

## Go Make Disciples

### “Christ is victorious!”

*Thousands of faithful join Archbishop Coakley in Eucharistic celebration*

**By Diane Clay**  
*The Sooner Catholic*

OKLAHOMA CITY – More than 2,000 faithful flocked to Saint Francis of Assisi Church on Sept. 21 to celebrate Jesus Christ’s gift of the Eucharist during a Holy Hour, Procession and Benediction.

The church near NW 18 and Pennsylvania Avenue filled more than two hours before the celebration began as buses, vans and carloads of parishioners from Kansas, Kentucky, California, Texas, New Jersey, New York and from across Oklahoma arrived in support of the archdiocese and Oklahoma Catholics. The Diocese of Wichita alone sent five busloads.

As the Holy Hour began at 3 p.m., hundreds of visitors filled the gymnasium, the parish hall and the prayer garden singing and praying in unison. Archbishop Coakley thanked all those who traveled from near and far to attend the blessed event, particularly Archbishop Beltran, Bishop Slattery of Tulsa, Bishop Kemme of Wichita, Abbot Lawrence of St. Gregory’s University and many priests, deacons and religious women and men.

“We are here to praise and to adore. We are here to give thanks for the gift of our faith and the priceless treasure of the Lord’s abiding presence with us in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood. We are gathered before our Eucharistic Lord to listen to his holy Word and open ourselves to the promptings of his Spirit so that we might become more faithful and authentic witnesses of his love and mercy in the midst of our broken and suffering human family,” Archbishop Coakley said in his homily.

“We are gathered as witnesses to hope at a time when darkness seems to be gaining ground both here and around the world. We know that Christ is victorious! He has con-



Archbishop Coakley leads the Eucharistic Procession on Sept. 21 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Oklahoma City. *Photo Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.*

quered Satan. He has destroyed the reign of sin and the power of death through his holy Cross and glorious Resurrection. Through faith and Baptism we already share in his victory. The war has been won, though skirmishes will continue until Christ comes again in glory to reign forever.”

Following the homily, a long moment of silent prayer brought a powerful sense of the Holy Spirit to the parish and inspired those gathered outside and in the gym to spontaneously kneel with their rosaries and clasp the hands of their families.

At the conclusion



*Photo Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.*

of the Holy Hour, Archbishop Coakley led a procession from St. Francis into the streets around the church with the monstrance held high in reverence and protected by a processional canopy. Many participants followed in silence while other small groups prayed the Our Father and Hail Mary as they walked.

A Benediction concluded the celebration on the steps of St. Francis, once again with most of the participants, who could, kneeling in the parking lot. The faithful who had gathered were so moved, they began to cry and clap.

*Diane Clay is the editor of the Sooner Catholic and director of communications for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.*

*For more news and photos of the Eucharistic Procession, see pages 8 and 9 or visit the Picture Gallery at [www.soonercatholic.org](http://www.soonercatholic.org).*

## Pope names panel to streamline marriage annulment process

**By Francis X. Rocca**  
*Catholic News Service*

VATICAN CITY – Before the start of an extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family, the Vatican announced the formation of a special commission to reform the process of granting marriage annulments.

“The work of the commission will start as soon as possible and will have as its goal to prepare a proposal of reform of the matrimonial process, with the objective of simplifying its procedure, making it more streamlined, and safeguarding the principle of the indissolubility of matrimony,” said a Vatican statement.

The new body’s work will address what Pope Francis has identified as a

key challenge in the “pastoral care of marriage.”

Pope Francis related the problem of annulments to the situation of divorced and civilly remarried Catholics, whose predicament he said exemplifies a general need for mercy in the church today.

According to church teaching, such Catholics may not receive Communion unless they obtain an annulment of their first, sacramental, marriage or abstain from sexual relations, living with their new partners as “brother and sister.”

A proposal to allow some divorced and civilly remarried Catholics to receive Communion without meeting either of those conditions, introduced

by German Cardinal Walter Kasper at a meeting of the world’s cardinals in February, is expected to be one of the most discussed issues at the two-week synod on the family, which opens Oct. 5.



Pope Francis speaks as he leads an encounter with the elderly in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Sept. 28. *(CNS photo/Paul Haring)*

Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

# Eucharistic Holy Hour homily

Praised be Jesus Christ! It is my great privilege to welcome you to St. Francis of Assisi Church and to spend this hour together with the Lord in prayer and adoration. Thank you for being here. Your presence is a powerful witness of faith in the midst of what has been a particularly challenging time for our community.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the participation of our Catholic people from around the archdiocese, but also those of you who have come from near and far to join us today. I am especially grateful for the presence of my brother bishops Archbishop Beltran, Bishop Slattery of Tulsa, Bishop Kemme of Wichita, Abbot Lawrence and so many priests, deacons and religious women and men. It is a special blessing to recognize here so many Christian leaders and believers from other churches and ecclesial communities who have come to join us in prayer as well.

We gather today in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord who is the source of our unity, imperfect though it might be, and our bond of charity. We just heard our Lord proclaim: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." For Catholics, these words from the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel are the very heart of our understanding and appreciation of the Holy Eucharist.

Jesus does not speak metaphorically when he says, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." It is truly Jesus whom we encounter and receive in the Holy Eucharist.

At times, Christians have argued over the theological significance of these words. Satan, on the other hand, hears these words and trembles. The Eucharist has been at the heart of the current controversy over the so-called black mass, which to our shame as a city is being allowed to proceed this evening at the Civic Center Music Hall. That blasphemous and sacrilegious ritual is a mockery of the Catholic Mass that requires for its consummation the corruption and desecration of the Eucharist. Why? Because Satanists, and their master, know who is present. They acknowledge the Real Presence of the Lord Jesus, not to adore him, but only to mock and to scorn in hatred.

I think many people in our community haven't understood the persistence of our efforts nor the depth of our outrage over this blasphemy largely because they do not share our faith. They do not understand, or accept, what we believe to be true. They do not share our faith in what we Catholics (and many other Christians) acknowledge to be the greatest gift that the Lord has entrusted to the Church: the gift of his own Body and Blood in the Blessed Sacrament. The Eucharist, instituted by the Lord at the Last Supper and entrusted to the Apostles is truly the Lord's abiding Presence among us. It is really and substantially

spiritual food for our pilgrim journey and the pledge of future glory in the Heavenly Banquet. It is the bread of angels given to men.

We are not here, however, to protest. Let us put aside, for the moment, our outrage. We are here to praise and to adore. We are here to give thanks for the gift of our faith and the priceless treasure of the Lord's abiding presence with us in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood. We are gathered before our Eucharistic Lord to listen to his holy Word and open ourselves to the promptings of his Spirit so that we might become more faithful and authentic witnesses of his love and mercy in the midst of our broken and suffering human family.

*"We are not here, however, to protest ... We are here to praise and to adore."*

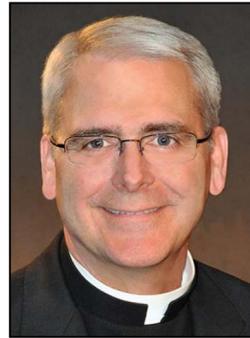
We are also here to offer our petitions to the Lord, that he might deliver us from the power of sin and, yes, from all demonic influences. We are here to offer our prayers in reparation for the blasphemous outrages being committed against our Lord, against his Church and the Eucharist in these days. Our city has also been the target of these dark forces of hatred that seek not to build up, but only to destroy. We beg the Lord's protection through the intercession of his Holy angels and saints.

We are gathered as witnesses to hope at a time when darkness seems to be gaining ground both here and around the world. We know that Christ is victorious! He has conquered Satan. He has destroyed the reign of sin and the power of death through his holy Cross and glorious Resurrection. Through faith and Baptism we already share in his victory. The war has been won, though skirmishes will continue until Christ comes again in glory to reign forever. In the meantime we have been enlisted to bear the standard of the Cross and our share of the sufferings of Christ for the sake of his Body, the Church.

We gather here in prayer. We gather to adore, to praise and to give thanks, to beg the Lord's mercy on our city, our nation and our world. We pray for our own continuing conversion that we might be holy and courageous witnesses.

Our faith is not meant to be, and cannot remain, contained within the walls of this beautiful church. Our Eucharistic Procession through the neighborhood beyond these walls, which will follow in a few minutes, is a reminder that we, the Church, are present in the world as light, as salt and as leaven to bring hope and the offer of Christ's salvation to all we meet.

Let us pray that we might embrace our mandate to live as missionary disciples in the midst of the world so that we might draw all people to Jesus Christ and to safe harbor in his Church.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

## Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on [www.soonercatholic.org](http://www.soonercatholic.org):

✓ For more photos of the Sept. 21 Eucharistic Procession, visit the Picture Gallery at [www.soonercatholic.org](http://www.soonercatholic.org), or our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/archokc](http://www.facebook.com/archokc).

✓ Additional photos of the Red Mass available in our Picture Gallery.

✓ Look for coverage of the October Synod of Bishops in our News section.

✓ Bishop McGuinness High School hosted a Grandparents Day celebration. Check our Briefs section for more information.

✓ The Buckley Team at St. Gregory's University visited the Center of Family Love in Okarche. See our News section for the full story.

✓ National Vocation Awareness Week is Nov. 2 - 8. More information online.

✓ Check our online Briefs for local pilgrimage opportunities.

✓ Did you attend a Pet Blessing for the feast of St. Francis? Send us your photos at [tips@archokc.org](mailto:tips@archokc.org).

**Plus, don't miss daily updates on Facebook and Twitter!**



# Pope compares vain Christians to soap bubbles, peacocks

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — As fleeting as soap bubbles, showy as peacocks and shallow as an over-primped star, conceited Christians are building their lives on lies and their faith on shifting sands, Pope Francis said.

Everyone is vulnerable to vanity, even Christians, the pope said in a morning homily.

However, boastfulness "is a very serious spiritual disease" for Christians because it distances them from the truth. Christians are called to "be authentic with the truth of reality and of the Gospel," he said in remarks reported by Vatican Radio.

The pope's homily focused on the day's reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes, which speaks about the "vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" (Eccl 1:2-11).

Even when living out the faith and doing good, Christians must avoid the temptation of "showing off," he said during an early morning Mass in the chapel of his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

"The vain say, 'Hey, look, I'm giving this



check for the church's work,' and they show off the check; then they scam the church from behind," he said.

There are others who "seem like peacocks," strutting around bragging: "I'm related to that priest, that sister, that bishop, my family is a Christian family."

Jesus was especially critical, he said, of "doctors of the law," who were "strolling in the square" with "luxurious clothes" like princes.

"How many Christians live off of appearanc-

es? Their lives are like a soap bubble. A soap bubble is beautiful! It has so many colors! But it lasts one second and then what?"

People can even be vain about death, with their grandiose, ornate funeral monuments and tombs, he said. "The truth is we return to the bare earth."

The pope said vanity is based on lies and fantasy, which cause "terrible anxiety."

