

Western Owensboro Deanery Students Participate At Mass With Bishop William F. Medley



By Elaine Robertson

The *National Directory for Catechesis* states, "Bishops are 'beyond all others the ones primarily responsible for catechesis, the catechists par excellence.'" With that mandate in mind Bishop Medley realizes how important it is to have contact with both catechist and students in Catholic schools and parish religious education programs. One way he accomplishes this is to celebrate Mass with each Catholic school and also with the parish programs through deanery Eucharistic celebrations. Many deaneries of the diocese have celebrated with the Bishop and the families of Catholic students

attending public schools.

Each dean is encouraged to select a committee to plan the celebration. The center of the celebration is Mass. Deaneries have come with a variety of other activities. Several have served meals after the Mass in which Bishop Medley was able to greet and meet families. Other deaneries have allowed a night of "Ask the Bishop" with pre-submitted questions being answered by Bishop Medley. Others have had a picnic to open the catechetical year. The celebrations are what each deanery plans.

These events began approximately 3 years ago, with the first being held in the Central deanery. It is a great opportunity for students and their families to meet our chief catechist before the day he confirms them. Many have commented how wonderful it is to have this opportunity.

Religious Education students from the Western Owensboro Deanery met with Bishop Medley on Sunday, January 26 for Mass and Fellowship. Over 200 students, parents and catechists from Owensboro, Sorgho, St. Joseph, Reed, Curdsville, Rome, Stanley and Calhoun were present for the event. Second graders from the parishes brought up the gifts of bread, wine and the collection of money and food which were donated to the Help Office. Bishop Medley greeted students as they entered church for Mass.

After Mass, students and families attended a reception with the Bishop. In the photo above with Bishop Medley are Scott and Chrissy York, Audrey and Mark Wedding, and Jennifer Wedding.

Photo by Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU



Patrons were lined up outside the new St. Vincent de Paul Store in Owensboro Feb. 1, 2014, waiting for the doors to open. Store hours are Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. SVdeP photo.

NOW OPEN!

St. Vincent de Paul Store

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The new St. Vincent de Paul store here is now open! Centrally located at 18th and J.R. Miller Blvd. in the former Roberts Motors showroom in Owensboro. Shop, Donate, Volunteer.

Last year SVdeP Store patrons' donations and purchases allowed SVdP to help over 12,000 of our neighbors. Thank You for Helping Us...Help Others. Call 270-683-0062 for large item pick up or vehicle donations. Like SVdeP on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SVDPOWENSBORO>

"Our new store/donation center allows us to serve all our customers better and especially our #1 customer...our donor, with a drive-through area which is a covered and assisted drop-off area next to our main entrance," said Tammy Slack, store manager. "Items you no longer use are a blessing for a neighbor in need."

Saint Vincent de Paul profits are returned to local parishes.

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May Lent This Spring Be A Rebirth of Our Human Spirit, A Reconciliation Opening A Place for God



Most Reverend
William F. Medley,
Bishop
of Owensboro

Dear sisters and brothers,

After a long, cold winter when we have seen more snow than in many winters, the first of March brings us a promise of warmer temperatures. Soon the signs of Spring will be manifest with new green grass and trees and flowers budding anew.

Lent begins late this year. Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Thus the first significant signs of Spring will correspond more properly with these holy forty days. The word Lent, after all, means Spring and should signify for us a rebirth of our human spirit, an interior reconciliation that readies us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection.

Pope Francis in a pastoral letter to the Church to mark the season of Lent reflected upon the words of St. Paul: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich." (II Corinthians 8: 9) After almost a year as Pope, it is not surprising that in his first Lenten message he might reflect upon poverty. As I look back on his messages to the world, two words come to mind: poverty and mercy. Both are apt messages for this season. I will share some of his reflection on this passage. But the connection between Lent and the virtue of mercy is evident as well.

St. Paul in this passage was encouraging the Christians of Corinth to be generous in helping the faithful of Jerusalem who were in need. In this challenge, he is showing us how God works. He illustrates that God does not reveal himself cloaked in worldly power and wealth. He reveals himself in man, Jesus, who "though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor..." Jesus, the eternal Son of God chose to be poor. He made this almost unthinkable choice out of love, a love that allows all of us in our variable "poverties" to draw near to him.

Yes, certainly Jesus came to bring

comfort and consolation to the material poor. He came to challenge the world to attend to the needs of the poor ... to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless. Many of us read these admonitions, and yet we have never wanted for food, clothing or shelter. Perhaps our poverty is our dependence on our material objects. Very few of us think of ourselves as wealthy, certainly when we look about American society, yet by the world's standards almost all of us are among the world's most comfortable.

It is very possible that on Ash Wednesday you might hear in the homily when you go to Mass of the threefold activities prescribed for Lenten observance: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. However prayerful you may be (or not), let Lent be a time to strengthen

your prayer. Pray a little longer. Experiment with differing forms of Christian prayer. If you have not prayed with psalms, give it a try. If your rosary has been misplaced, find it --- or make a friend's day by asking if they can share a spare. The most perfect is participating in the Eucharist. Is it possible that you could make it Mass one extra time each week?

Most of us associate Lent with fasting. From early childhood we have often been challenged to "give something up for Lent." You know more than once I have encountered Protestant ministers eager to tell me their experience of some exercise of self-denial in Lent. Most commonly we associate this self-denial with our food and drink. We give up candy, pizza, sodas, or perhaps we resolve to not eat between meals. These relatively mild expressions of denial exact little pain. But pain is not

the purpose. Hopefully our self-denial opens a place for God or opens us to the poor who do not have the luxury of fasting from food as they barely have enough to keep body and soul together.

But we can fast from other things as well. Those too dependent on the internet might commit to only essential computer communications. We all might make a great effort to fast from gossip or jealousy or greed.

The third of the Lenten disciplines is almsgiving, sharing our blessings generously with the poor. And this brings us back to Pope Francis' reflection on Christ's chosen poverty. He urges us to ask not just what we might "give-up" for Lent, but rather asks how our small acts might genuinely enrich others, lift others from material or spiritual poverty. Pope Francis writes, "Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt."

So let us pray for Pope Francis during Lent as he begins the second year of his papacy. He assures us that he prays for us. His calling, so unexpected at a time in life that most people want to slow down, is an inspiration to all of us to live the Gospel to the full.

May God Bless You all.

William F. Medley

+Most Reverend William F. Medley,
Bishop of Owensboro

Bishop Medley's Calendar for March 2014:

| | | |
|----------|--------------|---|
| March 1 | 5:00 p.m. | Confirmation, Rosary Chapel, Paducah |
| March 2 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmation, St. Francis de Sales, Paducah |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Rite of Election, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm |
| March 4 | 9:00 a.m. | CPC Staff Mass and Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Owensboro Serra Club Charter Dinner |
| March 5 | 12:05 p.m. | Ash Wednesday Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| March 9 | 2:00 p.m. | Rite of Election, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Rite of Election, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| March 10 | | Meeting, USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People |
| March 11 | 9:30 a.m. | School Mass, St. Joseph School, Bowling Green |
| March 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Confirmation, St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady and St. Anthony, Axtel @ St. Mary of the Woods |
| March 13 | 8:10 a.m. | School Mass, St. Paul School, Leitchfield |
| March 14 | 9:00 a.m. | School Mass, St. Romuald, Hardinsburg |
| March 16 | 10:30 a.m. | Youth 2000, Brescia University, Owensboro |
| March 17 | 9:45 a.m. | Priests' Personnel Committee Meeting, CPC |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Priests' Council Meeting, CPC |
| March 19 | 1:00 p.m. | Most Reverend Ronald Gainer, Installation, Bishop of Harrisburg, Harrisburg, PA |
| March 21 | 8:00 a.m. | School Mass, Trinity High School |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Senior Conversations, Trinity High School |
| March 22 | 1:00 p.m. | Confirmation Retreat, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| March 23 | 1:30 p.m. | Scouts Religious Awards Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| March 24 | 9:00 a.m. | Senior Conversations, Owensboro Catholic High School |
| March 25 | 10:00 a.m. | School Mass, St. Mary Middle School, Paducah |
| | 12-3:00 p.m. | Paducah Office, Lourdes Hospital, Paducah |
| March 26 | 8:30 a.m. | Diocesan Finance Council, CPC |
| March 27 | 10:30 a.m. | School Mass, Owensboro Catholic High School |
| March 29 | 5:00 p.m. | Mass & Installation of Ministries - Lector and Acolyte, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| March 30 | 2:00 p.m. | Bowling Green Deanery Faith Formation Gathering, WKU, Aquinas Center |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Mass, WKU, Aquinas Center |

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



**Diocese of Owensboro
Prayer Service
for Protection and Healing
Monday, April 7, 2013
At 6:30 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Owensboro, KY**

By Larena Lawson

A well known Owensboro Dentist, wife and mother of four sons has learned that she has breast cancer. She knows this life threatening disease all too well because it took the life of her mother who was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 44. Amy Carrico is 38 years old. Her youngest son was born only 8 months ago. She has courageously resolved to fight her illness for the sake of her young family and to remain strong in her faith, a faith that she is sharing with others. "I have been full of life, and hope, and joy...and I know that God has a plan for me," she said with tearful, but unwavering resoluteness.

"I am going to fight, and I am also going to surrender..."

Just before Amy was to undergo her first chemotherapy treatment for her cancer, it was her desire to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The effects of the anointing are that it joins the sick person to the passion of Christ. It gives power, peace, and the courage to endure suffering. It forgives sins, restores health and it prepares the soul for eternal life. Father Jerry Riney, her Pastor, administered the Sacrament and Father Suneesh Mathew, the Associate Pastor, was also present to pray with her and her family: "The prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up."

Owensboro Woman: Faith is Stronger than Cancer



Watch the video lolekproductions.com

and click on the pink button.

LOLEK
PRODUCTIONS

Lolek Productions was shooting on location at the Carrico's home and witnessed firsthand the beauty of the grace of God working in the life of Amy and her family. Lolek has released this uplifting video production entitled "Stronger" and has had an overwhelming number of people watching it on YouTube, Facebook and its own website,

lolekproductions.com. Currently, YouTube has tracked nearly 9,800 views of this powerful testimony. Many people have sent messages offering Amy their encouraging support and prayers as she begins her medical treatments:

"Amen! The world needs to hear and witness Amy's story."

-Davena Cecil

Amy's will and determination to stay close to God in the midst of her illness has given her a fighting and faithful spirit. She declares, "I am going to fight, and I am also going to surrender. And I am surrendering my plan to His plan and I know that He has a plan for me. He's going to hold my cross with me and so I accept it."

lolekproductions.com fr.mccarty@lolekproductions.com



Chili supper time!

It is the perfect time of year for a good hot bowl of chili, especially with all the snow and ice we had in February!

Right to Life of Owensboro

Annual Chili Supper

March 15, 2014, 5:30- 7:30 pm, Blessed Mother Catholic Church, Owensboro, Ky
Adult tickets:\$7; Child (age3-12): \$5; Under 2: Free

This year we will have a fun family filled night! There will be games, face painting and a smaller silent auction geared toward young families, with some adult items too. So bring Grandma and Grandpa, your brothers and sisters and let's enjoy a night of great family fun!

The Faces of Religious Life Today



Join us as we celebrate with more than 51,000 Catholic sisters across the United States, all in service to God and our dear neighbors, the first ever...

National Catholic Sisters Week

March 8-14, 2014

Thanks to a grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, St. Catherine's University in Minneapolis is leading the effort to celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week as part of **National Women's History Month**. The week shines a national spotlight on both past and present works of Catholic sisters across the country.

Pictured, left to right: Ursuline Sisters Rose Karen Johnson, Marian Powers, Martha Keller, Margaret Ann Aull, Mary Timothy Bland, Monica Seaton, Helena Fischer

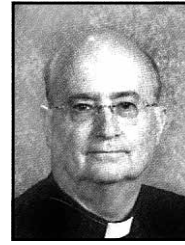


Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph

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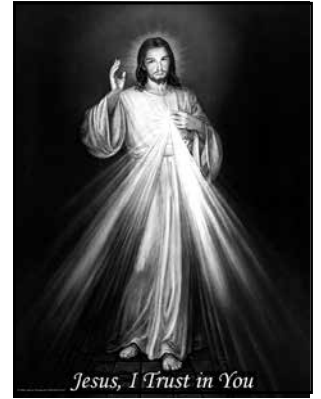
Divine Mercy Sunday



Fr. Paul Berschied

April 27, 2014, 1:30 p.m. Blessed Mother Parish, Owensboro

• Speaker: Fr. Paul Berschied has served as Pastor, Parochial Vicar, Parish Administrator, and Principal of Elementary and High Schools. Fr. Berschied is presently serving as Parochial Vicar for



The Diocese of Covington Ky. at the Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, Southgate Ky.

• 1st talk: "Historical and Theological Development of Divine Mercy."

• 2nd talk: "Theology and Spirituality of the Divine Mercy in Daily Living."

• Chaplet Of Mercy • Eucharistic Adoration

• Reconciliation • Refreshments

O Blood And Water, Which Gushed Forth From The Heart Of Jesus As A Fount Of Mercy For Us, I Trust In You! - St. Faustina Diary # 84

Canonization date announced for Blessed Popes

John Paul II and John XXIII



Pope Francis on Sept 30, 2013 held the Public Ordinary Consistory for the forthcoming Canonization of Blessed *Pope John XXIII and Blessed Pope John Paul II. During the course of the Consistory in the Vatican's Consistory Hall, the Pope decreed that his two predecessors will be raised to Sainthood on April 27, 2014, the day on which the Church celebrates the Second Sunday of Easter and Divine Mercy.

Blessed Sacrament Parish, 602 Sycamore St., Owensboro, (270) 926-4741 Lenten Fish Fry will be on Friday, March 7 at 5:00 P.M. Join us for dining in or take out. Serving fiddlers or filets, fries, coleslaw, hush puppies or cornbread, desert and iced tea or lemonade.

The Western Kentucky Catholic

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• See the present edition and back issues of the **WKC Online** at http://www.rcdok.org/ministries/communications/WKC_online.php

• Story Deadline: 15th of month prior to desired publication.

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

Opinions expressed in columns and letters to the editor submitted for publication in the Western Kentucky Catholic must be signed and with contact information, may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of The Western Kentucky Catholic. Please let us know politely if you find proofing or factual errors in items of this publication.

Please send all Western Kentucky Catholic address additions, deletions or changes to Cathy Hagan at cathy.hagan@pastoral.org.

God, “You”, and “I”... A Trinitarian Perspective!

By Christina Wheatley



There are many great books out there waiting to be read. The greatest by far for many is Sacred Scripture, the Bible. Its simplistic genre captivates and excites the very soul. Yet, like many books it is placed on a shelf collecting dust. The pages after years of just sitting there on that shelf become brittle and frail and begin to decompose. In most cases, a “new” bible is selected, and the old one tossed or placed in the recycling bin.

With this thought in mind, isn't that what happens in most relationships now days. The usefulness, goodness, and friendship toss to the side for “better more intriguing one” or the busy-ness of life excuses take presidency... Oh how sadly the bonds of friendship withers away like a forgotten book on a shelf...

It is in using the “book” metaphor, dear reader; this person wishes to bring to the “Light of Hope” to our distant friendship between God, You and I...

First listen to the song “Worn” by Ten Avenue North”, then ponder these thoughts...

In the Great Book of Life, historically, presently, and always, God magnificently continues to add to the pages of our “book” daily. Connecting and entwining the “book” in His Infinite Mercy. As His Own, each “book” is worthy of taking off the shelf, whisk-fully in need dusting off, worth cracking open, and pages gently in need of exploring in friendship. Each “book” is chalked full of suspense, adventure, horror, drama, and romance, which become reflective lessons learned and time worth investing... the question is are we going to allow ourselves the opportunity to be “dusted off” or take someone else off the self and get know them?

One of biggest obstacles this person has found in any kind of relationship is over coming “I” and “you” component, especially when developing a closer relationship with God... Amazingly, the “you” and “I” appear to be eluding perceptions of constant pulling away from God. Why do we feel like we are alone or have lost touch with God? Suddenly, the “ouch” of tragedy occurs. Like a hickory nut falling from a hickory tree, God plunks us on the head with the grim reality of our ferrous independence... The “I” wonders if it is something “we” learned at birth, while the “you” continues to point a finger.

The first emotions we learn at birth is “anger” and “detachment”...Whining and stewing, because it happened to the “me”. One wonders if the continued transpiration came the first starting to walk, the pulling away and the “I can do it alone” mentality generates...Plop! On the bottom “you” fall... and the “pouting” and reaching for Abba evolves... Gently and simplistically in time God picks “you” up and dusts the “I” off... And the “you” start all over again with the “I” having the way... Once the “I” finds the “you” balance... the pulling away starts again, and well, here “we” go again... In the progressive years to come, the independent “I” grows stronger, leading “you” further and further away from God. Blindsided, the “I” does not see, hear, or touch God... Man! What a mess! The question of has God abandoned the “you” or “I”? as the whys fill the heart and soul swell deep within coating the soulful peace...

Wow! A lot to ponder isn't it? It made this person's head spin... But dear reader, please bear with this person... Here is the “beginning of the end” to it all ... God has not abandon the you or I in each of us. He, like a good parent and friend, is right there beside the “us” gently guiding the “we” ever closer to Him. The questions of can we see it, can we taste it, can we smell it, can we touch it are in plain sight when God, you and I share true friendship... Like Paul, sometimes it takes a jolt off “the horse and landing on our backside” to do it...

Now, listen to Jason Gray's “Remind Me Who I am? ..

Beloved, what “Blessings” (another song, if you would like to look it up on YouTube) we are when God brings us together in true friendship. “Do not Be Afraid”, no matter how “worn” you are. God is a friend who knows no bounds. Place Him first and the “you” and “I” will fall into place. Crack open another “book” in friendship this New Year remembering God sent His Loving Son, Jesus, to prove it. Jesus gave us His Spirit through His Loving Mother Mary, and together we live like open books to each other in the Trinitarian Perspective... God, you and I!

Blessings to all in this New Year!



Lexington's Bishop Ronald Gainer Named To Lead Church In Pennsylvania

March, 2014 5

January 24, 2014 - Pope Francis has named a Pennsylvania native as the new bishop for the Catholic church's Harrisburg diocese.

An announcement from the Vatican this morning says current Lexington, Ky. bishop Ronald Gainer will succeed the late Joseph McFadden, who died in May. Sixty-six-year-old Gainer was born in Pottsville and ordained a priest for the Allentown diocese in 1973. He became bishop of Lexington in 2003. The diocese says Gainer has served in parish, campus ministry, marriages and family, and tribunal positions during his priesthood. He will be installed March 19 as bishop of the diocese, which is made up of 15 central Pennsylvania counties and according to officials has almost 250,000 registered Catholics.

Women's History Month to Spotlight Catholic Sisters

MAPLE MOUNT, KY— This March during National Women's History Month, the week of March 8–14 will be recognized as the first ever National Catholic Sisters Week, bringing visibility to the contributions of women religious in the United States. It's no secret that Catholic sisters have been an integral part of education, health care, social justice, criminal justice, theology, the arts, parish ministry and helping those in need throughout history. Their passion is to stand with the poor and vulnerable, regardless of race, socioeconomic status or religion.

“Wherever good things are happening, there are likely to be sisters involved,” states the proposal from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, calling for a national campaign to boost awareness of women religious. Rosemarie Nassif, SSND, is director of The Catholic Sisters Initiative which was launched in February 2013. She was inspired by her experience as a university president to fold that campaign into the well-established Women's History Month. The three-year \$3.3 million grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, awarded to St. Catherine University, a Catholic women's college in St. Paul, Minn., aims to bring national visibility to the contributions of women religious.

In Daviess County, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph founded Mount Saint Joseph Academy for Girls in 1874, where hundreds of girls (and even a few boys) received an excellent education. After 100-plus years, the Academy closed in 1983. The sisters also founded Mount Saint Joseph Junior College in 1925, which was moved to Owensboro and eventually became Brescia University. Several Ursuline Sisters are still involved in the day-to-day operations of Brescia.

Along the way, the Ursulines helped establish and served as teachers and principals at more than 150 schools throughout the United States, and have always been an educational presence at schools in Owensboro and Daviess County.

Another ministry founded by the local Ursulines is Centro Latino, which was set up to help Hispanics who move to the Owensboro area. In addition to highlighting the significant role that Catholic sisters have had historically, National Catholic Sisters Week will focus on a contemporary view of these women -- their lives, their mission, and their works. The goal is to shed light on the tremendous impact Catholic sisters continue making today.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph continue to serve in education, parish ministry, health care, service to the poor and many other ministries to and with God's people. More than 100 Ursuline Sisters reside in Daviess County, supporting its residents through ministry and with prayer.

The ultimate goal of National Catholic Sisters Week is to create “fertile ground” to help more young women consider a call to religious life. “Will this mean that thousands of women will enter religious life? No, probably not,” Sister Rosemarie said. “But we've got to offer a chance. Even if women are inspired to live their lives differently outside the convent, the effort will be worthwhile.” The intent is to ignite a movement around the lives and the contributions of sisters in ways that inspire girls and women to picture themselves among the ranks of these women religious.

You can also find related articles on National Catholic Reporter's website (nconline.org). National Catholic Sisters Week can also be found on Facebook and Twitter.

Go, Make A Difference

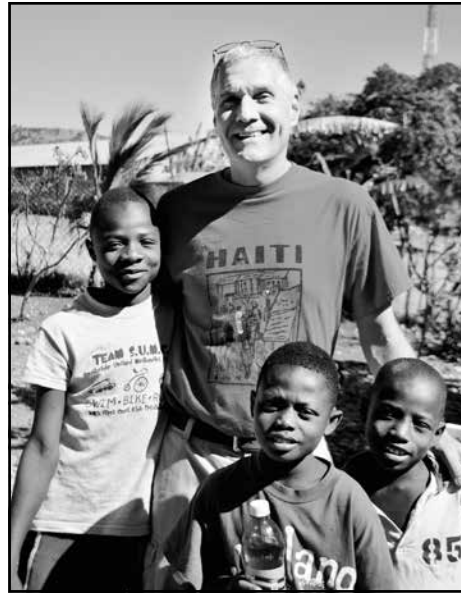
*"I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least ones, you did it for me."
Matthew 25:40*

Submitted by Lavidia Mischel

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish is a grateful member of the Parish Twinning Program of America. Parishioners, Lee Franey and Lavidia Mischel have recently made their third trip to Lomas, Haiti since Sept. 2012. The benefit of the twinning program is that it encourages a personal one-on-one relationship between parishes, as opposed to visiting different areas of the country never revisiting the same community.

In Sept. 2012, five parishioners accompanied Fr. Carl McCarthy to the mountains of Haiti to explore and learn the need of the families, church and school. It was upon the first visit that it became apparent that the education of the children was necessary to change their future. In April 2013, another group of seven missionaries traveled back to the mountains of Lomas to photograph 300 school children and establish a Child Sponsorship Program. Through the sponsorship of the children of only \$20.00 per month, Sts. Joseph and Paul Church has begun paying the salaries of 43 teachers. Though many children walk two hours to the Catholic school, the enrollment on the mountain has increased from 1800 to 2300 students.

With a warm welcome from their new friends



Photos: at left, Lee Franey and friends in Lomas, Haiti; above, Grade School teacher at St. Joseph School; at right, Children carry water buckets to their homes. Photos submitted by Lavidia Mischel

in Haiti, Lee Franey and Lavidia Mischel assisted missionaries from Stephens Point, Wisconsin on their first trip to Lomas. The many needs of the people include clean drinking water, daily meals for the school children, shoes and uniforms. The pastor of St. Joseph Church gladly accepted further assistance from the Stephens Point parish.

Lomas, Haiti is a mountain community, where the poorest of the poor live. Bare feet children, dressed in rags can often be seen playing outside of their one room, dirt floor huts. Orange hair is not uncommon, as it is a sign of malnutrition. With no run-

ning water, teens walk a great distance to fill water jugs for their family. Their way of life is harsh. They struggle daily to feed their children. Yet they have joy. Their hope is in the Lord.

They depend on Him and Him alone. It is ironic that while the Program's emphasis is to evangelize the people of the undeveloped country, it is they who evangelize us.

Since twinning with St. Joseph Church in Haiti, Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish has shipped a sea container of school supplies, a generator, clothing, musical instruments and over 2000 pair of shoes, as well as

funding the salaries of 43 teachers. Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish's next trip is in June 2014. The agenda includes the purchase of Hens for families in Lomas. Over 150 children there are sponsored and several teachers who are paid about \$125.00 U.S. each month. The next Sea Shipment will leave in April 2014; the Haiti team (about 13 people) meets monthly

For more information, contact the Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish office or Fr. Carl McCarthy at 270/683-5641.

