

**Welcome New Catechumens and Candidates
 In The Diocese of Owensboro!**



In front of Fr Jerry Riney and the congregation of St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, Owensboro, Whitney Carroll (Kim Lewis), Deloris Edwards (Wilma Stallings), Kelsey Napper (Lee Ward), Jeanette New (Sr. Consolata Ojemeh), Sarah Michael (John Michael) participated in the Rite of the Call to Conversion for the Candidates. Russell Vaughn (Mark Stallings) could not attend due to inclement weather. They professed their readiness to proceed toward the Sacraments of Confirmation/Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Congratulations on your journey! St. Stephen Parish Photo. See page 6 inside this edition for a complete listing of the Catechumens and Candidates in the Diocese of Owensboro for 2015.

DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO
 Diaconal Ordination of
Basilio Az Cuc

With praise and Thanksgiving
 to Almighty and loving God
 The
Diocese of Owensboro
 Western Kentucky Catholic Church
 Announces the ordination of
Basilio Az Cuc
 To the Order of Diaconate
 Through the Invocation of the Holy Spirit
 And the Imposition of Hands
 The Most Reverend William Francis Medley
 Bishop of Owensboro
 On Saturday the Eighteen of April
 At ten o'clock
 the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen
 At the Saint Stephen Cathedral
 600 Locust Street
 Owensboro. Kentucky 42301

**St. Paul School
 Is Growing And
 Expanding**

St. Paul School located in Grayson County is growing and expanding, and thus is seeking to fill new positions for the upcoming year. Open Positions for the 2015/2016 School Year include the following:

- Part time Middle School teacher, in the areas of English and Math or Science.
- Part time Music Teacher
- Part time Physical Education Teacher
- Cross Country Coach

Interested Candidates may contact St. Paul School, 1812 Saint Paul Road, Leitchfield, KY 42754 or call at 270-242-7483.

Change Service Requested

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 Owensboro, KY
 42301
 Permit No. 111

VOCARE
 CELEBRATING VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD & CONSECRATED LIFE
 DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

Please Save the Date! Friday, September 18, 2015
 The Second Annual VOCARE

VOCARE's purpose is to increase awareness of vocations in our Diocese, to celebrate vocations to priesthood and consecrated life, and to provide financial support to our seminarians through contributions to our Seminarian endowment fund.

Owensboro Convention Center,
 6:00—Dinner

A table for 8 is \$500, \$125 per couple and \$65 per person.
 Reservations can be made by calling
 Kathy Rasp at 270-683-1545 or kathy.rasp@pastoral.org

Conversation About The Family Shows The Wisdom Of The Catholic Church Of Western Kentucky



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

Dear sisters

and brothers,

We are in an interim period between two very significant moments of our Catholic Church life.

Last October an extraordinary Synod of Bishops was convened to initiate a conversation throughout the Church on the subject of family. That conversation continues in anticipation of the General Synod to be convened this October. This General Synod and its theme of family were actually set by Pope emeritus Benedict XVI before his retirement in 2013.

Pope Francis has told us that the entire world is to be considered one big family. He stated in a general audience, *"We are, after all, a single human family, different in many ways, on the road toward unity, valuing solidarity and dialogue among peoples."* But the Pope laments, *"But how will we have unity among Christians if we are not capable of it among ourselves, as Catholics? Or in our families? So many families fight and are divided."*

In preparation for submitting a report to the 2015 Synod of Bishops, I participated in seven hearings across the diocese in January and February. Over six hundred people participated in these conversations. Joe Bland, Director of the Family Life Office, facilitated these gatherings and my job was to listen. The conversations were animated and I want to share with you here a few themes that emerged:

• Despite valiant resources and efforts, people and pastors sense an inadequacy in marriage preparation programs. An issue within this matter is the disposition of the couples themselves to commit the time and focus to marriage prep when so preoccupied with other

pre-marriage rituals and customs.

• Many people recognize that often the quality of catechesis and religious education comes into question. The Church's assumption that the family is the primary place of religious formation for their children seems lost. Parents feel inadequate to the task. This brings to mind for me the pastoral letter of the U.S. Bishops, *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us*, in which it is stated that parishes' religious education initiatives should be directed toward adults.

• The observation was made several times that priests rarely preach on specific family issues. Priests themselves acknowledge this reality noting the delicacy of preaching on divorce and cohabitation before marriage. Too often someone feels such references are personal and take offense.

• There are still many myths about church teaching on divorce, remarriage, and the annulment process. Anecdotal tales of an exorbitant cost to pursue an annulment were repeated. In fact in our diocese any fees have been minimal. But in response to a challenge from Pope Francis, our diocese will no longer ask for fees. We discovered that these fees were only covering about 3% of the budget of our marriage tribunal anyhow. The negative feelings attached to this made it clear these fostered more harm than good.

• Myths also continue about participation in Holy Communion for the divorced and remarried. Almost every priest has encountered people who for years did not receive communion when even by present Church law, there was no reason for them to deny themselves.

• Much passion accompanied discussions about Holy Communion for Catholics liv-

ing in marriages not recognized by the Church. So many parents expressed distress that sons and daughters had left the Church because of this issue. There is an understanding that some situations are not fully resolvable by annulment. There was a plea that the Church strive to show the mercy of Jesus found in the gospels and not to allow the altar to be a place of unnecessary division.

• In that same vein parents and family members of people in same-sex relationships are burdened that their children and loved ones do not feel valued by the Church. No one advocated any redefinition of marriage, but rather sought compassion for people they know are good and striving to live as virtuously and authentically as they can. Again, a plea that the altar not be the place to divide.

Church teaching on artificial contraception was also mentioned

often. Some noted that Catholics simply do not understand this teaching as credible. At the same time there is a growing network of young families more committed than ever to the many opportunities for natural family planning. These they note not only serve the couple in planning their families, but when lived fully enhance marriage and family life.

These are just a few of the most notable matters that the conversation participants brought to me. I will prayerfully consider all of these as I strive to offer Pope Francis and the Synod Fathers the wisdom of the Catholic Church of western Kentucky.

May God Bless You all!

+Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro

Bishop Medley's Calendar for April 2015:

April 2	7:00 p.m.	Evening Mass of the Lord's Last Supper, St. Stephen Cathedral
April 3	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, St. Stephen Cathedral
April 4	7:45 p.m.	Easter Vigil, St. Stephen Cathedral
April 11	9:00 a.m.	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, McRaith Catholic Center
April 12	6:00 p.m.	Mass, Murray State University Newman Center
April 14	6:30 p.m.	Prayer Service for Healing, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
April 15	8:30 a.m.	Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, McRaith Catholic Center
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation, Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville
April 16	9:00 a.m.	School Mass, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
April 18	10:00 a.m.	Transitional Diaconate Ordination, St. Stephen Cathedral
	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
April 19	11:00 a.m.	Confirmation, St. Pius X, Owensboro
April 20	9:45 a.m.	Priests' Personnel Meeting, McRaith Catholic Center
	1:30 p.m.	Priests' Council Meeting, MCC
April 21	9:00 a.m.	Diocesan Staff Mass and Meeting, MCC
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation, Blessed Mother, Owensboro
April 22	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Ann, Morganfield
April 23	11:00 a.m.	Maximilian Montessori Academy School Mass
	4:00 p.m.	Blessing - Hospice Care Center at Lourdes Hospital, Paducah
April 25	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Augustine, St. Anthony, St. Benedict @ St. Augustine, Grayson Springs
April 26	9:30 a.m.	Confirmation, St. Anthony, Browns Valley
	3:00 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Joseph, Bowling Green
April 28	10:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Mary Middle School, Paducah
	12:00 - 2:00pm	Paducah Office Hours, Lourdes Hospital, Paducah
April 29	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
April 30	10:00 a.m.	Prison Ministry Visits
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Sebastian, St. Charles and St. Martin, @ St. Sebastian



From Candy To Cans Precious Blood Parish's Religious Ed. Students participated in a Lenten project-- From Candy to Cans. Each week during Lent the group took one of the Corporal Works of Mercy and had a prayer service based on that Corporal Work. The students brought in items pertaining to that Corporal Work. The services on March 11 were Feed the Hungry and Give Drink to the Thirsty, and the items were donated to a local Owensboro area charity. Pictured in back row: Anna Riney, Mark Wedding, Kayla McCarthy, Kelsey Brown, Caden Grant; front row: HESSIE JOHNSON, SARAH MCCARTHY and SHELBEA AYERS. Photo submitted by Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU

YOU ARE INVITED!



Join
Bishop William Medley
on a Pilgrimage to
France

Lourdes - Nevers - Lisieux - Normandy Beaches - Paris

October 8 - 17, 2015
\$4,399 from Louisville

To book, please contact: Liz or Natasha
tel: 800-206-TOUR (8687) or email:
Liz@206tours.com or Natasha@206tours.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.pilgrimages.com/bishopmedley

The Western Kentucky Catholic
600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY. 42301

- Publisher: Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro
- Editor: Mel Howard, mel.howard@pastoral.org
- Business Address: McRaith Catholic Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301 Phone: 270-683-1545. Fax: 270-683-6883
- 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 editor, Mel Howard, will be retiring from the Diocese of Owensboro Staff on June 30, 2015. Howard said, "When Bishop John McRaith hired me in 1984, he said I would know when it was time to leave the job. I am most grateful to Bishop McRaith for allowing me to help found this diocesan newspaper and to get to know on a personal basis many of the people of this diocese over the past 31 years. I thank Bishop William Medley for allowing me to serve as editor here. And to all of the people who sent in pictures, articles, and allowed me to edit your writings so graciously, THANK YOU! As my Mom used to say, "Thanks for your help, until you're better paid! (In the next life.)"

Can Leadership be Redeemed or Redeeming?

Tuesday, May 5

"Evening with an Ursuline"
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Presenter: **Sister Amelia Stenger**
Cost: \$15 fee includes meal
Contact **Kathy McCarty** to register 270-229-0206
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month.
Coming up on June 2:
"Contemplative Dialogue: Response to Tolerant Oppression"
with Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



All of us are leaders in some way ... in our families, our workplace, our churches and our local communities. What traits do we need to be successful leaders in whatever we do? Can we be better leaders as we live our lives in today's world? We will explore some of the spiritual habits we need to be the best leaders (and followers) we can be.



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center
8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org

Roman Run 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, April 25th at 6:30pm, Our Lady of Lourdes
Pre-registration \$15 / Day of \$20 This will be a chip timed event! Post-race meal provided by KofCs.
Proceeds to benefit Lourdes Family Ministry
Online Registration: www.lourdescatholicchurch.com
Phone: (270)684-5369 Email: dmay@lourdescatholicchurch.com



OCHS Senior Hannah Hagan Named National Merit Finalist

Hannah Hagan, a member of the OCHS senior class, was named a National Merit Finalist! Hannah was one of approximately 15,000 students nationwide to receive this honor - based on a thorough application process and scores she earned on the PSAT.

Hannah is the daughter of Martha Hagan and is a member of St. Pius X parish, Owensboro, Ky.



Hannah Hagan

Tri-Parish Old Fashioned Picnic

*St. Augustine
Grayson Springs*

*St. Anthony
Peonia*

*St. Benedict
Wax*



Saturday, July 4, 2015

Games & Booths are open from 4:00 pm until 10:00 pm

Capital Prizes - \$3,000

1st Prize \$2,000 – 2nd Prize \$500

3rd Prize \$250 – 4th Prize \$150 – 5th Prize \$100

Drawings will be held at 10:00 PM

**Adult Booths, Children's Games, Bingo, Silent Auction,
Pull Tabs, Live Music (Bluegrass & Country) and Much More**

"Country Dinner"

**Fried Chicken, Mutton and all the Fixin's
Serving Starts at 4:00 pm and ends at 8:00 pm.**

**Picnic Grounds Located at 1256 Saint Anthony
Church Road, Clarkson, Kentucky 42716**

270-242-4791 or email:stanthony1256@windstream.net

Lic# E-0031

2015 Catholic Parish Picnic Schedule

Date	Serving Time	Parish
May 8-9	International Barbecue Festival	Downtown, Owensboro
May 16	11:00 a.m.	Carmel Home, Owensboro
May 24	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
June 6	4:00 p.m.	Precious Blood, Owensboro
June 6	3:00 p.m.	Saint Joseph, Leitchfield
June 6	5:00 p.m.	St. Ann, Morganfield
June 13	4:00 p.m.	St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro
June 20	3:00 p.m.	St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
June 20	3:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
June 27	5:00 p.m.	St. Peter, Waverly
June 27	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho (100 th picnic)
July 4	4:00 p.m.	St. Anthony, Peonia
July 4	4:00 p.m.	St. Anthony, Axtel (Rough River)
July 4	11:00 a.m./5:00 p.m.	St. Denis, Fancy Farm
July 11	12:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
July 11	4:00 p.m.	St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph
July 18	11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	St. Charles, Bardwell
July 18	4:00 p.m.	St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley
July 25	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady
July 25	3:00 p.m.	St. Paul, Leitchfield
Aug. 1	11:00 a.m.	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Aug. 1	Noon	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
Aug. 4	5:00 p.m.	St. Martin, Rome
July 25	4:00 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Aug. 22	3:00 p.m. (ET)	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
Aug. 30	Noon	Rosary Chapel, Paducah
Sept 11-12		Holy Name Fall Festival, Henderson
Sept. 12	4:30 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
Sept. 12	11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 13	10:30 a.m.	Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Sept. 19	2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Sept. 19	4:00 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
Sept. 19	4:00 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
Sept. 19	Noon	St. Pius X, Calvert City
Sept. 20	11:00 a.m.	St. Lawrence/St. William Parishes
Sept. 20	Noon	St. Leo, Murray
Sept. 26	10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	St. Elizabeth, Clarkson
Sept 26	3:00 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
Sept. 27	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	St. Joseph, Central City
Sept. 27	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Daughters of Isabella



**Card Party/ Bunco / Raffle
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall
Thursday, April 16, 2015
Time 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
\$7.00 includes lunch.**

The Daughters of Isabella group's main charities are the WKU Newman Center, Passionist Nuns, Glenmary Missions, and TV Mass. Our Spring and Fall Card Party/ Bunco/ Raffle is the Daughters of Isabella's main money maker in our diocese.

“About 55 percent of all U.S. Catholics under the age of 30 are Hispanic.”*

How do we, as members of the church in the Diocese of Owensboro, respond to this shift? We must be there with the same love and compassion that we have been taught to treat our neighbor. We are one church of many different colors and that’s what gives the Catholic Church its life, richness, and universality. There are differences in language and culture, people living on two sides, which can lead to the creation of two, parallel churches.

This is problem that has been seen throughout the United States and within our parishes. The solution that our young people bring is that they live with a foot in both worlds and can navigate and succeed in Spanish and English, they represent the mestizo church we are quickly become. As members of the church we must all play our part in integration, at the parish and diocesan levels. Therefore, formation of our young people is vital, vital to the church of the future, but even more vital to the church of the present. If we don’t create an environment of love, their faith cannot flourish and we lose the leaders of tomorrow.

During our 2015 Diocesan Family

Encuentro, held on Jan. 31, at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Hopkinsville, Ky., the youth discussed Theology of the Body with Family Life Director, Joe Bland and myself. We were able to present to them a view of sexuality that is completely different than the one they see in pop culture, peers, and even family. The young women and men discussed real life experiences and situations that could present themselves. They articulated how they felt and inquired about how they could further learn about this church teaching. They are one step closer to becoming fully formed member of our parishes and our diocese.

In order to create faithful leaders, we must keep supplying them with the tools that will allow them to grow, and in turn, grow the church.

Happy in Christ, Susana Solorza

**Hispanic Ministry in Catholic Parishes A Summary Report of Findings from the National Study of Catholic Parishers with Hispanic Ministry by Hosffman Ospino, Ph.d. Boston College School of Theology and Ministry in collaboration with the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)*



The faces of younger Hispanic Catholics as they enjoyed their curiosity and wonder at meeting so many others their own age and getting to play and interact with them and Bishop Meldey at the Family Encuentro Jan. 31, 2015 at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Hopkinsville.

Your Unwanted Items Can Bring Hope To Struggling Families

When you donate your gently used clothing, furniture and household items to St Vincent de Paul, you are helping families right in your local community. Proceeds from our Stores-Donation Centers help local families in need. See below to find a store near you:

- Beaver Dam - 213 Midtown Plaza 270-274-5118
- Bowling Green - 655 US 31 W Bypass 270-904-1832
- Bowling Green - 1901 Russellville Road 270-783-7533
- Fordsville - 327 East Main St. 270-276-5102
- Henderson - 116 North Alvasia St. 270-827-4138
- Hopkinsville - 902 East 9th St. 270-885-8522
- Lewisport - 8185 US 60 West 270-295-3494
- Madisonville - 101 East Arch St. 502-821-2159
- Morganfield - 218 Jim Veatch Road 270-389-4281
- Oak Grove - 15088 Ft. Campbell Road 270-640-6241
- Owensboro – 200 East 18th St. 270-683-1747 (new location)
- Paducah - 2025 Cairo Road 270-442-9351
- Whitesville - 10534 Walnut St. 270-233- 5118

As always, volunteers are needed and welcome to help at any of the stores. Please call the store location for information on how you can volunteer.” A Candle Loses Nothing by Lighting Another Candle.



EUCCHARISTIC 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 **April 12 and on the second Sunday of each month in 2015** from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the **Motherhouse Chapel**

(located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). We will conclude with evening prayer. During this special time of the Year of Consecrated Life, we ask you to join us in praying for a deeper awareness and openness in response to God’s call to consecrated life.



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

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

Welcome New Catechumens and Candidates!

Catechumens 2015

Michael Abney
Blake Allen
Bailey Ballard
Grace Billings
Kevin Brown
Aubrey Browning
Angie Brylowski
Mary Ellen Cavanah
Suzanne Churchwell
Emily Claycomb
James Matthew Cooper
Shaina Crabtree
Isaac Cruz
Juan Cruz
Mercedes Donahue
Carrie Dudley
Yung Duong
Jeffrey Edwards
Jason Paul England
Sherry Ferm
Nathan Floyd
Kelsey Jo Ford
Leslie Frank
Stephen Franklin
Eric Fulkerson
Steffi Fulkerson
Samantha Gossett
Daleth Paloma Guzman-Lopez
Morgan Hamlet
Krista Marie Harris
Charles Henley
Skylar Hidenrite
Stephanie Beth Holder
Derek Howard
B. Darleen Johnson
Callie Lusk
Caroline Massie

Tyler McClure
John McDonald
Par Meh
Nga Meh
Madyson Miller
Sarah Jane Mills
Jakob Mirek-Wakabayashi
Ku Moh
Adelyn Moorman
Autumn Murphy
Andrea Paganelli
Kaylynn Parham
Janet Payton
Ava Phelps
Hannah Phelps
Gilbert Potter
Kimberly Quiggins
Rebecca Reynolds
Marty Rhinerson
Austin Schadler
Abigail Singer
Jeremy Smith
Colby Smith
Elizabeth Ann Smith
Alexandra Grace Smith
Kaden Smith
Tyler Stevenson
Felicia Stone
Linda Stone
Sedia Storm
Cayden Storm
David "Trey" Sturgeon
Sarah Tomas
Addison Wells
Victoria Wheatley
Barbara Wheatley
Shana Wright



The St. Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm, Rite of Sending was celebrated on February 15. From left to right, top to bottom: Lewis Jetton, Bruce Bohanon, Ben Johnson, Toby Thomason, Sandy Wilson, Stephanie Holder, Jon Bachuss, Seth McKinney, Mary Cavanah, Sabrina Doyle. Submitted by Zach Ault

Candidates 2015:

Derek Alexander
Patricia Alfonsin
Dorian Almendarez
Phillip Annin
Shelly Aquilar
Nicole Ardaiole
Jennifer Arnold
Jonathan Gabrel Bachuss
Ashlie E. Baird
Hannah Baldwin
Leigh Baldwin
Jaclyn Ballantine
Tyler Ballard
Kristen Ballard
Brittany Berry
Greg Billings
Ruby Billman
Bruce Wayne Bohanon
Hannah Boswell

David Brown
Megen Brown
Chisholm Brunner
Sam Burns
Janet Carrico
Whitney Carroll
Brad Carter
Scott Cassady
Jill Castlen
Julia Chapman
Matthew Child
Roxie Choate
John Congleton
Sherrus Cooper
Chasie Crook
Keena Charles Crunican
Juanita Cruz
Courtney Davis-Riggs
Kacie Rose Dingmann
Logan Dodson

Sean Dodson
Stephanie Dodson
Megan Dolan
Robert G. Donnelly, Jr.
Sabrina Pace Doyle
Thomas Duncan
Kelly Duncan
Craig Duncan
Delores Edwards
Andy Ferm
Drew Fr.
Chloe French
Jim French
Darin French
John Fulkerson
Dottie Gernon
William Gill
Lora Gill
James Glaspey
Lena Gokey

Josh Gregory
Joe Hamilton
Dustin Hansford
Jennifer Hansrote
Sean Hansrote
LaDonna Hazelwood
I.E. Helton
Jake Henning
Peter Herrmann
Karen Hill
Phillip Hinkle
Justin Hitt
Robert Hutson, III
Joseph Ryan Janes
Tracy Jean
Robert Lewis Jetton
Lora Johnson
Benjamin Johnson, II
Skylar Jones
Peggy Jones
Kevin Kabalen
Jordan Kennedy
Kayleigh Knott
Meghan Knox
Chelsea Lanham
Shannon Logsdon
Josh Mata
Ryan McCauley
Seth Wayne McKinney
Brian Medlin

Joseph Mesa
Sarah Michael
Charlotte Miller
Jason Miller
Selena Miller
Angela Mills
Marie Mombteau
Dwayne Moorman
Kelsey Napper
Jeanette New
Jeanette New
Stacey Newby
Danielle Payton
Clarissa Phelps
George Phelps
Arianna Porter
Ashley Rayl
Nicole Reed
Andrew Richison
Rebecca Royse
Kelsey Rumage
Dennis Sanders
Jayme Schaeffer
Cody Sheffield
Mason Shepherd
Erin Shields
Jacob Simmons
Kara Simon
Justin Smith
Christopher Spachman

Jasmine Sturgeon
Jonathan "Kyle" Sturgeon
Lorraine Sturgeon
Montie Sydnor
Kevin Taylor
Cynthia Thomas
Michael Thomas
William Toby Thomason
Timothy Thompson
Eric Tyson
Russell Vaughn
Rhonda Walker
Scott Wallace
Clark Walters
Daniel Watkins
Chris Watson
Nicole Wells
Jennifer Whitfield
Chad Whitsell
Makenzie Wiley
MacKinsey Williams
Sandra Wilson
Crystal Womack-Berger
Christopher Wonsettler
Victoria Woosley
Sarah Yarborough
Jamie Zaim
Misty Zeman

PRIEST ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2015

(as of March 23, 2015)

PARISH PASTOR

Buckman, Rev. Tom: Pastor, Saint Pius X Parish, Owensboro, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

Fogle, Rev. Bruce: Pastor, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Paducah, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

Ibemere, Rev. Julian: Pastor, Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Oak Grove, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

Kennedy, Rev. David: Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Earlington, Resurrection Parish, Dawson Springs and Holy Cross Parish, Providence, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

Puryear, Rev. Stan: Pastor, Saint Mary Parish, LaCenter and Rosary Chapel, Paducah, Kentucky, effective immediately.