"It's like those people who put on too much makeup and then they're afraid of getting rained on and all the makeup running down their face."

"Only truth gives us peace," he said. People need to reflect on how they pray, fast, give alms and help those in need, he said.

It should be done quietly and discreetly. "No need to blow the horn," he said, "The Father sees it and that's enough."

Jesus wants people to build their lives on rock — on Christ and the truth, not on sand that shifts and slides and is "incapable of resisting temptation."

If "you don't have something solid" guiding and anchoring your life, "you will come and go, too," like all material things, he said.

## Book on women religious deserves wide, respectful readership

Reviewed by Rachelle Linner  
Catholic News Service

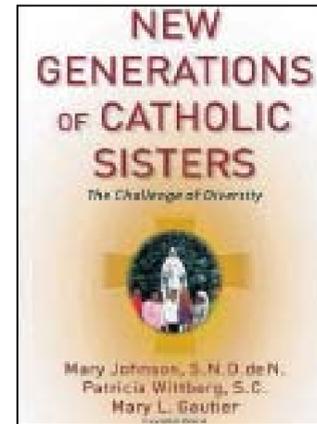
"New Generations of Catholic Sisters: The Challenge of Diversity" by Mary Johnson, SND de N; Patricia Wittberg, SC; and Mary L. Gautier. Oxford University Press (New York, 2014). 216 pp; \$29.95.

"New Generations of Catholic Sisters" is an important and sober study about a topic that, too frequently, is written about in polemical language.

Well-written and grounded in impeccable scholarship — the authors are all accomplished social scientists and academics — the book is, nonetheless, accessible to the general reader. They base their conclusions on findings from two major national studies of religious life. One, in 1999, focused on sisters who had entered religious life between 1965 and 1980. A 2009 study analyzed the responses of women who entered after 1993. The authors provide important information about the contemporary religious landscape. "How do we distinguish between religious institutes and other ways of life in the church that are becoming more visible in some parts of the country and the world?"

These include eclesial movements, secular institutes, different forms of consecrated life — including consecrated virgins and hermits — and associations of apostolic life.

They only briefly discuss recent Vatican investigations of women religious, but note that "tensions between the hierarchy and religious institutes are not new." The authors summarize recent church documents on religious life — three from the Second Vatican Council as well as Saint Pope John



Paul II's 1996 encyclical, "Vita Consecrata" ("Consecrated Life"). These documents, written without any input from religious themselves, provide a much different vision than statements from the first World Congress on Religious Life, held in Rome in 2004.

Conflict is a natural outgrowth of the lack of a "mediating structure" to provide "constructive engagement" between the priestly and prophetic roles in the church.

"Because of this vacuum, an authoritarianism can develop on the part of the hierarchy when they presume they alone know what the charism of religious life is, and a parochialism can develop on the part of religious when they presume that the charism of religious life is the concern of religious alone," the authors write.

Within this context, their main focus is the importance, and impact, of generational differences on the future of religious institutes. Sociologists use the concept of generations as "a social location"

— such as one's class, gender and hometown — "that determines the kind of experiences one will have growing up."

"In a fundamental and basic way, we are the products of the eras in which we grew up," the authors write. This is particularly true for different generations in the church.

The pre-Vatican II generation (born before 1943) grew up in "solidly Catholic subcultures ... and had little contact with non-Catholics." The church of the Vatican II generation (born between 1943 and 1960) "was in constant and invigorating flux. They welcomed its changes."

The experience of the post-Vatican II generation (born between 1961 and 1981) "was often of an institution in constant and disorienting flux, unable to articulate anything worth believing in." The millennials (born since 1982) "are the least knowledgeable about Catholicism."

In general, the millennial generation is "only tenuously attached to their faith" but its "minority generational subculture" is fiercely devoted to the church and thus most likely to be drawn to religious

institutes. These candidates are drawn to orders that wear habits and live in community, tend to spiritualize the challenges of religious life, and use "spousal" and "bride of Christ" imagery to discuss their vocational choice. How communities of different generations deal with this group will determine the future of religious life.

The millennial generation also must contend with structural factors that include declining family support for religious vocations and the burden of educational debt.

"New Generations of Catholic Sisters" is an honest and courageous book. It refuses to hide from the complex challenges facing religious life. "Whatever its cause, the predicted demise of all or most of the religious institutes of women in the United States has ominous implications for American Catholicism, should it come to pass." This important book, written in the service of religious life, deserves a wide and respectful readership.

Linner, a freelance writer and reviewer, has a master's degree in theology from Weston Jesuit School of Theology.



Nuns take part in a prayer session during an Aug. 26 commemoration of the 104th birth anniversary of Blessed Mother Teresa in Kolkata, India. (CNS photo/Piyal Adhikary, EPA).

## Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

The following events are part of Archbishop Coakley's official calendar.

**Oct. 5** – Archbishop's Annual Picnic for priests, deacons, religious, CPC staff and board members, 5 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center

**Oct. 6-12** – Delegation to the Middle East with Catholic Relief Services

**Oct. 14** – Department Head Meeting, 10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center

**Oct. 14** – Mass, 11:30 a.m., Saint Francis De Sales Chapel at Catholic Pastoral Center

**Oct. 14** – Finance Council Meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center

**Oct. 15** – BMCHS Career Day, 8 a.m., Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School

**Oct. 15** – Presbyteral Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center

**Oct. 16** – School Mass & classroom visits, 8:30 a.m., Saint James the Greater School, OKC

**Oct. 16** – Theology on Tap, 7 p.m., Saltgrass Steak House, OKC

**Oct. 17-19** – Annual Meeting of Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, Houston



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Volume 36, Number 19

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**The Sooner Catholic**

(USPS 066-910) is published  
biweekly except for once in July  
and twice in December by  
the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The newspaper is not responsible  
for unsolicited material.  
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Subscription rate: \$20 per year  
for all who are not members of the  
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.  
Periodical postage paid at  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

POSTMASTER: Send address  
changes to the Sooner Catholic,  
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City,  
OK 73123.



The Sooner Catholic  
is supported through the  
Archdiocesan Development Fund.

## Conversion shouldn't happen only by accident

I recently had lunch with a priest from another diocese who was interested in the New Evangelization. Among other things, we talked about the painful attrition rate of our young people, 70 percent of whom stop practicing by adulthood, and 14 percent of whom make their way into evangelical churches, indicating that their primary motivation for doing so is that they never came to know Jesus in a meaningful way as a Catholic. This priest shared with me that it had only recently dawned on him that if people were coming to know the Lord Jesus in a personal way as a Catholic, it seemed that more often than not it was something that happened "by accident."

While conversion is always subject to the movement of the Holy Spirit and a person's own will, we can create conditions that favor personal conversion. Eleven months ago, Archbishop Coakley published his pastoral letter, "Go Make Disciples," which puts discipleship front and center to our efforts. Many people have expressed a degree of puzzlement about that expression. The word "discipleship" doesn't just roll off the lips of Catholics, does it? Is intentional discipleship somehow different from what we have always done? Is there a program out there for that?

Such resources are admittedly slim. There is no magic bullet approach. The indispensable re-

source is people who have experienced personal conversion and who are willing to talk out loud about it, and lead others to do the same. Recent popes have often spoken of the need to encounter Christ personally, and to entrust our entire life to him. Still, many people have never understood their faith in that way, and find it hard to understand what it means. It is one thing to read about it, and another thing to hear a Catholic describe the actual experience of coming to know Jesus Christ in a personal way.

To help with this, the Office of New Evangelization has been producing a series of short video testimonies. "Profiles in Discipleship" are stories of real people, Catholics who have encountered Christ, and had their lives change. They are students, businesspeople, parents — ordinary people like you and me from many different backgrounds and experiences.

Their stories provide insight into bringing Jesus into the struggles of everyday living. They are people who've tried to go it alone and have come up empty. These are stories that give hope to the lonely and the hurting, solace for the searching, inspiration to the unfulfilled, and encouragement to the faithful. These people share the story of how they found hope, peace and fulfillment in Jesus Christ as a Catholic.

The Office of New Evangelization is producing these videos with



**Carole Brown**  
Director of New  
Evangelization

the hope of inspiring all kinds of people to take a step of faith, to entrust their life more confidently and intentionally to the Lord. Such an act of self-entrustment changes the whole experience of faith formation, sacramental practice, the moral life and our offering of ourselves to God for service. Watch the videos. Then, take it a step further, and use them to start a conversation about conversion with friends, family and fellow parishioners. Share the videos with people who might be touched by these stories. Post them on your Facebook page, Twitter and send them to friends by e-mail. If you are a catechist or youth minister, you might use them to initiate a conversation about personal conversion. Better yet, share your own story. Conversion doesn't have to happen by accident.

To watch "Profiles in Discipleship" videos, visit the archdiocesan website and click the link on the lower right side of the home page. You also can access the videos directly at <http://archokc.org/new-evangelization/profiles-in-discipleship>.

## A fresh look at a valuable gift

Catholic social teaching is unfortunately the church's best kept secret.

But because it directly addresses the world's most pressing social justice and peace issues, Catholic social teaching instead needs to come out of hiding and be discovered, read, preached, proclaimed and lived in our parishes, schools, universities, media, homes and society.

Five years ago, a very valuable contribution to Catholic social teaching was given to the church and world by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI — his encyclical letter *Caritas in Veritate* ("Charity in Truth"). Foundational to all just solutions to the world's ills is unconditional love. And as our retired Holy Father wrote, "Love — *caritas* — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth."

Benedict insists that authentic charity or love needs the assistance of truth. "Without truth, charity degenerates into sentimentality. Love becomes an empty shell, to be filled in an arbitrary way," he wrote.

He taught that the truth contained in the values of Christianity, are "essential for building a good society and for true integral human development."

He emphasized "the truth of

Christ's love in society." And added, that "Development, social well-being, the search for a satisfactory solution to the grave socio-economic problems besetting humanity, all need this truth. ...

"Without truth, without trust and love for what is true, there is no social conscience and responsibility, and social action ends up serving private interests and the logic of power, resulting in social fragmentation, especially in a globalized society at difficult times like the present."

Pope Emeritus Benedict's insights are right on the mark.

Because the quest for love, a love influenced by truth, is not on the agenda of so many individuals — especially so many individuals who hold political and corporate power — social action is indeed largely serving private interests and the logic of power.

Just consider how income and wealth over the last 30 years have dramatically increased for a tiny percentage of the population, while the working-class' share of the economic pie has stagnated, and various programs to assist the poor have significantly been cut.

While some claim that the Great Recession is over, that claim is of no consolation to countless human beings who are struggling with poverty, hunger, homelessness, unemployment and underemployment. And all of this painful injustice



**Tony Magliano**  
For the Sooner  
Catholic

continues while corporate profits are at or near all-time highs, and CEO's are racking in astronomical salaries.

A greedy, unjust toxic economic atmosphere is suffocating countless brothers and sisters. Social conscience and responsibility are not in the air.