Of Mice and Men? Biblical Foundations of Ecumenism

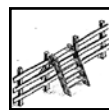
By Deacon Terry Larbes



In the 18th century Robert Burns wrote a poem titled "To A Mouse" which presents a life as being full of grief, pain and fear. Lumen Gentium (1-4) presents us with a very different view of life.

The "Biblical Foundations of Ecumenism" course contrasts God's plan as stated in Lumen Gentium to Robert Burns' view in "To A Mouse". The following article is an excerpt from the ecumenism course based on the modern English version of stanzas 7 & 8 of "To A Mouse".

But, Mousie, you are not alone, in proving foresight may be vain; Our foresight is limited by faith, or actually by a lack of faith. By faith we come to accept



the Father's offer of adoption... salvation. The adoption into God's family dispels the darkness of a-lone-ness and replaces the a-lone-ness with togetherness in God's holy church. From the beginning the Father planned to assemble all of those who believe in Christ. All the elect, before time began, the Father "foreknew and pre-destined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that he should be the firstborn among many brethren".

Without faith we experience the a-lone-ness of separation; there is a quiet desperation in the a-lone-ness of separation. In the a-lone-ness foresight is vain; however, in the a-lone-ness, "Is not everything vain?"

The best-laid schemes of mice and men go often astray, Left to our own our plans move about like a leaf in the wind.

God's plan is different. By plan God has continued to offer us not only salvation but offers us help to accept salvation. The help came in the form of the prophets. The prophets' message was fulfilled by Christ the Redeemer. Christ who is the image of the invisible God; Christ who is the first born of every creature. The Holy Spirit provides help to us through the sacraments that Christ instituted.

When men make plans and create schemes that are not in accord with God's will then, "Yes, the best-laid schemes of mice and men go often astray." Only God's plan stays on track.

And leave us nothing but grief and pain, for promised joy!

When we go astray, we experience grief and pain. When we created the scheme we had a vision of the reward that we would achieve by fulfilling the scheme. When we go astray the vision

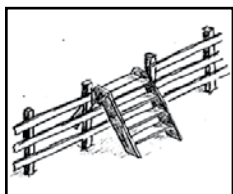
slips away. The vision, always, was mirage but we had committed ourselves to the vision – mirage. When we go astray we experience grief, pain, disappointment, and disillusionment.

Christ followed the Father's will which means he was implementing God's plan. Christ inaugurated the Kingdom of heaven on earth and revealed to us the mystery of that kingdom. Building the Kingdom on earth will bring about the promised joy when the Kingdom reaches fulfillment. In the present moment the Holy Spirit brings an internal peace that is the fruit of our faith in God's plan. Even though grief and pain may swirl around us the inner peace gives us the strength to believe in God's plan as we await the promised joy.

Still you are blest, compared with me the present only touches you: It would be a poor blessing that only touched us in the present moment. The blessings of

Continued on page 7

Of Mice and Men?



the past reach out to us; the blessings of the past provide most of what we experience today. The blessings of the prophets of old.

The blessing of Jesus the Christ ... the sacrament of the Eucharist. The blessing of the early church fathers. All those blessings touch our lives in some fashion.

Our blessings today extend to the future. That is the point of being a parent ... the point of being a grandparent ... to do something today that our children and grandchildren take with them into the future.

Continued from page 6

The Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost to continually sanctify the Church. To sanctify the believers of Jesus Christ. The believers who are members of the body of Christ. Believers from the past, believers in the present, believers in the future ... all of whom are members of the one body of Christ. As a member of the body of Christ we enjoy the water of life eternal.

But, Oh! I backward cast my eye. On prospects dreary!

As we backward cast our eyes it is not dreary prospects that we see. When we look back we begin to understand that ... The eternal Father, by a free and hidden plan of His own wisdom and goodness, created the whole world. His plan

was to raise men to a participation of the divine life.

Being raised to participate in divine life is anything but dreary.

And forward, though I cannot see, I guess and fear!

We can see what lies forward. At the end of time all the just from Adam to the last of the elect will be gathered together with the Father into the universal Church. It is not a guess. It should bring joy not fear.

(CCC 1271) Baptism constitutes the foundation of communion among all

Christians, including those who are not yet in full communion with the Catholic Church: "For men who believe in Christ and have been properly baptized are put in some, though imperfect, communion with the Catholic Church. Justified by faith in Baptism, [they] are incorporated into Christ; they therefore have a right to be called Christians, and with good reason are accepted as brothers by the children of the Catholic Church." "Baptism therefore constitutes the sacramental bond of unity existing among all who through it are reborn."

March, 2014 7

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 7-9 **Yarn Spinners Weekend**
- 7-8 ICSC Youth Confirmation
- 13 **Study of the Catechism**
- 14-15 Chapel Hill Women's Retreat
- 21-23 **Women's Retreat with Sister Cheryl Clemons (Saint Thérèse of Lisieux)**
- 26 **Lenten Day of Prayer**
- 28-30 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 29 Junior Festival Winners

APRIL

- 3 **Study of the Catechism**
- 5-6 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 7-11 **Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 3)**
- 11 Glory Conference Women's Retreat
- 12 Sts. Joseph & Paul RCIA
- 25-27 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 29-1 North American Ursuline Leadership Conference

MAY

- 1-4 Christian Women's Retreat
- 3 Private Wedding Reception
- 8 **Study of the Catechism**
- 9-11 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 10 **Yarn Spinning Day**
- 13 OCS 6th Grade Prayer Day
- 17-18 MSJ Academy Reunion
- 31 5K Run/Walk at MSJ

JUNE

- 12 **Study of the Catechism**
- 14 Associates & Sisters Day
- 16-21 Mindful Hearts Buddha Sangha Silent Retreat
- 19-21 Y-DOSA Youth Summit
- 22-27 Christian Leadership Institute
- 27-29 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

*Center-sponsored programs are in **BOLD** type. Please call to register.*

To register or schedule an event, call Kathy McCarty: **270-229-0206**
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Located 12 miles west of Owensboro, Ky., on Hwy. 56



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

Eucharistic Adoration 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

2nd Sunday of the month



The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the second Sunday of each month to pray for vocations. Our next date is **Sunday, March 9.**


Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org
info.msjs@maplemount.org

Eucharistic Adoration is from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the **Motherhouse Chapel** (located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56) and concludes with evening prayer. If you are unable to be present, please join us in prayer for this special intention.

Lenten Day of Prayer...

Wednesday, March 26

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

Program includes Mass, lunch and Reconciliation. The fee is \$20.



Mount Saint Joseph
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8001 Cummings Road
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To register, contact
Kathy McCarty

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

By Danny May

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH, Owensboro, Ky. - Strong Catholic Families/Strong Catholic Youth is not really a program; it's more like an "approach" or a way of thinking. The downside of not being a "program" is that it can be hard to understand because it is not a one-size-fits-all kind of thing that can be immediately implemented into any given parish. But, one of the advantages of SCF/SCY is that parishes who are following the process can help each other by sharing ideas that they've found successful. Here are a few things Our Lady of Lourdes has made since implementing SCF/SCY.

Collaborative Events

First of all, we've found that we have the best results from events that are collaborations between several different parish ministries. An example would be our Easter Egg Hunt. The Lourdes Ladies of Service Society organizes the hunt,

Strong Catholic Families: One Parish's Approach

Knights of Columbus cooks a pancake breakfast, and Religious Ed, daycare, and youth ministry all help promote it.

"Faith Fest"

For many, many years, Lourdes has hosted a Vacation Bible School each summer in the parish hall from 6-8pm. Last summer, we added an adult component to it as well, so each night there was a guest speaker for adults in church while the kids had their VBS program in the parish hall. The Lourdes "Fully Alive Ministry" coordinated hospitality in church, while the Family Ministry Committee helped decorate for the "luau" celebration on the last night, which all the families in the parish were invited to.

Arise/Levante

When the Lourdes Arise Team found out that Arise had materials for

youth and children, we decided that we would have a large gathering on Wednesday nights in the parish hall with small groups for every age group. This season we had four adult groups, a high school group, middle school group, a group for 3-5th grade students, a group for K-2nd grade students, and adults to oversee the toddlers as they played back in daycare. There are seven other groups for adults throughout the week as well, but the Wednesday night Arise gathering was the extra step we took because of our new focus on life-long faith formation and partnering with parents.

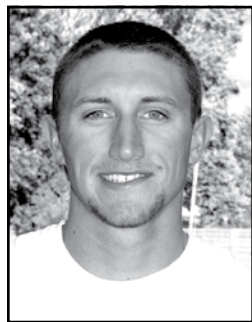
"Father Brad's Pumpkin Patch"

The pumpkin patch is another great example of a collaborative event. The idea came from a Family Life Committee meeting when we were talking about a better way to do "trunk-or-treating."



What came about was indoor trick-or-treating in the parish hall. Families and parish ministries were invited to decorate booths in the parish hall while kids and parents came by trick-or-treating from booth to booth. We had so many people show up that they were lined up down the sidewalk and we had to make a run for more candy half way through the event.

The Things We Forget and the Love of a Family



Chris Ward

By Chris Ward

Do you ever think back to when you were younger? A lot of people may not, but sometimes it is good to think back to a time when we were growing up and learning so many life

lessons. It reminds us of who we are and where we came from. It can help you remember those that have had a major impact on your life and helped shape you into the person that you are today.

Think back to when you were a kid. Everyone's experience is different, but for the most part life was simple as a kid. We ran around all day trying to play and have fun. As kids we generally only cared about what we wanted and how we were going to get it. We had nothing to worry about. Our parents took care of us and generally made sure that we were happy. They also guided us and taught us how to share and to treat others with respect. We had to learn that we can't just care about our own interests. One thing that isn't taught to children which is very special

is found within their hearts. As children we love our parents unconditionally, even when they got mad at us and punished us. We could cry and pout all we wanted but five minutes later we forgot about it and loved them again.

Now think back to when you were a teenager. Things changed drastically and we got caught up in trying to be cool and making friends at school. We did stuff that we shouldn't have in order to fit in. We found trouble in a number of ways. Maybe by staying out past your parents' curfew or going out and getting drunk underage. We did a lot of things during that time our parents didn't want us to. When our parents caught us they punished us and then we hated them for it. The thing we didn't realize is that they were punishing us because they love us. They didn't want us to go down the wrong paths and end up being a person who struggles throughout their whole life. They wanted us to succeed and be valuable members of the community. They stood by our sides when we made mistakes and made sure that we learned from them. Sometimes making a mistake and learning from it can be the most powerful lesson of all. To put it simply, our parents love us.

Then we get into college and get out on our own. We learn how to take care

of ourselves and do things on our own. We have fun in college and then we graduate and the real world hits us in the face. We have to pay bills and all that other expensive stuff. When we start a family of our own we have to be able to provide for them so they can live happily and we try to give them what they want.

We want to be successful. Today people often measure success by looking at how much money they make. To me, this is a big problem. This is the image of success that is portrayed to us when watching TV or other media. People look at success as being wealthy and being able to buy their family everything that they ever wanted. People try to choose careers by looking at dollar signs and not looking at what makes them happy. They get caught up in all of the new technology and other material items. This, however, is not my idea of success. We are forgetting about the little things in life.

For me true success lies in our families. Sure, part of this is picking a career where you can be happy and also provide for your family, but that's not the only measure of success. Success is being there for your family no matter what. It is teaching our kids how to do things right and how to treat people with respect and take care of others, not just ourselves. It

is punishing our kids when they do wrong and rewarding them when they do good. It is in teaching our kids to have faith in God and letting him guide their lives. With faith we learn the values that are most important in life. God wants us to love one another and take care of those who need it. True success is in having a kid who would give the shirt off their back to help someone out who is in need. True success isn't measured in dollar signs, it is measured in the love and happiness of a family.

This type of success is what makes me very proud to be a part of the family I have. Sure, when I was younger I found trouble in a number of ways and didn't always realize how much my parents love me or how much I love them. They were always there for me no matter what. They taught me to have faith in God and to look to him for answers. They taught me to be a person of many morals and values. I can talk to my parents about anything and I know that they will help me in any way possible when I am in need. I am still young and there are still many lessons to learn but I know that I can always turn to them for support and guidance. I look up to them in so many ways.

You can see the power of true suc-

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Catholic Schools raise a real “standard”, the standard of the Cross of Jesus Christ

March, 2014 9

By Most Rev. William F. Medley,
Bishop of Owensboro

"Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service." This 2014 theme for Catholic Schools Week has multiple layers of meaning.

First of all, it is well documented that Catholic schools within the Diocese of Owensboro and across the United States set an extraordinarily high standard of excellence in all of these areas. We do this because we are committed to developing the great potential in every child and young person entrusted to our formation, for every child is created in the image and likeness of God.

As important as these marks of excellence in faith formation, in knowledge, and in developing the whole person certainly are, Catholic schools: an important way in which we give God glory, and service to others in our communities

defines us as true Christians committed to the real "standard" that Catholic schools raise, that being the standard of the cross of Jesus Christ. Faith in the person of Jesus and commitment to follow his way is the standard by which our schools will be measured.

Our Catholic schools thrive because of parents who sacrifice to assure that their children may attend a Catholic school, pastors and parishes who make the support of schools a priority, dedicated administrators and teachers who embrace our noble mission and, of course, wonderful children and young people.

Everything thing we say and everything we do should give glory to God. I am proud of our Catholic schools because they represent one very important way in which we do give God glory. *Reprinted from Catholic High Parentlines, January 21, 2014*

Diocese Hires New Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry Director

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On January 24, 2014, The Chancellor of the Diocese of Owensboro, Mr. Kevin Kauffeld, announced, "It's my pleasure to announcing the hiring of Ms. Susana Solorza for the Office of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry. She will be beginning her new duties the week of Feb. 3, 2014. She will travel to San Antonio for a conference sponsored by Catholic Extension the week of Feb. 10. Ms. Solorza is a 2009 graduate of Owensboro Catholic High School and a 2013 graduate of Western Kentucky University. Her home parish is Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, KY. Please pray for her as she begins her new ministry."



Ms. Susie Soloroza has been hired for the Office of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Owensboro. Mel Howard Photo



Christ the King celebrated Catholic a Schools Week by having Mayor David Jackson speak to them about the importance of community service. "Charity begins at home." He read Matthew chapter 5:16 --the importance to help others. Submitted by Julie Gillette

Most Reverend
William F.
Medley,
Bishop of
Owensboro



Catholic Schools Week

"Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service"

The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2014 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The annual observance starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2014 is January 26 to February 1. Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses, and other activities for students, families, parishioners, and the community at large. The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. First, schools are communities—small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged.

The Things We Forget and the Love of a Family

(Continued from page 8)

cess even more when you look into the strength and love of my extended family. I come from a very large family, all of whom I consider to be wonderful people. None of them would be who they are without their parents, who loved them and raised them the right way. Things haven't always been easy though. One thing that is testimony to the strength of our family is that when times are tough our family sticks together. When a loved one passes away you can guarantee that the whole family will come together and carry each other through the sorrow. The power of love can get you through anything. During this time it is important to not only think about the sadness of the loss of a loved one, it is important to remember the success of that person. Nothing speaks more about the success of a person than the family that they have raised.

In recognition of my Grandmother, Theresa Ward, I would like to share my feelings of her success. She was an amazing mother of 13 children. Without her guidance it would have been impossible for any of them to be the people they are. It is inspiring to think about how she was able to do this after the early loss of my Grandfather. It is almost crazy to think about how she raised so many kids basically by herself. Fortunately, some of the kids were old enough to help. She raised them as best as she could with all of the love and care that she could provide. With

God's help she was able to mold them into quality people. Testimony to her success lies in looking at her children and their families. They are all good people who have successful families of their own. They are people who you can depend on for help if you need them. I am proud to call each and every one of them my aunt, uncle, or cousin. If that doesn't show the true success of my Grandmother, then I don't know what does. Our family is strong and it always will be. Without family we are nothing. I am thankful for God allowing me to be a part of something so special.



Chris Ward

Chris Ward is a senior at Eastern Kentucky University and a 2009 graduate of Owensboro Catholic High School.

10 March, 2014 John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award Winners

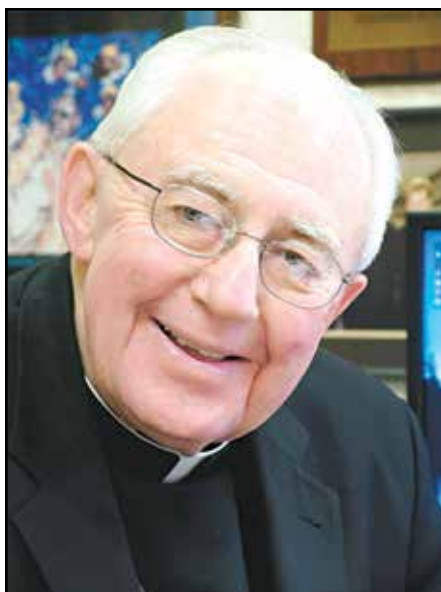
Catholic Charities of the Owensboro Diocese established the John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award in 2013 to recognize individuals or groups in the Owensboro Diocese who abundantly show the virtue of charity in their work and deeds, aligned with the mission of Catholic Charities.

The criteria are broad and encompassing. Groups and persons who reside within the diocese are eligible, regardless of their religious preference or where their charitable assistance occurred. The award is named after Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith who retired as bishop of the Owensboro Diocese January 5, 2009.

The mission of Catholic Charities is: integrating and coordinating social and charitable works; providing spiritual, educational, financial, and emotional support to those in need; and engaging in works of charity.

Those Receiving Providing Help, Creating Hope Award:

- **Sr Rosemary Esterkamp**, Smithland - Works with needy and with organizations such as Livingston County Helping Hands and sees that the poor get the help they need. She personally provides transportation, counseling, and financial help through the Glenmary Sisters for such things as home repair. She is dedicated to soliciting volunteers and donations to help those in need.
- **Frank and Barbara Higgins**, Fancy Farm - Supported three children from India. Provides food for annual church drive. Frank is the "go to" person for buying cemetery plots. Barbara takes care of church linens, and painting church statues. They taught their six children to be involved in church activities. Helped raise their three grandchildren.
- **Barbara and Dwayne Fitzhugh**, Sunfish --This couple visits shut-ins, takes those in need to the grocery, helps needy get clothes, furniture. Many charitable works.
- **Cindy Bornander**, Owensboro - is the primary coordinator for the St Benedict Homeless Shelter ministry at St Stephen's. Cindy and her husband Ron volunteer to work a shift. Her organizational skills have helped St Benedict's obtain volunteers and maintain high quality service.
- **Charlotte Baumgarten**, Owensboro -

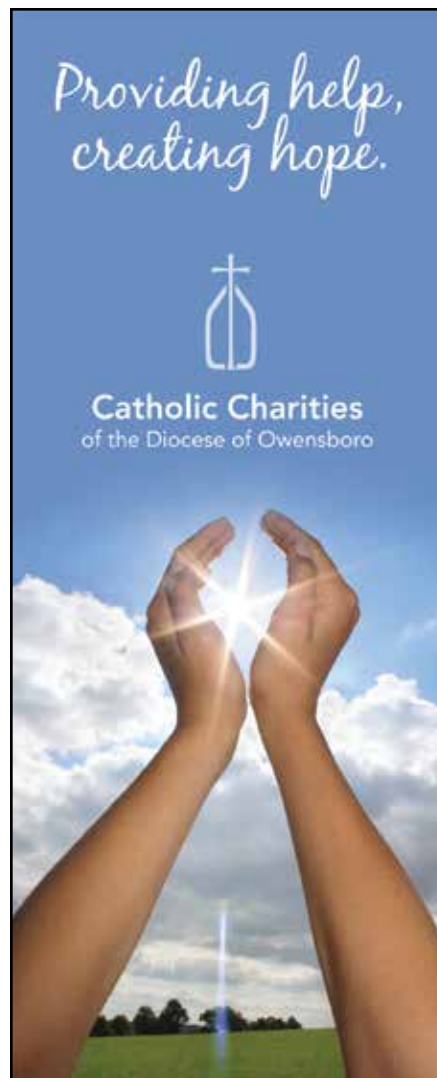


Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith

Has shown a lifetime of generosity. She took care of her mother until her mother's death, and helped her sister after her brother-in-law's death. She is a second mother to her nieces and nephews. She is very visible in Immaculate Parish. She has been a member of St Vincent de Paul for 22 years and has served as spiritual director for the last 6 years. She goes out of the way to help clients and provides food for bereavement dinners.

• **Meals, Inc, Bowling Green** - The meals program provides a well-balanced, home-made meal delivered to residents of Warren County. Al Baker and Matt Brown man the kitchen at St Joseph Parish Center every Saturday morning. Others who assist in this program are Greg Taylor, Lori Joyce, and Diane Horn. Thirteen local churches are listed and alternate the preparation and delivery. It is a great example of ecumenical work by a nonprofit organization operating since 1992.

• **Joe and Denise McWhorter**, Clinton, Ky. - This couple takes care of two grandsons regularly. Denise is a talented musician and volunteers to play at local Civil War re-enactments as well as making costumes. She works full time and still cares for her mother. She also plays instruments at local Catholic masses. Her husband volunteers for the picnic committee, is Eucharistic Minister, Sacristan, and is known as "Mr. Hospitality" He also volunteers for bereavement dinners.



Joe and Denise were instrumental in getting an old cemetery cleaned up.

• **Ann Thrasher**, Henderson - Founded the Mary and Martha Program at Holy Name in 1995. She continues to serve as its director and as an interviewer. This outreach program helps people of all faiths with rent, utilities and prescription medicine. It also has a food pantry. Mary Ann also saw the need for housing for single mothers and children and joined with Fr Ed Bradley and Sr Pauletta Kane to establish the Shelter for Women and Children in 1998 which houses over 20 women and children. She continues to serve on its board.

• **Phyllis Teeters**, Bardwell - Influenced parishioners to save bottle caps for the Kidney Dialysis Foundation, pull tabs off drink cans to support Ronald McDonald

House and Nestle water bottles to buy sports equipment for schools. She is also very active in the drug and alcohol addiction programs.

• **Don Page**, Paducah - Don is a volunteer at Lourdes Hospital, a minister to the homebound, and Deputy Grand Knight for Knights of Columbus. He volunteered for Paducah Cooperative Ministry and taught life skills to children and still supports them financially. He has been active in Habitat for Humanity and is a member of the Mandeville Sister Diocese Committee.

• **St Joseph and Paul Parish Block Party**, Owensboro - The block party is described as a "free" picnic designed to help parishioners get to know their neighbors in the parish. Parishioners donate coats, clothing, bicycles, blankets and linens, toys and household items for the party. They also collect food to be given away at the Block Party. An annual yard sale is held to help pay for the food. There are also information booths at the party, which also makes parishioners mindful of social justice issues.

• **William (Billy) Edward Garnett**, Hopkinsville - Billy paid for materials, provided the equipment and manpower for a fence for the school playground. He also helped the preschool when the first floor flooded, leveled out the playfield, and surrounded the field with trees for privacy. During the ice storm, Billy cut trees so people could leave their homes, found places for people to stay while the power was out, and helped set up generators and asks for nothing in return.

• **Dr. Phil Hurley** - orthopedic surgeon from Owensboro, visited Haiti after the

Continued on page 11



Catholic Charities Adoptions

Providing help, creating hope.

For information on adopting domestically or internationally, or for help with a crisis pregnancy, call us at **270-852-8328.**

John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award Winners

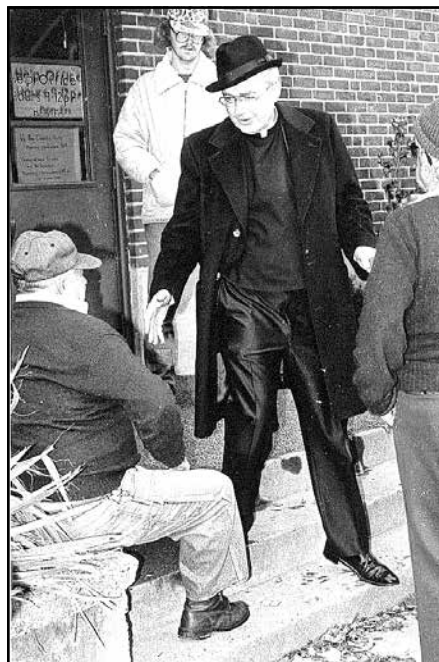
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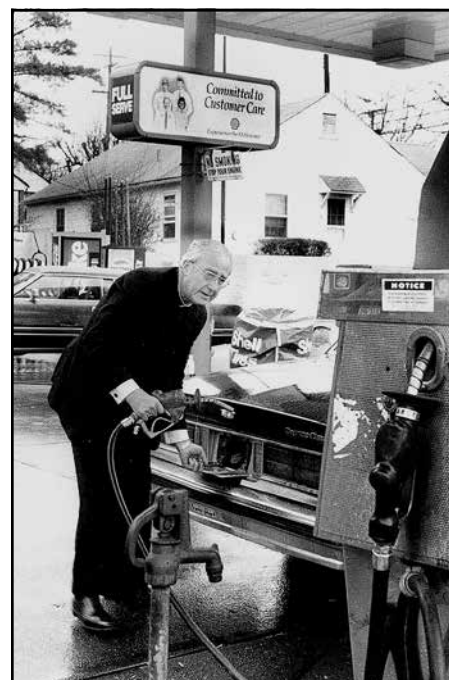
devastating earthquake while aftershocks were still occurring. He assisted the injured. Dr. Hurley has taken time off from his medical practice and returned to Haiti several times to provide medical assistance.

