

THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY



Catholic

CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

February 2020 ● Volume 47 Issue 2 ● The newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro ● owensborodiocese.org



10th anniversary

Page 5



Español

Página 27



Made for mission

Page 24



Bishop William F. Medley stands in private prayer following the distribution of Holy Communion during a Mass at the Priests' 2020 Convocation. On Feb. 10, Bishop Medley will celebrate 10 years as bishop of the diocese. **Page 11**

[facebook.com/DioceseOfOwensboro](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfOwensboro)

twitter.com/Owensboro1937

[instagram.com/owensborodiocese](https://www.instagram.com/owensborodiocese)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



A group from Brescia University gathers for a photo at the SLS (Student Leadership Conference) in Phoenix, presented by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. **Page 24**

COURTESY OF HELEN BECKERT

Front page photo courtesy of Corey Bruns.

- 9** Bishop celebrates Mass for protection of unborn children
Liturgy commemorates 47th anniversary of Supreme Court decision
- 13** Sr. Jacinta Powers to serve at Mexican border for six months
Will serve refugees awaiting asylum hearings
- 20** Great things happening for marriage and family life in the diocese
Danny May says progress being made to address parishioners' needs

Submissions

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. The Western Kentucky Catholic will take reader-submitted content into consideration but no submissions are guaranteed placement, due to space restrictions.

Article guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider submitted articles pertaining to issues and events within our diocese. Please contact the editor in advance for a word limit, as space varies by month.

Photo guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider your high-resolution digital photos showing special moments and memories from within our diocese. Photos must be a JPEG format (ending in ".jpg") and sent via email. A photo description, date, and name of photographer must be included. Please email your articles or photos to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month.

THE WESTERN KENTUCKY 

Official newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro

Published monthly, 10 times a year at
600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301

Telephone ● (270) 683-1545

Email ● wkc.editor@pastoral.org

Publisher ● Bishop William F. Medley

Editor ● Elizabeth Wong Barnstead

Contributors ● Laura Rigsby, Tina Kasey

Send change of address requests to
janet.clancy@pastoral.org

View current and archived issues at
owensborodiocese.org/western-kentucky-catholic/

The Western Kentucky Catholic is a member of the
Catholic Press Association.

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

Opinions expressed in submitted columns and letters to the editor in The Western Kentucky Catholic may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not endorsed by the publisher or editor. No submissions are guaranteed placement in The Western Kentucky Catholic.

Please politely indicate any factual errors in this publication by emailing wkc.editor@pastoral.org.

To report suspected abuse, call the Kentucky Child Protection Hot Line: 1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597- 2331 (Toll Free) or contact your local Commonwealth Attorney. To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church, call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) at 270-852- 8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish) at 270-880-8360. You may also visit the Office of Safe Environment (owensborodiocese.org/safe) for more information.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 5 | Features | 22 | Anniversaries |
| 10 | Around the Diocese | 24 | Young Adult |
| 15 | Upcoming Events | 26 | Vocations |
| 18 | Opinion | 27 | Español |

A Word From Bishop Medley

Editor's note: On Jan. 4, 2020, Bishop Medley presided at the opening Mass for National Migration Week at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. The text below is based on his notes from his homily, which was given in Spanish and in English.

From January 5-11, 2020 the Catholic Church of the United States celebrates National Migration Week.

The theme is “Promoting a Church and a World for All.”

We call upon Catholics – and all people of goodwill – to be inclusive and welcoming to all of our sisters and brothers.

It is a call for unity and solidarity with and care for who are excluded or marginalized.

Pope Francis has been the voice for inclusion and justice in the world. As this New Year of 2020 takes hold there are refugees and migrants across the globe. Virtually every country is impacted as they are a nation where people are being forced to flee or a nation hesitant to welcome the troubled.

Pope Francis has spoken of our obligation as Children of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus to welcome, protect, promote and integrate all – especially immigrants and refugees.

Welcoming means, above all, “offering broader options for migrants and refugees to enter destination countries safely and legally.”ⁱ We must nurture societies that aim as much as possible to include, rather than exclude. A culture of encounter that emphasizes humanity and human dignity best counters anti-immigrant sentiment. We can do this on a personal and local level – but we must call our nation to its founding values.

Protecting immigrants “may be understood as a series of steps intended to defend the rights and dig-

nity of everyone – regardless of their legal status.”ⁱⁱ Being undocumented does not mean that one forfeits basic human rights. We might call this accompaniment – being with people in their need.

Promoting means a “determined effort to ensure that all migrants and refugees – as well as the communities which welcome them – are empowered to achieve their potential as human beings...”ⁱⁱⁱ Of importance here is our obligation to institute practices and policies that will promote and preserve the integrity of the family, reaffirm family reunification, and make allowances for family members to work following their arrival to a new destination country.

Integrating emphasizes the “opportunities for intercultural enrichment brought by the presence of migrants and refugees.”^{iv} Although the initial act of welcoming migrants is an important step, it is imperative that we go further and take the necessary steps that will help them to become active, participating members of our communities. Church communities must be the first community to model this integration.

Points for all the Church to remember:

- Catholics are called to stand with immigrants and refugees. This is who we are. This what we do.
- Immigration is about real people who are trying to find a better life and new beginning. It's about more than statistics; it's about families. Pope Francis reminds us: every migrant has a name, a face and a story.

- Welcoming the stranger is a part of ancient Biblical tradition.
- Welcoming the stranger is a part of the fabric of American history. We are and always have been a nation of immigrants.
- The U.S. has the most rigorous screening process for immigrants ever. The system works – if we allow it to work.
- But our culture has been persuaded by negative political and media images.
- As a Church we Catholics speak the Gospel – the Good News.
- Let this National Migration Week and beyond be an occasion of opening wide our hearts to the Christ to be found in the least among us. ■



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

ⁱ Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2018 (14 January 2018)

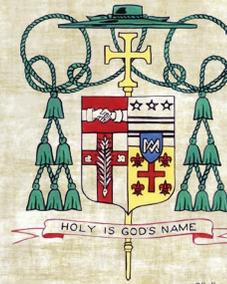
ⁱⁱ Ibid. See also *Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter Caritas in Veritate*, 62

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid. See also *Paul VI, Encyclical Letter Populorum Progressio*, 14

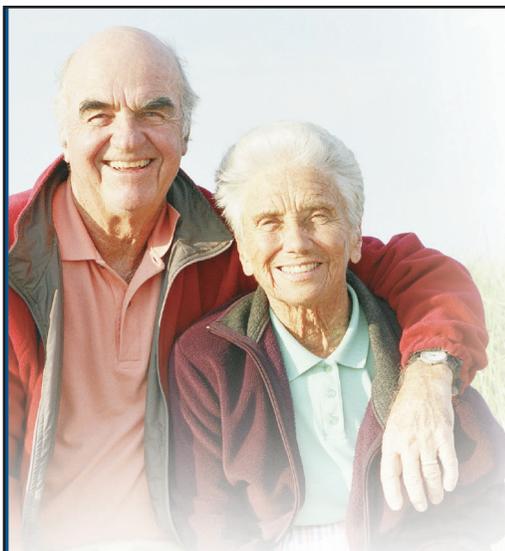
^{iv} Ibid.

**BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR
FEBRUARY 2020**

- JAN 24 - FEB 13** Pilgrimage to India & Myanmar
- FEB 15** 5:00 pm | Men's Conference Closing Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral
- FEB 16** 10 a.m. | Confirmation – St. Peter of Antioch Parish, Waverly
3 p.m. | Confirmation – Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Henderson
- FEB 17** 10 a.m. | Priest Personnel Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center (MCC), Owensboro
1:30 p.m. | Priests' Council Meeting – MCC
6 p.m. | Vespers for 10th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination – Cathedral
- FEB 18-19** Catholic Conference of Kentucky Meeting & Province Meeting – Louisville
- FEB 20** 9 a.m. | School Mass – St. Romuald Interparochial School, Hardinsburg
6:30 p.m. | Confirmation – Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro
- FEB 22** 9 a.m. | Institution into Ministry of Lector for Christopher Grief – Cathedral
5 p.m. | Confirmation – St. Francis de Sales Parish, Paducah
- FEB 23** 3 p.m. | Rite of Election – St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah
- FEB 25** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. | Paducah Office
- FEB 26** 12:05 p.m. | Mass for Ash Wednesday – Cathedral
- FEB 29** 9 a.m. | Institution into Ministry of Acolyte for Permanent Deacon Candidates – Cathedral
6:30 p.m. Confirmation – St. Stephen Parish, Cadiz



You are invited to join us as we celebrate
Most Reverend William F. Medley's
10th Episcopal Ordination Anniversary
with Multicultural Vespers
Monday, February 17, 2020 | 6:00 PM
St. Stephen Cathedral
610 Locust Street, Owensboro
Reception to follow in the undercroft.



For more information, call
Valeria Vessels, Director of
Stewardship and Development
270-852-8348

**You can earn 6.2% on your gift
to The Catholic Foundation
of Western Kentucky**

A 75-year-old donor can receive a guaranteed income for life by contributing to The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky with a Charitable Gift Annuity! Rates vary based on age of donor.

For example, if you give a \$25,000 Charitable Gift Annuity to the foundation, your benefits include:

- \$1,550 annual income, which you may donate to your parish or diocese for additional tax credit
- generous charitable tax deductions
- over half the income tax free
- potential reduced estate taxes

**You can designate
the Diocese of
Owensboro or
your parish as the
beneficiary of
your generosity.**

It always ‘comes back to the Gospel’

Reaching 10th episcopal ordination anniversary, bishop sees community, evangelization, as ‘core’ to Church’s identity



DAWN C. LIGIBEL | WKC FILE PHOTO

At the heart of the ordination ceremony, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, Archbishop of Louisville, lays hands on William Francis Medley invoking the power of the Holy Spirit to ordain him as the fourth Bishop of Owensboro. The ordination ceremony was held on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2010 at the Owensboro Sportscenter.



DAWN C. LIGIBEL | WKC FILE PHOTO

Newly ordained Bishop William F. Medley takes a seat in his cathedra and beams while receiving a standing ovation from a crowd of more than 5,000 people. Bishop Medley was ordained as the fourth bishop of Owensboro on Feb. 10, 2010.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

When Bishop William F. Medley was a pastor serving in the Archdiocese of Louisville many years ago, he never “concretely thought of ever being anything but a parish priest,” said the bishop in a Jan. 13, 2020 interview with The Western Kentucky Catholic.

But on Feb. 10, 2020, Bishop Medley will have served as bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro for 10 years.

Bishop Medley told the WKC that his favorite part of being a bishop has always involved people.

People, “whose lives intersected with mine and that I was privileged to know,” said Bishop Medley. He said that at the top of this list would be the late

Bishop John J. McRaith, who retired as the third bishop of the diocese in 2009, and died in 2017.

Bishop Medley highlighted the kindness and the guidance he received from his predecessor.