Although the atmosphere is foul, as disciples of the Lord we are called to be men and women of hope.

For just as air pollution can be reversed, so too, economic pollution can be cleaned up. As Christians, we have the ultimate remedy: the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For as our retired Holy Father wrote: "The Gospel is fundamental for development, because in the Gospel, Christ, in the very revelation of the mystery of the Father and of his love, fully reveals humanity to itself."

Christ became human to show us what true humanity should reflect: Divine Love and Absolute Truth.

Tony Magliano is an internationally syndicated social justice and peace columnist.

## Meet Our Sisters



This is part of a series to introduce the religious sisters of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The sisters serve in Oklahoma.

**Sister Agatha Yen Pham of the Most Holy Trinity, OCD**

*What community do you belong to?* I belong to the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of St. Joseph in Piedmont.

*What is your ministry in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City?* My ministry is to pray for world needs, and my service is to make and distribute altar breads.

*When and at what age did you enter the convent?* I entered the convent on Aug. 18, 2002, and turned 21 less than two weeks later.

*When did you take your final vows?* I made my final vows during the beautiful Easter season of 2008 on April 25.

*When and how did you first discern a call to the religious life?* Religious life attracted me about the time I made my First Communion and Confirmation.

*What has surprised you the most in your vocation?* What surprised me the most was that nuns do have fun and find joy in the events of daily life.

*What is the most fulfilling part of your vocation?* The most fulfilling part of my vocation is to know that I live every moment by God's grace and that I desire to perform my everyday duties in loving union with and for the lord and prayer for others, for the Church and for the world.

*What is your advice to young women who are in the process of discerning their vocation?* My advice to young women who are discerning their vocation is to open your heart to God calling you, and pray fervently for a religious vocation. Do not be afraid to follow Jesus who will always be faithful to you.

The sisters in our community have many talents such as music, art, gardening, cooking, knitting, cross-stitch, handcrafts, etc. I have developed my own art style, a combination of painting and quilting techniques on canvas. I am very grateful that God has given me the inspiration and the opportunity to develop my talents, so I can share and give joy to others.

## If You Go

40 Days for Life

**Oklahoma City**

Outpatient Services for Women,  
6112 NW 63  
Contact Debby Krisch, (405) 824-5578 or  
[dmkrisch@hotmail.com](mailto:dmkrisch@hotmail.com)  
<http://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/oklahoma-city/>

**Norman**

Abortion Surgery Center, 2453 Wilcox Drive  
Contact Shannon Goodson, (405) 626-0717  
or [Shannongoodson1@gmail.com](mailto:Shannongoodson1@gmail.com)  
<http://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/norman/>

## Archbishop installs 23 men as deacon candidates



The following deacon aspirants were installed as candidates on September 19, 2014 by Archbishop Paul S. Coakley:

Adolfo Aleman	Fernando Hernandez
Robert W. Blakely	Robert M. Highsmith
David M. Buchanan	Juan Jimenez
Chestney R. Butler	Anthony W. Layton
Wuse H. Cara	Gustavo H. Orellana
Luis De La Garza	Jorge Pereira
George F. Fombe	Paul M. Reinart
Mark W. Gildon	Emilio G. Rodriguez
Terrance T. Givens	Val R. Ross
James F. Hankins	Joel Cruz Salcedo
John C. Harned	Oscar A. Turcios
John R. Hearn	

Photos Cara Koenig/SoonerCatholic



## 40 Days for Life kickoff discusses healing after abortion, origin of Holy Innocents chapel

By Brianna Osborne  
The Sooner Catholic

An evening Mass and rally with two local speakers at Christ the King Church in Oklahoma City heralded the start of the fall 40 Days for Life campaign, observed by prayer, fasting and peaceful vigils in the public right-of-way outside of Oklahoma's three abortion clinics.

Father Rick Stansberry celebrated Mass at Christ the King on Sept. 23, reminding the faithful "we do have a duty to stand up for the most vulnerable."

Dr. Rick Boothe, a deacon at Christ the King, spoke in the church about his work with Rachel's Vineyard and his ministry to another victim of abortion — the baby's mother.

After listing the regret and suffering that women endure after an abortion, Dr. Boothe said that organizations such as Rachel's Vineyard "have brought these women to a sense of repentance, forgiveness and healing."

Father M. Price Oswald, pastor of Saint Wenceslaus Church in Prague, spoke about his part in founding the Holy Innocents Chapel, a perpetual adoration chapel next door to the abortion clinic in Oklahoma City.

Four and a half years after learning that a chapel was being placed a few feet from a Planned Parenthood building in New Mexico, Father Oswald was able to mention this idea to a newly-installed Archbishop Coakley. The archbishop gave his permission for a similar chapel to be dedicated in Oklahoma City.

Shannon Goodson and Connie Lang, the coordinators of 40 Days for Life in Norman, attended the Sept. 23 rally. When asked how she came to help start the program in Norman, Lang said, "I just felt God calling me." Goodson said all of the parishes in Norman intend to participate in the vigil, including Saint Mark's, Saint Joseph's, Our Lady of Lebanon, a college group from Saint Thomas More and a group from Mount Saint Mary High School.

Members of Catholic Charities, Project Gabriel and Rachel's Vineyard attended the rally, promoting services they offer to help with pregnancy, adoption and maternity, and healing from abortion.

Brianna Osborne is the managing editor of the Sooner Catholic.

### "Black Madonna" to visit Cathedral

The icon of "Our Lady of Czestochowa" ("the Black Madonna") is reputed to have been "written" on Mary's table top from her house in Nazareth by Luke the Evangelist. She has been credited with numerous miracles and healings — both of a spiritual and physical nature.

A beautiful copy of this icon has been blessed and consecrated at the monastery of Jasna Gora in Poland, where the original is kept, and entrusted to the defense of life and family. Now, after traveling 40,000 miles, she will be visiting Oklahoma City on her global pilgrimage. Join in welcoming her to the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 North Lake Ave., to ask for her protection of life and family as well as personal petitions. A welcoming ceremony will be held at the 5 p.m. Mass on Oct. 11. The icon will remain through Sunday.

In addition, there also will be special prayer and veneration with Father West at the Holy Innocents Adoration Chapel located at 6114 NW 63, Oklahoma City, at 11 a.m. on Oct. 11.

"This pilgrimage is intended to awaken the faithful about the urgency of defending life from the moment of conception," said Father Peter West, vice president of HLI and chairman of the pilgrimage committee. For more information, call the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944.

# Law professionals join archbishop at annual Red Mass

By Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick  
For the Sooner Catholic

Archbishop Coakley reminded the state's legal professionals, "Truth and goodness are tied to objective standards that can be understood through right reason," at the annual Red Mass on Saturday, Sept. 27.

The Mass, which was celebrated at Our Lady's Cathedral, is a tradition dating back to Paris in 1245, in which the guidance of the Holy Spirit is requested for all those who work for justice. The title of the Mass comes from the color of the vestments, traditionally worn on feasts connected to the Holy Spirit. Lawyers, judges and civic officials all were invited to the Mass, where attendees received a special blessing.

In his homily, the archbishop asked the "spirit of wisdom to descend, enlighten, guide and empower those who work for the pursuit of justice; that they may always act with integrity, especially toward the poor and vulnerable."

He continued by inviting listeners to adopt the counter-cultural attitude of St. Paul, who challenges us to "do nothing out of vainglory, do nothing for yourself," which runs against conventional wisdom. "Conventional thinking," Archbishop Coakley went on, "trumps individual rights to the detriment of the common good such as the pseudo-right to determine the meaning of marriage trumping the rights needed for society to flourish, such as conscious protection, religious liberty and a stable family that society has a profound interest in protecting."



Law professionals process into the Cathedral for the Red Mass on Sept. 27. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.

Erin Smith, a third year law student at the University of Oklahoma and parishioner of St. Francis, appreciated the homily. "I think he had a lot of good things to say. It's easy to substitute your own opinion for what's good and virtuous and just. It's good to have at least an annual reminder not to do that."

In addition to law students, Red Mass attendees included lawyers, city employees, and law faculty from both OU and Oklahoma City University. Law faculty, Knights of Columbus and Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre were included in the procession.

Jim Couch, city manager of Oklahoma City, attended for the first time. He said, "I was intrigued by the history. It's a blessing by the church of the judicial system, which is very important. It's important to keep on the right track."

Ann and Mike O'Shea, both lawyers and parishioners of Christ the King, attend every year. Mike O'Shea, a law professor at OCU,

remarked on the archbishop's meditation on justice and mercy. "It is a demanding balance to strike even in private life, still more so in the public sphere."

Ann O'Shea, an attorney at Anderson, McCoy and Orta, commented on the Red Mass itself. "I think it's a lovely tradition that we do in the city," she said. "In my job, I entered with one other Catholic attorney, so it is a nice opportunity to come together with fellow Catholics."

Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



Archbishop Coakley accepts the gifts from two law professionals. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic

# The Heart of the Matter

By Carole Brown  
Director of New Evangelization

What is it that decides who your friends are? Probably the biggest factors are that a person is someone you like being with and spending time with — and it's wonderful when it's mutual. Having that "good chemistry" with someone is a real treasure.

Do you think of yourself as someone the Lord likes being with and spending time with? Do you think of him that way?

Jesus has given his life to us in the Eucharist, and has invited us to "abide" in him — to

stay with him, to live with him, to join our very life to his.

Saint John Paul II wrote, "We can say not only that each of us receives Christ, but also that Christ receives each of us. He enters into friendship with us: 'You are my friends' (Jn 15:14). Indeed, it is because of him that we have life: 'He who eats me will live because of me (Jn 6:57). Eucharistic communion brings about in a sublime way the mutual 'abiding of Christ and each of his followers: 'Abide in me, and I in you' (Jn 15:4)."

Carole Brown is the Director of New Evangelization with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.



Pope Francis elevates the Eucharist as he celebrates Mass on the feast of Corpus Christi outside the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome June 19. (CNS photo/Paul Haring).

# Catechetical Congress features Steve Angrisano

By J.E. Helm  
For the Sooner Catholic

A Catechetical Congress was held at the Catholic Pastoral Center on Saturday, Sept. 27. Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Department of Education, the professionally presented program was very well received by attendees from across the archdiocese.

Pat Koenig, director of Religious Education for the archdiocese, explained that the event is held each year at this time, so that catechists can gather to focus on their own faith formation and to review catechetical resources presented by various vendors.

The event was open to directors of religious education, catechists, youth ministers and RCIA directors as well as anyone involved in youth or adult education programs.

James Robb was in attendance from Saint Thomas More in Norman where he is a sixth grade religious education teacher. Robb is happy to have 22 students enrolled in his class this year, a high number that he attributes to "parents realizing the importance of preparing for confirmation" in the ninth and tenth grades. Robb came to the conference to "help light a fire" in his own life of faith.

Sarah Schubert came from Tulsa where she is religious education secretary for Saint Cecelia's parish. She said she came "to be filled up again" with enthusiasm for her faith and her work in religious education.