• **Kim Jagoe** - Owensboro. Attended culinary school and started a program called "A Simple Path" teaching the homeless restaurant and cooking skills to provide them with employment opportunities. A Simple Path uses a New Life Baptist Church kitchen to teach hygiene and food preparation through the week and opens on Fridays to serve gourmet meals to the public with a minimal donation. Kim also opened Adrienne's House, a shelter for homeless women, located at New Life Baptist Church.

• **Jennifer Bell** - Bowling Green—Bell Organized and founded CEDARS—Cen-



People who had come to the Owensboro HELP Office for a Thanksgiving meal in 1984 asked a reporter "Who Was That Tall Priest who shook our hands?" In the photo, Bishop John McRaith was loading his pipe with tobacco outside the Owensboro HELP Office that day as he was getting to know the names and faces of the people who came the give thanks. Photos by Mel Howard



ter for Development, Acculturation, and Resolution Services in 2011, primarily to serve the needs of the large Burmese Catholic immigrant community in Bowling Green. She continues to be the driving force of CEDARS, despite limited funds and other challenges.

Those nominated and receiving Honorable Mention recognition:

• **Precious Blood St Vincent de Paul**, Owensboro - Members make phone calls and meet with families and individuals in need of assistance. Prepare Thanksgiving baskets each year.

• **St Pius Tenth St Vincent DePaul**, Owensboro - This organization serves the needy in the community, making home visits and providing financial assistance and referral information to assist clients in need.

• **Robbie and Jo Ann Henning**, Hardinsburg - Four years ago Robbie brought the idea of a county-wide St Vincent de Paul conference to St Romuald to help the poor in the area and was instrumental in getting it started. He and his wife, Jo Ann, ran the day to day operations and helped hundreds of needy families, with little outside help. They solicited help from the local churches and built up the organization to where it now assists over 50 families a month.

John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award recognizes good work done by good people in the Diocese of Owensboro area. Bishop John McRaith is a good example of someone who provided help and created hope from his earliest days serving the people in the Diocese of Owensboro in Western Kentucky. The photo above is a favorite image of Owensboro Diocesan seminarians who see in it an example of a priest who is committed to "customer care." Photo by Mel Howard

• **Linda and Martin Frakes**, Reynolds Station--This couple started a St Vincent de Paul in Fordsville. They fixed up a run down house and got a board together and started visiting homes. They came to realize how little furniture and food some have so they helped start a food bank. They are active in their parish and an inspiration to others.

• **Knights of Columbus**, Calvert City - This group of 30 members make the following contribution: Financial and prayerful support of a diocesan seminarian yearly, Tootsie Roll drive, "Keep Christ in Christmas" float in parade, Operation Christmas Child, Rose and Rosary Sunday (recognizing newly baptized), Adopt a Hwy (2 mile stretch), Stations

of the Cross during Lent, leadership of Rosary prior to Sunday masses, Flag Day celebrations, parish breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, fish fry's, Halloween trunk or treat, Easter egg hunt, ice cream social for FFY students, Mother's Day roses for mothers in parish, Honor Guard for funerals of fellow members, awards banquet for parish fellowship dinner, and Pennies for Priests collection. They use funds for audio/video equipment and grounds improvement, Wounded Warrior project, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Haven of Hope, Little League programs, Special Olympics, Marshall County Need Line, Sheriff's Boys and Girls Ranch, Stewards of Appalachia and local needy families.

"HUMAN LIFE must always be defended from its beginning in the womb and must be recognized as a gift of God that guarantees the future of humanity."
~Pope Francis, Letter to Brazilian families for National Family Week, August 6, 2013. Source: *The USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat*

"Give US the grace - When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life."
~Pope John Paul II, Homily, October 7, 1979
Source: *The USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat*

JOIN THE BISHOPS' CALL TO PRAYER AND FASTING FOR LIFE, MARRIAGE AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. VISIT WWW.USCCB.ORG/pray OR TEXT "Fast" TO 99000. JOIN THE MOVEMENT!



Congratulations

to 8th grader Emily Baer, daughter of Mr. Kevin Baer and Dr. Marcia Cave, on winning this year's regional DAR Essay Contest entitled, "The Lives of Children During the American Revolution." The local General Samuel Hopkins Chapter of the DAR sponsored the contest and Emily's essay will be entered in the state competition. Emily has a brother, Henry, in the 5th grade at Holy Name School. Emily is pictured here with her social studies teacher, Christina Shires. Submitted by Kamille Stich

A Community Using Knowledge

On Saturday, January 19th, the Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School Academic Team competed in the Governor's Cup Competition. They competed in quick recall, written competition, and future problem solving (FPS). Overall, Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School came in second place in the competition. All members of our Academic Team include: (8th Grade) Dalton Crisp, Caleb Goetz, Zachary Hardesty, Lexia Knight, Zach Roberts, Zeke Roberts, Sarah Smith. (7th Grade) Mary Hardesty, Lydia Lambert, and Matthew Mills. (6th Grade) Caleb Jones, Harlee Keener, Corbin Mills, and Xavier Morris. Above is a picture from the competition. From left, SMWS students are: Sarah Smith, Caleb Goetz, Dalton Crisp, and Lydia Lambert. Photo by Kim Rydecki



A Community Using Team Work

On Saturday, January 19th, the Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School won first place in the St. Bernard Middle School Invitational Tournament. During the first game they won against South Spencer MS 39-9. During the second game they defeated St. Bernard 27-17. As shown in the picture attached, team members include (Back row from left to right) Nina Wathen, Erin Kinney, Madeline Mattingly, Valerie Willkerson, Savannah Aull, and Head Coach Tara O'Bryan. (Front row from left to right) Cassidy Morris and Josie Aull. Photo by Kim Rydecki

Community Spirit. It's Like Magic!

On Jan. 27, Monday of Catholic Schools Week, 2014, Mary Carrico Catholic Elementary School in Knottsville, Ky. enjoyed a magic show from anti-bullying magician Dinky Gowen. Photos by Wayne Howard

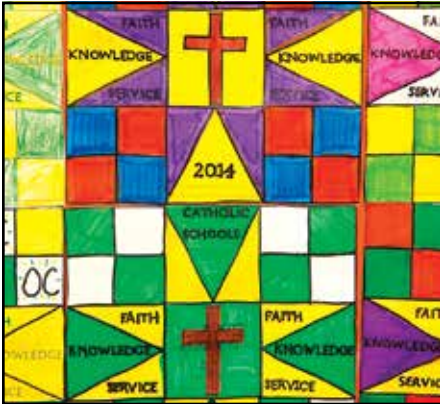
Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro proclaim a common mission: "Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes. He is the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students."



Every year during Catholic Schools Week the 1st grade classes have a spelling bee. Listed below are the winners: 1st place- Evie Hayden, 2nd- Madeleine Kanipe, 3rd- Calvin Padgett. Photo by Lori Whitehouse



During Catholic Schools Week, the students celebrated "Fun in Faith" Day by trading Holy Cards with their classmates. Students collect cards all year, but "trading day" is a favorite for all students Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Pictured are Kindergarten students: Noah Stinnett, Tessa Boling, and Jack Byrne. Submitted by Lori Whitehouse



Detail from a quilt at Owensboro Catholic Schools 4-6 Campus Jan. 29. Before Catholic Schools Week 2014, students designed a piece for a classroom quilt. When assembled, the quilt depicted the importance of Catholic Schools. The quilts were hung in the hallways during Catholic Schools Week. Mel Howard Photo

OCHS Basketball Player Pearson Tops 1,000 Point Mark



January 28, 2014 - Owensboro Catholic High School Girls Basketball player Kaylyn Pearson topped the 1,000 point mark for her career in last night's game.

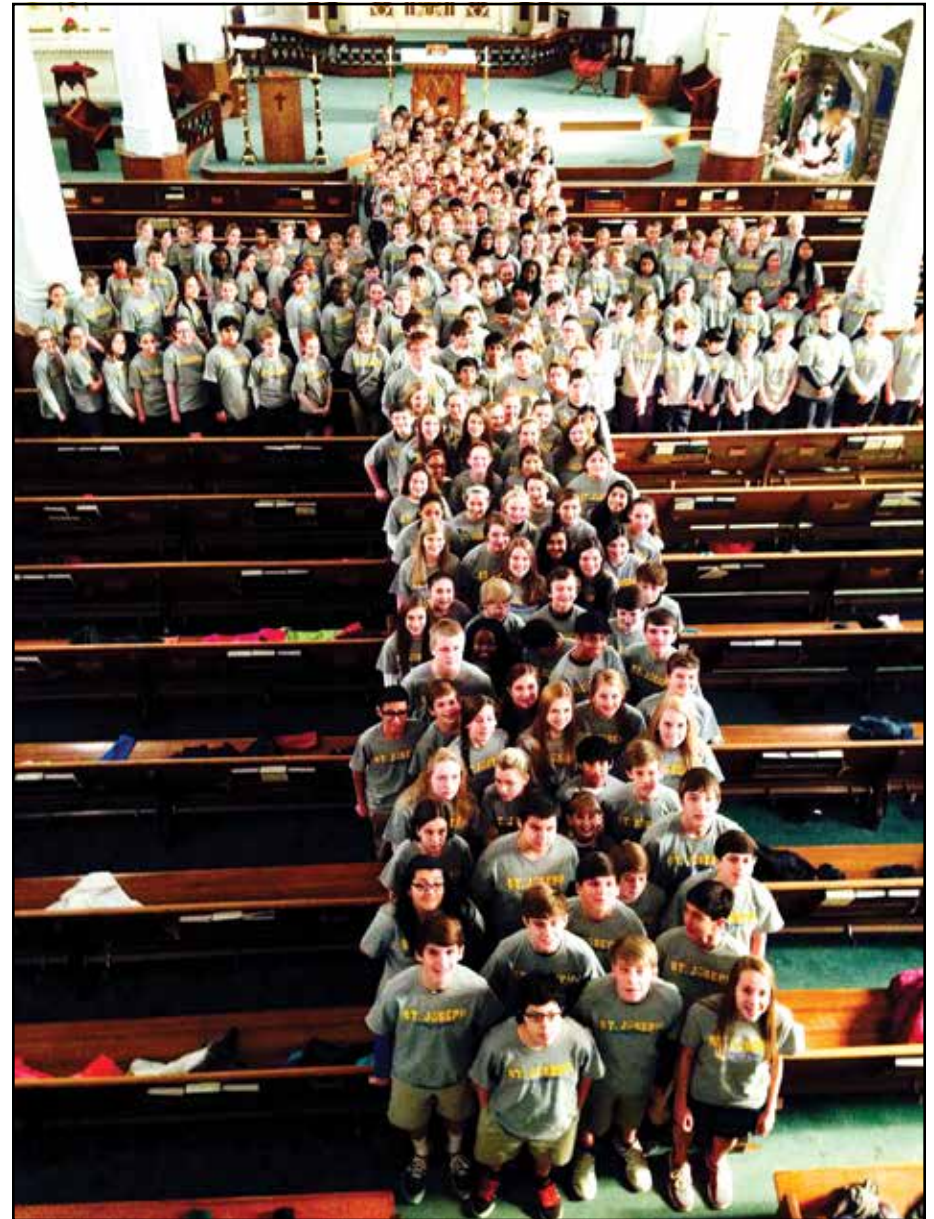
Congratulations Kaylyn on this wonderful accomplishment!

In the picture below, Bishop Medley and Fr. Freddie Byrd with St. Ann grade class. Jim Mattingly photo



St Paul Catholic School Vocation Day

Picture at right, Joan Butterworth, Head Teacher; Sr. Anne Michelle Mudd OSU, Religion Teacher; Gina Sims, Secretary. Jim Mattingly photo



Above, St. Joseph school students in their spirit t-shirts form a cross for an all-school picture after their Catholic Schools Week Mass on Jan. 28, 2014. Fr. John Thomas celebrated Mass with Fr. Andy Garner and Fr. Carmelo Deacon Matthew Keyser served as Deacon for the Mass. Fr. John Thomas spoke about St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor, in his homily. Photo by Ann Flaherty



17th Annual YOUTH 2000

A Eucharistic-Centered Retreat
Brescia University, Owensboro, KY

March 14-16
2014

“Let God
surprise
you with His
love and care
for you!”

-Bishop William
F. Medley

Ages 13-30

(270) 683-1545

marianshrineky.org

This monstrance is the vocations monstrance blessed by Blessed John Paul II and is located throughout the year at the Carmel Home in Owensboro, KY.



St. Romuald Talent : For a Talent Show during Catholic Schools Week, 2014, Second grade danced to music from "Despicable Me 2".
Jim Mattingly Photo



Sister Mary Boxer Can Run, But She Can't Hide in OCMS!

This picture shows students from OCMS who found Sister Mary Boxer, a puppet, who was hidden around the school one day during Catholic Schools Week. Students were to find Sister, who was watching to make sure that all kids were good boys and girls!! Pictured from left to right: Emma Lanham, Jax Matthews, Graci Judd, Jacquelyn Gesser, Sister Mary Boxer, Emily Haleman, Haley Faucheux, Lily Harvey. Not pictured: Haley John.

Photo by Julie Renshaw



The Trinity High School National Honor Society conducted its Induction Ceremony on Wednesday, January 29, in St. Mary of the Woods Church, Whitesville, Ky. From left to right, the above photo includes Fr. Gerald Baker, residing pastor, Hannah Armes, Shawna Aud, Jessica Payne, Hannah Bland, and Lori Ann Redmon (NHS Sponsor). Photo by Christina Rhodes.



Thursday, January 30, In the St. Mary of the Woods School Community, Whitesville! Sr. Suzanne Sims, OSU, left, with St Mary students had the opportunity to go out to local businesses and thank local community members for supporting our school! Here they stopped at the Post Office and Postal Clerk Vicki Baker, at right. Photo by Kim Rydecki

Join our Spinning Retreat! March 7-9, 2014



Whether you are an experienced yarn spinner, weaver, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount weekend retreat at Mount Saint Joseph

(located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56).

Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

The group plans to "spin, knit and talk until we're done!"

For information on room rates, costs, etc., or to register, contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org • www.ursulinesmsj.org

2014 SPINNING DAYS: May 10 and Aug. 2



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

St. Mary's Patrick Hubert Scores 2,000th Career Point

PADUCAH, KY – St. Mary senior basketball player Patrick Hubert scored his 2,000th career point during the first half of the Feb. 17, 2014 game vs. Crittenden County. Hubert, the son of John and Paula Hubert, finished with nine points on the night in the Viking win. Congratulations to Patrick and his family.

Nice Shot. Go, Vikings!
Submitted by Heather DeHart



16 March, 2014

Blanket /Coat Drive Shows OCHS Students And Parents Believe in Being A Community of Service

By Bev Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Monday, Jan 27, one of the coldest days of 2014 so far, 100 coats and 100 fleece blankets of all sizes were delivered to Settle Memorial for the Homeless Fair held there on Jan. 29, sponsored by the Ohio Valley Homeless Council. Thanks to Harold's Cleaners for making all the coats look new again for free. Thanks to all the students, faculty and adults who contributed coats and blankets for the event. Thanks to Ed/Katie Hauser for collecting coats and blankets in conjunction with their Christmas Concert. Thanks to the SCRUBS kids from Catholic High who spent many hours making fleece tie blankets in their free time. This truly shows how Catholic Schools are communities of service.

Angela Settle, a Volunteer for The Homeless Council of Ohio Valley which

held a Resource Fair Jan 29 said that the Homeless Fair "provided services to 100 individuals who are living in shelters or on the streets in Owensboro and Daviess County."

Mrs. Settle added, "Thanks to all the band members and band parents, SCRUBS members and OCHS students for donating clean blankets (and making them) and clean coats for those 100 individuals! So many of the homeless there today where men, and all of them were so excited about their blankets, especially the one gentleman who told me he was living under the blue bridge in Owensboro! Not only did you provide them with a necessity, but you made them smile today!"

"I am so proud to be a part of this wonderful OCHS family!. Thank you for everything."



On one of the coldest days of the school year, SCRUBS members from OCHS delivered over 100 coats and 100 blankets to Settle Memorial where the Homeless Resource Fair was held Jan.29. This was a service project sponsored by SCRUBS, but many people donated coats and blankets for the drive. Students also made 20 double fleece-tie blankets. Pictured here are OCHS SCRUBS members Brittany Clouse, Madeline Rafferty, Leslie Wilson and Emily Mitchell. Photo by OCHS Counselor Bev Howard

Homeless Resource Fair Demonstrates Christ's Love

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Jan. 29, 2014 the Homeless Council of the Ohio Valley (HCOV) worked hard to live up to their motto, "Bringing The Community Together." The Council sponsored a Homeless Resource Fair which actually is a Vendors Fair for Homeless People in the Ohio Valley at Settle Memorial Church in Owensboro. Vendors of many products and services within the Daviess County area gathered to serve the needs of homeless people. More than 100 people were helped with the clothing and many services offered this day.

The HVOC also makes a count of those who come to the fair. Called the K-Count, the accounting is vital for obtaining federal and state dollars for helping homeless people. As Daviess County Judge-Executive Al Mattingly said to A WBKR-FM reporter on the air Jan. 29, "Who knows? Anyone of us may be just an extended illness away from being homeless ourselves. Or some kind of other personal or natural disaster may bring us to being homeless. This Resource Fair is a very important service for people in our community. The more money we can get from governmental agencies to help



A woman looked through the coats at the Homeless Fair Jan 29 at Settle Memorial Church, searching for clothing for her family. Mel Howard Photo

homeless people, the better."

Every January, the HCOV hosts a resource fair for the homeless or near homeless in the community. All of the agencies large and small which exist to help homeless people in the Owensboro/Daviess County area are invited to come out and set up booths. This helps the agencies get in touch with the people they serve and meet others in our communi-



Volunteers Angela Settle, left and Katherine Taylor prepared a table of nearly 100 quilts and a rack of about 100 coats which were donated by the SCRUBS and Band parents and students from Owensboro Catholic High School during Catholic Schools Week Jan. 29, 2014. Mel Howard Photo

Continued on page 17

ty working towards the same goals. The HCOV works with volunteers to help organize this event. The HVOC website (<http://ohiovalleyhomeless.com/more.html>), explains this Resource Fair's purposes:

Homeless Resource Fair K-Count.

"Due to the wide geographic area that is covered during the count, it is vital that we secure the help of as many volunteers as possible. The HCOV is calling out to the Ohio Valley counties such as, Henderson, Hancock, Ohio, Webster, McLean, Union to participate and possibly have a Resource Fair in their communities. ...

"Most often we think of the homeless as wearing ragged clothing and pushing a shopping cart in an urban area. In Kentucky, the face of homelessness is much different. With the current increase in unemployment and foreclosures, many of Kentucky's homeless live in less-visible places. These individuals and families are living in sub-standard housing conditions, are doubled- or tripled-up with family or friends, or are expecting to be evicted within twenty-one days from a private dwelling with no expectation of having a nighttime residence or a com-



Teo young men found coats and blankets at the Jan 29 Homeless Resource Fair. Mel Howard Photo

munity support network. Those living in such conditions are referred to as being "at-risk of homelessness or precariously housed."

"Kentucky has more precariously housed than homeless individuals and the



Sister Fran Wilhelm, OSU, Director of Centro Latino in Owensboro, was a vendor who met the homeless who came to the Resource Fair Jan 29 at Settle Memorial to find help and winter clothing. Mel Howard Photo

precariously housed are not considered homeless according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of homeless. Because of this, there are few programs to serve the growing precariously housed population.

"Our purpose of The Homeless Council of the Ohio Valley is to act as a link between agencies that provide services (for the homeless and near homeless) in Owensboro and the surrounding counties.



Brescia University Students Victoria King, a freshman from Radcliffe, Ky., left, and Ali Watson, a freshman from Louisville, worked a table of donated clothing at the Jan 29 Homeless Resource Fair at Settle Memorial Church, Owensboro. These two students are part of the Brescia University Honors College. <http://www.brescia.edu/honors-college>. The students in our Honors College conduct a service project and they as a group decided they wanted to take on K-Count. There are 14 students total in the Brescia University Honors College. Mel Howard Photo



Helen Bennett, center, is one of the Brescia University Honors College Committee members and also the Career Services Director and a Senior Lecturer at Brescia, teaching marketing classes in the William H. Thompson School of Business. Tina Kasey, at right, Brescia University's Director of Public Relations, took photos for Helen at the Resource Fair and provided vendors and members of the media with information about Brescia University. Mel Howard Photo



Those on Margins of Life Must Be Seen as Gift

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell issued the following statement January 22, 2014 regarding the 41st anniversary of Roe vs. Wade and honoring the March for Life:

“For more than four decades, Americans of all ages and walks of life, including many dedicated Kentuckians, have braved the late January cold and descended on Washington to give witness to a simple truth: that all human life is sacred and worthy of protection by law. The growing support for this important cause, particularly among the young, should be a reason for optimism and hope for people from all across the political spectrum who long for a more just society. During this annual March for Life, we can all hope for a day when those on the margins of life, including the unborn child, are seen as a gift. And when that day comes, all who are engaged in this great life-affirming movement will be able to look back and say that they made a real difference for those who could not speak for themselves.”



Over 10,000 pilgrims, many of them youth from schools around the nation, gathered in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to pray for an end to abortion at the Opening Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life on Tuesday, January 21, the eve of the annual March for Life. The vigil marks the 41st anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision on January 22, 1973, which legalized abortion nationwide. Since the decision was handed down, over 55 million abortions have been legally performed in the United States. Members of the Owensboro Catholic Schools community, left photo and above, traveled to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life 2014 January, 22.

Photos by Michelle Lin



Diocesan Pro-Life Mass and Collection
\$688.65 was collected at Mass on January 22, 2014 at Saint Stephen Cathedral. in Owensboro.
Photo by Birgit Jones

Birthright Celebrates 30 years



“Prayer For My Son.”
Photo by Father Joshua McCarty

“It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born.”

Birthright in Owensboro has a big increase of families in need this year and they need help with:

- Diapers and baby wipes
- New and used clothing: baby and maternity,
- Blankets: new and gently used
- Formula
- Monetary assistance
- Gas cards and gift cards

We would like to thank the Catholic community for their support, donations and prayers.

For more information, contact:

Birthright

Terri LaHugh, Director
512 West 7th Street
Owensboro, KY 42301
1-270-683-1103

March for Life 2014 in Washington, D.C. - In the photo above, left to right, Josh Rhodes and his father Steve; Michelle Sallee and her father Gayle Rhodes, M.D.. The group went with the Diocese of Owensboro, Gospel of Life group. Dr. Gayle is the only one who has been before. It was the first time for Michelle, Josh, and his father Steve. Submitted by Larena Lawson

In God's Name

Moderate behavior.



By Luis Aju

In this time of Lent by faith and tradition we have learned to take a break from our routine that we have in our life. This helps us see with our own eyes how well or how bad our actions are towards God

our Creator and with siblings and peers who struggle with daily life.

Talking about our own behavior is carefully seeing how we treat others. No need for someone to come and make us see what our moral consciousness, created and made by God Himself and put in the most holy place, can tell us. It is the other you that is found in the depths of our being, it is like a small golden box where God dwells and which challenges us every day and moment of our actions. The most common are: our self, our pride, our rebellion against God and others.

We need prayer and also inner and outer silence. Controlling the desire to

be praised using the position of privilege that have entrusted us to serve and not to dominate others.

We tend to like such things. We need to make time for deep reflection if our work or function has led us to self-pride, which self-destroys others and us. Maybe and hopefully we are serving God who lives in the community where we live. It is time to change. Never look at others less than we think of ourselves.