“I keep deep in my heart the gratitude for the welcome that he showed me, and the joy he showed me, and the quiet support that he always gave me,”

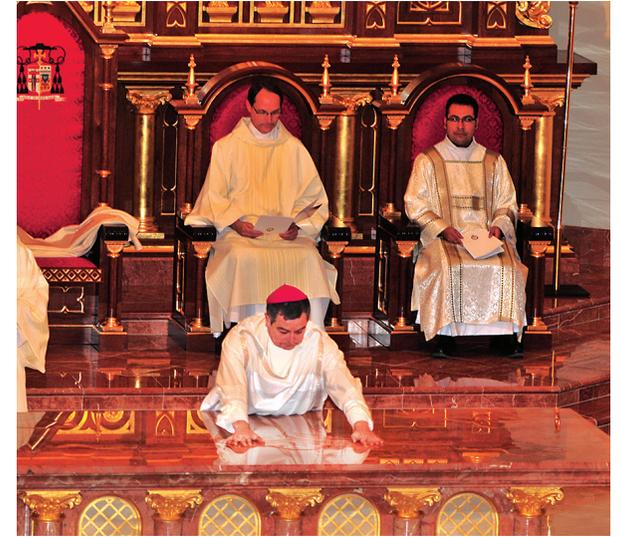
Continues on page 6



TAMI SCHNEIDER | WKC FILE PHOTO
Bishop William F. Medley goes first to his mother, Dorothy Medley of Loretto, Ky., to give her his first episcopal blessing during his Mass of Ordination on Feb 10, 2010, at the Owensboro Sportscenter. Bishop Medley's family accompanied their mother from Kentucky's "Little Holy Land" for the celebration.



RICH LOGSDON | WKC FILE PHOTO
As pastor Fr. Babu Kalathumkal looks on, Bishop Medley blesses the narthex of St. Henry Parish in Aurora on Jan. 15, 2012.



MEL HOWARD | WKC FILE PHOTO
Bishop William Medley anoints the altar of St. Stephen Cathedral with chrism Nov 18, 2012 in a Mass of Dedication of the Altar and Blessing of the Renovated Church.



MEL HOWARD | WKC FILE PHOTO
Bishop Medley gives a thumbs-up while attending Mount Saint Joseph's annual picnic on Sept. 11, 2011.

Bishop's anniversary continued from page 5

said Bishop Medley.

The bishop also counted among those impactful people the late Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, OSU – the diocese's chancellor and CFO when he arrived in Owensboro in 2010.

He also included "people I may have known a very, very brief time, but I heard part of their story, and their story is so focal and central to the whole history of the Church in the Diocese of Owensboro, that I remember them."

Gathering as community

Bishop Medley said he has a special love for diocesan-wide celebrations – those which bring "people of the diocese together."

He said events that "celebrate who we are and what we are, are great experiences."

"I've been privileged to celebrate the sacrament of Holy Orders with both deacons and priests," said

the bishop. "And to recognize in those moments that I've become a part of the Gospel ministry of our deacons, and the Gospel and liturgical ministry of our priests, in every event, is very special as well."

To date, Bishop Medley has ordained 11 diocesan priests and 39 permanent deacons for the diocese.

And after 10 years, the bishop estimated that he had celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation approximately 300 times, or 30-35 times a year, having then confirmed around 4,000 young people.

And yet, "I still look forward to Confirmations," he said with a smile.

The bishop said that to this day, he looks forward to meeting with the groups of youth before the Confirmation Mass and reading all of the letters they write to him prior to Confirmation.

Withstanding the crisis

The bishop said that sadly, one element in the

Continues on page 7



LARENA LAWSON | WKC FILE PHOTO

On Nov. 30, 2013, Bishop Medley begins the Ceremony of the Rite of Candidacy as the new candidate for priesthood, Gary Clark, stands before him for admission. Gary is surrounded by his family, his brother seminarians, his friends and the parishioners in his home parish of St. Paul, Leitchfield, where he grew up, all there to support him in his chosen vocation.

Bishop's anniversary continued from page 6

past 10 years that has surprised him the most has been “the enduring saga of the Church dealing with the aftermath of what’s been exposed about the sexual abuse crisis – nationally, internationally, and locally.”

Any time the issue raises its head and needs to be confronted again, the bishop said he offers a quiet prayer that maybe, this time, the Church will turn a corner, “and we’ll have fixed it.”

“I do believe with all my heart that the Church on all those levels locally, nationally and internationally is doing so much better,” said Bishop Medley. “We’re doing what we need to do to protect children.”

“But,” he added, “the wounds that we continue to heal, continue to surface. And not just from victims... we continue to hear from the children of victims, maybe even the grandchildren, whose lives and family structures were altered by something that



DIANE WILLIS | WKC FILE PHOTO

Religious Education students from the Western Owensboro Deanery met with Bishop Medley on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2014 for Mass and fellowship. Over 200 students, parents and catechists from Owensboro, Sorgho, St. Joseph, Reed, Curdsville, Rome, Stanley and Calhoun were present for the event. Bishop Medley greeted students as they entered church for Mass. After Mass, students and families attended a reception with the bishop.

horrific.”

He said that 10 years ago, he would have believed that there would be a point “where we turned the page... And I don’t believe that anymore.”

“I hope that that means that we are still being instruments of healing,” he said. “And that we have resolved the inattention, the negligence, that brought those tragedies about. So it’s good news and bad news.”

Carrying the Gospel

Referencing the last several popes, Bishop Medley emphasized the ongoing message from them that “we need to have a new Pentecost.”

“We, especially in the West, have grown so comfortable with our Church, that it’s something we do for an hour on Sunday,” said the bishop.

He said that now, the Church in the West is “reaping the benefit” of this mindset “when we see



SANDRA MCGRATH | WKC FILE PHOTO

On Oct. 26, 2014, Bishop Medley blesses the historic marker at St. Denis Parish in Fancy Farm, commemorating the church’s 100th anniversary, attended by 200 people.



WKC FILE PHOTO

On Jan. 17, 2015, Bishop Medley meets with students during Confirmation Day at St. Stephen Cathedral.

one generation after another each becoming a little bit less connected to the Church, less connected to its mission, less connected to its prayer.”

Yet, that is not being seen internationally, said Bishop Medley. He pointed out that this is the opposite of what is happening in locations like India, Africa and Southeast Asia – “where the Church is growing and thriving.”

Instead of repeatedly asking “what do we do?” the bishop said the Church in the West can “go back to St. John Paul II’s concept of a New Evangelization, and keep asking what can work in our culture and in

Continues on page 8



TINA KASEY | WKC FILE PHOTO

Bishop Medley speaks with Ed Slack (wearing Kentucky sweater) while children play during a gathering at the Slacks' property on March 28, 2016. The Slacks donated property to be used for the future church of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Todd County.

Bishop's anniversary continued from page 7

our day and in our time.”

He mentioned the reality of today's media-saturated culture, “with so many things that distract from the Gospel message – and in a culture that is represented by a media that oftentimes is hostile to the Good News.”

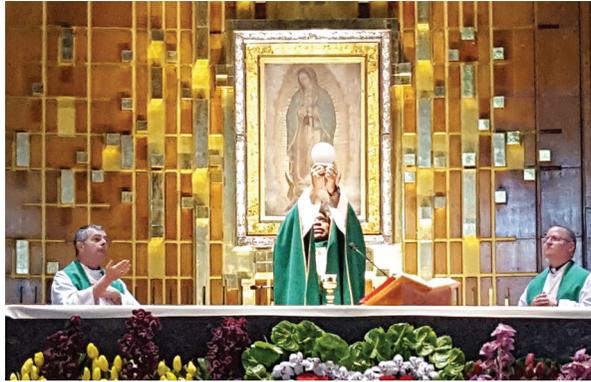
The bishop said that amid ideas and plans to combat this situation, it always “comes back to the Gospel: go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

Following the Works of Mercy is also essential, he explained: “Feed the hungry. Give shelter to the homeless. Give drink to the thirsty. Welcome the migrant and the stranger.”

“All those things are core to what we are,” said Bishop Medley.

Eucharist as Source

Speaking generally to the people of his diocese, Bishop Medley stated that, “we're going to find our way, or re-find our way, or re-focus our way, at the



DEACON CHRIS GUTIÉRREZ | WKC FILE PHOTO

(Left to right) Bishop Medley and Fr. Carmelo Jimenez celebrate Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, during their Feb. 13-19, 2017 pilgrimage to Mexico.

table of the Eucharist.”

“And so, to continue to be steadfast, and faithful, to coming to celebrate the Lord's Supper, celebrate Mass every Sunday with the community,” he said.

He acknowledged peoples' concerns – young and old alike – that perhaps Mass feels boring, or they dislike the music selection.

“Well, that's important; we need to talk about that,” he said. “But still: when we as a people put bread and wine on a table, and the priest who stands in the place of Christ prays with the community, we believe that God acts, that that bread and that wine becomes the Body and Blood of Christ.”

The bishop explained that the Church has called the Eucharist “the Source and Summit of Christian life, and if we're not eating and drinking from that Source, then we can't do all those other things in the world.”

“We can't make our families holy, we can't transform society, if we don't find that focal place,” he said. ■



LAURA CLARKE RIGSBY | WKC FILE PHOTO

Bishop Medley traces a cross of ashes on the forehead of Sr. Monica Seaton, OSU, at the Feb. 14, 2018 Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral at noon in Owensboro.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC FILE PHOTO
Bishop William F. Medley ordains seminarian Stephen Van Lal Than to the transitional diaconate through the laying on of hands on April 13, 2019 at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green.

‘We stand for the dignity of life,’ says bishop at Jan. 22 respect life Mass



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Levi Wells, held by his mother, Jordan Wells, attends the Jan. 22, 2020 Mass on the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

As he presided at the Jan. 22, 2020 Mass commemorating the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, Bishop William F. Medley stated that those gathered in St. Stephen Cathedral that day “stand for life – we stand for the dignity of life.”

The bishop said it was a sad day, because they were remembering the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision to legalize abortion – which has resulted in the “destruction of 60 million lives in this country alone,” not counting the ripple effect of legalized abortion in other nations.

During his homily, the bishop quoted a speaker he once heard, who pointed out that “for everyone four of you, there should be a fifth,” and, the bish-

op reflected, the cathedral that afternoon would be even fuller.

“The act of abortion rejects God’s way of life,” said Bishop Medley. “It also wounds those who choose it, (who) are left with a deep hole in their hearts.”

The bishop explained that often, those who choose abortion feel abandoned and that they had no choice. He said steps must be made to support women and families in these crisis situations, so that ultimately, “it becomes unthinkable – despite the law – that a life may be destroyed.”

Bishop Medley added that “respect for human life must touch on respect for all creation,” whether inside or outside the womb; an immigrant or someone without healthcare; “all life, every life, of all colors and races.”



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Beni Howell leads the responsorial psalm, “O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth,” during the Jan. 22, 2020 Mass on the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

“It’s easy after 47 years... to lose heart,” said the bishop, “thinking that we’ve been working on this, praying about this, even marching about this, for 47 years,” especially remembering the 60 million who have died.

