this vocation, and they have ownership in it, a vocation that does not belong to me, but belongs to the wider Church. Four days later, I would see a similar thing happen on a wider, diocesan level as the Church of the Diocese of Owensboro came together *en masse* to celebrate and usher in the new ordination of Bishop Medley. My vocation is offered at the



Deacon Steve Hohman is presented with the Book of Gospels. As a deacon, he is charged with the mission to proclaim God's Word and serve His people. Photo by Tami Schneider.

service of his ordination.

Besides my parish family, the Hohman family was present to celebrate this event. They too fostered my faith, and the ministry to which that faith has brought me. In a variety of ways, my brothers, sisters, parents, and wider family have brought me to that faith, and supported me greatly in it. Though my parents have both passed away, I am confident that they were present at my ordination. The example they showed me throughout their life, and the prayers they have given me in their death, have helped me greatly.



Although both of Steve's parents have passed away, he still counts with the love and support of siblings and relatives who braved the cold and the snow to be present at his ordination. "They fostered my faith, and the ministry to which that faith has brought me." Photos by Tami Schneider.



Bishop McRaith gives Deacon Steve a hug during the sign of peace as Fr. Mike Clark looks on. This was likely the last ordination that Bishop McRaith would perform, and the last one Fr. Mike would attend as Diocesan Administrator since the ordination of Bishop William Medley occurred only four days later.

*Page Design and layout by Tami Schneider*



## Catholic woman spearheads campaign to help homeless during Olympics

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (CNS) -- When most people think of the Olympic visitors flocking to this city, they imagine athletes and spectators from around the world. But that's not what sprang to mind for Carolyn Wharton of Star of the Sea Parish in White Rock, nearly 30 miles outside Vancouver. Instead, Wharton immediately thought of all the homeless people making their way to Vancouver for what they see as an opportunity to roam a greener pasture. Wharton noted that the homeless population of every Olympic Games host city increases by 300-400 during the games. Wharton is the coordinator of her parish's volunteer group, the Helpers of St. Anne. Every year they hand-make 25-30 convertible coats for homeless men and women -- the thick and heavy garments convert to sleeping bags. Wharton decided to increase this year's quota. She had to get the coats commercially made because the workload was too high for Star of the Sea's volunteers. With that came great cost. "We raised over \$20,000 for the project" to have 144 multipurpose coats made, Wharton said. "We used 100 percent Canadian fabrics only."

## March for Life 2010

By Brent Jennings

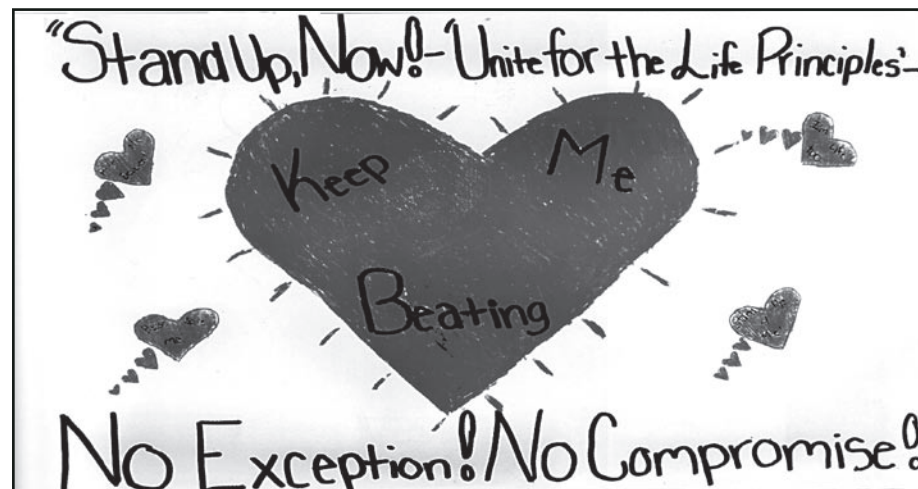
Greetings, fellow pro lifers.

Tom Parrott (President, Barren River Right To Life) asked me to write a few words regarding my experience at the March for Life 2010 in Washington D.C.

Every year, thousands and thousands of pro-lifers from across the nation gather in our nation's capitol to make their voices heard.

At the pre-March rally, leader Nellie Gray lit a fuse under every marcher, reminding us that we have a long way to go before the legal battle for the defense of all life is over in this country. Speaker after speaker moved us to make a firm resolution to do our part in advancing the Culture of Life in America. There were people of all ages, including several elderly Kentuckians who, to my surprise, managed to ride a total of 26 hours round trip on a bus, walk several hours in the cold, and go without a good meal for half the day. The youth were equally inspiring as they, by their presence, breathed hope for the future of America into the hearts of everyone who attended or watched on TV. Elbow to elbow, we made our way past the capitol holding high our signs and banners, letting our lawmakers and representatives know that they will feel the full weight

## OCMS Student Wins National Life Poster Contest



Submitted by the Owensboro Catholic Schools Office

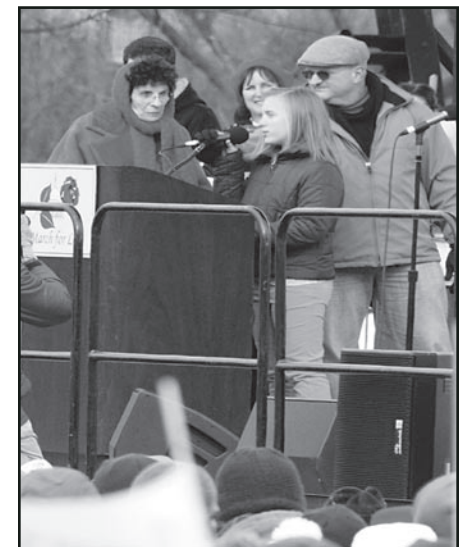
Congratulations to Kelsey Settles, 7th grader at OCMS, for winning 1st place in the middle school division of the National March for Life poem, poster, essay contest!!

Kelsey's poster was created around the theme "Stand Up Now! - Unite for the Life Principles - No Exception! No Compromise!"

Kelsey's family is invited to stay in Washington and attend the Rose dinner

after the March. Kelsey will also be introduced on the main stage at the March as the winner of the middle school division of the poster, poem, and essay contest. Also the Owensboro Right to Life will receive \$100 in the name of Kelsey Settles from the National Right to Life Defense Fund.

Kelsey's parents are Chris and Sandy Settles. The Right to Life March is attended annually by a group of about 40 students each year that are active members of the OCMS Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization. The sponsors of



Above, Kelsey Settles, 7th grader at OCMS, spoke at the Rally For Life in Washington, D.C. about her winning poster. At top left is Kelsey's winning poster. Submitted Photos

FCA are David Ralph, OCS Technology Coordinator, and Mark Woodward, OCMS faculty member. Mary Cheshire, another OCMS teacher, helped chaperone the trip last year and this year as well. Last year Luke Dickens came in 2nd place in this March For Life poster contest.



One of the Life Billboards sponsored by Barren River Right To Life on display in the Bowling Green area. Photo Submitted by Laura Whites

of the Pro Life Movement bearing down on them until the dreaded Roe v. Wade is overturned.

One thing that really moved me this year was the graphic pictorial display of mutilated babies that one gentleman had along the street. As I walked past, I was reminded of the adage, "A picture speaks a thousand words."

Indeed, I felt more impacted by the truth of those pictures than anything else. Babies hacked to pieces, arms and legs separated from their bodies, their heads

caved in. The twisted thing about it is that some of the people who have led the efforts to make this insanity possible truly believe they are doing a service to America. When did snuffing the life out of an unborn baby or killing off the elderly become virtuous and patriotic?

With a round trip bus ride, two nights in a Holiday Inn, a Congressional breakfast with Kentucky Senators and Representatives, and a beautiful Pro Life Vigil Mass, I was thankful to our trip sponsor, Kentucky Right to Life, and to the huge volunteer

and financial assistance of the Knights of Columbus who, along with the March for Life Committee, spearheaded the monumental task of organizing and executing this yearly event. Keep up the good fight my fellow pro-lifers. God Bless!

*Brent is a member of St. Joseph Church in Bowling Green. He serves in various roles at both Holy Spirit Church and St. Joseph's. Brent is also an active member of Knights of Columbus Council 1315 in Bowling Green.*





**Kaley Robertson**

In the inaugural edition, *In The Loop*, focused on Kaley Robertson, a senior at Owensboro Catholic High

OWENSBORO, Ky. - New for 2010, Owensboro Catholic Schools System's email campaign "In The Loop" will highlight the accomplishments of one of the many student leaders throughout the school system. This period publication will focus on current Owensboro Catholic students who by their actions show others what it means to be faithful servants to others.

School. Kaley is the kind of person who will do the right thing for the right reason, no matter what the "popular opinion" may be.

Kaley is president of the OCHS SCRUBS club. SCRUBS is an acronym for Students Creating Respect Using Better Solutions. She is the reason why so many SCRUBS projects were such a huge success; some of those activities included Red Ribbon week, OCMS Kick Butts Day activities for the Middle School students, Seat Belt Checks, and the Four-wheeler survey.

One of SCRUBS sponsors recently had this to say about Kaley - "She is a natural born leader, has the ability to get everyone's attention and cooperation, and has great, novel ideas. She is a problem solver. She is one who you can feel confident a

task will get done when assigned to her. She not only marginally completes the project, but thoroughly, over-and-above completes the project. She coordinated and put together the first annual SCRUBS scrapbook last year. It is fabulous. She is humble, has strong morals and convictions, has self respect, and is not easily swayed by peer pressure."

In Kaley's spare time she is a Eucharistic Minister, member of the Right to Life Club, the captain of the Lady Aces basketball team, NHS member, among many other clubs/organizations and works part-time at Red Lobster.

She maintains above average grades in the classes she takes; including Advance Placement classes, and attended Governor's Scholar this past summer.

Kaley exemplifies service to others and what our expectations are for all of our students! Thank you Kaley for the leadership you provide and for the example you set for others.

## 50 Members Inducted into National Junior Beta Club, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish

**By Dawn C. Ligibel**

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - "You are the charter members. For the first time in Sts. Peter and Paul's history there is a National Junior Beta Club," announced Principal Sarah Kranz at the induction ceremony of 50 middle school students at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville on December 1, 2009. "No one else can ever say that besides you," she added.

According to Kranz, the National Beta Club boasts more than 450,000 current members nationwide and more than four million former members. Known as both a service and academic club, Kranz made it one of her top priorities to create a club at Sts. Peter and Paul when she became principal of the school this year.

While students were required to have at least a B average to be invited to join the club, its primary mission is service. "The motto of the National Beta Club is 'let us lead by serving others,'" explained club sponsor Nicole Mowen, who is also the school's seventh grade teacher. "This motto," she continued, "perfectly describes what I hope to accomplish with this organization." In order to maintain membership, students will need to perform at least 20 service hours. This will be accomplished by having the students participate in a major service project organized by the club, according to Mowen.

"Service will be one of the most important characteristics of Beta Club," Mowen said during her introduction at the induction

ceremony. "There are opportunities to serve others every day in our school, church and community, and our members will seek them out and fill those needs," Mowen elaborated.

"In addition to service, the Beta Club shall serve to promote the ideas of honesty, morality, ethical conduct and leadership among students," Mowen continued her introductory remarks.

"Developing leadership skills will be an equally important mission," Mowen added. "The Beta Club is designed to prepare young people to be leaders of tomorrow by empowering them with the life skills they will need to be successful. The organization will provide opportunities for the students to learn from other men and women in our community who have benefited from academic honor societies such as the National Beta Club."

One of the community leaders Mowen plans to invite to speak with the club also served as the keynote speaker for the induction ceremony. Levi Peterson, a parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul, was an educator for many years including serving as the principal of one of the public high schools in Hopkinsville.

During his speech, Peterson outlined the attributes a Beta Club member should demonstrate. "Character, service, and leadership are the characteristics that should be demonstrated among all elementary and secondary students," Peterson explained. "There is a



**The 50 members of the newly formed National Junior Beta Club at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville formed a large cross in the church following their induction ceremony on December 1, 2009. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.**

reason why character is listed first among these attributes. Character means showing trust, worthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship," he elaborated. "Character is not an object," Peterson continued. "It is not something you pick up at your convenience from time to time. But it's an energy, a force in your life," he concluded.

Before conducting the oath, Kranz also addressed the students. "You are a good example of how commitment and hard work pays off. I want to congratulate you for being the charter members. I also want to congratulate your parents and teachers because it is they who had such an important part in the development of you students," Kranz concluded. Nearly every

one of the 50 new members had one or both parents in attendance to witness the induction ceremony.

The officers of the new club, who were chosen by the principal and club sponsor because of their leadership abilities, were first inducted with an oath to uphold their offices. The officers for the 2009-2010 school year are Joseph Whitfill as president, Daniel Sweet as president elect, Jenna Shouse as vice president, Kayla Kalani as treasurer, Allison Watson as secretary, and Emily Pape as historian.

After all the club members repeated their oath, each of the new members was called forward by the club sponsor as Kranz adorned them with their National Beta Club medal. Each member also received a certificate stating their membership in the club.



## 22 A Banner Day In The Diocese of Owensboro



A wide view of the Feb. 10, 2010 Mass of Ordination in the Owensboro Sportscenter for Bishop William Medley showing some of the 5,000-plus people who attended as well as the 12 bishops, 2 abbots, ten Deacons, nineteen deacon candidates studying for service within the Diocese of Owensboro, and nearly 250 priests. The banner above the altar was made by members of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah. Photo by Bryan Leazenby

### Paducah Group Creates Banner For Our New Bishop

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - - Early in January the Diocesan Associate Director of Worship Martha Hagan placed a call to St. Francis de Sales in Paducah asking if the parish would make a 6 foot by 12 foot banner for the ordination of Rev. William F. Medley as the 4th Bishop of the Owensboro Diocese on February 10th. The banner was to be reflective of the sacrament of baptism. Three women in the parish were asked to take on this project.

Pat English researched designs for baptismal banners, found 3 that would be suitable and, with the help of Christine Quigley and Mary Ann Wooten, chose one. The chosen design consisted of 2 banners that would hang side-by-side, each similar, and yet both reflecting the baptismal theme. Pat enlarged the design, cut out the pattern pieces, selected the materials and Christine and Mary Ann began assembling the banners. The banners had to be finished before Feb. 10, so for the next 3 weeks for several hours almost daily in an upstairs room in the parish rectory the women cut, stitched, and brought to life 2 very beautiful banners.

The banners are entirely hand stitched, and then each banner was hand-quilted to a backing to give it texture and weight to allow it to hang properly. The results of

all the hard work are 2 absolutely beautiful banners

Pat admitted, "I was very apprehensive because I have never done anything like this before, but it came together for us. I was honored to be given this job and really I feel that a higher power has been directing us." Christine agreed with Pat and added, "It's been a joy to be part of this wonderful occasion and it really



The banner made by St. Francis de Sales parishioners hanging in the Sportscenter Feb. 10, 2010 Edie Keeney Photo

has been a fun project." Mary Ann commented, "I have never been involved



St. Francis de Sales parishioners quilting a banner for Bp. Medley's Ordination Mass, behind table left to right, Christine Quigley and Pat English; In front of table, Mary Ann Wooten. Edie Keeney Photo

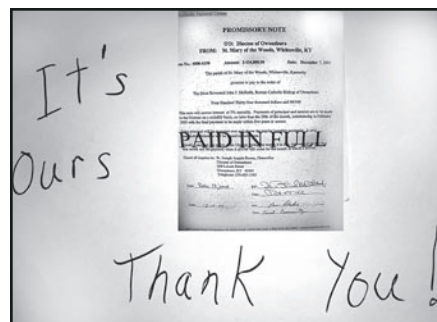


### A First Reconciliation

Second graders St. Joseph in Mayfield celebrated First Reconciliation on February 6, 2010. Pictured are Ethan Barnett, Ethan Jenkins, Clair Lamb, Shelby Gargus and Jennifer Armstrong. Submitted by Melissa G. Armstrong, Coordinator of Religious Education, St. Joseph Church, Mayfield, Ky.

in such a big project and I was apprehensive but I know that it has been in God's hands."





At a breakfast in the Paris Center in Whitesville on January 28, 2010 Saint Mary of the Woods pastor Fr. Dave Johnson and parishioners celebrated that they had made the final payment on their loan with the diocese to pay for the new parish center. In the photo at left, Father Dave is in center sharing the fun; Parish Business Manager Lane Rhodes at right helped serve the breakfast. Photos by Mel Howard

## THANK YOU!

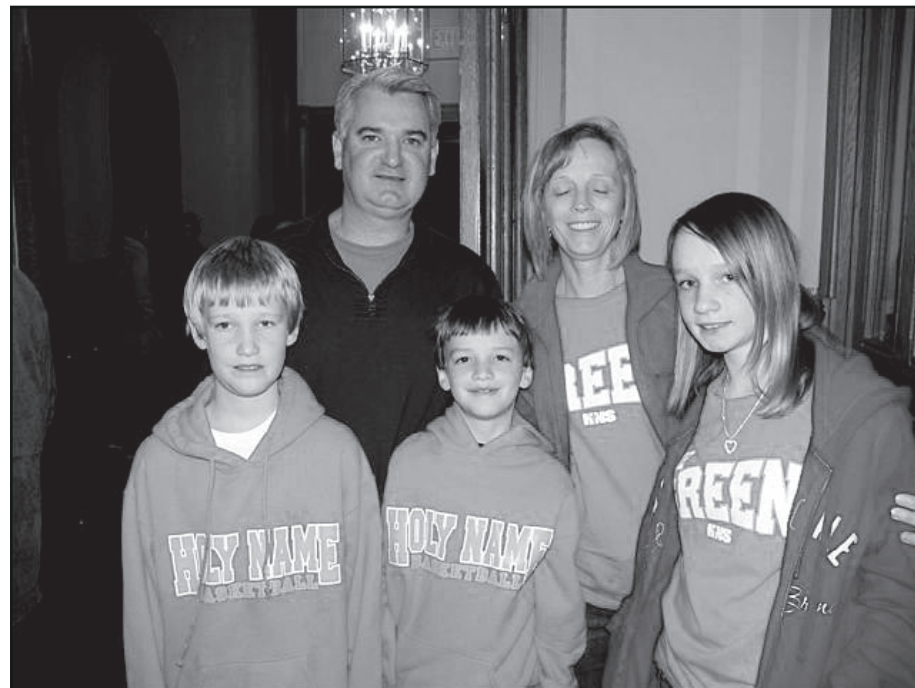
OWENSBORO, Ky. - 12/27/2009 - We at the Centro Latino want to give our heartfelt THANKS to all who responded to our plea on behalf of the 30 pregnant Latino women. Each received a large bag of everything for babies, and with the cash donations, we were able to get mattress sets for two who have been sleeping on the floor throughout their pregnancies. And we still have funds for double-baby-strollers, etc., as time passes. Thank you, and know that your response has made a big difference in these lives and those of the new babies, or the yet unborn. May your own families be blessed by the Newborn of Bethlehem!