We have respect for Ash Wednesday as a day of the beginning of Lent, in time to exercise the control of our appetite. One of the most difficult tasks is self-control.

We need not only to sacrifice on food, drink or other things.

It would help us to control our food and not eat three meals. So that maybe we could feel the hunger that a large population of world feels. Drink only water, fruit or anything that impoverished families living in poverty can't have either.

These are thoughts, experiences that we live, but the season of Lent, is an appropriate to take the time and continue with our lives as a blessing from God.

God bless you! Thank you!

What Will Be Your Lenten Discipline for 2014?



By Brett Mills

I seem to remember reading about the instruction to turn a skidding car into the direction of the skid. Since I don't drive, I have to apply that instruction in my non-driving situations –

like the season of Lent.

The "skid" in Lent is the concept of difficulty. I believe turning into the direction of that skid means embracing my Lenten difficulty. Choosing a difficulty, much less embracing it sounds like some form of training, and it is – it's training in Christian spirituality. My needful awareness of spirituality's importance was very recently the subject of a formation weekend for Owensboro's second cohort of deacon candidates. The relationship between difficulty and need has invited me to consider a Lenten difficulty in a quality of spirituality that I sorely need. That quality is humility.

The choice to pursue humility during Lent actually began to materialize for me

shortly after the deacon formation in December – when I was over-celebrating an A- on a particular paper. My oldest brother teased that I hadn't taken the humility class yet. I was also reading about humility in assigned material preparing for the spirituality course. In formation we were introduced to three degrees of humility revealed by Fr. Jean Jacques Olier – founder of the Sulpician Order. He taught that the fullness of humility was to rejoice in one's wretchedness, to desire being known for that wretchedness, and to want treatment according to that wretchedness.

While I am created in God's image, with all that potential for glorifying God through mortal life, my likeness to God's perfect holiness and perfect love would be utterly wretched if not for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent is an opportunity to reflect on my absolute need for Jesus in doing what God created me to do – perfectly unite to Him in a loving, holy life that begins on Earth and continues eternally in Heaven.

This Lent, I will reflect on the truth



Brescia University students sang during the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration in Taylor Lecture Hall. Left to Right: Peter Olisa, Andrew-Ja Ja Jeribai, Patrick Owona, David Amadi. Owona is a junior from Younde Cameroon; the others are freshmen from Porharcourt, Nigeria. The quartet debuted at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. The quartet sang in Igbo, a language native to the Igbo ethnic group, which mostly resides in southeastern Nigeria.
Mel Howard Photo

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Monday, January 20, Brescia University hosted the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration, sponsored by Owensboro Human Relations Commission, Brescia University, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro Community & Technical College and Western Kentucky University-Owensboro.

The celebration started with a 9a.m. March from Owensboro High School to Brescia University to symbolize the protest marches King led during the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. Following the March, Brescia hosted a guest speaker and singing in Taylor Lecture Hall, followed by lunch in the Campus Center.

Lewatis McNeal, the guest speaker at Monday morning's Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, encouraged the crowd "to be intentional in our efforts for inclusion" and "to look at who is not at the table." Peter Olisa, Andrew-Ja Ja Jeribai, Patrick Owona, and David Amadi sang songs in Igbo.

that my life aims at an objective that I cannot achieve without the divine, innocent, and redemptive sacrifice of Jesus. There's a distinctly Catholic degree of participation in that mystery. I embrace that without Christ I can't, but with Him I can – reason enough for humility and reason beyond measure to rejoice. I need Easter; in getting to Easter I need the Cross. I need this Lent to appreciate that the more I bear the humility of the Cross, the better I will rejoice with my risen Lord.

Editor's Note: Diocesan Archivist Sarah Patterson responded to the same question as Brett, and wrote, "Years ago, I thought "I won't give up anything. I'll just try to be a better person." Yeah, those were awful, pointless Lents. They showed me that I first have to empty myself of something before room could be made for Christ. Plus, He suffered for us, so I can do something small in return. For myself, some pretty effective sacrifices have been no music in the car, not eating or listening to music after a certain hour, get off Facebook. In college I even went one Lent without makeup. I don't think anyone noticed that, since I wore it pretty lightly then. In our family it was very much emphasized that sacrifices are between you and God, so don't publicize it for others, like Jesus says in Mt 6:16-18..

Brett Mills is a student in the Diocesan Permanent Deacon Program and works in the Diocesan Archives Office in The Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro, Ky.

20 March, 2014

2014 OCMS Academic Team Makes School History, Places First in Every Area in Which They Competed

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Congratulations go to the Owensboro Catholic Middle School Aces Academic team who competed Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014, in District Governor's Cup competition in Ohio County. The Aces team made school history by coming in first place in every area in which they competed.

The OCMS quick recall team placed first overall defeating 3 other schools. Team members are Jacquelyn Gesser, Geneva Renshaw, Kelly Hayden, Ben Strehl, Benjamin Conkright, John Henry Booth, Grant Toler, Emily Haleman, Josephina Garcia, and Cambron Johnson. They went on to compete at Regional Governor's Cup.

The following students placed in written assessment: Social Studies - 1st - Jacquelyn Gesser; Math - 1st - Ben Strehl; tied for 2nd place - John Henry Booth; Language Arts - 1st - Ben Strehl; 3rd place - Kelly Hayden; Science - 1st place - Kelly Hayden; 4th place Benjamin Conkright; Arts and Humanities - 1st place Jacquelyn Gesser; 3rd Geneva Renshaw; Written Composition - 1st Benjamin Conkright

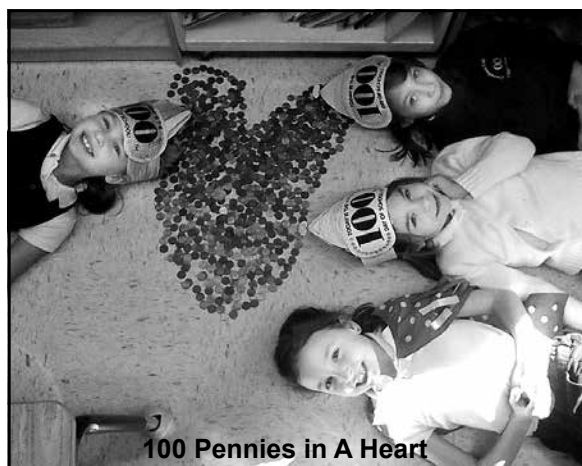
The academic team from Owensboro Catholic Middle school won the District competition and will continue Practicing for Regional Governor's Cup. The OCMS academic team coaches are Margie Ebelhar and Julie Renshaw.

Catholic Schools Week was a busy week.

Jan. 29, 2014 Catholic Schools Day, was also the 100th Day of School. Photos below: **100 plastic cups in a pyramid** - Gracelynn Seaton, Chloe Ambrose, Matthew Hyland, Noah O'Nan. **100 pennies in a Heart** - Molly Aud, Grace Brasher, Elizabeth Mayfield, Anna Laboy. **100 Happy Days!** Brooklynn Escamilla. **Good Hair Day** - Greyson Osowicz, Mrs. Krystal Flowers, Eric Schrecker. Photos Submitted by Lori Whitehouse, Principal, Owensboro Catholic K-3 Campus



The OCMS Academic Team members are Jacquelyn Gesser, Geneva Renshaw, Kelly Hayden, Ben Strehl, Benjamin Conkright, John Henry Booth, Grant Toler, Emily Haleman, Josephina Garcia, and Cambron Johnson. Inset Photo: OCMS Academic Team Brings Home the Hardware. OCMS Photos



Catholic Community of Paducah Honors Diocese with Special Gift

March, 2014 21

By Missy Eckenberg

PADUCAH, Ky. - Almost four months from the date that the ground blessing took place, the Paducah Catholic Community honored the 75th anniversary of the Diocese by completing the build of a Habitat for Humanity home for a very special family. On Monday, January 27, 2013 at 3 p.m. representatives gathered from the parishes and organizations in the community to celebrate the efforts of the many volunteers and bless the home for the new owner. The group began with the song, Let us Build a House, continued with words from the leaders of the parishes of St. Francis de Sales, St. John, St. Thomas More, and Rosary Chapel, Lourdes Hospital, St. Mary School System, and Faith Formation, and concluded with a home blessing. Rick Schipp, project manager, was provided with a framed image of St. Joseph, the carpenter, to honor his exemplary efforts in coordinating the home build that came to completion in such a timely manner.



Leaders from the Paducah Catholic Community participate in the home blessing R to L – Fr. Pat Reynolds, St. Thomas More; Eleanor Spry – St. Mary School System; Fr. Brandon Williams, St. Thomas More; Ging Smith, Faith Formation; Fr. Brian Roby, St. Francis de Sales; and Mark Desmond, Lourdes Hospital.



Rick Schipp, Coordinator of the home build receives a framed image of St. Joseph to honor his exemplary efforts in coordinating the home build.



Therese Smith a St. Mary student provides a celebration program to Fr. Brandon Williams.



A celebration with cake and punch took place after thanking of the volunteers and blessing the home.

In the picture at right, Lourdes Hospital CEO enjoys cake while talking with Habitat Executive Director Angie Wilke during the celebration.



Photos this page by Missy Eckenberg



Rosary Chapel – Electrician, David Roberts from Rosary Chapel was one of the many volunteers who were recognized for their tremendous devotion to the build.

22 March, 2014

St. Mary's Community Outreach - Bottles For Birthright

Birthright needs our help. 3,000 mothers and babies per year, and some from our parish, are being helped through Birthright of Owensboro. Birthright depends totally on donations of supplies and money to operate. Baby bottles (provided by Birthright) will be available for pickup

at the doors of church at all Masses this weekend. These should be returned the following Sunday, Feb 2 filled with loose change or bills. Bottles will be collected & returned to Birthright. *Source: St Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, Bulletin, Jan 26, 2014*



In the picture at left, St Mary of the Woods parishioner Imelda Payne reached for a baby bottle after Mass Jan 26, 2014 to contribute to the parish's Birthright Collection. Boxes of bottles were placed at each church door for a Birthright Collection. Photos by Mel Howard



Reaching Out For Birthright

In the picture at right, Freddy Barr helped Deanie Midkiff collect donations in Bottles for Birthright with Bev Howard, Connie and Frank Hagan, and their grandson Andrew Braver, 8, at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church in Whitesville Feb. 1, 2014. Parishioners took the bottles home and collected about \$3,000 to support Birthright. Parish staff said the bottles were still being brought in as of press time!

Come celebrate the life of the Mother of God!



March 17th, 20th, and 24th.
6:00 p.m. CST
Tickets: \$7:00
Malco Owensboro Cinema
5333 Frederica St,
Owensboro, Ky



Sponsored by St. Joseph's Holy Family,
Bristow, Indiana
Gavin Steckler: 812-719-2170 or email
gsteckler19@psci.net
Contact Gavin to preorder tickets or buy
them at the door.



Good And Faithful Servants

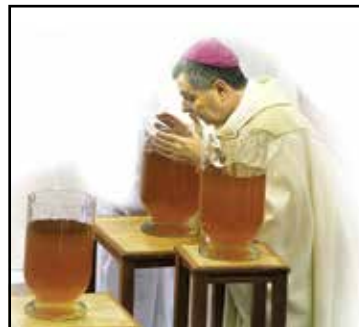
Bishop William F. Medley, right, presented to Mike Thompson a plaque in appreciation for his 21 years of service to both Bishops John McRaith and William Medley on the Diocesan Finance Council at its annual dinner. He served under Bishop John's tenure for the first nine years of the Diocesan Pastoral Council's existence. Mike's service to the diocese also included chairing the consolidation effort for the Owensboro Catholic schools (between 1987 and 1990) and a 10-year stint on the Brescia University Board of Trustees. Mike's wife, Cloa, is also pictured and Bishop Medley thanked this husband and wife Thompson team for their collaborative efforts on behalf of the Diocese of Owensboro through their continuous commitment to the Glenmary Sisters since the order's 1991 arrival in the diocese. Lastly, Mike and Cloa's close personal friendship with Bishop-emeritus John McRaith throughout his years in the diocese was recognized.

Photo by Ernie Taliaferro



Make PLANS
to attend
the 2014
CHRISM
MASS ON
APRIL
15, 2014
at 6:30 p.m.

in the OWENSBORO SPORTSCENTER.



Bishop William F. Medley breathing over the jars of Holy Oils during the Rite of Blessing of the Oils. Mel Howard Photo

Altar Dedication at St. Charles Catholic Church

March, 2014 23

Submitted by Judy Willett

Photos by Betty Steinback

BARDWELL Ky. - St. Charles Catholic Church in Carlisle County, Ky. is a very important part of the lives of its members. From childhood receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion, Confirmation, to celebrating Marriages and attending funerals. The church has been a rock of faith for many families.

St. Charles was formed in 1834. The people of this Catholic community attended and received sacraments at St. Jerome Church in Fancy Farm. In 1891, a mission church was built near Kirbyton in Carlisle County and named St. Charles after Fr. Haeseley's patron saint St. Charles Borromeo. Fr. Haeseley traveled over poor roads monthly to offer Mass and administer the sacraments. In 1920, a school was begun to accommodate the growing community of Catholic families with children needing a Catholic education. It was staffed by the Ursuline Sisters of Maple Mount for 46 years. The present church was built in 1956. Later our Catholic education program was initiated and staffed by parish volunteers under the guidance of priests assigned to the parish. In 1973, St. Charles ceased being a mission parish and Fr. Bob Willett became the pastor for St. Charles, St. Denis in Hickman County



Bishop William Medley blessed the altar at St. Charles Church Dec. 22, 2013. Fr. David Willett assisted.



The new Ambo and Altar in St. Charles Church.

and St. Mary in Ballard County. A rectory to the church was purchased in 1975; then in Dec. 1994, with the help of many volunteers, a parish center was begun beside the church.

Over all these years, many priests, religious and volunteer laity have attended to the spiritual needs of parishioners. Some physical and structural changes inside and out have been made to the church in this time. The parish renovation committee made up of Randy and Susan Elliott, La Verne Elliott, Julie Draper, Susan Hayden, and Wayne and Diane Wilson, under the guidance of present pastor Fr. David Willett, began praying, planning and meeting in Feb. 2013. The focus of the meetings was to enhance the interior to create a sacred environment to celebrate church liturgies. Changes began in Aug. 2013: new carpet, ceramic tile, hardwood baseboards and doors, and a decision for a new altar and ambo or pulpit were made. The Altar where Mass is celebrated is a key element of the church and the ambo or pulpit (a raised stand used for the reading of the Gospel or Epistle). In times past, we had 2 pulpits



Gregory Willett of Fancy Farm provided music and great vocalists Haylie and Tracy Hobbs, Jenna Willett and Wayne Wilson led the singing.

one for the reading of the Epistles and one for the reading of the Gospel. Now, one pulpit suffices for the entire Liturgy of the Word.

Dec. 22, 2013 was the date decided for the dedication of the new altar. The altar was constructed by Richard Overby from La Center, Ky., and made from walnut trees which are native to our area. There is a purpose behind every action and symbol in an altar dedication, including who leads the celebration of the Mass. Most Reverend William Medley, the Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, was our presider. First, the altar was sprinkled with specially blessed water; then the stone containing a relic of a saint (taken from the previous altar) was deposited in the new altar. The altar is anointed with CHRISM (oil) as a symbol of Christ the High Priest 'the Anointed One' so that on the altar of His Body he might offer the sacrifice of his life for the salvation of all. INCENSE is burned on the Altar to signify that Christ's sacrifice, there perpetuated in memory, ascends to God as an odor of sweetness, and to signify the people's prayers ascending, pleasing and acceptable to God. The COVERING of the altar indicates that it is the altar of the Eucharistic sacrifice and the table of the Lord around which God's people joyously meet to be refreshed with divine food. The LIGHTING of

the altar teaches us that Christ is the Light; his brightness shines out in the Church and through it to the whole human family. Finally, the celebration of the Mass proclaims the bond that closely connects the dedication of the altar with the celebration of the Eucharist. So, this ritual rich in beauty and symbolism reminds the faithful of the sacredness of Communion, the holiness of God, and their unity in the Catholic faith.

A very talented Gregory Willett of Fancy Farm provided music and great vocalists Haylie and Tracy Hobbs, Jenna Willett and Wayne Wilson led the singing.

Bishop William Medley and Fr. David Willett concluded the Mass with a Blessing for all those attending, and then all were invited to a reception in the parish hall beside the church. A church is two things. The first, a structural building, a place to congregate that holds statues, has stained glass, an altar; all symbols to aid in prayer. Second, a church is a collection of people led by a priest who helps the people, who have the grace of God within them, to grow into a community of believers who are aware that the church lives to help us find the lord in our daily lives.



Bp. William Medley and Fr. David Willett enjoying the reception with people of the parish in the parish hall beside St. Charles church.

St. Anthony Senior Program Makes Good Things Happen Around Grayson County

By Mel Howard

PEONIA, Ky. - The Saint Anthony Parish in Peonia, Ky. has a history going back to October, 2010 of hosting a Senior Program for Senior Catholics seven Catholic parishes in Grayson and Edmonson Counties on every third Wednesday of the month. Organized by Carol Thornbury and Bonnie Braun-Grant, the gathering begins with a prayer by Fr Brian Johnson, then a pot-luck meal, followed by a program for entertainment or information. Since 2010, many people from other area churches have gotten word of the Senior Program and some attend regularly; some present programs for the gathering. The program on January 15, 2014 drew about 47 participants and featured a fried-chicken dinner that couldn't be beat, and music by MacDonald Road, a local band playing Gospel music, Bluegrass, and other goldie-oldies from the "Good Old Days."

Leon Davis, a band member, said the motto of the group is from the lyrics of a song: "We might be country poor, but we're country proud!" The people sing along with many of the songs. On this day, two local Senior Program attendees played with the band as some members couldn't make the date. Jim Grant and Sherril Sims both filled in on guitar and vocals.

A favorite part of the mid-day hour and a half time of fellowship and good cheer is the drawing for door prizes. Everyone who attends signs in and gets a number. Fr Brian picks a number, and the person with that number wins. One of the door prize winners on Jan. 15 was Heather Searcy Higdon who also makes beaded bracelets to give to people at the Senior Program. Heather won a small stuffed animal which she promptly named for her boyfriend. Most of the people in the Senior Program know one another and a friendly, warm, caring spirit fills the time. Even if someone is a newcomer to the Senior Program, it does not take long for some of the regular attendees to include them in conversations and the spirit of the gathering.

Bonnie Braun Grant said, "The aim of the Senior Program is to gather seniors together to pray, socialize, learn something, and to share a meal." The Senior Program is an Ecumenical Outreach of all the seven Catholic parishes in Grayson and Edmonson Counties, said Carol



GOOD FRIENDS. Betty Miller, left, and Miss Francis Litsey reunited. Miss Francis taught Betty and others at the Senior Program when they were in grade school. Mel Howard Photos



PRESENTATION. St. Anthony parish Administrative Assistant Mrs. Judy Clemons has worked tirelessly for the parish since 1985 caring for the big and the little details of any parish activity.



SALT OF THE EARTH. Bonnie Braun Grant, left, has been one of the central organizers of the St. Anthony Senior Program since she joined the Catholic Church in 2010 in Leitchfield. With the able help of Carol Thornsbury, she makes sure that there is a Senior Program on every third Wednesday, in the St. Anthony Parish Hall.



PRAYER. Fr. Brian Johnson welcomed the people and offered a Blessing Before the Meal.



WELCOMING. Audrey Wortham showed her attractive smile and a good-looking plate of food at lunch Jan. 15 at the St. Anthony Senior Program.



WOULDN'T MISS IT! About 50 or more people gather at St. Anthony Parish Hall in Peonia, Ky. on every third Wednesday for the Senior Program, about 2 hours of fellowship, good food, and entertainment or education with friends and family. The Word has spread in Grayson and Edmonson County about the St. Anthony Senior Program - Don't Miss It!

Thornbury who works with the pastors as an Ecumenical Minister. When Bonnie Braun converted to Catholicism in 2010, she said, this program had just started on every third Wednesday and she was attracted to participating.

The Senior Program group comes from all parts of Grayson or Edmonson Counties and many have been acquainted since childhood. Many of the group at the Senior Program on Jan 15 were born in small towns across Grayson County. Some of these had moved away to other cities for careers and to raise families. Upon retirement, they moved back to Grayson County, some to their earlier homes. All who spoke about this on Jan. 15 said they moved back home.

At the Senior Program, people meet one another once again and talk about old times as well as catch up on what's happening today. For example, Miss Francis Litsey and Betty Miller got reacquainted at the Senior Program Jan. 15. Miss Francis lives in Leitchfield, and attended the fun day with others from her home; she was Betty Miller's 3rd and 4th grade teacher at Short Creek Elementary. Miss

Continued on page 25

Francis also taught band leader Leon Davis in his 5th grade at the same school. Introducing a song, Leon Davis said, "Today, we take life one day at a time. Now that I am 63, I guess I think about the good old days more." He then sang a song whose lyrics said in part, "... seems like somehow we got lost along the way. More than just a memory, they're somewhere deep inside. I miss the good old days..."

Professional career people with many skills and gifts gained from education and their career years attend the St. Anthony Senior Program. All mingle and recount events from recent days and weeks in the county and other areas nearby. For example, on the day before this Jan 15 date, an Owensboro BBQ restaurant has a fire. Knowing that nthis reporter came from Owensboro, many wanted to know if the popular BBQ restaurant was OK, if they were still in business. These folks are still very much involved with life!

Before anyone knows it, someone will tell a story, or a joke, and some will listen and then bring out one of their own, and the talk and sharing just rolls on. The group will at some point in the program be living in the good old days from back when, and then a listener will ask what happened to someone or something that happened yesterday.

The music for this day was interesting, and the instrumentals and vocals from MacDonald Road were well done. The musicians would play sogs, the listeners would tap feet and dance in their seats. A few times the vocalists would



stop singing and the audience would sing a while. All knew these songs. This Senior Program at St. Anthony Church in Peonia held on the third Wednesday of the month is just a lot of good food, good fun, and good fellowship. What a great idea!



FAMILY. Playing with Grandpa while listening to MacDonald Road's music.

INSPIRATION. In the picture at left, MacDonald Road, a band from around Leitchfield, Ky. and other parts of Grayson County, playing music for the Saint Anthony, Peonia, Senior Program on January 15, 2014 in the Parish Hall. Mel Howard Photo

DOOR PRIZES! in the picture at left, Bonnie Braun Grant laughed as Heather Searcy opened her door prize and named it for her boyfriend.

Join us for a Women's Retreat

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

March 21-23, 2014

Retreat Director: Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU



Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, "the Little Flower," was one of the most popular saints of the 20th century. Her spirituality of "the Little Way" reminds Christians that holiness does not require extraordinary deeds, lofty theology or mystical phenomena. Rather, Thérèse's ideal of holiness is faithful and loving attention to the ordinary circumstances and people of our daily lives. Retreatants will reflect on and pray with Saint Thérèse by looking at her family life, her experience of Carmelite life, her "Little Way" and her experience of dying and the promise of eternity.



Sister Cheryl

Retreat begins at 7 p.m. Friday and ends after lunch Sunday.

Fee: \$180 for residents or \$130 for commuters.

A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Sister Ann McGrew: 270-229-0200

To register, contact Kathy: (270) 229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Find a brochure online at www.ursulinesmsj.org under Conference & Retreat Center



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College

Alumnae Weekend May 17-18, 2014

8001 Cummings Road,
Maple Mount, Ky.

Get together with your classmates!

- Mass • Alumnae Banquet
(Anniversary Classes recognized)
- Class Photos • Social Activities

Register online at www.ursulinesmsj.org

270-229-2006 • alumnae.ms@maplemount.org



Seminarians To Receive Ministries March 29, 2014 in St. Stephen Cathedral



Alex French

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. Alex French will receive the Ministry of Lector on March 29, 2014.

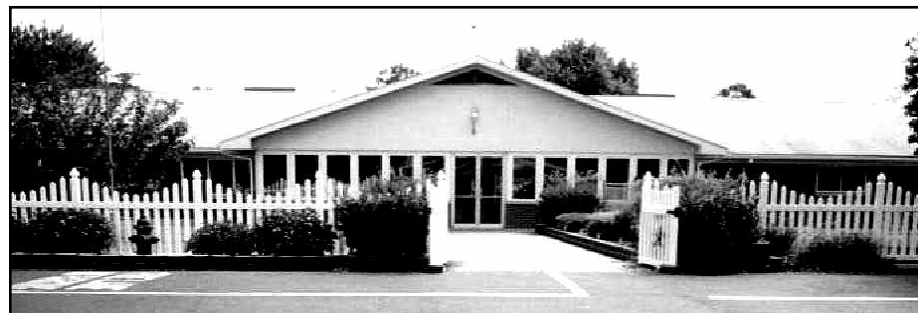


Nick Higdon

An acolyte assists 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 not a priest or deacon. Nick Higdon and Jared Kaelin will receive the Ministry of Acolyte on March 29, 2014.