Reynolds, Very Rev. Patrick: Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro, Kentucky, while continuing as Vicar General, effective June 9, 2015.

Whistle, Rev. Brad: Pastor, Saint Thomas More Parish, Paducah, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

Williams, Rev. Brandon: Pastor, Saint Leo Parish, Murray, Kentucky, effective June 9, 2015.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Benitez, Rev. Antonio: Parochial Vicar of Saint Michael Parish, Sebree, Kentucky effective March 16, 2015.

Walling, Rev. James CPM: Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville, Kentucky, effective April 6, 2015.

Willett, Rev. David: Parochial Vicar of Saint Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm, Kentucky, effective February 17, 2015

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

McClure, Rev. Jason: Vicar for Clergy while continuing as Director of Vocations, effective June 9, 2015.



A scene from the **Rite of Election** at St Mary Magdalene, Sorgho, on Feb 28, 2015. The catechumens, both pictured in the front, facing Fr. Mark Buckner are sisters: Cayden Storm, on the left, and Sedia Storm, on the right. Their respective godparents are standing behind them. Not pictured is our only candidate, Mason Shepherd. Submitted by Debi Hopkins



Catechumens Hilaria Lopez & Olga Luna signing the Book of the Elect at Saint Michael Church in Sebree. Photo by Patti Gutierrez.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College

Alumnae Weekend May 16-17, 2015

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky.

Get together with your classmates!

- Mass • Banquet
- Class Photos • Social Activities
- Maple Leaf Awards
- Anniversary Classes Recognized

Register online at www.ursulinesmsj.org - Click on Alumnae
270-229-2006 • alumnae.msaj@maplemount.org



St. John Church and Knights of Columbus Blood Drive March 1, 2015

PADUCAH, Ky. - The St. John Evangelist Catholic Church with the help of the St. John Knights of Columbus council # 10962 and with the support Of the American Red Cross held their quarterly blood drive on Sunday Mar. 1st from 8 am to 12 noon. We the St. John Knights of Columbus Chartered our council in October 1992 . Our 1st blood drive was held in June of the year 1993 , since that time the American Red Cross has Collected a grand total of 1,778 units of blood ,now that is over 222 gallons! WOW ! What a great big effort and gifts of life from the St. John's community.

Donating blood "is called the PRECIOUS GIFT OF LIFE" for we do not know who receives this gift (only GOD knows) that is why it is called "PRECIOUS GIFT OF LIFE". What a great community spirit the St. John parishioners have for their fellow man . Today



James Mayfield donating blood.

we make a choice! Let's give someone another birthday or another anniversary. Start tomorrow and go down to our local American Red Cross Blood Center and say I've come to donate this Life saving (PRECIOUS GIFT). I want to help save a life! Don't wait! Let's do it now..

St. Paul School Celebrates Catholic Schools Week 2015 With Activities Expressing CSW Theme: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service

Submitted by Gina Sims

SAINT PAUL, Ky. - Every year St. Paul School Catholic Elementary School here and many other parochial schools across the nation celebrate Catholic Schools Week. It was celebrated the last week in January along with National School Choice Week. The students and faculty at St. Paul always look forward to the activities during this eventful week since it is always faith and fun filled. In a sense, it is akin to Spirit Week in the public schools. At a faith-based school especially, Spirit Week really is an appropriate title, since God, the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit are truly the foundation upon which our school is built; how fitting.

The theme this year was, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service." As part of the service aspect, throughout the year the students and faculty have "Dollar Jeans Days," in which they may be out of uniform for the low price of one dollar. This is quite a treat for students who regularly follow the student uniform policy. This money is collected through the year, and at the end of the school year it is donated to an orphanage in Mandeville, Jamaica, which is in part, sponsored by the school and parishes of St. Paul and St. Elizabeth, Clarkson.

When asked why we have Dollar Jeans Days, St. Paul student **Isaac DePoyster** said, "We collect the money for the people in Jamaica to help them because they don't have as much as we do." Service is only one aspect of the Catholic Schools theme this year.

In looking at the **Faith & Service** aspects of the focus this year, St. Paul decided to take a closer look at the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy within the Catholic Church. Each month the students focus on a different Work of Mercy and do activities related to that Work. Some of the activities were as follows;

September Work of Mercy- Shelter the Homeless- Students collected money for the Cardboard Nation Event, sponsored by Warm Blessings, Inc., which aided the homeless.

October Work of Mercy-Clothe the Naked- Students collected coats for the needy.

November Work of Mercy-Bury the Dead- Students participated in a trip to the cemetery in observance of All Soul's Day.

December Work of Mercy-Feed the Hungry- Students participated in a program to help in the local Soup Kitchen.

January/February Work of Mer-



Some of the students from Mrs. Emily Drake's & Mrs. Annette Cannon's classes portray their chosen Saint. Pictured are Rebecca DePoyster, John Pirtle, Shelby Davis, Jarek Whitworth, Molly Geary, Alex Skaggs, Chloe Collard, Corbin Geary, & Lilly DePoyster. Photos submitted by Gina Sims

cy-Visit the Imprisoned- Students were visited by officers from the Grayson County Detention Center, along with a K-9 Unit. The upper grades class also visited the jail at the end of February.

March Work of Mercy-Visit the Sick-Students will sing at a senior group function.

April Work of Mercy-Give Drink to the Thirsty-Students will pass out water at local relay event.

The **Knowledge** aspect of the focus in the Catholic Schools Theme is one that is not being forgotten at St. Paul. The students and faculty are so fortunate to be the recipient of an education grant through the Diocese of Owensboro that will grant \$7,600 to be used toward the enhancement of the school's already present technology program. The money is earmarked for new computers, IPADS for the classrooms, and new technology programs. These new items will not only be used in classes grades K-8 but also in St. Paul's preschool.

As Catholic Schools Week came to a close the students, parents, and faculty found they had all grown closer through learning and helping others, the way God

meant for us to be. Sometimes parents, faculty and contributors of the school must wonder if all they teach and try to do for children of the school, through not only teaching but also by trying to live as God would have them, is really making an impact on the children. After all, it does take a great deal of sacrifice, giving financially and spiritually to keep a small school going. I think a few quotes from some of the students will answer that question best. When asked why they liked coming to St. Paul School, these were some of the replies.

Jarek Whitworth-Grade 4- "St. Paul has a lot of fun activities like P.E., cross country, basketball and academic team. Sometimes we learn about Saints too, like Joan of Arc, Maximillian Kolbe and watch movies about them."

Rebecca DePoyster-Grade 3- "I like Math and Center time. That's when Mrs. Emily puts us in smaller groups and lets us work together. I like when Fr. Steve teaches us in Spanish class, and I really like Social Studies because it helps you learn about history."

Continued on page 9

Rediscover Catholicism

Thursday, April 9

Time:

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

Presenter:

Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

Cost:

\$10 fee includes lunch

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



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Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

This is a study based on the bestselling book, "Rediscover Catholicism" by Matthew Kelly, which is quickly becoming the most read Catholic book of our time. He reveals the essence of authentic Catholic spirituality while addressing some of the most important questions we face today as individuals and

This year-long program meets the second Thursday of each month (except July). Upcoming dates:
May 14, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10



Alex Skaggs-Grade 2-"I like it because you can go to church, and you can pray. You can't do that in some of the other schools."

Chandler Mudd-Grade 6-"I like St. Paul because it's smaller, and it's Christian based like LCA is. They have Spanish class, which will help us when we go to high school. The lunches are good. I like that we have recess every day and have time to be outside. Recess is important because you need time to interact with other kids. The kids here are all really nice too."

Shelby Davis-Grade 4-"I like learning about God. I like learning math, English, & reading."

Corbin Geary-Grade 1-"I like recess, lunch, and snack time the best, but I like to play on the IP-ADs too because you can play games that help you learn at the same time."

Josh Krom-Grade 7-"I like it at St. Paul because of the teachers. When there's something I don't know, Mrs. Butterworth takes the time to explain it so that I can understand. In other schools there are so many kids the teachers don't have that time. I like it here too because even if you like different things, nobody picks on you because of it. I really like being able to go to Mass twice a week."

Chloe Collard-Grade 3-"I like this school because you get to learn about Christ. If you didn't learn about Jesus then you might not get to heaven."

Keegan Sharp-Grade 5-"We get to have religion classes that some other schools aren't allowed



The St. Paul's Basketball Team, who started our Catholic Schools Week with an away game in Madisonville. St. Paul Team pictured are Gabe Mudd, Jacob Smith, John Smith, Will Higdon, Jarek Whitworth, Keegan Sharp, Isaac DePoyster, Wyatt Clemons, & Chandler Mudd.

to have. We also get to have Spanish class; I like learning Spanish."

Gabriel Mudd-Grade 8-"Everybody is nice and friendly, and we have good teachers. Everybody is your friend here. We go to Mass twice a week, and that's important because if you don't go to church, you don't get to receive the Eucharist. If you do go to church you receive the Eucharist that helps you connect with Jesus better. What's better than waking up and going to



Pictured here are students Gabe Mudd, Maddie Pierce, Joe Sims, & Isaac DePoyster with their teacher, Mrs. Joan Butterworth as they portrayed the Saint of their choice for one of the activities during Catholic Schools Week.

church when you get to school?"

Molly Geary-Grade 3-"I like doing work, art, and singing. I really like going to church because we pray to God that He will keep us safe. We go to church because it's a Holy thing that we need to do for God. It's very important because He wants us to learn to pray so we can be good people."

March Came In Like A Lion at Mary Carrico Catholic School



The Mary Carrico Catholic School Class of the Month for March: From L to R: Sister Mary Celine, Sixth graders Logan Horn, Savannah Conner, Jenna McDowell and Paige Fish. Photo by Chuck Green

At right: Mary Carrico Catholic School students are pictured during a recent presentation by Daviess County Conservation Officer Bill Fannin. The students meet with Mr. Fannin once per month to learn about wildlife conservation and safety.



Cassie Clark with the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) is pictured working with Mary Carrico students in grades 6th - 8th on their Individual Learning Plans. Students access the KHEAA website and develop a customized Career Cruising plan that helps them match their own individual interests with careers, colleges, and post secondary planning tools. The plan they develop while at Mary Carrico will follow them through their high school years and can be changed and updated as students build a quality resume of interest and accomplishments as they apply for college and/or careers.



By Fr. Josh McCarty

Lolek Productions' latest short-film, "Reen" addresses one of the hottest topics in the modern church: same-sex attraction. Same-Sex attraction is a difficult topic for many people to understand. Between knowing someone with a same-sex attraction and trying to uphold the Church's teaching about sexual relations, many people are confused. The confusion often leads to two perspectives: 1. It's all wrong or 2. It's all good. The Church's position is neither.

The Church's position is that all human life is precious and that sexual relations belong in a marriage between a man and a woman.

Reen Gutgsell of Jasper, Indiana challenges the stereotypes of same-sex attraction. All people have dignity; human sexuality is a great gift.

In January of 2014 Reen opposed same-sex marriage before the Indiana Legislature.

Reen



Short Films of Personal Testimony
iconproject

See for yourself at
lolekproductions.com

St. John Fish Fries in McCracken County

Submitted by Paul Roof

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. John Knights of Columbus are hosting All You Can Eat Fish Fry's during this Lenten season. Every Friday except Good Friday from 4 to 7 pm in our St. John Knights of Columbus Hall located in McCracken County across the highway from the St. John Evangelist Catholic Church. We are serving all you can eat deep fried catfish, baked catfish, tangy coleslaw, hush puppies, 500 baked potatoes, clean and cook 90 lbs. of northern beans, ice tea and lemonade. We also do four Fish Fry's in October. Our proceeds from our Lenten and October fish fry's goes to charities for the less fortunate. St. John's Knights of Columbus do a fish fry on the Friday night before our St. John Evangelist Picnic and the proceeds go to St. John church. Fish Fry's are a good way for our St. John Knights of Columbus to open our doors and have the community at large to come and enjoy the best catfish in the world. So come on out and unwrap a smile and savor the flavor. In this atmosphere of good food and



Hard workers: Stacey Courtney, Yolande Neihoff, Sally Roof and Cindy Crivello. Photos submitted by Paul Roof

warm friendship it is easy to evangelize by our smiles, our actions, our examples, our words, and if all of this fails WE then have to use our back-up plan, that is !!!!! eat some more "DEEP FRIED GOLDEN BROWN CATFISH FILLETS!"



The Main Focus of our work!



April, 2015 11



Fast Talkers!

The Holy Name School elementary **Academic Team** under the direction of head coach, Denise Roethemeier, competed in regional competition on Saturday, March 21, and earned a 1st place overall trophy. Results are as follows: Quick Recall Team (Members are Andrew Alvey, Jacob Gibbs, Tommy Groves, Anna Williams, Chloe Sprague, Brent Raleigh, Shaurya Jadhav and Parker McWilliams): 1st place, Math: Shaurya Jadhav; 2nd place, Science: Shaurya Jadhav, 1st place; Andrew Alvey, 4th place; Language Arts: Emma Gavin and Lauren Krampe, tied for 2nd place; Arts and Humanities: Anna Williams, 5th place; Future Problem Solving: 5th place. Coaches in each of these respective areas are: Denise Roethemeier – Quick Recall, Nancy Groves – Future Problem Solving, Vickie Stumph – Math, Dr. Bill McClellan – Science, Susan King - Composition. Pictured are: Top Row L to R: Anna Williams, Brent Raleigh, Andrew Alvey, Parker McWilliams and Tommy Groves; Bottom Row L to R: Chloe Sprague, Shaurya Jadhav, Connor Haynes, Jacob Gibbs, Lauren Krampe and Emma Gavin. Photo Credit: Briana Alvey



Delores O'Nan, Janet Neihoff, Jeri Durbin, Glenda Fayta: unsweetened or sweet tea?

Join our Spinning Retreat!

May 29-31, 2015

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

Saint Joseph May 29-31. 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



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Future Spinning Dates:
Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015
Dec. 4-6, 2015 Weekend



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Elizabeth Johnson Becomes a Passionist Novice

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - On February 13, the Passionist feast of the Solemn Commemoration of the Passion, Elizabeth Johnson from Lakeland, Florida, was clothed in our Passionist habit and received her new religious name. To have a white-veiled novice in our monastery is a great joy and a sign of hope for the future of our monastic community. Please continue to keep her in prayer as she begins her two-year novitiate training to prepare for her consecration to God through the five Passionist vows. As the Church calls everyone to renew their appreciation for the vocation of the Consecrated Life, Sister Lucia Marie has written an article about the great sacramental value of the religious habit. We include excerpts below. Visit our blog for complete article – www.passionistnunsblog.com

As we continue to share our reflections during this “Year of Consecrated Life,” we turn to consider one of the most visible signs of our consecration: the religious habit.

Let us consider the sign value of the religious habit. The habit is a sacramental, which means it signifies a spiritual reality in a visible manner, and exists



“Through the mercy of God, I desire to receive the holy habit, and to enter the novitiate, that I may follow Christ Crucified wholeheartedly...”

to help “prepare us to receive grace and dispose us to cooperate with it” (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1670). What “spiritual reality” does the habit signify? It makes visible to us the reality of the individual’s consecration to God, their vowed dedication to follow Jesus Christ with an undivided heart.



Sr. Lucia Marie with our two postulants, the novice directress and our superior gather near the image of our Holy Founder and his relic.



Elizabeth receives the holy habit. A religious habit, because it is blessed, is a sacramental – an instrument of God’s grace to the one who wears it and to those who see the religious. Wow. What a privilege to wear this garment – to live a life worshiping, serving and loving the Lord in holy attire. (cf. 1 Chronicles 16:29) Passionist Nuns Photos.

This consecration itself is also a sign, reminding the world of God, His love for humanity, and the eternal life He has offered us through His Son. By bringing these ideas to the minds of those who see the religious habit, the sacramental aspect of the habit is at work; as we remember these realities, we are opened to the action of grace.

The sacramental value of the habit is not only for those who see it, however. For us as cloistered nuns who are not often visible signs beyond the walls of our monastery, wearing the habit still serves to remind our sisters in community of our shared ideals. Our sharing of the religious habit is a very real occasion of bonding and camaraderie as we seek to serve the Lord together within this house of prayer. And to the individual wearer of the habit, it is also an occasion of grace, as it reminds her of who she is called to be for Christ and for His Church.

Finally, what does our community’s habit signify about our vocation as Passionist nuns? Like the habits of all consecrated religious, it certainly represents our poverty, chastity, simplicity of life, and our prophetic witness to God

and the heavenly homeland we strive towards. Yet our habit also displays our uniquely Passionist vow to promote dedication to and grateful remembrance of Christ’s Passion. When our Blessed Mother revealed the form of the habit to our holy founder, St. Paul of the Cross, through several visions, she emphasized that the Passionist religious were to be clothed in black. This stands as a sign of our life of perpetual mourning and grateful remembrance of Christ’s Passion and death, that most exquisite testament of His love for humanity. Similarly, the Passion Sign is a reminder of Jesus’ sacrifice for us, which ought to be continually in the hearts of all Christians even as it is visible upon our habit. As our habits reflect the interior reality we seek to live by our consecration, they also serve to remind those we encounter of the everlasting love with which God has loved us, even unto sending His only Son to die for our sins, that we might enjoy eternal life with Him.

“Dearly beloved, you must know that the main object in wearing black, according to the special inspiration God gave me, is to be clothed in mourning for the Passion and Death of Jesus. For this purpose let us never forget to have always with us a constant and sorrowful remembrance of Him.” (Saint Paul of the Cross)

To learn more about the Passionist Habit, or about the Year of Consecrated Life, check out our blog at www.passionistnunsblog.com.



Sr. Lucia Marie of the Mystical Body of Christ

*Dwelling with Mary
at the foot of the
Cross*

Passionist Nuns
of Saint Joseph Monastery

www.passionistnunsblog.com

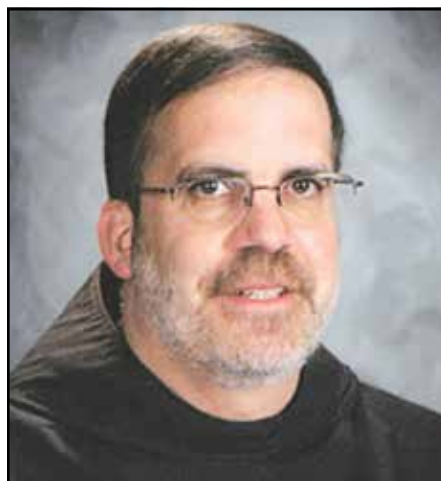
Vocation Retreats in 2015
June 20 - 21 & October 24 - 25

Pope Names Conventual Franciscan Father John Stowe as Third Lexington Bishop

LEXINGTON, Ky. - March 12, 2015. Today Pope Francis appointed Conventual Franciscan Father John Stowe as the Third Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington.

He will be installed as bishop of Lexington on May 5. The Lexington diocese was left vacant, when the pope appointed Bishop Ronald W. Gainer, Second Bishop of Lexington, as the Bishop of Harrisburg, PA. In the interim, Father Robert H. Nieberding has been the diocesan administrator.

Father John Stowe was born April 15, 1966, to John R and Lucy Satelli Stowe of Lorain, OH. He attended grade school at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, staffed by the Conventual Franciscans, and Lorain Catholic High School. Both are located in the Diocese of Cleveland. After a year of community college, Fr Stowe joined the formation program for the Conventual Franciscan Province of



Lexington's Bishop-elect John Stowe

Our Lady of Consolation at St. Bonaventure Friary in St. Louis, MO. During the time of his candidacy he began studies in philosophy and history at St. Louis University and completed a bachelor of arts degree in each in 1990, after an interrup-

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LOVE OR LUST?**

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& Paducah**

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more details on locations and times.

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tion for novitiate. In 1992 he professed solemn vows in the Order of Friars Minor Conventual. The Order of Friars Minor is the formal name for the religious order, which is more popularly known as the Franciscans. "Conventual" denotes that the friars live in community.

Bishop-elect Stowe earned a Masters of Divinity and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology in the field of Church History from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley (now affiliated with Santa Clara University). He served as a transitional deacon at St. David of Wales Parish in Richmond, CA, and completed his diaconate at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in El Paso, TX. In 1995 he was

ordained to the priesthood by Bishop A. James Quinn at his home parish of St. Anthony in Lorain. He was assigned to continue at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church as associate pastor. The parish is at the site of the Ysleta Mission, founded in 1682 and the oldest parish in Texas. It is on the U.S.-Mexico border and includes the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo of the Tigua tribe of Native Americans. Fr. Stowe would continue as pastor of that parish.

In December, 2002, Bishop-elect Stowe was invited by Bishop Armando X. Ochoa, of El Paso, to serve the Diocese of El Paso as Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General. He later also served

Continued on page 14

Can I Be a Catholic and a Freemason?

Father Thomas Ryan, CSP, Answers:



Question: *I've heard it said fairly often that if someone joins the Freemasons, they can be excommunicated from the Church. Is that true? Why is Freemasonry such a bad thing in the*

Church's eyes? I am a Catholic, and I love the Church, but I've also thought about joining the Freemasons, until I heard this.

Freemasonry is a fraternal organization that traces its origins to the loose organization of medieval stonemasonry. Today, in the United States, the Fraternity is divided between fifty-one Grand Lodges (one for each State, plus Washington DC), which taken together have a total membership of just under two million.

Freemasonry explicitly and openly states that it is neither a religion nor a substitute for one. "There is no separate Masonic God", nor a separate proper name for a deity in any branch of Freemasonry.

Regular Freemasonry requires that its candidates believe in a Supreme Being, but the interpretation of this term is subject to the conscience of the candidate. Consequently, Freemasonry accepts men from across the range of world religions.

Although members of various faiths cite objections, certain Christian denominations have had high profile negative attitudes to Masonry, banning or discouraging their members from being Freemasons.

The Roman Catholic Church has the longest history of objection to Freemasonry. The objections raised are based on the allegation that Masonry teaches a naturalistic deistic religion which is in conflict with Church doctrine.

What is Deism? Deism is the belief that reason and observation of the natural world are sufficient to determine the existence of God, accompanied with the rejection of revelation and authority as a source of religious knowledge. Deism gained prominence in the 17th and 18th centuries during the Age of the Enlightenment—especially in Britain, France, Germany and America—among intellectuals raised as Christians who believed in one god, but found fault with organized religion and could not believe in supernatural events such as miracles, the inerrancy of Scriptures, or the Trinity.

A number of Papal pronouncements have been issued against Freemasonry. The first was Pope Clement XII's in 1738; the most recent was by Pope Leo in 1890. The 1917 Code of Canon Law explicitly declared that joining Freemasonry entailed automatic excommunication and also forbade books friendly to Freemasonry.