A highlight of the day's event included two presentations by Steve Angrisano, a motivational speaker and an accomplished church musician with a number of albums to



Steve Angrisano. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.

his name.

Angrisano took the stage, guitar in hand, and immediately captivated the audience with his musicianship, his humor and his testimony on his personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

He recalled meditating on a verse from the Psalms that refers to the Psalmist longing for God in the same way that "the watchman waits for dawn." (Psalm 130).

He felt that he heard God speak to him and ask him, "Do you desire me like that?" Angrisano gave an affirmative response, and then had the audience join him in an enthusiastic singing of "Yes Lord! Yes Lord! Yes, Yes Lord!" in English, Spanish, Polish, Korean and

French. The audience thoroughly enjoyed Angrisano and responded to his challenge to "find your own faith experience."

Vendors also were on hand during the event. They included Sacred Heart Catholic Gifts of Edmond, a co-sponsor of the day's event, Saint Thomas More Book Store, RCL Benziger, Sadlier School, Saint Mary's Press and Verbum.

Traditional books and on-line resources were available for review for use in programs ranging from pre-K through high school, and for adult education programs. Still other booths were staffed by the Father Stanley Rother Guild and Catholic Relief Services.

A final note to the day's program was the presentation of the Religious Educator of the Year Award by Archbishop Coakley and Barney Semtner, executive director of the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, sponsor of the award.

Bryan Hooper of Saint John Nepomuk Parish in Yukon was this year's recipient. Hooper is parish Director of RCIA and Outreach Ministries, and he also is involved in men's ministries.

The day's event concluded with Mass at noon in the Saint Francis de Sales chapel at the Pastoral Center, with Archbishop Coakley as celebrant.

J.E. Helm is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



Catechists attend Mass in the Catholic Pastoral Center chapel. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.

# Annual Mass celebrates richness of Czech tradition

By J. E. Helm  
For the Sooner Catholic

The annual Czech Mass was held on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 10:30 a.m., at Saint John Nepomuk parish in Yukon. The event featured Czech heritage with Czech music and authentic Czech costumes.

Father Rex Arnold, pastor at Saint John's, was the principal celebrant. Father feels there is "a wonderful heritage here, and I'm grateful that they continue the richness of their Czech tradition."

Robert Noble is director of Liturgy and Music for Saint John's. Under his direction, the choir presented a program which featured a selection from Dvorak's "New World Symphony." Mass concluded with both the Slovak and Czech national anthems.

A reception in Marian Hall following the Mass featured those famous Czech pastries, kolache. Susan Canham is one of Saint John's kolache bakers. She says she has been baking these tasty treats since she was "knee high." Her favorite? "cottage cheese!"



From left to right: Deacon John Teague, Pastor Rex Arnold, and Czech-speaking Father John Michalicka. At right, parishioners in kroje, traditional costumes, after processing in at the Mass. Photos J. E. Helm



Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.

# Blue Mass acknowledges metro area first responders

By Deacon Charles Allen

The Blue Mass that took place on Sept. 29, the Feast of the Archangels, was celebrated by Rev. Bill Pruett and concelebrated by Rev. Rex Arnold and Rev. Tim Ruckel. The ceremony included a blessing of badges. OCPD Deputy Chief Johnny Kuhlman spoke on behalf of the first responder community.

First responders from a number of metro area agencies attended the Mass, including the Oklahoma City Police Department, the Oklahoma City Fire Department, the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, the Moore Police Department, the Midwest City Police Department, the Mustang Police Department, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and the Oklahoma State Department of Public Safety.

Deacons Jeff Kelly, Dennis Frazier and Charles Allen assisted at the Mass, all three retired from the Oklahoma City Police Department.

Fathers Pruett, Buettner and Ruckel and Deacon Frazier serve as volunteer associate chaplains for the Oklahoma City Police Department.

The Blue Mass began in 1934 when Rev. Thomas Dade, a priest from the Archdiocese of Baltimore, initiated the Catholic Police and Fireman's Society while assigned to St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Washington, DC. and held a special Mass for them on Sept. 29 of that year. More than 1,100 police officers and firefighters attended that first Blue Mass, its name coming from their blue dress uniforms.

*Save the date*



**Sanctity of Life Mass**

6 p.m., Jan. 21, 2015 - Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Photo Ken Carney.

# Loves receive papal award

Judy and Tom Love were presented with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Award by Archbishop Coakley during the 10 a.m. Mass at Christ the King on Sunday, Sept. 21. The award is given to clergy and the laity for outstanding service to the Church and is the highest medal given to laypeople by the pope.

# Eucharistic celebration draws faithful



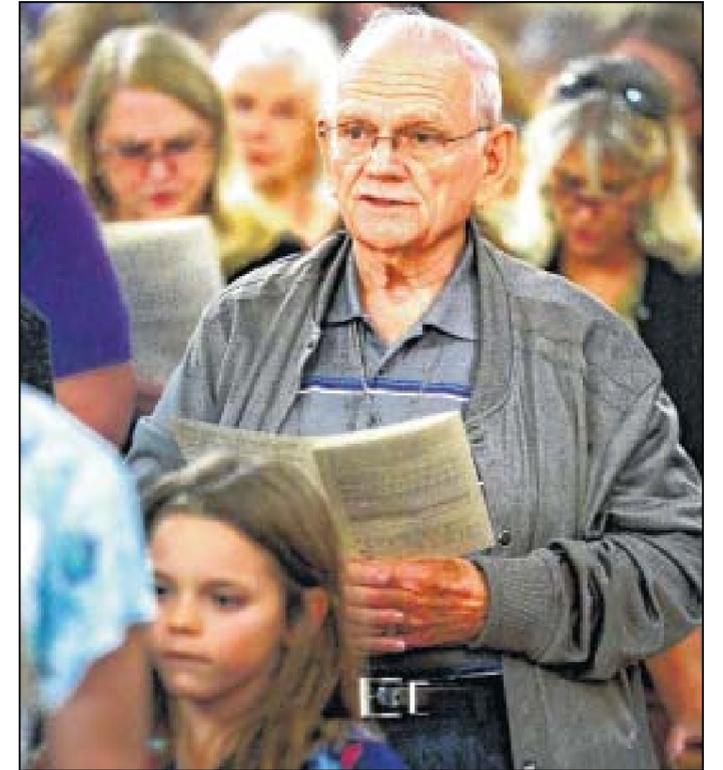
More than 600 people gather in St. Francis of Assisi Church for the Adoration. Hundreds more filled the gymnasium, the parish hall, the prayer garden and the parking lot. Photo Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.



Twelve altar servers assisted Archbishop Coakley during the Holy Hour. Photo Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.



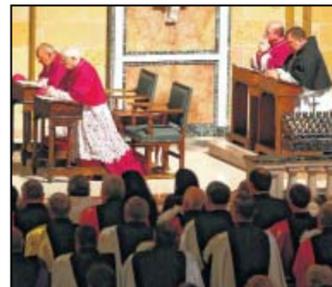
Archbishop Coakley greets those in attendance as he makes his way to St. Francis for the Holy Hour. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.



Those in attendance inside St. Francis join in song in celebration of the Blessed Sacrament. Photo Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.



Following the Eucharistic Procession, 2,000 people gathered around the steps of St. Francis for the Benediction. Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.



Archbishop Emeritus Beltran, Bishop Slattery, Bishop Kemme and Abbot Lawrence during the Holy Hour.



Groups from across Oklahoma and several states attended the Holy Hour at St. Francis. Photos Archdiocese of Oklahoma City/Steve Sisney.

## A world united in prayer

On Sept. 21, parishes, dioceses and individual people of faith from around the country united with Oklahoma City in prayer. Below are some of the events that took place to celebrate the Eucharist.

### Tulsa

Bishop Slattery led a Eucharistic Holy Hour and public procession at Holy Family Cathedral at 7 p.m. on Sept. 21.

### Altus

Prince of Peace Church held a Holy Hour with Benediction at 7 p.m. More than 115 people attended.

### Shawnee

St. Benedict Church held a Eucharistic Procession at 3 p.m.

### Midwest City

St. Philip Neri Church held an hour of prayer at 3 p.m.

### Elk City

St. Matthew's Church held a benediction and exposition following Saturday night Mass and lasting until 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

### Medford

St. Mary's has held a Holy Hour with Benediction throughout September.

### Moore

St. Andrew's Church conducted a Eucharistic Holy Hour on Sept. 17, attended by more than 200 people. Parishioners also attended the Holy Hour at St. Francis.

### Lawton

Holy Family Church held a Holy Hour with Benediction at 3 p.m.

### El Reno

St. Katharine Drexel Assisted Living Center had a Eucharistic adoration and rosary at 3 p.m. with about 40 people in attendance.



The faithful from St. Benedict Church lead a Eucharistic Procession in Shawnee. Photo provided.

### Edmond

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church held a Eucharistic Holy Hour at 3 p.m. on Sept. 21, which was attended by hundreds of faithful. It concluded with a Benediction.

### Ardmore

Saint Mary's parish held an Adoration and Holy Hour coinciding with the service at St. Francis, with more than 100 people in attendance.

### Diocese of Pittsburgh

Bishop David Zubik held a Holy Hour and Benediction from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sept. 21 at St. Paul Seminary.

### Phoenix

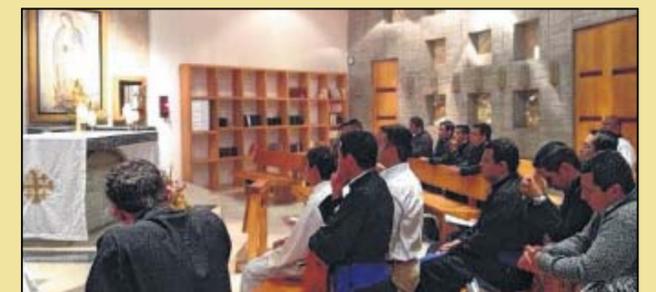
St. Catherine of Siena Parish held a Holy Hour where they prayed the Joyful Mysteries in Spanish, the Sorrowful Mysteries in English and the Glorious Mysteries in Latin.

### Mexico

Seminarians gathered to pray at 3 p.m. at Parroquia del Señor del Salitre in Calvillo, Mexico.

### Worldwide

Archbishop Coakley also received letters of encouragement from nearly every state, multiple faiths and from Catholics in Ireland, New Zealand, Germany, the Netherlands, Mexico and Canada.



Archdiocesan seminarian Rodrigo Serna and his classmates in Mexico pray before the Blessed Sacrament on Sept. 21. Photo provided.

## St. Gregory's announces arrival of historic Bible

SHAWNEE – For the first time on exhibition in Oklahoma, St. Gregory's University, St. Gregory's Abbey and the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art will host a one-year engagement with "The Saint John's Bible" Heritage Edition, an incomparable work of sacred scripture and art.