Jarred Kaelin



Bishop Soenneker Home

We are a Non Profit Personal Care Facility.

OUR PHILOSOPHY:

We believe in a God loving approach to both care and everyday living . We strive to work with the family of a resident to help the resident remain close to his family here at the Bishop Soenneker Home and cherish his individual contribution of his or her specialness . We believe it is by such love and acceptance , along with good care that each resident will find their happiness here .

ADMISSIONS:

Bishop Soenneker Home admit individuals regardless of age , race , creed , color , national origin , disability or religious affiliation . We pride ourselves on being concerned with the individual and personal needs of those in our care .

Since Bishop Soenneker Home is a non profit Facility any and all donations are tax deductible. A lot of our resident the State allows only \$40-60 dollars a month to live on. Can you imagine buying all your personal needs like clothes, shoes and pay your medicine co-pay and try to make ends meet? All donations are entered into our Residents Activity Account and used for their personal needs. If you would like to visit our Home or contact us please call : 270-281-4881 or fax us at : 270 281-5804

To send a much needed and appreciated donation: Bishop Soenneker Home, Resident Activity Account, 9545 Hwy. 144, Knottsville, Ky. 42366.

Daily Prayer Of A Mother For Her Seminarian Son



Owensboro Diocesan seminarian Jamie Dennis with his mother, Ain Dennis, praying at a shrine at their family farm in Grayson County.

Larena Lawson Photo

O, Jesus,
I thank Thee for having chosen
my son -
To share in Thy mission
Of the Savior of men.
Grant, then, this day
The grace he needs to do his best
To please Thee,
And to make himself worthy
Of Thy Priesthood.
Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
Make his heart like unto Thine.
Heart of Jesus, burning
Furnace of Charity,
Inflame his heart with love for souls.
Mary, Queen of Apostles,
Queen of the Clergy,
Be Thou a Mother to my son.
Bless him in the service
Of Thy Divine Son. Amen



2014 Summer Camp Schedule

| Dates | Camp | Age | Cost |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------|
| May 26 th to the 30 th | Eucharistic Life Camp | 18 and over | \$ 50 |
| June 1 st to June 6 th | Expedition I | 5 th & 6 th Grades | \$275 |
| June 8 th to June 13 | Quest I | 7 th & 8 th Grades | \$275 |
| June 15 th to June 18 th | Explorer I | 3 rd & 4 th Grades | \$175 |
| June 22 nd to June 27 th | Camp LIFE I | High School | \$275 |
| June 29 th to July 4 th | Camp LIFE II | High School | \$275 |
| July 6 th to July 11 th | Expedition II | 5 th & 6 th Grades | \$275 |
| July 13 th to July 18 th | Quest II | 7 th & 8 th Grades | \$275 |
| July 20 th to July 25 th | Camp LIFE III | High School | \$275 |
| July 27 th to July 30 th | Explorer II | 3 rd & 4 th Grades | \$175 |
| July 27 th to Aug. 1 st | High Adventure | High School | \$350 |

Please visit our website, www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org for more information and new for 2014 On-Line Registration!!! Spaces fill up quickly so register online or get your registration forms sent in quickly! Can't wait to see you this summer!!!



Make Plans to attend the 2014 CHRISM MASS ON APRIL 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the OWENSBORO SportScenter.

TAIZE

OWENSBORO, Ky. - As one entered the doors for Holy Hour the last Sunday of January at Immaculate Parish, one knew immediately something was different. Nearly 100 white and red candles were lit illuminating the monstrance with the Lord, Jesus Christ on the altar. Matt Gray, director of Music and Liturgy at Immaculate introduced Holy Hour in Taize style to the 250 people who were in attendance for Adoration. Taize is a very moving prayer experience which comes from Taize, France that penetrates the heart and whole being. With Matt, several voices and instrumentalists including youth and children provided the music for the service. The music was very meditative as it repeated a verse, similar to a mantra. Those attending appreciated being introduced to a new way to pray. Susie Imel, said "Beautiful altar - very devout, moving, inspirational, faith-filled service." Isa Ebelhar noted that "It was breathtaking when I first saw it!" Plans for future Taize services are being discussed. **Photos by Nicole Gray**



Lent 2014 at Immaculate

Communicating with God and One Another

March 23-24-25 Holy Hour and Reflection

Sunday, March 23 4-5pm
Holy Hour and reflection
by Msgr. Bernard Powers
Communicating with God



Monday, March 24 6-7pm
Holy Hour and reflection
by Fr. Richard Powers
Communicating with One Another

Tuesday, March 25 6-7pm
Holy Hour and reflection
by Fr. Timothy Sweeney
Communicating with God and One Another
Reception following Tuesday evening event.



Childcare will be available.

Lenten Holy Hour And Reflection

In conjunction with the anticipated 60th Anniversary of the Immaculate Parish, Owensboro, (August, 2014), the parish will hold a special Lenten Holy Hour and Reflection by three former pastors. The public is welcomed and encouraged to join the parish on March 23-25 for the 3 night series entitled Communicating with God and One Another. A Holy Hour beginning at 4pm will be held Sunday, March 23rd.

Msgr. Bernard Powers, pastor of Immaculate from 1976 to 1984 will give a reflection entitled "Communicating with God". The next evening, Monday, March 24th, Holy Hour will begin at 6pm with Fr. Richard Powers giving the reflection.

Fr. Richard Powers was pastor at Immaculate from 1990 until 1996. He will talk on "Communicating with One Another". The series will end on Tuesday, March 25th with Holy Hour at 6pm and Fr. Timothy Sweeney giving the reflection.

Fr. Sweeney was the immediate past pastor, serving Immaculate from 1996-2006. He will talk on "Communicating with God and One Another".

After the Tuesday evening Holy Hour, refreshments will be served in the Parish Family Center. Childcare will be available all three nights.

Please call Immaculate's office (270-926-0689) if you anticipate needing childcare to ensure we have enough childcare workers available.



Bring your lunch (drinks provided) and join us from 12-1 as we listen to stories of

CONVERSION

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Wed, March 5 | Ash Wednesday—No Series |
| Wed, March 12 | Matthew Jonah |
| Wed, March 19 | The Woman at the Well Journey of the Magi |
| Wed, March 26 | Bartimaeus Melissa Boarman |
| Wed, April 2 | The Rich Young Man Blessed by Less |
| Wed, April 9 | Paul Rachael Clark |
| Wed, April 16 | Holy Week—No Series |

Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, Ky. is happy to again present their series of Brown Bag Lunches this Lent. This year, the theme will be CONVERSION. Participants will watch stories of 6 different characters in the Bible and their conversion experiences and hear 2 parishioners tell their story of conversion.

Father Robert Barron (creator and host of Catholicism) tells the conversion story of Matthew, Jonah, the woman at the well, the Magi, Bartimaeus, and the rich young man. Melissa Boarman and Rachael Clark will be sharing their conversion story on March 26 and April 9, respectively.

Brown Bag Lunch series will begin Wednesday, March 12 in Immaculate's Parish Family Center and run 5 weeks on Wednesdays from 12 noon until 1. Participants are asked to bring a lunch. Drinks will be provided.

28 March, 2014

A Valentine's Day Story: The Transforming Love of Down Syndrome!

OWENSBORO, Ky. (February 14, 2014)
- Lolek Productions announces the film release about a man with Down Syndrome and how his capacity to love is transforming lives.

The video, "Shawn's Eyes" features Shawn Riney, a 41-year-old man from Owensboro, Kentucky, and a family who together have found love and many unexpected blessings!

The film "Shawn's Eyes" shows the relationship between Shawn and the Payne family, who spend every weekend together. Shawn is 41, cross-eyed, mumbles and is unable to live on his own. He also has an immense love of life, an infectious smile and an oftsharp wit that the Payne family says they can't live without!

"This is not your typical love story or a story just about altruism or goodness," says Rev. Joshua McCarty, producer for Lolek Productions. "It's the surprisingly

 **LOLEK**
PRODUCTIONS



The video, "Shawn's Eyes" features Shawn Riney, a 41-year-old man from Owensboro, Kentucky.

candid and sometimes shocking story of the simplicity, affection, and genuineness of a man who many would consider an outcast in our society."!

"Shawn's Eyes" is just one of many videos in the developing "icon project" series produced by Lolek Productions!! The video is available at the Lolek Pro-



Whitney Whitehead Keown writes: "Beautiful!!!! I cried and laughed all at the same time!" Photos courtesy of Lolek Productions



"This is not your typical love story ..." Amy Payne, above, with her husband Tom, in the picture at left center, enjoy Shawn Riney visiting in their home every weekend.

ductions' website: <http://lolekproductions.com/avalentines-day-love-story-shawn-riney/>!

About Lolek Productions!

Lolek Productions is an independent film company that was created in May of 2011 in order to create high quality media as a part of the New Evangelization called for by Blessed John Paul

II. Lolek Productions is located in Western Kentucky and operated by a Catholic priest, Fr. Josh McCarty and a board of directors. Beautiful images and powerful story are the hallmarks of Lolek Productions! Website: <http://lolekproductions.com/>! International Down Syndrome Coalition has picked up Shawn's story!

St. Paul Catholic School Celebrates Catholic Schools Week

By Gina Sims

January 26 started the week of celebration for students, staff, and families of St. Paul School, located in Grayson County, KY. The theme this year for National Catholic Schools Week was, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service." In keeping with that theme, Head Teacher, Joan Butterworth, wanted to bring people in from the community each day of Catholic Schools Week to speak to students about their profession and the importance of faith in God. Speakers emphasized the importance of setting goals, getting a good education, and keeping God at the center of their lives.

Fr. Steve Hohman, pastor of St. Paul and St. Elizabeth parishes, and Sr. Anne Michelle Mudd, religion teacher at St. Paul School, spoke to students about vocations and their experiences. Other speakers throughout the week were Sandy Clemons (veterinarian), Roni Mudd (dietician), Buck Meredith (police officer), Judy Summers (bank teller), Travis Skaggs (builder), and Dennis DePoyster (fireman). Students and staff were excited to hear from all the different visitors from the community. They wish to express their sincere gratitude to those who took time from their busy schedules to share experiences and beliefs.



Fr. Steve Hohman posing Feb. 14, 2014 with some of his "look-alike" students, Josh Krom, Terry Cundiff, Gabriel Mudd, Isaac DePoyster, Wyatt Clemons, Will Higdon, Keegan Sharp, Alex Skaggs, and Austin Clemons.

A Rice Bowl Collection Puts Faith in Action

In the picture at right, Holy Name School students participated in an additional Rice Bowl Collection in response to Pope Francis' call to end world hunger. Pictured from L to R are students: Sam Mitchell, Allie Vindhurst, Rylee Thomas, Delanie Thompson and Sam McFarland. Our families donated almost \$1,500 during Catholic Schools Week as part of our commitment to serving others. Photo by Kamille Stich



Getting In The Spirit!

Members of the 8th Grade Confirmation Class at Holy Name School, Henderson, met with Bishop William Medley on Monday of Catholic Schools Week 2014 after he celebrated an all-school Mass at Holy Name School. Pictured from L to R are: Stacen Cunningham, Carter Clements, Bishop Medley, Emma Gillham, and Ellie Mitchell. Photo by Kamille Stich



Youth Ministry in Action Can Inspire Parish Life

March, 2014 29

*Christeens Mission Statement:
"We cultivate a welcoming community where teens
experience God's love and respond to His call."*



Frank Mercandante of Cultivation Ministries out of Chicago, Il, is leading a team training for Sts. Joseph & Paul adult youth ministry volunteers.

By Matt Hunt

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The new Mission Statement for Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Youth Ministry was developed by a team of parish volunteers. This mission statement sums up what we are trying to accomplish within our parish. For years, Sts. Joseph & Paul has had a vibrant youth ministry program with dedicated Youth Ministers and active volunteers. As the years pass and times change, so do the approaches of how we engage our young people. Here at Sts. Joseph & Paul we have sought the aid of Frank Mercandante and Vital 3.0 to help us grow and to teach us a more effective way of approaching youth ministry.

VITAL 3.0 is a ministry that goes into a parish and helps to structure youth ministries or rebuild established programs. VITAL 3.0 is a two-year, strategic process for cultivating and impacting disciple-making parish youth ministry. VITAL 3.0 goes beyond traditional youth ministry, which is called second generational. The goal of VITAL 3.0 is to build an intergenerational parish culture that grows teen disciples and is called third generational. VITAL 3.0 is conducted by Frank Mercandante. Frank, a former youth minister, is a conference speaker, author, and the executive director of Cultivation Ministries, out of Chicago, Il. Frank will be making quarterly visits to our parish to help train our adult leaders on how to a build more effective youth ministry.

We are nine months into the process of Vital 3.0 and a lot has happened. We have established a planning team to help lead and plan youth ministry events with the help of Frank Merchandante. We are in the process of establishing an Intercessory Prayer Team; Kevin Tignor is the prayer team leader and we are now recruiting prayer team members. Frank conducted focus groups to engage all of our parishioners of



Parishioner Lavida Mischel leading a training session for youth about being a Eucharistic Minister.



In above picture, Kayla Austin, Orianna Boone, Sergio Ceja, Janson Crowe, Walker Davis, Luke Dickens, Lydia Dickens, MJ Embry, Kimberly Frizzell, Jacqui Gesser, Seth Goetz, Meredith Grant, Trish Hopkins, Randa Johnson, Elizabeth Ladnier, Madison Mullins, Arianna Porter, Cierra Porter, Alex Scheithe, Brandon Smith, Lauren Willett, Andrew Tennant, with Fr. Carl McCarthy and Youth Minister Matt Hunt served food at Sts. Joseph & Paul's, A Night Under the Stars, the annual Stewardship awards celebration.

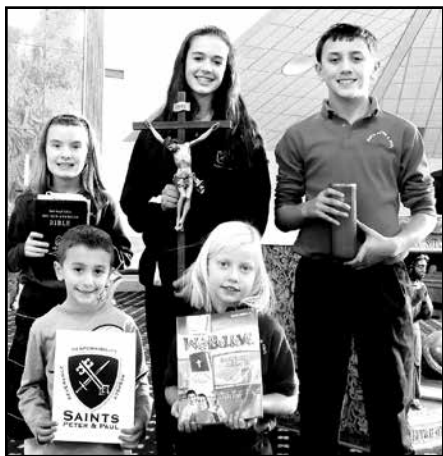
At right, Youth Minister Matt Hunt, Julissa Embry, and Nohemi Segura are helping to prepare toys for the Annual Block Party.

all ages, and to identify the areas that need to be fortified.

During this process, our Youth Minister has tried to engage our youth through establishing relationships with them, particularly through more service oriented opportunities. One of our biggest goals is getting youth trained in Liturgical Ministries and being a more active presence at Mass. More of our youth have recently become more engaged in our outreach and service ministries, such as A Night Under the Stars and our parish Block Party.

Though there is still a lot of work to do, there are obvious signs of new life in our youth ministry, and more adults are seeing the need for the whole parish to be involved. When adults see youth being active it inspires them to take action to do what they need to do to keep our young people active in the church.





Sts Peter & Paul students held a prayer service during Catholic Schools' Week. In the front row are Franco Fiscella and Laney Chaudoin. In the back row are Eva Fuller, Georgianna Baker, and Scibby Goode.

- A candle reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the world.
- A bible reminds us that God reveals himself to us through the wisdom of the Scriptures.
- A crucifix reminds us of God's deep and lasting love for us and the sacrifice that Jesus made for us.
- A image of the SPPS crest reminds us of our school heritage.
- A religion book reminds us of sharing together with other schools in the work of Catholic education. Photos submitted by Sarah Kranz.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Marriage Anniversaries for March
Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50
and Over 50 Years of Marriage

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

R. C. & Margaret Keith, 57

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Donald & Shirley Altmeyer, 57

Paul & Nina Drury, 55

William & Charlotte Faulkner, 58

John & Patricia Konsler, 25

Robert & Liz Shea, 60

Jerold & Jewel Williams, 55

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Paul & Doris Westerfield, 57

Dennis & Sonja Jewell, 40

Tommy & Pam Leonard, 40

Steve & Rachel Durbin, 40

Sacred Heart, Hickman

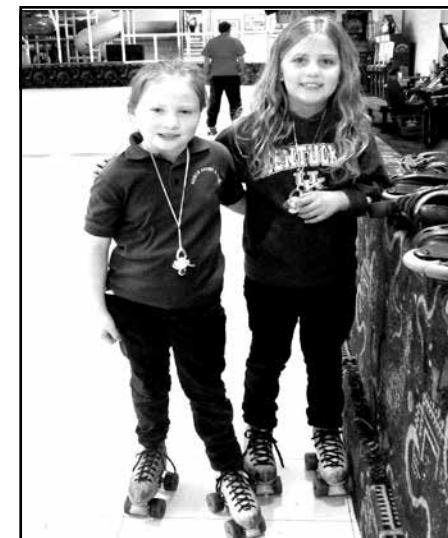
John & Candy Wright, 40

St. Ann, Morganfield



Catholic Schools Week in Hopkinsville A Community Event

Above Photo, Sts Peter & Paul students prayed a living rosary during CSW. They were led by the 8th grade students. This picture was taken at the end of the rosary. Pictured are 2nd graders with their teacher Chris Westfall. Also pictured are Alex Allard, Mitchell Degenhardt, Fr. Julio, and Nathan Riddle.



Above Photo, The Sts. Peter & Paul PTO treated the students to a skating party during Catholic Schools Week. Pictured are Ashleigh Stevens and Livie Jorgensen.

Photos on this page submitted by Sarah Kranz.

Photo at left, Sts. Peter & Paul students had a 'Buddy & Board Game Hour' during CSW. Students brought in board games and had fun while changing classes and playing with students other than their classmates.

Photos continued on page 31



Make plans to attend
the 2014 CHRISM MASS
ON APRIL 15
at 6:30 P.M. in the
OWENSBORO SportScenter.

Randy & Becky Greenwell, 40

Ben T. & Sharon Waller, 40

St. Anthony, Axtel

Bobbie & Mary Moore, 57

St. Columba, Lewisport

Steve & Pam Allard, 25

Jimmie & Carol Harper, 52

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

Jack & Rose Riggs, 57

St. Edward, Fulton

Paul & Mary Pennell, 58

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson

Raymond & Carol Hill, 52

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Joe & Veronica Skees, Sr., 40

Richard & Brenda Hayden,

Charles & Marie Riggs, 66

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

James & Fay Johnson, 62

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

J. C. & Maggie Edge, 56

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Thomas & Helen Ellington, 61

St. Joseph, Central City

Richard & Queenie Schmidt, 69

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Leonard & Barbara Webb, 52

Howard & Imogene Riley, 66

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Bart & Kristie Cecil, 25

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Jim & Barbara Pinkston, 51

David & Sharon Simmons, 40

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Wilbur & Patsy Phelps, 55

St. Michael, Sebree

Scott & Ann Winstead, 25

Keith & Sandy Harpole, 40

St. Peter, Waverly

Billy Don & Joyce Greenwell, 57

St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Randy & Lori Higdon, 25

Jeff & Kimberly Johnson, 25

William & Marguerite Campbell, 65

Jerome & Gail Loraine Hoesli, 57

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Gary & Sherry Hicks, 40

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Gerald & Maxine Corbey, 55

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Charles & Linda Wilson, 55

Marcus & Opal Cooper, 57

Joe & Betty Falconite, 59

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Joseph L. & Betty Johnson, 64

Daniel & Joyce Shuler, 63

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Richard & Betti Block, 52



(Continued from page 30)

Catholic Schools Week In Hopkinsville, Ky.

Sts Peter and Paul Catholic School second, third and fourth graders visited Hopkinsville's Covington Convalescence Center as a part of Catholic Schools Week activities. Under the direction of Mr. Rich Barnett, the music teacher and Mrs. Lucy Hughes, his wife and the art teacher, shown in below photo, the students sang hymns, patriotic and uplifting songs for the home's residents. The students made handmade valentines and gave them to the residents as a part of their program of service to others. Photos above and below here by Ann Flaherty



Western Owensboro Deanery Students' Mass With Bishop William F. Medley

March, 2014 31

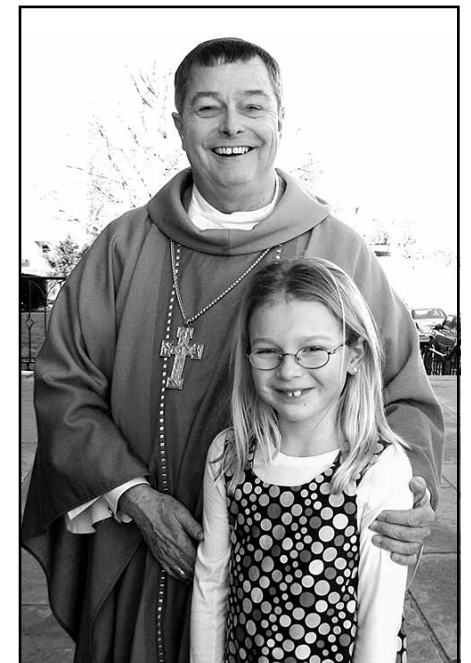
Religious Education students from the Western Owensboro Deanery met with Bishop Medley on Sunday, January 26 for Mass and Fellowship. Over 200 students, parents and catechists from Owensboro, Sorgho, St. Joseph, Reed, Curdsville, Rome, Stanley and Calhoun were present for the event. Second graders from the parishes brought up the gifts of bread, wine and the collection of money and food which were donated to the Help Office. Bishop Medley greeted students as they entered church for Mass. After Mass, students and families attended a reception with the Bishop.



Martha Warren with her grandchildren.
Photo by Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU



The photo above shows Bishop Medley greeting students as they entered church for Mass. In the photo below, Chaser Mather enjoyed having her picture taken with Bishop Medley. Photos by Diane Willis



Audrey and Mark Wedding, Chrissy York, Bishop Medley, and Jennifer Wedding. Photo by Sr Rosanne Spalding, OSU

Y-DOSA Visits Mount Saint Joseph

Some of the members of the Young Daughters of Saint Angela (Y-DOSA) group from St. Mary of the Woods School in Whitesville visited Mount Saint Joseph for a scrutiny retreat Jan. 10-11.

Pictured with Sister Suzanne Sims, O.S.U., are, left to right, Mary Hardesty, Colsi Stauffer and Lydia Lambert. The group enjoyed visiting with the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, playing games and participating in educational and prayerful activities.



While visiting Mount Saint Joseph with her Young Daughters of Saint Angela group, Colsi plays cards with Sister Alfreda Malone. MSJ Photos



Mary, Colsi and Lydia write words on a poster to describe themselves, such as "students" and "leaders." They also wrote words on a separate poster, using words that God would use to describe them, such as "unique," "loved" and "cherished." The activity was done under the director of Sister Martha Keller.

Check Out The Sisters of Charity Disaster Relief Program



NAZARETH, Ky. - The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth have a long tradition of responding in times of disasters. Some examples include flooding in Louisville, the yellow fever epidemic, flooding in India, a hurricane in Belize. Continuing in this spirit, the SCN Disaster Relief Program involves volunteers to offer spiritual and physical support to persons experiencing a disaster. We respond in the same spirit of Vincent de Paul with reverence for each person and witness to God's presence in the midst of adversity. The Disaster Relief Program provides an opportunity to put faith into action.

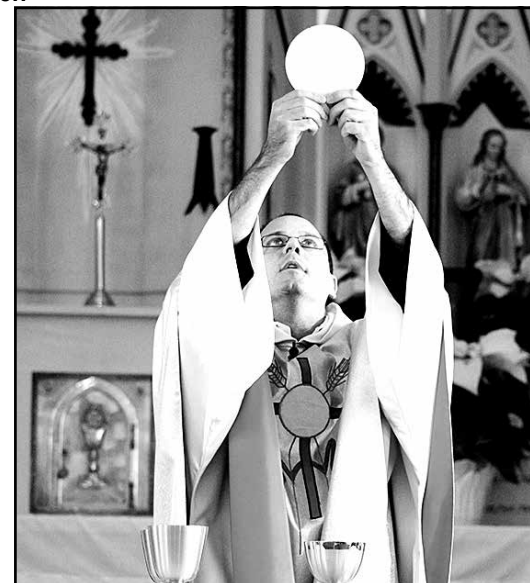
The purpose of the SCN Disaster Relief Program is to meet unmet needs of individuals and families after they have experienced a disaster. Some examples include being a supportive presence, a listening ear and a spiritual presence by praying with and for people affected by the disaster, clearing of debris and trees from the property, assisting with sorting and distribution of clothing, household goods and personal items, and providing child care and elder care services.