In 1983, the Church issued a new Code of Canon Law. Unlike its predecessor, it did not explicitly name Masonic orders among the secret societies. This omission of Masonic orders caused both Catholics and Freemasons to believe that the ban on Catholics becoming Freemasons may have been lifted. However, the matter was clarified in November 1983 when the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a Declaration on Masonic Associations, which states:

"... the Church's negative judgment in regard to Masonic association remains unchanged since their principles have always been considered irreconcilable with the doctrine of the Church and therefore membership in them remains forbidden. The faithful who enroll in Masonic associations are in a state of grave sin and

may not receive Holy Communion."

In 1996 the Bishop of the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, published a list of organizations in which membership by Catholics was forbidden. The Freemasons were on that list, and the Vatican backed the issuance of the list.

There was also a six-year study of Masonry by the German bishops and a study of American Masonry by Professor William Whalen, who was commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Pastoral Research and Practices Committee. Both studies arrived at a similar conclusion: That the principles and basic rituals of Masonry embody a naturalistic religion in which active participation was judged to be incompatible with Christian faith and practice.

Thus, from a Catholic perspective, there is still a ban on Catholics joining Masonic Lodges. Are Catholics alone in this among Christians? No, but in contrast to Catholic allegations of rationalism and naturalism, Protestant objections are more likely to be based on allegations of mysticism and occultism.

In 1933, the Orthodox Church of Greece officially declared that being a Freemason constitutes an act of apostasy

and thus, until he repents, the person involved with Freemasonry cannot partake of the Eucharist. This has been generally affirmed throughout the whole Orthodox Church. The Orthodox critique of Freemasonry agrees with both the Roman Catholic and Protestant versions: "Freemasonry cannot be at all compatible with Christianity as far as it is a secret organization, acting and teaching in mystery and secret and deifying rationalism."

Regular Freemasonry has traditionally not responded to these claims. In recent years, however, this has begun to change, with some Masonic websites and publications addressing these criticisms. In this era of dialogue, perhaps it's time for a new one between Freemasonry and the Christian churches.

Fr. Tom Ryan, CSP, directs the Paulist North American Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in Washington, D.C. This article reprinted with permission of the author and the source of first publication, www.BustedHalo.com. Deacon Terry Larbes, Director of the Owensboro Diocesan Office of Ecumenism reviewed the article. He commented, "A Catholic man cannot become a Mason and stay a Mason and still be Catholic."

Pope Names Conventual Franciscan Father John Stowe Lexington's Bishop-elect

(Continued from page 22)

as Chancellor of the diocese. With a lack of priests in the diocese, Fr. Stowe also assumed the role of Administrator of Our Lady of the Valley Parish there, while serving in the Chancery. At the Province Chapter of 2010, Fr. Stowe was elected Vicar Provincial of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation; he resigned from the Chancery in El Paso and became Pastor and Rector of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, OH (Diocese of Toledo). He was re-elected vicar at the Chapter of 2014.

During his time in El Paso, Father John taught in the Tepeyac Institute for lay ministry, in the permanent diaconate formation programs for the Dioceses of Las Cruces and El Paso, and was active in community organizing in an organization called EPISO. He was active in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and frequently taught jointly with Rabbi Larry Bach of the Reformed Temple Mount Sinai. In the Franciscan Province Fr. Stowe chaired the Peace and Justice Commission and

the Finance Commission at different times and served a term as a definitor (provincial counselor), even prior to his election as Vicar Provincial.

The Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation was founded in 1875 and features a statue of Our Lady from that time brought from the mother shrine in Luxembourg. The Conventual Franciscans were given guardianship of the Shrine in 1912. Tens of thousands of pilgrims visit the shrine each year from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, especially on the Feast of Mary's Assumption in August.

Pope St. John Paul II established

the Diocese of Lexington from portions of the Archdiocese of Louisville, one of the oldest dioceses (a church area designation) in the nation, and the Diocese of Covington, KY, in March, 1988. Bishop-emeritus J. Kendrick Williams retired in 2002, and was succeeded by Bishop Ronald W. Gainer, who guided the diocese from 2003 to 2014, when Bishop Gainer was named the Bishop of Harrisburg, PA.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington encompasses 50 counties in Central and Eastern Kentucky with 63 parishes and 48,000 congregants.

Service to the Hispanic Community: Friar John Stowe, OFM Conv. meeting with pilgrims in Carey, Ohio ...

... said, "Having spent the first fifteen years of my priesthood along the U.S.- Mexico border, I have a particular awareness of the American church's history as a church of immigrants... Our church is enriched by immigrants. The U.S. church is truly Catholic, i.e. universal, because everyone has a home with us."

<http://franciscansusa.org/ministry/service-to-the-hispanic-community>

Thank You

By Teresa Anne Hayden

I reached in the mailbox and pulled out the mail. I thumbed through it until I found the envelope with the Memphis postmark. My heart sank. Although I expected it today, I dreaded its arrival. I took a deep breath and opened it. Don's handwriting read: "Teresa. Thanks for your prayers and support during Gary's illness." Gary's obituary was enclosed. It loomed in front of me like "The End" in a sad movie.

Gary was gay. And Gary had AIDS.

It was 1988, and although there was a worldwide campaign underway to educate the public about the disease, most of the world still feared it. Those who contracted AIDS - especially homosexuals - were the modern day lepers of our time.

Don was listed in the obituary as Gary's "significant other". I was stunned when he called to tell me that Gary had died. "Your letters meant so much to Gary," he said. "Some days I'd come home from work and he'd smile and say, 'Hey, I got a letter from Teresa today.'"

Sharing that with me was somewhat comforting because regret had assailed me as soon as Don told me the bad news. I had not gone to see Gary before he died. When I shared my regret with Don, he told me that the shape Gary was in - was not something I would have wanted to see.

Gary lived only two hours away and many times I wanted to visit him. But my family was skeptical and didn't think it was a good idea. I felt like I was caving in to the hysteria surrounding AIDS by not going, but I didn't want to cause my family to worry. So I decided to support him the best way I could. I started writing him.

We exchanged letters for months. As time passed and the disease aggressively attacked his body, I enlisted support from my church prayer group. Gary shared with me the problems he faced and I took them before my prayer group and we prayed for him. In one letter he told me his sight in one eye was deteriorating and asked, "Please pray that my one good eye stays healthy." His good eye never went bad.

In every letter, I assured Gary that God loved him and wanted to comfort him in his suffering. He was always appreciative. But now that he was gone, I



With God, all things are possible.

felt guilty for not going to see him when he was alive.

Then one night I had a dream: I was looking at Gary who was sitting in a chair, speaking to a man standing in front of him. His tone was tranquil. His soft mannerisms exuded the peace that enveloped the room. Instinctively, I knew we were in heaven.

As I walked over to Gary, he recognized me and smiled. I leaned down to hug him. The touch of his cheek against mine sparked a torch of kindred thoughts that passed between us. Our spirits were talking. And I knew he wanted to say something to me that was important. Then he whispered, "Thank you". And with those words, my feelings of guilt disappeared. And I, like him, was at peace.

The next day, I went to an AIDS ministry workshop sponsored by my church. I took my place at the table and reached for the folder containing my workshop materials. Opening it, I caught my breath. In the top corner of the first handout was a picture of Saint Francis, cheek-to-cheek with a leper embracing him. I recalled my dream the night before. I realized God was telling me that although I didn't visit Gary, every time we communicated by writing I was touching him with compassion. And Gary was responding to God's love.

From the very beginning, I felt God calling me to minister to Gary while he was dying. By not traveling the short distance to see him, I wondered, "Have I let God down?" But I learned in ministering to Gary that compassion does not always require a physical presence. God is not bound by our humanity. He manifests compassion in whatever miraculous way suits the need. We need only reach out with the desire to give it.

Get Moving at the Mount!

5K Run/Walk Saturday, May 30, 2015

8 a.m.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are hosting their second 5K – the official 5K for the Daviess County Bicentennial! It is



Join the Fun!



1815-2015

open to

walkers, runners, children and adults and will take place on the grounds and nearby roads.

All proceeds will support the ministries of the Ursuline Sisters.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

COST: \$20 per person if you sign up by May 1, 2015

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

Register by May 11 to be guaranteed a free T-shirt!

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56

For information, visit:

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

Find us on Facebook: Get Moving at the Mount



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

For more information,
contact Dan Heckel
270-229-4103 ext. 279
dan.heckel@maplemount.org

Recently, I read a meditation about Saint Francis. It explained that being an instrument of God's peace is becoming God's agent - mediating his love, joy and peace to the sorrowing, despairing and lonely. It reminded me of my relationship with Gary all those years ago. Every time I wrote him a letter, I was being God's instrument of peace during the time in his life when he needed it most. It didn't require a "thank you". But, God knew I needed to hear it. I needed to know I had made a difference in Gary's life. Even if it was from a distance.

Source: <http://www.teresahaydenwriter.com/>. Article reprinted with author's permission

In Your Kindness, Please Pray For The Repose Of The Soul Of Sister Mary Eileen Howard, OSU



MAPLE MOUNT — Sister Mary Eileen Howard, 87, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Sunday, March 8, 2015, in Owensboro, in her 67th year of religious life. She was a native of Whitesville. Sister Mary Eileen had a musical soul, and loved to help others enjoy music as a teacher or liturgist. She once said a lack of music "would be like taking all the birds out of the world."

She was a teacher at Mount Saint Joseph Academy, Maple Mount (1954-56, 1967-69), and Brescia College Music Center (1985-96). She also taught elsewhere in Kentucky and in Missouri. Sister Mary Eileen was a music minister at SS. Joseph and Paul Parish, Owensboro (1984-85), and was liturgist at Mount Saint Joseph (1976-84, 1996-2013).

She was preceded in death by her parents, Arnold Ignatius and Ethel Howard; and siblings Charles Howard, Michael Howard, Mary Jo Shory and Mildred "Genny" Howard.

Survivors include one sister, Ita Belle Howard of Whitesville; four brothers, James Howard of Louisville, Robert Howard of Whitesville, Daniel Howard of Philpot and Brice Howard of Owensboro; nieces and nephews; and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was at Mount Saint Joseph. Gifts in memory of Sister Mary Eileen may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.



Winning Racecar Engineers

St. Mary of the Woods School members of Cub Scout #247 participated in the annual Pinewood Derby: L to R back row: Deven Wathen, Nicholas Ward, Kristopher Howard, Dalton Millay; Front row L to R: EJ Stauffer - Most Original, Samuel Johnson, Jacob Howard with Second Place/Best Design trophy, Jacob Johnson-First Place, Will Jenkins. Troop Leader: Carrie Howard. Submitted by Sr. Suzanne Sims, OSU



Congratulations ... to the OCS 4-6 Elementary School 4th & 5th Grade Academic Team. On Saturday, Feb. 28, 2015, the 4th & 5th Grade Academic Team at OCS 4-6 competed in the District Academic Competition at Burns Elementary School. The OCS 4-6 Elementary Quick Recall Team placed 2nd in our District. Quick Recall Members Include: Johnathan Ford, John Michael Frey, Ryan Goldbach, Brooke Hamilton, Christopher Lewis, Nick O'Bryan, Maria Pfieler, Max Pride, Aaron Self, and Hunter Wimsatt. The following students placed in their individual focus areas: Hunter Wimsatt - 2nd Math; John Michael Frey - 3rd - Social Studies; Hope Ramming - 2nd Language Arts; Abby Kyle - 5th Language Arts; Nick O'Bryan - 1st Science; Christopher Lewis - 4th - Science; Maddie Cash - Arts & Humanities The team finished 2nd overall and will advance to the Regional Competition on March 21st. Congratulations to all team members. A big thank you to the coaches and all our teachers who serve as our focus group instructors. Photo submitted by Tracy Conkright

Gratitude as Gift

Tuesday, April 7

"Evening with an Ursuline"

Time:

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Presenter:

Sister Mary Matthias Ward

Cost:

\$15 fee includes meal

Contact Kathy McCarty to register

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Have you ever experienced a gratitude session? We know the importance of practicing gratitude. We will explore what we are grateful for and to whom we are grateful.

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August.

Coming up on May 5:

"Can Leadership be Redeemed or Redeeming?"

with Sister Amelia Stenger

Sharing Skills Farmer to Farmer

In the January, 2015 *Western Kentucky Catholic*, we told the story of Catholic Relief Services volunteer Glen Murphy, a Louisville Catholic who spent three weeks in Ethiopia teaching and learning with farmers in Catholic Relief Service's Farmer to Farmer program.

The WKC spoke again with Glen in January, 2015 about his CRS volunteer experiences. Glen has a Ph.D. in Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and is well versed in Production Agriculture, having worked as an industry agronomist for nearly 20 years. Glen has spent most of his career testing modern row crop production practices (including genetically modified organisms – GMO's) for the benefit of corn and soybean farmers in Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Despite spending most of his career in research, more recently Glen has taken interest in advocating on behalf of production agriculture.

"My trip to Ethiopia really opened my eyes to how so many of the basic production technologies US farmers take for granted offer tremendous hope for stabilizing food production in Africa." Glen's advocacy efforts often land him squarely in the middle of debates about GMOs and organic food, and he recently spoke to a group of Certified Crop Advisors (CCA's) in Evansville, IN posing the question "Should urban America be telling the GMO/Organic story of Production Ag?"

As a Louisville native and current resident who works closely with farmers throughout Kentucky and southern Indiana, Glen felt he had a unique perspective to share in hopes of bridging knowledge-gaps between farming communities and urban/suburban America. Glen has also spoken to urban audiences wanting more information on production agriculture and this past September, 2014, presented alternative perspectives to an activist organization called the Louisville Sustainability Forum.

Awakening to the reality that production ag is very different in third world and developing countries, Glen answered a call from Catholic Relief Services to go to Ethiopia to teach farmers there basic techniques for improving crop yields including: crop row spacings, crop rotation use of fertilizers, and introduced the concept of conservation or no-tillage, a production practice Glen says is a product of Kentucky farmer ingenuity and is gaining



Glen Murphy

popularity all over the globe.

How did Glen's awakening begin?

Glen said that he was living the American dream in Louisville, and then he noticed Pope Francis on his first day as Pope asking people to pray for him. Glen followed news stories about Pope Francis and heard the Pope's call to serve the poor of this world. Glen's cradle Catholic spirituality was supercharged by this Pope. He talked it over with his pastor and deacon at Saint Patrick's Parish in Louisville who introduced him to CRS. With the support of his family, Glen made the trip in May of 2014.

He said, "My living the American Dream had begun to feel hollow. And I felt a need to live a more authentic, Catholic life as a man, a husband, a father, and in my career. The Pope's sayings would not leave me alone."

Glen belongs to a breakfast group of agricultural professionals called the Fellowship of Christian Scientists. "Einstein said that 'coincidence is God's way of being anonymous.' God was calling me through Pope Francis. I felt a strong pull to learn and teach about food production methods in other parts of the world. In Ethiopia, I experienced subsistence farming and came to the epiphany that no one deserves to be undernourished when we live the way we do in the US."

Glen Murphy said he is willing to talk with Catholic communities and schools to educate them on food production practices in the US and subsistence farming in developing nations such as Ethiopia. "I'm two generations removed from the farm, but always open to helping farmers. Whether they farm 1,000 acres in Kentucky, or 1 acre in Africa, to me farming is among the most noble professions in the world. Contact him by email at glen.p.murphy@monsanto.com

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

2015-2017

Registration is now open for the next program, which begins the week of Oct. 26.

The mission of this program is to prepare people for the ministry of spiritual direction and to enhance the skills of experienced spiritual directors, in the spirit of Saint Angela Merici. Participants will meet for eight weekly sessions over a two-year period. The Spiritual Direction Training Program at Mount Saint Joseph began in 2004. More than 40 individuals from across the U.S. have completed the program.



TOPICS AND DATES

Spirituality	Oct. 26-30, 2015
Spiritual Direction	Jan. 11-15, 2016
The Inner Journey	April 4-8, 2016
Prayer and Scripture	July 25-29, 2016
Theology.....	Oct. 17-21, 2016
Ethics of Spiritual Direction	Jan. 9-13, 2017
Supervision	April 3-7, 2017
Case Studies and Retreat	July 31-4, 2017

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

Presence at all sessions is required to receive a certificate.

To register or for more information, contact Sheila Blandford:

270-229-4103 ext. 804

sheila.blandford@maplemount.org

A brochure can be found at www.ursulinesmsj.org under Conference & Retreat Center - Spiritual Direction

(Limited scholarships are available. Contact Sister Ann McGrew: 270-229-0200)



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

18 April, 2015

How Much Does It Cost A Borrower To Pay Off a \$100 Loan at an Interest Rate of 391%?

By Katherine Goetz

Are you aware that the payday loan industry can charge interest at a higher rate than any other lenders in Kentucky? Under Kentucky law, the interest on all loans is capped at 36% per year, except for the payday loan industry, which can charge up to 391%. Senate Bill 32, filed by Republican Senator Alice Forgy Kerr and co-sponsored by Senators Reginald Thomas, Dennis Parrett, Albert Robinson, Julian Carroll, Perry Clark, and Denise Harper Angel, sought to level the playing field by capping the interest rates charged by payday lenders to 36% APR.

Senate Leadership, which includes President Robert Stivers, Senator Damon Thayer, Senator Jimmy Higdon, and Senator David Givens, refused permission for the bill to be heard in the State and Local Government committee to which it had been assigned. Senator Dan Seum is the only member of Republican Leadership who agreed to support our valid request for a committee hearing.

The Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending and a local member organization, BUILD, have spent the last several months pressing senators to end the abuses of payday lending. 8 out of 11 members of the State and Local Government Committee, Democrats and Republicans alike, support passing a 36% rate cap. One of the supporters, Senator Joe Bowen of Owensboro, is chair of the State and Local Government Committee. Senator Bowen agreed to hear the bill if Leadership allowed. Despite this overwhelming support, Senate Leadership stood in the way of a hearing which would have brought to light the predatory practices of payday lenders.

Payday lenders advertise a one-time quick fix, but the truth is that they trap borrowers in a cycle of debt. The business model of the industry is built on the assumption that most borrowers will be unable to repay the loan in the stated 2-week time period, and will be pressed to renew the loan. The model is sound. 99% of payday loans in Kentucky in 2013 were generated by borrowers taking out multiple loans per year. The average payday loan borrower in Kentucky is stuck in 10 loans per year.

Payday lending helps neither the borrower nor the Kentucky economy as a whole. Thousands of families are driven to economic ruin by the exorbitant interest rates, and the industry siphons \$122 million from the Kentucky economy each year. Is this the type of industry Kentuckians want for the Commonwealth?

Certainly not, if you believe the results of a 2011 poll which indicates that 73% of Kentuckians (equally Republicans and Democrats) support a 36% cap on payday loans. Certainly not, if you agree with 32 faith groups (including the Catholic dioceses of Owensboro, Lexington, Covington, and Louisville) and 57 non-profits who make up the Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending. These are people who have experience with picking up the pieces when desperate borrowers come to them for help with getting out of the payday lending debt trap.

Let your state Senator and your state representative know that you are outraged that our government has allowed 391% loans to thrive in our state. 36% is the limit for all other loans in Kentucky. Why are payday lenders the only exception?

Katherine Goetz writes from St. Peter Parish, Lexington, KY. Contact her at ks-goetz@live.com.

Over The Rim, Backspin, Follow Through!



Reese Hagan, 9, won the Kentucky State Free Throw Challenge Championship in Lexington, KY on Sunday, March 15. Reese Hagan is a student at St. Ann School in Morganfield.



Immaculate Parish Welcomes Trevor Thomson

On the weekend of May 2-3 the diocese of Owensboro will "sway and pray" to the sound of music by Trevor Thomson! Trevor is a contemporary Catholic recording artist that travels the country spreading the Gospel through song and prayer. The entire music program at Immaculate will be hosting Trevor for a full weekend of music including a workshop, a "coffee shop style" program, and a full concert open to the public. Matt Gray, director of music/liturgy at Immaculate is super excited to have Trevor at the parish and in our diocese.

Trevor's music is well known at Immaculate and there couldn't be a better time for this event. His music, although enjoyed by all ages, has a special sound that relates to the youth and a younger generation. In addition to the traditional adult choir and cantors, Immaculate is now enjoying the ministry of a Youth Music Group (middle school and high school), a Children's Choir (grade 2-6), and a contemporary music group called "Schola Rejoice," and all groups will be involved in the event. It will be a special time for the music ministry of Immaculate.



Trevor's involvement in music began in high school. Then in 1999, Trevor gained national recognition with the release of *In This Place*, an album of original music. He then began performing at events all over the United States. Six more albums followed: *Before You*, *the Worship Project*, *Eyes to You*, *Christ in Me Arise*, *In Shadow and In Light*, and his latest release (December 2014) *Seven Bridges Way*. He has many songs published by Oregon Catholic Press, (Spirit and Song.com) and World Library Publications, WLP, including the *Mass for the Healing of the World*, which have come from twenty five years of active ministry. All of this work has come from a deep place of prayer and surrender, pointing the listener to the realization that we are all loved immensely by our Almighty Creator.

Some of Trevor's songs that are used here in the parish (and maybe around the diocese) include, 'In This Place', 'Healing Waters', 'Christ in Me Arise', and 'We Belong to You'.

Although more details are being worked through, Trevor will be here all weekend and a music ministry workshop for all area music ministers is in the works. He will also be included in the music for the regular weekend Masses on May 2-3 at 4:30PM, 8AM, and 10AM, along with Immaculate's regular program. Matthew Gray is in his 19th year as music director at Immaculate, and is super excited to work with Trevor, as they share similarities in their approach to music ministry and composition.

Specific info about the workshop: to keep up to date as details are confirmed, please email Matt Gray at matt@grayskymusic.com or call at 270-683-0689. Save the date for the concert: **SUNDAY MAY 3, 2015, 2PM at Immaculate Parish,**

2516 Christie Place in Owensboro, KY *Submission: Nicole Gray*

Job Opportunity in Owensboro

Blessed Sacrament Chapel, parish of sixty families in the Diocese of Owensboro has a job opportunity for a Part-Time Parish Life Coordinator. This position is located at 602 Sycamore Street, Owensboro, KY. The Parish Life Coordinator provides an administrative and pastoral leadership for the parish. Qualifications include: Bachelor's degree in theology, ministry or a related field, Liturgical and Catechetical knowledge, Planning and implementing Parish activities for faith formation, Weekly liturgy with an Afro-centric focus Coordinating fundraising and parish social events, Maintaining a Catholic presence and evangelization in the African American Community, Record keeping and reporting in accordance with Diocesan policies, Minimum 2-3 years' experience of performing office duties, Must have ability to communicate effectively and cordially in both verbal and written form, Experience with Word, Excel, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Outlook, Social Media, Possess good writing and problem-solving skills, Must be able to work independently, Flexibility to work evening and weekend hours and hold driver's license

Fish Fry Meals, Calvert City Knights of Columbus, Council #10988

April, 2015 19

CALVERT CITY, Ky. - The Saint Pius Tenth Parish's fish fry meals this Lent were snowed out due to some uncharacteristic weather for this part of the world. These pictures were taken on Feb 27, 2015.