But he said he believes, “and as a priest, I know,” that there are also countless people who have considered or even attempted to procure an abortion – but then did not, “because people loved them. People offered them support. People cared for them, and continued to care for them when the child was born.”

The bishop said we will never know “how many lived, because we believed in the dignity of life, and were willing to offer a hand, and offer a heart, and offer a voice, to uphold that dignity.”

Jordan Wells, a parishioner of St. Stephen Cathedral, attended the Mass that day with her 11-month-old son, Levi.

After Mass she told the WKC she had come today because of “the importance of life,” and that in bringing her child, “we’re instilling that in him from an early age.” ■

Bishop celebrates opening Mass for National Migration Week

BY WKC STAFF

“Promoting a Church and a World for All” was the theme of this year’s National Migration Week, which took place from Jan. 5-11, 2020.

Bishop William F. Medley presided at the Jan. 4, 2020 opening Mass for the week, held at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

The week is an initiative by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. To learn more, visit justiceformigrants.org.

The text from the bishop’s homily at this Mass may be read on page 3. ■



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS
Deacon Edwin Pacheco of St. Francis of Assisi in Guthrie prepares the gifts at the Jan. 4 opening Mass for National Migration Week.



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS
A young girl sings during the Jan. 4 opening Mass for National Migration Week.



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS
Two people pray during the Jan. 4 opening Mass for National Migration Week.



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS
A woman holds a sleeping baby during the Jan. 4 opening Mass for National Migration Week.



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS
An altar server carries the crucifix during the recessional at the Jan. 4 opening Mass for National Migration Week.

Priests gather at St. Meinrad for Convocation 2020



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS

Bishop Medley processes in with Fr. Brandon Williams and Fr. Julio Barrera for the opening Mass of Convocation 2020 in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

BY WKC STAFF

From Jan. 13-16, 2020, the presbyterate (priests) of the Diocese of Owensboro came together at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana, for Convocation 2020. Convocation is an annual gathering that provides several days of prayer, learning and community for the priests, who serve all around western Kentucky. ■



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS

Brother John Mark Falkenhain, OSB, presents to the priests during Convocation 2020 on the demands and balance of living a life in priestly leadership and how to exercise a healthy sense of power, control, and authority.



COURTESY OF COREY BRUNS

Following the reception of Holy Communion on the final full day of Convocation, Fr. John Vaughan stands at the ambo in St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel as the priests sing and read the necrology of the presbyterate of the Diocese of Owensboro. It is during this time that the names of the diocese's priests and the bishops who had died are read and remembered.

23rd Annual
YOUTH 2000
 A Eucharistic-Centered Retreat
 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
 CAMPUS CENTER
March 6-8, 2020
 Ages 13-30
 (270) 683-1545
owensborodiocese.org/youth-2000

John 6:51
**"I am the living bread
 that has come down
 from heaven."**



IN BRIEF

COMPILED BY WKC STAFF

Andrini accepts director of evangelization position

On Jan. 1, 2020, the Diocese of Owensboro appointed Dr. Jeffrey Andrini as the new director of the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship. Andrini originally came to the diocese in March 2019 as the director of the Office of Faith Formation. The diocese stated that in his new role in evangelization and discipleship, Dr. Andrini “will work on enhancing existing programs and developing new initiatives to bring a ‘head to heart’ connection with Jesus Christ.” Dr. Andrini holds a Doctor of Ministry de-

gree from Catholic Theological Union, a Master of Art degree in Pastoral Theology from St. Joseph College, a Master of Art degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University, and a Bachelor of Art degree in Sociology and Theology from Marquette University. The search to fill the position for director of faith formation is underway. ■

-WKC staff

U.S. bishops invite faithful to join ‘Civilize It’ campaign ahead of 2020 election

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) recently launched a campaign calling for civility as the 2020 presidential election approaches. The campaign, called “Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate” invites Catholics to pledge civility, clarity,

and compassion in the public square and to call on others to do so as well. According to the campaign’s website, www.wearesaltandlight.org, “When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities. As Catholics, we must model a better way. We invite you to join the Civilize It campaign by taking the pledge below as a way to promote civility, love our neighbors, and build community.” The website goes on to explain that “Civilize It” is about “making room in your heart for those with whom you disagree. We are called to recognize that each one of us is a beloved child of God and to respond in love to that reality. Civilize It is a non-partisan call to focus on the dignity of all people, even when we disagree, and to put faith in action by bearing witness to a better way forward.” ■

-WKC staff



Registration for 2020/2021 3, 4, 5-year-old children

Begins February 3 for current Cathedral Preschool families & St. Stephen Cathedral members. Registration open to the public on February 10.

ALSO offering After-School care for enrolled students!

For class choices and prices check the website at www.cathedralpreschool.com or call (270) 926-1652

OWENSBORO CATHOLIC LEAGUE

Registration is OPEN at:

www.owensborocatholicleague.com

Divisions:

Pee Wee Baseball (5 & 6 Yr Old Girls and Boys)

8U Softball (7 & 8 Yr Old Girls)

10U Softball (9 & 10 Yr Old Girls)

13U Softball (11, 12 & 13 Yr Old Girls)

Rookie Baseball (7 & 8 Yr Old)

Minor Baseball (9 & 10 Yr Old)

Major Baseball (11, 12 & 13 Yr Old)

Registration Fees:

\$85 = 1 Player

\$130 = 2 Players from same family

\$165 = 3 or more Players from same family

Additional Fees: \$15 per player concession stand buy-out

** All games for all divisions are played at the OCL Complex behind St. Pius X in Owensboro

Sr. Jacinta Powers to spend six months serving refugees at Mexico border

BY MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH STAFF, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

While working at a medical clinic in Memphis, Tenn., 10 years ago, Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, Sr. Jacinta Powers, explained why she enjoyed serving the poor.

“Where God wants you is where passion and need intersect,” she said. “I’m always happy serving the poor.”

Sr. Powers is taking that opportunity again. On Jan. 10, 2020, she will depart for Brownsville, Texas, to spend six months making a daily trek across the Mexican border to serve refugees awaiting asylum hearings.

In July 2019, the Trump administration moved to end asylum protections for most Central American migrants. Asylum seekers who first pass through another country are ineligible for asylum at the U.S. southern border. The rule also applies to children who have crossed the border alone.

Exceptions to the rule are those people seeking asylum because they were trafficked or if they can prove they sought protection in a country but were denied. The refugees must wait on the Mexican side of the border for their asylum hearings, which can take three to six months.

Sr. Powers, who has been serving as a nurse to sisters at Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount for the past year, expressed an interest to Ursuline leadership in serving at the border. During an October 2019 meeting in Cincinnati among Ursuline lead-

ers, Sr. Pat Lynch – assistant congregational leader at Mount Saint Joseph – ran into Sr. Norma Raupple from Youngstown, Ohio, who had spent from 1997-2007 ministering in Brownsville. When Sr. Lynch learned that Sr. Raupple was planning to take a team of medical students to the border in December for 10 days, she asked Sr. Raupple if she wanted a sister from Mount Saint Joseph to go with her.

“It turns out she had been praying for another sister to come with her,” Sr. Lynch said.

Sr. Powers detailed her Dec. 11-21, 2019 “Bridges at the Border” experience to the Ursuline Sisters in Maple Mount on Jan. 8, 2020. Along with six other women, she daily visited the Diocese of Brownsville Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, run by Catholic Charities.

Families who have begun the asylum process are staying there, awaiting a sponsor to pay for a bus ticket to their destination. Sr. Powers and the other women served breakfast, distributed clothing and made sure the toys the children played with were clean.

Sr. Powers talked with a little boy who wants to be an architect. He was frustrated that he hasn’t been to school for a year, she said.

Each day the workers loaded a van to make the 45-minute drive to Brownsville. There they unloaded the van into wagons and used the International Bridge to walk across the Rio Grande, which Sr. Powers said was a similar width as the Green River.

“We saved our cardboard because the refugees



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, Sr. Jacinta Powers, serves a meal at the Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, Texas.

use it to pad their bedding,” she said.

Across the river is Matamoros, Mexico, where there are at least 100 tents housing 2,500 to 3,000 people who are hoping to begin the asylum process, Sr. Powers said.

“We put our stuff on tables. People line up, very

Continues on page 14

Sr. Jacinta continued from page 13

orderly, very respectful,” Sr. Powers said. “Half of the people are kids.”

There was one story of a group of 300 people who left Africa to come to America at the southern border, but only 150 made it alive. They died of starvation or illness or snake bites along the way, Sr. Powers said.

“They have only what’s on their backs,” Sr. Powers said. “They wash their clothes and bathe in the river. It’s windy and dusty, there are a lot of upper respiratory infections and illnesses because people can’t wash as they should.”

Despite their hardships, the people remain strong in their faith, Sr. Powers said. One of the items she was bringing in January were rosaries, because rosaries are taken away from the people – along with other possessions – when they reach the border.

The 10 days of serving the refugees convinced

Sr. Powers that she wanted to use her nursing skills more permanently there.

“Pope Francis and the Gospels say, ‘these are the voiceless people, they have no one,’” she said. “I can join a group to use my God-given talents and what the Ursulines have taught me to help where I can.”

She will be working with volunteer doctors and nurses at Global Rescue Management, a clinic currently operating in a trailer. A friend of Sr. Raupple’s offered Sr. Powers her condo in Brownsville while she serves at the border.

Sr. Powers has long had a missionary spirit. She briefly served in Chile in 1982, attempted an Ursuline mission in Mandeville, Jamaica, in 2008, and volunteered her nursing skills following a 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

“We need a lot of prayers,” Sr. Powers told the sisters. “We want people to know the Ursulines stand

with refugees.”

Sr. Emma Anne Munsterman was at the presentation and said, “Thank you for going for all of us.”

“I couldn’t do it without this community,” Sr. Powers said. ■

Q&A Tribunal Explains

The myth: If my fiancé is not Catholic and was married in another church or by a justice of the peace, no declaration of invalidity (annulment) is needed.

The facts:

If someone is not Catholic and their marriage is recognized as valid by their church or civilly, then we recognize it as valid. If a person wishes to marry a Catholic, then the laws of the Catholic Church apply. According to our teaching, their previous marriage was valid and they need to pursue a declaration of invalidity.

The Office of the Diocesan Tribunal is a ministry designed to help individuals in the healing process by seeking clarification with regard to their marriage. If you have questions, please contact the Tribunal at 270-683-1545 or tribunal@pastoral.org.

Spring Women's Retreat...

Women in Prayer: What the Bible Teaches Us About Deepening Our Relationship with God

March 20-22, 2020

Retreat Director: Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU, Ph.D.

During this weekend of prayer and reflection, you are invited to experience prayer from a biblical perspective, with opportunities for silent, meditative, liturgical, sung and traditional prayer. The recorded prayers of women such as Hannah, Esther, Judith and Mary will be explored. Retreatants can also reflect on and pray some of the Psalms and other Old and New Testament canticles.