The yearlong exhibit will begin Oct. 14 with the unveiling of the Heritage Edition of the Gospels and Acts Volume at the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art in Shawnee on the campus of St. Gregory's University.

"The Saint John's Bible" Heritage Edition volumes are considered rare books, each one a highly customized fine art reproduction of the only handwritten and illuminated Bible commissioned by a Benedictine Abbey since the advent of the printing press more than 500 years ago.

"One hundred years of history and service is an important milestone for any organization, and it deserves more than a day of commemoration. The Year with the St. John's Bible" will center our Benedictine Hall Centennial on the word of God and inspire the thousands of people who come to campus to see it as an extraordinary work of art and act of faith," Rt. Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B., of St. Gregory's Abbey explained. "Everyone at St. Gregory's Abbey, St. Gregory's University and the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art is very proud to offer this extraordinary exhibit to the people of Oklahoma."

The Gospels and Acts volume is heavily illuminated with more than 25 fine art pieces, including full-page frontispiece illumina-



"The Word Made Flesh" is one of the many illuminations featured in the Gospels and Acts Volume of "The Saint John's Bible" Heritage Edition, which will be on display at the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art beginning Oct. 14.

tions for each of the four gospels and several others throughout the 136 pages. Some of the more prominent images include the Genealogy of Jesus, Birth of Christ, Raising of Lazarus, Crucifixion, Christ Our Light, Last Supper, Road to Emmaus and Pentecost.

There are seven distinct volumes in "The Saint John's Bible," each with their own illuminations or special treatments and characteristics. All seven volumes will be on display at the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art from Dec. 14 to Jan. 25.

"The Saint John's Bible" Heritage Edition will be on display at the museum during regular museum hours. Church tours and other group tours may be scheduled by visiting [www.mgmoa.org](http://www.mgmoa.org).

## "Little Flowers" introduces St. Francis to children

By Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick  
For the Sooner Catholic

"The Little Flowers of Saint Francis of Assisi" (Saints Francis and Clare Press, Inc, \$9.95) and the accompanying coloring book (\$2.99) from the "Saints Made Simple Series" introduces elementary school children to the life of one of the most beloved saints just in time for his feast day on Oct. 4.

The story is told episodically, with each major event from Francis's life receiving a two-page spread that includes a brightly colored illustration by Andrea Pynaert and a prayer related to the event in Francis's life. For example, accompanying the story of Brother Bernard being teased by the children of a town, the prayer says, "Dear God, sometimes others make fun of me and are mean to me. Help me to forgive them and be patient and kind."

The book contains the beloved stories of Francis as animal lover such as when Francis tamed the wolf of Gubbio, keeping both the city and the wolf safe as well as when Francis spoke with the birds.

The book goes beyond the tales of Francis and the animals, including many tales of Francis and his followers who sowed seeds of peace and forgiveness. In one story, Brother Angelo gave bread and wine to

robbers, who then repented of their wrongdoing and experienced the forgiveness of God. In another, Francis and his brothers take care of the lepers (those who had a terrible skin disease), including one man who was very mean. Through Francis's love and care, his skin was cured and he repented of his anger and meanness.

The authors show Francis's special relationship with God through narrating other events of Francis's life and the witness of others. One young boy followed Francis praying in the middle of the night and saw him speaking with Jesus, Mary, John the Baptist, John the Evangelist and many angels. At another time, Francis called a meeting for all his followers. Saint Dominic was worried that there wouldn't be enough food, but the townspeople provided sustenance for the Franciscans.

The installment layout of the book allows readers to read a little a day, which would be appropriate for younger children, while still engaging with the many rich details of the life of Saint Francis. The coloring book invites children to further contemplate the many ways Saint Francis served as a vessel for God.

Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick is a freelance columnist for the Sooner Catholic.



## Ada's Saint Joseph Church joins community effort to feed hungry

By Bethany Walling  
For the Sooner Catholic

ADA – Just as Jesus sat with the Samaritan woman at the well, many churches in Ada are also crossing the religious divide to serve the poor in their community. Saint Joseph Catholic Church has a long history of supporting community nonprofits. However, Saint Joseph, as well as other local churches, realized the key to effectively serving the poor in Ada was partnering together.

Partnerships with Saint Luke's Episcopal Church and Olive Branch Fellowship are making a big impact in this relatively small town. Individually, church resources can be limited, but combining financial assets and manpower has made the difference to hundreds of hungry Ada residents.

For more than 12 years, Saint Luke's Episcopal Church has provided the needy in Ada bags of groceries and other health care essentials once a month through their Matthew 25 Mission. Saint Joseph Catholic Church has contributed to this mission since 2004 through the Mother Teresa Project.

"We wanted to put our faith, our intellectual faith, into physical practice in the real world," said Nancy Cheper, coordinator of the Mother Teresa Project. "The idea was to feed the hungry and homeless people in Ada."

Since its inception 10 years ago, the Mother Teresa Project has grown from passing out 250 sack lunches at the Mission to 450. The group now has about 10 parish members that regularly volunteer to make the peanut butter sandwiches and assemble the sack

lunches.

"We purchase 36 loaves of bread a month, 450 drinks and the snack cakes. Members of the group donate everything else," Cheper said.

Each month the group tries to give a little something extra such as a small stuffed animal, an extra dessert or anything that might bring an extra smile to the needy.

"The purpose of the Mother Teresa Project is simply to fill that one little meal," Cheper explained, "and the people really enjoy our sandwiches."

Cheper went on to describe how the Holy Spirit provides volunteers.

"Every month, I sweat and fret and wonder if I am going to have enough volunteers, but every month the Holy Spirit sends someone. Month after month, year after year, almost every time a surprise volunteer will come in."

After 10 years, Cheper's enthusiasm for the project has not faded.

"It is one of the most gratifying things I have ever done in my life. To see the look on their faces, the



## St. Gregory's to host Faculty Panel on the Family

By Annamarie Duty

From Oct. 5-14, Pope Francis will host an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops to discuss the topic, "The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization." A Synod surrounding the issue of the family and evangelization is of the utmost importance, especially to the students at St. Gregory's University.

"I think this Synod will be an opportunity for conversation among Catholics worldwide," said Junior Lauren Mach, president of St. Gregory's Pro-Life Team. "The family is an aspect of life and culture of every people and every individual, so I think the fact that Pope Francis is calling attention to it and discussing issues that face families today is inspirational for the universal Church."

Being that many college students are in the process of discernment about their current and future roles in the Church, the Synod on the family poses an important turning point in the mindset of young adults. Last fall, students at

St. Gregory's took a course called "Theology and Practice in Ministry," where they read a variety of church documents about the family. With the approach of catechesis beginning in the home, the Synod on the family is paramount to university students worldwide who are in the process of discerning their future because of the responsibility that they hold in the lives of the next generation.

In celebration of the Synod on the family, the Office of Faith Integration, Development, and Evangelization (FIDE) will be hosting a panel discussion, featuring faculty members and moderated by Father Simon Spitz, OSB. Faculty members will discuss the family through the lens of Pope Saint John Paul II's Apostolic Exhortation, "Familiaris Consortio." The faculty panel will be held on Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Shawnee Community Room at St. Gregory's University.

For more information, contact Erin Duarte at [eaduarte@stgregorys.edu](mailto:eaduarte@stgregorys.edu) or (405) 878-5355.

Annamarie Duty is a junior theology, philosophy, and history student at St. Gregory's University.

true deep gratitude and the spirit in which they receive it. All you have to do is look in their faces and there is the Holy Spirit; there is Jesus," Cheper said.

"These are people who are hanging on by the skin of their teeth and doing the best they can, and they are so grateful. By golly, one day a month, we can make them peanut butter sandwiches."

Recently, Saint Joseph Catholic Church partnered with Olive Branch Fellowship as well as other local community members to assist in the opening of Abba's Tables, a multi-denominational soup kitchen to feed the needy six days a week.

"Our sole mission is to feed the poor," said Stacy Lane, Saint Joseph's volunteer coordinator for Abba's Tables.

Lane's No. 1 priority is recruitment of volunteers for Saint Joseph's designated service night on Tuesdays. With a call list of 30 Saint Joseph parishioners, Lane spends most of her Sunday on the phone. Some weeks finding volunteers can be difficult, but "every week, somehow God provides," Lane noted.

Lane said they serve between 60 and 110 hot dishes.

Abba's Tables operates on donations from local churches, businesses and community members. Volunteers serve dinner every night except Sunday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Even though Saint Joseph is in charge of volunteering on Tuesdays, Lane explained how much working with other churches has benefited her and the community.

"When you understand a



Stacy Lane, St. Joseph's volunteer coordinator for Abba's Tables, serves donated doughnuts for dessert. Left, St. Joseph parishioner Angela Todd butters bread for the evening's spaghetti dinner. Photos Bethany Walling.

church, you are not afraid of it. It is knowledge. You learn to respect other people and what they believe."

It is through this type of understanding that the needy in Ada have been fed. Without these partnerships among Saint Joseph, Saint Luke's, the Olive Branch Fellowship and several other area churches, many in Ada "probably wouldn't be eating," as one diner recently said to Lane.

For more information or to donate online, visit [www.abbas-tables.org](http://www.abbas-tables.org).

To donate to the Mother Teresa Project, contact the Saint Joseph Catholic Church parish office.

Bethany Walling is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

## Womens Conference to honor our Holy Mother

The Women of Faith/Women of Action Conference will be held Oct. 18 at Epiphany of the Lord Church in Oklahoma City. The theme of this year's conference is "Mary, Woman of Grace."

Registration is \$40; \$25 for teenagers. A catered box lunch by Picasso Cafe will be provided for \$10. You may register by PayPal at [www.okcaccw.com](http://www.okcaccw.com) or print the registration form and mail it to our registrar – Barbara Wann at 302 E Ohio St. Walters, OK 73572 or by e-mail at [wannb@sbccglobal.net](mailto:wannb@sbccglobal.net).

The keynote speakers for the conference will be Sister Catherine Vincie, R.S.H.M., professor of Liturgical and Sacramental Theology at Aquinas Institute of Theology, who will speak on Mary and the Discipleship of Women, and Rev. Don Wolf, pastor of St. Eugene Church who hosts a weekly radio program on Catholic Radio, "Living Catholic." Father Wolf will speak about the Holy Family, "Strangers in a Foreign Land."

Speakers the Rev. Bill Pruett and Judi Wilkinson will offer their programs in both Spanish and English. Father Pruett will be speaking on Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Judi's program is on Marian Art.

The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be shared by Mary McClernon. Breakout sessions in the afternoon for the youth will be presented by the "ONE" team from St. Thomas More Campus Ministry as well as Sister Maria Faulkner.

The special musical guest will be Jamie Biller, songwriter and performer. She will be offering a musical tribute to Mary. Jamie is well known for her work with the Father Stanley Rother Guild and her album dedicated to him titled "The Shepherd Cannot Run."

Vendors will be available to offer early holiday shopping. For more information, contact Mary Ann Schmitt at (405) 943-5758 or e-mail [sgmaschm@aol.com](mailto:sgmaschm@aol.com).