*Thanks, Sister Fran Wilhelm, O.S.U.  
Hispanic Ministry, Centro Latino,  
centralatino@aol.com*



## Fr. Ed Bradley Celebrates CSW Mass

Fr. Bradley was the celebrant for Holy Name School's Catholic Schools Week Mass. Pictured with Father Bradley is Kristen Poole, Hunter Morton, Chase Pritchett, Courtney Morris, and Maci Brown. HNS Photo



## Holy Name of Jesus Parishioners support Catholic Schools

To celebrate National Catholic Schools Week, Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Parish encouraged all their parishioners to wear school clothing to church the weekend of January 30-31, 2010. School families ministered at all the weekend Masses and high school students gave testimonials before each Mass. Pictured is Brian and Kristy Shelton's family with their children Alex, Evan, and Sarah. HNS Photo

### WKC Special Edition Copies Still Available

Editor's Note: We still have several copies of the February, 2010, Special Commemorative Edition of *The Western Kentucky Catholic* featuring pictures and articles from many who knew our Bishop William F. Medley from today and also from "back when."

Postage for this heavy-weight booklet is high, and the diocesan budget is low! If you want a copy, send \$2.25 for postage, envelope, and handling to Editor, *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

Also, copies of a 2-disc DVD set of The Ordination of Bishop William F. Medley, Fourth Bishop of Owensboro, will soon be available for sale. Log on to [www.rcdok.org](http://www.rcdok.org) to find out when.

- Mel Howard, Editor, *The Western Kentucky Catholic*

## "Holy Is God's Name!"

Luke 1:49



## 24 Catholic Schools Prove Success In Passing On Faith

Students' religious knowledge underscores Catholic Schools Week 2010 theme

ARLINGTON, VA – Catholic schools have an excellent track record in helping students achieve high marks in academic subjects including reading, writing and math and score above average on national tests.

A widely used survey also confirms that Catholic school students also have above average results in gaining religious knowledge and attitudes towards their faith.

The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) publishes a standardized assessment – the Assessment of Catechesis, Religious Education (ACRE) developed more than 30 years ago and used by many schools and parishes to measure the outcomes of instruction in the Catholic faith. During a recent study of the data collected over the years, the association found some inspiring results.

“The accumulated data results provide many encouraging trends,” said Karen Ristau, NCEA president. “The most important is this: Students in Catholic schools are learning their religion and there’s a reliable way to prove that this is so.”

Dr. Ristau added the results provide another basis for trusting in this year’s Catholic Schools Week theme – “Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life.”

The NCEA president pointed to several survey highlights:

- Ninety-one percent of the fifth graders who took NCEA ACRE in 2009 scored 80 percent or higher on questions about Jesus, the Church and sacraments.
- Ninety percent of fifth graders and 90 percent of high school students scored 80 percent or higher on the section about the Church’s origin, mission, structure, community and membership. Eighty-four percent of eighth graders scored 80 percent or higher.
- Eighty-eight percent of eighth graders scored 80 percent or higher on the section about prayer and religious practices.

The assessment is empirically designed and includes questions under broad topics or domains, such as relationships, prayer and religious practice. Within each domain, specific questions touch on topics such as Catholic identity, morality and relationships with others.

In 2009, 133,290 students in 2,339 Catholic schools in 127 dioceses used NCEA ACRE. An additional 16,888 students in parish-based programs used the survey in 515 parishes. The (arch) dioceses of Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Newark, Orlando, St. Louis, St. Petersburg, Springfield (Illinois), To-

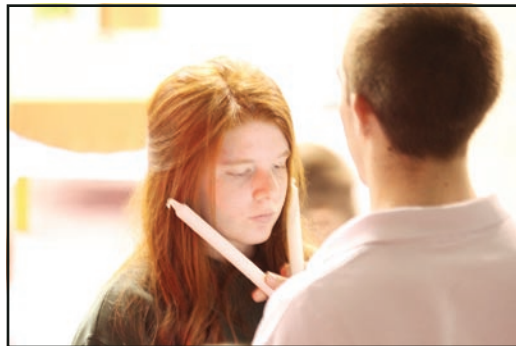
ledo and Washington D.C. are the largest users of the assessment.

ACRE is designed to be used in any Catholic school or in parish programs and is aligned with the curriculum provided by



### Student Assistants in the Classroom

above, Olivia Vowels, who is a senior at Reitz Memorial High School and a Holy Name Parishioner, is a student assistant who works at Holy Name School during the second semester of school in Mrs. Fleming’s second grade classroom. Olivia is pictured helping Hugo Gonzalez. HNS Photo



Above, and at right, students in the Owensboro School System received the Blessing of Throats Feb. 5, 2010 during school hours from priests or from lay ministers drawn from school system students. Photos by Ashley Wilkerson

#### Prayer for the Blessing of Throats

*A minister touches the throat of each person with the crossed candles and, without making the Sign of the Cross, says the Prayer of Blessing:*

**Through the intercession of Saint Blase, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

*Each person responds: Amen.*

major publishers who work in cooperation with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) protocol. The tool is flexible, providing a way for schools and dioceses to add up to 20 additional faith

### Solving Future’s Problems

At right, The Holy Name School 6th grade Future Problem Solving team competed in Kentucky’s Junior Division Future Problem Solving Competition in December. The team of young ladies finished within the top third of the 59 teams competing from all over the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Now these sixth graders at Holy Name School will compete March 13 in the State Finals in Louisville. Pictured are Grace Hodge, Ashley Shires, Amanda Marlin and



Miranda Phibbs. Submitted by Leigh Ann Hengen, coach



knowledge questions for a more tailored approach to assessing religious education in the school.

NCEA is the largest private professional education association in the world. Founded in 1904, the association’s membership represents more than 200,000 educators serving more than 7 million students at all levels of Catholic education.



## Catholic Ecumenism Christian Unity – Catholic Unity

A Personal  
Reflection by

Fr. Tony Bickett, Ecumenical Officer



In January, we observed the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Now some people tell me that they don't see very much movement today in Christians coming closer together. Certainly there was much more hope in the 1960's and 70's that Churches would actually reunite. Now that that hasn't happened as quickly, or in the manner, as many had hoped it seems there is less enthusiasm when it comes to ecumenism today.

I for one remain hopeful, after all, I believe this is the will of God. Jesus prayed for unity among his followers and if we continue to pray I believe Jesus' prayer will one day be answered. Jesus worked miracles while he walked among us and Jesus can still work miracles if we but believe.

When it comes to Christian Unity we always have to begin with ourselves. Is unity something I desire? Is unity something that I pray for? Is Christian unity something I work towards? These are all good questions of faith and discipleship for us to ask ourselves.

If Christian Unity begins with us I believe we must think about how united we are first of all in our own Church. How united are we with our fellow Catholics? I know that sometimes it seems that Catholics in one parish can get along better with their Methodist neighbors than they can with the people in the parish next door.

Every Sunday we profess, in the Creed, that "we believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church." If we truly believe this then we need to act like it. I believe that by promoting greater unity in our own families we are promoting greater unity in the world and in our Church.

One of the constant messages of Emeritus Bishop McRaith to his priests is that we must work together. There can be no lone ranger priests. We are in this ministry together. The same can be said for all Catholics. We must desire, pray and cultivate peace and unity in our own homes, own parishes, our own Catholic Church before we can hope to see greater visible unity with Christians of other denominations.

It took years for the Churches to separate and it will take years for us to heal our differences yet I believe if we are persistence, unity of Christians will happen and indeed has already happened.

Just as a ball team is better when it plays as a team, so are Christians. Our families are stronger whenever we are united. A single string can easily be broken, but bind several strings together and it becomes much harder to break.

When Christians are united we are much stronger and are a much more credible witness to Christ in our world. But Christian unity will not happen all by itself. We must change if we are to see movement towards greater visible unity in the Body of Christ.

We are now in the holy season of Lent, a special time to think about what being Christian, being baptized really means. Lent is a special time when we petition God to change our hearts to become more and more like Christ. If the Church is to grow in unity then we must be converted to the will of God. Let us then continue to pray the prayer of Jesus that we might one day all be one in him.

Fr. Tony Bickett is pastor of St. Romuald Church, Hardinsburg, Ky.

"Father, may they all be one"

- John 17:20

### Separated & Divorced Support Group

Meets in Owensboro on the 3rd Thursday  
of each month

7:00pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center  
For more information contact

Charlotte Hedges at  
(270) 683-1545, ext. 346



## The Death Of A Parent 25

By Betty Medley

The death of a parent is one of the most significant losses in one's life. Whether the death occurred recently or many years ago, you may still be struggling to come to grips with the loss.

The relationship that existed before the death can affect the way we grieve. After the shock and numbness subsides, intense feelings of loneliness, depressions, sadness, fear, despair, vulnerability, yearning, guilt, anger and relief are not uncommon.

Even though we know that death is inevitable, that strong feeling of "expecting" to have a parent around "forever" to share our dreams, accomplishments, sorrows and support causes us to think our parents are immortal.

There are numerous other losses that are attached to the loss of a parent. It may be the loss of a home, support, the loss of that bond or link to the past, and the uncertainty of the future.

A parent's death is a life-shattering event. It shatters the foundation of our lives, and leaves us with a sense of abandonment. Many of us are not prepared for the intensity of the grief. Our assumptive world is no longer the same.

Each one of us is unique and grieves differently. It is important to remember that we need to grieve at our own pace. It takes time to grieve the loss of a parent. We never "get over" the loss, but in time learn to cope with the intensity of the grief and pain.

We yearn to pick up the phone, but reality steps in; no more "Hi Mom," or "Hi Dad," no more Birthday, Mother's Day or Father's Day cards for them.

Death ends a life, but it does not have to end a relationship. We let go of the "physical" person, but there is a bond that continues even after death that makes us feel connected. We can think of this "new" relationship as a spiritual one.

"Linking objects" keep us connected. These are objects that remind us of our loved ones. Each time we use the item we feel connected. It may be a picture, jewelry, a piece of clothing, a mug.

Our memories are interwoven with our loved ones. In life, they have contributed to our being who we are; if we do not "cherish the memories," we will be "letting go" of our past.

Burying a body does not mean we bury our feelings for the person.

Suggestions for coping: \*Light a candle. \*Pray for your loved one. \*Ask God to give you the strength to cope with your loss. \*Share memories. \*Create a memory book or collage. \*Journal, write about your thoughts. \*If there is "unfinished business" write a letter to your loved one. \*Donate to charity. \*Volunteer at a food kitchen, hospital, hospice, or nursing home in the name of your loved one.



## Miss Kentucky Mallory Ervin Visits St. Ann Catholic School

Miss Kentucky Mallory Ervin visited with the students at St. Ann Catholic School in Morganfield where she was a student. She talked to the children about making good choices in life, eating healthy and exercising and taking care of themselves. She encouraged them to work hard and find use the special talents God gave each of them. She told them that her education at St. Ann School helped her in her life to work hard and strive for excellence. She gave the children a very motivational talk and sang for them. As a graduate of St. Ann and a member of the parish we are very proud of her!  
Submitted by Sherry Collins



# WISDOM

BY GINNY KNIGHT-SIMON

## Doug and Dorothy Hood Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Owensboro, KY

One of the things I like about being the Coordinator of Wisdom for the Diocese of Owensboro is visiting with you in your homes.

I was able to visit with Doug and Dorothy Hood of Owensboro recently. During that visit, I quickly learned that education and their Catholic faith has always been a very important part of their lives.

"All five of our children have a college education. Three have their Masters Degree," said Doug.

After 27 years of staying at home with five children Dorothy went back to school, at age 49, and became a nurse. "We never saw the top of the kitchen table for years," Doug said with a smile. "We were living in Greenville, Kentucky at the time and I went to nurse's school in Madisonville, Kentucky. My daughter was already a nurse and she helped me a lot during that time. She gave me moral support by telling me she knew I could do it," said Dorothy.

"It was a little harder to learn and absorb it all, at age 49. Of course, there would be four to five hundred pages at a time to read, but I was stubborn and very determined to be a nurse," Dorothy said. At age 70, Dorothy still works as a step down cardiac nurse at Owensboro Medical Health System.

Doug and Dorothy lived in Greenville, Kentucky for years raising their family. Doug is an accountant and worked for a wholesale food distributor until he retired. They were both very active in parish life. Dorothy was a DRE (Director of Religious Education) at St. Joseph Parish in Central City. She also worked with Melinda Prunty to help get a Diocesan Youth Ministry started.

Both Doug and Dorothy are accustomed to hard work, a trait, I'm sure, that was handed down from their parents. They both were from very large poor families.

"There were 11 siblings and my mother's younger brother that my parents raised. We lived on a dairy farm, and there was always something to do. All of us kids worked starting at about age 10 on up. I worked for Mr. on his farm. He paid me for my work and it helped us out. He was an inspiration to me, because he was someone who treated a kid honestly," Doug said. "My mother was in a wheelchair and raised us all. I know it was hard but she did it. Money was so tight, but my dad saw to it that we went to Catholic schools. I know he could have used that tuition money for things we needed at home, but he sent us to school with it."

Dorothy is also from a very large farming family with 11 children. "My dad, Clem Cecil,



had us up every morning for 5:15 mass. We all went to Mass then we ate breakfast and went to school. I remember working at the Carmel Home as a young girl. I did whatever I could - helping in the kitchen or cleaning. We all knew hard work."

After Doug retired they moved to Owensboro, Kentucky where he worked for Brescia University for awhile. "I still do the books for a couple of people, but I do that here at home," said Doug. "I have a passion for St. Vincent dePaul and I do all their books - about 5 stores. I love it so much I don't consider it volunteer work."

Doug and Dorothy met in high school and have been married over 50 years. Through the examples of their parents, they have been able to carry on the tradition of hard work, volunteerism, and living out their Catholic Faith. They are very active members of Sts. Joseph and Paul Church in Owensboro.

The Hoods both expressed that a long marriage is a lot of work. "Being best friends and having things in common with each other is important," said Dorothy. "Being of the same faith has always been very important to us," she added. People say marriage is a 50-50 partnership. Really, I think, it's more like a 100-100 partnership. You have to give 100 percent of yourself all of the time. You have to work towards selflessness, and courtesy

The Diocese of Owensboro, through the Office of Wisdom  
Proudly Presents

## "Best of New York Tour!"

For those 50 and over



Incredible Price Includes:

- Deluxe Motor coach transportation boarding @ 6:30 a.m at the Catholic Pastoral Center parking lot (On Cedar Street behind building) in Owensboro
- 5 nights lodging - 3 consecutive in the NYC area (New Jersey 15 minutes from downtown Manhattan)
- 9 meals: 5 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- Private tour of St. Patrick's Cathedral

- Broadway play: The Lion

King

- Guided tour of Times Square, Empire State Building, Ground Zero, Central Park and more!
- Choice of guided designer shopping tour in the Garment District or the Intrepid Air Museum.

Day 1: Board your spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach as we begin our journey to the Big Apple! Along the way we will stop for lunch in Grove City, Ohio. This afternoon we will enjoy beautiful mountain scenery as we continue to Dubois, Pennsylvania where we will stay the night and, enjoy an authentic Italian dinner.

Day 2: After enjoying a continental breakfast, we will continue on our journey stopping for lunch before continuing to our hotel. This afternoon we will have a private tour of St. Patrick's Cathedral. After our tour we will enjoy dinner and this evening take in the beautiful view of New York City at the Top of The Rock.

Day 3: After enjoying a continental breakfast we are off to a designer shopping tour! We will have an optional tour for those that would like to go the Intrepid Sea/Air Museum, after dinner we will go New York's Funniest Comedy Show.

Day 4: After enjoying a continental breakfast we will tour "The City That Never Sleeps". Our guided tour of Manhattan will take you to such famous sites as Times Square, Empire State building, Former World Trade Center (ground zero) Central park and more! In the evening we will see the Broadway production of the Lion King.

Day 5: After our continental breakfast and check out of our hotel we will take the Ferry to Liberty Island, tour the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. After our tour we will say good-bye to New York and start for home. We will stop for lunch and continue to Dubois where we will have dinner and check into our hotel.

Day 6: After breakfast we will check out of our hotel and continue our ride. We will stop for lunch before arriving back in Owensboro with memories and photos of our exciting visit to New York City!

### June 3-8, 2010 Thursday - Tuesday

6 Days, 5 Nights \$1,199 per person double occupancy

\*\$350 additional for single\*

\$125 due upon reservation to hold seat!

Final Payment due 3/30/2010; \$25 Cancellation fee

Optional trip insurance available for \$70 per person.

For reservations & Information Call: Ginny Knight Simon @ 270-683-1545

toward each other. You have to be friends," said Doug.