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

Fee: \$190 for residents or \$90 for commuters. Get a 10% discount if paid in full by Feb. 20.

A limited number of scholarships are available.

Contact Maryann Joyce: 270-229-0200

To register, call 270-229-0206 • retreatcenter@maplemount.org

Or sign up online at ursulinesmsj.org

 Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Sister Cheryl



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356

Schedule of 2020 fish fries in the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's note: Canons 1250 and 1251 state that all Fridays are days of penance in the Catholic Church. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requests that Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent, and practice some form of penance on the other Fridays throughout the year. Due to fish being a popular Lenten Friday option in this part of the world, the tradition of Friday fish fries has become a common activity for many. Below is information for the 2020 fish fries offered within the Diocese of Owensboro, provided by the parishes and local community organizations. All questions about the individual fish fries should be directed to the parishes and organizations.

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

April 3
Serving from 5-7 p.m.
(270) 926-4741

Christ the King, Madisonville

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 5-7 p.m.
(270) 821-5494

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

March 6, 13, 20, 27
Serving at 5 p.m.
(270) 274-3414

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4:30-7 p.m. in the parish hall
(270) 842-7777

Knights of Columbus Father Carroll White Council, Clarkson (across from St. Anthony)

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4:30-7 p.m.; carryouts available
(270) 242-7955

Knights of Columbus Holy Rosary Council #1055, Paducah

Feb. 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4-7:30 p.m.
(270) 442-1923

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall
(270) 684-5369

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall

(270) 684-6888

St. Agnes, Uniontown

March 6 and 20; April 3
Serving at 5 p.m.
(270) 822-4416

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Regular fish fry: Feb. 28; serving at 5 p.m.
Fish fry & live auction: April 3; serving at 5 p.m., auction at 6:30 p.m.
(270) 229-4164

St. Ann, Morganfield

Feb. 28; March 13 and 27
Serving from 5-7 p.m.
(270) 389-2287

St. Charles, Bardwell

Feb. 28, March 6 and 13
Serving from 5-7 p.m.
(270) 642-2586

St. Columba, Lewisport

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4-7 p.m.
(270) 927-8419

St. Henry, Hardin

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 5-7 p.m. Call in and pickup available.
(270) 474-8058

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27
Serving from 4:30-7 p.m.
(270) 705-4306

St. Leo, Murray

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3

Serving from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
(270) 753-3876

St. Martin, Rome

Feb. 21 (featuring bluegrass music and dessert at this first fish fry only); March 6 and 20
Serving for all dates begins at 5 p.m.; carryouts available
(270) 685-0339

St. Peter of Alcantara

March 6, 20; April 3
Serving at 6 p.m.
(270) 764-1983

St. Pius X Knights of Columbus, Calvert City

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4-7 p.m.
(270) 395-4727

St. Romuald Interparochial School Fish Fry, Hardinsburg

Feb. 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving at 4 p.m.
(270) 756-5504

St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
Serving from 4:30-7 p.m.
(270) 247-2843

Whitesville Lions Club Fish Fry Fundraiser at Whitesville Senior Citizen Center, 10345 Hwy. 54, Whitesville

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10
Serving at 5 p.m. For to-go orders call (270) 233-4332

FEBRUARY 2020 BULLETIN BOARD

To have your events listed in our Bulletin Board, email information of no more than 200 words to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month.

Save the date: 'The Catholic Truth about Angels, Demons, Ghosts and Hauntings'

Newman House Catholic Campus Ministry for Murray State University and St. Leo Parish Present: "The Catholic Truth about Angels, Demons, Ghosts and Hauntings." Please join us for a fascinating talk on what the Church really teaches about angels, demons, ghosts, exorcisms, and hauntings. In this presentation, Dave VanVickle will draw from his extensive experience assisting priests in their ministries of exorcism and deliverance and from his study of Church teaching. Dave clears up the many misunderstandings surrounding this topic during this thorough and dynamic presentation on the world of evil and the unfathomable power of the mercy of God flowing through his priests. After the talk there will be time for questions. Where: St. Leo Parish Church. Time: Feb. 5, 2020; 6-8 p.m. Space is limited so we ask you to register for free. Please visit our website: www.catholicracersmsu.org/events. You will be directed to the St. Leo Facebook link where you can register. Reception to follow in the parish hall. This is a free event, but a collection will be taken at the end for Dave VanVickle's ministry work.

12 Keys to Spiritual Vitality begins Feb. 5

"The 12 Keys to Spiritual Vitality: Powerful Lessons in Living Agelessly" begins Feb. 5 at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). This is a seven-session course with classes on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. beginning Feb. 5 and ending on March 18. Attendees will learn the 12 "keys" that transform aging from a potentially dismal time into an ageless soul-adventure. This program is based on the writing and research of Dr. Richard Johnson, founder of Senior Adult Ministry and nationally recognized for his pioneering work in

Spiritual Gerontology and maturing adult faith formation. The presenter is Maryann Joyce, the new director of the Retreat Center, who has studied under Richard Johnson. The \$90 fee includes an Educational Faith Assessment Profile by Richard Johnson plus all seven sessions. Or you can pay \$10 per class plus \$25 for the Faith Assessment. To register, call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or sign up online at ursulinesmsj.org/registration-form-for-sponsored-programs.

Focus on Faith book study Feb. 13

The Focus on Faith class meets monthly to study the Catholic faith. The group is reading and discussing "The Complete Stories" by Flannery O'Connor in 2020. O'Connor was named one of the "Pivotal Players" in Catholicism by Bishop Robert Barron. The next session will be on Feb. 13 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The program is led by Sr. Ann McGrew, OSU. The \$20 fee per session includes lunch. The group meets at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). Call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online at ursulinesmsj.org/registration-form-for-sponsored-programs. 2020 Focus on Faith dates are on the second Thursday of each month (except July): March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10.

Annual Italian dinner at Blessed Sacrament

Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Owensboro is having their annual Italian Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 29 at 6:30 p.m. Tables are now being sold; there are only 11 tables sold for the evening. For more information or to buy a table call the office at (270) 926-4741.

Come, Follow Me Conference for catechists

The Center for Evangelization and Catechesis at Aquinas College announces the bilingual Come, Follow Me Conference to be held on the Dominican Campus in Nashville, March 20-21, 2020 at St.

Cecilia Academy. Come, Follow Me is a beautiful catechetical method that helps children ages 7-11 contemplate and pray lessons from scripture and sacraments – similar to lectio divina for children. It was developed by members of Notre Dame de Vie Institute in France and has received the imprimatur for catechetical use. The program has also received the stamp of approval of the French Episcopal Commission for Catechesis and the Catechumenate. The conference will provide the essential training needed for DREs, religion teachers, catechists, faith formation workers, deacons, priests, and parents to use the Come, Follow Me catechetical program. The conference will focus on preparation for using the methodology with children ages 7-11 but with principles that can be applied to children and youth of all ages.

Learn more and register at: www.aquinascollege.edu/calendar-event/come-follow-me-catechetical-conference

The World Apostolate of Fatima's Tour for Peace coming to St. John the Evangelist!

The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima is on a Tour For Peace in the U.S. and around the world this year of 2020 continuing what Our Blessed Mother requested at Fatima in Portugal. St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah will host the tour on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Please join us that day to hear the story of Fatima and venerate this beautiful statue that set out from Fatima in 1947 to bring the graces of Fatima to all who might not ever be able to make a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal. Hundreds and favors and graces, including cures, and countless conversions are associated with the image. The presence of this special Statue (sculpted according to the description of Sister Lucia, the Fatima seer) is a great gift to our community.

Schedule for the day:

9 a.m. Welcome and Mass

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Prayers and Devotions at the top of each hour

Continues on page 17

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from page 16

6 p.m. Evening Prayer, Talk, and Closing
Contact the Parish Office at (270) 554-3810 for more information. Learn more at www.fatimatour-forpeace.com.

Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA, a Public Association of the Faithful under the Vatican.

Ursuline Sisters' new Quilt Club drawings begin April 3

Now is the time to get your annual Quilt Club ticket from the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, Maple Mount. For a \$20 ticket, you get 12 chances to win a new handmade quilt! A new name is drawn on the first Friday of each month, beginning April 3 and ending on March 5, 2021. Get your tickets before the first drawing in order to get the most chances to win. Only 2,000 tickets will be sold. Call 270-229-2009, email maggie.hatfield@maplemount.org, or order online at ursulinesmsj.org (Click on Get Involved, then Quilt Club).

2020 Confirmation Retreat

THE
SPIRIT OF
THE LORD



Saturday,
March 7

Confirmation candidates will explore their spiritual identity as children of God and look deeply into the life and mission of Jesus. They will be encouraged to embrace Confirmation as an encounter with the Holy Spirit and be inspired to use the gifts of the spirit in their role as disciples of Christ.

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

\$25 fee includes materials and lunch. Ask about discount for parish groups of 20+ • Sponsors welcome (\$10 lunch)

To register: 270-229-0206

retreatcenter@maplemount.org or online:
ursulinesmsj.org/registration-form-for-sponsored-programs



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY

Joy Camp April 18

The Diocese is pleased to announce Joy Camp, a one-day camp experience, for 5-12th graders with intellectual or mild physical disabilities at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 10-4 p.m. The event, which is co-sponsored by Gasper River and the Diocesan Disabilities Awareness Committee, will include Adoration, activities, hayrides, a talent show and Olympics, as well as a closing Mass with Fr. Jamie Dennis. The cost of the camp is \$30, however a generous donor is covering the cost of the first 20 registrants! Every child needs to be accompanied for the whole day by a responsible adult, 18 years or older, preferably a parent, guardian or dedicated caregiver for the child.

The registration deadline is March 31, 2020. Online registration is available by visiting gasperriverretreat-center.org.

Rachel's Vineyard

A Safe Haven

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential, and non-judgemental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing.

Join us for a weekend of
Emotional Healing and
Spiritual Renewal

March 20 - 22, 2020
Retreat Center near Nashville, TN

Contact: Wendy
270.474.4707
wendyc@hopeafterabortionky.com

ALL conversations are held in strict confidence.

www.hopeafterabortionky.com



Praying Your Dreams: Finding God Within

This program invites you to recognize your dreams as an invitation from God to enter more fully, more profoundly, as a spiritual person who seeks a deeper understanding of God, yourself and your community. You will be given dreamwork tools and techniques to find meaning in your own dreams. You will learn to work with the Holy Spirit and the language of symbols.

Saturday, April 18
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Fee: \$40 which includes lunch

Note: The fee is \$45 at the door.



RETREAT PRESENTER

Theresa O'Bryan graduated from the Mount Saint Joseph Academy in Maple Mount, Ky., and from Saint Mary-of-the Woods College in Indiana with a degree in pastoral theology. She is a spiritual director and dream counselor who also works as a hospital chaplain.