## "St. Francis and Pope Francis: Prayer, Poverty, and Joy in Jesus"

By J.E. Helm  
For the Sooner Catholic

"St. Francis and Pope Francis: Prayer, Poverty, and Joy in Jesus" by Alan Schreck is one of many recent publications delving into the lives of these two men, and exploring the ways in which they are related. For Schreck, there is a great deal of similarity in terms of the spirituality and self-perceived mission of Saint Francis and Pope Francis. In making each point of comparison, Schreck looks first at Saint Francis and then Pope Francis as mirroring the Man of Assisi.

It should be noted that the book is entirely orthodox; Schreck is a professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, a campus known for its adherence to traditional Catholicism as well as its faithfulness to Church teaching.

Ever the scholar, Schreck quotes extensively from the words of Saint Francis as well as statements made by Pope Francis.

While a great deal of historical information is carefully presented, the book is nevertheless highly readable.

Certainly, Pope Francis admires and identifies with Saint Francis. He took the Saint's name on becoming Pope, and is the first pope to take the name Francis.

Schreck carefully shows comparisons in the teachings of Saint Francis and the words of Pope Francis. Schreck quotes Saint Francis, for example, admonishing a brother to "always do your best to be cheerful. ... It is not right for a servant of God to show a sad and gloomy face." When Schreck cites Pope Francis' remarks that "joy is a gift from God" and that "sometimes these melancholy Christian faces have more in common with pickled peppers," the Pope seems to be speaking as though schooled by Saint Francis himself.

Schreck maintains this careful, skillful comparison in each of his

chapters as he discusses topics such as conversion and prayer. Regarding conversion, Schreck narrates how the life of Francis of Assisi was profoundly changed when he prayed before the crucifix in Saint Damian's church and heard Christ speak to him and direct him to "rebuild my church." Pope Francis has said that he also had a profound experience of faith at age 17.

"On a beautiful spring day," Schreck says, then Jorge Mario Bergoglio "suddenly felt that he should go to confession. ... At his parish church ... a priest he did not know unexpectedly appeared and heard his confession." Jorge had a sense that the priest had been there waiting for him, just as Christ waits to receive each one of us in this sacrament. He felt different and he became convinced that he was called to be a priest.

Saint Francis' thoughts were always fixed on God, and Pope Francis' first public act when he

was named pope was to ask the crowds in Saint Peter's Square to pray for him. He then led everyone in praying the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be, uniting everyone there in the simple, familiar prayers.

Saint Francis was a man with enormous charisma, as is Pope Francis. This new pope was instantly popular with both the press and the people. The marvelous thing about Schreck's book is that he has managed to convey this, to draw his reader into an encounter with these two men that seems very real and very personal.

"St. Francis and Pope Francis" is an inspirational book in the truest sense of the word. The reader cannot fail to be motivated to live more of a faith filled life, and so Schreck's work is a wonderful tie-in to the mission of evangelization being proclaimed throughout the Church today.

J. E. Helm is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

## Lánzate a lo más Profundo

Luke 5:4

## Homilía de la Hora Santa Eucarística

¡Alabado sea Jesucristo! Es para mí un gran privilegio el darles la bienvenida a la Iglesia San Francisco de Asís y pasar juntos esta hora con el Señor en oración y adoración. Gracias por estar aquí. Su presencia es un poderoso testimonio de fe en medio de lo que ha sido una época especialmente difícil para nuestra comunidad. Me gustaría reconocer y agradecer la participación de nuestro pueblo católico de toda la Arquidiócesis, y también aquellos de ustedes que han venido de lugares cercanos y lejanos para unirse a nosotros hoy. Estoy especialmente agradecido por la presencia (y apoyo) de mis hermanos obispos, el Arzobispo Beltrán, el Obispo Slattery de Tulsa, el Obispo Kemme de Wichita y tantos otros sacerdotes, diáconos y religiosos y religiosas. Es una bendición especial el reconocer aquí a tantos líderes y creyentes cristianos de otras iglesias y comunidades eclesiales que han venido para también unirse a nosotros en oración.

Nos reunimos hoy en la presencia de nuestro Señor Eucarístico que es la fuente de nuestra unidad, por imperfecta que pueda ser, y nuestro vínculo de caridad. Acabamos de escuchar nuestro Señor proclamar: “Yo soy el pan vivo que ha bajado del cielo; el que come de este pan, vivirá para siempre; y el pan que yo daré es mi carne para la vida del mundo.” Para los Católicos estas palabras del capítulo seis del Evangelio de San Juan son el corazón de nuestra comprensión y el aprecio de la Santa Eucaristía. Jesús no habla metafóricamente cuando dice: “El que come de mi carne y bebe mi sangre, tiene vida eterna, y yo lo resucitaré en el último día. Porque mi carne es verdadera comida y mi sangre es verdadera bebida. El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre permanece en mí y yo en él.” Es un verdadero Jesús, el que nos encontramos y recibimos en la Sagrada Eucaristía.

A veces, los cristianos han discutido sobre el significado teológico de estas palabras. Satanás, por otro lado, oye estas palabras y tiembla. La Eucaristía ha estado en el centro de la controversia actual sobre la llamada misa negra que (para nuestra vergüenza como ciudad) se le permita continuar esta noche en

el Salón de Música del Centro Cívico. Ese ritual blasfemo y sacrilego es una burla a la misa católica que requiere para su consumación la corrupción y la profanación de la Eucaristía. ¿Por qué? Debido a que los satanistas, y su maestro, saben quién está presente. Ellos reconocen la Presencia Real del Señor Jesús, no para adorarlo, pero sólo para burlarse y despreciarlo en odio.

Creo que muchas personas en nuestra comunidad no han entendido la persistencia de nuestros esfuerzos, ni la profundidad de nuestra indignación por esta blasfemia en gran parte debido a que no comparten nuestra fe. Ellos no entienden ni aceptan, lo que nosotros creemos que es verdad. Ellos no comparten nuestra fe en lo que nosotros los católicos (y muchos otros cristianos) reconocen que es el mayor regalo que el Señor le ha confiado a la Iglesia: el don de su propio Cuerpo y Sangre en el Santísimo Sacramento. La Eucaristía, instituida por el Señor en la Última Cena y confiada a los Apóstoles es verdaderamente la permanente presencia del Señor en medio de nosotros. Es real y substancialmente alimento espiritual para nuestra peregrinación y la prenda de la gloria futura en el Banquete Celestial. Es el pan de los ángeles dados a los hombres.

No estamos aquí, sin embargo, para protestar. Dejemos a un lado, por el momento, nuestra indignación. Estamos aquí para alabar y adorar. Estamos aquí para dar gracias por el don de nuestra fe y el tesoro inestimable de la presencia permanente del Señor con nosotros en el Sacramento de su Cuerpo y Sangre. Estamos reunidos ante nuestro Señor Eucarístico para escuchar su santa Palabra y abrimos a los impulsos de su Espíritu para que podamos ser testigos más fieles y auténticos de su amor y misericordia en medio de nuestra rota y sufriente familia humana. También estamos aquí para ofrecer nuestras peticiones al Señor, que para librarnos del poder del pecado y, sí, de todas las influencias demoníacas. Estamos aquí para ofrecer nuestras oraciones en reparación de los ultrajes blasfemos que se cometen en contra de nuestro Señor, contra su Iglesia y la Eucaristía en estos días. Nuestra

ciudad también ha sido blanco de estas fuerzas oscuras del odio que buscan no el construir, sino sólo el destruir. Rogamos la protección del Señor, por intercesión de sus ángeles y santos.

Nos hemos reunido en calidad de testigos de la esperanza en un momento cuando la oscuridad parece estar ganando terreno, tanto aquí como en todo el mundo. ¡Sabemos que Cristo es victorioso! Él ha vencido a Satanás. Ha destruido el reino del pecado y el poder de la muerte a través de su Santa Cruz y Resurrección gloriosa. A través de la fe y el Bautismo ya compartimos en su victoria. La guerra ha sido ganada, aunque escaramuzas continuarán hasta que Cristo venga de nuevo en gloria para reinar por siempre. Mientras tanto se nos ha alistado para llevar el estandarte de la Cruz y soportar nuestra parte de los sufrimientos de Cristo, por el bien de su Cuerpo, la Iglesia.

Nos reunimos aquí en oración. Nos reunimos para adorar, alabar y dar gracias, a rogar por la misericordia del Señor sobre nuestra ciudad, nuestra nación y nuestro mundo. Oramos por nuestra propia conversión continua para que podamos ser testigos santos y valientes.

Nuestra fe no está destinada a ser (y no se puede mantener) encerrada dentro de las paredes de esta hermosa iglesia. Nuestra Procesión Eucarística por el vecindario más allá de estas paredes, que seguirá en pocos minutos, es un recordatorio de que nosotros, la Iglesia, estamos presentes en el mundo como luz, sal y levadura para llevar la esperanza y la oferta de salvación de Cristo a todos los que encontremos. Oremos para que podamos abrazar a nuestro mandato de vivir como discípulos misioneros en medio del mundo para que podamos atraer a todos a Jesucristo y a puerto seguro en su Iglesia.



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

## Siguiendo los Pasos de Jesucristo en la Tierra Santa

## La Tumba Vacía. ¡El Lugar del Triunfo de Jesús!

Por Pedro A. Moreno, OP, MRE

Director del Ministerio Hispano

Acompañenme en mi viaje al Santuario del Santo Sepulcro en la ciudad de Jerusalén. En mi pasada columna compartí sobre el Gólgota. Ahora, dentro del mismo Santuario compartiré sobre la Tumba Vacía y otras dos capillas aleñañas. Comenzaré con dos frases de los ángeles del domingo de pascua...

En Lucas 24, 4 al 6 encontramos estas palabras: “...en ese momento vieron a su lado a dos hombres con ropas fulgurantes. Estaban tan asustadas que no se atrevían a levantar los ojos del suelo. Pero ellos les dijeron: ¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que vive? No está aquí. Resucitó...”

En Mateo 28, 5 y 6 tenemos este mensaje: “... El Ángel dijo a las mujeres: «Ustedes no tienen por qué temer. Yo sé que buscan a Jesús, que fue crucificado. No está aquí, pues ha resucitado, tal como lo había anunciado. Vengan a ver el lugar donde lo habían puesto...”

Ambas citas están de acuerdo en hechos importantes. Vemos que habían seres espirituales presentes en la tumba, aunque difieren en cuantos son. Ambos textos utilizados aquí también dejan ver que las mujeres quedaron impresionadas por estos espíritus puros, o sea, se asustaron con la presencia de los ángeles.

Los dos detalles más importantes es que estos mensajeros nos dan la gran noticia de que la tumba está vacía pues quien estuvo ahí muerto, Jesús, ya no está muerto pues ha resucitado. Otra diferencia entre estos dos relatos es un detalle secundario pero curioso. En Lucas el ángel pregunta “¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que vive?” mientras que en Mateo el ángel hace una invitación a ver la tumba vacía.