"I think we're called to help each other get to heaven," said Dorothy.

The Hoods enjoy their family and time they have with them, their faith and each other.

"Our lives have been greatly blessed in all ways. We know God is in control," said Doug.





On Feb 9, 2010, at Vespers in St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro Diocesan Chancellor Sister Joseph Angela Boone, O.S.U., center, watched Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith sign his name to the Formula of the Profession of Faith, one of two documents signed by Bishop-elect William Medley, standing at back with evening prayer Master of Ceremonies Father Larry McBride, just moments before. Her presence in the witnessing of these signatures made history in the diocese and in the USA; the role is usually filled by the Papal Nuncio. Bryan Leazenby Photo

## Father Mike Clark, Thanks For All You Do ...



On Thursday afternoon, Jan. 28, 2010, Diocesan Administrator Fr. Mike Clark was presented with a gift in appreciation for all he has done for the schools this past year. The gift was a donation to Catholic Relief Services in his name. L to R, Bill Hagan (Principal, Trinity High School); Mike Clark (Principal, Mary Carrico Memorial School); Father Mike Clark (Diocesan Administrator during the interregnum); Sr. Suzanne Sims, O.S.U. (Principal, St. Mary of the Woods Grade School); Ruth Rhodes (4th grade student, St. Mary of the Woods Grade School); Isaac Rhodes (junior, Trinity High School); Seth Pence (4th grade student, Mary Carrico Memorial School); and Kerry Pence (Seth's father). Julie Pence (Seth's mother) also was there to present the gift. She is not in the photo because she was snapping a picture on her camera at the time. Photo by Julie Pence

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Bishop-emeritus John McRaith, at right in the picture at left, has been twice involved in history in a special way as he put his signature on one of the two documents which Bishop-elect William Medley signed in St. Stephen Cathedral on Feb. 9, 2010 during evening Vespers.

Before his witnessing Bishop Medley's signature, however, in Oct., 1991, Bishop John McRaith had added a significant moment in our diocesan history when he appointed Sister Joseph Angela Boone, O.S.U., a Sister of the Mount Saint Joseph Ursulines to be the Chancellor of the Diocese of Owensboro, a canonical position within the diocese.

Sister Joseph Angela, familiarly known as JA, or Sister JA, throughout the diocese and in her own religious congregation, as our diocesan Chancellor, witnessed Bishop-elect William's signatures on the Oath of Fidelity and on the Formula of the Profession of Faith on Feb. 9, 2010. However, she shared an unusual diocesan historic event on Feb. 10, 2010 as she read aloud Pope Benedict XVI's Letter of Appointment of Bishop-elect William Francis Medley to be the fourth Bishop of Owensboro, Ky.

The weather had a lot to do with the second of these moments in diocesan history. The reading of the Letter of Appointment was to have been performed by the Papal Nuncio to the United States, Italian Archbishop Pietro Sambi. Weather systems dumped nearly four feet of snow in the Washington, D.C. area in the days just before Feb. 10, 2010, closing down the nation's governmental offices, the city of Washington, D.C., the city's airports, including and the Dulles International Airport from which Archbishop Sambi was scheduled to catch a flight out of the city on his way to Owensboro on the morning of Feb. 10.

Sister Joseph Angela has a long history of service to the Church. On July 1, 2010, Sister Joseph Angela will complete 20 years of service to the Diocese of Owensboro. Her years of service as an Ursuline Sister will total 63 in August, including 20 as teacher, 19 in administrative work as general treasurer of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, and 20 in the diocesan office.

## ... For Catholic Schools



Fr. Mike Clark takes his gift from Ruth Rhodes (4th grade student, St. Mary of the Woods Grade School), and St. Mary principal Sr. Suzanne Sims, OSU. Photo by Julie Pence



# 28 Happy Anniversary

## Marriage Celebrations for January Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and over 50 years of Marriage

**Blessed Mother, Owensboro**  
Harold & Anne Clark, 58  
Joseph & Wanda Millay, 58  
Robert & Dena Montgomery, 55  
**Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**  
Daryl & Jill Hagan, 25  
Vernon & Melanie Humbert, 25  
John M. & Sue Allen, 40  
Steve & Susan Book, 40  
Forwood & Ann Hargis, 67  
Leonard & Anna Patterson, 54  
James & Elizabeth Thomas, 57  
**Holy Spirit, Bowling Green**  
Richard & Sheila Hardcastle, 25  
George & Barbara Powers, 50  
Harry & Constance Largen, 50  
**Immaculate Conception, Earlington**  
Bobby & Theresa May, 56  
**Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**  
Larry & Charlotte Moore, 40  
Ken & Charlene Ackerman, 51  
Robert & Martha Bailey, 59  
James P. & Connie Hayden, 51  
Anthony & Mae Kamalich, 56  
Randall & Josie McBride, 51  
Joseph R. & Frances Millay,  
**Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro**  
Melvin & Lois Connor, 53  
Charles & Mary Bonnie Gray, 53  
Henry & Mary Hodskins, 58  
Jack & Wanda Hufnagel, 61  
James & Mary Posante, 59  
Edward H. & Wanda Powers, 57  
Hal & Eleanor Renshaw, 53  
**Precious Blood, Owensboro**  
Arnold & Toby Boarman, 57  
Charles & Ann Connor, 52  
James & Shirley Ellis, 52  
Doug & Betty Howard, 55  
James & Evelyn Mattingly, 57  
Mike & Cloa Thompson, 50  
**Sacred Heart, Russellville**  
Thomas & Lisle Threlkeld,  
**Sacred Heart, Waverly**  
Roy & Carolyn Rowley, 52  
**St. Agnes, Uniontown**  
Hamel & Rose Floyd, 57  
**St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph**  
Francis & Tommie Clouse, 58  
**St. Ambrose, Henshaw**  
Joseph & Joanne Sheffer, 52  
**St. Ann, Morganfield**  
Parvin & Mildred Moore, 65  
Donald & Peggy French, 59  
Jack & Theresa Davis, 68  
Adrian & Mary Frances Wolfe, 63  
**Continued on page 29**

## Marriage Celebrations for February Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and Over 50 years of Marriage

**Blessed Mother, Owensboro**  
Paul & Beverly Cecil, 50  
Anthony & Mary Brown, 64  
Vince & Joan Frey, 52  
Thomas & Janice Foster, 54  
Charles & Patricia Hamilton, 53  
**Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro**  
Kenneth & Jean Higgs, 56  
**Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**  
William & Martha Duncan, 56  
Bernard & Betty Feltrop, 55  
Rodney & Janet Kellen, 40  
Don & Sherry McCormick, 40  
**Holy Spirit, Bowling Green**  
Scott & Rosalie Sims, 25  
Donald & Mary Jane Scarbeau, 50  
Robert & Rita Otto, 53  
Charles & Martha Peters, 54  
Michael & Geri Durchak, 56  
**Immaculate Conception, Earlington**  
Fred & Rose Conti, 50  
**Immaculate Conception, Hawesville**  
Denis & Martha Wheatley, 50  
Adrian & Velma Wheatley, 56  
**Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro**  
James D. & Barbara Brown, 53  
Martin & Mary Ruth Bumm, 57  
Eugene & Anna Scheidegger, 52  
Silas E. & Catherine Simon, 63  
Earl & Betty Wells, 63  
Fred & Gloria Zinobile, 55  
Terry & Carol Hall, 25  
Kenneth R. & Kathleen M. Rasp, 25  
Daniel L. & Francele Warren, 40  
James & Patricia Krampe, 50  
Gary & Patricia Satterwhite, 50  
**Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**  
Robert & Patricia Hines, 25  
Michael & Shelia Fulton, 40  
Kenneth & Agnes Harley, 40  
Terry & Judy Murphy, 40  
William & Joan Dant, 55  
John & Bonnie Popowski, 50  
**Precious Blood, Owensboro**  
Dennis & Joni Blair, 40  
Jim & Donna Stuerzenberger, 55  
**Sacred Heart, Russellville**  
Ray & Rita Polak, 66  
**St. Agnes, Uniontown**  
J. O. & Janet Thomas, 57  
**St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph**  
James L. & Dorothy Calhoun, 64  
George & Martha Taylor, 54  
**St. Ambrose, Henshaw**  
Don & Eleanor Greenwell, 58  
**St. Ann, Morganfield**  
Pat & Jill Wempe, 25  
Joe & Ruth Alvey, 55

Franklin & Agnes Hancock, 62  
Ronald & Mary Davis, 53  
Willard & Joyce Greenwell, 57  
Joe & Florence Henshaw, 64  
**St. Anthony, Peonia**  
Clifford & Margie Higdon, 60  
**St. Benedict, Wax**  
Quinton & Mildred Johnston, 61  
**St. Columba, Lewisport**  
Dwayne & Joyce Duncan, 40  
**St. Elizabeth, Clarkson**  
Carl & Paula Ball, 53  
**St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis**  
Thomas & Deanna Berry, 25  
**St. Francis de Sales, Paducah**  
Charles & Pat Gregory, 51  
Gerald & Christine Quigley, 51  
**St. Henry, Aurora**  
Al & Patricia Kasten, 54  
**St. Jerome, Fancy Farm**  
Paul & Ava Buckman, 60  
Thomas & Juanita Elliott, 52  
Leonard & Jeananne Foss, 55

Richard & Marie Johnson, 60  
**St. John the Baptist, Fordsville**  
Lee & Connie Roberts, 40  
Ray & Connie Wilson, 40  
**St. John the Evangelist, Paducah**  
Robert & Kathleen Hard, 64  
Troy & Carol Utley, 25  
**St. Joseph, Bowling Green**  
H. C. & Gustava Thompson, 55  
Donald & Betty McCormick, 57  
**St. Joseph, Leitchfield**  
Art & Arlene Bitsky, 54  
**St. Joseph, Mayfield**  
Robert & Rose Coplen, 59  
Edward & Jane Duda, 64  
**St. Lawrence, Philpot**  
James M. & Frieda Payne, 52  
**St. Leo, Murray**  
Robert & Paula Beavers, 51  
Joseph R. & Linda S. Ohnemus, 40

**Continued on page 29**

## Marriage Celebrations for March Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and over 50 Years of Marriage

**Blessed Mother, Owensboro**  
Steve & Martha Gillim, 25  
**Christ the King, Madisonville**  
Bill & Bonnie Burns, 40  
**Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**  
Donald & Shirley Altmeyer, 53  
Paul & Nina Drury, 51  
William & Charlotte Faulkner, 64  
Charles & Norma Gorman, 52  
Jerold & Jewel Williams, 51  
Mike & Robin Jourdan, 25  
**Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**  
Keith & Michelle Lashbrook, 25  
Carroll & Joyce Ferguson, 53  
Rex & Sarah Marsh, 71  
**Precious Blood, Owensboro**  
Paul & Doris Westerfield, 53  
**Sacred Heart, Russellville**  
Frank & Kathryn Lomeli, 55  
**St. Agnes, Uniontown**  
William & Sue Eckmans, 59  
Victor & Anna Yates 71  
**St. Anthony, Axtel**  
Bobbie & Mary Moore, 53  
Steve & Marge Sumego, 60  
**St. Edward, Fulton**  
Paul & Mary Pennell, 54  
**St. Elizabeth, Clarkson**  
Patrick & Louise Boone, 60  
**St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis**  
Clayton & Barbara Brantley, 25  
**St. Francis de Sales, Paducah**  
Charales & Marie Riggs, 62  
**St. Jerome, Fancy Farm**  
James & Fay Johnson, 58  
Joseph & Betty Thompson, 64  
**St. John the Baptist, Fordsville**  
J. C. & Maggie Edge, 52

Jerry & JoAnna Hines, 40  
**St. John the Evangelist, Paducah**  
Thomas & Helen Ellington, 57  
George & Doreen Gates, 40  
**St. Joseph, Central City**  
Richard & Queenie Schmidt, 65  
**St. Leo, Murray**  
Ray & Leola Lafser, 57  
**St. Martin, Rome**  
Keith & Darlene May, 25  
**St. Mary, Franklin**  
Antonio & Candelaria Estella, 51  
**St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho**  
Terry & Sabrina Ebelhar, 25  
**St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville**  
Jim & Stacy Kimmel, 25  
**St. Paul, Leitchfield**  
Glen & Renee Smith, 25  
**St. Peter, Waverly**  
Billy Don & Joyce Greenwell, 53  
**St. Pius X, Owensboro**  
William & Marguerite Campbell, 61  
Eugene & Mary Hurm, 53  
**St. Romuald, Hardinsburg**  
Kevin & Shelia Whitworth, 25  
**St. Stephen, Cadiz**  
Gerald & Maxine Corbey, 51  
Joe & Louise Doyle, 40  
**St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro**  
Ricky & Vicki Ammons, 25  
Richard & Donna Flaherty, 25  
**St. Thomas More, Paducah**  
Charles & Linda Wilson, 51  
Marcus & Opal Cooper, 53  
Joseph & Betty Falconite, 55  
**Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro**  
David & Paula Aud, 25  
Joseph L. & Betty Johnson, 60  
Daniel & Joyce Shuler, 69  
**Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville**  
Kenneth & Carol Gillingham, 25  
Robert & Cecelia Schade, 53



## Happy Anniversary Marriage Celebrations for January

(Continued from page 28)

### St. Anthony, Axtel

Harold & Jan Clements, 52

### St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Norbert & Helen Rose Smith, 52

### St. Augustine, Reed

Daniel & Debbie Ralph, 40

### St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Keith & Judy Walker, 50

Michael J. & Esther Shoulta, 50

Wayne & Joan Hille, 40

W. J. & Norma Word, 59

### St. Henry, Aurora

Ray & Betty Jerge, 51

### St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Norman & Ginny Elliott, 55

Jimmie & Linda Goatley, 54

Charles & Shirley Rowe, 52

Conrad & Rozella Spalding, 54

Joseph & Alma Stahr, 53

### St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

Irlan & Christine Payne, 62

### St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Albert & Joyce Wurth, 50

### St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Ray & Helen Grudzielanek

### St. Joseph, Mayfield

Jackie & Judy Roberts, 50

James & Wanda Warner, 50

James & Frankie Riley, 53

### St. Lawrence, Philpot

James & Frances Payne, 60

Michael & Patricia Wright, 40

### St. Leo, Murray

Robert P. & Simone Taylor, 60

Raymond & Beatrice Jerge, 51

### St. Martin, Rome

James & Phyliss Roberts, 40

Donald & Vivian Fischer, 57

### St. Mary, Franklin

Dr. A. V. & Kay Wlwayco, 52

Frank & Marie Farmer, 51

### St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Joseph & Margie Merimee, 55

### St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Joe & Bonnie Miller, 40

### St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Gerald & Marie Wedding, 40

Bill & Katie Christian, 50

Elmer & Marcella Schepers, 54

Joseph & Jackie Head, 53

Charles & Catherine Hamilton, 58

### St. Paul, Leitchfield

Steve & Marcy Hill, 25

### St. Peter, Waverly

George & Rita Gayle Nelson, 51

### St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Jim & Patty Settles, 50

Bill & Lillian Young, 56

James & Mary Keller, 53

### St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Gerald & Bonnie Castlen, 25

Don & Sylvia Hamilton, 51

Francis L. & Mary Lee Howard, 57

Wilsie & Marjorie Ward, 57

### St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Charles & Isabell Winchell, 70

Mack & Dolores Mattingly, 51

Jimmy & Mary Rita Whitworth, 51

### St. Rose, Cloverport

Robert & Mary Najar, 57

### St. Stephen, Cadiz

Richard & Jane Pauze, 51

### St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Norman & Betty Coomes, 61

Dennis & Thelma Hagerman, 40

Daniel & Betty Harding, 40

James & Evelyn Mattingly, 57

David & Bonnie Montgomery, 52

### St. Thomas More, Paducah

Greg & Connie Overstreet, 25

Roscoe & Wanda Shoulta, 50

Bernie & Connie Herrmann, 57

Douglas & Elizabeth Edwards, 61

Harold & Elizabeth Connor, 64

### St. William, Knottsville

James & Linda Hamilton, 52

Raymond & Mary Frances Payne, 57

Paul & Rhodie Melton, 55

Marvin & Mary Ruth Payne, 50

Donald R. & Martha Morris, 40

### St. William, Marion

Allen & Arlene Summers, 52

### Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Robert C. & Jeanne Lindow, 25

Charles C. & Bonnie Gray, 53

### Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Levi & Margaret Peterson, 51

*Dear People of the Parishes  
in the Diocese of Owensboro,*

## 18 Families say Thank You!

This is just a short note to say  
"Thank You!"

The Retrouvaille weekend just completed Sunday night, January 17, 2010, was attended by 18 couples. That's 18 families who now have a fighting chance. By running the Retrouvaille announcement in your bulletin and with your prayers, you helped give them that chance! Their journey has just begun.

Retrouvaille is not just a weekend, it is a 3 month program. Please continue to keep these couples and their children in your prayers.