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Please register: 270-229-0206

retreatcenter@maplemount.org

Or sign up online: <https://ursulinesmsj.org/registration-form-for-sponsored-programs>

Becoming part of the community: One catechumen's first experience of Christmas Eve Mass

Editor's note: Amy Pointer is a catechumen at Christ the King Parish in Madisonville, journeying through the Rite of Christian Initiation, or RCIA. She will enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil 2020 through Baptism. Please remember to pray for Amy and for all going through the RCIA process.

BY AMY POINTER, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

When you think of Christmas, what is the first thing that comes to mind? The tree? Decorations? Stockings, candy, gifts, and company? If we took away all of that, would you still enjoy the season?

I've never been to Mass during the Christmas holiday season, as I am learning more about the Church while attending our RCIA program. This year marked my first experience of joining others in celebrating what the season is truly about when I attended the candlelit evening Mass at Christ the King on Christmas Eve 2019.

I didn't know what to expect. I tucked my children away, dreams of Santa Claus on their minds, and scurried off to church. I pulled up to a sparkling parish where the joy and merriment were present and contagious as carols floated through the open doors and warm smiles greeted me on my way in. The number of people in attendance astonished me. Coming from a family who didn't make the season as much about Christ, rather than the spectacle, I went into this experience thinking it would be a sparse crowd. I was pleased and overjoyed to see an abundance of families and friends gathering together in the late evening to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Everything about it felt inspirational.

After the opening procession, a fog of incense hung in the air. The lights lowered and candles were lit, one by one, hand to hand, growing in numbers until they bathed the room in a radiant glow.

There was peace in the room.

It was a unity I had never experienced before. I've searched high and low to find something that felt right on my spiritual path. At that moment, I knew I was where I belonged. It was late; it was Christmas Eve, there was still so much to



COURTESY OF AMY POINTER
Parishioners of Christ the King in Madisonville light candles during the Christmas Eve 2019 Mass.

do, and everyone had plenty of reasons not to be there, yet they all came because they believe, love, and trust in Jesus that much. It was powerful.

Listening to Fr. Carl's homily felt like a wake-up call. Strip away all the parts of the season that aren't about Jesus and his birth: the decorations, the characters... would you still celebrate him? I wondered if I have instilled that love and celebration of the birth of Christ in my children.

If I asked them, would they know what Christmas was about?

Stepping out of my comfort zone and trying something new helped me grow deeper in my faith.

It grew a desire in me to become a bigger part of a community of people who join in celebration, not in the 'holiday,' but in the birth of Jesus Christ. ■

To learn more about entering the Catholic Church through the RCIA process, contact your local parish or visit owensborodiocese.org/rcia.

National Black History Month 2020 theme: African Americans and the vote

BY F. VERONICA WILHITE, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC



FILE PHOTO
F. Veronica Wilhite.

This year marks the centennial of the 19th Amendment, the culmination of the women's suffrage movement, the sesquicentennial of the 15th Amendment (1870), and the right of black men to the ballot after the Civil War.

The theme for National Black History Month 2020, "African Americans and the Vote," focuses on the long history of the struggle of African Americans to access the ballot since the turn of the 19th century until the present. Yes, still today we hear of voter suppression, especially in some southern states. Clearly, the ratification of the 15th Amend-

ment was not enough to ensure blacks the actuality of voting. It was the Civil Rights Movement and subsequent Civil Rights Acts in 1957, 1960 and 1964 which brought national attention to the disenfranchisement of blacks as citizens and the obstacles preventing them from exercising this right to vote.

On March 7, 1965 (Bloody Sunday) in Selma, Alabama, peaceful voting rights protesters were violently attacked by Alabama state police. This brought the seriousness of the voting rights of blacks to the attention of the nation and to Congress. That same year, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed and shifted the power to register voters from state and local officials to the federal government. Sadly, there are still efforts to prevent Blacks from voting and there are still challenges to the Voters Rights Act.

In today's political climate there is still hostility and active voter suppression. As Christians, when and how will we address these issues? There's a quote inscribed over a doorway in Nashville where students first refused to leave lunch counters 60 years ago this February: "If not us, then who? If not now, then when?"

This article would be incomplete without mention of Congressman John Lewis, a "freedom rider" from the 1960s and a survivor of "Bloody Sunday." He

has faced death and been severely beaten time and time again in the quest for racial equality and voters' rights. Known as the conscience of the United States, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011 and continues to speak out for justice and equality. As he faces a personal life battle at this time in his life let us pray that he will continue to be blessed with the courage and strength for which he is so well-known. Congressman John Lewis is Black History.

The Office of Black Catholic Ministry is proud to sponsor this special lineup of television programming this February 2020 to commemorate Black History Month on WNIN/PBS:

- A Musical Evening with Harry Lennix: Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2020, at 11 p.m. A live program featuring singing, performance, and storytelling from native Chicagoan and actor Harry Lennix and singer Terisa Griffin.
- The Long Shadow: Friday, Feb. 7, 2020 at 11 p.m. When two daughters of the South, director Frances Causey and producer Sally Holst, set out to find causes for the continuing racial divisions in the United States, they discovered that the politics of slavery didn't end after the Civil War.
- Finding Your Roots "Slave Trade": Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 at 7 p.m. Today's brightest personalities discover the surprising stories buried within their own families in the critically acclaimed PBS series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. This episode features Questlove, S. Epatha Merkerson and Ava DuVernay.
- Maya Angelou - American Masters: Sunday, Feb. 16 at 11 p.m. Journey through the prolific life of the I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings author and activist who inspired generations with lyrical modern African-American thought. Features new interviews with Oprah Winfrey, Common, the Clintons, and others.
- Sammy Davis Jr. - American Masters: Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020 at 11 p.m. Explore the entertainer's vast talent and journey for identity through the shifting tides of civil rights and racial progress during 20th-century America. Features Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg, and clips from his TV, film and concert performances.
- Independent Lens "Always in Season": Monday, Feb. 24, 2020 at 9 p.m.

Continues on page 21

Great things are happening for marriage and family life in our diocese!

BY DANNY MAY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Doesn't it feel nice to realize your voice has been heard? And to know your opinion matters?

I want to tell you about an experience I had last week. I spent some time reading through all the feedback from the town hall meetings which were held across the diocese in preparation for the Synods of Bishops on family and evangelization in 2014 and 2015. If you went to one of those town hall meetings, I want you to know that you were in fact a part of the process that Pope Francis used to write his apostolic exhortation "Amoris Laetitia" ("The Joy of Love": On love in the family) which was released in 2016.

When I went back and read those town hall results, I saw very clearly that many of the issues our own parishioners in the Diocese of Owensboro brought up were directly addressed by Pope Francis in "Evangelii Gaudium" ("The Joy of the Gospel", which is on the New Evangelization) and "Amoris Laetitia." Since then, many of those same issues are being addressed right here in our diocese one way or another. It takes time, but there are efforts being made.

Here's what I mean. Many comments from the town hall sessions expressed a desire for more support in marriage and suggested that sponsor couples are a great way to model faith to engaged couples. Those are both great examples of accompaniment. We're currently working on providing affordable

marriage counseling, marriage enrichment programs in parishes, and more retreat opportunities. For example, Mount Saint Joseph just hosted a marriage retreat weekend in January, and in 2019, 22 couples participated in a pilot program for Grace Marriage, a quarterly approach where married couples spend six hours every 90 days intentionally enriching their marriage.

Outreach to those who have been divorced was mentioned in the town hall results repeatedly. Last year we held two DASK retreats (Divorced and Separated Koinonia) and there is more being planned for outreach to the divorced and separated. Simplifying the process for declarations of invalidity (frequently called "annulments") was also mentioned in the feedback. Since 2015, the Vatican has simplified parts of the process, and our Diocesan Tribunal Office is in the midst of a huge effort to help address misperceptions to make the process more welcoming. An increase in trained advocates is happening as well.

Several town hall participants listed pornography as a major concern. In 2019, we launched the Clean Heart Initiative that will continue to grow and expand over the next few years. People also asked for Natural Family Planning to be more accessible and less intimidating. On March 21, we are excited to offer an NFP Accompaniment Event to overview some new updates to the ministry of NFP in our diocese.

The point I'm trying to make is this: your voices were heard. By Pope Francis. And by Bishop Medley.



COURTESY OF KEVIN KAUFFELD | WKC FILE PHOTO
In preparation for the 2015 Synod on the Family, bishops across the globe were asked to complete a series of questions after consultation with the people of their diocese. This file photo was taken at Christ the King Parish in Madisonville on Jan. 20, 2015 during one of Bishop Medley's four town hall meetings held around the diocese.

McRaith Catholic Center staff members have been intentionally and prayerfully discerning how we can best help parishes accompany people through encounters with Jesus and build community so we can all go out and invite others to do the same.

Like I said, it takes time. But things are happening. The Lord is doing what He does. I see the Holy Spirit moving every day in our diocese.

It's exciting to see! ■

Danny May is the director of the Office of Marriage and Family Life in the Diocese of Owensboro. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/office-of-marriage-family-life.

Black history month continued from page 19

Blending observational footage with first-person testimonies and expert insights, *Always in Season* is the first documentary feature film to spotlight recent grassroots efforts to acknowledge the victims of lynching, repair the damage, and reconcile in four U.S. communities

- Miles Davis - *American Masters*: Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020 at 8 p.m. Directed by Stanley Nelson, this film included never-before-seen footage and photos, as well as numerous interviews with musicians, scholars, family and friends. The film is narrated by actor Carl Lumbly using the words of Davis, spoken in

his trademark sandpaper whisper. The result is a masterful and compelling work that tells the whole unvarnished story of the mercurial Miles Davis as a musician and a man. ■

F. Veronica Wilhite is the director of the Diocese of Owensboro's Office of Black Catholic Ministry. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/black-catholic-ministry.

A relationship at risk

How Kentucky Senate Bill 1 would negatively affect our communities

BY DEACON CHRIS GUTIÉRREZ, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

By this point I think it is fair to say that Hispanic immigrants are considered part of our family in the Diocese of Owensboro. After all, 14 parishes in our diocese minister directly to these brothers and sisters. Children of immigrants attend our public and Catholic schools and faith formation programs; many are altar servers and lectors. Families are becoming more engaged in the life of parishes, ministries and service.

No matter what your position is on immigration enforcement or the best way to fix our broken immigration system – both of which are federal issues – I think everyone can agree on the necessity to protect our communities. For example, everyone in our communities – whether they are U.S. citizens, permanent legal residents, or undocumented persons – should be able to trust local law enforcement to protect them when they have been victimized, or to make a report when they witness criminal activity.

Sadly, (at the time of this article going to press), there is a new, harmful and costly proposal circulating in our state legislature that would greatly affect

all of our communities. This proposal – Kentucky Senate Bill 1, or SB1 – would jeopardize the relationships between law enforcement and immigrant populations.

The bill has gone through multiple changes due to heavy criticism by opponents. But I, and many others who serve immigrant communities, have concerns with how this bill could be implemented regardless of changes made.

Here is a real example to illustrate what is at stake.