Mientras esperaba por más de media hora

## El papa nombra panel para agilizar proceso de anulación matrimonial

Por Francis X. Rocca

Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — Dos semanas antes del comienzo de un extraordinario Sínodo de los Obispos sobre la Familia el Vaticano anunció la formación de una comisión especial para reformar el proceso de otorgar anulaciones matrimoniales.

“El trabajo de la comisión comenzará lo más pronto posible y tendrá como su meta preparar una propuesta de reforma del proceso matrimonial, con el objetivo de simplificar su procedimiento, hacerlo más ágil y salvaguardar el principio de la indisolubilidad del matrimonio”, dice una declaración del Vaticano del 20 de septiembre.

El trabajo del nuevo organismo atenderá lo que el papa Francisco ha identificado como un reto clave en la “atención pastoral del matrimonio”.

“Está el problema judicial de la anulación del matrimonio, esto tiene que ser revisado porque los tribunales eclesiásticos no son suficientes para esto”, dijo el papa ante reporteros en julio del 2013.

El papa Francisco relacionó el problema de las anulaciones con la situación de los católicos divorciados y recasados civilmente,



Jesús Resucitado encuentra a María Magdalena. Foto por Pedro Moreno

en fila para entrar a la tumba las palabras del ángel en Lucas resonaban en mi mente. “¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que vive?”

Normalmente cuando se visita un panteón o una tumba en un cementerio se está visitando los restos mortales de alguien que fue importante para nosotros. Pero en esta tumba... ¡NO HAY NADIE! ¿Qué rayos hago yo, con mis pies adoloridos de tanto caminar, haciendo fila para ver un vacío, una tumba donde no hay nadie?

## Un astrónomo afirma que es cuestión de tiempo para que se encuentre vida en otra parte del universo

Por Dennis Sadowski

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — El hermano jesuita Guy Consolmagno, nuevo presidente de la Fundación del Observatorio del Vaticano, no tiene duda de que la vida existe en otra parte del universo y que cuando la humanidad la descubra, las noticias se esparcirán sin causar mucha sorpresa.

Y opina que el posible descubrimiento, sea que suceda dentro de un mes o dentro de mil años a partir de hoy, será recibido en forma semejante como se han recibido las noticias de nuevos planetas que dan vuelta en la órbita de estrellas lejanas cuando se han filtrado para el conocimiento del público desde la década del 1990.

“Y la reacción general del público será: ‘Ah, ya lo sabía. Sabía que se encontraría allá’”, le dijo el hermano Consolmagno al Catholic News Service antes del inicio de una presentación en un simposio en la Biblioteca del Congreso dedicada a la NASA, sobre el tema fundamental de cómo prepararnos para el descubrimiento de vida en otra parte del universo, llevado a cabo los días 18 y 19 de septiembre.

El hermano Consolmagno, quien es científico dedicado a estudiar el

“¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que vive?”

Por fin llegó mi turno y entré a la tumba. ¿Sabes lo que descubrí al entrar? Lo que ya sabía... ¡NO HAY NADIE! “¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que vive?”

Al salir de la tumba vacía me fui a sentar en un espacio al lado que tenían unos bancos de madera. Me puse a reflexionar sobre la que acababa de suceder y miré hacia el frente y veo algo hermoso, una imagen de Jesús Resucitado hablando con María Magdalena. La Primera Discípula y Mensajera de la Resurrección. Me quedé pensando en la tarea tan difícil la de ella, convencer a los demás que Jesús ya no está muerto. A ella le correspondió el llevarle el mensaje a los apóstoles de la alegría de la resurrección. Todo esto en un mundo donde el testimonio de una mujer no tenía valor en las cortes.

Mientras meditaba vi salir unos peregrinos de lo que yo equivocadamente pensé que era un área privada. Al ver a otros entrar y yo también entré, era una hermosa capilla dedicada a nuestra madre la Virgen María y su encuentro con su hijo Jesús Resucitado. Al lado de la imagen de la Virgen encontrando a su Hijo un hermoso Sagrario, ¡Encontré a Jesús Resucitado! ¡Encontré al que está VIVO! ¡AQUÍ SÍ HAY ALGUIEN!

Después de un memorable ratito de oración recuerdo las palabras del ángel en Mateo aquel día de pascua: “...pero vuelvan en seguida y digan a sus discípulos: Ha resucitado de entre los muertos...”

Estimados lectores y discípulos les digo a todos que Jesús, nuestra esperanza y el amor encarnado del Padre, ha resucitado, vi el lugar de su triunfo. Esta es la Buena Nueva, tenemos que compartirla.

sistema planetario y que ha profundizado en la ciencia de meteoritos y asteroides, en su calidad de astrónomo en el observatorio del Vaticano desde 1993, dijo que espera que las interrogaciones sobre vida en otros planetas se enfoquen más en dilucidar la forma como la humanidad se ve a sí misma.

El hermano no espera que el posible descubrimiento de vida en otra parte pruebe o niegue la existencia de Dios, pero si espera que sirva como puerta para reflexionar sobre qué rumbo haya tomado en otras sociedades inteligentes la historia de la salvación.

El hermano, astrónomo de largo tiempo del Vaticano, enfoca la misma pregunta y una serie de otras más que cruzan el umbral entre ciencia y religión en un nuevo libro que lleva el título de “¿Bautizaría usted a un extraterrestre? ... y otras tantas preguntas extrañas que llegan al sitio de la red en el observatorio del Vaticano”. El libro, cuya publicación se ha anunciado para el mes de octubre, tiene un coautor, el padre jesuita Paul Mueller, quien es también astrónomo del observatorio del Vaticano, y está escrito en estilo de conversaciones de fácil lectura entre los dos astrónomos.

## El papa es ‘amigo y hermano’, dice cardenal

Por Beth Griffin

Catholic News Service

NUEVA YORK — El papa Francisco evangeliza “con encíclicas de ademanes” que hablan más fuerte que palabras y textos, dijo el cardenal hondureño Oscar Rodríguez Maradiaga de Tegucigalpa.

El cardenal es uno de nueve miembros del Consejo de Cardenales, consejeros del papa, y expresó sus reflexiones sobre la reorganización de la Curia Romana, su papel de consejería para el papa y la respuesta católica al cambio de clima.

El cardenal hizo sus comentarios el 23 de septiembre en una entrevista con el Catholic News Service en Nueva York, lugar en el que participaba de un encuentro interreligioso, en su capacidad de presidente de Caritas Internacionales.

La reforma de la Curia Romana, dependencia administrativa central de la iglesia, es una respuesta normal ante la época actual de cambios, tiene un precedente significativo desde el siglo XX y fue el foco de reuniones anteriores al cónclave antes de que el papa Francisco fuera elegido como tal, dijo el cardenal Rodríguez Maradiaga. “Muchas personas ignoran la perspectiva histórica y creen que esto es una revolución. ¡NO! Esto es un proceso normal... que se lleva a cabo para dar respuesta a los nuevos



El cardenal hondureño Oscar Rodríguez Maradiaga de Tegucigalpa visto en este foto de archivo de 2010. (Foto de CNS/ Paul Haring)

signos de los tiempos, nuestra época”, dijo. El proceso actual podría parecer diferente porque

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**ST. ANDREW CHURCH**  
800 NW 5th St, Moore, OK

**Thursday Evening, October 16, 2014 - 7-9 pm**  
**ST. BENEDICT CHURCH**  
632 N. Kickapoo Ave., Shawnee, OK

**Monday Evening, October 20, 2014 - 7-9 pm**  
**ST. MONICA CHURCH**  
2001 N. Western Ave., Edmond, OK

**Tuesday Morning, Oct. 21, 2014 - 10-12 am**  
**8 VIDEO CONFERENCE SITES**

Attend at one of these locations:  
Catholic Pastoral Center, **OKC**;  
Prince of Peace, **Altus**  
St. Mary, **Ardmore**  
St. Mary, **Clinton**  
St. Francis, **Enid**  
St. Peter, **Guymon**  
Holy Family, **Lawton**  
St. Peter, **Woodward**

**Tuesday Evening, October 21, 2014 - 7-9 p.m.,**  
**ST. PATRICK CHURCH**  
2121 N. Portland Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

**Admission is free to all Catholics. Refreshments will be served except at the video conferencing locations. You don't have to be a parishioner to attend a session at any of the locations.**

**Please confirm your attendance and location. Call, email or go online to make reservation:** (405) 721-4115 email: [mmills@archokc.org](mailto:mmills@archokc.org) online registration: [www.cfook.org](http://www.cfook.org)

Please do not call the individual parishes for information.

*Are you listening?*

By **Marlene Stapp**



**CHANGE OF DATE FOR RADIOTHON!** Due to schedule conflicts, we are moving the date of the next Radiothon to Nov. 4 and 5 from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Bishop Slattery of the Diocese of Tulsa will be on air at 5 p.m. Nov. 4. Archbishop Coakley will be live at 5 p.m. on Nov. 5.

We continue to receive phone calls and letters from listeners expressing their joy at finding Catholic Radio on the air in Oklahoma. Stephanie Broardt from St. Philip Neri Parish in Midwest City, a convert to the Catholic Church says, "We're so blessed to have Catholic Radio - it's the best station there is."

**MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY** continues to impress and inspire listeners with the stories and histories of the guests. If you know someone you think has a good story to tell, e-mail Deacon Larry Sousa at [lsousa@cox.net](mailto:lsousa@cox.net).

**BROKEN ARROW LPFM** - We understand they are very close to being up and running in October. Keep them in your prayers.

If you are a business owner and are interested in being recognized in one of our sponsor

recognition spots, e-mail Sally Crowe Nash at [sallycrowenash@gmail.com](mailto:sallycrowenash@gmail.com).

We make every effort to put all your donations into the upkeep of existing stations and the promotion/development of new stations in Oklahoma. Please consider making regular monthly donations to help us stay on the air in your area and expand into those areas that don't have access to Catholic Radio. You can donate online at [www.okcatholicbroadcasting.com](http://www.okcatholicbroadcasting.com).

Don't forget to change our address when you do online banking or mail a check: Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting, P.O. Box 1612, Norman, OK 73070.

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- 88.3 FM Lawton
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- 105.7 FM Bristow
- 88.3 FM Prague
- 100.7 FM Canute/Elk City
- 90.3 FM Antlers
- Spanish: 890 AM Oklahoma City
- 1570 AM Tulsa

**Briefs**

**Archbishop Coakley cleanses Civic Center**

"From the beginning, we have taken seriously the dark and dangerous spirits being invited into our community," Archbishop Coakley said. "We anticipated this would be a concern for those visiting the Civic Center, and we've received many questions about the safety of the building following the satanic ritual. To address those concerns, we visited the venue the next morning to pray prayers of exorcism over the place and to pray the prayers for cleansing."