(Seated L to R) Dolly Bardsley, Diane Witowski discuss how tender and fresh tasting the fish is which is prepared by the Knights of Columbus, Council 10988. Standing left is Maryann Huebschmann.

In the photo below, William Weigle and Russell Tomlinson prepare beans, which are included in the fish fry meal.



Father Anthoni and Joe Cirrito enjoy fellowship with several friends of the Knights of Columbus. Photos submitted by R.J. Witowski



(L to R) Knights James Poat, John Brooks and Kyle Varel delicately prepare fish for friends and Parish Members of St Pius X.

Trinity's Hannah Armes Wins Good Citizen Award

On Sunday, February 8th at the Owensboro Area Museum of Science and History, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recognized several students for the Good Citizen Award. One of these recipients was a Trinity High School senior, Hannah Armes. Her parents are Richard and Lisa Armes of Whitesville. This award recognizes individuals who possess good citizenship qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism in their homes, schools and communities. These students are selected by their teachers and peers because they demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree.

Photo taken by Lisa Armes.



To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331).

In addition, to report to the diocese abuse by church personnel (paid or volunteer) either past or present, please call the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator at this confidential phone line: 270-852-8380. The Diocese of Owensboro revised its sexual abuse policy, effective July 1, 2014 and it is available at parishes and also on the diocesan web site (www.rcdok.org/safe).

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. The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian.

Reportar las Acusaciones de Abuso Sexual

Cualquier persona que sepa de un abuso de un menor de dieciocho años es obligado por ley informarles a las autoridades estatales apropiadas: policía local o la línea dedicada para el Abuso Infantil de Kentucky (gratis: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331).

Además, para informar a la Diócesis sobre el abuso por parte de algún personal (pagado o voluntario) de la Iglesia, en el pasado o presente, favor de llamar a la Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral a esta línea confidencial: 270-852-8380. La Diócesis de Owensboro acaba de revisar su reglamento sobre el abuso sexual, efectivo el 1 de Julio del 2014 y está disponible en todas las parroquias y también en el sitio web diocesano (www.rcdok.org/safe).

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-Presidente), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Presidente), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, y Ms. Kelly Roe. La hermana Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, sirve como enlace entre el Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano.



12 Counselors Ready To Help Western Kentucky Catholics

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro is involved in several ministries for the Catholic Church in Western Kentucky: Adoptions, Family Life, Counseling, Saint Gerard Home, Justice For Immigrants, and Opportunities For Life.

Within the Counseling Services for the Diocese, Catholic Charities collaborates with several counselors who offer their services at a reduced rate for parishioners of the Diocese of Owensboro. Catholic Charities and many parishes supplement this discounted rate for up to 6 counseling sessions. The counselor you choose should be informed of the parish you attend. Confidentiality is assured. Neither Catholic Charities nor the parish will receive the name of the person being counseled; only the parish of the client and presenting problem such as marital, depression, etc.

Each of the therapists that Catholic Charities works with is qualified to offer counseling for individuals, couples and family issues.

Rita Heinz, Diocesan Catholic Charities Director said, "The Diocese of Owensboro currently has 12 counselors within the diocese with whom we have an agreement. We are working to expand counseling to more areas especially in the Grayson/ Breckenridge county vicinity and Hopkinsville. The counselors and their contact information are listed on the diocesan website under ministries/counseling at http://rcdok.org/ministries/catholic_charities/. People hear about the counselors available to them from their pastor, parish office staff, bulletin, McRaith Catholic Center staff, diocesan website, friends, and family.

"CAP (Congregational Assistance Program) is structured to provide parishioners with short-term counseling. If extended treatment is needed, counselors will provide an assessment and referral to appropriate mental health resources. We ask that parishioners who desire to utilize this service, verify that they are members of a parish by presenting a parish envelope, their picture in a parish directory, or some other way. Parishioners are expected to pay a portion of each counseling session (average of \$15-\$20) and the parish and Catholic Charities pays for the remainder of the cost."

The following counselors currently have a contract with Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Charities:

Bowling Green

• **Dr. Jill Duba Sauerheber, LPCC**, EMDR Certified, Bowling Green KY 42103 (270) 996-7396

• **Holly Wortman Ph. d.** Associates in Counseling 1011 Lehman Ave, Suite 106 Bowling Green, Ky 42103 (270) 783-8100

Henderson

• **Michael Farina, PhD** Licensed Psychologist Dr. Silva & Associates PSC 1413 N Elm Street, Suite 205 Henderson, KY 42420 (270) 827-5469

Owensboro

• **Shannon Sullivan Wright, LCSW** Licensed Clinical Social Worker 3110 Fairview Drive, Suite 113 Phone (270) 685-3221

• **Linda Domerese, D.Min** Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Cornerstone Counseling 527 Allen Street Phone (270) 685-0110

• **Joe Bob Pierce, LMFT** Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Cornerstone Counseling 527 Allen Street Phone (270) 685-0110

• **Angela Basham Bell, LCSW** Counseling Associates 1316 Frederica Street Owensboro, KY 42301 270-686-7999

• **Pamela Hayes, LCSW** Counseling Associates 1316 Frederica Street Owensboro, KY 42301 270-686-7999

• **Michael Flaherty, MA** Counseling Associates 1316 Frederica Street Owensboro, KY 42301 270-686-7999

• **Michelle Mayfield, LMFT** Counseling Associates 1316 Frederica Street Owensboro, KY 42301 270-686-7999

Let's Meet One of the 12 Counselors Working With Diocesan Catholic Charities

Hello, my name is Jill Duba Sauerheber. I have been a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bowling Green, KY since 2004 when I moved to Kentucky to accept a faculty position in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs at Western Kentucky University. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving St. Joseph as the Secretary on Parish Council, on various other hiring committees (i.e., the Hispanic Ministry Director, and Bookkeeper), and as an annulment field advocate. I also assisted Father Jerry Riney when he was at Holy Spirit in summarizing the PRE-PARE/ENRICH assessment data with premarital couples. Of late, I have been working with Father Josh McCarty and Mr. Joe Bland in presenting at the Marriage Formation retreats, as well as developing the presentation content. Finally, I have a contract with the diocese to provide counseling to Catholic parishioners at a discounted rate.

I am excited about my work with couples; and am currently accepting new couples in my practice. I am currently in the final step of earning a certification in the Gottman Couples Therapy Method. In brief, the Gottman Method of Couples Therapy is designed to help teach couples specific tools to deepen their friendship and intimacy. In addition the approach aims at helping couples productively manage conflicts, manage "solvable problems" and dialogue about "grid-locked" (or perpetual) issues. Spouses are encouraged to appreciate their relationship's strengths, as well as practice navigating through its vulnerabilities. Part of the last step of this certification requires me to share and present videos of my work with couples to the Gottman Relationship Institute. During this last step, I am offering couples counseling sessions at a significant discount of \$35/hour (as my hourly rates are \$80)

Paducah

• **Janice K. Schofield, M.S., PSC** Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist 131 Nahm Street, Suite 9 Paducah, Ky 42001 270/443-3474

upon their agreement to participate in the video recordings. In addition, I am willing to conduct brief couples workshops at a discounted rate of \$35/hr for groups of couples in your parish. I can be reached at 270.996.7396 or jill.sauerheber@gmail.com. Interested parties can also visit my temporary web-site at <https://sites.google.com/site/jillsauerheber/>.



Dr. Jill Duba Sauerheber

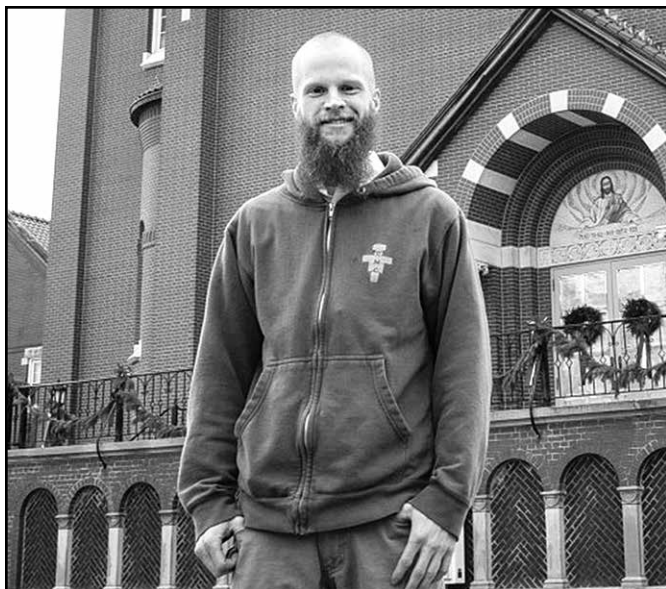
[If there are ongoing contraindications to the success of the relationship such as ongoing infidelity, domestic violence or substance abuse, couples are asked to consider couples

counseling after those issues have been addressed.]

Jill Duba Sauerheber is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and a National Certified Counselor. She is EMDR certified, Reality Therapy Certified, has completed levels 1-3 of the Gottman Couples Therapy Method; and holds a Certification of Study in Adlerian Psychology. She earned a master's degree in Marriage and Family Counseling in 1999; and a doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision in 2004. She has published over 55 journal articles, book chapters and edited 2 books addressing areas related to Adlerian psychology, couples counseling, psychopathology, and religious factors in counseling. Dr. Sauerheber has conducted over 45 national and international presentations, and over 60 regional and state presentations related to similar topics. She is currently serving as president of the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology. In ad-

Continued on page 21

• **Cindy Owen, LCSW** 5120 Village Square Drive, Suite 101 Paducah, KY 42001 Phone: 270-538-0851



Utica Native Joins NYC Friary

By Danny May

For a country boy from Utica, moving to New York City was a bit of a culture shock. Yet, that's where Utica native Andrew Austin ended up when he joined the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a Roman Catholic Religious order with a house in the Manhattan borough of Harlem. Instead of the open fields and two lane, country roads he's used to, Austin's neighborhood now consists of row houses, busy streets, and the constant honks and sirens associated with big city life. Still, Andrew is completely content and very happy being exactly where God has planted him.

Andrew actually grew up in Owensboro but his family moved to Utica when he was going to Apollo, where he graduated in 2009. Ever since he was young, Austin says he was always raised around the farm. "My mom would drive me out and drop me off with my uncles so I could work on the farm all day in the fields. I loved it. It's where I feel comfortable."

Now he's working in a very different field – serving the poor in the inner city. As a first-year "postulant" (which comes from the Latin word meaning "to ask"), Andrew has taken the first step to join the religious community, which is a ten month period to observe religious life, see how the community functions, and discern if the Lord is calling him to take the next step. If he continues, the "novitiate" is a further year of discernment, followed by four years of temporary vows and then final vows. "It's very beautiful the way it's set up. It allows plenty of time for discernment," Austin commented. "Which is the way it should be, it's a big commitment. But I'm excited to continue on and see if this is where God is ultimately calling me."

Owensboro Living sat down with Andrew while he was home for Christmas to get the full story:

OL – How did you hear about the Franciscans Friars of the Renewal?

AA – It's funny. I tell people my vocation revolves around Mexican food. I started discerning religious life and I felt called to a more active, apostolic life working with the

poor. Then about two years ago, while I was in college at Western, I was home one weekend and my family went out to eat at El Toribio's down by the river and I walked these two guys in grey habits. Seeing them created an interest in me. Praise be to God for Google because I searched "grey habits, long beards" and I found out who they were. I read about them and saw that they worked with the poor so I looked into it a little bit deeper. At first I wrote it off because they were in New York City, but I prayed about it more, set up a visit, and it just seemed right. So that's where I am right now.

It's such a blessing being in the city because there's a lot of need and we're able to try and fill that void by being present to the people. A lot of what we do is really very simple. We're just present to the poor and the people we serve.

OL – What kind of work do you do?

AA – We have a soup kitchen we run out of our house on Thursdays and we do "door ministry" where people can come by and get a cup of coffee or a sandwich and we just hang out with them. These people are just like you and me. They just want to be loved and have a friend and someone to talk to. That's why it's such a blessing that I was nurtured in a great environment here in Kentucky, from a great family full of people who have always been present to me and taught me how to love others too. I definitely feel I'm able to love people where they're at because of where I was brought up and because of all the blessings God has bestowed upon me through my family and friends.

And we go to other friaries and help out as well. There's another homeless shelter in the Bronx that we volunteer at, a youth center in the Bronx, and another soup kitchen in Yonkers. We rotate and go to those once a week.

OL – Looking back on your first four months, what has been your greatest challenge?

AA – Living in the city is challenge for me because it's not my nature. But it's a good challenge. It's a great opportunity. I feel a lot closer to God. Praying four hours a day is such a blessing. It says in the community's constitution that we'll have an hour of adoration, an hour of Mass, we'll pray out of the breviary five times a day, and pray a rosary every day. Having that much time to be present to God and just "be still and know that God is God" is such a blessing.

OL – What has been the best thing about it so far?

AA – There's so many... I will say that it's been very encouraging to work with the poor and to see how appreciative they are and how they allow me to grow as well. They're very honest and very open. I have a lot of room to grow in that area, so they can teach me a lot.

OL – What is the brotherhood like?

AA – I tell people I just gained 120 family members because that's how many brothers there are total from postulancy to final vows. We're divided into different houses. They say if you want to grow in your faith then surround yourself with good people. Well, I'm surrounded by so many good people there. People that encourage me. People that help me to be closer to God and to be a better man. I knew when I started to discern that I needed community. I knew it would either have to be marriage or religious life because I needed someone there to help me be my best. I knew diocesan priesthood was too isolated for me. I needed that support system...

Living in community can be challenging, but you learn a lot about yourself. It's a good struggle. It's a great opportunity.

Not everyone is called to religious life, but He does call some to this way of life. What we do in religious life is live a radical life like Jesus did. We live simply because we believe Christ was poor. We live chastely because we believe Christ never married and lived celibate throughout his life. And we live obediently – as Christ lived obediently to the Father, we live obediently to our superior.

OL – Did you have any experiences growing up here in Owensboro that helped shape your calling to serve the poor?

AA – I've had a servant's heart for a while. But it really took off in college, especially in working with Habitat. But this is a funny story – when I was 16 I got in trouble for muddin' under a bridge in McLean County and I got 20 hours of community service, so I worked down at the Pitino Shelter. I thought it was awesome! I loved it. I served food to the homeless who came in. That may have been my first exposure to working with the poor. And now I do it every day.

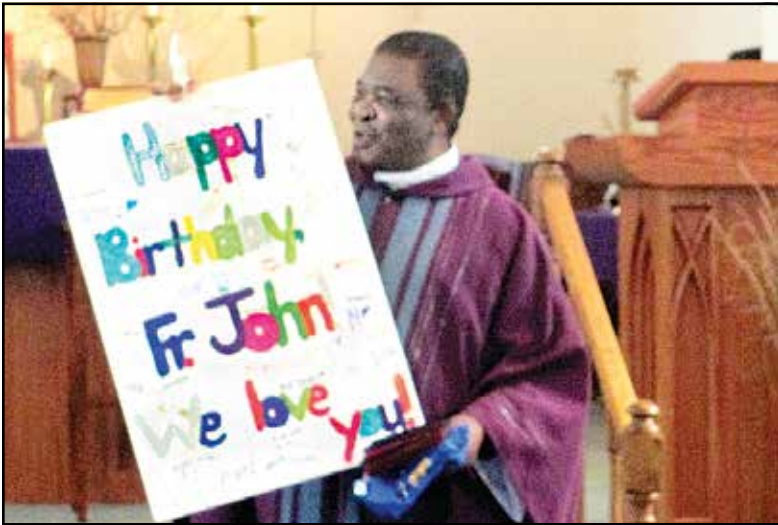
Reprinted with Permission from Owensboro Living, January, 2015, <http://owensboroliving.com/the-buzz/utica-native-joins-nyc-friary/>.

**Photo by David Grinnell,
OwensboroLiving.com.**

Dr. Jill Duba Sauerheber

(Continued from page 20)

dition to providing counseling services, she is privileged to serve the Catholic community and Diocese of Owensboro in conducting workshops and lectures for both married and premarital couples. She also reviews the results of PREPARE/ENRICH assessments with couples preparing for marriage. Dr. Sauerheber is also a counselor educator, teaching and supervising graduate counseling. She lives with her husband, Jim and pup, Wexford in Bowling Green, KY



Pictured is Father John O'koro Paster of St. William and St. Lawrence Churches holding a large birthday card presented to him by the students at Mary Carrico Catholic School on Feb 25, 2015.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



All are invited to join with Bishop Medley for Evening Prayer
Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.
to pray for PROTECTION and HEALING for all impacted by child abuse.
Holy Name of Jesus Church, 511 Second Street, Henderson, KY



JOIN THE
Diocese of Owensboro



WORLD YOUTH DAY KRAKOW 2016

JULY 24 - AUGUST 1, 2016 | \$4,029 FROM NASHVILLE (BNA)

www.pilgrimages.com/owensboro



Thursday, April 23rd - 6:30 – 8pm
Owensboro Health Regional Hospital Auditorium

Major General (ret.) Mark & Carol Graham present

THE INVISIBLE FRONT



The unforgettable story of a military family that lost two sons – one to suicide and one in combat – and channeled their grief into fighting the armed forces' suicide epidemic.



Open to the Public – Free of Charge

Please join us as the Graham's help us to a new understanding of the human cost of war and its lingering effects off the battlefield.

Sign in begins at 6:00 p.m.



2015 Spring Presentations

“Tough Talk”

**Suicide Prevention With Men:
Assessment, Treatment & Management**



Friday, April 24th - 8:30am – 4:00pm
Owensboro Health Regional Hospital – Auditorium

Presented By -

William “Bill” Schmitz, Jr., Psy.D.

President of the American Association of Suicidology

Cost - \$50.00 (6.5 CEU's available)



Topics include: Case examples – How can we do better / vision for the future – Facts & Statistics and the need for training – High risk groups – What's up with men and how we can reach them – Impact of traditional male values – How to connect – Informed consent – Limits of Confidentiality – Importance of direct language – Essential terms – What we know and don't know about suicide risk detection and management – Theory – Risk Factors vs. warning signs – Suicide risk management – Treatments that work – Crisis response planning (safety plans) – Means restriction – Technology / an invaluable resource – Documentation – Closing the cycle of care.

To register, use the following link – <https://surveymonkey.com/s/GLP9WNP>

Questions: www.orspc.org or email – orspc@centurylink.net

Pioneer Catholics: From Maryland to Kentucky presentation on Nov. 3

Do you ever think about where your ancestors came from, why they came to western Kentucky and why they stayed? The pioneers came to western Kentucky with their dreams, hopes and struggles, but especially their deep Catholic faith that permeates even unto today.

You can find out more about the pioneers of western Kentucky by joining a discussion at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 3 at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. The evening will begin with a delicious meal at 5:30, followed by the program titled, "Pioneer Catholics: From Maryland to Kentucky."

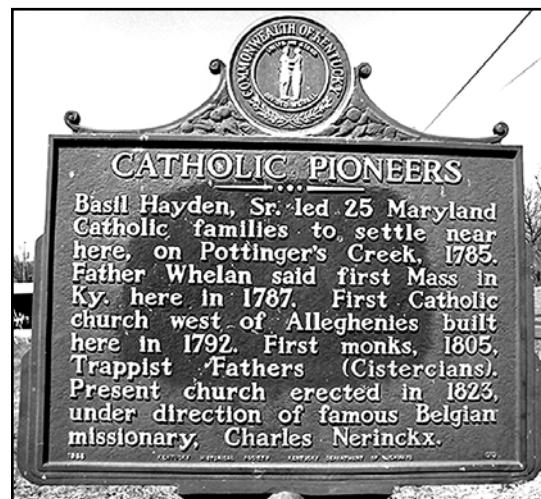
The central Kentucky area near Bardstown is known as the "Catholic Holy Land of Kentucky." This presentation will be given by Ursuline Sister George Mary Hagan, a na-



Built in 1792, Holy Cross Church became the first Catholic church erected in the state and site of the first mass west of the Allegheny Mountains. <http://kentuckykindredgenealogy>

tive of that area. She was involved in the planning of the Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond 2014 Reunion that brought 465 people to St. Catharine College in Springfield, Ky., in June 2014. The reunion united descendants of the pioneers who came from Maryland and settled in central Kentucky.

For more information and to register, contact Kathy McCarty at 270-229-4103 or e-mail kathy.mccarty@maplemout.org.



St. Gabriel the Archangel

A Catholic Community in Louisville, KY

Coordinator Of Youth Ministry Job Announcement

St. Gabriel the Archangel parish, a vibrant Catholic community of over 2,000 families in Louisville, KY, seeks an individual who feels called to minister to middle school and high school youth. This full time, salaried position will be responsible for growing and implementing programs that empower young people to live as disciples of Christ encouraging spiritual and personal growth.

The preferred candidate will possess the following minimum qualifications: practicing member of the Roman Catholic Church; bachelor's degree in Theology, Religious Studies, or related field; two years practical experience with teens in a parish setting; leadership experience; and vision consistent with the guiding principles of "Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry."

To apply, send cover letter, professional resume, and current recommendations by April 24th, 2015 to: St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church, ATTN: "Youth Ministry Search," 5505 Bardstown Rd, Louisville, KY 40291; or email: Jschwartzlose@stgabriel.net.

5 New Short Films to Help Your Family

By Matthew Schuler, Kara Powell

As parents, we're guessing. A lot.

We're not sure about this, we make hunches about that, and we constantly feel like we're failing. Most of the time, we don't talk about it. Even when we bring a partner or trusted friend into our struggles, our deepest questions can remain buried in insecurity.

And what about what's actually worked? The moments we've really nailed it? We rarely focus on those since our parenting victories are immediately eclipsed by the next unexpected challenge.

It's time to talk, both about our failures and our successes as parents. And we've made some films to help.

Through a compelling blend of real-life stories and interviews with parents, this new five-week video curriculum drops you into the latest national family research, and into the hearts of parents discussing their own struggles, successes, and ideas that have shaped lasting faith in their own families.

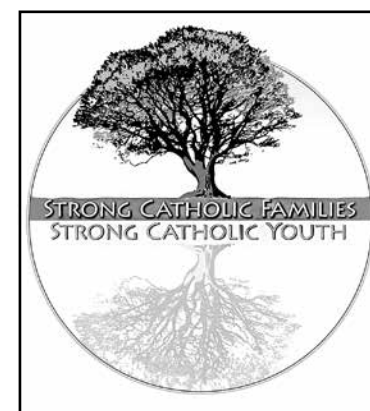
Season 1 includes five short films:



- Why – Why talk about parenting? Because 1 in 2 kids drift from God after High School.
- Mirror – What happens when I see things in my kids I don't like?
- Warm – How can I create a safe place to connect with my kids?
- Spark – How do I create a flourishing connection with my kids?
- Plan – What do I do next?