Sebree is a small town in our diocese in which a third of the town is made up of Hispanic immigrant families. Immigrants have opened stores and churches, even remodeling old buildings to use for worship. In St. Michael Parish in Sebree, where I serve as a deacon, about 75% of the members are Hispanic immigrant families. For many, this growth and diversity has not been perceived as a threat or weakened the city; on the contrary, the laughter and youthfulness of new families have kept the city vibrant and alive.

One of those relationships has been between Hispanic immigrants and Deputy Roy “Scott” Starkey, who for a few years was the chief of police and the only police officer in Sebree. He continues to inter-

act with Sebree but now as deputy sheriff serving all of Webster County.

Deputy Starkey has visited St. Michael's several times to offer education, but most importantly to create trusting relationships with immigrants. He has joined parishioners for meals and has spoken several times on issues concerning local immigrants. He has given active shooter trainings for church leaders and spoken on identifying counterfeit money and the threat of gangs, drugs, human trafficking and domestic violence.

Through an interpreter, the deputy and members of the immigrant community – regardless of their immigration status – have been able to ask each other questions, be vulnerable with each other, and share concerns.

Deputy Starkey has constantly repeated that he is there to serve and protect immigrants, just like any other resident of the city. And he has stated that he counts on the members of the immigrant community to be his eyes and ears: to alert him as soon as they know of any problem or possible threat from gangs, drug violence, etc.

He is a powerful model of how local law enforce-

Continues on page 23

February Wedding Anniversaries

5, 10, 25, 40, 50 and More Than 50 Years of Marriage

Please send any anniversary updates or corrections to Charlotte Hedges, Office of Marriage & Family Life, at charlotte.hedges@pastoral.org.

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Thomas & Janice Foster, 64
Jerry & Michelle Goetz, 25
Vince & Joan Frey, 61
John & Mary Medley, 59
Donnie & Brenda Whittaker, 10

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Bernard & Betty Feltrop, 65
John & Carlene Gabe, 57
Fred & Michaelene Guillerman, 54
Kenneth & Harriett Hite, 53
Richard & Doris Market, 57
Don & Sherry McCormick, 50
Richard & Kathy Powell, 53
Mike & Bobbie Ann Willett, 57
Norman & Mary Anne Williams, 55

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Donald & Mary Jane Scarbeau, 60
Peter & Kaye Buser, 53
James & Patricia Signorello, 53
Donald & Janet Mott, 52
Victor & Marti Billhartz, 51

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Denis & Martha Wheatley, 58

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Larry & Linda Field, 58
Michael & Shelia Fulton, 50
Kenneth & Agnes Harley, 50
Francis & Doreen Russell, 56
George & Martha Taylor, 64
George & Brenda Hardesty, 52
Jordan & Rose Allison, 10

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Daniel L. & Francele Warren, 50
Fred & Gloria Zinobile, 65
Gary & Patricia Satterwhite, 60
William & Lyndel Maddox, 53
James & Patricia Krampe, 60
Robert E. & Mary Rumage, 55

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Wayne & Linda Winfield, 51
Guy & Linda Connor, 59
Frank & Rita Cecil, 59
Scott & Christina Lowe, 25

Rosary Chapel, Paducah

Johnny & Laoretta Hollis, 54

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Robert & Carolyn Mills, 53
Ronald & Mary Davis, 63
Donald & Becky Erwin, 52
Wayne & Loretta Nally, 59
Derek & Beth French, 10
Mike & Carol Gough, 52
Jack & Sue Miller, 55

St. Ann, Morganfield

Kenny & Rosie Holt, 51
Gilbert & Pat Rudd, 59
Willard & Joyce Greenwell, 67

St. Anthony, Peonia

Donnie & Barbara Higdon, 10
Fred & Vida White, 58

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

James & Faye Johnston, 58

St. Benedict, Wax

Dwight & Brenda Johnston, 54
Tom & Judy Croghan, 53
Ruel & Louise Patterson, 52

St. Charles, Bardwell

Ron & Dawn Kupper, 55
Mike & Ruth Elder, 52

St. Columba, Lewisport

Robert & Ellen Edge, 61
Dwayne & Joyce Duncan, 50

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

David & Sancy Hayden, 51

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson

Carl & Paula Ball, 63

St. Francis of Assisi, Elkton

Sheril & Virginia Howard, 51

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Cletus & Peggy Russelburg, 53

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Paul & Terry House, 52
Robert & Sandy Whitlock, 10
Ed & Pat Menaugh, 40

St. Henry, Aurora

Philip & Dianna Alvey, 50

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Steven & Elizabeth Ray, 40

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

Lee & Connie Roberts, 50
Ray & Connie Wilson, 50
James & Dorothy Roberts, 52

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Robert & Sandy Clark, 25
Bob & Lana Emslie, 10
Jim & Darla French, 25
Gerald & Norma Jenkins, 53
Carroll & Sue Hughes, 54
Tom & Pat Volk, 52

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Bob & Joanne Deweese, 53
Phillip & Janette Pierce, 40
Dennis & Brenda Poteet, 52

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Robert & Rose Coplen, 69
Charles & Dorothy Harris, 53
Jerry & Norma Erwin, 54

Continues on page 23

Continued from page 22

Randy & Sandy Gossum, 52

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Edwin & Linda Payne, 55

St. Leo, Murray

Robert & Joyce Hughes, 40

Christopher & Stacy Clark, 25

Joseph R. & Linda S. Ohnemus, 50

St. Martin, Rome

Bill & Jane Shelton, 68

St. Mary, Franklin

Lewis & Helen Garst, 59

Basil & Hilda Trouten, Sr., 56

St. Mary, LaCenter

Robert & Florence Lanier, 56

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Sam & Sherri Holinde, 51

Eddie & Alo Byrne, 51

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

David & Peggy Morris, 50

Ralph & Rose Bemboom, 51

Marvin & Mary Bickwermert, 52

Bob & Marian Davis, 52

James & Martha Johnson, 56

St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove

Charles & Barbara Peltier, 57

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Kenny & Mary Keller, 40

St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly

Mike & Nikki Sheffer, 25

Jerry Wayne & Beverly Duncan, 54

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Charles & Barbara Doughty, 40

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Vincent & Doris Millay, 53

James F. & Penny Howard, 60

Frankie & Betty Clark, 65

David & Pat Jones, 52

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Gary & Rosemary Prather, 25

Ken & Michaelanne James, 58

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Hong & Cathy Khang, 51

Eduardo & Lorna Pavon, 54

Jim & K. G. Ariagno, 55

Thomas & Patricia Fritsch, 55

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Justin & Jamie Marks, 10

Audie & Lana Chaney, 50

Bill & Rosemary Payne, 59

Thomas & Lucy Neal, 59

Virgil & Colene Jennings, Jr. 73

Robert & Vurble Mahoney, 63

St. Thomas More, Paducah

James & Marie Funk, 53

Al & Mary McKeown, 57

Larry & Phyllis Stovesand, 50

St. William, Knottsville

Roger & Dava Thomas, 40

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Zach & Rachel Day, 5

Randall & Elizabeth Belcher, 53

Vincent & Linda Cecil, 52

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

G.W. & Joan Brockman III, 58

James & Teresa Jones, 25

Chad & Michelle Siver, 10

Correction: In the January 2020 issue, Leo & Mary Hagan of Blessed Mother in Owensboro, celebrating 55 years, were unintentionally omitted.

Office of Marriage & Family Life

Visit owensborodiocese.org/office-of-marriage-family-life for marriage prep, marriage & family enrichment, support & counseling services, natural family planning, and much more!

Continued from page 21

ment can work effectively with the local immigrant community to make their city safer. This kind of partnership between the entire community and local law enforcement is paramount to protecting cities across Kentucky.

However, once an immigrant community perceives a hand-in-glove relationship between their local law enforcement agencies and ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement), trust is undermined. Even those who are in the United States legally, and even U.S. citizens in minority groups, become hesitant to have any contact with authorities for fear of being unduly detained or assumed to be undocumented.

If immigrant communities realize a risk to their families simply because they are undocumented or might be suspected of being undocumented, reporting crimes will not happen. Laws such as those proposed by SB1 would hinder the possibility of local law enforcement being able to root out real threats – to the detriment of public safety.

As Catholics, we have a moral duty to pursue justice. The U.S. bishops continue to support a just, humane and commonsense solution to our broken immigration system through the Justice for Immigrants campaign (www.justiceforimmigrants.org).

In the meantime, let us not worsen the situation by driving hardworking, faith-filled immigrants into the shadows or even out of Kentucky completely. Let's raise our voices in opposition to Kentucky Senate Bill 1. ■

Deacon Chris Gutiérrez is the director of the Office of Hispanic/Latino Ministry in the Dioceses of Owensboro. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/ministerio-hispano.

University students trained to be missionary disciples at FOCUS conference



COURTESY OF FR. EUGENE BATUNGBACAL, CSSR

(Left) During SLS, Murray State students enjoy a meal with a group attending from Brescia University in Owensboro. (Right) Rita Hempel, a Murray State student, attended SLS for the first time this year.

BY FR. EUGENE BATUNGBACAL, CSSR,
SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY
CATHOLIC

The Newman House Catholic Racers from Murray State University were overjoyed in welcoming the year 2020 at the SLS (Student Leadership Summit), hosted by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (abbreviated to FOCUS), in Phoenix.

They were among the 8,000 students from all over the country who participated in the conference, which took place from Dec. 30, 2019-Jan. 3, 2020. Our 17 students came to learn about God, encounter Him in the Sacraments and to proclaim Him to all.

Rita Hempel, a first-year student and a first-time SLS conference participant, said, “during the conference I was able to learn how to live out my faith on campus in radical ways; we rang in the new year with a Matt Maher concert, but the most incredible part was a few minutes after midnight when they brought out Jesus in the Eucharist.

“The crowd of people that had been jumping and yelling just a few minutes before suddenly went down to their knees and became silent,” she added. “Those few minutes of adoration were definitely the best part of the week.”

According to focus.org, SLS is “designed to train

Continues on page 25

9th Annual Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky

RiverPark Center, Owensboro, KY

February 15, 2020



Brian Greenfield

has spoken to thousands of youth and young adults. He has written numerous articles and is one of the few black Catholic evangelists in the United States.



Patrick Madrid

is an author of over 26 books and hosts the Patrick Madrid Show on Relevant Radio. He has taught faith courses at several seminaries and universities.



Bruce Sullivan

is an author of two books, one of which shares his journey from being raised Southern Baptist to being a Church of Christ minister to becoming a Catholic Christian.

For more information and tickets, please visit <http://kycatholic.com/>

*The Knights of Columbus in Clarkson
is hosting a*

FISH FRY DINNER

**4 oz COD Fish Loins, French Fries,
Cole Slaw & Hush Puppies**
including your drink and dessert

ALL YOU CAN EAT!