The Disaster Relief Program will work collaboratively with established agencies in the area to identify needs of individuals and families for simple relief efforts.

Relief efforts will generally be limited to a 500 mile radius of Nazareth, KY.

For more information please contact: Sister Luke Boiarski, SCN, (502) 348-1578, or Felicia Rowe, (502) 348-1583, P.O. Box 9, Nazareth, KY 40048 lukescn@scnky.org, felicia@scnfamily.org



A Priest According to the Order of Melchizedek

Father Brad William Smith was ordained to the Priesthood at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kingston, Jamaica, on December 1, 2013. Father Brad is a member of the Community of St. Philip Neri there in the Archdiocese of Kingston. He is the son of Paul and Beverly Smith of Owensboro. On January 12, 2014, Father Brad came home to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at his home parish of St. Alphonsus, on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. He was welcomed and congratulated by many of his family and friends. He celebrated another Mass of Thanksgiving with the Passionist Nuns in Whitesville on Sunday, January 26. Larena Lawson Photo

Trinity's Wrestling Team City - County Championships February 1, 2014

March, 2014 33

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Trinity High School wrestled in the City - County Championships at Apollo High School. THS entered seven wrestlers for the day. Out of the seven, we had four place in the top three. Austin Sands (3rd @ 145), Zach Boarman (2nd @ 126), Michael Roberts (2nd @ 195), and Trinity's first ever City - County Champion Zack Rhodes (1st @ 138)! The three who didn't place were in highly competitive weight classes. Codey Mattingly faced two of the top 132 pounders in western Kentucky. Blaise Morris and Caleb Mills (both 7th grade first year wrestlers) came out ready to battle against ex-

perienced high school wrestlers. Our Trinity High School Wrestling Team continues to get better as the end of our season draws near. I had at least three parents come up to me after we had finished wrestling to give sincere compliments on our technique and hard work on the mat.

Trinity High School senior wrestler Zack Rhodes, shown at right, is Trinity's first-ever City-County Champion (Owensboro-Daviess County).



Trinity High School's Wrestling Team at City County 2014 - from left to right (Back row) they are Head Coach Jeremy Goebel, Codey Mattingly, Zack Rhodes, Austin Sands, Michael Roberts, Assistant Coach Jarrett Allen. From left to right (Front row) they are Zach Boarman, Caleb Mills, and Blaise Morris. Photos submitted by Kim Rydecki

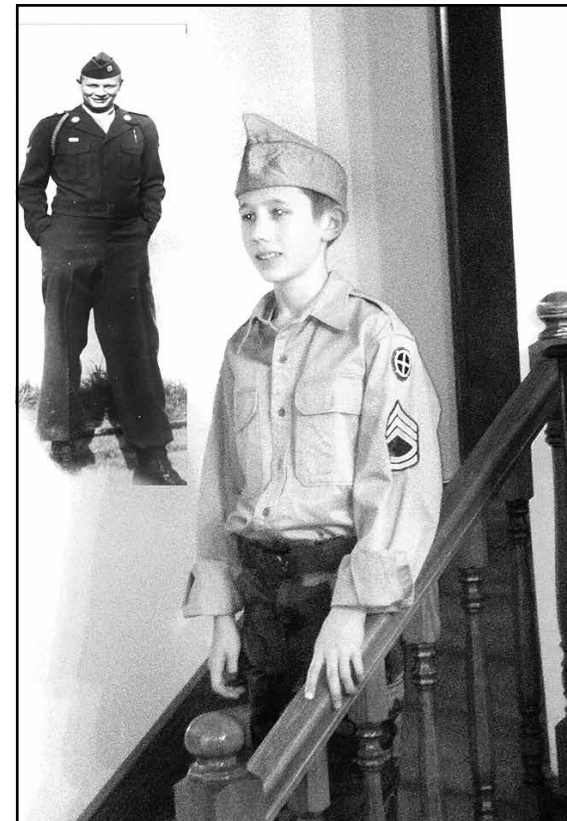
SAVE THE DATE!!

"The Way of the Cross - A Song for Each Station" is a concert and video experience offered by internationally known Catholic recording artist, Donna Cori Gibson, on Sunday, March 30, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral, 610 Locust Street, Owensboro. Share this intimate and emotional walk with Jesus to his death on a cross. The lush arrangements, words and Donna's beautiful and powerful voice are sure to captivate you and draw you in to the depth, meaning, and emotion of the passion of Christ during this Lent. For more info contact Robin Tomes or Sarah Patterson at 270-683-1545. The concert is free but a good will offering will be collected. Preview and get free music downloads at www.DonnaCoriGibson.com

Opportunities for Life needs YOU

A girl facing a difficult decision regarding the life of her unborn baby needs YOU. A baby whose mom is thinking about abortion needs YOU. YOU can help her AND her baby. Opportunities for Life, is the Kentucky Catholic Church's ministry to abortion-vulnerable women and men. Volunteers offer hope and resources to callers who find the courage to seek our help. Helpline volunteers answer the helpline from their homes at times that are convenient for them. OFL will be offering training workshops in your Diocese to prepare volunteers for service in this life affirming ministry. For more information contact OFL at 1-888-496-3638.

Will White Honors Grandfather for '50s Day at Holy Name School



Holy Name School 6th grader, Will White, honored his grandfather during Catholic Schools Week on 50's day. Will's grandfather, who died nearly a year ago, served in the US ARMY 2nd Infantry Division, 4th regiment, Company H, based out of Fort Lewis, WA, from 1955 to 1957. "Second to None" was their motto. Will opted out of wearing

his rolled-up jeans and leather jacket in favor of wearing his grandfather's dress shirt to school. The picture in the background is Will's grandfather in uniform. Will is the son of Beth Macke. Submitted by Kamille Stich

Ash Wednesday Collection for Our Sister Diocese of Mandeville Jamaica

Continuing the Mission of the Church



Pictured: Henderson Holy Name Parish Mission Immersion Group

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your kind gifts to the people and ministries of the Diocese of Mandeville. Your sacrifice, prayers, and generosity allow us to continue the Mission of the Church. This support is a tribute to the deep spiritual commitment you have in proclaiming the message of the Gospel.

We continue to try to respond to the many needs of the infirmed, aging and those who lack basic necessities of food, clothing and shelter. We strive to provide opportunities for education and formation in the faith. Thank you again. Yours in Christ's passion,

+ Neil Tiedemann, C.P.

Most Rev. Neil Tiedemann, C.P.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Mandeville



Bishop Tiedemann presents a donation to Gifts of Hope Mustard Seed Community

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt 18:20

When we gather to pray and take action under the direction of God, we are joined with our Lord and His Church. As we share from our sacrifices for the needs of our Sister Diocese, the Church in Mandeville Jamaica is strengthened and we are strengthened as well, as we continue the mission of Jesus to spread the Good News to all.

Please consider answering the call to continue the Mission of the Church. again this year. Thank you.



Dr. de Vera is pictured with one of her patients during a physical exam at Our Lady of Hope Basic School.

To send a donation, please make check payable to:

The Diocese of Owensboro
600 Locust St.
Owensboro, Ky 42301

***Please note on the check that it is for The Diocese of Mandeville.**

CRS RICE BOWL FOR LENT, FOR LIFE

WHAT YOU GIVE UP FOR LENT CHANGES LIVES.

Are you ready to bring Lent to life? Let CRS Rice Bowl be your guide along this 40 day journey.

What is CRS Rice Bowl?

CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program for parishes, schools and families. The program invites Catholics to live in solidarity with our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters through the three Lenten pillars of praying, fasting, and almsgiving.

Participants journey throughout the forty days of Lent with the daily reflections included in the Lenten Calendar, offering small, suggested sacrificial gifts to fill their Rice Bowls as they read and watch Stories of Hope from individuals and communities whose lives have been changed by CRS Rice Bowl funds.

A Program for Families

- **FOCUS** your family's Lenten journey by using your *Rice Bowl* as a centerpiece at your table
- **PRAY** as a family using the *Stations of the Cross*, *Seven Sorrows of Mary*, or the *Lives of the Saints* resources
- **SHARE** a simple, meatless meal every Friday of Lent with *recipes* from this year's featured countries, and learn how to make them by watching *CRS Global Kitchen* videos
- **GIVE** to the poor and vulnerable around the world and in your own diocese using the daily reflections and suggested giving amounts on the *Lenten Calendar*

A Program for Parishes

- **CELEBRATE** the beginning and end of Lent in your liturgies with the *Blessing of the CRS Rice Bowls* and *Offertory Collection* resources
- **INCOPORATE** CRS Rice Bowl *prayer intentions* and *bulletin announcements* into your weekly masses
- **ENGAGE** parish ministries with resources designed for *youth*, *small faith-sharing groups*, and *whole community catechesis*

A Program for Schools

- **ILLUSTRATE** the importance of Catholic social teaching, even in the busiest of classrooms, with *Lesson Plans* designed for grades 1-12
- **DISCOVER** how much you know about the Catholic faith with the *Catholicism and the World Quiz* and the *Lives of the Saints* resources
- **CENTER** your Lenten experience in the liturgy with a 10-minute *Blessing of the Rice Bowls* and *End of Lent Prayer Service* specifically designed for students.

A Program for Everyone

- **DOWNLOAD** the CRS Rice Bowl *mobile app* to get daily reflections sent to your phone and to track your Lenten sacrifices
- **COME TOGETHER** as a young adult faith-sharing group with the *Community Reflections* resource, a joint initiative of CRS Rice Bowl and CRS University

This Lent, don't just give up soda. **Bring Lent to life.**



crsricebowl.org

Monk professes solemn vows at Saint Meinrad Archabbey



Br. Luke Waugh, OSB, professed solemn vows as a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in a ceremony on January 25, 2014, in the Archabbey Church at St. Meinrad, IN. Br. Luke, 49, was born in Weston, WV, where he attended Lewis County High School. He was a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Salem, VA. He graduated from Radford University in Radford, VA, and worked in information technology for a company in Roanoke, VA.

He joined the monastery in 2009 and made his first profession of vows in January 2010. Br. Luke is studying for the priesthood at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is an assistant to the oblate director for Saint Meinrad's Benedictine oblate program.

In professing solemn vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life and stability in the community at Saint Meinrad, he becomes a full and permanent member of the Benedictine community.

Leading Cheers For Catholic Schools!

Diocesan Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ann Flaherty visited most of the diocesan Catholic schools during Catholic Schools Week. In the picture here, Mrs. Flaherty visited Mrs. Lisa Armes class of sophomores in Trinity High School who asked her many questions about our Catholic schools and our diocese.



Photo by Kim Rydecki

St. Thomas More Parish Hispanic Ministry Sponsors a Winter Retreat for Men

March, 2014 35

By Miguelina Sunderland

PADUCAH, Ky. - On December 28 and 29, 2013 a Retreat for Men called Christ Renews His Parish was held from Saturday at 6:00 a.m. until Sunday at 8:00 p.m. on the campus of St. Thomas More Parish here.

The retreat was designed to welcome men from all walks of life regardless of where they're from or if they had attended a retreat in the past. The men experienced two days away from everyday life, spending a most extraordinary time with Jesus, as their brother and friend. The men were assured that it made no difference if they were happy, shy, sad, overwhelmed or just plain tired - He was waiting for them.

Each was encouraged to take that first step in the name of Jesus. They were asked to be the ones to learn about God so they could set a good example for their families. Each was reminded to trust in the words of St. Ignatius of Loyola "listen to your heart", listen to what God wants to convey to you. The most important lesson learned during this incredible spiritual journey was to be a follower of Jesus Christ and to live an intimate relationship with God Almighty.



Nearly 30 men from the Hispanic Community attended the Christ Renews His Parish retreat pictured here with Sr. Esther Ordonez.

In the picture below, Fr. Tom Buckman, seated at center, who regularly celebrates Mass with the Hispanic Community, is surrounded by Retreat participants and Sr. Ester Ordonez. Photos by Sr. Esther Ordonez

Join us for Catholic Catechism

We are pleased to offer these opportunities to study the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. Feel free to attend any or all sessions.



- March 13
- April 3
- May 8
- June 12
- Aug. 14
- Sept. 11
- Oct. 9
- Nov. 13
- Dec. 11

Study the
Catechism
with us!

One Thursday each month*

*Except July

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Each session is \$10 (includes lunch)

A program book is \$5

LED BY: Sister Ann McGrew & Sister Marietta Wethington



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

To register, call
Kathy McCarty
(270) 229-0206 or email
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56



Diocesan Annual Traveling Epiphany Dinner For Area Youth

By Katie Goebel, Youth Director for Parish of the Immaculate in Owensboro

OWENSBORO, Ky. - For the fifteenth year in a row, 75 middle school and high school youth from the Owensboro area celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany with a progressive dinner on Saturday, January 4. The evening began at the Catholic Pastoral Center with appetizers provided by parishioners from Lourdes Parish. A delicious dinner of spaghetti was served at Sts. Joseph and Paul where the teens also interacted with fun icebreakers led by Joe Bland. Then everyone progressed to Immaculate Parish for a dessert of brownies, cookies, and ice cream. The teens had a blast playing "Christmas Madness" led by Danny May after dessert. The evening concluded with Mass at St. Stephen's Cathedral celebrated by Fr Josh McCarty and Fr Suneesh Mathew. The youth loved celebrating Epiphany together. The adults also commented that the collaboration between parishes was inspiring and encouraging. Many thanks to all the volunteers and parents who assisted as servers and chaperones!



... We then presided to Sts. Joseph and Paul for the main meal of spaghetti and bread with an "icebreaker" activity...

The Traveling Epiphany Dinner has been a tradition for several years in the Owensboro Deaneries. The night started at 4:30 at the CPC with Opening prayer and appetizers...



After the main meal, we traveled across town to Immaculate Parish Hall for dessert and more games. The night was capped off with Mass back at the Cathedral at 8:00.



A group picture of those in attendance included: **St Mary's:** Hannah Bland, Emmy Roberts, Thomas Payne, Ethan Rhodes, Katrina Rhodes and Kaleb Isbill; **Immaculate:** Jace Kessler, Becca Beals, Meagan Beals, Bethany Beals, Andrew Gray, Micah Swift, Josafina Garcia, Tyler Clark, Audrey Wright, Austin Goodwin, Isabel Hayden, Grace Millay, Meredith Stiff, Rachel Weaver, Joseph Hayden, Andrew St. Clair, Megan Crawford, Ashley Crawford, Anna Crawford, Haley Davis, Tyler Belcher, Lydia Mills.; **St Stephen's:** Manolo Aju, Anna Atkin-son, Natalie Ellis, Sarah Murphy, Jacob Payne, Molly Payne, Ryan Purk, Frances Seaton, Griffin Wassmer, Travis Welsh; **From St Pius:** David Hayden and Olivia Condor. **Photos Submitted by Nicole Gray**



Get Moving at the Mount!

5K Run/Walk Saturday, May 31, 2014

Registration:

8:15 a.m.

Race: 9 a.m.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are hosting a 5K "Fun Run!" It is open to walkers, runners, children and adults and will take

place on the grounds of Mount Saint Joseph and the surrounding roads. All proceeds will support the ministries of the Ursuline Sisters.

COST: \$20 per person if you sign up by May 1, 2014

\$25 after May 1st and on race day. (Ages 6 and under free)

Register by May 10th to be guaranteed a free T-shirt!

Run/walk in honor or in memory of a sister for \$10 more. Or if you cannot attend, you can sponsor a sister who plans to race!

Awards will be given to the winners • Race packet pickup will be available the week before the race at Brescia University • Visit our website for details, including race route!



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56.

Register online (or print out a form):

ursulinesmsj.org/help-the-sisters/5k

For more information,
contact April Ray
270-229-4103 ext. 448 or
april.ray@maplemount.org



Join the
Fun!



Winning Graphic Design Artists

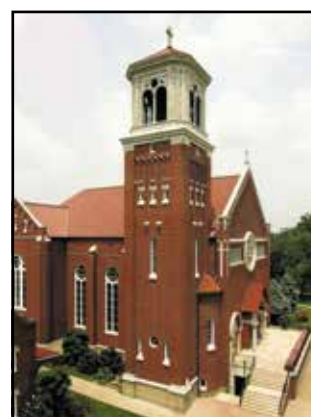
March, 2014 37



Mary Carrico Catholic School was the winning school in the Daviess County Health Department's Anti-Drug Digital Poster contest. The school was presented a check for \$400.00 for a pizza party and other educational resources for winning. Pictured with certificates are the four Mary Carrico students with the top four posters. L to R: Seth Pence, Ethan Smith, Olivia Millay, and Erin Kinsey.

Photo by Chuck Green

Lenten Series on The Return of the Prodigal Son:

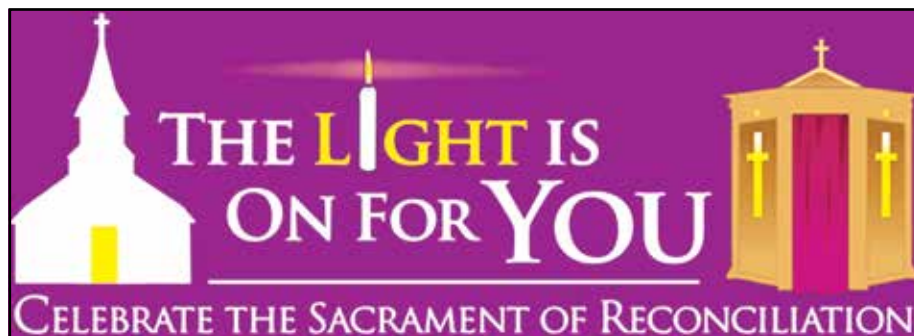


Please join us (in the Fr. John Vaughan Community Center at St. Stephen Cathedral) for the first 3 consecutive Tuesdays of Lent, March 11th, 18th, and 25th at 6:30 for a presentation and discussion on Henri Nouwen's book, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. By delving into Rembrandt's painting of *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, Nouwen helps us identify with each of the three main figures. This series will help us focus our attention during our own Lenten journey. If you are interested in attending this series and want to order Nouwen's book to prepare for the presentations/discussions, please RSVP by Feb 20th to Haley Fitzgerald, via email HRiney@gmail.com, or by calling 270-993-1111 (or call St. Maximilian Kolbe Bookstore at 270-689-9485). RSVP if childcare is needed.

Part I - March 11th - Sr. Cheryl Clemmons will speak on the Younger Son

Part II - March 18th - Fr. Larry Hostetter will speak on the Elder Son

Part III - March 25th - Joan Perry will speak on the Father



The Light Is On For You

"The Light Is on for You" is an initiative being undertaken by dioceses across the country to allow all Catholics to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is a wonderful opportunity to set aside our sinful ways and to draw closer to our Lord. Confessions will be held every Wednesday during Lent, (March 5 to April 17, 2014) from 6:30-8:00 PM in Catholic churches in the Diocese of Owensboro. Learn more at www.rcdok.org/lightison

¡La Luz esta ENCENDIDA para ti!

"Mas tú, cuando ores, entra en tu cuarto, y cerrada la puerta, ora a tu Padre que está en secreto" (Mt 6:6). Todas las puertas de las Iglesias Católicas estarán abiertas los miércoles por las noches durante Cuaresma. Podrás rezar en silencio o recibir el Sacramento de Reconciliación. Venga, cierra la puerta, y confiese sus pecados a su Padre Celestial en secreto. Experimente el perdón y amor misericordioso de Dios. Para el horario, los lugares, y un repaso de como hacer una buena confesión, visita al www.thelightison.org y pida la página en español



CELEBREMOS EL SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACIÓN

Trinity High School Iron Raiders Win Two FIRST Awards



The Iron Raiders 2013-2014 Team from Trinity High School are, from left to right, Reuben Morris, Matthew Johnson, Sierra Valdez, Nick Johnson, and Blake Midkiff. The Iron Raiders received the PTC Design award for the engineering design of their robot. THS Photo

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - The Trinity High School Iron Raiders robotics team recently participated and received the first place Design award and the second place Inspire award from FIRST in the FIRST Tech Challenge. They received the trophy for the Design award and will advance to Texas because of placing second with the Inspire award. They are one of only three teams advancing from Kentucky and the only local team. Trinity High School Iron Raiders Head Coach is Christi Midkiff.

Here is a description of the awards the Iron Raiders were recognized for:

- **Connect.** The Connect Award is presented to the team that the judges' feel most connected with their local community and the engineering community. The best team is more than the sum of its parts, and recognizes that their schools and communities play an essential part to their success. The recipient of its award is recognized for helping the community understand FIRST, the FIRST Tech Challenge, and the team itself. In addition, the team that wins this award is aggressively seeking engineers and exploring the opportunities available in the world of engineering, science and technology.

Finalists:

- **PTC Design.** The intent of the PTC Design Award is to expand the challenge, inspiring teams to incorporate industrial design into their robots. These elements can be shown in the simplicity of the design as it applies to the tasks, the look and feel of the robot, and how the design allows us to think of robots in new ways. The Design aspect must serve a function – but they should also differentiate the robot in a unique fashion – not an easy task with a limited set of parts and game challenge.
- **Inspire.** The Inspire Award is given to the team that the judges felt truly embodied the 'challenge' of the FTC program. This team serves as an inspiration to what this program, and the young minds involved, can accomplish. The team that receives this award has performed well in all judging categories and was chosen by the judges as a model FIRST Tech Challenge team. The judges used match performance, observations made during interviews and in the pit area, the team's Engineering Notebook and performance on the playing field in determining the winner.

Corneal Transplants Enable Ursuline Sister to Continue her Ministry

Published by Clayton Clark 1/22/14 on the website www.saving-sight.org

Before she retired, Sister Teresa Riley of Benton, Kentucky taught elementary school for twenty years. And after that, she worked in two different positions in university administration before she moved to parish ministry at a small church in western Kentucky. But despite having such an extensive career, she has always had problems with her vision. "Growing up, sunlight always bothered me," she said. "We would be out in the front yard getting pictures on Sunday with company over, and they'd say, open your eyes! I didn't think anything of it. But later on, when I became a teacher, I didn't realize that I should be able to see the facial expressions of kids in the back of the room."

When Sister Teresa began to get headaches, an optometrist prescribed glasses for nearsightedness, which fixed the problem. She didn't experience difficulties after that, but when her optometrist retired, he said he'd been watching her for Fuchs' dystrophy, a hereditary disease that causes the corneas to deteriorate. "He said eventually I will probably need a cornea transplant," she said. "In my mind, I thought, no eye surgery for me, but I didn't say that." Sister Teresa was hesitant to get eye surgery because one of her uncles lost his sight in one eye due to complications during surgery. She got a second opinion from an ophthalmologist, though, who agreed with the diagnosis of Fuchs' dystrophy and also diagnosed a cataract in the left eye. "I decided I could get along as I was, but I knew my vision, especially in the left eye, was getting worse," said Sister Teresa. Eventually, she had the cataract removed and a laser treatment on her left eye, but neither restored her vision.

Five to six years later, after she retired, Sister Teresa could no longer drive because of her vision, so her friend John offered to drive her to see Dr. Berdy in St. Louis. Dr. Berdy is a corneal surgeon who also serves as one of the Medical Directors for Saving Sight. "He was very, very encouraging," Sister Teresa reported. After a consultation, she agreed to transplant surgery, and in the course of two years, she received two transplants and had another cataract removed. "So now my vision is so good, I'm often overwhelmed at how well I can see compared to before," she said, adding that she can now drive and read easily again. "It's a modern miracle," she said. "I'm very grateful to God and Saving Sight and the donors for providing the corneas, and Dr. Berdy who has done such a marvelous job. And to my friend John and to many people who supported me, prayed for me, and helped me through all of this."

Sister Teresa has enjoyed corresponding with the family of one of her donors. After writing a letter of thanks to the donor family, "I got a beautiful letter from the sister of the woman whose cornea I have in my left eye," she said. "She said how grateful she was that her sister's cornea helped someone else. She knew her sister would be pleased to know that."

Despite her initial concerns, Sister Teresa is enthusiastic about her transplant experience. "Nobody can guarantee that it's going to be successful," she said, "But I've had great success with the surgery, like many others. For now I have such wonderful vision." These days, Sister Teresa takes communion to people in assisted living facilities and people who can't leave their homes, serving as a Catholic presence in Benton, a town without its own Catholic church. In addition, she prepares and serves meals in a local soup kitchen. "It's a full schedule for me," she said. Sister Teresa makes the most of her new, wonderful vision by putting it to use as a volunteer in her community.