Join Kara Powell and a host of parents like you in a fresh, honest look at parenting strategies. Discover new ideas that work and create a personalized plan for integrating those ideas into your own family routine.

- See more at: <http://fulleryouthinstitute.org/blog/5-new-films#sthash.IKHAPkF4.dpuf>



YOUTH 2000

YOUTH 2000 is an intense spiritual retreat for youth who come to Brescia University to be spiritually fed by talks that touch hearts which then often seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The pictures here tell some of this fantastic story of graces Jesus offered about 530 Catholic youth and their adult chaperones at this retreat held March 13-15. It has been taking place for the past 18 years in our diocese and is co-sponsored by the Marian Shrine Committee and the Offices for Youth Ministry & Faith Formation. The goal of the retreat is to raise awareness of the "Real Presence" of Christ in the Eucharist.

Participants heard many presentations and witness stories of faith from speakers and shared six workshops guided by panels of spiritual companions.

Each panel contained a priest, a Sister or a Deacon, a single Catholic, a married couple, a moderator, and a questions screener. This latter person listened to the participant's question to decide if it was an appropriate question for the panel or if it had already been asked.

A casual observer of Youth 2000 can say that the youth quickly develop a sense of community, of connectedness with one another, even those whom they do not know. One sees little greetings of youth, "Oh, I have missed you since we were here last year!" The youth get to know one another, relationships start and grow; both a human connectedness and a spiritual bond in Christ forms in youth who attend the Owensboro Diocese's Youth 2000.



YOUTH 2000 is a Eucharistic Centered retreat for middle, high and college students as well as young adults. It is co-sponsored by the Office for Youth Ministry and the Owensboro Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee. It is generally held at Brescia University during Brescia's spring break. Youth 2000 was held Mar.13-15, 2015; its theme was "I am the Bread of Life." Jn 6:35. Paul Rush Photo



Signs of the spiritual bond in Christ which Youth 2000 can foster in youth is the sight of them genuflecting, crossing themselves with holy water, and praying the rosary, even without prompting by a moderator. Mel Howard Photo



Singing sacred music. Larena Lawson Photo



Crowning the Blessed Mother Mary's Statue. Larena Lawson Photo



The panelists for the girls' middle school workshop Mar. 14 at Brescia University: from right are moderator Olivia Spears, Fr. Ken Mikulcik, Sr. Sharon Miller, Sr. Mary Lawrence, Michelle Valego, Matt Valego, and Meghan Payne.



Youth listening to the speakers during the workshop for middle school girls Mar. 14, 2015 in Brescia University cafeteria. Mel Howard Photos



Sister Frances Teresa encourages Reisz Krampe during Youth 2000. At right preparing to hand out Scapulars are Becca Ballard, left, and Clare Bivens. Photo by Michelle Lin



Sr. Pam Mueller, OSU, speaking to Youth 2000 participants. Paul Rush Photo



Youth 2000 participants praying Rosaries. Paul Rush Photo



Sitting in front of the Hope Monument at Brescia, Russellville Sacred Heart parishioners, from left, Alyssa Lowe, Nicole Horton, Taylor Horton, and Carlyn Abney during a break. Mel Howard photo



OCMS students Grace Goedde and Sarah Englert taking an ice cream break in the Brescia Quad.



St. Stephen Cathedral Parish youth with Fr. Suneesh Mathew at Youth 2000.



A large group of Youth 2000 participants gathered in Brescia University as a community during a break. Paul Rush Photo



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Covenant of Love Monthly Date Nights



By Haley Riney Fitzgerald

Zig Ziglar said, “Regardless of the shape we are in, statistics show that 100% of us will die. The body only lives so long, but the spirit lives forever. I am amazed at the number of people I see trying to keep something going that they know will eventually die while giving little or no attention to something that is going to live forever.”

Do good marriages just happen? Do they take work? Do we need to take time for our spouses? Do we really understand God’s plan for marriage? Is there really any greater responsibility than the one we have with our spouse? Our ultimate goal should be to get our spouses to heaven. The Covenant of Love (COL) Ministry is designed to do just that: to help our spouses get to heaven. Created by The Alexander House Apostolate, the COL Ministry is more than a ministry; it is a call to action, an initiative, and a resource offered to parishes designed to strengthen marriage ministries, or to help build a foundation to create one. This Marriage Ministry works to educate, strengthen, promote, and advocate the splendor, beauty and truth of God’s plan for marriage.

As part of this ministry, Date Nights are a monthly gathering of couples with the goal of assisting them in becoming the “true” domestic church by providing tools and information to help them live out God’s plan for the sacrament of marriage and to create a vibrant and positive community of married couples.

Monthly Date Nights occur on the third Friday of every month, starting at 6:30, at Immaculate although couples

from a wide variety of churches attend. The evening is free and childcare is provided. In addition to group and individual discussions to connect with your spouse, different events are offered each month, including potlucks, guest speakers, The Not So Newlywed Game, Holy Hours, and Renewal of Wedding Vows. Our most successful event was the Renewal of Wedding Vows with over 40 couples in attendance.

Whether you’re newly married, or you’ve been married for many years, all married couples are invited, as well as engaged couples. Your marriage will greatly benefit from Covenant of Love. Refer to the Facebook group “Owensboro Covenant of Love Date Night” for more information as well as RSVP contacts.

“My husband and I started dating around the time when Christopher West came to town and we learned about Theology of the Body. As a young married couple, we learned so much from Natural Family Planning and the amazing witnesses of marriage in our community. Date Night has helped to nourish those teachings from our church and open communication about our marriage. It’s also helped us realize what we do well as a couple. Our community is so blessed to have programs like Date Night to create stronger, healthier marriages.” – Stephanie & Aaron Carrico

“It gives us the chance to get to know more people and brings us closer in line with what God wants of us as a couple. It also brings into focus the kinds of things we see in other relationships that break people apart so we can avoid those things.” – Karen & Don Higdon

Bruised, Hurting and Dirty

By George Kane

Editor’s Note: The Western Kentucky Catholic would like to share with readers a new column by George Kane. Any Thoughts? Please reply to Mel.Howard@pastoral.org.

Gerard

February 27, 2015

One of Pope Francis’ favorite topics when it comes to evangelism is the making of “missionary disciples.” He says: “Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization... Missionary disciples accompany missionary disciples” (Evangelii Gaudium 173). In other words, missionary work is best when the people we’re helping to evangelize join in! I’ve seen this happen many times in our own missionary work: a person who started out as a stranger we met on the street becomes coworker in the mission field as well.

For example, take Aidan, the 15-year-old I wrote about in January. Aidan’s ankle was healed when the missionaries prayed over it, and it left him hungry to learn more about the Holy Spirit. After several months of follow-up visits, we prayed with Aidan for a fresh outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and encouraged him to pray with people for healing.

To date Aidan has prayed over at least five people, three of them by himself. Recently, he and a team of missionaries visited his grandma, who had slipped on the ice and hurt her back badly. He led the way into the house, shouting, “Grandma, get over here, we’re gonna heal you!” I saw his grandma a few days later, and she was wide-eyed. “I’ve never seen this before,” she said, “after you guys prayed with me, the pain was gone!”

Another example is a man named Gerard, a middle-aged father who lives with his family on the south side of Evansville. He’s been coming to Bible studies and men’s meetings with us off and on for the last three years. Recently, Gerard told us a very encouraging story.

He was driving down the street one day when an elderly man side-

swiped him, and then kept driving! Fighting back anger, Gerard gave chase, almost lost his assailant in traffic, and then saw the man’s car in a parking lot at a Pizza Hut. Gerard found the elderly man inside, calmly eating a plate of wings. When the man saw Gerard, he smiled and waved him over! He explained that he had panicked after hitting Gerard. He had not wanted to stop in the middle of a busy road, and he had driven in a daze to Pizza Hut. He offered to share his wings with Gerard until the police got there.

“Once the cops had all our info,” Gerard said, “me and this guy were about to leave, and this thought occurs to me, ‘I should offer to pray with this guy!’ At first I was embarrassed to do it in public, but then I realized, ‘Hey, the missionaries do this all the time!’ I put my hand on his shoulder right there in the parking lot, and prayed. The guy was really moved by that and he kept thanking me.”

Gerard got worked up just re-telling the story, and ended by saying, “It was awesome! I loved it! I can’t believe I did it, but it was awesome.”

What we see happening with Aidan and Gerard is our hope for every person we meet on mission. We hope that they experience the love of God so powerfully that they delight in spreading it, in praying with others for healing, and in sharing stories about the Holy Spirit at work. Ideally, the people we meet would get the bug to come accompany us in what we do: seeking out what God is doing, pointing it out with joy, and challenging our neighbors to chase after it with us. This kind of witnessing can be extremely effective. Come, Holy Spirit! Raise up more missionaries!



“Bruised, Hurting and Dirty” is a self-syndicated column of missionary stories written by George Kane. Published 2.13.15 in the diocese of Evansville’s newspaper,

The Message. Reprinted with permission of author. The Bruised, Hurting and Dirty website can be accessed at <https://georgekane.wordpress.com/>

Am I An Informed Catholic Regarding Immigration?

Submitted by Gayle Rhodes

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On February 24, 2015, Sts. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church hosted an Immigration Forum presented by Chris and Patti Gutierrez to enlighten a mostly non-Hispanic audience on the plight of Hispanic immigrants in the Diocese. At the invitation of the parish's social justice team, Chris, the Diocese of Owensboro Director of Hispanic Ministry, and his wife Patti, Pastoral Associate at St. Michael's in Sebree worked as a team to detail the complicated US immigration system and highlight the stance of the US Catholic Bishops on immigration reform.

The presentation began with some compelling statistics on the numbers of Hispanics in the Catholic Church in the US. Since 1960, 71% of the growth of the Catholic Church has come from Hispanics. Of all Catholics, 41% are Hispanic and of those under 30 years of age, 55% are Hispanic.

Then Chris explained why immigrants leave their country to come to the US. He informed us that most would prefer to stay in the country of their birth because leaving family behind is devastating to a culture that prizes family unity. Tremendous push-pull forces are at work. The push to leave their native land comes from extreme poverty and violence. In many areas of Mexico and Central America it is no longer economically feasible to sustain a family on small farms or in small villages. Violence perpetrated by drug gangs and political factions leave families no longer feeling safe and secure in their homeland. Here in the US the pull comes from an unmet need for unskilled labor that pays 10 times more than jobs south of the border.

(Authors note: In my research I found that three million migrant and seasonal workers are needed each year in the US to harvest fruit, vegetables and nuts. Add tobacco if you are in Kentucky. Last year the US immigration system gave out 55,000 H2A agricultural visas to temporary guest workers, not nearly enough to meet the demand.)

Patti skillfully mapped out the path to citizenship. Immigrants fall into many categories all with specific stipulations. For the small number of immigrants with family members legally in the US a path to citizenship is available but it can take anywhere from 7 to 28 years.

The US immigration system each year allows 5,000 unskilled immigrant workers to become lawful permanent residents, have green cards and live in the US. Their family members, on the other hand, cannot live permanently in the US until their green card application is approved which takes about 5 to 7 years.

Temporary guest workers do not qualify for citizenship. They are here for a short time then return to their native country when their jobs are completed. Most immigrants here are unskilled workers and family members without an immediate relative who is a US citizen. They have either overstayed a visa or bypassed the border checkpoint process and are here undocumented. They cannot apply for citizenship in their current status.

(Authors note: So why don't immigrants just get in line if they want to be a citizen? From other sources I am told that there are an estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants in the US. To process just 1 million applicants for the 5,000 unskilled worker slots noted above the line would be 200 years long. So the answer may be that the line does not exist or it is just too long.)

Recognizing that the system is lacking, Chris stated that the US Conference of Catholic Bishops developed a balanced and compassionate approach to immigration. The main features are that persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland, but if there are no opportunities at home they have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families. Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection. The human rights and the human dignity of undocumented immigrants should be respected. But they also state that sovereign nations have a right to control their borders.

The Conference believes that comprehensive immigration reform has several necessary elements. The path to citizenship should not be cumbersome,



What is it like to be an immigrant in Western Kentucky? "What can we do? Dig Deeper. Advocate on the National Level. Reach Out on the Local Level." Photo slide from Page 18 of "Reflecting On Immigrations Issues and Hispanic Ministry, Feb. 24, 2015 by Chris and Patti Gutierrez

lengthy, or costly. Reform should preserve family unity and restore due process for those seeking entry into this country particularly those seeking asylum. Protection of vulnerable groups particularly children is essential. Worker programs need revision to allow unskilled workers opportunities at jobs while also protecting the jobs of US citizens. Lastly, but importantly, eliminating the root cause of immigration specifically poverty and violence in foreign countries is essential. Eliminate those and people will not feel compelled to leave their native land.

At the end Chris and Patti encouraged the audience to form relationships with Hispanic members in the community. We can both learn from each other. Our cultures are different but both have qualities to be admired such as an emphasis on family values, a strong work ethic, and a love of the Catholic faith. Uniqueness can also be celebrated. The Hispanic heritage with a special devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe enriches us and our universal Catholic Church.

Chris, having lived on both sides of the border, brought a unique and personal perspective to the issue. He was raised on a small farm in rural Jalisco Mexico, spent eight years in seminary in the Diocese San Juan de los Lagos Jalisco Mexico, and then came to Kentucky with the Glenmary Home Missioners. After discerning his calling to marriage he has worked as a lay minister with Hispanics

in Owensboro and the surrounding area for the past eight years. Now a US citizen, Chris is currently studying to be a deacon in the Catholic Church.

Patti was born in Maine and came to Kentucky with her family as a teenager. After graduating from Saint Louis University as an aviation pilot, she spent a year living in Ecuador doing mission work with a Jesuit organization which has led to full time ministry in diverse Hispanic communities in the Diocese of Owensboro for the past 11 years. She has been involved in the Justice for Immigrants campaign since 2006.

(Author's note: I am a member of the Social Justice Team at Sts. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church. We have several Hispanic families in our parish. They are good neighbors but tend to live in the shadows either out of fear or because they may not feel comfortable communicating with us. The Social Justice Team invited Chris and Patti to speak to the nonHispanics in our parish to help us understand immigration. The issue is complicated and can be polarizing. But think of this. Most likely we have descendants ourselves who came to America to flee from a difficult situation. Maybe it was to escape religious persecution in England or a potato famine in Ireland. The simple truth is that we have good Hispanic people living in our community. The neighborly and Catholic thing to do is to treat them with dignity and hospitality.)

28 April, 2015 Ursuline Sisters host tour to celebrate the Year of Consecrated Life

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - As part of a global celebration of 2015 being named the "Year of Consecrated Life" by Pope Francis, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph hosted a tour on Feb. 8. A wonderful group of people came from Owensboro and as far away as Paducah and Kuttawa, Ky., to see the Motherhouse Chapel, two community rooms, the library, craft room, archives, Saint Angela Merici Oratory and the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. The event included refreshments and a stop at the Mount Saint Joseph Gift Shop.

Many of the Ursuline Sisters were on hand to welcome the visitors and to answer questions during the tour. A panel of three sisters -- Vivian Bowles, Ruth Gehres and Marietta Wethington, -- talked about why they joined the consecrated life and took questions from the audience, including, "Do you have a say in what ministry you do?" The sisters explained that when they first joined, they were assigned to teach at specific schools. Now the scope of ministries has widened, and they are allowed to go into a ministry they feel called to do, with the blessing of their leadership.



Members of the Year of Consecrated Life tour visit the rocking chair room in Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.



Sister Ruth Gehres, right, talks with a family who were making their first trip to Maple Mount, as Sister Amelia Stenger looks on in back.



Doreen Harney and Bill Riney, and their son Luke, gather around the refreshment table in the Lourdes Community Room for a reception during the tour at Mount Saint Joseph.



Doreen Harney looks at pictures of previous archivists for the Ursuline Sisters, as part of the Archives tour during the Feb. 8 Open House.



Sister Julia Head, assistant congregational leader for the Ursuline Sisters, greets guests during the Year of Consecrated Life Open House at the Motherhouse. The banners the sisters had created for their centennial celebration in 2012 can be seen in the background.



Photo at left: Sister Sharon Sullivan, congregational leader, welcomes the guests at the Feb. 8 Open House and tells them a bit about the Motherhouse Chapel and the Year of Consecrated Life. MSJ Photos

Ursuline Sisters Honored at Blessed Mother Church, Owensboro

April, 2015 29

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph who taught at Blessed Mother School in Owensboro were honored on Jan. 29 with a Mass, lunch and tours as part of National Catholic Schools Week. Several Ursuline Sisters were in attendance at the morning event which took place at Blessed Mother church, the nearby Owensboro Catholic Schools 4-6 Campus, the parish hall and the rectory (former convent).

Nearly 80 Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph have taught at Blessed Mother School since 1948. The last sister to teach there was Sister Mary Timothy Bland, who taught from 1986-2004, including the years the school was known as Saint Angela Merici. She now teaches at the Catholic K-3 campus near Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Sister Mary Timothy attended the day's events.

Current Ursuline Sisters who taught at Blessed Mother but could not attend are Sister Naomi Aull, Sister Pauletta McCarty, Sister Mary Diane Taylor, Sister Helen Leo Ebelhar, Sister Amanda



When the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were touring the Blessed Mother parish hall on Jan. 29, they found the old table that used to be in their community room in the Blessed Mother convent (now the rectory). Each sister had her own drawer. Pictured, left to right: Sisters Rose Jean Powers, Clara Reid, Rita Scott, Emma Cecilia Busam, George Mary Hagan and Mary Timothy Bland.

Rose Mahoney, Sister Mary Lois Speaks, Sister Marie Carol Cecil and Sister Dianna Ortiz.



Sister George Mary Hagan stands in the room used as a small chapel and sanctuary in the rectory at Blessed Mother on Jan. 29. The tabernacle is the same one that was in the chapel when the Ursuline Sisters had their convent here (the chapel was in a different location).



Chocolate-covered strawberries were waiting for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph when they entered the dining room in the rectory at Blessed Mother, which used to be their convent dining room when they were teachers at the school.

Photo at right: Ken Rasp, director of the Owensboro Catholic School System, points out T-shirt designs on the wall of the OCS 4-6 campus to Sister Emma Cecilia Busam. He said the students would vote on the final winning design. The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were honored with a Mass and tours at Blessed Mother on Jan. 29. MSJ Photos



Father Mike Clark, pastor of Blessed Mother, showed the Ursuline Sisters around the parish hall on Jan. 29. Seated at left are Sisters George Mary Hagan and Mary Timothy Bland.



Lourdes Inpatient Acute Rehab Earns Reaccreditation



Paducah, KY (February 9, 2015) – The Lourdes Otto J. Diller Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Unit has received a three-year reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The award from CARF is in the areas of Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs-Hospital (Adults) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs-Hospital and Stroke Specialty (Adults).

“We are so pleased with our exceptional team who has worked tirelessly to make this reaccreditation possible,” says Ashley Britton, Program Director, Lourdes Inpatient Acute Rehab Unit. “This program is dedicated to improving the quality of lives of the persons served. This honor clearly states that the services, personnel and documentation show an established pattern of practice excellence.”

Lourdes accreditation will extend through March 2018. This is the highest level of reaccreditation that a facility can receive.

Photo at left: Front row – (front to back) Tonya Gill, OT; Becky Higgins, Admissions Coordinator; Amy Cherry, COTA; Sonia Rouse, HUC; Gregg Walker, PT; Back row (front to back) – Kiki Cunningham, RN; Kara Ashline, PCA; Beth Simmons, PTA; Brenda McGregor, LPN; Ashley Britton, Rehab Director; Sadona Gray, RN. Submitted Photo

St. Mary Senior Ben Hopper receives Louise Bryant Achievement of Excellence Award

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Mary High School Senior, Benjamin Hopper, is the recipient of the 2015 Louise Bryant Achievement of Excellence Award. This award was presented during the recent McCracken County Mustang Madness Basketball Tournament.

Bryant Law Center created the Louise Bryant Scholarship in honor of Mark Bryant's mother, Louise Bryant, who was a teacher in Paducah schools and greatly influenced many youth in Western Kentucky. Each year, a female and male athlete from teams represented in the tournament is selected to receive the award. Selection is based upon community involvement, overall student activity, and overall character. Accompanying the award is a \$500 scholarship.

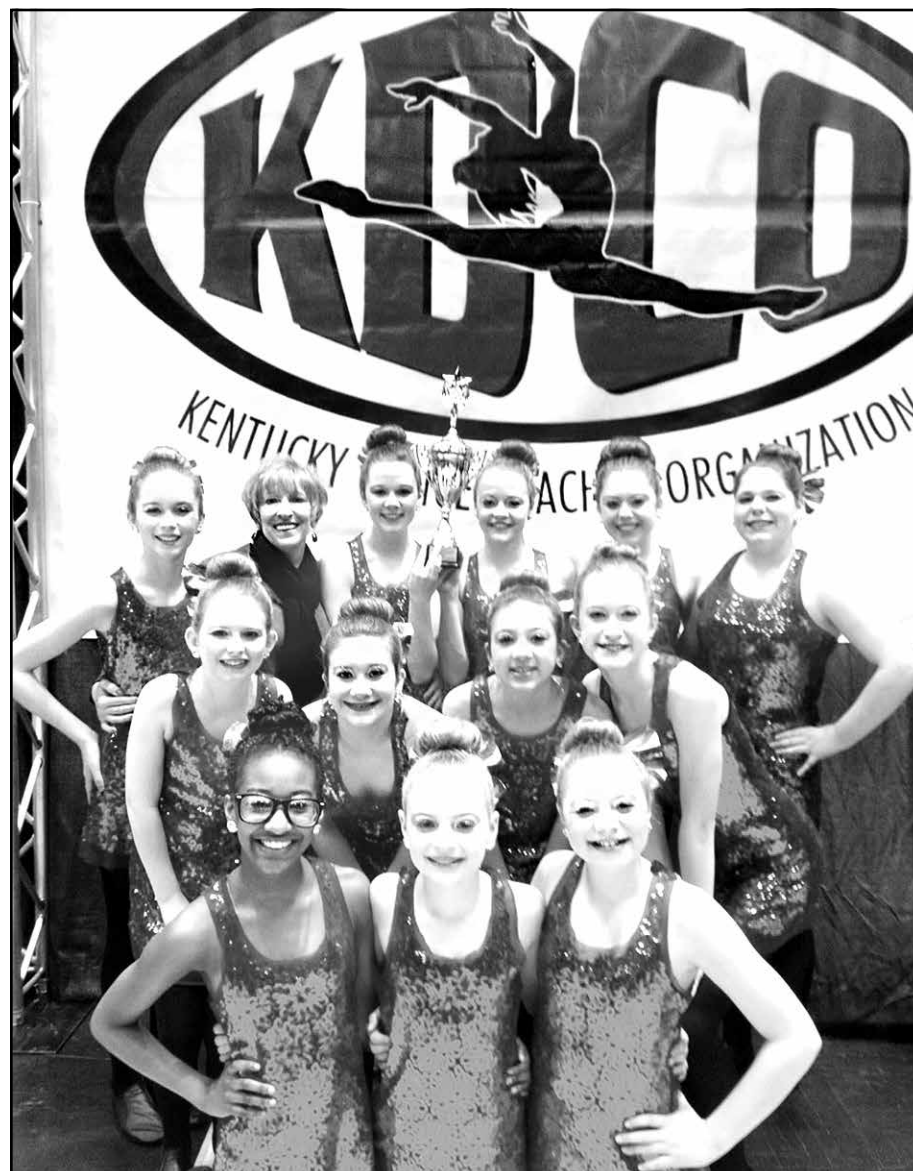


Pictured on left is SMHS Senior Ben Hopper, and representatives of Louise Bryant's family presenting the award. Submitted Photo

Holy Name School Dance Team: Honored For School Spirit Performance

Congratulations to the Holy Name School Dance Team who competed in Frankfort on February 28, 2015 at the Kentucky Dance Coaches organization competition. They earned 7th/14 in the Pom division; 5th/15 in the Hip Hop division; and 2nd/5 in the Variety division, which featured their red, white & blue tribute to the USA routine.