WE ALSO OFFER BINGO!
Sundays
at 1:00 p.m.
License# 0000076

FRIDAYS:
January 17th, 24th & 31st
February 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th
April 3rd

Serving Hours:
4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Adults \$11.00
Seniors \$10.00
Children 5-12 \$8.00
Under 5 FREE

RAFFLES:
1st Prize: 75" Samsung UHD TV with a Samsung Dolby Digital Soundbar with Wireless Subwoofer
2nd Prize: Samsung 10.1" Galaxy Tab A 128GB Tablet (2019, Wi-Fi Only, Black)

*Open to Public
Carryout Available*

Knights of Columbus • Father Carroll White
1219 St. Anthony Church Rd., Clarkson • 270-242-7955



COURTESY OF FR. EUGENE BATUNGBACAL, CSSR
The group that attended the SLS conference from Murray State University.

FOCUS conference continued from page 24

leaders in discipleship, prayer and small-group facilitation.” It is held every other year in between FOCUS’s SEEK conference, which alternates with SLS.

SEEK is “an invitation to college students everywhere to explore life’s bigger questions: who we are, where we’re going and what we seek along the jour-

ney.” The next SEEK conference will be held Dec. 30, 2020-Jan. 3, 2021 in St. Louis.

For more young adult and campus ministry resources, visit owensborodiocese.org/young-adult-ministry. ■



COURTESY OF FR. EUGENE BATUNGBACAL, CSSR
Rita Hempel, a Murray State student, attended SLS for the first time this year.

Fr. Eugene Batungbacal, CSsR, is the director of Murray State University’s Newman House in Murray, Ky. WKC staff contributed to this report.



COURTESY OF DAVID KESSLER
On Jan. 24, 2020, the students of St. Romuald Interparochial School in Hardinsburg join in spirit with all the Catholic school students in the diocese in a unified praying of the rosary for the sanctity of life.

Catholic students unite in rosary for life

BY WKC STAFF

On Jan. 24, 2020, the Diocese of Owensboro’s 17 Catholic schools across western Kentucky prayed the rosary for an end to abortion and for a greater respect for all human life. This prayer coincided with the annual March for Life that took place that day in Washington, D.C., commemorating the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to legalize abortion in the United States. ■

Upcoming vocations events in the Diocese of Owensboro

BY WKC STAFF

Save the dates for these upcoming vocations events in the diocese. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/vocations.

- Institution into the Ministry of Lector: Christopher Grief | February 22
- Institution into Ministry of Acolyte for Permanent Deacon Candidates | February 29
- Ordination to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate: Corey Bruns | April 4
- Ordination to the Priesthood: Deacon Stephen Van Lal Than | May 23
- Vocare 2020 | September 18

You are invited to be a part of the Matthew 9 Mission, which is a new initiative from the diocese's Office of Vocations. This project encourages the faithful to pray the rosary specifically for vocations to the priesthood. It is the Church's response to Christ, who when moved with pity for the crowds because they were like sheep without a shepherd, instructed us to "ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" (Matthew 9:38). Each parish has received information for forming a Matthew 9 Prayer Team. Contact your pastor or parish vocation representative to find out how you can participate. ■

Contact the Office of Vocations

 (270) 683-1545

 owensborovocations.com

 jason.mcclure@pastoral.org
fred.litke@pastoral.org

 [instagram.com/owensborovocations](https://www.instagram.com/owensborovocations)

 [Facebook.com/owensborovocations](https://www.facebook.com/owensborovocations)



Photo Courtesy of Lolek Productions

 *Wonder* what it's like being a Nun?
Interested in *Religious Life*?

Passionist *Vocation Retreats*

Open to Single, Catholic women ages 17-30

March 27-29, 2020
June 26-28, 2020

Interested? Contact us:

Vocation Director
Passionist Nuns
8564 Crisp Road
Whitesville, KY 42378-9782
(270) 233-4571
vocations@passionistnuns.org

Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley

Homilía del Señor Obispo William F. Medley al comienzo de la Semana Nacional de la Migración

Nota de la editora: El 4 de Enero, el Obispo Medley presidió la Misa de apertura por la Semana Nacional de la Migración en la Catedral de San Esteban en Owensboro. El texto siguiente es basado en las notas de su Homilía, el cual fue compartido tanto en inglés como español.

Esta semana la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos celebra la Semana Nacional de la Migración. El tema es “Promoviendo una Iglesia y un Mundo para Todos” Exhortamos a todo católico y personas de buena voluntad a ser inclusivos y hospitalarios hacia todo hermano y hermana. Es un llamado a la unidad, la preocupación y la solidaridad por aquellos que son excluidos y marginados.

El Papa Francisco ha sido la voz de inclusión y de justicia en el mundo. Al momento en que este año 2020 comienza, existen refugiados y migrantes a través del mundo entero. Prácticamente todo país en el mundo está siendo impactado al ser naciones de donde las personas tienen que huir, u otras naciones que titubean en recibir aquellos en sufrimiento. El Papa Francisco ha hablado sobre nuestra obligación como hijos de Dios y hermanos y hermanas de Jesús de dar la bienvenida, proteger, promover e integrar a todos- de manera especial a migrantes y refugiados.

El ser hospitalarios significa sobre todo, “el ofrecer variadas opciones para que migrantes y refugiados puedan llegar de manera legal y segura a distintos países” Debemos de nutrir a sociedades que buscan lo más posible el incluir y que es contrario a excluir. Una cultura de encuentro, que enfatiza ser más humanos y la dignidad humana es más efectiva

en evitar sentimientos anti-inmigrantes. Podemos hacer esto a nivel personal y también a nivel local- pero tenemos que retar a nuestra nación hacia sus valores desde su fundación.

El proteger inmigrantes, puede ser entendido como una serie de pasos con el fin de defender los derechos y dignidad de todos y- sin importar su status legal- El ser indocumentado, no significa que la persona pierde sus derechos humanos más básicos. Podemos quizás llamarle a esto acompañamiento- el estar allí con las personas en sus necesidades.

El promover significa, un determinado esfuerzo por asegurar que todo migrante y refugiado- incluyendo sus comunidades que los reciben- sean animados a alcanzar su potencial como seres humanos. De importancia aquí esta nuestra obligación de instituir prácticas y leyes que promuevan y protejan la integridad de la familia, que reafirmen la reunificación de familias y hagan posible el permitir a miembros de familias trabajar una vez que han llegado a su nuevo país de destino.

El integrar enfatiza las oportunidades de enriquecimiento intercultural que traen consigo inmigrantes y refugiados con su presencia. Y aunque el darles la bienvenida a migrantes es un primer paso importante, es imperativo que vayamos más

Obispo Medley continúa en página 28

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA FEBRERO DE 2020:

24 DE FEB AL 13 DE FEBRERO	Peregrinación a India y Myanmar
15 DE FEB	5 p.m. Misa de Clausura para la Conferencia de Hombres - Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
16 DE FEB	10 a.m. Confirmación - Parroquia San Pedro de Antioquía, Waverly 3 p.m. Confirmación - Parroquia Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
17 DE FEB	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal - Centro Católico McRaith (MCC), Owensboro 1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal - MCC 6 p.m. Vísperas para el 10º Aniversario de Ordenación Episcopal - Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
18-19 DE FEB	Reunión de la Conferencia Católica de KY y de los Obispos de la Provincia - Louisville
20 DE FEB	9 a.m. Misa Escolar - Escuela Interparroquial San Romualdo, Hardinsburg 6:30 p.m. Confirmación - Parroquia Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, Owensboro
22 DE FEB	9 a.m. Institución al Ministerio de Lector a Christopher Grief - Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro 5 p.m. Confirmación - Parroquia San Francisco de Sales, Paducah
23 DE FEB	3 p.m. Rito de Elección - Parroquia Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah
25 DE FEB	10 a.m.-2 p.m. Horas de Oficina en Paducah
26 DE FEB	12:05 p.m. Misa del Miércoles de Ceniza - Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
29 DE FEB	9 a.m. Institución al Ministerio de Acólitos a los Candidatos al Diaconado Permanente - Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro 6:30 p.m. Confirmación - Parroquia San Esteban, Cadiz

Continuado de la página 27

haya y tomemos los pasos necesarios para que ellos se conviertan en miembros activos y participativos de nuestras comunidades. Nuestras comunidades parroquiales deben ser las primeras en modelar esta integración.

Algunos puntos para toda la iglesia recordar:

Los católicos somos llamados a estar del lado de refugiados e inmigrantes. Esto es quienes somos. Esto es lo que hacemos.

Inmigración es sobre personas reales quienes están tratando de encontrar una mejor vida y un nuevo comienzo. Esto es más que simples estadísticas, se trata de familias. El Papa Francisco nos recuerda: todo inmigrante tiene un nombre, un rostro y una historia.

El darle la bienvenida al extranjero es parte de una antigua tradición bíblica. El darle la bienvenida al extranjero es parte de los inicios de la historia de los Estados Unidos. Somos y siempre hemos sido una nación de inmigrantes. Los Estados Unidos tiene el proceso más riguroso de inmigración de todos los tiempos. El sistema funciona- si lo dejamos funcionar. Sin embargo nuestra cultura ha sido persuadida por imágenes negativas tanto de los medios como en la política. Como Iglesia, nosotros los católicos hablamos el evangelio- La Buena Nueva.

Que esta Semana Nacional de la Migración sea una ocasión para abrir ampliamente nuestros corazones al Cristo que es encontrado hasta en el más insignificante entre nosotros. ■

+ William F. Medley

Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro



Sacerdotes se reúnen en San Meinrad para la Convocatoria de 2020

Del 13 al 16 de enero de 2020, el presbiterio (los sacerdotes) de la Diócesis de Owensboro se reunió en el Seminario y Escuela de Teología de San Meinrad en St. Meinrad, Indiana, para la Convocatoria del 2020. La convocatoria es una reunión anual que ofrece varios días de oración, aprendizaje y convivio para los sacerdotes que sirven en Kentucky occidental.



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS

El Obispo Medley camina en la procesión con el P. Brandon Williams y el P. Julio Barrera en la Misa de Apertura de la Convocatoria del 2020 en la Capilla de Santo Tomás de Aquino en el Seminario y Escuela de Teología de San Meinrad.

El Obispo preside la Misa de la Semana Nacional de Migración

"Promoviendo una Iglesia y un mundo para todos" fue el tema de la Semana Nacional de Migración de este año, que se celebró del 5 al 11 de enero de 2020. El Obispo William F. Medley presidió la Misa de Apertura de la semana el 4 de enero de 2020 en la Catedral de San Esteban en Owensboro.

El texto de la homilía del obispo en esta Misa se puede leer en la página 27.

La semana es una iniciativa de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos. Para obtener más información, visite justiceforimmigrants.org. ■

Continúa en la última página



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS
El Diácono Edwin Pacheco de San Francisco de Asís en Guthrie prepara las ofrendas en la Misa de Apertura de la Semana Nacional de Migración del 4 de enero.

Próximos eventos vocacionales

Marque su calendario para estos próximos eventos vocacionales en la Diócesis de Owensboro. Para obtener más información, visite owensborodiocese.org/vocations.