Thank you for supporting marriage!  
Retrouvaille of Owensboro

## Happy Anniversary Marriage Celebrations for February

(Continued from page 28)

### St. Martin, Rome

Rob & Terri Osborne, 25

Bill & Jane Shelton, 59

Bernard & Jane Payne, 37

### St. Mary, Franklin

Charles T. & Norma Bennett, 40

### St. Mary, LaCenter

Earl & Frances Watson, 64

### St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Paul & Beverly Cecil, 50

### St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Kenneth & Carleen Morris, 25

David & Peggy Morris, 40

John & Carolie Morris, 56

### St. Peter, Waverly

Allen Ray & Carolyn Mackey, 58

### St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

James F. & Penny Howard, 50

Frankie & Betty Clark, 55

William & Martha Zoglmann, 56

### St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

John A. & Jean Carpenter, 67

Bobby & Patty Hines, 25

Virgil & Colene Jennings, 63

Bob & Vurble Mahoney, 53

Michael & Kristy Riley, 25

### St. Thomas More, Paducah

Robert & Chrystal Abhalter, 40

Jerry & Charlene Vandeven, 59

Thomas & Mary Frances Galvin, 60

### St. William, Knottsville

James R. & Evelyn Cecil, 55

Robert & Ellen Edge, 51

### Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Jerry & Dianne West, 40

Norbert & Nancy Crowe, 54

William A. & Betty Jo Payne, 54

William & Katherine Thomas, 59

### Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

John & Lillian Cotthoff, 63

## Soul Seeking with Fr. Paul Volk

Weekend of April 9-11  
Retreat Director: Fr. Paul Prabell



Fr. Paul Prabell

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Friday:   | • The life of Fr. Paul Volk                |
| Saturday: | • The journeys of life                     |
|           | • Mass in chapel                           |
|           | • Solitude, companionship and generativity |
|           | • Prayer and soul-seeking                  |
|           | • Critical reflection questions            |
|           | • Night prayer and free time               |
| Sunday:   | • The communion of saints                  |

**This retreat is a journey to a sacred place.**

Come for a weekend of peace, quiet, prayer, and home-cooked meals. Retreat begins 6 p.m.

Friday and ends 1 p.m. Sunday.

Cost is \$175 (commuter cost is \$120).

Deduct 10% if paid in full by March 9.

Contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0200 ext. 413

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

Fr. Paul Volk  
stained glass  
window at  
Maple Mount

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



## 30 Lourdes Hospital Auxiliary Gives \$81,501 to New Women's Center



**Pictured from left to right: Ann Watkins, Auxiliary President, Dollie Owens, Auxiliary Treasurer, Dawn Ramage, Mammography Technician, Dr. Lisa Chaney Lasher, Lourdes Women's Services Director, Sondra Asa, Lourdes Women's Center Nurse Navigator. Submitted Photo**

PADUCAH, Ky. On December 23, 2009, Lourdes Hospital announced the creation of the new Women's Center, focused on a more patient-friendly setting for women's health services. The center is conveniently located on the second floor of the Marshall Nemer Pavilion.

To kick off the project, Lourdes Auxiliary donated \$81,501 for technology and center features. Ann Watkins, Auxiliary President, presented the check on behalf of the 170 Auxiliary members at Lourdes. "The Auxiliary has been hard at work this year raising money for women's health and we are honored to present a gift of this size," says Watkins.

The gift will purchase an additional Stereotactic and ultrasound-guided mammotome biopsy machine, a PACS system for high quality imaging, and comfortable furnishings for the center. "As an OB/Gyn and a breast cancer survivor, it has been a dream of mine for a long time to have a patient-focused center for breast health," says Dr. Lisa Chaney Lasher, Lourdes Director of Women's Services.

A key feature of the center is a dedicated Nurse Navigator. Her role is to guide patients through the process, make sure they receive test results quickly, and provide reassurance and guidance.

"Lourdes already provides excellent breast care, and has an array of sophisticated screening and diagnostic equipment," says Dr. Daniel Howard, Lourdes Chief of Surgery. "In addition, having a Nurse Navigator enables us to speed the process of getting mammography results

to our patients."

Lourdes breast health services include: high-quality digital mammography, breast ultrasound, breast MRI, btereotactic and ultrasound-guided mamotome biopsy, and breast surgery.

The Women's Center will also feature a library with information and educational materials about women's health issues. Lourdes will also partner with such organizations such as the American Cancer Society and Kentucky Cancer Program to use this area to provide additional patient and family resources. The Lourdes Women's Center began seeing patients January 4, 2010 and celebrate a dedication and blessing on Sunday, January 31.

## Hopkinsville Pastor Burns Mortgage

**By Dawn C. Ligibel**

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - At the conclusion of all three weekend Masses during the weekend of January 16 and 17, Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, surprised parishioners with the announcement that he would be going to the bank during the coming week to make the last payment on their \$1.7 million mortgage. It took only six years for the parish to repay the mortgage used to build their new church building, which was dedicated in November, 2002. To demonstrate his enthusiasm for paying off the loan, Fr. Thomas burned a copy of the mortgage to the congregations' delight.

## Lourdes Auxiliary Extends Hospital's Mission In Paducah Area Community

PADUCAH, Ky. - A water line break at the Irvin Cobb Hotel in downtown Paducah caused major flooding damage forcing the residents out of their homes for weeks.

In an effort to make Irvin Cobb residents more comfortable during their displacement, the Lourdes Auxiliary partnered with the American Red Cross and

delivered grocery baskets to those staying at the Thrifty Inn on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010.

Lourdes' mission is to extend the healing ministry of Jesus by improving the health of our community with emphasis on the poor and underserved.



**(L-R) Davida French, Lourdes Community Relations; Carolyn Shockley, Lourdes Auxiliary; and Joy Cook, American Red Cross; discuss the contents of the grocery delivery made to Larry Dixon and the other Irvin Cobb residents temporarily staying at the Thrifty Inn. Submitted Photo**



**The Pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Hopkinsville, Fr. John Thomas, burned a copy of the mortgage used to build their new church building. Pictured from left to right are Christina Ligibel, Alex Hale, Fr. Thomas, and Joseph Whitfill. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.**



OWENSBORO, Ky. - Congratulations to the Aces Academic Team from Owensboro Catholic Middle School who placed first in District 12 Governor's Cup competition on Saturday, January 23, 2010.

The OCMS Future Problem Solving Team placed first out of 4 teams. Members of FPS are Kelsey Conkright, Marty Crowe, Kyle Alvey, Andrew Riccio, and Adney Rakotoniaina. They will move on to compete at Regional competition. The FPS team was coached by Lorraine Riccio.

The following academic students placed in written assessment testing and went on to compete at Regional Governor's Cup competition on Feb. 13, 2010, at Burns Middle School: Hannah Hagan - first place mathematics; Sam Booth - third place mathematics and first place science; Justin Krampe - 5th place mathematics and 5th place social studies; Audrey Wright - 2nd place science and 2nd place arts and humanities; Meredith Bickett - 1st place social studies and 1st place arts and humanities; Eric McBride - 2nd place social studies; Leslie Kuntz - 1st place language arts; Kelsey Conkright - 5th place language arts; Emily Wills - 2nd place (tied) in written composition; and Simmie McCormack - 2nd place (tied) in written composition. Thanks to the coaches: Margie Ebelhar and Julie Renshaw.



Members of the OCMS Quick Recall team this year were Kyle Alvey, Sam Booth, Leslie Kuntz, Meredith Bickett, Logan Brown, Marty Crowe, Justin Krampe, Eric McBride, and Christopher Spurlock. OCS Photo



## OCS Accelerated Readers Really "Hit The Books"

Congratulations to the following students from the Owensboro Catholic Schools Elementary 4-6 Campus for earning a place on the One Hundred Point Club for the Accelerated Reader Program by the end of the 2nd quarter. Pictured in no particular order: Emma Lanham, Benjamin Conkright, Olivia Bickett, George Kurtz, Mary Anne Murphy, Alli Thompson, Michaela Murphy, Trey Hamilton, Matthew Caldwell, Katie Beth Dorris, Samantha Horsley, Emma Hyland, Raychel Bahnick, and Emma Goetz. OCS Photo

Benjamin Conkright, a 4th grade student at the Owensboro Catholic Schools Elementary 4-6 Campus, was invited to the Daviess County Cooperative Extension Program Success to Legislators on December 14th as the Daviess County 10-year-old 4-H speech contest winner. After being treated to lunch, he was able to present his speech to local



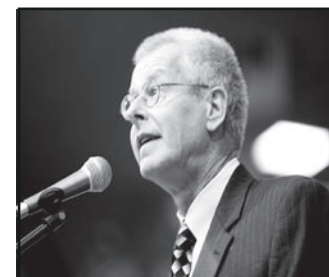
state, city and county legislators. OCS Photo

## Taizé Retreat March 12-14

A Taizé weekend retreat will take place March 12-14 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Taizé chants, many based on the Psalms, are written in a monastic tradition. They allow everyone to participate in a meditative form of singing and prayer, along with Bible readings and silence.

Led by Mike Bogdan, director of music for the Diocese of Owensboro.

Contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0200, ext. 413; kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org. A flyer can be found on www.mscenter.org



Mike Bogdan directing the Diocesan Choir Feb 10, 2010, for the Ordination Mass. Bryan Leazenby Photo



## Holy Name Student Y Club attends KYA 2009

By Danielle Hancock

HENDERSON, Ky. - The Western Kentucky Youth Assembly was held December 7-9, 2009 at Louisville, with a one-day trip to our state capitol in Frankfort. It was, as usual, a fun and exciting experience for the 94 Holy Name 7th and 8th graders who joined 1000 other delegates from western Kentucky. Everyone had a chance to participate, and nearly all of them took advantage of the debate time to get their opinions and ideas heard.

During the debate time, you could ask a non-debatable question, give a speech, and finally close up the time with voting on the bill. Each bill that was presented was composed by a group of 7th or 8th graders. Holy Name took a total of 6 bills, ranging from a 911 texting system to a proposal for farmers to start raising paddlefish to promote Kentucky's aquaculture.

Not only did the students debate, but some students were chosen to perform special tasks at the assembly. Brianna Hengen was chosen to run for leadership team, which is a person so oversees and controls a group of delegates in a meeting. On the second day we headed to the Capitol building, and she was named President of the Premier Senate. I, Danielle Hancock, was chosen to be a member of the Media Corp., which is a group of delegates who interview bill authors, delegates, and candidates in order to compose an article for the KYA newspaper. Savannah Vowels was chosen to be Brianna's Parliamentarian. She kept time, read the title of the bills, and helped Brianna count of division was called. At the beginning of the school year, Holy Name held an election for Y-Club Officers. One category that you could run for was an opportunity to become the Chaplain.



I to r: Meal Meuth, Elle Floyd, Emily Mitchell, Sarah Hodge in the chambers of the Kentucky State Senate. Submitted Photos



Holy Name Student Y Club members, I to r: Jessica Bailey, Will Angermeier, Harley Engle, Addy Floyd, Brianna Hengen, Cameron Sartore, Trey Perkins, and Emily Mitchell. HNS Photo



## Sister Mary John Maitre, 90, Died Jan. 20, 2010

Sister Mary John Maitre of the Sisters of the Lamb of God, entered eternal life on Jan. 20, 2010. She was 90 years old. Sister Mary John was the first superior general of the Sisters of the Lamb of God from 1948 to 1973.

After serving in several in communities in France, she came to serve in our community in Owensboro from 1989 to 1998. Sister Mary John was also in one of the first groups of sisters to serve in the mission in Juarez, Mexico, from 1998 to 2004.

Her funeral was Jan. 22, 2010 in France.

## CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Saint Pius Tenth Parish, Owensboro, Ky., will offer a six-week series of "Catholics Returning Home" which began in February, and meets every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. A visitor does not have to have started in February to attend these sessions in the Resource Room by Saint Pius Tenth Church's vestibule. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. For more information, please call Nancy Greenwell at 684-4747, ext 205

Emerson Jones won the election and, in doing so, was allowed to lead the whole youth assembly in a prayer of thanks and protection. Jessica Bailey was asked to sing the National Anthem while the American Flag was brought forward. She did an absolutely wonderful job. Cameron Sartore was chosen as our candidate for governor. Being a candidate takes a lot of time, responsibility, and criticism. He presented many speeches and was constantly busy. Cameron was allowed to choose one person as his Campaign Manager, and he chose Nick Faupel. Between helping Cameron campaign, and running any errands, they both found the time to debate on bills. Unfortunately, Cameron did not win governor, but was named the 2010 President of the Senate. Mitchell Long helped Alex Wimber, the 2009 governor from Holy Name, with his responsibilities as the Executive Assistant.

During an awards ceremony at the end of the assembly, awards were handed out to outstanding speakers. Holy Name, as a school, won the outstanding bill packet. There was one outstanding Legislative Speaker from Holy Name, and that award went to Will Angermeier.

Addy Floyd, Jessica Bailey, Harley Engle, and Tre' Perkins all won outstanding Premier Speaking Awards. Being nominated for a speaking award, let alone winning one, is a great achievement. Not only do you have to speak many times, but you also have to have quality speeches and a good voice projection.

All in all, Holy Name is proud of everyone who went. Like every KYA, it was an amazing time, and we each learned something new.





Chaney Willett

**Moves One Step Closer to \$25,000 College Scholarship**  
 MAYFIELD, KY, January 12 – Chaney Willett, a 4th grade student at St. Joseph Catholic School, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on January 12 and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 22nd annual National Geographic Bee. This year's Bee is sponsored by Google.

The kickoff for this year's Bee was the week of November 9, with thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories participating. The school winners, including Chaney Willett, will now take a written test; up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will be eligible to compete in their state Bee April 9, 2010.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the Bee national championship rounds on May 25 and 26, 2010. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society, and a trip to the Galapagos Islands, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic.

"Jeopardy!" Host, Alex Trebek, will moderate the national finals on May 26. The program will air on television. Check local listings for dates and times.

The National Geographic Society is one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. Founded in 1888 to "increase and diffuse geographic knowledge," the Society works to inspire people to care about the planet. It reaches more than 370 million people worldwide each month through its official journal, National Geographic, and other magazines; National Geographic Channel; television documentaries; music; radio; films; books; DVDs; maps; exhibitions; live events; school publishing programs; interactive media; and merchandise. National Geographic has funded more than 9,000 scientific research projects and supports an education program promoting geographic literacy. For more information, visit [nationalgeographic.com](http://nationalgeographic.com).

Submitted by Susan Brinkley, principal.



## "C" is for Camaro

The students of St. Joseph Catholic School Preschool were recently visited by Jeff McAdoo of McAdoo Collision Center in Mayfield. Jeff shared his 1969, candy apple red, Chevy Camaro with the preschoolers as part of their letter "c" curriculum. Pictured inside the Camaro are Jeff and his preschool daughter, Hannah.

## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH-JUNE 2010

"GIVE PEACE, QUIET, AND PRAYER A CHANCE"

#### March

- 5-7 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 12-14 **Gathering-Yarn Spinners**
- 12-14 **Taizé Retreat**
- 13 Great Expectations
- 16-19 Paducah Quilt Guild
- 19-26 St. Meinrad Retreat Week
- 27 Private Wedding Reception
- 31 Reitz Memorial High School Juniors Retreat

#### April

- 3 Private Wedding Reception
- 8 Reitz Memorial High School Seniors Retreat
- 9 **Soul Seeking with Fr. Paul Volk Retreat**
- 13-15 Theological Reflection - Glenmary
- 16-17 ICSC Confirmation Youth Retreat
- 16-18 Christian Women's Retreat
- 19-23 **Spiritual Direction (Week 7)**
- 24 **Center Annual Fundraiser Dinner - Hawaiian Luau**
- 30-1 Pleasant Hope General Baptist Church Women
- 30-2 Yoga Retreat

**Center-sponsored programs in bold. Please call to register.**



#### May

- 1 Yarn Spinners (open to all)
- 7-8 Hispanic Youth Retreat
- 8 **May I Walk You Home Retreat for Caregivers**
- 15-16 Mount Saint Joseph Academy Alumnae Reunion
- 20-23 Spinners Guild

#### June

- 1-5 **Discover Music, Nature and Maple Mount Camp for ages 10-12**
- 5 Private Wedding Reception
- 6-19 Writers Retreat Workshop
- 12 Private Wedding Reception
- 16 KPPC Workshop
- 25-27 Private Family Reunion
- 28-29 Daviess County High School Panther Leaders



**Ursuline Sisters**  
 of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road  
 Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
 270-229-4103  
[www.ursulinesmsj.org](http://www.ursulinesmsj.org)  
[info.ms@maplemount.org](mailto:info.ms@maplemount.org)

## St. Patrick's Dinner and Reverse Raffle

March 20, 6pm - 11pm, Knight's of Columbus Hall - Bowling Green, KY

Your ticket includes Prime Rib dinner with lots of extras!

Unlimited beer and wine and entry into the raffle.

A total of \$10,000 in cash prizes will be given away. Every 25th ticket drawn is a winner. Additional dinner ticket can be purchased for \$35 with purchase or raffle ticket. You or your representative must be present to win.

**All proceeds support the Restoration of St. Joseph Church.**

## Bishop urges Catholics to return to sacrament of penance during Lent

WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) -- Bishop Robert J. McManus of Worcester urged Catholics in his diocese to take part in a pastoral initiative called "Come Home to God's Mercy" and to return to the sacrament of penance during Lent. In a pastoral letter he said he asked all priests in the diocese to preach on the sacrament of penance before and during Lent to help Catholics reacquaint themselves with the sacrament.

Beginning Feb. 23, a priest will be available every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in every church in the diocese to hear confessions. "My hope is that by making the sacrament of penance more available, more of our Catholic people will avail themselves of this spiritually healing and renewing sacrament," the bishop wrote.

Citing a recent survey of U.S. Catholics, the bishop noted what he called an unsettling statistic -- 45 percent of Catholics who attend Mass weekly never receive the sacrament of penance. He said the reasons for this are varied, but "an explanation of this disconcerting pastoral situation has to include to a significant degree a loss of the sense of sin among contemporary Catholics."