March is National Eye Donor Month. You can celebrate by sharing your decision to donate with your family and by signing up on the donor registry. To join the millions of Americans who have said yes to the gifts of sight and life, visit www.donatelife.net or your local Department of Motor Vehicles office.



Sister Teresa Riley, OSU

St. Mary, Paducah, Campaign Geared To Drive Enrollment

March, 2014 39

BY KATHLEEN FOX kfox@paducahsun.com

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Mary debuted a new marketing campaign that officials hope will increase enrollment, expand faith-based service learning opportunities for students and continue the school's strong academic focus.

System director Eleanor Spry announced the new mission statement to students and families who gathered Jan. 26, 2014 for an open house and luncheon to kick off the 40th annual Catholic Schools Week. Spry, surrounded by teachers clad in hats, sunglasses and school colors, announced the beginning for a new marketing campaign modeled on the 1980 movie "The Blues Brothers" and the tagline: "We are on a mission, a mission from God."

She said the new school mantra is based on several key components, including reaching out to the community through service programs and expressing the faith-based and scholastically-focused student learning opportunities available at St. Mary.

"For too long St. Mary has languished and now we are ready to show who we are and what we have to offer," she said. "Our focus is faith-based because we know strong students make a strong school."

Spry told the group that St. Mary will mold and develop students to take the next step of a post-secondary education and eventually return and contribute to the local area. Another target area is fundraising for local, national and international mission trips and projects for students. Students are required to complete 15 hours yearly and have a minimum of 75 hours of volunteer work by graduation. Additional future projects Spry mentioned included the expansion of bus routes, small building upgrades, new technology innovations and equipment and finances for tuition assistance programs.

"When you invest in St. Mary with your time, money or talents, you are investing in the economic development of Paducah and McCracken County," she said.

The campaign, which is set to include billboards and marketing through other channels, is geared toward reaching potential students and introducing residents to the small, service-driven



St Mary Systems Director Eleanor Spry, in front of group photo led a group of teachers and administrative staff members as they show off the schools's new marketing campaign modeled on the 1980 movie The Blues Brothers and the tagline: 'We Are On A Mission, A Mission From God'. The school debuted the new plan during a kick-off open house and luncheon for Catholic Schools Week held Jan. 26, 2014 in the school's high and middle common room. Kathleen Fox, The Sun, Photo

atmosphere. The kindergarten to high school school system currently has an enrollment of about 450, with small-class sizes and quality student-teacher ratios, according to school marketing director Heather DeHart. She said the campaign will also include "points of pride" or facts, awards and accolades about the current student body to help introduce or update people in the community about the school and its programs.

Catholic Schools Week continued through the school week. Students and faculty celebrated Mass with Most Rev. William Medley, Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, and other local religious leaders Tuesday. Other events include an anti-bullying assembly led by the Southern Illinois Miners in Mar-

Saint Mary Schools in Paducah is on a mission ... a Mission from God. At left, Bishop William Medley posed with some Saint Mary High School students during his visit for Catholic Schools Week. At right, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools Jim Mattingly and Director of the St. Mary Schools System Eleanor Spry. The 1980 film was about Jake Blues who puts together his old band to save the Catholic home where he and brother Elwood were raised. They started with the Penguin, head nun at the Catholic orphanage they grew up in. How does it end? Stay tuned here for updates in coming issues of the Western Kentucky Catholic. Photos Submitted by Ann Flaherty



ion, Ill., baseball team, a 100th day of school parade, sundae Monday, bingo games, trivia, faith-based T-shirt day and a food drive for the Paducah Cooperative Ministry.

Posted: Monday, January 27, 2014 12:31 AM. Contact Kathleen Fox, a Paducah Sun staff writer, at 270-575-8651 or follow @kathleendfox on Twitter. Reprinted with permission from The Paducah Sun.



Trinity High School's Traveling Classroom: "Continuing Discoveries"

By Christina Rhodes

"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors. And the people there see you differently, too. Coming back to where you started is not the same as never leaving."

These words, written by Terry Pratchett, really sum up, for me, the purpose of Trinity High School's traveling classroom.

When Joe Bland approached me a few years ago about developing a student-travel class, I don't think I really expected the idea to come to fruition, but just over three years, two trips, and 7 foreign cities later, I am excited about having shared the world with thirty-three of my students.

From October 4 to 13, 2013, Trinity's second trip across the great pond took 22 pilgrims (19 students and 3 teachers) to London, Paris, Florence, Assisi, and Rome. It took approximately 22 hours to travel from the THS parking lot to London, England. We were delayed in Atlanta for four hours, so we barely had time to drop our luggage at the hotel before experiencing our first taste of Europe, riding the metro. We traveled to Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus for a brief glimpse of London life, but had to hurry to make our dinner reservations. The first night ended early, as we pilgrims were pretty tuckered out.

The next day found us refreshed, and we explored London at length. We saw London's famous Tower Bridge, and we walked far enough to see Big Ben's tower, Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, several famous churches and squares, and the London Eye, a giant ferris wheel that holds approximately 30 people per pod. Seventeen of us rode the Eye and witnessed breathtaking views from more than 440 feet in the air. We attended Mass that evening at Immaculate Conception church. It is common for photography to be forbidden in many European churches, but I was pleased when I asked the priest, after Mass, if we were allowed to photograph the church, and he told me that photography was not only allowed, "it is encouraged." The night ended with some shopping and another metro ride to the hotel. Students had to be packed and ready to leave for Paris the next morning.



London, with Big Ben's Tower behind Trinity's Traveling Classroom.

From London to Paris, we rode the Eurostar, which took us through the Chunnel, a railway that runs under the English Channel. I don't think we really noticed that we were underground, except that our ears popped significantly a couple of times during the trip. What we did find odd was that we traveled with our backs facing the direction of travel. The trip was fairly quick, and many students rested through the journey.

Our arrival in Paris was marred by an unfortunate occurrence. One of the students was immediately (before we exited the train terminal) targeted by pick-pockets. Joe Bland saw and put an immediate end to the attempt, but the students quickly realized that the Paris of movies and books didn't exactly match reality.

To provide a better understanding of what it's like to travel on one of these tours, here is the facebook post I sent at the end of our first day in Paris:

"We are in Paris! Here is how a typical travel day goes: We get up at 4:30, pray at 5:00 (packed luggage is brought down at that time), eat breakfast at 5:30, depart at 6:00, ride a bus for half an hour (to train station), wait for 8:30 train, travel through a time change for 2 1/2 hours, arrive at noon, board another bus and

drive to the hotel, arriving at 1:15. Our rooms are ready, fortunately, so we can take in our bags and freshen up a little.

"We leave the hotel at 1:45, and walk to the metro. We ride 13 stops, change trains, ride five more stops and arrive in the city around 3:00. We grab a bite to eat before hauling ourselves up a steep hill toward our first tourist destination of the day (Sacre Couer, overlooking the city), arriving there at 4:15. (This is all on about four hours of sleep the night before.) We have one hour at the site, and we are a few minutes later than planned. We walk down the hill, walk back to the metro, ride two more trains, during rush hour, and walk the remaining distance to the restaurant.

We start our meal at 6:20. We leave the restaurant at 7:15. We take two more trains to the Eiffel Tower exit.

"By the time we stop to take some photos and get into the line, it's 8:15.

"We are going on a boat tour. It takes our guide only five minutes to buy our tickets, since we are a group. We have boarded at 8:25.

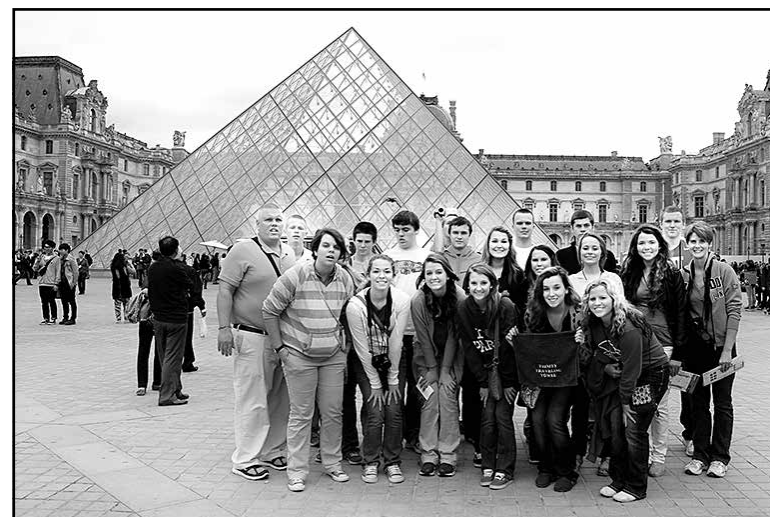
We wait launch of the boat, which occurs at 8:30. What a beautiful ride! We sit on the outside of the boat and listen to headset as we pass Notre Dame and The Louvre. We are lucky to have such nice weather in October. The ride ends at 9:30. After a break and pictures, we climb to an even better vantage point for more pictures and head to the metro around 10:15.

"On the first train, I sing with the harpsichord-playing man ("Yesterday," by The Beatles), and I offer him no money. He offers money to a student, but she refuses, and he climbs off the train. Another woman stares at a couple of the girls and they get the giggles after she is gone, wondering why she was staring.

"After 12 stops, we change trains and take three more stops to our exit. It's 10:45. We walk back to the hotel, arriving at 11:00. We learn that tomorrow's wakeup call is at 7:30; breakfast at 8:30 and the bus leaves at 9:00. We are told that we will be gone ALL DAY, so we should pack accordingly. We say our night prayers. We try to buy snacks and drinks, but the vending machine doesn't work. Neither does Wi-Fi, at first. We console a few teary-eyed girls, figure out the Wi-Fi, and let everyone know how to log on (italie - i.e., not italy - y). By midnight we are making calls and saying good night to one another. Tomorrow's a new day! Hope you're doing well. We are great... but worn out."

Tuesday in Paris was exciting, too, and turned into my favorite day of the trip. We started our morning on a panoramic bus tour. Before long, our group separated into two, with some people traveling to Versailles and others walking through the city on their own. I was in the walking group. We enjoyed an extended period at the Arc

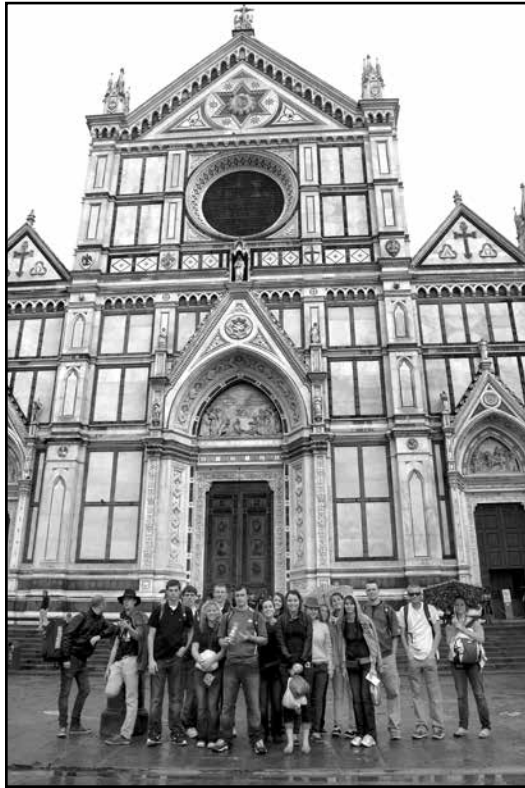
Continued on page 41



Paris, at the Louvre.

Trinity High School's Traveling Classroom: "Continuing Discoveries"

(Continued from page 40)



Florence, Santa Croce Church

de Triomphe. The rest of the afternoon was filled with shopping, eating, and strolling through the streets of Paris. After dinner, though, we were treated with my favorite part of the trip. We traveled back to the Eiffel Tower and, this time, twelve of us traveled all the way to the top viewing deck. The views from that height were spectacular, made even more beautiful by the glow of all the buildings below against the black of night in which we were traveling. I am a little bit slower than my 15 – 18-year-old kids, so I had to stop a few times on the upward journey, but there were very few climbers at that time of night, so it wasn't so bad. Reaching the top seemed to erase the memory of the climb, and once we were all reunited at the top, we were fairly giddy. We took pictures and video and marveled over the view. We picked out places we had already visited and places we wanted to see the following day, and finally had to descend. On our way down, a student who was walking next to me said, "Mrs. Rhodes, that made my life." That moment will be one that is hard to forget.

We spent one more day in Paris, and we spent it well. We didn't get to stay long, but we did visit The Louvre, where we saw the Mona Lisa, and Notre Dame Cathedral, which we explored at length. It is a magnificent, gothic-style church, with an impressive structure of flying

buttresses supporting the nave in the rear of the building. A few of the girls and I sat at a small café to enjoy coffee and cocoa while we watched the crowds go by. It began to rain at this point, typical Parisian weather, and while we walked through shops along the street, many of us purchased items to help keep us dry and warm.

We left Paris on another train. This one was a sleeper train, on which we'd spend our sixth night of travel. Each car held 6 people, and we loaded all of our luggage in the same car. My roommates were all from Puerto Rico. We were not up late that night. We walked throughout the train, just to see what was where, and then we tried to make ourselves comfortable in our tight quarters. The gentle rocking of the train made sleeping a little easier, even if we weren't incredibly comfortable.

The students seemed pleased when we arrived in Florence the next morning. This was my third visit to Florence, so I felt comfortable, and I have learned that the students felt similarly. They have told me since that Florence was one of their favorite destinations, though we didn't spend as much time there as in other cities. We did have time to visit Leonardo's Leather Goods; The Duomo and Baptistry, decorated with the Gates of Paradise; the famous Piazza della Signoria, where a replica of the famous David statue stands amidst a dozen or so other significant sculptures; and the Santa Croce Piazza. We enjoyed three meals that day, two of them at a small diner called Trattoria. Most of the travelers sampled their first gelato that afternoon. I think they all liked it, but some felt it wasn't any different from our own ice cream; a few thought it to be much better. That night, just before closing, we entered another leather shop, Gruppo GAB, where some of us made some significant purchases before we all rushed back to our

hotel in a steady, heavy rain. We had to dry off, pack our gear, and rest before our early morning wake-up calls.

On Friday, after prayers and breakfast, we began our journey toward Assisi. I was excited to hear the reactions of the travelers when the first glimpse of the medieval town came into view. From down in the valley, the large, walled-in town, nestled amid trees on the hill, seems remote and peaceful. Walking into the gates, that sense is confirmed. This was, by far, the most popular of cities on our tour, though we stayed only a few hours. Students have commented that it reminded them most of home: quiet, laid-back, peaceful, small. We were disappointed that the Basilica di Santa Chiara was closed for the lunch hour, and we could not enter for a short tour. We did enjoy the spectacular views of the larger Assisi area, which could be seen from the square in front of the basilica. We wended our way through the town, stopping for food and some more shopping, when an interesting shop caught our attention.

A hidden treasure in Assisi is in the center of the town, surrounded by shops. From the outside, it appears to be what it once was: an ancient Roman temple, dedicated to a Roman god or goddess; in this case, Minerva. Upon entering, though, one is met with a small and



Assisi, outside of Saint Clare's Basilica

beautiful Catholic church, called "Our Lady Over Minerva." I was really glad that my small group and I made an effort to enter and to witness the contrasting styles of the outer and inner church.

Soon, we met our guide at the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, and we toured with our English-speaking, Swedish tour guide through the three levels of the church: the crypt, the lower level, and the upper level. We were not permitted to use any photographic equipment there, but I can tell you that the walls and ceilings are covered with impressive frescoes that depict Francis's life. I wish we'd had more time to pray within the crypt, but even our quickly passing by Francis's grave was solemn and profound. Once the tour ended, our group immediately departed for Rome, a few hours away.

In Rome, we arrived too early for our dinner reservations, and after being turned away from the restaurant, we were unable to go to our hotel, due to traffic. Essentially, we drove around for a little more than an hour, and arrived late for our dinner reservation, much to the aggravation of the restaurant staff, it seemed. We returned to the hotel and slept, preparing for a full day's worth of activities on Saturday.

We began our touring with a trip to the Coliseum. Our next scheduled stop was for the Roman Forum, but our tour guide had learned that Pope Francis had decided to celebrate a special mass at St. Peter's that afternoon, and the church would be closing early. Ultimately, we decided to drive past the Forum for a quick tour bus viewing, and we drove straight to St. Peter's Square to wait in line with a crowd of others. The line moved swiftly, as did the clouds overhead. A choir sang from the steps of the church, and our main concern became the people who kept trying to infiltrate our group, dividing us and, essentially, trying to "cut" in line. We succeeded in staying together, not an easy task, and were rewarded with entry. About eight people be-

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hind us, the entrance was shut down, and a long line of people were denied access. We felt quite fortunate.

We entered the basilica and immediately saw The Pieta, my favorite sculpture. It is behind glass these days, and the crowd between us and it was pretty thick, but we marveled at it from afar. We continued through the church, passing the grave of soon-to-be-canonized Pope John Paul II and stopping in line to view the uncorrupted body of soon-to-be-sainted Pope John XXIII. As we waited in line, one of our Pilgrims became ill, and she and I had to be separated from the rest of the travelers, to wait outside until they finished the tour. We didn't take into consideration that the square would be closing, so Emmie and I were slowly forced, one checkpoint at a time, out of the square. We had to call Whitesville to have a message transmitted to our fellow travelers, who came to find us and reunite the group.

After a quick meal, we had time to view the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, and a Vatican gift shop. Upon

leaving the shop, I thought we might see Pope Francis, as there were rumors he would appear in the square, but I was disappointed that he did not come out. We traveled to Piazza Navona before dinner, and raced to the Pantheon and Trevi Fountain for quick viewings before the town seemed to close down around us in the October evening darkness.

We have been back home for many school weeks now, and in the midst of Traveling Classroom assignments, students are stumbling across parts of the trip they had forgotten or on which they haven't fully reflected, and is exciting for me to watch their continued discoveries. I know that a few of them don't expect to become world travelers, and a few can't wait to get out there again, but I think they all have learned that the world is a much larger place than they imagined, and that the comforts of home are more valuable than they would have admitted before they left.

I hope our students have learned to look about themselves more carefully and to appreciate differences and comforts a



Rome, outside the Colosseum

little more. I am thankful that I could experience the trip with them; I hope we are all better for the journey we took, and I hope that difference is obvious to others.

National Catholic Sisters Week

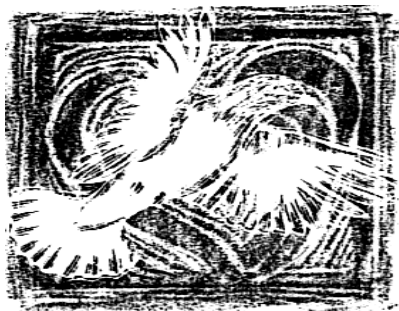
National Catholic Sisters Week will be celebrated March 8-14, 2014 to raise awareness of the contributions of women religious by highlighting their lives and legacies. The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate this week by serving those in need. If there is a sister serving in your parish, or a sister who inspired you, perhaps you can perform a random act of kindness on behalf of this sister. We urge you to recall the words of Saint Angela Merici, who told us to "Act, move, believe, strive, hope, cry out to him with all your heart, for without doubt you will see marvelous things, if you direct everything to the praise and glory of his majesty and the good of souls." God bless your support of women religious everywhere. To find out more about NCSW, visit <http://ursulinesmsj.org/news/nsw>

To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

Any person who wishes to contact the diocese regarding an allegation of sexual abuse should call the Catholic Pastoral Center at 1-270-683-1545 and ask to speak with the Assistance Coordinator or a member of the Review Board. To speak with a particular member of this Board, tell the receptionist. In either case, the receptionist at the Catholic Pastoral Center will give the caller's information to a member of the Diocesan Review Board for follow-up.

Callers may choose to remain anonymous for the initial call to the Catholic Pastoral Center receptionist. The phone numbers of the members of this Board will not be made public. You may also contact the Board via email at reviewboard@pastoral.org. 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.

The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett (Vice-Chair), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Chair), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, and Ms. Kelly Roe. Sr. Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board.



Pre-Lenten Adult Formation/Education

will be on Tuesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. in Precious Blood Parish Hall. Our speaker is Sister Elaine Burke, OSU. The topic is, LENT: OPENING THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. All are invited to come to this inspirational session and challenge yourself to live out the Gifts of the Holy Spirit during this Lenten season. For more information call Sr. Rosanne Spalding at Precious Blood (2770-684-6888).

A Celebration with the Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Committee on Scouting



The Religious Emblems Mass with

Bishop William Francis Medley will be held at 1:30 pm on March 23, 2014 at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Owensboro, Kentucky. Everyone is invited to attend this wondrous event where many young men and women will be conferred with Religious Emblems that they have worked diligently to complete while strengthening their faith. We will also present adult awards to those individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in Scouting and the Catholic Church.

After the Mass Celebration, a social will be held to continue the celebration. So please come and celebrate with our faithful community.

St. Jerome Catholic Church Complex Named to the National Register of Historic Places in January, 2014

March, 2014 43

By John W. Carrico

The St. Jerome Catholic Church Complex in Fancy Farm Kentucky was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 8, 2014 by the U.S. Department of the Interior. This complex is made up of 17 acres in the middle of Fancy Farm and includes the following built by St. Jerome parishioners: St. Jerome Cemetery 1820, St. Jerome Church 1893, St. Jerome School 1909, St. Jerome Rectory 1912 and garage, St. Jerome High School 1948, Agriculture Shop 1955, St. Jerome Parish Center 1964, St. Jerome School Cafeteria and Junior High buildings 1966. St. Jerome Church and the St. Jerome School Renovation Committee are very pleased to have received

this historic designation and appreciate everyone's effort involved that worked with Melinda Winchester from Grand Rivers, Kentucky, who developed the application for this process and presented it to Kentucky Heritage Council in September. Listing in the National Register confers honorary status on historic sites and does not place any restrictions or obligations on property owners. National Register listing is meant to recognize properties of historic importance and buildings/sites listed are distinguished by having been documented and evaluated according to uniform standards. These criteria recognize the accomplishments of all peoples who have contributed to the



history and heritage of the United States and are designed to help state and local governments, federal agencies and others identify important historic and archeological properties worthy of preservation and of consideration in planning and development decisions.

The National Register listing does offer benefits such as making these sites eligible for federal and state historic preservation tax credits and other incentive programs and provides a measure of protection from federally funded projects, such as a proposed highway or federally insured bank construction or expansion. It means that our state and federal governments realize the unique and historical presence of St. Jerome in the town

of Fancy Farm. This designation also means that the church and the school can receive tax incentives for past and future renovation and maintenance of the buildings included in this complex, which will assist in reducing costs of maintaining the facilities. St. Jerome is one of 10 other National Register sites in Graves County to have received this designation. Plans are being developed to have a building plaque for the church and the school, as well as a historical marker recognizing this designation.

Submitted by John Carrico, Member of St. Jerome School Renovation Committee/Chairman of St. Jerome Church Finance Committee

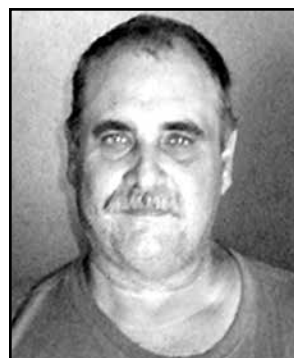
St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes Thank John Miller For Job Well Done

On January 11th, 2014, St. Lawrence and St. William Church in Knottsville Kentucky lost a 'champion'.

John married Barbara (Johnson) Miller at St. William in 1977 and for 37 years they have lived along with their family of 3 children, John Jr., Chris and Melissa, in-laws and grandchildren in the area and have been active in all aspects of the church life.

John reluctantly agreed about 27 years ago to be the Picnic 'Head', for both Parishes' annual picnics and spent many, many hours each sum-

mer to ensure the picnics ran smoothly, had what was needed to make it all a success, and that workers would be available. There was no shortage of help or volunteers to help in this endeavor, but someone has to be responsible and



Mr. John Miller

John handled that with meekness, kindness and helpfulness.

By picnic's end, (there were three of them each year in the beginning!) tired and worn out from all the work, when John was asked if he would take it on again next year, he always smiled and said, 'well, for one more year maybe'.

His example of Christian life, his love for his Church, and the great love he had for his wife and family is an example to us all. His smiling face, big heart and gentle ways will be missed by the entire community.

Go and Rest in Peace 'Big John'. Thank you for a job well done!