Pictured in the photo at right are: Bottom Row: Octavia Ross, Reese Crafton & Kylee Garrett; Middle Row: Lauren Alexander, Lauren Boze, Alli Knight & Sophia Krampe; Top Row: Lilly Krampe, Coach Alison Johnson, Lauren Eyre, Carlee Crafton, Bailey Gibbs & Sierra Duncan. Submitted by Kamille Stich



St. Ann School Students Visit Union County Senior Citizen Center

April, 2015 31

MORGANFIELD, Ky. - During Catholic Schools Week on Friday, January 30, 2015, fifty-two Saint Ann Catholic School middle school students accompanied the senior citizens at the Union County Senior Citizen Center.

Senior citizens greeted the sixth and seventh graders with their live band.

Homemade cookies and lemonade filled the air as students enjoyed several dice games, card games, and a quick game of pool. Paulette Wolfe, with over forty line dances under her belt, led the middle school students and senior citizens in country line dancing. The two groups enjoyed sharing community stories and family heritage.



Saint Ann Interparochial School middle school students visited various nursing homes and senior citizens centers during Catholic Schools Week 2015. Photos submitted by Beth Hendrickson



“Let the Children Come to Me”



Bishop William Medley, at left rear above, addressed the parents and students in Parish Religious Education Programs for the Daviess County Eastern Deanery Feb. 8, 2015 in Blessed Mother Parish Center. Photo composite from Larena Lawson Photos

By Larena Lawson

On Feb. 8, 2015, at Blessed Mother Parish, an event was held for the Owensboro Eastern Deanery PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) students, and organized by a Planning Committee with Blessed Mother Parish. Representatives from most of the parishes in this deanery attended the afternoon gathering with Bishop William F. Medley. It was a time of prayer, Benediction and Adoration in the church, along with a Question and Answer Session with the Bishop and a reception following in the

parish hall.

In advance of the gathering, the students in their individual PREP classes were taught many things about bishops of the Catholic Church, and specifically, about their own Bishop Medley of the Diocese of Owensboro. These studies prompted questions that the children were curious to know the answers to. A Q&A time was set aside for them after praying together, to be with Bishop Medley to ask their questions. He was delighted to be with the children and to hear all of their unique questions. *“What is the*

name of that big hat you wear and how tall is it?” the questioning began. They may have started out simple, coming from the youngest of the children, but the questions got a little more complicated before it was over. Another asked, *“How do you live without a wife?”* And, *“Who is your favorite saint?”* Bishop Medley had more than one answer for that one; the Blessed Mother, St. Francis and St. Peter, the first bishop and Pope.

“What is the worst part of your job?” and *“What is your favorite part of your job?”* they continued. Bishop Medley had to think a little on the worst

part of his job, but was quick to answer his favorite part. He said that he loved being with all the children and teaching them and all people about the Catholic faith. He loves his time with the young people who are preparing for Confirmation and being able to be at gatherings like this one where he can answer questions and be with the children. Just like Christ, he is there to shepherd them. **“Let the children come to me,”** and to give them advice on *“How do you become a bishop?”*

It was a wonderful afternoon of praying, of learning, of sharing, and growing in faith.



School

Helpers

Mary Carrico Catholic School held their annual Bar-B-Q Drive thru on March 22nd at the Saint Lawrence /Saint William Picnic Grounds on St. Lawrence Road.

Pictured are volunteer cashiers from L to R: Jenny Johnson, Dwayne Knott and Rhonda Knott. Also pictured is Mary Carrico Student helpers L to R: Kamryn Johnson, Briley Johnson and Logan Mills. Photo submitted by Chuck Green, Principal



US Presidents Give An Accounting To St.

Mary Elementary Community, Paducah

St. Mary's Kindergarteners presented their President's Program to parents, teachers and students on February 23rd. The Program has been going strong at St. Mary for 10 plus years. George Washington, Audrey Sims, led the procession of 22 Presidents to the snowy White House Lawn. The Presidents gave a brief description of themselves and closed with a spirited march, "You're a Grand Old Flag," George M. Cohan. Submitted by Felicia LaBarge

Happy Anniversary!

April Wedding Anniversaries
10, 25, 40, 50 and Over 50 Years of
Marriage

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Thomas & Shirley Coomes, 56
Patricia & Bobby Rafferty, 52
Darryl & Carol Murphy, 25
Ward & Mildred Pedley, 60
Dennis & Thelma Clark, 63
Albert & Joan Hofmann, 56
Carl & Mildred Spurrier, 62
Paul & Joyce Christian, 66
Bradley & Kathy Lanham, 25
Greg & Kim Mullican, 25

Kenneth & Elaine Williams, 52

Christ the King, Madisonville

Paul & Elizabeth Kirkwood, 10

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Michael & Jo Holiday, 25
Thomas & Vickie Phillips, 40
Albert & Nadine Schwallier, 63

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Arthur & Lelita Davis, 10
Cecil & Cacilda Phelps, 55



First Graders Learn Argentine Tango

1st grade students at Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus learned about Argentina and its music during music class. These students were learning to dance the Argentine Tango. Submitted by Lori Whitehouse

James & Helen Bailey, 59

John & Constance Barbalas, 60

Immaculate Conception, Earlington

Bob & Beverly Steckler, 62

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Jody & Alisha Wheatley, 10

Clayton & Gloria Gray, 53

Kenneth & Jeanie Hanks, 60

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Gordon & Rose Cobb, 53

Brad L. & Beverly Hamilton, 55

Ralph & Judy Thomas, 56

Charles & Anna Ruth Thompson, 59

Maurice & Shirley Wink, 56

Ken & Dorothy Raley, 58

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

John & Lauren Edge, 10

Frank & Barbara Crump, 60

James D. & Rachel L. Mahoney, 54

Joseph B. & Mary Mudd, 62

Charles A. & Mary Lois Payne, 54

Rex D. & Margaret Robinson, 51

Simon & Patricia Sanders, 58

Edward B. & Agnes Stallings, 52

Robert L. & Mary Vollman, 62

Donald E. & Mary J. Weaver, 51

Rosary Chapel, Paducah

Mike & Laura Roof, 10

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Richard & Nancy Mayes, 57

Thomas & Sue Mary Wedding, 58

St. Agnes, Uniontown

James & Gladys Austin, 70

Terry & Vikki Miller, 40

William & Nadine Hargrove, 66

Benny & Rita French, 61

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

J. T. & Angela O'Bryan, 66

Donald & Ginny Peters, 53

St. Ann, Morganfield

Bobby & Julia Greenwell, 25

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Thomas & Helen Catherine Zaleski, 59

St. Anthony, Peonia

Neil & Lynette VanMeter, 25

St. Anthony the Abbot, Axtel

James & Janet Alexander, 40

Carl & Joyce Eskridge, 52

St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers

Jessie & Paul Frey, 52

Lois & Robert Tashjian, 59

St. Charles, Bardwell

Shane & Jenise McGee, 25

St. Charles, Livermore

Wayne & Tera Scott, 25

Tommy & Brenda England, 53

Ralph & Judy Ward, 54

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Rudy & Robyn Carrico, 25

Joe & Carol Anne Mikez, 60

Jim & Clorinda Covert, 56

James J. & Velda Carbonel, 51

Leonard & Norma Neihoff, 52

William & Judith Neihoff, 52

James A. & Lila Hayden, 55

St. Henry, Aurora

Jack & Dodee Sergeant, 64

John & Carol York, 50

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Jeff & Melinda Cole, 25

Gary & Martha Hobbs, 40

Algene & Mary Vernon Goatley, 56

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Kevin & Melanie Crawford, 10

Murrell & Jackie Richardson, 56

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Joe & Evelyn Jolley, 51

Joe & Anne Mikez, 60

Victor & Lois Johnson, 60

Tony & Mary Helen Rhodes, 54

St. Jude, Clinton

Jason Schwartz, 10

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Victor & Lois Johnson, 60

Tony & Mary Helen Rhodes, 54

St. Leo, Murray

Francis & Jammie Poat, 51

Edward & Marilyn Wolf, 52

Antonio & Lucina Siqueiros, 25

St. Mark, Eddyville

Richard & Patricia Gill, 40

St. Martin, Rome

Richard & Anita Dixon, 52

St. Mary, Franklin

Calvin & Lois Oshefsky, 62

St. Mary, LaCenter

Bob & Mary Ann Noe, 51

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Greg & Kimberly Mullican, 25

Gerald & Betty Bartley, 52

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Michael & Marie Bartlett, 40

Tomas & Joyce Bell Higdon, 50

Justin & Minnie Clark, 51

Edgar & Amelia Evans, 62

St. Michael, Oak Grove

Fred & Marie Welter, 52

St. Michael, Sebree

William & Peggy Howell, 10

St. Paul, Princeton

Herman & Elizabeth Berton, 54

St. Peter, Waverly

Anthony & Becky Buckman, 10

Wayne & Beverly Morris, 40

Joey & Julie Buckman, 25

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Joe E. & Jean Coomes, 66

St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City

Robert & Ann Burgess, 10

Paul & Jessie Frey, 52

Robert & Lois Tashjian, 59

St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

James & Sheila Nealen, 10

Stephen & Anna Carrico, 40

Bernard & Elsie Galloway, 51

John & Wanda Williams, 59

Charles & Lois Hoskins, 51

James & Jeannette Mayfield, 61

Alan & Shirley Howard, 56

Charles & Ruth Ann Mayfield, 62

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

John & Helen O'Reilly, 56

Dwight & Brenda Wheatley, 25

Carl & Thelma Jarboe, 54

Stewart & Kay Payne, 40

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Wayne & Tera Scott, 25

Tommy & Brenda England, 53

Ralph & Judy Ward, 54

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Kenneth & Barbara Powers, 50

John & Paula Hall, 50

Paul & Dawn Cunningham, 55

Robert & Alyce Chmielewski, 52

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Jerry & Theresa Daughety, 25

Tony & Mary Moore, 25

Fred & Faye Whelan, 60

Archie & Angela Clark, Jr., 60

Anthony E. & Mary Alice Higdon, 63

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Ariel & Aris Tomes, 10

Jose & Maria Velazquez, 10

Bill & Linda Adams, 50

Jim & Mary Bumpous, 51

Steve & Earline Wurth, 51

St. William, Knottsville

Robert & Carla Brown, 50

Paul & Theresa Crowe, 53

Jerome & Betty Hamilton, 60

C. Vincent & Thelma Mattingly, 52

St. William of Vercelli, Marion

Dr. Mike & Nancy Gavin, 40

Sts. Mary & James, Guthrie

Albert & Joanne Fargnoli, 51

Ed & Dorothy Kacer, 67

Sts. Joseph & Parish, Owensboro

Steve & Bonnie Roberts, 40

Larry & Debbie Simon, 40

Darrell & Lois Hood, 55

Paul & Joyce Lambert, 51

John & Clara Patton, 59

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Jay & Jenna Harding, 10

Al & Yolanda Perry, 10

Michael & Marilyn Stocker, 50

Kenneth & Mary Dean, 56

Billy & Harriette Hancock, 60

Clifford & Carol Simpson, 54



St. John the Evangelist, Paducah 2015 Confirmation Class
Confirmation was held at St. John the Evangelist, Paducah, KY on Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 a.m. Mass. Pictured are: Row 1- Deacon Mark Desmond, Brianna Russell, Leigh Ann Seitz, Bishop Medley, Makenzie O'Nan, Bailey Sutton, Bethany Russell- server; Row 2- Peter Strasser, Charlotte Sederstrand, Charlie West, Katelyn Operle, Caleb Dunn, and Hannah West-server; Row 3- Reid Courtney, John Paul Bratton, Brett Wurth, and Clay Englert. A reception sponsored by the St. John Knights of Columbus followed. Photo by Don Jackson Photography, submitted by Gwen Taylor



Rejoice, O Jerusalem
Father Brad Smith, a priest from the Congregation of Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Port Antonio, Jamaica, offers the sacrifice of the Mass on Laetare Sunday, March 15, at St. Joseph Monastery in Whitesville. Father Brad, is a native of St. Alphonsus Parish in west Owensboro. Monsignor Bernard Powers is concelebrating. Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent marks the middle of Lent.
Larena Lawson Photo



Volunteers Support The Parish Faithfully
The St. Agnes Church in Uniontown First Lenten fish fry was on February 27, 2015. A good crowd attended this first fish fry with a total of 278 meals served. St. Agnes has 3 fish fries during Lent with the proceeds going to the church. Thanks to all the many volunteers preparing the food, serving the food, all the desserts that were donated and for all who helped cleanup. It would not be a success without all of the volunteers.
Submitted by Kathy Humphrey.



Team Work On the 1st of March 16 youth St. Stephen Cathedral Youth Group along with three chaperons went to the Malco Theaters in Owensboro to watch the movie McFarland,USA about 7 school kids trained by a coach to run the cross country running competition. We came after the movie to the youth house and discussed about it. The youth in the picture are Adam Hayden, Dn. Dirck Curry, Anna Atkins, Sara Murphy, Kevin, Samantha Steckler, Nataly Ellis, Clayton Rhoads, Paxton Jenkins, Christian Leigh, Clayton Lewis, Max Kurtz, George Kurtz, John Henry Booth, Meghan Payne, Andrew Ellis, and Brenda Clark. Submitted by Father Suneesh Mathew

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The Diocese of Owensboro Accepts a New Candidate for Holy Orders and Installs Ministers

April 2015 35

By Larena Lawson

Jesús López Méndez, Seminarian of the Diocese of Owensboro, is formally installed as Lector, by Bishop William Medley at St. Stephen Cathedral on Saturday, March 21st. As a lector and bearer of God's word, he will proclaim that word in the liturgical assembly, instruct children and adults in the faith and bring the message of salvation to those who have not yet received it.

Bishop Medley presented Jesús with the Lectionary, asking him to be faithful in handing on the word of God. Jesús then served as Lector for the Mass. (Jesús is from Mexico and is studying at St. Meinrad Seminary in his first year of Theology).

The Installation of Acolyte was conferred upon Alex French by Bishop William Medley on Saturday, March 21st at St. Stephen Cathedral. As an acolyte Alex's ministry will include preparing the altar and assisting the priest or deacon during the Liturgy and serving as a special minister to give Holy Commu-



Jesús López Méndez, Seminarian of the Diocese of Owensboro, is formally installed as Lector, by Bishop William Medley at St. Stephen Cathedral on Saturday, March 21.

at St. Stephen Cathedral, Jamie Dennis, was called forth before Bishop William Medley by Father Jason McClure, the Owensboro Diocesan Vocation Director and recommended for admission as a Candidate for Holy Orders. Photo composite by Larena Lawson.

nion to the faithful at Mass and to the sick.

Bishop Medley presented Alex with the chalice filled with wine and a vessel filled with the bread that was consecrated at the Mass. He was asked to make his life worthy of his service at the altar of



The Installation of Acolyte was conferred upon Alex French by Bishop William Medley on Saturday, March 21st at St. Stephen Cathedral. Larena Lawson Photos

Bishop Medley asked of Jamie that he be resolved to prepare himself in mind, heart, and spirit to give faithful and compassionate service to Christ the Lord and his body, the Church. Jamie responded, "I am," and the Church accepted him with joy. (Jamie Dennis is a member of St. Joseph Parish in Leitchfield and a seminarian at St. Meinrad in his third year of Theology).



OCS-4-6 Campus Team Places Second at Regionals

The Owensboro Catholic 4th & 5th Grade Academic Team placed 2nd overall, out of 17 teams, in the Regional Governor's Cup Competition on March 21st. The Quick Recall Team placed 2nd. Quick Recall Members include: John Michael Frey, Johnathan Ford, Ryan Goldbach, Brooke Hamilton, Christopher Lewis, Nick O'Bryan, Maria Pfieler, Max Pride, Aaron Self, and Hunter Wimsatt. Individuals Placing in their Subject Area: Hunter Wimsatt—2nd Math; Nick O'Bryan—2nd Science; John Michael Frey—2nd Social Studies; Hope Ramming—3rd Language Arts. Congratulations to all team members and coaches. We are so proud of you!!! Photo submitted by Traci Conkright.

RACHEL'S Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard offers weekend retreats for women and men who have experienced the wounds of abortion which can be long lasting and devastating emotionally and spiritually sometimes leading to suicide or worse. Throughout the weekend, retreatants are guided through Gospel-based exercises reflecting on the love, mercy, and healing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Only He can heal the deepest wounds of the heart, restore faith and confidence for a new future filled with hope. All information and stories shared during the retreat are held in strict confidence.

The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat is April 10-12, 2015. For more information, go to www.hopeafterabortionky.com or for a complete listing of retreats by location nationally and internationally go to www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Wilderness Escape Delivers

By Kristi McCabe

SORGHO, St. Mary Magdalene Parish - "I'm too old for Vacation Bible School. It's for little kids."

I have to admit I had expected to hear that one day, but not when my son was nine years old. Too old? In his mind, VBS is solely for "little kids" and is about singing sweet songs about Jesus and stopping for snack time. But is that really all there is? Or simply all that he remembers?

I managed to convince him that it was not just for preschoolers and that if he was bored, he could help out with the younger kids. So, we made our way to Wilderness Escape VBS at our home parish of St. Mary Magdalene, and our first impression was, well ... amazement.

It was like stepping into a scene straight out of the Old Testament. Artisan tents were set up throughout the parish hall, complete with banners for each Tribe of Israel that children were to be grouped in for the week.

"This is kind of cool," was my son's first remark. Indeed, it was! As if the scenery was not enough to draw children in and capture their interest, the opening music was certain to do so.

As all participants gathered in a large circle, the evening began with music. Reminiscent of a Greek wedding dance, the music had a Mediterranean sound that added an "other-world" flavor. Following was a spiritual anthem that was both authentic and moving, with the recurring phrases "God is faithful" and "I will trust You" echoing again and again.

As I glanced over at my son the skeptic, I could see that he no longer thought VBS was just for little kids. I watched him singing and laughing with a smile on his face, enjoying the time with new and old friends alike. All children of all ages were engaged, and the music was both fun and spiritually-enriching.

After the opening songs, children went to their "tribes" and prepared for the night's activities. Completely immersed in an authentic Old Testament experience, each tribe then went on to bake bread, purchase items at the market, play outdoor games, make crafts, or watch live reenactments of an Old Testament stories.

Performed by music minister Jacob Hein, each night featured a different tale. Dressed as Moses, master storyteller Jacob led children through the experiences



The Tribes of Jacob warm up for an evening of Wilderness Escape.

of the Passover, the plagues of Egypt, and the introduction of the Ten Commandments. Jacob brought New Testament stories to life, encouraging children to imagine how they would feel had they been one of the Israelites led by Moses through the wilderness. The resounding theme of the week was "Trust God," a lesson so often needed by all of us.

As a parent, it was wonderful to see my son and the other kids totally engaged and enraptured by the experience. Everyone took something away from each evening, and a feeling of spiritual renewal was evident. As a volunteer, it was amazing to see how well-organized the entire week was, and how enthusiastic all volunteers and parents were about helping out. By the end of the week, I felt that I had been transported to another place in time and came away from the experience better schooled in Old Testament stories and more aware of my own need to trust God in all situations.

As for my son, he had to admit that "it wasn't that boring." All in all, Wilderness Escape was one of the most fun-filled and enriching VBS experiences I have ever had.

Too old for VBS? I don't think we are EVER too old.



"Tribal Mother" Mandy Coomes mentors the Tribe of Dan, as they stir their bread dough.



Adam McCabe and Reese Keller look ready for Dancing With the Stars, as they enjoy the festivities.

Ayla Montgomery ponders her "quail" (disguised as a Peep), provided by the Lord, for food in the wilderness.

Moses tells the stories of their ancestors to tribes gathered in his comfortable tent.

All photos on page 36-37 by Kristi McCabe



Vacation Bible School At St. Mary Magdalene Parish Immerses Participants in Scripture Stories

April, 2015 37

By Crissy Stevenson

Credit must be given, where credit is due. Growing up in Princeton, Ky, if I had not had the experience of their annual VBS, called Marketplace, I never would have dreamed that little ole St. Mary Magdalene could pull this together. Marketplace evolved out of a program that was bought, in Princeton, many years ago. It's a semi-ecumenical experience lead by Ogden Methodist Church on the grounds of St. Paul Catholic Church. Several different churches have children and adults involved. Your time there is spent immersed into the Bible: hearing stories from Bible character; staying in one of the 12 Tribes of Israel, where you experienced some Jewish prayer rituals; making bread each morning; and visiting the temple or synagogue. There was also visiting a storyteller to hear more "first hand" accounts of scriptural stories, and visiting the marketplace where you made different crafts in different booths, or bought snacks and products with the marketplace money. Over about a 7 year rotation, participants hear stories from the whole Bible. If there is anything that we have learned about learning, it's that immersion and hands on experiences is what helps us to retain knowledge.



Celebration Leader, Crissy Stevenson, leads some very "immersed" tribal members in song and action.

During my childhood summers, at Marketplace, we marched around the walls of Jericho, participated in the Passover meal; ran from Pharaoh, as he and his army chased us across the Red Sea; and carried the Ark of the Covenant around the desert. It is through those

experiences that I am most able to recall those stories. I had shared my experience of Marketplace with our DRE, and how effective it was in learning these stories. We took a couple of days, in June 2013, to go observe what they were offering. Although it was a concept that we both

loved, we later agreed it was something we could not pull off here at St. Mary Magdalene.

Funny how the Holy Spirit sometimes works though. Last year, Group Publishing put out a program very similar to the one that came out many years ago, from which Marketplace evolved. This new program outlined everything we needed to do. We whole-heartedly decided to jump right in. We bought the VBS "kit," took the main ideas from it, "borrowed" ideas from Marketplace, to better the experience, such as making banners for the 12 tribes, having tribes make bread each day, and different craft ideas. With the help of many volunteers, and hours spent gathering materials and preparing, our children were immersed into the time of Moses, and experienced a tiny taste of the wandering Israelite tribal life.