To register or to schedule your event, call Kathy McCarty  
 270-229-0200, ext. 413 or e-mail [kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)  
 The Center is located 15 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56



## 34 The True Meaning of Christmas



During the 2009 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Agnes Church in Uniontown, Father Terry Devine is seen holding a baby boy, Isaac Anthony Lilly, as Father spoke near our beautifully decorated altar to the young children gathered around him about the true meaning of Christmas. The church was filled to capacity with standing room only for this beautiful and inspirational Mass, which draws Catholics from surrounding counties. Submitted by Mike Guillerman, St. Agnes Parish Board Member



### Bishop-emeritus John McRaith Confirms Twenty-three At The Immaculate Church

The Most Rev. John J. McRaith performed one of his last official acts as Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro on Sunday, February 7 at Parish of the Immaculate in Owensboro, Ky.. Bishop McRaith is shown applying the oil of Confirmation to the forehead of Nicholas Gray as his sponsor Cathy Rasp looks on. Assisting at right was Father Tony Jones, pastor of Immaculate. Twenty-three were confirmed during the 10:00 a.m. service. Photo by Dave McBride

Fr. Mike Clark & Fr. Andy Garner Present  
**Journey Through the Holy Land**  
 October 23 to November 2, 2010  
 A fascinating 10 day tour through this ancient land includes:  
**Visit: Tel Aviv, Caesare, Megiddo, Muhraqa, Haifa, Acre, Nazareth, Cana, Lake Tiberias, Kibbutz, Bet She'an, Ein Karem, Bethlehem, Masada, Dead Sea, Jerusalem, Latrun Area & Jaffa**

**Some Highlights include:**  
 The Roman amphitheater and the Crusader fortress • the Church of the Annunciation • St. Joseph's Church • Visit the site of the first miracle • enjoy a cruise on the Sea of Galilee • Mount of Beatitude • the Church of Multiplication of Loaves and Fishes at Tabgha • the Church of St. Peter's Primacy • the River Jordan • the Church of St. John the Baptist • the Church of Visitation • the Church of Nativity • The Garden Tomb • the Mount of Olives • follow the Stations of the Cross • Church of the Holy Sepulchre • the Wailing Wall • the tomb of King David • Visit the site of David's victory over Goliath in the Valley of Elah

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth. - Acts 1:8*

**You are invited to join us for a Pilgrimage Information Session Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm St. Anthony Parish, Browns Valley/Utica. Hope to see you there!**

Call: 1-270-683-1545, ext 377  
 Total Land Tour & Air from Louisville:  
 \$3,345.00 (plus air tax)  
 Includes breakfast daily, four dinners, and nine nights superior hotel accommodations.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A HAWAIIAN LUAU**

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center Annual Fundraiser Dinner

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24**

**LIVE AUCTION • RAFFLE • HAWAIIAN-THEME DINNER**  
 Doors open at 6 p.m.

**RAFFLE GRAND PRIZES:**  
**A trip to Hawaii! Includes 2 Round-trip Airline Tickets and a Condo!** *Location and date are flexible. Depart on a Saturday and return the next Saturday.*  
**• Handmade Quilt • Outdoor Patio Set**

Only 2,000 raffle tickets will be sold at \$10 each. Do not have to be present to win.  
 Dinner tickets are \$50 per person or \$385 for a table of eight.  
 All proceeds support the Conference and Retreat Center.  
 For dinner or raffle tickets, contact Jennifer Byrd

**270-229-0200**  
 jennifer.byrd@maplemount.org

**Mount Saint Joseph**  
 Conference and Retreat Center  
 8001 Cummings Road  
 Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
 270-229-0200  
 www.mscenter.org





## OCS 7th Grade Boys Basketball Team Claim Diocesan Tournament Title

L to R front row: Matthew Norcia, Michael McCarthy, Patrick Mills, Jansen Riney, George Bittel, Sam Aull, Landon Smith; L to R back row: Chase Clouse, Coach Paul Mattingly, Drew Harvey, Matt Sanders, Gabe Fillman, Griffin Wassmer. OCS Photo

## Catholic Campaign For Human Development 2010 Local Grant Request Information

By Richard Murphy

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is a national social justice program of the United States Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community controlled, self-help organizations, and through transformative education of the non-poor.

Each year in November, the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky participates in the national Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection. From that collection, 25% of monies are retained to provide grant funding to local organizations, which meet CCHD criteria. Catholic Charities administers and allocates the grant funding, by consulting with a group of panelists who review and recommend allocations to various groups that meet funding criteria.

To apply, please request an application from Richard Murphy by calling at 270/683-1545, or emailing Richard.Murphy@pastoral.org. The application will ask for a brief narrative of your organization, budgeting information, how your organization would meet the CCHD criteria of systemic change, what community organizations your group receives support from, and whether your organization's policy-making board has one-third low-income members (if your board does not contain one-third of its members who are low-income also include an explanation of why this is not so).

Applications for grant funding must be received by May 15, 2010 so that grants can be awarded by June 2010. The grant is a non-renewable and must be applied for each year. Three years is the total number of years any one group can receive this grant. Each year several grants are awarded averaging between \$800-\$1200 each.

In 2009, nine programs requests local CCHD funds. The available monies were \$5575. Six were awarded some funds, while three did not receive an allocation for reasons as determined by the Review committee.  
Criteria:

1. The applicant's project must be within the thirty-two counties, which comprise the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro. These counties include: Fulton, Hickman, Graves, Ballard, McCracken, Carlisle, Calloway, Marshall, Trigg, Lyon, Livingston, Caldwell, Christian, Hopkins, Muhlenburg, Todd, Logan, Simpson, Allen, Warren, Butler, Edmonson, Grayson, Ohio, Breckinridge, Hancock, Daviess, McLean, Henderson, Union, Webster, and Crittenden.

**If** we are able to enter the church day and night and implore God to hear our prayers, how careful we should be to hear and grant the petitions of our neighbor in need.

- Saint John the Almoner (550-616)

**Si** podemos entrar la iglesia noche y día para suplicar a Dios oír nuestras oraciones, cuánto cuidado debemos tener en oír y conceder las peticiones de nuestro vecino necesitado.

- San Juan el Limosnero (550-616)



## HNS Girls Hoops Win 2010 Diocesan Tournament

The Henderson Holy Name Lady Cardinals won the girls Diocesan basketball tournament held Jan. 15-16. Holy Name held off St. Mary of Paducah in a thrilling championship game. Owensboro Catholic Middle Lady Aces took third place and St. Joseph of Bowling Green took fourth. St. Romuald won a nail-biting game over St. Ann of Morganfield for the consolation final. Members of the Holy Name team are front row: Jaime Raleigh, Maci Brown, Addison Bradley, Ashley Shires, Addy Floyd, and Cheyenne Warren. The back row are: Taylor Warren, Lauren Spainhoward, Maci Cain, Jo Carver, Breanna Hengen, Hannah Hodge, and Hannah Garrett. Submitted by Mary Caton for Holy Name School

2. The applicant's project policy making board must be at least one-third low-income. If this is not the case, the applicant must explain why the board does not have setting low-income board members. (Low-income board members do not include those considered voluntarily poor such as clergy, religious sisters, students, VISTA volunteers, etc.)

3. The applicant's projects efforts must seek to benefit a poverty group.

4. The applicant's project must seek to create institutional or systemic change by changing the structures that keep people poor and powerless.

5. CCHD will consider favorably only those projects, which demonstrate respect for the dignity of the human person. CCHD will not consider projects or organizations, which promote or support abortion, euthanasia, the death penalty, or any other affront to human life and dignity.

6. The activity for which funding is requested must be consistent with the moral teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

7. Projects should generate cooperation and solidarity among and within diverse groups in the interest of a more integrated and mutually understanding society.

8. Projects should document that as a result of CCHD funding there are possibilities of generating funds from other sources or of moving towards becoming self-supporting within the time lines established in the proposal.





# TAIZÉ WEEKEND RETREAT

Facilitated by local diocesan and  
parish musicians

March 12-14, 2010



Experience prayer based on the style of Taizé.  
Taizé is well-known for its beautiful  
and inspirational services using songs,  
prayer, and silence.

Many songs are based on the Psalms.

Come for a weekend of peace, quiet, prayer, and  
home-cooked meals. Our staff looks forward to seeing you.

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

Cost is \$175 (commuter cost is \$120).

Contact Kathy McCarty: [kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)

270-229-0200 ext. 413



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-0200  
[www.msjcenter.org](http://www.msjcenter.org)



## Enkindle in Their Hearts A Generous Spirit

The Blessed Mother Catholic community celebrated the 30th anniversary of pastor Father John Meredith on Jan. 25 after the 10:00 A.M. mass. Father John was ordained January 12, 1980. The parish gave Fr. John gift certificates for Kindle™ books from Amazon.com. A Kindle™ Wireless Reading Device (6" Display, Global Wireless, Latest Generation) lets people get books delivered wirelessly in less than 60 seconds; no PC required, according to Amazon.com. Mel Howard Photo

## Discover Music, Discover Nature, Discover Maple Mount



Camp for 10 - 12-year-old Boys and Girls  
Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center  
Maple Mount, Ky.

June 1-5, 2010

**Come join us for this exciting 5-day  
residential camp  
to study nature and share your talents!**

Campers will gain an appreciation for planet Earth  
and will participate in their choice of  
elective classes, such as Appalachian  
clogging, songwriting, rhythm of the  
Earth, and wild edible plants.

Find out more at [www.msjcenter.org](http://www.msjcenter.org)



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Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
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270-229-0200  
[www.msjcenter.org](http://www.msjcenter.org)



Cost per  
camper is only  
\$195!

Camp will conclude  
with a public concert  
2 p.m. Saturday  
at Diamond Lake.

Register by May 15.  
Contact Kathy McCarty  
270-229-0200  
[kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)

# YOUTH 2000

Owensboro, Kentucky

13th Annual

Youth 2000 Retreat

Owensboro, Kentucky

A Eucharistic Centered Retreat

March 5,6,7, 2010

Sponsored by the Marian Shrine Committee and the  
Offices of Youth Ministry and Faith Formation  
Youth 2000 is held at Brescia University  
in Owensboro, Kentucky.

*All youth and young adults, ages 13-30, are invited.*

*For more information, call 270-683-6769*

*or The Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at 270-683-1545*



# Her Angels Carry Ashley Into New Home February 6, 2010 37

By Mel Howard

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Ashley Johnson, 10, and her family finally got the keys to their new home here on a cold, snowy morning. They moved in Saturday, February 6, 2010, at Noon.

A huge 4WD green tractor blocked the driveway entrance off KY 54 to their new home, but the hundreds of family, friends, neighbors, and fellow Saint Mary of the Woods parishioners moved that tractor, yelling at the man and boy in the driver's seat to "Move That Tractor!" They fired up its engine and drove the tractor onto KY 54 which was blocked in both directions by Whitesville firefighters and local law enforcement officers. In the

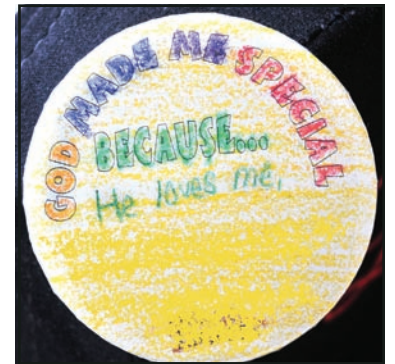


Above, Whitesville homebuilder Jerry Morris handed the keys to her new house to Ashley Johnson just before she entered the front door with her Mom and Dad, Charlotte Johnson, and her brothers, Matthew and Nicholas, shown in the photo at right.

Documenting the gift at back in the photo above was St. Mary of the Woods pastor Fr. Dave Johnson. Members of the parish were centrally involved through the summer and fall of 2009 and into 2010 raising money, donating time, materials, and labor for the Johnson' new home. Mel Howard photo.

center turning lane of the road were parked company trucks of dozens of business and contractors who donated the building materials and the home appliances for the new Johnson home.

Four men carried Ashley Johnson in a wheel chair down the driveway to her new front door. Ashley suffers from Lennox-Gastault Syndrome, a severe type of epilepsy. Her Mom and Dad have to help her with day to day activities, frequently carrying Ashley from place to place. As



## God Made Me Special ...

Above, a button on Ashley's wheel chair.

At left, four of Ashley Johnson's Angels carried her bodily to her new home in Whitesville, Ky. on Feb. 6, 2010. Builders Rick Bivins, Owensboro, left, Jerry Morris, Whitesville, center, teamed up with Bryan Hedges, pastor of Whitesville's Christian Church, OFD Captain Joey Dickens, at right, followed by her Mom and Dad, brothers, other family and friends. Mel Howard Photos



Ashley has grown, this has taken its toll physically on her parents, as they moved her about the rooms and through the narrow doorways of their former home. Now with their new home with its wider halls, door entrances, and facilities designed for people with disabilities, caring for Ashley has gotten easier.

Scott Johnson said, "Words can't describe it. There's no way I can tell anybody."

Charlotte Johnson said, "It's surprising to look back (over the past several months) and realize that you have that many friends and people who care."

But Charlotte says that it is Ashley that really caught people's attention. "She's touched the lives of a lot of people," Charlotte said. "It amazes me to see what people have given us to help out, to make this a better home to raise Ashley."

## ...Because He Loves Me



Seven of Ashley's Angels held a hand-drawn sign to welcome the Scott and Charlotte Johnson family to their new home in Whitesville, Ky. Feb. 6, 2010. Back Row: Emma Whistle, St Mary of the Woods Elementary principal Sister Suzanne Sims, OSU, Sandy Roby, and Evelyn Hagan; front row: Angel Nash, Sarah Smith, and Jessica Nash. Mel Howard Photo

Jerry Morris said that there is enough surplus money from the project to create an Angels for Ashley Foundation to help other children with disabilities.





## Retrouvaille:

A Retrouvaille weekend took place Jan. 15-17 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Retrouvaille team members pictured from l-r: Jo and Quentin Lauer, Fr. Paul Mandziuk, Trish and Don Wood, and Pam and Dan Lipps. MSJ Photo

Retrouvaille: A Christian Alternative to Misery in Marriage, Separation, Divorce. Couples experiencing pain and misery in their relationship, even those already separated and divorced, can find help and hope through a Christian peer ministry called Retrouvaille (Ret-ro-v-i). Couples from Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee are welcome to attend.

The next Louisville Retrouvaille program will be held in the Lexington area beginning the weekend of March 19-21 and concludes after a series of six four-hour-long Post Weekend sessions presented approximately every other Sunday afternoon beginning March 28.

For information or to register, call (502) 479-3329 or (800) 470-2230. Information can also be found online at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com). Registrations accepted on a space available basis. Confidentiality is strictly observed.



## Archbishop: 'We cannot fail to warn' others of 'error' of abortion

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Just as St. Paul and the Old Testament prophet Ezekiel advised in their time, "we cannot fail to warn our brothers and sisters when a fundamental error has been made," said Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services.

"We would be held responsible for that error, if we did not teach the truth effectively in love," said Archbishop Broglio in his homily for a Jan. 22 morning Mass closing an overnight vigil at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception prior to the annual March for Life protesting legalized abortion, among other life issues.

"The privilege of being called -- of receiving the Christian vocation -- includes the duty to work effectively in defense of the defenseless," he said. Archbishop Broglio was the principal celebrant for the Mass, he had 40 concelebrants.

"So often we have been accused in the discussion of life issues of foisting our beliefs on others or trying to promote legislation that reflects only our religious convictions," Archbishop Broglio said.

"We believe that the right to life is inscribed in the conscience of humanity. It is not merely a Catholic issue, but a human one."



## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RETREAT:

Rev. Dale Carden, superintendent of the Owensboro district for United Methodist Church, speaks to a group of Methodist ministers from the Owensboro area. The group met for a retreat Jan. 22-24 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. MSJ Photo

## Hancock County Volunteers' Repair Affair Blesses Many People

HAWESVILLE, Ky. - Area churches and businesses participate in Hancock Counties "Repair Affair." This is a county wide project geared towards helping senior citizens who's homes are in need of repair. These repairs can consist of roof replacement, painting, building ramps or

cleaning up around the yard. Usually the event takes place the first weekend in October. Volunteers go out and do whatever they can to help those people who are in need. This project has been a blessing for many people.

In the picture at left, Isabelle Creshaw looks on as Leonard Thomas, Charles Howard, and Clyde Cambron replace a window thanks to Hancock Counties "Repair Affair." Photo submitted by Steven Reine



## Three Seminarians Receive Ministries at St. Stephen Cathedral

39

By Tami Schneider

Two priesthood students studying for the Diocese of Owensboro at Saint Meinrad Seminary received the ministry of lector and one received the ministry of acolyte



William Thompson  
Ministry of Lector



Julio Barrera  
Ministry of Acolyte

on Saturday, February 20, 2010, at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. Newly-ordained Bishop William F. Medley installed the lectors and acolyte.

Seminarians receiving the ministries were:

- William R. Thompson, Ministry of Lector
- Emmanuel C. Udoh, Ministry of Lector
- Julio E. Barrera Martínez, Ministry of Acolyte

The ministry of lector is conferred upon those who prepare and proclaim readings from Scripture at Mass and other liturgical celebrations. A lector also may recite psalms between the readings and present the intentions for the general intercessions.

An acolyte is appointed to assist a deacon or priest, primarily in the celebration of Mass. He attends to the needs of the altar and may distribute Communion as an auxiliary minister. He also may be entrusted with the public veneration of the Blessed Sacrament, but does not give the Benediction, since he is neither a priest nor a deacon.



Emmanuel Udoh  
Ministry of Lector

## Pastoral Year Reflections

### Saint Vincent De Paul Society at St. Pius Tenth Church

By Byron 'Paco' Macias

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Being on pastoral year has exposed me to the variety of settings through which God manifests his mercy and love in parish life.

It is a rather warm winter morning. Delores Roberts arrives to the parish office to get the list of the people she is to visit and help on behalf of this society founded by Frédéric Ozanam in Paris on April 23, 1833. A few minutes later Angela Withers joins Delores and "fix" to visit the people who had requested assistance. Later on, as I seat in the back of the car, I observe them: Delores drives all around the area as Angela makes sure we got all the paper work, the vouchers and the checks.

"This is one of the hardest ministries you do," says Angela; "you have infinite need and finite money." The tone of her voice, wishing



## Owensboro Serra Club Invites You To Adopt A Priest



The Serra Club of Owensboro has launched a program to provide prayerful support for the priests of our Diocese called ADOPT A PRIEST. A lapel pin has been designed as shown. The initials of the priest and his date of ordination have been engraved on the back of each pin.