FISH FRY

(all you can eat) will be held at Precious Blood Church, Owensboro, on the following Fridays during Lent: March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4 and 11 at 5:30 p.m.

PRICES: Adults: \$9.00, children 12 and under: \$4.00, under 4: FREE

MENU: Tilapia, French Fries, Hush Puppies, White Beans, Baked Beans, Corn Bread, Cole Slaw, Dessert, Tea/Lemonade.

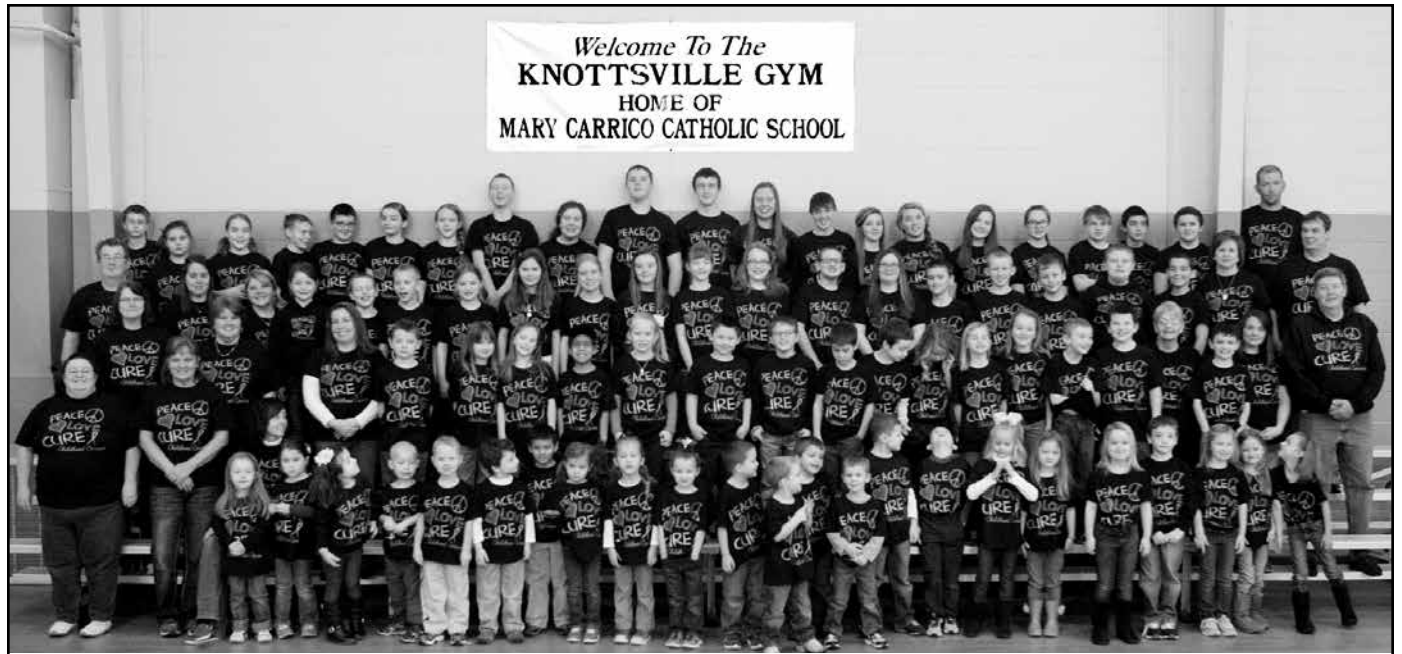
STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 5:00 p.m.

Celebrating Founder's Feast Day

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph celebrated the feast of Saint Angela Merici on Jan. 27 with a special liturgy, a delicious meal and by decorating the dining room. Saint Angela founded the Ursuline Sisters in 1535 in Brescia, Italy.



Legend tells us that Saint Angela's unwritten rule was "enjoy as much ice cream as you can." Here, Sister Marie Goretti Browning, left, and Sister Celine Leeker follow Saint Angela's advice. MSJ Photo



Supporting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Pictured is the entire student body, faculty and staff at Mary Carrico Catholic School wearing their St. Jude T-Shirts on the last day of Catholic Schools Week. The shirt was designed and is being sold by Mary Carrico third grader Gavin Howard to raise money for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. The school's PTO purchased the shirts for everyone to support this great cause. Submitted by Chuck Green, Principal, Mary Carrico Memorial Catholic School

Reportar las Acusaciones de Abuso Sexual

Cualquier persona que desea comunicarse con la Diócesis sobre una alegación de abuso sexual debe llamar al Centro Pastoral Católico a 1-270-683-1545 y pedir hablar con al Coordinador Auxiliar o un miembro de la Junta de Revisión Diocesano. Para hablar con un miembro particular de este junta, dígame a la recepcionista. En cualquier caso la recepcionista en el Centro Pastoral Católico le dará la información de la persona que llama a un miembro de la Junta de Revisión para seguimiento.

Las personas que llaman pueden ser anónimos para la llamada inicial a la recepcionista. Los números de teléfono de los miembros de esta junta no serán divulgados al público. También se puede contactar a la junta por su email a reviewboard@pastoral.org. No se olvide de incluir su información de contacto. No se responderá directamente por email porque no se puede garantizar la confidencialidad por email. Seguimiento será por teléfono.

Los miembros de la junta que responden a las alegaciones de abuso sexual en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Mr. Ken Bennett (Vice-Chair), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Chair), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, and Ms. Kelly Roe. Sr. Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, sirve como enlace entre al Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano.

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro proclaim a common mission: *"Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes. He is the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students."*



Congratulations, Sister Fran!

Members of the Rural Life Committee for the Diocese of Owensboro honored the work of Sr. Fran Wilhelm, OSU and her staff at Centro Latino for 20 years of service to the Hispanic community in the Diocese. Pictured from left to right are Committee Chair, Rick Kamuf, Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese, Luis Aju, Sr. Fran, and Committee member, Gene Schadler.

Make PLANS to attend the 2014
CHRISM MASS ON APRIL 15 at
6:30 P.M. IN THE OWENSBORO
SPORTSCENTER.





En la parroquia de San Jose, de Bowling Greene, se inicio la 4ta. Etapa de LEVANTATE el dia Viernes 31 de Enero 1014. Luis Aju, P. Alejandro dieron la gira en la diocesis llevando el contenido de esta etapa. Gracias por venir. F. Luis Aju



En el salon Parroquial, de la parroquia de Sts. Pedro y Pablo en Hopkinsville han llegado las personas, con animos a seguir la formacion que habian iniciado hace varios meses. Felicitaciones por su asistencia, aunque con las otras muchas ocupaciones lo han dejado para oír mas de su Fe. F.Luis Aju.



La Comunidad de Santos Pedro y Pablo en Hopkinsville, han venido recibir la 4a. sesion de LEVANTATE. El Padre Alejandro da su presentacion y las comunidades lo reciben con seriedad el contenido del curso. F.Luis Aju

LEVANTATE

Unámonos en Cristo



El Sr. Roberto, tambien ha venido a participar en el curso de formacion. Aun con sus clases para el Diaconado, ha dejado por un rato y ha decidido su tiempo para conocer aun mas acerca de la voacion de servicio. Adelante con la formacion. F.Luis Aju



Las tres damas que estan compartiendo la mesa con Roberto, forman parte de la pequena comunidad creada formalmente con la orientacion de LEVANTATE. Son lideres esu pequena comunidad, dentro de la parroquia. Sigán adelante con esta noble mision.



La Hna. Panchita, al lado de un hermano de la Comunidad de Sebree, han venido para a misma causa. El P. Alejandro explicando el tema de la unidad. Formarse mas en el conocimiento de la obra de Dios muy cerca de nosotros. Dia a dia! F. Luis Aju.



Un papa, llevo a su hija en la presentacion de LEVANTATE, en la parroquia de Santos Jose y Pablo el dia 2 de Febrero, en Owensboro. La idea de los hispanos al llevar a los niños, es para enseñarles a ser parte de la comunidad. tambien que aprendan que con nieve, lluvia y, aire, no importa tatan de venir aun con las dificultades de la estacion. F.Luis Aju



En esta fotografia podeos apreciar el desarrollo de la formacion de LEVANTATE en la parroquia de San Leo. Murry, KY. Asistieron personas de Sto. Thomas More de Paduca y de San Jose de Mayfield. No obstante el frio de la estacion han venido. Gracias por venir. F.Luis Aju.

En la foto a la derecha, El P. Josue MCarthy, vicario para el Ministerio Hispano de la Parroquia de Sts. Jose y Pablo ha venido para acompañar al grupo. Es un buen ejemplo para los jóvenes asistir en estos eventos, ya que no sedan a menudo. Gracias P. Josue por venir a esta etapa de la formacion. F.Luis Aju



El gozo del Evangelio. De la carta del Papa Francis

Marzo, 2014 3

Varias comunidades nos hemos reunido en la parroquia de San Miugel en Sebree, para participar en el Retiro Parroquial. Organizado por la misma comunidad de Sebree, KY. Fue una experiencia muy importante. El P. Julio Palarino, ofrecio el retiro. Presentando a la comunidad, Quien es el Papa Francisco, puesto que El, lo conocio personalmente.



El Sr. Orlando Rivera, dirige la Oracion en el inicio del Retiro. Pidio a la comunidad tomar en serio la responsabilidad de llevar la Buena Nueva a todas las personas. racias Orlando por apoyar a todas las personas que necesitan de nuestras palabras de animo. F.Luis Aju



El P. Julio Palarino Castro, extendio el tema de la carta apostolica del Papa Francis, acerca de la Alegria del EVangelio. Ser personas alegres en la mision, dar alegria y amor, como lo hizo Jesus el Maestro. F. Luis Aju.

En esta fotografia, podemos ver, que a todos se nos pidio, levantarnos, cantar, y movernos para hacer un poco de ejercicio en al transcurso del dia. Patricia G. habia atendido el cuidado de ninos, puesto que tambien los pequenos participaron en el retiro. Es una manera de enseñar a los hijos, la importancia de la formacion en la Fe que profesamos. F.Luis Aju



Se ven personas de diferentes parroquias, puesto que se invito a ser parte de este evento. Ha sido bien atendido , gracias a todos quienes estuvieron presentes. F.Luis Aju.

Orlando Rivera, que ha tomado en serio su mision de llevar la Buena Nueva de Jesus a las comunidades, atendio el retiro. Gracias Orlando R. Por su testimonio y apoyo a las comunidades, sobretodo a nivel familia. Dios lo bendiga! F.Luis Aju



Que la Cuaresma esta primavera sea un renacimiento de nuestro espíritu humano, una reconciliación, abriendo un lugar para Dios.



Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

Después de un largo y frío invierno, cuando hemos visto más nieve que en muchos inviernos pasados, el primero de marzo nos trae una promesa de temperaturas más cálidas. Pronto los signos de la primavera se manifiestan con la nueva grama verde, árboles y nuevas flores.

La Cuaresma comienza tarde este año. Miércoles de Ceniza es el 5 de marzo. Así, los primeros signos de la primavera corresponderán más correctamente con estos santos cuarenta días. La palabra Cuaresma, después de todo, significa la primavera y debe significar para nosotros un renacimiento de nuestro espíritu humano, una reconciliación interna que nos prepara para celebrar el Misterio Pascual de sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección de Cristo.

El Papa Francisco en una carta pastoral a la Iglesia para celebrar la temporada de Cuaresma se refleja en las palabras de San Pablo: "Porque ya conocéis la gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que siendo rico, por nosotros se hizo pobre, para con su pobreza fueseis enriquecidos". (II Corintios 8, 9) Después de casi un año como Papa, no es de extrañar que en su primer mensaje para la Cuaresma reflexionaría sobre la pobreza. Cuando miro hacia atrás en sus mensajes al mundo, dos palabras vienen a la mente: la pobreza y la misericordia. Ambos son mensajes aptos para esta temporada. Voy a compartir algo de su reflexión sobre este pasaje. Pero la conexión entre la Cuaresma y la virtud de la misericordia es evidente también.

San Pablo en este pasaje estaba animando a los cristianos de Corinto a ser generosos en ayudar a los fieles de Jerusalén que estaban en necesidad. En este desafío, nos está mostrando cómo Dios trabaja. Él demuestra que Dios no se revela a sí mismo envuelto en el poder del mundo y la riqueza del mundo. Él se revela a sí mismo como hombre, Jesús, que siendo rico, por nosotros se hizo pobre..." Jesús, el Hijo eterno de Dios eligió ser pobre. Eligió esta opción casi inimag-

inable por amor, un amor que permite a todos nosotros en nuestras "pobrezas" variables el acercarnos a él.

Sí, por supuesto que Jesús vino a traer alivio y consuelo a los pobres. Él vino a desafiar al mundo para atender las necesidades de los pobres... para alimentar al hambriento, vestir desnudos, abrigar al desprotegido. Muchos de nosotros leemos estas amonestaciones, y sin embargo, nunca hemos rogado por alimento, ropa o vivienda. Tal vez nuestra pobreza es nuestra dependencia a nuestros objetos materiales. Muy pocos de nosotros pensamos en nosotros mismos como ricos no hay duda, pero cuando miramos la sociedad estadounidense, sin embargo, por las normas del mundo casi todos nosotros estamos entre los más cómodos del mundo.

Es muy posible que el miércoles de ceniza pueda escuchar en la homilía cuando vaya a misa las tres actividades previstas de Cuaresma: la oración, el ayuno y la limosna.

Sin embargo aunque sea una persona de oración o no, deje que la Cuaresma sea un tiempo para fortalecer su oración. Oren un poco más. Experimente con diferentes formas de la oración cristiana. Si usted no ha orado con salmos, dele una oportunidad. Si su rosario se ha extraviado, encuéntralo--- o pregunte a un amigo si puede compartir uno con usted. Lo más perfecto está en participando en la Eucaristía. ¿Es posible que pueda ir a misa una vez más cada semana?

La mayoría de nosotros asociamos la Cuaresma con el ayuno. Desde la infancia a menudo hemos sido desafiados a "renunciar a algo para la Cuaresma". Más de una vez me he encontrado con ministros protestantes deseosos de decirme su experiencia de algún ejercicio de abnegación en la Cuaresma. Más comúnmente asociamos esta abnegación con nuestra comida y bebida. Renunciamos a dulces, pizza, refrescos, o tal vez resolvemos no comer entre comidas. Estas expresiones relativamente leves de negación requieren poco dolor. Pero el dolor no es el propósito. Esperemos que nuestra abnegación abra un lugar para Dios o nos abre a los pobres que no tienen el lujo de ayuno de alimentos, ya que apenas tienen lo suficiente para mantener el cuerpo y el alma juntos.

Pero podemos ayunar de otras co-

sas también. Los que son demasiado dependientes de la Internet podrían comprometerse con las comunicaciones por computadora que sólo son esenciales. Todos podemos hacer un gran esfuerzo de ayunar del chisme o la envidia o la codicia.

La tercera de las disciplinas cuaresmales se la limosna, compartir nuestras bendiciones con generosidad a los pobres. Y esto nos lleva de nuevo a la reflexión del Papa de Francisco sobre la pobreza escogida por Cristo. Él nos insiste a pedir no sólo lo que podríamos "ofrecer" para la Cuaresma, pero al contrario pregunta cómo nuestros pequeños actos pueden realmente enriquecer a otros, elevar a los demás de la pobreza espiritual o material. El Papa Francisco escribe: "Que

No olvidemos que la verdadera pobreza duele: ninguna auto-negación es real sin esta dimensión de la penitencia. Desconfío de una caridad que no cueste nada y no duela".

Oremos por el Papa Francisco durante la Cuaresma cuando comienza el segundo año de su papado. El nos asegura que reza por nosotros. Su llamado, de manera inesperada en un momento en la vida en que la mayoría de la gente quiere ir más despacio, es una inspiración para todos nosotros a vivir el Evangelio en plenitud.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos.

+ Mons. William F. Medley
Obispo de Owensboro

Calendario de Obispo Medley para el mes de Marzo 2014:

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| Marzo 1 | 5:00 p.m. | Confirmación, Rosary Chapel, Paducah |
| Marzo 2 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmación, St. Francis de Sales, Paducah |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Rito de Iniciación Cristiana, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm |
| Marzo 4 | 9:00 a.m. | Reunión del personal CPC, Catholic Pastoral Center |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Cena del Owensboro Serra Club Charter |
| Marzo 5 | 12:05 p.m. | Miércoles de Ceniza, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| Marzo 9 | 2:00 p.m. | Rito de Iniciación, Cristiana, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Rito de Iniciación, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| Marzo 10 | | Reunión, USCCB Comité de la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes. |
| Marzo 11 | 9:30 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, St. Joseph School, Bowling Green |
| Marzo 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Confirmación, St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady and St. Anthony, Axtel @ St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady |
| Marzo 13 | 8:10 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, St. Paul School, Leitchfield |
| Marzo 14 | 9:00 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, St. Romuald, Hardinsburg |
| Marzo 16 | 10:30 a.m. | Juventud 2000, Brescia University, Owensboro |
| Marzo 17 | 9:45 a.m. | Reunión del Comité Sacerdotal, CPC |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal, CPC |
| Marzo 19 | 1:00 p.m. | Reverendo Ronald Gainer, Instalación, Obispo de Harrisburg, Harrisburg, PA |
| Marzo 21 | 8:00 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, Trinity High School |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Conversaciones con Seniors, Trinity High School |
| Marzo 22 | 1:00 p.m. | Retiro Confirmación, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| Marzo 23 | 1:30 p.m. | Misa de Premios Religiosos Scouts, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| Marzo 24 | 9:00 a.m. | Conversaciones con Seniors, Owensboro Catholic High School |
| Marzo 25 | 10:00 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, St. Mary Middle School, Paducah |
| | 12-3:00 p.m. | Oficina en Paducah, Lourdes Hospital, Paducah |
| Marzo 26 | 8:30 a.m. | Consejo Financiero Diocesano, CPC |
| Marzo 27 | 10:30 a.m. | Misa Estudiantil, Owensboro Catholic High School |
| Marzo 29 | 5:00 p.m. | Misa & Instalación de Ministerios - Lector y Acolito, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| Marzo 30 | 2:00 p.m. | Diaconato de Bowling Green Encuentro de Formación de Fe, WKU, Aquinas Center |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Misa, WKU, Aquinas Center |

En nombre de Dios



Moderar el comportamiento.

Por Luis Aju

En este tiempo de la cuaresma por fe y tradición hemos

aprendido hacer un alto a la rutina que llevamos en nues-

tras vidas. Esto nos ayuda a ver con nuestros propios ojos lo bien o lo malo que ha sido nuestro proceder con Dios Nuestro Creador y con los hermanos, compañeros que luchamos diario con la vida.

Hablar de nuestros propios comportamientos es ver con atención la forma en que tratamos a los demás. No hace falta que venga alguien y nos lo haga ver, nuestra conciencia moral creada y puesta por el Mismo Dios cuando nos creó, y nos la puso en el lugar más sagrado, esa conciencia nos lo puede decir. Es el otro yo que nos habla desde lo más íntimo de nuestro ser, esa cajita de oro, es donde habita Dios y es el que nos interroga cada día e instante sobre nuestros actos.

Los más comunes son, nuestra autosuficiencia, nuestro orgullo, nuestra rebeldía ante Dios y ante los demás.

Necesitamos la oración. El silencio interno y externo. Controlar El afán de ser alabado utilizando el puesto de privilegio que nos han confiado para servir y no para dominar a los demás.

Eso nos gusta. Entonces Necesitamos hacer tiempo para una reflexión profunda si nuestro trabajo o función nos ha llevado a un orgullo personal, destructor de nosotros mismos y a los demás. O lo hemos tomado para Servir a Dios vivo en la comunidad donde vivimos. Es el tiempo de cambiar. Jamás ver a los demás menos que yo.

No necesitamos solo hacer sacrificios en comida, tomar u otro. Respetamos el día Miércoles de Ceniza, como día del inicio de la cuaresma, tiempo para ejercitarnos en controlar nuestros apetitos. Uno de los más difíciles es Controlarnos a nosotros mismos.

Nos ayudaría tener control en: Nuestra comida. No comer los tres tiempos de comida. Así sentir el hambre de una gran población de hambrientos en el mundo entero. Tomar solo agua, fruta u otra cosa que las familias que viven en paupérrima pobreza tampoco lo pueden tener.

Estas son reflexiones, experiencias que nos ha tocado vivir, pero que el tiempo de la Cuaresma, es oportuno para tomar el tiempo y seguir adelante con nuestra vida como Bendición de Dios. ¡Que Dios lo bendiga! ¡Gracias!



¿Cuál va a ser su Disciplina cuaresmal para el 2014?

Escrito Por Brett Mills

Me parece recordar la lectura sobre las instrucciones para poner un carro a la dirección del deslizamiento durante un deslizamiento al conducir. Como yo no conduzco, tengo que aplicar esas instrucciones en mis situaciones que no son de conducir - como por ejemplo el tiempo de Cuaresma.

El "desliz" en la Cuaresma es el concepto de dificultad. Creo que el cambio al sentido del desliz tiene el sentido de acoger mi dificultad de la Cuaresma. La elección de una dificultad, y mucho menos abrazarla suena como algún tipo de formación, y si es - es la formación en la espiritualidad cristiana. Mi conocimiento necesario de la importancia de la espiritualidad fue recientemente el tema de la formación de un fin de semana para la segunda cohorte de los candidatos al diaconado de Owensboro. La relación entre la dificultad y la necesidad me ha invitado a considerar una dificultad de Cuaresma en una calidad de la espiritualidad que tanto necesito. Esa cualidad es la humildad.

La decisión de perseguir la humildad durante la Cuaresma en realidad comenzó a materializarse para mí poco después de la formación de diáconos en diciembre - cuando estaba sobre celebrando una A-en un papel en particular. Mi hermano mayor se burló de que yo no había tomado la clase de humildad todavía. Yo también estaba leyendo acerca de la humildad en la preparación de material asignado para el curso de espiritualidad. En la formación nos presentaron a tres grados de humildad revelados por el Padre. Jean Jacques Olier - fundador de la Orden sulpiciano. Él enseñó que la plenitud de la humildad era regocijarse en la miseria de uno, al deseo de ser conocido por la miseria, y querer el tratamiento de acuerdo a la miseria.

Mientras que yo soy creado a imagen de Dios, con todo ese potencial para glorificar a Dios a través de la vida mortal, mi semejanza con la perfecta santidad de Dios y el amor perfecto sería completamente miserable sino fuera por la vida, muerte y resurrección de Jesucristo. La Cuaresma es una oportunidad para reflexionar sobre mi necesidad absoluta de Jesús en hacer lo que Dios me creó para hacer - perfectamente unámonos a Él en una vida de amor y santidad, que comienza en la Tierra y continúa eternamente en el Cielo.

Esta Cuaresma, voy a reflexionar sobre la verdad que mi vida tiene como objetivo un objetivo que no puedo lograr sin el sacrificio divino, inocente y redentor de Jesús. Hay un grado claramente distinguido de la participación católica en ese misterio. Yo me acojo que sin Cristo no puedo, pero con Él puedo - razón suficiente para la humildad y la razón más allá de medida para el jubilo. Necesito Pascua; para llegar a Pascua Necesito la Cruz. Necesito esta Cuaresma para apreciar que entre más tengo la humildad de la Cruz, yo me alegraré más con el Señor resucitado.

Brett Mills es un estudiante en el Programa de Diáconos Permanentes Diocesanos y trabaja en la Oficina Diocesana de Archivos en el Centro Pastoral Católico, Owensboro, Ky.



La Diócesis contrata a nueva Directora de la Pastoral Juvenil

OWENSBORO, Ky. - El 24 de enero del 2014, el Canciller de la Diócesis de Owensboro, el Sr. Kevin Kauffeld, anunció: "Es un placer para mí anunciar la adquisición de la Srta. Susana Solorza para la Oficina de la Pastoral Juvenil Hispana. Ella empezará sus nuevas funciones en la semana del 03 de febrero 2014. Ella viajará a San Antonio para una conferencia patrocinada por Catholic Extension la semana del 10 de febrero. La Srta. Solorza es un graduada de la promoción del 2009 de Owensboro Catholic High School y se graduó en el 2013 de la Universidad de Western Kentucky. Su parroquia es Santo Nombre de Jesús en Henderson, Kentucky. Por favor oren por ella ya que comienza su nuevo ministerio."



La Srta. Susie Solorza ha sido contratada por la Oficina de la Pastoral Juvenil Hispana de la Diócesis de Owensboro. Fotografía por Mel Howard

Haga planes de asistir la MISA CRISMAL el 15 de abril a las 6:30 p.m. que se llevará a cabo en el OWENSBORO SPORTSCENTER.