This year, we are using the same concept of immersion into scriptural stories. There will still be a chance to visit the Israelite Camp, visit Bible characters, and play games. Ours is a 4 evening experience, Monday through Thursday. Come join us July 24-30, 2015 for our immersion in Bible Adventures. All are welcome. Details will soon be posted on our website.



Camp manager, Mary Salmon, checks in on "Tribal Mother" Donna Ebelhar, to see if her tribe has what they



VBS director, Debi Hopkins, keeps the beat going, as the tribes prepare to "move out" to new adventures.



Moses (Jacob Hein) rests with some of the tribes, after parting the Red Sea. More of the children of Israel are still crossing, as a "sea spray" awaits them.



St. Francis de Sales 2015 Confirmation Class

Bishop Medley (bottom right), Fr. Brian Roby (top left), Zach Ault (top right) and Maria Korte (bottom left) pose with the St. Francis de Sales 2015 Confirmation class Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, in Paducah, Ky. (photo by Stephen Lance Dennee/ St. Francis de Sales)

In God's Loving Arms

The Saints Had Their Good Days and Bad Days Too

It is not out of reach to be a Saint. We can learn so much about these men and women who just like us had their faults. I can tell you right now just thinking of a Saint I think about hours and hours of prayer and penances. But what if I want to aspire to that holiness in my life and make an honest effort to deepen and strengthen my spiritual life?

Well then, I better be up for the fight because I know that all kinds of temptations and obstacles will be on my heels. There is a way to educate ourselves and learn the lives of the Saints by picking out a book and read their biography. It is inspiring and entertaining to say the least.

I have been reading a Do It Yourself Retreat book, "33 Days to Morning Glory," by Michael E. Gaitley. It is a wonderful book about making a consecration to Mary, the mother of God. I am going to go even further and say, "I love this book!"

I found in it a history lesson on St. Louis de Monfort and his father. St. Louis was a human being who had struggled as we all do with flaws. He wasn't per-

fect! But he aspired to holiness and he fervently prayed to the Blessed Mother and became a beacon of light for giving us his teachings on True Devotion to Mary.

Let me share with you something I read that made me smirk with laughter out loud. St. Louis's father was a man who had a fiery temper. They believed that he came down from the line of Celtic warriors. You didn't want to get this man fired up, according to this book. Anyway, according to legend, his son, St. Louis de Monfort had inherited his father's temper. He had admitted that he had a temper like his father but he had tried to channel his temper, not to threats and violence, but to laboring to a greater Glory of God—except for the time he knocked out a couple of drunks who wouldn't stop heckling him while he preached. (*33 Days to Morning Glory*, page 32)

My point is that we should never think that we aren't capable of becoming a Saint. I want to be a Saint! I want to go to heaven and see my loved ones and I have at my disposal all of these Saints in heaven to help me through their intercession to guide me, to teach me from their writing. We have been given these little treasures, and they are a gift from

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 7 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: **Gratitude as Gift**
- 9 Rediscover Catholicism
- 10-12 Glory Conference - Women
- 13-17 **Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 7)**
- 18-19 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 24-26 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

MAY

- 1-3 Christian Women's Retreat
- 5 Diocese of Evansville
- 5 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: **Leadership**
- 8-10 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 14 Rediscover Catholicism
- 16-17 MSJ Academy Reunion
- 26 OCMS Prayer Day
- 28-29 Diocese of Owensboro Staff
- 29-31 **Yarn Spinners Weekend**
- 30 5K Run/Walk at the Mount

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—2015 Year of Consecrated Life—

JUNE

- 2 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: **Response to Tolerant Oppression**
- 3-6 Young Daughters of Saint Angela (Y-DOSA) Summit
- 5-7 **Ingatian Retreat (new dates)**
- 11 **Rediscover Catholicism**
- 13 Associates and Sisters Day
- 20 Private wedding reception
- 21-26 Christian Leadership Institute Retreat Week
- 26-28 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
www.ursulinesmsj.org



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Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

God.

Their lives were really hard, and they suffered many trials just like us. It definitely wasn't a cake walk!

Sometimes we may feel a connection with a certain Saint and choose that particular Saint to be our "Go-to Saint" in times of great need. I am going to share with you my Go-to Saint. After my son's death, and the way that I had found him when he died I immediately cradled Ben and kissed his face and I stroked his hair. Ben was cold and I covered him up and I held him tighter.

It would be understandable that my Go-to Saint would be Mary, the mother of God. I am a mother, I had a son... and Mary, she was a mother and she had a Son whom she also cradled in her arms. So my love and affection to our Heavenly mother runs very deep for me. She knows my pain and every parent's pain of losing a child. So it is safe to say that she is my Go-to Saint.



I have needed our Blessed Mother Mary and she was there for me with her son Jesus comforting me. There is absolutely no comparison of her pain through the passion of her son Jesus. But Jesus gave her to me and to you to be our mother and she has never let me down, not ever!

+JM+ Julie Ward Murphy

The Congregation of The Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception was founded on 18th June 1847 in Glasgow, Scotland in response to the need to teach the poor children of the area. The congregation was founded by Sisters Adelaide Vaast and Veronica Cordier who were French members of the Franciscan Monastery of Our Lady of the Angels, Tourcoing.

To be a Franciscan simply means to follow the way and life of St Francis of Assisi. Francis was born in the year 1182 in Italy into a wealthy family and spent his childhood in luxury. He later freely chose to give up his family wealth and possessions and followed the Master Jesus. Francis was joyful, loving, kind and prayerful. He is known for his love of animals, Poverty, humility, simplicity and hospitality. "How blessed are the poor in spirit for the kingdom of heaven is theirs" (Matt 5:3).

As Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate



Sr. Anthonia Asayoma O.S.F.; in the middle is Sr. Consolata Ojemeh O.S.F., and Sr. Anne Marie Joshua. Submitted Photo

ulate Conception we follow The Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St Francis. As members of the Third Order Regular of St Francis, we strive to follow Jesus Christ according

to the example of St Francis by committing ourselves to living a common life, which calls for simplicity of life and readiness to share our time, talents and treasures.

By our vows of poverty, chastity and obedience we dedicate our lives to the service of God and his people in the footsteps of St Francis. We dedicate ourselves to a life of mission and evangelization as we seek new and different ways of spreading the Gospel message. We also commit ourselves to live out our public profession vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience in a variety of apostolic work. Our primary apostolate is the witness we give through the apostolate of education, medical, social and many more. The core of our lives as Franciscans lies in our daily continuous conversion, contemplation, poverty and minority which lie at the heart of our spirituality.

Three Franciscan Sisters from Nigeria are presently working in the Diocese of Owensboro. Two are working as House Mothers at St Gerard Life Home for homeless pregnant women while the third sister works as Local Health Nurse with the Green River District Home Health. Many of our sisters are working in other countries like England, Scotland, Ireland, Italy Nigeria and Kenya.

In joining with the church as we continue in this Year of Consecrated life, It was our founders' vision and hope that we the Franciscan sisters of the Immaculate Conception will always be ready to respond to the needs of the local church, particularly in its pastoral service to the poor and the needy. We are grateful to God and to the Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro for the opportunity to serve the people of God in this particular church.



We Are Heralds of Good News!

Heralds of Good News (H G N) is a Missionary Society of Apostolic Life, started in the diocese of Eluru, India on 14 October 1984 by Rev. Fr. Jose Kaimlett. It became an Institute of Pontifical Right (The institutions of pontifical right depend immediately and exclusively on the Vatican in the matters of internal governance and discipline) on May 5, 1999. The specific aim of the Society is the promotion of vocations to priesthood, the training of seminarians and the supply of zealous and hardworking missionaries to the dioceses in India and abroad which experience a shortage of priests due to the lack of local vocations. The Society has Mary Queen of Apostles and St. Joseph the Worker as the Patrons.

Since the Society has made a rapid progress both in the matter of personnel and at the level of activities, to make a smooth run of the administration, four new Provinces were created. All the four provinces now function under the leadership of four different "Provincials", and the whole Society is guided by the "Superior



Gathered together at the McRaith Catholic Center in Owensboro on March 11, 2015, these Herald of Good News Fathers posed for the Western Kentucky Catholic camera: from left are, Fr. Jegin Puthenpurachal, Fr. Suneesh Mathew, Fr. Babu Kulathunkal, Fr. Joji Olickal, Fr. Saji Sebastian (Provincial visiting from India), Father Antony Ottagan. Not present for the photo was Fr. Shaiju Thomas) Mel Howard Photo

General", Very Rev Fr. M. Ignatius. The Society now has over 500 priests and over 250 seminarians in various levels of studies. Apart from India the priests serve in various countries in Africa, Papua New Guinea, Australia,

News land, Germany, Italy, Nederland, France, America, Canada etc. The society of Heralds of Good News continue to do the works of evangelization by working with Catholic schools, Orphanages, home for the el-

derly, Boarding Hostels, retreat centers, home for the etc.

We are indebted to Bishop Emeritus John McRaith and Bishop William Medley for inviting us to the diocese of Owensboro. Over the past many years several of our priests have worked in the diocese of Owensboro. We have 6 priests at present who serve in the diocese Fr. Shaiju Thomas at Princeton, Fr. Babu Kulathunkal at Litchfield, Fr. Antony Ottagan at Calvert City, Fr. Jegin Joseph at Stanley, Fr. Joji Joseph at Russellville and Fr. Suneesh Mathew at St. Stephens Owensboro. Thanks for accepting us and for all your love and concern that you continue to show to our priests. Thanks to Fr. Darrell Venters for introducing us and welcoming us to USA. Please keep our society in your prayers that we continue to do God's works.

St. Stephen Cathedral Hosts 2015 Catholic Mens Conference



About 350 men came to the Catholic Mens Conference at St. Stephen Cathedral Feb. 7, 2015 for an opportunity to enrich their faith and possibly change their lives.



Scott McCain, Robert and Mike Edge. In the picture at right, Robert Edge, staffed a resources table at the conference, holding a copy of a book available.



Photos left and right, several participants at the Catholic Men's Conference enjoying a chance to share fellowship over lunch. Jerry Kuntz Photos



The 2015 Catholic Men's Conference speakers addressed the subject of how to live your life as a Catholic man and included nationally renowned and dynamic Catholic speakers such as Matt Fradd, at right, who has done much good battling the evils of the pornography industry, and Hector Molina, above left, a speaker and apologist with Catholic Answers.

Matt Fradd experienced a profound conversion at World Youth day in Rome 2000 and afterward committed himself to inviting others to know Jesus Christ and the Church Christ founded.

Matt speaks to about 100,000 people every year and has been a guest on the BBC, EWTN, ABC and Catholic Answers Live.

He is the founder of The Porn Effect (www.theporneffect.com) a site dedicated to exposing the reality behind the fantasy of porn and offering help to those seeking sexual freedom.

Matt works for Covenant Eyes, an apostolate dedicated to helping to protect families from the dangers of internet por-

nography.

Hector Molina is a dynamic lay Catholic speaker and apologist with over 20 years of experience in professional pastoral ministry and leadership in the Church.

It was during his early years as a Youth Minister that Hector discerned his call to lay ecclesial ministry. He pursued his theological studies at St. John's University while serving as Pastoral Associate at the historic St. John the Baptist Parish in his home Diocese of Brooklyn. He served in this capacity for over a decade before relocating to the Archdiocese of St. Louis where he served for six years as Director of Hispanic Ministry and later as founding Director of The Office for the New Evangelization.

In 2009, Hector launched his own full-time speaking apostolate, conducting Parish Seminars, Missions, Retreats and Conferences throughout the United States and abroad. In 2012, Hector joined the staff of Catholic Answers, (www.catholic.com/profiles/hector-molina) the largest lay-run apostolate of Catholic apologetics and evangelization in North America, where he currently serves as an Apologist and Speaker.

With his great wealth of knowledge and pastoral experience, Hector has developed a solid reputation as being one of the most passionate and articulate expositors and defenders of the Catholic faith.

A devoted husband and father of five, Hector's fervent desire is to reach others for Christ, who, as the great apostle Paul put it, "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:4)



St. Stephen Cathedral Hosts 2015 Catholic Mens Conference

April, 2015 41



Father Mike Williams , third from left, brought with him this group of men from Western Kentucky University.

The Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky is a small group that formed in March, 2011 with the specific purpose of hosting a Spiritual conference / retreat for the men in the Diocese of Owensboro Kentucky.

The Diocese of Owensboro encompasses all of Western Kentucky, including: Bowling Green, Henderson, Madisonville, Hopkinsville and Paducah. However, the conference is open to all men regardless of their residence.

The Conference's Mission Statement: Guided by the Holy Spirit, we reach-out to Catholic men with faith-enriching and life changing presentations to strengthen their faith , family and work lives.

Board of Directors: Mike Sullivan – President; John Kurtz – Vice President; Randy Clemens – Treasurer; Jerry Kuntz – Secretary / Communications; Fr. Brandon Williams – Diocesan Liaison / Spiritual Mentor; Raymond Purk; Robert Edge; Matt Fitzgerald; Kevin Schwartz.

About 350 men participated in the Catholic Mens Conference at St. Stephen Cathedral on Feb.7, 2015 for opportunity to deepen and defend their faith and possibly change their lives.



Fr. Brandon Williams is Diocesan Liaison and Spiritual Mentor for the Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky. Jerry Kuntz Photo

Men's Prayer Breakfast Combines Good Food, Wisdom, and Fellowship

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - The St. Thomas More Men's Prayer Breakfast is held on the second Saturday of each month. The St. Francis de Sales Men's Prayer Breakfast is held on the last Saturday of each month. The twice-a-month schedule offers two opportunities for the men from both Catholic parishes. The second Saturday of February fell on the 14th, St. Valentine's Day, and the men of St. Thomas More made that a special day. The men from both parishes invited their wives to attend the breakfast with them. The theme-related decorations along with pots of red tulips were on the tables. Gift-certificate door prizes were given to the ladies. The food prepared by several of the men was very delicious and the conversation catching up with the latest family news among old and new friends was lively.

Following the meal, Kay Williams, Lourdes Hospice Director, gave a special presentation on the revitalized and expanding Lourdes Hospice program to the group of approximately 32 individuals. The 10-bed state-of-the-art Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center, soon to open on the Lourdes Hospital campus, will provide services that are designed to ease pain, alleviate symptoms and provide support to the patients and their care givers. This is an additional resource that will be available to provide a full continuum of care for an individual's end-of-life needs. The furnishings reflect a home-like setting for the comfort of patients and their loved ones.



Kay Williams, Lourdes Hospice Director, gave a special presentation on the revitalized and expanding Lourdes Hospice program Feb. 14 for the Men's Prayer Breakfast. Submitted Photo

Mrs. Williams also spent time discussing Living Wills, Advance Directives, Medical Surrogates and other decisions dealing with physical and spiritual care at the end-of-life. She recommended these types of decisions are best made at a time that is not stressful. Information was given to each attendee that included a "Conversation Starter Kit" to help individuals and their families talk about their wishes for end-of-life care. A conversation can provide a shared understanding of what matters most to the individual and their loved ones. "Five Wishes" is a living will that helps individuals talk about personal, emotional and spiritual wishes and how filling out this document and signing it gives people a way to control how they are treated in a serious life threatening illness or in an end-of-life situation. Mrs. Williams was available after the meeting adjournment to answer questions and hear comments. These materials can be obtained through the Lourdes Hospice Department.



Matt Fradd speaking in St. Stephen Cathedral Feb.7, 2015 at the Catholic Mens' Conference. Jerry Kuntz Photo

Called To Serve God As Lay Ecclesial Ministers

According to Vatican II, all are called to holiness. This call from God is for all—not just priests and consecrated religious. Many choose to answer that call in many ways—through parenthood, following professional careers, or as friends, to name just a few. Each day all are called to grow in holiness. Within the ministry of the Church, a few are called to serve God as lay ecclesial ministers—pastoral ministers who serve the church but are not ordained. According to the USCCB, this ecclesial ministry includes:

- *Authorization* of the hierarchy to serve publicly in the local Church
- *Leadership* in a particular area of ministry
- Close *mutual collaboration* with the pastoral ministry of bishops, priests, and deacons
- Preparation and *formation* appropriate to the level of responsibilities that are assigned to them including; human, spiritual, pastoral, and theological dimen-

sions.

Each year the Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry honor one lay ecclesial minister in the field of catechetics with the Bishop John J McRaith Catechetical Award. At this time, the directors of these offices are seeking nominations for this annual recognition. Nominees should be (or have been) professional ministers working for a minimum of 5 years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Some ministerial roles to be considered are Director of Religious Education, Coordinator of Religious Education, Pastoral Associate, Youth Minister, etc.

When considering nominees for this award, the criteria from the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers are used as a point of reference. Nominees should demonstrate the qualities of human maturity needed for fruitful ministry with the people of God. He/She must demonstrate Christian spirituality

as foundational to ministry, integrated in service with the people of God, and possessing a sacramental view of the world that recognizes the world can be a vessel of God's presence and God's transforming grace. In addition, the candidate must have an understanding of the breadth of Catholic theological and pastoral studies as well as the intellectual skill to use that knowledge in ministry with God's people from diverse populations and cultures.

Anyone from the diocese may nominate a catechetical leader. Nominations are due to Elaine Robertson by April 22, 2015. (*Look to the right side of this page to see nominating form.*) When nominating please include the nominee's name, address and parish.

Please send all nominations to Elaine Robertson at Elaine.robertson@pastoral.org or at 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

2014-2015 Nomination Form for Diocese of Owensboro Catholic School Educator of the Year

The Catholic Schools Office and Principals Association are again asking for nominations for Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year.

The winner will be announced at the dinner following the annual Professional Development Day.

Anyone, with the exception of an immediate family member, may nominate an educator for the award. All information concerning nominees will be kept confidential, including the name of the person submitting the nomination.

The educator must currently be employed in the Diocese of Owensboro and must have taught for a minimum of five years in the Diocesan Schools.

The outstanding Catholic School Educator must be a role model as an outstanding human being; have a major influence in the lives of students; show concern with the faith development as well as the physical, mental and emotional development of students; and encourage students to improve their abilities and talents.

The deadline for nominations is July 1, 2015. A committee will serve as judges.

All nomination forms should be mailed to the Catholic Schools Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130.

Nominee _____ Address _____
School _____ Subjects, Grades Taught _____

On an accompanying sheet of paper, please comment on your nominee's performance in the following categories:

- 1) Why should this person be honored as Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year?
- 2) Describe this person's commitment as a educator.
- 3) How has this person helped students become better people?
- 4) How is this person a Christian role model for the students? Give an example.
- 5) Is the educator active in the community and Church, apart from the school-related activities? If so, give details of his or her involvement.
- 6) How well does the nominee relate with professional colleagues and parents of the students?

Nominated by: Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Relation to educator _____

Summer Retreats for Women Religious

Consecrated Life: Blessed and Broken



Participants can choose between the conference retreat, led by **Sister Roberta Marie Doneth, OSF (left)**, or a directed retreat. Directed retreat participants will meet each day with a spiritual guide: **Sister Helen O'Brien, OSU**, or **Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU**. The retreats begin at 7 p.m. Sunday and end after a 9:30 a.m. liturgy on Saturday. The cost to attend is \$450 or \$275 for commuters. Please join us.



Week of July 12-18, 2015

Sister Roberta Marie Doneth, OSF, is a native of Traverse City, Mich., and a Sister of St. Francis of Tiffin, Ohio. She holds master's degrees in administration and in Franciscan Spirituality. She has been an educator and administrator and served on her community's leadership team. She ministers as a retreat leader, spiritual director and a staff member of Franciscan Pilgrimages.

To register, contact **Kathy McCarty**
270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
You can find a brochure at www.ursulinesmsj.org
under Conference & Retreat Center



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

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

Opening For A Part-Time Youth Minister

St. William & St. Lawrence parishes in Knottsville, Ky. have an immediate opening for a part-time Youth Minister. The position includes coordinating the Youth Ministry Program for high school youth. An applicant should be a practicing Catholic with knowledge of Church teachings and be enthusiastic about leading youth in living out their Catholic faith and serving their community. Interested applicants should contact the parish office at 270-281-4802 or submit a resume to stl_stw@yahoo.com

Annulments, Reconciliation, and Becoming Catholic

By Denise Bossert

March 26, 2014 - This week, I received an email from a deacon asking me to send him an article that ran in the St. Louis Review and the diocesan papers of the Archdiocese of La Crosse, the Archdiocese of Dubuque, and the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The deacon teaches RCIA classes, and one of the students was dealing with anguish that comes with waiting for an annulment. This topic comes up a lot in the weeks before Easter Vigil. Therefore, I am reposting this from the Catholic by Grace archives.

Reconciling One's Self to the Idea of Reconciliation

One week before Easter Vigil, the RCIA class at my parish went through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Due to a pending annulment from a first marriage, I could not participate in the Sacrament. It was a difficult moment in my conversion to the Catholic faith, because I longed to make this part of the journey with my class and be reconciled to the Lord. Even though the pending annulment meant I couldn't participate, my classmates asked me to join them in a show of love and support, and so I went along somewhat reluctantly.

The idea of watching my friends enter the confessional and leave with clean hearts and souls (while I remained in the pew, still mired in sin and shame) weighed heavily on my mind. I am so glad that I decided to put that aside and go along as they suggested.

Although I had a desire to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, at that point in my journey I still had lingering doubts about why I needed to seek forgiveness through a priest. While I sorted through the intellectual doubts, my spirit sensed the necessity of this act of humility and Sacrament of Reconciliation. My instincts were confirmed as I watched my new friends leave the confessional with radiant faces. The memory of it still blesses me in a profound way. After they had made their confessions, some suggested that I go in to receive a blessing.

When I entered, the priest was already seated. He said something to me, and I realized that he was beginning the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I muddled through an explanation of my situation, and we talked briefly. Then, he blessed

me.

When I left that little room, I realized that my Protestant doubt in the confessional was gone. In fact, the experience turned my thinking around one-hundred-eighty degrees. Now, I had doubts in the validity of the Jesus-and-me style of private Protestant confession.

Somehow, I had been given the grace to recognize Jesus in His ordained one, the priest. Somehow, the Holy Spirit had helped me realize that the Sacrament of Reconciliation was not merely part of a sequence of events leading up to First Communion. The door to the confessional is the door to Jesus' forgiveness. From that point on, I realized that when I hear those words of absolution – whenever that blessed day comes along – the words will be spoken by a priest, but they will be the words of Jesus.

In the weeks and months that have followed, the desire to be made clean through this Sacrament has consumed my spirit like holy fire. When I read verses from the Psalmist – verses like “Take pity on me, Lord, in your mercy; in your abundance of mercy wipe out my guilt” and “Wash me ever more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin . . . for I know how guilty I am; my sin is always before me” – I am filled with an unquenchable desire to be reconciled to the Lord through this Sacrament.

I suppose one could contemplate the Sacrament of Reconciliation forever and never be able to grasp completely the fullness of the mystery, but I find myself trying to figure it out anyway. Why does the confessional trump individual prayers of confession? I think the question is answered in part by another verse in the Book of Psalm. “The true sacrifice is a broken spirit: a contrite and humble heart, O God, you will not refuse.”