- Institución al Ministerio de Lector: Christopher Grief | 22 de febrero
- Ordenación al Orden Sagrado del Diaconado: Corey Bruns | 4 de abril
- Ordenación al Sacerdocio: Diácono Stephen Van Lal Than | 23 de mayo

Usted está invitado a formar parte de la Misión de Mateo 9, que es una nueva iniciativa de la Oficina Diocesana de Vocaciones. Este proyecto anima a los fieles a rezar el rosario específicamente por las vocaciones al sacerdocio. Es la respuesta de la Iglesia a Cristo, quien tuvo compasión por la multitud porque estaban como ovejas sin pastor y nos instruyó: "rueguen al dueño de los sembrados que envíe trabajadores para la cosecha" (Mateo 9,38). Cada parroquia ha recibido información para formar un Equipo de Oración de Mateo 9. Póngase en contacto con su párroco o representante parroquial de vocaciones para averiguar cómo puede participar.

23a anual YOUTH 2000 Un retiro centrado en la Eucaristía

Centro del Campus de la
Universidad de Brescia

6-8 de marzo de 2020

Edades de 13 a 30 años
Para obtener más
información: llame al
(270) 683-1545

owensborodiocese.org/youth-2000

**"Yo soy el pan vivo
bajado del cielo."
- Juan 6:51**



El Obispo Medley celebra 10 años como obispo



DAWN C. LIGIBEL | FOTO DE ARCHIVO DEL WKC

En el colmo de la ceremonia de ordenación, el Arzobispo Joseph E. Kurtz, arzobispo de Louisville, pone las manos sobre William Francis Medley invocando el poder del Espíritu Santo para ordenarlo como el cuarto obispo de Owensboro. La ceremonia de ordenación se llevó a cabo el miércoles, 10 de febrero de 2010 en el Centro Deportivo de Owensboro.



TINA KASEY | FOTO DE ARCHIVO DEL WKC

El Obispo Medley habla con Ed Slack (con la sudadera de Kentucky) mientras los niños juegan durante una reunión en la propiedad de los Slacks el 28 de marzo de 2016. Los Slacks donaron la propiedad para la futura iglesia de la Parroquia San Francisco de Asís en el condado de Todd.

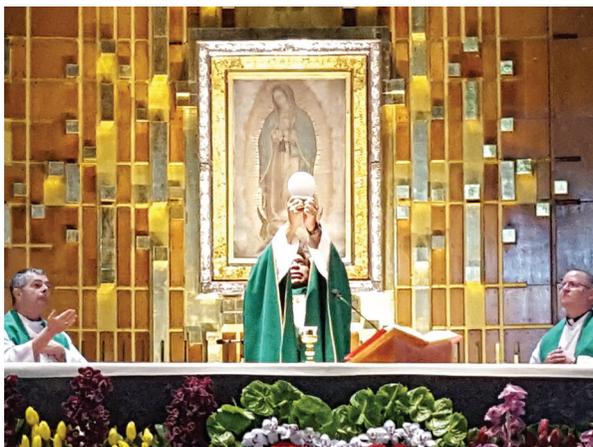
El 10 de febrero de 2020, el Obispo William F. Medley habrá servido como obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro por 10 años.

El Obispo Medley dijo al WKC que su parte favorita de ser obispo siempre tiene que ver con la gente.

Personas, "cuyas vidas se cruzaron con la mía y a quienes tuve el privilegio de conocer", dijo el Obispo Medley. Dijo que el primero en esta lista sería el difunto Obispo John J. McRaith, quien se retiró como el tercer obispo de la diócesis en 2009 y falleció en 2017.

El Obispo Medley dijo que tiene un amor especial por las celebraciones diocesanas.

"Todo lo que une a la gente de la diócesis en eventos celebrando quiénes somos y qué somos, son grandes experiencias", dijo el obispo.



DIÁCONO CRISTÓBAL GUTIÉRREZ | FOTO DE ARCHIVO DEL WKC

(De izquierda a derecha) El Obispo Medley, el P. Carmelo Jiménez Salinas y el P. Jason McClure celebran la Misa en la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en la Ciudad de México, durante su peregrinación del 13 al 19 de febrero de 2017 a México.

El obispo dijo que un elemento triste en los últimos 10 años que lo ha sorprendido más ha sido "la saga perdurable de la Iglesia ocupándose de las consecuencias de la crisis de abuso sexual a nivel nacional, internacional y local".

Pero, haciendo referencia a los últimos papas, el Obispo Medley enfatizó el mensaje continuo de ellos de que "necesitamos tener un nuevo Pentecostés", y recordar que la Eucaristía es fuente y culmen de toda la vida cristiana.

"Y así, para continuar firmes y fieles, que sigamos llegando a celebrar la Cena del Señor, celebrando la Misa todos los domingos con la comunidad", dijo el obispo.

"No podemos hacer santas a nuestras familias, no podemos transformar la sociedad, si no encontramos ese punto focal", comentó. ■



FOTO DE ARCHIVO

El 27 de agosto de 2016, el Obispo Medley bendice a los peregrinos con agua bendita cuando ingresan a la Catedral de San Esteban al final de una peregrinación del Año de la Misericordia por las calles de Owensboro.

Continúa en la última página



Diócesis de
OWENSBORO

RETIRO PARA MATRIMONIOS

“BANQUETE DE BODAS”

MISIÓN DE AMOR AL SERVICIO DE LA FAMILIA

Sábado 8 de Febrero

9:00-6:00 | Misa y Confesiones

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel

57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455



CON EL P. LUSTEIN BLANCO GRAJALES

\$15.00 POR PAREJA.

INSCRIPCIONES:

MÍNIMO DE FAVOR UNA SEMANA ANTES
WHATSAPP/TEXTO/LLAMADA

P. LUSTEIN BLANCO GRAJALES (270) 889-7038
DCN. CRISTÓBAL GUTIERREZ (270) 880-8018

Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

Para denunciar una sospecha de abuso, llame a la Línea Directa de Protección Infantil de Kentucky: 1-877-KYSAFE1 o 1-877-597-2331 (llamada gratuita) o comuníquese con su Fiscal Local del Commonwealth. Para reportar abuso, actual o pasado, a la diócesis por parte de cualquier persona que actúe en nombre de la Iglesia, llame a Louanne Payne, Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral (inglés) al 270-852-8380, o Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Coordinadoras de Asistencia Pastoral (español) al 270-880-8360. También puede visitar la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro (owensborodiocese.org/safe) para obtener más información.

Parroquias con Misas en Español

Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam
Sábados – 5:00 p.m.

107 13th Street, Beaver Dam, KY 42320
Contacto: Hermana Aida Badillo (706) 284-0996, o Padre Julio Barrera (270) 274-3414

Parroquia de San José, Bowling Green

Jueves – 6:30 p.m.
Sábados – 7:00 p.m.
Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

434 Church Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101
Contacto: Sra. Gina Holmes (270) 777-5925 o Padre Basilio Az Cuc (270) 842-2525

Parroquia de San José, Central City

Cada Primer Domingo del Mes - 8:00 a.m.

113 South 3rd Street, Central City, KY 42330
Contacto: Padre Josh McCarty (270) 754-1164

Parroquia de San Francisco de Asis, Guthrie

Sábados – 6:00 p.m.
Domingos – 12:00 p.m.

7600 Russellville Road, P.O. Box 297, Guthrie, KY 42234
Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (270) 265-5263 o (302) 438-7335

Parroquia de Santa María, Franklin

Domingos – 1:30 p.m.

403 North Main Street, Franklin, KY 42134
Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia del Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

511 2nd Street, Henderson, KY 42420
Contacto: Abraham Brown (270) 724-2172 o Padre Gary Clark (270) 826-2096

Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m. y 10:30 p.m.
Jueves – 5:30 p.m.

902 East 9th Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240
Contacto: Sra. Mayra Tirado (270) 498-6456

Parroquia de Cristo Rey, Madisonville

Domingos – 6:00 p.m.

1600 Kingsway Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431
Contacto: Padre Carl McCarthy (270) 821-5494 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas (270) 881-7737

Parroquia de San José, Mayfield

Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

702 West Broadway, Mayfield, KY 42066
Contacto: Hermana Maria Luisa Morales Solano (270) 247-2843

Parroquia de la Santísima Trinidad, Morgantown

Domingos – 9:15 a.m.

766 Logansport Road, Morgantown, KY 42261
Contacto: Hermana Aida Badillo (706) 284-0996, o Padre Julio Barrera (270) 274-3414

Parroquia de San Leo, Murray

Sábados – 5:30 p.m.

401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071
Contacto: Hermana Esperanza Rivera (270) 753-3876

Parroquia Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 8:00 p.m.

609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42303
Contacto: Padre Will Thompson (270) 683-5641

Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001
Contacto: Padre Al Bremer (270) 534-9000

Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Russellville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m.

296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276
Contacto: Padre Ken Mikulcic (270) 726-6963

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel, Sebree

Miércoles – 12:00 p.m.
Jueves – 12:00 p.m.
Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 7:30 p.m.

57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455
Contacto: Alyssa Maty (815) 207-3208 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas (270) 881-7737



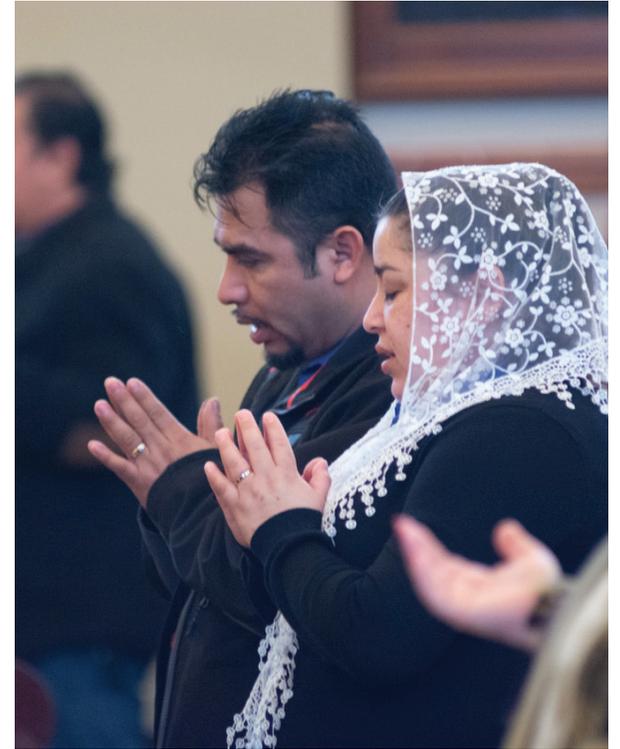
El Obispo preside la Misa de la Semana Nacional de Migración

Continuadode la página 29



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS

Una mujer sostiene a un bebé dormido durante la Misa de Apertura de la Semana Nacional de Migración del 4 de enero.



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS

Dos personas rezan durante la Misa de Apertura de la Semana Nacional de Migración del 4 de enero.



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS

Una niña canta durante la Misa de Apertura de la Semana Nacional de Migración del 4 de enero.



POR CORTESÍA DE COREY BRUNS

Un monaguillo lleva el crucifijo durante el canto de salida en la Misa de Apertura de la Semana Nacional de Migración del 4 de enero.