Along with each pin, a card and envelope will be included, designed especially to be sent by the wearer to the adopted priest. The Serra Club is asking that you pray daily for your adopted priest. The names of priests are assigned randomly.

To order a pin, send a check or money order for \$15.00 to: Serra Club of Owensboro, 4213 Spring Bank Drive, Owensboro, KY 42303

she could do more, makes me think of Frédéric; perhaps he had the same zeal and compassion. We arrive to the first of what would be five stops for the day. I see these women walking carefully on the snow and the ice. We enter the house; it is a humble and empty house. The people there need furniture. Dolores intakes the information with kindness and a bright smile that can melt the ice on the streets; Angela asks about this person's children; this person is treated with dignity.

Delores, from Western Daviess County, has been a SVDP volunteer for about five years. Angela, born in Mississippi, has volunteered since 2007. Both of them reflect upon their volunteer work.

**Delores Roberts (left) and Angela Withers about to make the first visit of the day. Picture by Byron Macias**

"There is a spiritual component to it" says Angela, to which Delores adds: "[it] keeps you humble." I look at the window and see the beautiful bright sun and smile. What an honor to meet these people. "Good Pope" John XXIII talked so much about the Church going out to meet her children where they are at. Today, as every week, I was able to see it... literally. After about two hours and many miles of driving, the Saint Vincent De Paul Society helped five of the twelve million people who are annually helped nationwide.

Delores and Agnes are two of the over a dozen SVDP volunteers here at the parish. This group visits and assists the poor twice a week. They preach and teach me about the Gospel with their testimony of authentic service and commitment. I feel grateful.



## 40 Paducah Physician Joins With Right To Life, Explains Medical Terms About Stem Cell Research

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - On the evening of January 25th at the Paducah Public Library the West Kentucky Right to Life Chapter presented a program entitled "In the Image and Likeness of God-The Embryonic Stem Cell." The program included a film entitled *The Biology of Prenatal Development* distributed by the National Geographic Society and produced by the Endowment for Human Development. The film vividly depicts the development of the embryo and then showed the actual rare imagery of the living human embryo emphasizing the first trimester where the brain is already functioning, right or left hand dominance is evident and 90% of the structures found in adults are present. At 3 weeks plus a day the heart begins to beat and 3 more weeks the arm and leg buds show movement. By 8 weeks, the beginning of the fetal stage, the brain is highly complex. Through the early fetal stage the organs of the body form. As the pregnancy progresses through 23 weeks on to 46 weeks, these organs begin to function, the baby's arms and legs form from small buds and become functioning. The baby can move the arms and then the fingers that have formed their fingerprints. The baby can even be seen to suck his or her thumb. The baby digests its nourishment from the mother and eliminates the waste from the bowel. The brain grows dramatically in size and function. All this happens by the end of the first trimester of the pregnancy. The film was very vivid and visually compelling, truly an awesome experience.

Following the showing of the film Dr. Ron Kupper, a Paducah Urologist, explained some of the medical terms and spoke on stem cell research. Ron explained, "The film emphasized the question of 'when human life begins?' is primarily a scientific question with much spiritual, emotional and legal overtones. Quotes from three embryology textbooks were used to state quite clearly that human life begins at conception when the male sperm joins the female ovum or egg. At that point in time the Catholic Church and various other Christian faiths believe that God creates the soul in His image and likeness. Jeremiah chapter 1 verse 5, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you and before you were born I consecrated you;"

There are 3 types of fertilization: sexual, in vitro fertilization, and cloning. In



**Dr. Ron Kupper, a Paducah Urologist, explained some of the medical terms and spoke on stem cell research on Jan. 25, 2010 in the Paducah Public Library. Edie Keeney Photo**

vitro fertilization is a procedure that takes eggs from the woman and sperm from the male, combines them in a laboratory dish and then implants the fertilized eggs into the woman's uterus. Several eggs are removed from the woman's ovaries and are fertilized but only a few are implanted into the uterus, the rest are discarded, frozen for later implantation or used for embryonic stem cell research. Cloning is a procedure where the nucleus of the one cell egg is replaced by a nucleus of the animal to be cloned. Human cloning has not been attempted and is illegal in all countries.

The 8 week embryonic period between fertilization and the more mature fetus is the time before the stem cells of the baby's body are not specialized, that is not programmed to be a particular cell such as a liver, pancreas, cardiac, etc. Some researchers harvest the embryonic stem cells in this early embryonic stage resulting in the destruction of the human life.

These cells are very hardy, rapidly growing, and have the potential to produce any cell of the body. The medical problems with using embryonic stem cells include a rejection reaction by the recipient of these stem cells. There is also a potential for tumors to form; the growth of these stem cells is not reliably predictable. Other researchers are also using stem cells to cure disease but they use adult stem cells. These stem cells are found in most tissues of the body such as blood, bone marrow, skin and muscle, and can be harvested without injury to the donor, do not destroy human life and since the donor is the recipient, there is no rejection.

Over 70 successful research treatments for diseases have been reported

## ONCE MORE WITH LOVE,

a Marriage Preparation Program for couples preparing for marriage after one or both persons have experienced a divorce or death of a former spouse will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY. Registration can be completed and submitted online from the diocesan web site, [www.rcdok.org](http://www.rcdok.org). Click on Ministries and then go to Family Life under the Topical Index. Click on Once More With Love under the Online Registration Forms found on the Family Services Home Page. Receipt of registration fee confirms your registration.



## Diocesan Schools Welcome Bishop William Medley

**On Friday afternoon Feb 12, 2010, the family of Sean and Anne Higgins presented to Bishop Medley in his office at The Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro, letters of welcome and invitation from each of the 18 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro. Sean and Anne were joined by their children in representing all Catholic School students, their families, and school staffs across the Diocese. Bishop Medley thoroughly enjoyed this special interchange. Special thanks to Sean, Anne and the kids for agreeing to represent the Diocese in this way. OCS Photo**

using adult stem cells such as heart failure, Type 2 diabetes, multiple sclerosis, spinal injury; no successful treatments for embryonic stem cells have been reported.

A woman and her daughter came to see the film. Her daughter had been seriously injured in an auto accident and had injury to her brain and spinal column. They went to Germany where adult stem cells were removed from her bone marrow, reprogrammed, and reinserted into the injured areas of her body. Some improvement was achieved, and the mother said they might return to Germany for further stem cell treatment. At this time, treatment is only available outside the U.S.A. and Canada and not covered by most insurance.

When asked how he came to be so interested in Right to Life issues Dr. Kupper commented, "That has always been an interest of mine. There has been so much turmoil and misinformation in the media about stem cells, adult stem cells and embryonic stem cells, that I started reading and studying. I found so many

wonderful articles about stem cell research from the Catholic Education Research Center (CERC) on the subject. There is a lot of information from respected scientists confirming the beginning of life with conception. If science can define the beginning of life with the fertilization of the egg, why can't the judges and politicians accept it?"

Frank Burch commented, "I was so fascinated watching the film of the baby developing week by week. Ron really defined the difference in the adult stem cells, and that when they are used there is no risk that the body will need medicine to keep it from rejecting the implant and that no life is destroyed."

Dawn Kupper remarked, "We are so happy that we could offer this excellent film to the public. We plan to have more programs on life issues and we welcome anyone interested in viewing this or other programs to contact West Kentucky Right to Life, PO Box 7342, Paducah, KY 42002 or WWW. WKRTL.org."



OWWENSBORO, Ky. - At the invitation of Julie Renshaw, Owensboro Catholic Middle School teacher and Religion Chair, Stephanie Keelin, the Development Director for Boulware Mission, spoke to the students of OCMS about the services provided by Boulware Mission.

If their actions are evidence of their listening skills, the students were paying close attention when Ms. Keelin told them that homelessness is a prominent social malady right here in our community. Their hearts must have been stirred when they heard that there are families in our community who do not have a warm place of their own to sleep at night or a hot meal to eat. When Ms. Keelin concluded her presentation with a brief summary of Boulware's comprehensive services designed to help Boulware clients lead healthy and productive lives, the creative minds of the OCMS students must have been whirring, because they stepped up.

The 7th and 8th graders committed themselves to forgo a snack at least once a week throughout the fall semester to

raise money for Boulware. Their "Snack a Week" collection allowed them in December to present Boulware Mission with a check for \$1950.

The initiative of these students reminds us of the words of Jesus from Matthew's Gospel, chapter 25: "Then the King will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take as your heritage the kingdom . . . for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me . . . in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.'"

The Board, staff and residents of Boulware Mission wish to thank the OCMS students for illuminating the words of Jesus in full and living color.

Perhaps the example of the OCMS students will encourage other schools and groups to sponsor a fund raiser for Boulware. What more appropriate way to



Stephanie Keelin, center, receiving a check for \$1,950 after Mass in Immaculate Church. The money was collected by Religion teachers in their "Snack a Week" program during the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year. The OCMS Religion teachers here Philip Spurlock, Mark Woodward, Bart Rhodes and Julie Renshaw.

observe the upcoming Lenten season? Any Boulware Mission may contact Stephanie Keelin at 270-683-8267.

## St. Thomas More Parish Welcomes New Administrator

PADUCAH, Ky. - Steve Duperrieu was named Parish Administrator of St. Thomas More Parish, January 4, 2010. He is married to Julie and has three grown children plus one grandson. He and his family have been members of St. Thomas More for over thirty-five years. He was employed at Higdon Furniture for thirty-six years and retired from private business last December. He notes, "I am looking forward to working with Fr. Pat and the staff. As the new Administrator, I want to use my years of experience in business to help the church address any needs that arise."

Steve Duperrieu, new parish administrator for St. Thomas More. Photo by Lois Bell



## In Your Kindness, Please Pray For The Repose of the Soul of Sister Anita Flaughter, OSU, 98, Who Died Feb 5, 2010

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Sister Anita (Bernard Anita) Flaughter, 98, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Feb. 5, 2010, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 80th year of religious life.

Sister Anita was a gentle, prayerful woman, who loved teaching young children. She was faithful to her friends and family, and enjoyed working in the rose garden.

A native of Fairfield, she ministered as a homemaker at St. Denis, Fancy Farm



(1932-33), St. Charles, Bardwell (1933-34), St. Anthony, Browns Valley (1936-37), and St. Joseph, Owensboro (1948-49). She was a teacher at St. Anthony School, Axtel (1950-56, 1962-64), St. Martin, Rome (1956-57), St. William, Knottsville (1957-62), St. Sebastian, Calhoun (1964-67), and Immaculate Conception, Earlington (1967-73). She also ministered in



OCMS students collecting money for Snack a Week in a Religion class. Joseph Mills is collecting money from Skyler Hayden. Will Mullican is in the background watching.

the Archdiocese of Louisville and in Missouri. She was an educator for 44 years.

Survivors include one sister, Mary Freda Simpson of Bloomfield, nieces and nephews, and the members of her religious community. The funeral Mass was Feb. 8, at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements.

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



## 42 New leadership elected for Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph

Five Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were elected Dec. 29-31 to a six-year term as the Ursuline Leadership Council, which will begin serving on July 18, 2010.



Sister Sharon Sullivan, a native of Texas, was elected as congregational leader. She will take office as the 15th canonically elected leader of the Ursuline Sisters since they became an autonomous community

in 1912.

Sister Sharon was elected with a two-thirds majority of the 42 delegates of the Chapter of Elections, who were previously elected by the entire community. She is in her 28th year as an Ursuline Sister.

Sister Sharon is academic dean and vice president of academic affairs at Brescia University, a job which she began on an interim basis in August 2007 and accepted on a permanent basis in January 2009.

Brescia has been the only place she has ministered since making her temporary vows in 1984, although she has filled several roles there. She served as the director of housing from 1984-87, but by 1985 she was teaching part-time in her true calling of special education. In 1987 she began teaching full-time in special education, which she did until 1990, when she departed for Purdue University to complete her doctorate in special education.

She returned to Brescia in 1993 as an associate professor of education and special education. In 1999, she became chairwoman of the Education, Social and Behavioral Studies program at Brescia, and in 2004 became chairwoman of the School of Education. She remained in that post until being named Academic Dean in 2007.



Sister Julia Marie Head was elected assistant congregational leader. She's a native of Daviess County, Ky. She lives in Owensboro and is in her 49th year as an Ursuline Sister.

Sister Julia is the pastoral associate at Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, where she has served since 1999, and also served from 1986-88. She's served as coordinator or director of religious education at Our Lady of Lourdes (1979-86) and Precious Blood (1988-92) parishes in Owensboro, and in the Office of Adult Education for the Owensboro Diocese (1992-99).

She began her ministry as a teacher in 1965 at St. James School in Louisville, and

also taught at St. Margaret Mary in Louisville (1967-72), Lourdes Central High School in Nebraska City, Neb., (1976-77), and Our Lady of Lourdes School in Owensboro (1978-79). She was principal of St. Alphonsus School in West Louisville (1972-73). From 1973-76 she was director of the apostolate at the Motherhouse.



Sister Kathleen Dueber was elected as a councilor. She is a native of Kansas City, Kan., and was an Ursuline Sister of Paola, Kan., prior to the merger of that community with Mount Saint Joseph in October 2008. She was a councilor in Paola from 2002-2008. She is in her 47th year as an Ursuline Sister.

Sister Kathleen moved to Maple Mount in spring 2009, and ministers to the sisters by offering transportation and being on call for pastoral care in the Saint Joseph Villa long-term care facility.

Sister Kathleen began her ministry in 1965 as a teacher in the Kansas schools of St. Philip Neri in Osawatomie, St. Agnes in Roeland Park (1966, 1969-74, 1978-84), and Holy Trinity in Paola (1967-68). She was assistant principal, then principal of Queen of the Holy Rosary School in Overland Park (1984-89). She was bookkeeper for the Ursuline community from 1974-78. From 1989 until 2009, she ministered at the Paola motherhouse, as director of the retirement facility, as a massage therapist, sacristan, vocation director, and handler of medical claims for the sisters.

Sister Rita Scott was elected as a councilor. She is a native of Louisville, and is in her 44th year as an Ursuline Sister. She lives at Maple Mount, where she has served as plant administrator since 2001, supervising the maintenance department and the farm.



Sister Rita was a teacher or principal for 20 years, beginning in 1970 at St. Brigid School in Vine Grove. She also taught at St. Paul School in Leitchfield (1971-73), Mother of Good Counsel School in Louisville (1973-74), St. Teresa School in Glennonville, Mo., (1974-82, with the final five years as principal), and St. Joseph School in Bowling Green (1984-85). She was principal at St. Andrew School in Harrodsburg (1982-84), and Blessed Mother School in Owensboro (1985-90). From 1990-2001, she was associate business administrator at the motherhouse.



Sister Nancy Murphy was elected as a councilor. She is a native of Curdsville, Ky., and is in her 49th year as an Ursuline Sister. She lives in Belleville, Ill., where she has been local coordinator since 2005 for a small community of sisters and maintains the former Belleville motherhouse property. She is also an office clerk with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program in Belleville.

She began her ministry as a teacher at St. Margaret Mary School in Louisville (1965-68), and also taught at St. Edward in Jeffersontown (1968-72), St. Catherine in New Haven (1972-73), Calvary Public School (1973-78), St. Ignatius in Louisville (1980-81), and St. Angela Merici

in Florissant, Mo., (1981-84). She was principal of St. Thomas More School in Paducah (1978-80).

From 1984-2005, she served in various ministries at Brescia College/University and at the Motherhouse. At Brescia she ministered in financial aid and institutional research, while at the Motherhouse she served as local coordinator and assistant local coordinator, director of the juniorate and director of novices.

The current Leadership Council will continue to serve until July 18. They are Sister Michele Morek, congregational leader; Sister Cheryl Clemons, assistant congregational leader; Sisters Barbara Jean Head, Ann McGrew, and Maureen Griner, councilors. They were not eligible for reelection.

### Join us for a weekend Yarn Spinners Retreat March 12-14

Join us for a relaxing weekend of spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting...whatever you wish! Several workshops will be offered, including sock knitting on a circular needle, making buttons, and creating a small woven purse. There will be a "market" area for buying and selling supplies. The cost for the retreat is \$138.75 which includes a room for two nights and six meals. Commuters can attend for \$60.75 (includes meals)

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:

270-229-0200 ext. 413

[kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-0200  
[www.msjcenter.org](http://www.msjcenter.org)  
[msjcenter@maplemount.org](mailto:msjcenter@maplemount.org)





## Home Raffle to Provide Funding For Owensboro Catholic Schools

OWENSBORO, Ky. – Catholic Education Partners of the greater Owensboro area today will launch ticket sales for the raffle of a new, energy efficient home to benefit the Owensboro Catholic Schools system.

Proceeds from the raffle will raise funds for technology and facility upgrades, operations in the current annual budget and tuition assistance. The campaign is titled “Building a Foundation for Catholic Education.”

“OCS is incredibly grateful and appreciative for the support of the Catholic Education Partners and our corporate sponsors. The raffle proceeds will allow us to continue fulfilling our mission and the mission of the church by providing excellence in faith formation and academics,” notes Ken R. Rasp, Owensboro Catholic Schools Director.

The 1,500-square-foot home raffle home is currently under construction in The Greens of Heartland development in Owensboro. Built by Jagoe Homes and valued at \$150,000, the home has 3 bedrooms, two bathrooms, a two-car garage and an enclosed, covered porch.

It is an ENERGY STAR certified home that meets EPA standards that make the home at least 15 percent more energy efficient than standard homes. More information and a photo of the home can be found at [www.newhomeraffle.info](http://www.newhomeraffle.info).

Raffle tickets for the home will sell for \$100 each. A limit of 3,000 tickets will be sold. The drawing for the winner will be held on Saturday, April 10 at 10 a.m. at the Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Hall, 609 E. 4th Street in Owensboro.