The confessional requires humility. Pride is wrestled to the ground, giving way to a broken spirit. The net result is deep remorse and a profound desire to turn from sin and temptation (which is the definition of repentance). Private Jesus-and-Me confessions too easily segue into a mere appeasement of a guilty conscience and not true repentance. Without contrition and humility there is no forgiveness, the Psalmist says. The Lord has provided a way for me to know I am forgiven – the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I realize now that it is next to impossible to sit before a priest and speak of one's darkest deeds without a profound sense of contrition and humility that leads to a serious desire to turn from sin.

If that wasn't enough for me to embrace the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I only had to consider the Lord's words to His Apostles, “Whatever you bind . . . whatever you loose.” Forgiveness is ours because of the Blood of Christ and His atoning work on the cross of Calvary (something I'd always believed), but Jesus said that the one who has the authority to forgive in His name is the ordained one.

In the summer of 2005, I received word from the Metropolitan Tribunal that I am not bound to my first marriage. Words cannot describe the joy that comes with knowing that Jesus is drawing me closer, even now bending His finger to me, indicating that He wants me to come all the way home, and that eventually I will be able to receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. I'm still anticipating my first confession; I long to hear the words of absolution. I'm ready to trade my ashes for beauty, ready to wear forgiveness like a crown. I know that Jesus is there and that He is waiting for me to receive the sweet Sacrament of Reconciliation no matter how long it takes for me to be ready. (First Communion received 8/14/05) (another excerpt from the archives)

The wait was good for me. As a preacher's kid (PK) all doors are thrown open. We get used to people telling us to sit in the seat of honor, to be first in line, to write and to speak. We are asked to contribute to the newsletter, to teach a class and to answer other people's questions about the faith. We are given respect and spiritual deference. No holds barred.

It was good for me to be told to wait. It was right for me to remain seated while others were told to come forward and receive the Lord. My tears of humility and desire at the Mass were sweet and the result of a tremendous longing of the soul. I am no longer the PK, all puffed up and proud. I am a humble pilgrim. And this has been the most important journey of my life.

This article was first published in The St. Louis Review July 28, 2005. Reprinted here with author's permission. Denise Bossert is a convert and a syndicated columnist. Her column has been published in 63 diocesan newspapers, and she is the author of Gifts of the Visitation. She attends Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri. denisebossert.com



Chalk It Up

On Monday, March 16th, Trinity High School students (Daniel Morris shown here) had the opportunity to participate in National Pro-Life Chalk Day. This is an important cause that we support at Trinity High School – that every life is important and matters from conception to natural death. Photo by Kim Rydecki



An Ignatian Retreat

NEW DATES: June 5-7

A June 5-7 silent retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius Loyola will allow participants to take time to dwell in the unchanging reality that we are loved just as we are, to listen to the call of God and God's hopes for us and to respond more deeply from our hearts.

Retreatants will develop deeper pathways to prayer, keener discernment, the ability to see God actively involved in the world and intimately involved with us in every moment and place.

Saint Ignatius Loyola founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in the 16th century, in whose footsteps our beloved Jesuit Pope Francis follows.

Retreat director Monica Armstrong founded Mission of the Spirit in Knoxville, Tenn., to bring Ignatian spirituality to the region.



Presenter:

Monica Armstrong, MS

Time:

Begins 7 p.m. Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday

Cost:

\$180 (program, meals and accommodations)

Contact **Kathy McCarty** to register
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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



Novena for the Cursillo Three-Day Weekends and Beyond

O Most Holy Sovereign God, we honor and bless Your Holy Name now and forever more... It is through You all things are possible.

O God, we come with humble hearts pleading through Your Son Jesus's Most Holy Name, to help us to attract and sustain Your Blessed Cursillo Movement...

Please inspire and send us...

Holy, loving, respectful, and reverent priests and deacons to administer Your Most Holy Sacraments;

Holy, loving, respectful, and reverent religious and lay people for spiritual guidance and direction;

Holy, loving, respectful, and reverent Cursillistas who will administer and befriend the candidates throughout the Fourth Day;

Holy, loving, respectful, and reverent candidates who will walk the Fourth Day journey of friendship with us, adoring and honoring You through the Most Blessed Sacrament and each other.

O Sovereign and Loving God, we cannot do this alone. We plead for these, our petitions, uniting them with Jesus, our brother, Mary, our Mother, St. Joseph, our guide, and all of heaven and earth as we pray...

I believe in God... (Apostles' Creed) ... Our Father...

For the gift of Faith to strengthen our Priests and Deacons... Hail Mary...

For the gift of Hope to inspire our Religious and Laity... Hail Mary...

For the gift of Love uniting our Teams and Candidates Hail Mary...

Glory be... O My Jesus...

Please continue by praying the Rosary in honor of Mary, Our Mother. When completing the Rosary, please repeat three times: My God I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love you! I ask forgiveness for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love you.

Conclude: We bless you and thank you, O Most Sovereign and Merciful God. Amen!

"Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring your friend to Christ."

"The Cursillos in Christianity ...

enables living the true Christian life in light of the baptismal commitment. It offers a way to facilitate an encounter with what is fundamental (the basics) of Christian living. ... It can be said that a Cursillo is 'the joyful proclamation of being Christian.'" — *Leaders' Manual (9th Edition, 2006) pg. 147*

Ultreya generally meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please contact one of the people listed for date and time confirmation. The date for the next Women's Cursillo is June 26-29, 2014.



Get a 10% discount if paid in full by May 5, 2015

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

St Pius Tenth Parish in Calvert City, Ky. Rose And Rosary Sunday March 1, 2015

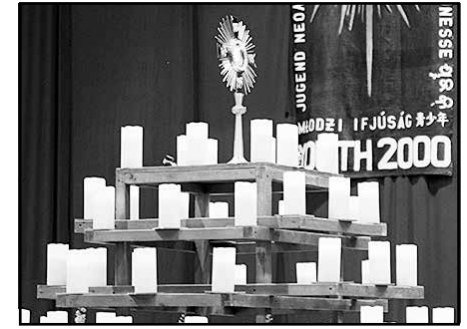


Sunday, March 1, 2015 was Rose and Rosary Sunday at St. Pius X, Calvert City, KY, wherein the Calvert City Knights of Columbus Honor Guard Assembly 2404 celebrated new members.

In the photo at left, Sir Knight Joel Rivera posts as Father Anthoni, Server Katie Hurst and Lector Noreen Patton proceed to the altar. Also pictured are Sir Knights David Elliott, (L), and Sir Knight Derwood Doyle (R).

Photo at right: Father Anthoni (C) offers communion to parish members as Honor Guard Commander Sir Knight Danny Shea (L) and Sir Knight Kurt Schmidt (R) provide Honor Guard support. Photos by RJ Witowski





Los jóvenes son recibidos por sus compañeros para el retiro Youth 2000 en la Universidad de Brescia.



Los jóvenes de dentro y fuera de la diócesis participan en adoración, oración y convivio en Youth 2000.



El Editor del Católico de Kentucky Occidental,

Mel Howard, se jubilará del personal de la Diócesis de Owensboro el 30 de junio del 2015. Howard dijo, “Cuando el Obispo Juan McRaith me contrató en 1984, me dijo que yo iba a saber cuándo es el tiempo de dejar el trabajo. Estoy muy agradecido al Obispo McRaith por permitirme ayudar a fundar este periódico diocesano y conocer personalmente a muchas de las personas de esta Diócesis a través de los últimos 31 años. Agradezco al Obispo William Medley por permitirme quedar como editor aquí. Y a todas las personas quienes enviaron fotos, artículos, y me permitieron editar lo que escribieron, ¡GRACIAS! Como mi mamá decía, ‘¡Gracias por tu ayuda, hasta que estés mejor pagado!’ (en la próxima vida).”

Cómo nuestra juventud hispana puede proveer la respuesta a nuestra iglesia creciente

Abril, 2015 3

"Alrededor del 55 por ciento de todos los católicos estadounidenses menores de 30 son hispanos." *

¿Cómo podemos, como miembros de la Iglesia en la Diócesis de Owensboro, responder a este cambio? Tenemos que estar allí con el mismo amor y compasión que hemos sido enseñados al tratar a nuestro prójimo. Somos una iglesia de muchos colores diferentes y eso es lo que da a la Iglesia católica su vida, riqueza y universalidad. Hay diferencias en el idioma y la cultura, personas que viven en dos lados, que pueden resultar en la creación de dos, iglesias paralelas.

Este es un problema que se ha visto a lo largo de los Estados Unidos y dentro de nuestras parroquias. La solución que nuestros jóvenes traen es que viven con un pie en ambos mundos y pueden navegar y tener éxito en español e inglés, ellos representan a la iglesia mestiza en que nos vamos convirtiendo rápidamente. Como miembros de la iglesia todos debemos poner de nuestra parte en la integración, a nivel parroquial y diocesano. Por lo tanto, la formación de nuestros jóvenes es vital, vital para la iglesia del futuro, pero aún más vital para la iglesia del presente. Si no creamos un ambiente de amor, su fe no puede florecer y perdemos los líderes de mañana.

Durante nuestro Encuentro Diocesano de Familia 2015, los jóvenes discutieron la Teología del Cuerpo con el Director de la Vida Familiar, Joe Bland y yo. Pudimos presentarles una visión de la sexualidad que es completamente diferente a la que ellos ven en la cultura popular, los compañeros, e incluso de la familia. Nuestros jóvenes discutieron las experiencias de la vida real y situaciones que podrían presentarse. Articularon cómo se sentían y preguntaron acerca de cómo se podrían aprender más acerca de esta enseñanza de la Iglesia. Están un paso más cerca de convertirse en miembros formados completamente en las enseñanzas de la iglesia para nuestras parroquias y nuestra diócesis.

Con el fin de crear líderes de fe, debemos seguir previéndolos con las herramientas que les permitan crecer, ya a la vez, hacer crecer la iglesia.



Director de la Vida Familiar, Joe Bland, y Directora de la Pastoral Juvenil Hispana, Susana Solorza, hablan con un grupo de jóvenes sobre la Teología del Cuerpo en el Encuentro Diocesano Familiar 2015. Director of Family Life, Joe Bland, and Director of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Susana Solorza, talk to a group of youth at the 2015 Diocesan Family Encuentro about Theology of the Body.

Feliz en Cristo, Susana Solorza

** Ministerio Hispano en Parroquias Católicas un Informe Resumen de los Resultados del Estudio Nacional de Parroquias Católicas con el Ministerio Hispano por Hosffman Ospino, Ph.D Boston College Escuela de Teología y Ministerio en colaboración con el Centro de Investigación Aplicada en el Apostolado (CARA)*



Jóvenes de edades 12 a 19 en el Encuentro Diocesano Familiar 2015 después de dinámicas en grupo. Young women and men ranging in ages from 12-19 at the 2015 Diocesan Family Encuentro after sharing in fellowship.



La Conversación Sobre la Familia Muestra la Sabiduría de la Iglesia Católica de Kentucky Occidental



Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Queridos hermanas y hermanos,

Estamos en un periodo interin entre dos momentos significativos en la vida de nuestra Iglesia Católica. El Octubre pasado un Sínodo Extraordinario de Obispos fue convocado para iniciar una conversación en toda la Iglesia sobre el tema de la familia. Esta conversación continúa en anticipación del Sínodo General que se convocará este Octubre. Este Sínodo General y su tema de la familia fueron elegidos por el Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI antes de su jubilación en 2013.

El Papa Francisco nos ha dicho que se debe considerar el mundo entero como una familia grande. Dijo en una audiencia general: "Somos, después de todo, una sola familia humana, diferente en muchas formas, en el camino a la unidad, valorando la solidaridad y diálogo entre los pueblos." Pero el Papa lamenta, "¿Pero cómo tendremos la unidad entre los cristianos si no somos capaces de tenerla entre nosotros, católicos; de tenerla en la familia? ¡Cuántas familias se pelean y se dividen!"

En preparación para entregar un informe al Sínodo de Obispos de 2015, participé en siete audiencias a través de la Diócesis en Enero y Febrero. Más que seiscientas personas participaron en estas conversaciones. Joe Bland, Director Diocesano de la Vida Familiar, facilitó estas conversaciones y mi trabajo fue escuchar. Las conversaciones fueron animadas y me gustaría compartir con ustedes aquí algunos temas que surgieron:

A pesar de los recursos y esfuerzos valientes, personas y párrocos perciben una deficiencia en los programas de preparación prematrimonial. Una parte de este asunto es la disposición de las mismas parejas de hacer el compromiso de tiempo y enfoque a la preparación prematrimonial cuando se preocupan de tantos otros ritos y costumbres prematrimoniales.

Muchas personas reconocen que con frecuencia la calidad de catequesis y educación religiosa se pone en duda. La suposición de la Iglesia que la familia

es el lugar primordial para la formación religiosa de los niños parece estar perdida. Los padres no se sienten adecuados para cumplir la tarea. Esto me trae a la mente la carta pastoral de los Obispos de los EEUU, Sentíamos Arder Nuestro Corazón, que dice que la educación religiosa de las parroquias se debe dirigir a los adultos.

Se hizo la observación varias veces que los sacerdotes rara vez predicán sobre los asuntos específicos de la familia. Los sacerdotes mismos reconocen esta realidad notando la delicadez de predicar sobre el divorcio y vivir juntos antes del matrimonio. Muchas veces alguien se siente que estas referencias son personales y se ofenden.

Todavía existen muchos mitos sobre la enseñanza de la iglesia sobre el divorcio, casarse de nuevo y el proceso de anulaciones. Anécdotas de un costo exorbitante para pedir una anulación fueron repetidas. De hecho en nuestra Diócesis el costo ha sido mínimo. Pero respondiendo al reto del Papa Francisco, nuestra Diócesis ya no pedirá ningún pago. Descubrimos que estos pagos solamente cubría 3% del presupuesto de nuestro tribunal de matrimonio de todas formas.

Mitos también siguen sobre la participación en la Comunión para los que son divorciados y los que se han vuelto a casar. Casi cada sacerdote se ha encontrado con personas que por años no recibieron la comunión cuando por las leyes actuales de la Iglesia no había razón de negarse recibir la comunión.

Mucha pasión acompañó las conversaciones sobre la Comunión para los Católicos que viven en matrimonios no reconocidos por la Iglesia. Tantos padres expresaron aflicción que sus hijos e hijas hayan salido de la Iglesia por este problema. Se entiende que algunas situaciones no se pueden resolver totalmente con una anulación. Se rogaron que la Iglesia se esfuerce para mostrar la misericordia de Jesús que se encuentra en los evangelios y no dejar que el altar sea un lugar de divisiones no necesarias.

Siguiendo el mismo hilo, padres y parientes de personas en relaciones del

mismo sexo se sienten agobiados que sus hijos y seres queridos no se sienten valorados por la Iglesia. Nadie dijo que apoya redefinir el matrimonio, sino buscaron la compasión para personas que conocen que son buenos y se esfuerzan por vivir lo más virtuosos y auténticos que puedan. Otra vez, rogando que el altar no sea un lugar para dividir.

La enseñanza de la Iglesia sobre los anticonceptivos artificiales también se mencionó seguido. Algunos notaron que los Católicos simplemente no entienden que esta enseñanza es creíble. Al mismo tiempo hay una red creciente de familias jóvenes, más comprometidas que nunca, a las muchas oportunidades de planificación familiar natural. Ellos

notan que estos métodos no solo sirven a la pareja para planear sus familias, sino cuando se viven plenamente ayudan también mejorar el matrimonio y su vida familiar.

Estos fueron algunos de los asuntos más notables que los participantes en las conversaciones me trajeron. Voy a considerar a todos en oración mientras me esfuerzo para ofrecer al Papa Francisco y a los Padres del Sínodo la sabiduría de la Iglesia Católica de Kentucky occidental.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos!

+ William F. Medley
+ Mons. William F. Medley,
Obispo de Owensboro

Calendario del Obispo Medley de Abril 2015:

Abril 2	7:00 p.m.	Misa de la Última Cena del Señor, Catedral de San Esteban
Abril 3	7:00 p.m.	Viernes Santo de la Pasión del Señor, Catedral de San Esteban
Abril 4	7:45 p.m.	Vigilia Pascual, Catedral de San Esteban
Abril 11	9:00 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo Pastoral Diocesano, Centro Católico (MCC)
Abril 12	6:00 p.m.	Misa, Centro de Newman de la Universidad de Murray
Abril 14	6:30 p.m.	Servicio de Sanación, Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
Abril 15	8:30 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas, MCC
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmación, San Pedro y San Pablo, Hopkinsville
Abril 16	9:00 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
Abril 18	10:00 a.m.	Ordinación de Diácono Transicional, Catedral de San Esteban
	4:30 p.m.	Confirmación, Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, Owensboro
Abril 19	11:00 a.m.	Confirmación, San Pío X, Owensboro
Abril 20	9:45 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal, MCC
	1:30 p.m.	Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal, MCC
Abril 21	9:00 a.m.	Misa y Reunión del Personal del MCC
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmación, Madre Santísima, Owensboro
Abril 22	6:00 p.m.	Confirmación, Santa Ana, Morganfield
Abril 23	11:00 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Academia de Maximiliano Montessori
	4:00 p.m.	Bendición – Centro de Cuidado de Hospicio, Hospital de Lourdes, Paducah
Abril 25	5:00 p.m.	Confirmación, San Agustín, San Antonio, San Benedicto @ San Agustín, Grayson Springs
Abril 26	9:30 a.m.	Confirmación, San Antonio, Browns Valley
	3:00 p.m.	Confirmación, San José, Bowling Green
Abril 28	10:00 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Escuela Secundaria de Santa María, Paducah
	12:00-2:00p.m.	Horas de Oficina de Paducah, Hospital de Lourdes, Paducah
Abril 29	6:00 p.m.	Confirmación, Santa María del Bosque, Whitesville
Abril 30	10:00 a.m.	Visitas del Ministerio Prisionero
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmación, San Sebastián, San Carlos y San Martín, @ San Sebastián



El Papa Nombra un Franciscano Conventual Padre John Stowe como el Nuevo Obispo de Lexington

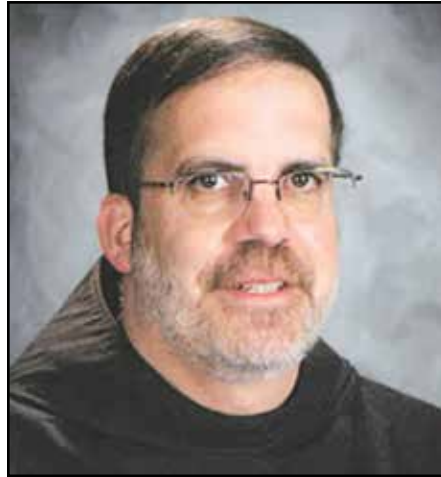
El 12 de Marzo del 2015, el Papa Francisco nombró al Franciscano Conventual Padre John Stowe como el Tercer Obispo de la Diócesis Católica Romana de Lexington, KY.

La Diócesis de Lexington se hizo vacante cuando el Papa nombró al Obispo Ronald W. Gainer, Segundo Obispo de Lexington, como el Obispo de Harrisburg, PA.

El Padre John Stowe nació el 15 de Abril del 1966 en Lorain, OH. El Obispo-Elegido Stowe recibió una Maestría de Divinidad y una Licenciatura en la Teología Sagrada en el área de la Historia de la Iglesia de la Escuela Jesuita de Teología en Berkeley. En diciembre del 2002, el Obispo-Elegido Stowe fue invitado a servir a la Diócesis de El Paso como Moderador de la Curia y el Vicario General. Después sirvió también como el Canciller de la Diócesis.

“Después de pasar los primeros quince años de mi sacerdocio en la frontera de los EEUU y México, tengo una conciencia particular sobre la historia de la Iglesia Americana como una iglesia de inmigrantes.

“Generación tras generación de Católicos de tierras extranjeras han venido a los Estados Unidos para experimentar el Sueño Americano y han traído las expresiones culturales de su fe con ellos.



El Obispo-Elegido de Lexington Padre John Stowe

Muchos de estos grupos étnicos se asimilan rápidamente a la cultura dominante Americana, y a veces su Catolicismo es una fatalidad de aquella asimilación. Otros preservan sus tradiciones y cultura aún mientras se aseguran que sus hijos aprendan y hablen inglés, sirvan en las fuerzas armadas de los EEUU y contribuyan de todas formas al bienestar de nuestra nación. Católicos de Irlanda, el sur y este de Europa llegaron a este país en olas grandes y establecieron una iglesia que simultáneamente les facilitó conectarse a su país de origen en la preservación de su cultura y tradición y



Fraille John Stowe, OFM Conv. Aquí con peregrinos en Carey, Ohio. Foto: franciscanusa.org

CATÓLICO

de Kentucky Occidental

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

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Gráfico por Allison Hayden

Con alabanza y Agradecimiento
a Dios Todopoderoso y Amoroso
la

Diócesis de Owensboro

Del Oeste de Kentucky
Anuncia al Ordenación de

Basilio Az Cuc

A la Orden del Diaconado
A través de la Invocación del Espíritu Santo
Y la Imposición de Manos Por
El Reverendísimo William Francis Medley
Obispo de Owensboro
El sábado dieciocho de Abril
A las diez de la mañana
En el año de Nuestro Señor Dos mil quince
En la Catedral de Saint Stephen
600 Locust Street
Owensboro, Kentcky 42301




Basilio Az Cuc

también asimilarse a la cultura Americana través de la educación y el trabajo.

“Cuando tengo la oportunidad de celebrar la misa en español, en el Santuario o en una parroquia vecina, el entusiasmo y fe profunda de los que llegan me da energía. Me conmovió los comentarios de las personas que no se pudieron esperar para decirme qué tan bueno fue celebrar la misa en su lengua materna, confesar sus pecados y recibir el perdón de Dios. Recuerdo a mi abuela italiana, quien dominaba el inglés pero que nunca perdería una oportunidad de rezar o asistir misa en su lengua materna.

“Nuestra iglesia está enriquecida por los inmigrantes. La Iglesia en los EEUU es verdaderamente Católica, i.e. universal, porque todos tienen un hogar con nosotros.”

<http://franciscanusa.org/ministry/service-to-the-hispanic-community>



VOCARE

CELEBRATING VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD & CONSECRATED LIFE

DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

¡Marquen sus Calendarios!

Viernes, 18 de Septiembre del 2015

El Segundo Anual VOCARE

El Propósito de VOCARE es fomentar conciencia sobre las vocaciones en nuestra Diócesis, celebrar las vocaciones al sacerdocio y la vida consagrada, y proveer apoyo financiero a nuestros seminaristas a través de contribuciones al fondo de beneficencia de Seminaristas.

Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro - 6:00pm – Cena
Una mesa de 8 es \$500, \$125 por pareja y \$65 por persona.
Se hacen las reservaciones con llamar a
Kathy Rasp a 270-683-1545 o Kathy.rasp@pastoral.org