Home raffle tickets may be purchased at these corporate sponsor locations: , Owensboro Catholic Schools Central Office , Jagoe Homes Office & All Jagoe Model Homes, Independence Bank (all Owensboro locations), WBKR (92.5 FM) Office in Owensboro. The tickets can also be purchased by phone by calling The Saints Joseph and Paul Parish Office at (270) 683-5641

*Sts. Joseph and Paul Charitable Exemption # EXE0001409*

### Principal Search

Christ the King School, located in Madisonville, KY is seeking a Principal. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic, have Master's Degree, have Principal's Certification, or be eligible for Principal's Certification for the 2010-2011 school year. Position requires a minimum of four years teaching experience. Successful candidate will assume Principal position at beginning of 2010 school year. Salary and Benefits based on Diocese of Western Kentucky guidelines. Send resume to [henning825@newwavecomm.net](mailto:henning825@newwavecomm.net) by April 1, 2010.



Tim Guilfoile from the Cumberland Chapter executive committee speaks to the Sierra Club Water Sentinels leaders during their retreat held Dec 4-6 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. The group consisted of leaders from different regions of Kentucky. MSJ Photo

At right, First Presbyterian Church elders join Rev. Jonathan Carroll for a planning retreat for their congregation on Nov 13-14 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, Maple Mount. MSJ Photo

## Alumnae from Thailand visit Mount



Members of the Janekarnkit family stopped by to visit the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph Jan. 29. From left are Vanessa Mekpongsatorn and her mother Valliya Janekarnkit Mekpongsatorn, Sister Mary Angela Matthews, Sister Catherine Marie Lauterwasser, Busra Janekarnkit Sosothikol, and her daughter Cindy Sosothikol.

Valliya, of San Marino, Calif., graduated from Mount Saint Joseph Academy in 1980, a year after her sister, Busra. Both the women came to the Mount from their native Thailand for their last two years of high school. Sister Catherine Marie was their former teacher, and Sister Mary Angela was their former principal.

Valliya (pronounced “Vuh-lay-uh”) was on a trip to London recently, and while riding on a bus with snow all around, she was struck by how much the scene reminded her of Maple Mount. She

told her husband she wanted to visit the Mount. She found Mount Saint Joseph on the Internet and saw her name among the “lost alumnae.” She e-mailed her contact information to Marian Bennett, director of Ursuline partnerships, saying she’d like to visit the Mount soon. While visiting on Jan. 29, Valliya and her 18-year-old daughter, Vanessa, along with Busra and her daughter Cindy, 22, took a tour and enjoyed having lunch with the Ursuline Sisters.





## 44 Writing From Readers

*Ed. Note: "Writings From Readers," is just a term for letters to the editor. We want WKC people who read and write back to perceive themselves as message makers with something useful, hopefully holy to say, but avoiding contentiousness. The guidelines for these writings are in our ownership box on page 3.*

### Why didn't I speak up?

**Editor:**

Since I was young, my parents and teachers alike had pointed out that I should be a lawyer because I could argue with a brick wall. Throughout high school, however, this attribute seemed to be viewed poorly by my peers, so I went a bit into a reclusive mode, and listened to others voice their opinions, even when I was burning to respond. As they say, one can suffer in silence for only so long.

College came. At the University of Kentucky, there were people everywhere, vividly and candidly expressing their views and opinions to the world. From campus-wide protests on the newly introduced student meal plan, to the many opinions being expressed daily in the campus paper, even in the annual pro-life and pro-choice rallies on the lawn in front of the Whitehall Classroom Building. I specifically remember as a freshman calling my mother and letting her listen to a very colorful fellow exclaim that the "end was near," and "we all would die." It was intimidating, yet awe-inspiring. These individuals had NO fear, no question that their views were worthy of being shared with the general population. It was quite an experience. But, even that didn't inspire me to speak up and out for my views. It was not until I had a particular history class that I decided I had all I could take.

Unlike most of my professors, this teaching assistant was very liberal, an intellectual with a background in anthropology and European History. No doubt, he was well educated. One difference set him apart from other liberal professors. Not only was he hugely left-wing, he would jabb and dig at the Catholic Church at any opportunity, and sometimes even if there was no clear reason, he would go off on an anti-Catholic tangent.

My insides would burn. He seemed so smart. How could a nineteen year-old like me dare to challenge an older graduate student with four more years of education? How could I defend the Church when I was so unprepared and ignorant of the history of the church? At 19, I knew enough about

my religion to have a friendly conversation with someone, but he was well-spoken, and seemed to punch holes in my beloved religion.

Each week it grew increasingly harder for me to keep my mouth shut while he and other students snickered and laughed arrogantly about what they deemed outdated and erroneous Catholic practices. They made fun of "close-minded conservatives" who practiced such an out-of-touch religion.

I usually left class with sweating palms, walking back to my car, talking to myself, and arguing what I should have said to him after the fact. I spoke to him in my car as if I was still in the classroom. Onlookers must have thought I was crazy! I'd come home and vent to my fiance, Caleb, who vigorously cheered me on in my one-person fight against ignorance.

Why didn't I speak up? Why did I feel like Peter, denying Christ over and over again when I knew I could at least say "You are WRONG."

Suddenly, one day I had enough; I was on a mission to educate myself. I read books, "Dante; The Divine Comedy," "St. Augustine's Confessions." I highlighted excerpts from the Catechism, visited CatholicAnswers.com, and even watched EWTN some mornings. I learned about many church teachings, and I had questions while I watched and read what the opposition to Catholicism and conservatism had to say.

I listened to Bill Mahr's view on being an atheist, watched liberals like Keith Olberman and Rachel Maddow argue for the liberals in case the imagined conversation took a turn to recent politics. I even read Hugh Hefner's views on polygamy. I wanted to be prepared from every angle. I didn't know if the chance to redeem myself would ever come up until one day it did.

A sarcastic comment about how arrogant Catholics must be to actually think that they could just go to Confession and be freed of sin really set me off. I reluctantly raised my hand, and he nodded my way.

Suddenly, I felt as if the Holy Spirit was on my side. I confidently said in a poised tone, "Catholics don't just think confessing is all they have to do be forgiven. We have to truly be sorry for the sin and avidly want to fix the problem. Catholics don't believe a simple 'I'm sorry,' with little substance behind it will suffice. We have to really believe that we will never succumb to that sin again. On top of that, we courageously say our most private sins out loud to a priest and believe that just saying something in your head and saying it out loud are two totally different things. You can sugarcoat a sin in your head, and a friend can tell you that you are being too

hard on yourself, but you will certainly not get that from a priest. And that is why we confess our sins aloud. God acts through the priest to forgive us. Catholics get to enjoy this privilege any time we want."

My face red and my mouth dry, I was done. My T.A. didn't have anything to say, and no one in the class argued against my statement. I felt invigorated, excited, and nauseated at the same time. What a feeling, the feeling that I had defended Christ,

### "Be Not Afraid" : A Bishop's Ordination, Soul-Stirring

When I arrived at the Sportscenter Feb 10, I was filled with great anticipation for the blessed event of the ordination of our new Bishop. I could see the expression from other's faces that they too were filled with just as much excitement and joy as I was.

I felt like a little kid with too much excitement. I was about to be a witness to something so Holy and profound from God above. But, I wasn't the only one. I could see with my own eyes the joy in others faces that we were going to be a part of something very, very special. Even now as I write this, I am thinking of how my husband, Keith, and I can tell our grandchildren that we were present when our Bishop was ordained. "Now, that is something to brag about!"

Once we found our seats, I looked over at Keith and said very enthusiastically; "We have a perfect view. This is going to be great!" We were straight ahead, and it seemed to me that I was face to face but from a distance with the soon-to-be Bishop Medley. Let me make one thing clear, because I don't want to mislead you. I was far away, yet I wasn't. All that mattered to me was that I have a clear view of this holy event, and thanks be to God we certainly did.

As I looked at Bishop William Medley for the first time, I felt in my heart the words from Pope John Paul II, "Be Not Afraid" I felt a stirring within my soul. I could see in Bishop Medley's face that this was a man who is a humble servant of God. Even from all the way up at the top of those bleachers, I knew that this stranger whom I had never met was a man of great humility. I had a secure feeling from the Holy Spirit that God has given us a great shepherd to guide us. And I thank God for giving me and everyone that sense of peace in our hearts.

Dear beloved Bishop Medley, our prayers will be with you always. I personally, along with my family, want to thank you for saying "Yes" to be our humble servant.

+JMJ+ Julie Murphy, Owensboro, Ky.

### Be Not Afraid.

*On October 22, 1978, Pope John Paul II stepped out on to the balcony in St. Peters Square and signaled his mission: "Be Not Afraid! Open up, no; swing wide the gates to Christ. Open up to his saving power the confines of the State, open up economic and political systems, the vast empires of culture, civilization and development.... Be not afraid!" he proclaimed to cheering throngs of the faithful gathered in St. Peter's square.*

## ST. AGNES PARISH Invites You To LENTEN FISH FRIES

At The St. Agnes Parish Center, 504 Mulberry Street, Uniontown, Ky.  
FRIDAY, MARCH 12, FRIDAY, MARCH 26

- SERVING BEGINS AT 5:00 P.M.
- Dinner includes: cat fish fillets, hush puppies, potato salad, baked potato, chips, cole slaw, beans, grilled cheese, dessert and drink.
- All You Can Eat. Adults: \$8.00. Children 6 to 12 years old: \$4.00 (Children under age 6 are free with a paid, dine-in Adult dinner)
- All Carry-Outs will cost \$8.00

Come and Enjoy Good Food with your Friends and Neighbors

Mass Schedule: Saturday: 5:30 p.m.; Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

For information, call 270-822-4416 or 270-822-4780.



## Celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Franklin, KY

Sometido por Steve Maloney

Este pasado 13 de diciembre del 2009, tuvimos la celebración del 478 aniversario de las apariciones de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Esta celebración se llevó a cabo en la Iglesia de Santa María (St. Mary's Catholic Church) in Franklin, KY.

Para dicha celebración, se reunieron más de 200 personas de las cuales fueron incluidos personas de las dos comunidades de nuestra parroquia, la comunidad angla y la comunidad hispana, para la celebración de la Santa Misa en honor a Nuestra Santísima Virgen de Guadalupe. Fue muy emocionante ver a las dos comunidades reunirse no solamente para disfrutar la celebración pero también para recaudar fondos para dicha celebración.

Es muy bonito ver a tantos niños vestidos de Juan Diego y las niñas vestidas de inditas. Es parte de la tradición Hispana vestir a los niños así para esta celebración.

Algo que fue diferente este año fue la presencia de la danza Guadalupana y la danza de la Iglesia de Santa Ana en Nashville, que vinieron y nos dirigieron la procesión hacia la Iglesia para empezar la Santa Misa. Los danzantes representaron a los aztecas, una tribu india, que antes de las apariciones de la Virgen no creían en el Catolicismo. Los sacrificios que hacían era literalmente sacar los corazones de las personas y ofrecerlas a sus dioses que ellos idolatraban, eso era lo que creían que tenían que hacer. Ellos vieron la aparición de La Virgen de Guadalupe en la Tilma de Juan Diego en el año 1531. Fue entonces que los aztecas se convirtieron y desde entonces le rinden tributo a la Virgen.

Después de la celebración de la Santa Misa, tuvimos la participación de los mariachis que le cantaron las mañanitas a la Virgen.

Para terminar el evento, tuvimos la comida que con el apoyo del Sol Azteca Mexican Restaurant in Franklin, KY, El Azteca Mexican Restaurant in Portland TN, y también las familias que donaron comida y dinero para tener esta bonita celebración. Muchísimas gracias a todos por todo su apoyo y que Dios los bendiga. a todos.

### 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: Mr. Ken Bennett, Dr. Charles Bohle, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Ms. Teresa Henry, (Chairperson), Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, and Rev. Pat Reynolds. Ms. Louanne Payne sirve como enlace Diocesano al 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](mailto: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 Papa Benedicto XVI declaró que del 19 de junio del 2009 hasta el 19 de junio del 2010, celebráramos el Año Sacerdotal. En este año, los feligreses han estado buscando maneras y oportunidades de demostrar su apreciación a los sacerdotes por su generosidad y su entrega en su vocación sacerdotal. A su vez, los sacerdotes buscan profundizar en su vocación y ofrecerle gracias a Dios.**

## Iniciativa De Notre Dame Para Mejorar Acceso De Niños Hispanos A Escuelas Católicas

WASHINGTON—El obispo Thomas J. Curry, presidente del Comité para la Educación Católica de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos (USCCB) y obispo auxiliar de Los Angeles, alabó una iniciativa de la Universidad de Notre Dame para mejorar el acceso de los niños latinos a las escuelas católicas.

La iniciativa, fruto del “Equipo de Trabajo de la Universidad de Notre Dame respecto a la participación de los niños y familias latinas en las escuelas católicas” se basa un estudio realizado por el mismo equipo que fue presentado el 12 de diciembre bajo el título: “Para alentar el espíritu de una nación: familias latinas, escuelas católicas y oportunidades educativas”. El grupo de trabajo se ha propuesto lograr el objetivo de que un millón de niños hispanos ingrese en escuelas católicas para el 2020, duplicando así el porcentaje Latinos actualmente enrolados en escuelas católicas del 3 al 6 por ciento.

“El estudio resalta dos aspectos en particular: a los estudiantes hispanos que asisten a escuelas católicas les suele ir mejor que a aquellos que no lo hacen; y las escuelas católicas no están atrayendo un número suficiente de estudiantes hispanos”, dijo el obispo Curry. “Este estudio supone un reto para que la Iglesia pase la voz y predique la buena nueva en la comunidad hispana”.

El reporte subraya investigaciones sociológicas que sugieren que los estudiantes latinos que asisten a escuelas católicas disfrutan de la llamada “ventaja de la escuela católica” que les ayuda a mejorar sus logros académicos.

Entre otros hallazgos, el reporte identifica cuatro necesidades urgentes que hay que resolver para mejorar los logros académicos y aumentar el número de inscripciones, y describe oportunidades viables para escuelas católicas principalmente en áreas urbanas. El estudio también señala que aunque el factor económico es citado a menudo como el principal impedimento que afecta a las inscripciones, existen otros factores—como falta de información, diferencias culturales y liderazgo—que también deben ser abordados.

“La visión guadalupana de una cultura avivada por la fe, nos desafía a abrir la riquísima oportunidad de una educación católica a nuestros niños latinos”, afirmó el obispo Jaime Soto de Sacramento, presidente del Comité de Diversidad Cultural en la Iglesia y miembro del equipo de trabajo. El obispo Soto subrayó la necesidad de una actitud de bienvenida y de querer capacitar al inmigrante y al pobre.

El obispo Curry asintió. “Al igual que en el pasado, las escuelas católicas son un don para los inmigrantes católicos a los Estados Unidos. Esto es algo que nos llena de gozo y que debemos celebrar”.

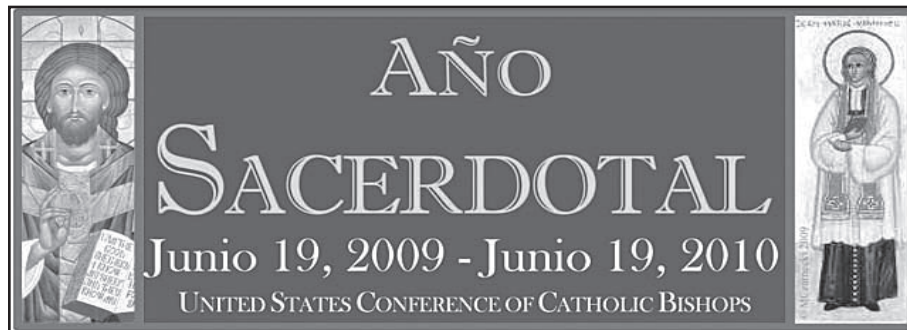
El sacerdote jesuita padre Allan Figueroa Deck, director ejecutivo del Secretariado de Diversidad Cultural en la Iglesia y miembro así mismo del equipo de trabajo, señaló que la iniciativa mira hacia el futuro.

“Las presencia latina, más que ningún otro factor ofrece a la educación católica la oportunidad de renovarse y enfrentarse a los difíciles retos que presenta el siglo XXI. Se nos presenta un dilema fundamental que no podemos ignorar y si lo hacemos será para nuestro propio detrimento”, afirmó el padre Deck.

El equipo de trabajo incluye a más de 50 líderes de todo el país procedentes de la comunidad latina,

el liderazgo eclesial, la academia, el gobierno, los negocios, entidades filantrópicas y la educación básica (Grados K-12).

“Estamos muy agradecidos a la Universidad de Notre Dame por esta importante contribución educativa a las escuelas católicas y por sus constantes contribuciones a la comunidad católica en los Estados Unidos”, dijo el obispo Curry.



### Calendario de Actividades del Ministerio Hispano

**25-26 de marzo 2010**

- Retiro para los Agentes del Ministerio Hispano en Ferdinand.

**7-8 de mayo 2010**

- Retiro juvenil en el Monte de San José.

**Por venir este año...:**

- Congresos Regionales y un Encuentro Diocesano.



**Continuado de la página 1**

hablan y la comunidad Hispana, sin duda alguna lo recibe con mucha alegría.

En las palabras del Obispo Medley, expresó su preocupación por los más vulnerables, los pobres, los marginados y los considerados extranjeros, siendo propio de alguna manera la Oración por excelencia del Magnificat. Donde Dios pone los ojos en la vida de la persona humana.

Datos tomados del *Western Kentucky Catholic*, "Encontramos la historia del Exmo. Sr. Obispo William F. Medley, desde su niñez, conocemos su trayectoria hasta el día de hoy. Sabemos que ha venido desde una familia eminentemente Católica, con una fe profunda, y formado en casa, su vida de estudiante, seminarista, y como Sacerdote ha desarrollado una excelente Fe y otras virtudes que lo llevaron a la Silla Episcopal. Viendo sus raíces que bueno decir, LA MANZANA NO CAYO LEJOS DE SU ARBOL. A sus padres, hermanas y hermanos les expresamos nuestra admiración por tener un hijo elegido por Dios para ser Obispo que guiará a una Diócesis como su Obispo y Pastor. Damos gracias a Dios por ser nuestro Obispo y esperamos que se siente en su casa. Bienvenido!!!

Es admirable los detalles que se dieron y fuimos testigos de su desarrollo en todos los momentos de la ceremonia, agradecemos profundamente los grandes esfuerzos del Personal del Centro Pastoral para cubrir todos los aspectos, así como la Liturgia que se desarrollo durante la ceremonia, los medios de comunicación, radio, TV, Internet, al personal del Católico del Oeste de Kentucky. También gracias a todos quienes hicieron posible para que este evento fuera todo un éxito, mil gracias a todos, estuvo estupendo. Hasta la próxima edición.



**El Obispo John McRaith, tercer obispo de la Diócesis reza con fervor durante la Letanía de los Santos mientras el Padre Medley se postra. Todos los sacerdotes, religiosos y laicos presentes invocan a todos los santos para que sea un buen obispo para nuestra diócesis.**

**A la derecha, el obispo recién ordenado va primeramente a su mamá, Dorothy Medley, y recostando su cabeza en la suya, le da su primera bendición como obispo mientras su familia, los sacerdotes y todo el pueblo mira.**

**Abajo, un hispano de la parroquia de Santa Susana en Elkton lee la segunda lectura. Fotos por Tami Schneider**



**El Arzobispo Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Arzobispo de Louisville, pone las manos sobre la cabeza del Padre William Medley para ordenarlo el cuarto obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro. El Obispo jubilado, John McRaith, está parado a la izquierda.**







Bishop William F. Medley

## Ad Majoram Dei Gloriam

El rito de la ordenación es muy específico al decir que el Obispo recién ordenado puede, en este momento (al final) del rito, hacer unos breves comentarios. Y yo miro a esta maravillosa reunión de la Iglesia y reconozco que no puedo llamar a cada uno por su nombre, ni encontrar la manera de conocer a cada uno de ustedes. A la luz de esa recomendación de ser breve, le pregunté al Arzobispo Kelly, “Pues, ¿qué debo decir? ¿a quiénes debo agradecer?” Y me ofreció su consejo sabio notando, “Bill, no son los academy awards.” (premios para los músicos y actores)

Por lo tanto, tengo que decir lo que cada persona debe decir todos los días de su vida: “A la gloria de Dios!” Somos abundantemente bendecidos poder reunirnos para darle alabanza y adoración a Dios. Hace unos días tuve la oportunidad de visitar a la iglesia de San Martín de Porres en Louisville, donde fui Pastor del 1988 - 1993. Cantaron uno de mis cantos favoritos: “El Señor, nuestro Dios es poderoso, el Señor nuestro Dios es magnificente, oh, el Señor nuestro Dios es maravilloso!” Si cantas ese estribillo por 20 minutos, mejora cualquier día. Así que, gracias a Dios.

Aunque no pudo estar presente el día de hoy, quise reconocer al Arzobispo Pietro Sambí, el nuncio papal a los Estados Unidos. El 3 de diciembre del año pasado me llamó para preguntarme si aceptara el nombramiento del Papa Benedicto XVI a ser el cuarto obispo de Owensboro. Siempre me acordaré de sus palabras cuando tomó unos minutos antes de iniciar la pregunta. Me habló de su visita a la Tierra Santa cuando estuvo parado cerca del Mar de Galilea donde Jesús había llamado a sus discípulos a abandonar sus redes y seguirlo. Notó, “Se les pidió abandonar su propia voluntad para hacer la voluntad de Dios.” Después agregé, “P. Medley, le estoy pidiendo que haga lo mismo.”

Les agradezco al Arzobispo Joseph Kurtz, al Arzobispo Thomas Kelly, y al Obispo John McRaith. Ellos me han dado dones de una manera muy poderosa al acceder actuar en la tradición antigua de la Iglesia al ordenarme obispo. Y les agradezco a los demás obispos quienes viajaron hasta acá para juntarse con nosotros en oración y celebración. Mientras miro a esta maravillosa reunión de la Iglesia de Kentucky Occidental que el Espíritu Santo ha convocado hoy, me fortaleza la confianza que con todas estas personas tan buenas y santas rezando por mi, en verdad Dios tiene planeado cosas buenas para nosotros mientras seguimos su trabajo en este mundo.

La magnitud y entusiasmo del pueblo reunido aquí es un homenaje a la vitalidad de la Iglesia Católica de Kentucky del Occidente. Han sido guiados y pastoreados excelentemente por los sacerdotes y las hermanas y los fieles laicos quienes día tras día abandonan sus voluntades a la voluntad de Dios. El pueblo reunido aquí da testimonio a una Iglesia saludable y hoy quiero agradecer y honrar al Obispo McRaith. Por veintiséis años era el pastor de esta iglesia – y sé que los miles que hayan venido están aquí primero para dar alabanza a Dios pero también para honrar a este hombre con una virtud de humildad. Gracias, Obispo John. Si el ministerio que yo llevo acabo como Obispo sea un reflejo de lo suyo aunque sea de una manera pequeña, los años por venir serán fructíferos y felices.

Mi familia se ha reunido desde muchos lugares del país, pero mayormente de Kentucky central, para venir a apoyarme y rezar con nosotros hoy. La familia es un lugar donde para la mayoría de nosotros, la fe es un don de Dios, es cultivado y crece. Nuestra fe es aquella que es heredada de los pioneros católicos de Kentucky quienes vinieron aquí expresamente para encontrar la libertad de practicar su fe Católica. Mi mamá vive ese espíritu católico y es uno de los gozos más profundos de este día que ella está saludable y puede estar aquí conmigo en este momento de mi vida. Quiero que tu reconocimiento de ella sea un reconocimiento de todas las madres y todos los padres y de los sacrificios que hacen. Durante las últimas semanas, le he extrañado a mi papa más que nunca, - pero también sé que si no hubiera estado rezando por nosotros desde el cielo estos últimos 35 años, quizá lo que está ocurriendo el día de hoy nunca habría pasado. En mi manera de pensar, él representa la comunión de los santos. Gracias a toda mi familia por su amor, su apoyo y por empujarme a ser lo mejor que pueda.

El Arzobispo Sambí no pudo viajar a Owensboro el día de hoy y por lo tanto

le tocó a la Hermana Joseph Angela Boone, la cancillera de la diócesis, a leer el nombramiento del Santo Padre. Aunque el Arzobispo Sambí no pudo venir, parece providencial que una parte tan central del rito sea proclamada por una persona que ha dado testigo tan poderoso a la Iglesia. Y al asumir esta posición de honor, me complace que así pueda representar a todas las mujeres religiosas quienes sirven tan fielmente a nuestra Iglesia en la oración y el servicio.

Me ha llenado de humildad y asombro ver la inundación de bienvenidas y apoyo que me han ofrecido desde la primera vez que me presentaron aquí el 15 de diciembre. Los sacerdotes y los seminaristas me han acogido como hermano. El rito de la ordenación me llama a ser hermano y padre para con ellos, y acepto ese llamado con fe y confianza.

Varias personas me han preguntado en las últimas semanas que es lo que espero hacer primero como el Obispo de Owensboro. Pues, afortunadamente, la Iglesia no corre riesgos. El rito de la ordenación me dice que la fiel predicación del Evangelio es la obligación primaria que tengo y lo haré con entusiasmo, oración y estudio. Se hizo visible esta obligación cuando los diáconos elevaron el Libro de los Evangelios por encima de mi cabeza. De semejante manera, como sucesor a los apóstoles, debo proteger y promover las enseñanzas y la tradición de la Iglesia. Eso significa que en los meses y años por venir, tengo que ser una persona que sabe escuchar, un buen estudiante – alguien que recibe y enseña en unión con el Papa Benedicto y el colegio de obispos, pero también que escucho y aprendo de la inmensa sabiduría que el Espíritu Santo ha transmitido a esta Iglesia particular.

Ustedes tienen mucho que enseñarme y le pido a Dios que sea un estudiante bueno y serio. Estoy particularmente consciente de las bendiciones que la Iglesia ha experimentado en los últimos 10 - 20 años a través de la presencia de crecientes números de hermanas y hermanos hispanos. Hasta ahora, mi sacerdocio no me ha involucrado mucho en esta comunidad — pero a partir de hoy, esa realidad cambia. Por lo tanto, con un poco de ayuda y orientación, voy a intentar saludarles en su propio idioma:

*Mis hermanas y hermanos que han traído la riqueza de su cultura hispana a nuestra iglesia de Kentucky Occidental, les saludo con gratitud y afecto profundo. Como se darán cuenta todavía no puedo hablar bien su idioma hermoso. Pero, aun así, reconozco y celebro la generosidad y fe católica que traen a nuestra iglesia. Estoy encantado de que muchas de nuestras parroquias, ministros y sacerdotes los hayan acogido y bienvenido y que se esfuerzen para servirles y rezar con ustedes. En los meses y años venideros me esforzare por ser un buen pastor para con ustedes, y con la ayuda de Dios, estar mas preparado para hablar con ustedes y también escucharlos.*

Cuando una Iglesia está llamada a celebrar una gran ocasión como esa, requiere a muchas, incluso cientos de personas para planear y preparar. Y al final, lo hacen lucir tan fácil – pero sabemos la verdad. Nunca podré agradecer a cada persona que contribuyó a este día porque la mayoría de ustedes permanecen, como así lo desean, anónimos en su servicio. Gracias. Nos han servido, y por lo tanto, le han servido a Dios. Pero tiene que haber un reconocimiento especial para el coro y los músicos. Han reunidos las voces de las 79 parroquias y nos han ayudado a rezar y a rezar bien. Gracias.

noche durante las vísperas en la Catedral, comenté de la grandeza de esta iglesia catedral y de nuestras acciones en aquel momento y ahora el día de hoy. Por cierto, nuestra Iglesia tiene una cara triunfante. Pero note que tal triunfo es solamente drama y teátrico si no encarnamos día tras día, año tras año nuestro testigo a los pobres y los vulnerables entre nosotros — a los no nacido sin protección, a los niños y jóvenes quienes nos buscan para la formación, a los hambrientos, los que no tienen casa, los abusados, los inmigrantes, los extranjeros y los sin poder alguno. Nuestro canto y liturgia triunfantes le agrada a Dios solamente si nuestro testigo a ellos es poderoso y profético. La respuesta de esta Iglesia local a nuestros hermanos y hermanas que padecen en Haití demuestra que el Evangelio es vivo y fuerte. Si predicar el Evangelio es mi obligación primaria, que sea visible más que nada en nuestro servicio a los pobres.

Para que no desobedezca un directivo específico del rito de la ordenación, permítanme terminar mis comentarios mientras todavía sean algo breves. Me alegra ser su pastor y su siervo. Los quiero y les daré a todos mi fe y servicio por el tiempo entero que Dios me permite estar aquí.

A la Iglesia entera de Owensboro, y a la Iglesia entera, y especialmente a mis queridas Hermanas Ursulinas, maestros y amigos quienes me enseñaron estas palabras desde el inicio: **Ad Majoram Dei Gloriam!** A la mayor gloria de Dios!

+ William F. Medley



## La Ordenación e Instalación del Obispo William Francis Medley

Por Luis Ajú

El día 9 de Febrero se celebraron las Vísperas, con la forma de la Hora Litúrgica del día, después de las oraciones propias del día en la Catedral de San Esteban de la Diócesis dirigido por el Muy Rev. P. Michael Clark, Administrador Diocesano, dio inicio a los Ritos según la Tradición Católica, respecto a los pasos que se tienen que dar, previo a la Ordenación e Instalación del Nuevo Obispo. El Muy Rev. P. Michael,

llamó al Obispo Electo Medley y en la presencia de la Hna. Joseph Angela Boone, Canciller de la Diócesis y de su Excelencia Obispo Jubilado John McRaith, y de la comunidad de esa noche, para firmar su Voto de Fidelidad a su compromiso Episcopal sobre el Altar de la Catedral, todo el pueblo de Dios fue testigo de tan loable acto. Procediendo el Rito, El Muy Rev. Obispo Jubilado John McRaith, dio las bendiciones sobre las Insignias Episcopales, así como la bendición de la mitra, El anillo, y el báculo, como signos de autoridad que se le concederá al Nuevo Obispo William F. Medley. Seguidamente El Obispo Electo dio su Homilía, en la que El, agradece al Muy Rev. P. Michael Clark y el Colegio de Consultores por su ardua y exitosa labor en la Diócesis.

Seguidamente agradece la presencia de su Excelencia Obispo Jubilado John McRaith, a su Excelentísimo Arzobispo de Louisville, Joseph E. Kurtz, Obispos visitantes, Abades, Sacerdotes, Diáconos, Religiosas, Seminaristas y fieles Laicos que nos honraron con su presencia.

No cabe duda que fueron momentos trascendentales, orando juntos por el futuro del Nuevo Obispo y de toda la Diócesis de Owensboro. Inspirados todos con la magnificencia del coro y música preparado para esta especial ocasión.

En los albores del día 10 de Febrero 2010 fue **Ordenado e Instalado el Excelentísimo Obispo William F. Medley** que después de toda la magnitud de la ceremonia dirigida por el Excelentísimo Arzobispo de Louisville, obviamente en ese momento El Muy Rev. Fr. Michael Clark, Administrador Diocesano con su Colegio de Consultores entrega la responsabilidad al nuevo Obispo, para su efecto en la presencia de todos los fieles Católicos, constituidos por todos los Obispos, Abades, Sacerdotes, Diáconos, religiosas y todo el pueblo de Dios conformado por todos los laicos de todas las parroquias de la Diócesis de Owensboro. En ese momento el nuevo Obispo fue recibido con mucha alegría por todos los presentes en los momentos en que tomó posesión como la máxima autoridad en la Jerarquía de la Iglesia Católica aquí en la Diócesis de Owensboro en el Oeste del Estado de Kentucky. Para toda la Diócesis sin duda alguna fue un día de fiesta, una manera de celebrar nuestra Fe juntos con el nuevo y cuarto Obispo de la Diócesis.

La ceremonia de la Ordenación e Instalación del nuevo Obispo Medley fue presidido por el Sr. Arzobispo Joseph E. Kurtz de la Arquidiócesis de Louisville acompañado del Muy Rev. Obispo recién Jubilado John J. McRaith de la Diócesis de Owensboro y el Muy Rev. Arzobispo Jubilado Thomas C. Kelly de la Arquidiócesis de Louisville. Su Excelencia el Muy Rev. Pietro Sambi, Nuncio Apostólico en los

Estados Unidos, envió un mensaje cuyo contenido era disculparse no haber venido por las inclemencias del tiempo invernal que estamos pasando, se dio a conocer durante la ceremonia.

También la participación de numerosos Sacerdotes locales y de otras diócesis y de la numerosa cantidad de fieles católicos laicos, tuvimos el honor de tener a varios

Obispos de las diferentes Diócesis y de dos Abades de dos Abadías Benedictinas vecinos de la Diócesis. Igualmente hemos contado con la presencia del Sr. Alcalde de esta ciudad y de dos Legisladores de la Nación.

Todos fuimos testigos en presenciar la histórica ceremonia que será una página en el libro de la Historia de la Diócesis de Owensboro donde las próximas generaciones encontrarán que se celebró la llegada e inicio del Ministerio Episcopal del nuevo Obispo Medley. Que sin duda alguna seguirá los pasos de sus antecesores Obispos que los recordamos con profunda gratitud y admiración.

La presencia de muchísima gente era la expresión de apoyo y gratitud al Obispo Medley, por haber aceptado el llamado de Dios a tomar la misión de ser el Pastor de la Diócesis. Siguiendo la tradición y enseñanza de las primeras comunidades Cristianas y los primeros discípulos de Jesús y de sus antecesores Obispos propios de esta maravillosa Diócesis de Owensboro. Una de las expresiones de alegría fue ser parte y testigo de toda una ceremonia que a lo mejor es la única en la vida de cada uno, porque las ordenaciones de esta índole no se dan tan a menudo, por lo que la feligresía se sintió complacido el haber sido parte de esta celebración.

Después de la elocuente homilía del Arzobispo Kurtz, invitó a la Hna. Joseph Angela Boone, Canciller de la Diócesis, para leer y mostrar a todos los presentes el Nombramiento al nuevo Obispo William F. Medley emitido por la Santa Sede y firmado por su Santidad el Papa Benedicto XVI. Haber estado presente el Excelentísimo Pietro Sambi Nuncio Apostólico lo habría leído, pero en su ausencia dicha Hermana asumió su participación. Fuimos testigos de la lectura y nos fue mostrada la carta por el Diacono Brandon Williams.

Todos fuimos testigos de las Promesas Episcopales hechas por el Obispo Medley cuando el Arzobispo Joseph E. Kurtz seguía el Rito de Ordenación, preguntas y respuestas profundas que el Nuevo Pastor lo toma como un llamado de Dios. Seguidamente la Unción de Consagración, la entrega de las Insignias Episcopales y otorgarle la Silla Episcopal y dejar que el Nuevo Obispo Medley preside el resto de la Celebración de la Eucaristía.

Antes de la Bendición Final de la Misa, el nuevo Obispo nos dio un mensaje, aprovechando en esa oportunidad para agradecer a todos sus participación y expresó su anhelo y deseo de conocer a la diversidad cultural de la Diócesis, empezando por los idiomas, en este caso se expreso en Español, el esfuerzo y los gestos son los que



El Obispo William Francis Medley tomó su silla episcopal ("Cathedra") el 10 de febrero después de su ordenación en el Sportscenter de Owensboro. Foto por Tami Schneider.