**Craft show at St. John Nepomuk**

St. John Nepomuk's Altar Society craft show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11, in the school gym, 600 Garth Brooks Blvd. in Yukon. If you are interested in participating as a vendor, call Patsy Ryan at (405) 834-3528.

**Villa Teresa moving sale**

The Carmelite Sisters of St. Therese have moved from Villa Teresa Convent at 1300 Classen Drive to a temporary location at St. Ann's independent living. The Sisters are building a new Convent that will be attached to St. Ann Retirement Center. The Sisters will hold a moving sale on Oct. 11, 12 and 13 at Villa Teresa Convent. The front gates will open at 8 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. There will be no early sales. Items for sale

include religious items, furniture, small appliances, vinyl records, kitchen items, table linens, glassware, dishes, artwork, books and more. Refreshments will be available. Proceeds from the sale will be used to furnish the new Convent.

**Saint James Fall Fest**

Saint James Church will host Fall Fest 2014 on Sunday, Oct. 12 from Noon to 7 p.m. at the parish, 4201 S McKinley Ave. Live entertainment, featuring Edgar Cruz, food and a children's activity tent highlight this year's celebration. Raffle tickets are available with the first prize winning \$2,000. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased from the parish office or after Mass each Sunday. For information, to volunteer or to buy raffle tickets, contact Eliana at [elitedrow@gmail.com](mailto:elitedrow@gmail.com) or (405) 413-3392.

**Bishop McGuinness students to perform "Alice in Wonderland"**

The Bishop McGuinness Drama Club will bring to the stage an abridged version of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Bishop McGuinness Petuskey Performing Arts Auditorium. General admission is \$5. For more information, contact Ryan Swartz at (405) 842-6638, Ext. 254 or [rswartz@bmchs.org](mailto:rswartz@bmchs.org).

**St. John Nepomuk parish mission** "Handing on the Faith," the 2014 mission at Saint John Nepomuk in

Yukon, will be held on Oct. 16, 17 and 18. The Thursday and Friday sessions will begin with evening prayer at 6:30 p.m., with the general session starting at 7 p.m. Dr. Petroc Willey, Consultant for the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization and professor of theology at Franciscan University, will lead participants to a new understanding of their role as disciples. An all-day event for catechists will take place on Oct. 18. Catechists must register by Oct. 10. Call the parish at (405) 354-2743 for more information.

**Edmond Fall Getaway**

St. John the Baptist Church has openings on a first come, first served basis for a four-day fall getaway to Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana Oct. 16 -19. The trip includes a vintage train ride through the Boston Mountains of Arkansas, a seven-course meal in an opulent Civil War era home in Little Rock, Elvis Presley's home, a Mississippi River cruise, barbecue on Beale Street and the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum. Mass will be celebrated on the final day of the tour at the Cathedral of St. John in Shreveport with a river cruise dinner following. Call (405) 340-0691 Ext. 109 for more information.

**Faith community nursing course** Oklahoma City University's Kramer School of Nursing and

the Oklahoma Nurses Association present a Faith Community Nursing Foundations Course on Oct. 16-17 and 30-31. The course will be held from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day, with lunch provided for all attendees, at the Kramer School of Nursing East at NW 27 and Blackwelder in Oklahoma City, Room 334. The course fee is \$500, which includes tuition, materials, CEUs, IPNRC pin, meals and first-year membership in Faith Community Nurses Association of Oklahoma. The fee includes a \$75 non-refundable deposit. For more information, contact Nelda Hobbs at [nhobbs@okcu.edu](mailto:nhobbs@okcu.edu).

**33 Days to Morning Glory**

Holy Trinity Parish in Okarche will host a "33 Days to Morning Glory" retreat on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m., Nov. 2 through Dec. 7. The retreat is a preparation for Marian consecration designed to bring you closer to Jesus through the heart of His Mother. The retreat involves short daily readings, thoughtful questions and weekly videos by popular author and speaker, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. Register by Oct. 18 to ensure time for delivery of retreat kits. The kit can be purchased the first night of the class for \$25. Register by e-mailing Jennifer at [jjbjohnson@hotmail.com](mailto:jjbjohnson@hotmail.com) with your name, address and phone number or call (405) 263-7974. For more information, go to [www.holytrinityok.org](http://www.holytrinityok.org).

**Calendar**

This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar go to [www.soonercatholic.org](http://www.soonercatholic.org).

October			
5	The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Claire Fraternity meets at 1:15 p.m. at St. Thomas More in Norman in the Library. For more information, call (405) 473-7680.	Oklahoma Memorial Post 168 will hold their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the Sunnyslane Family Reception Center located at 3900 SE 29 in Del City every second Wednesday. For more information, contact Ken at (405) 739-0036.	blackout game. Oswalt at (405) 567-3404.
5	Byzantine Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at St. Mark's parish in Norman at 5:30 p.m.	9 Devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus, an unending means of tapping the inexhaustible mercy of God from the source of our salvation. 9 p.m. -12:30 a.m. St. James Church 4201 S McKinley Ave. Loan at (405) 420-2527.	16 St. John Nepomuk to hold parish mission on Oct. 16, 17 and 18. Sessions start at 6:30 p.m. with evening prayer. Dr. Petroc Willey is the speaker. Call (405) 354-2743 for more information.
7	Faculty panel in celebration of the Synod on the family at 7:30 p.m. in the Shawnee Community Room at St. Gregory's University.	10 Bingo at St. Joseph's, Norman, in the gym. Light supper is served at 6:30 p.m. Games begin at 7 p.m. with a first session, followed by a second session around 8:30 p.m. Each 10-game packet is \$5 and includes one free	17 Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. During these nine days, the novena prayers will be as follows: Monday-Friday following Noon Mass, Saturday following 6 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.
7	Catholics Returning Home at St. Charles Borromeo in OKC. For more information, contact the parish office at (405) 789-2595.	14 Catholic War Veterans will meet in the community room of St. Ann Retirement Center at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Fr. M. Price	18 The Women of Faith/Women of Action conference will be held at Epiphany of the Lord Church in Oklahoma City. Speakers include Sr. Catherine Vincie, RSHM, and Fr. Don Wolf. To register, visit <a href="http://www.okcaccw.com">www.okcaccw.com</a> .
8	Catholic War Veterans USA,		

**Job Box**

**Human resources director**

The director is responsible for providing leadership in developing and executing human resources strategies in support of the overall objectives of the Center of Family Love. The director will support management by providing human resources advice, counsel and decisions, and analyzing information and applications. Require-

ments include a bachelor's degree in human resources, business or related field, at least seven years of experience with at least five years in a supervisory role, good level of computer literacy in using a range of Microsoft applications as well as Kronos and others. Submit an application to [despinosa@cflinc.org](mailto:despinosa@cflinc.org), by fax to (405) 263-4718 or by mail to the Center of Family

Love, 635 W Texas, Okarche, OK 73762. The deadline for submission is Oct. 10.

**Archdiocesan administrative assistant**

The Office of Ministries is seeking a full-time administrative assistant, with occasional evening and weekend responsibilities. The administrative assistant provides

administrative and clerical support to the Vicar General, Vicar for Priests, Chancellor and Safe Environment Coordinator. Candidates should have a minimum of three years of office experience. Advanced ability in Microsoft Office and Flocknote must be demonstrated. Ability to speak and read Spanish is a plus. E-mail [leason@archokc.org](mailto:leason@archokc.org).

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**Kevin Pierce**  
General Agent  
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# Welcome our new principals!

By Sooner Catholic Staff

This year, five archdiocesan elementary schools welcomed new principals. Read on to find out more about them.

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**Cassie Herd** –  
Saint Eugene  
Catholic School,  
Oklahoma City



**Tell us a little about your family:** My daughter and I live in Midwest City. She is in the kindergarten class at St. Eugene. I also have a poodle named Moony.

**What is the best thing about your school?** The best thing about St. Eugene is the wonderful community. The kind and supportive families and staff are always willing to help.

**What are your goals for this year?** My goal is to help communicate the school mission and vision through building relationships in the school community. It is also my goal to support the continued academic excellence that St. Eugene is known for.

**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not at school?**

I enjoy reading, running and spending time with my daughter.

**Why is Catholic education important to you?** Catholic education is about so much more than just education. Through Catholic education we are able to minister to the needs of our students and their families. We are able to provide a safe place to learn and grow both academically and spiritually.

\*\*\*

**Nancy Post** –  
Saint Mary Catholic School, Lawton



**Tell us a little about your family:** I grew up in Okeene and attended St. Mary's through the seventh grade. I have four daughters, Sarah, Bridget, Kristin and Jennifer, and one son, Brian. I also have 12 grandchildren that range in age from 2 to 19.

**What is the best thing about your school?** When I take visitors through our school, they often comment that it is one of the best-kept secrets in Lawton. Not only do they see the children's smiling faces, and the artwork in our halls, but they also feel the sense of family that we have at our school.

**What are your goals for this year?** This year, we will be working with the parish, educators, parents and the community as we look at the services we provide, who we serve and need to serve, and how we can plan to meet fu-



ture community needs and challenges. It will be an exciting year to be affiliated with St. Mary's!

**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not at school?** I enjoy music, gardening, walking, attending events with my grandkids, traveling and photography. However, being a new principal has left little down time!

**Why is Catholic education important to you?** As a public school teacher for the past 16 years, I have witnessed the implementation of regulations that have become more adverse to any mention of God in the classroom, while it has been apparent to me that behavior, discipline and mental health issues in school have rapidly escalated. While a Christ-centered education is not a cure-all, it does provide our children with a foundation of faith and hope, which are so desperately needed in today's world.

\*\*\*

**Laura Gallagher** –  
Saint Elizabeth  
Ann Seton Catholic  
School, Edmond



**Tell us a little about your family:** My husband Scott and I have been married for 20 years. We have three daughters, twins Claire and Kayla, who are juniors at Mount Saint Mary High School, and Katherine, who is in seventh grade at SEAS.

**What is the best thing about your school?** SEAS is a vibrant, faith-filled community where students and teachers are encouraged to grow intellectually and spiritually. There is a family atmosphere, positive enthusiasm and a climate that cultivates a sense of service to others.

**What are your goals for this year?** My goals are to support and enrich the strong teaching practices already in place at the school, to maintain the strong Catholic identity present at SEAS, and to

foster the development of Catholic leaders in our students.

**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not at school?**

When I am not at school, I enjoy spending time with my family and watching my daughters' sporting events.

**Why is Catholic education important to you?** Catholic education is the lifeline for the future of the Church. Strong Catholic schools provide the best form of evangelization, teaching about the Church, as well as an excellent education, moral values and a safe environment.

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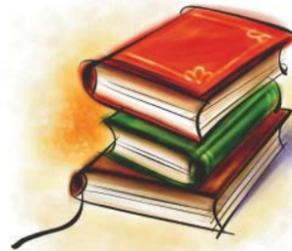
**Dana Wade** – All  
Saints Catholic  
School, Norman



**Tell us a little about your family:** My husband Greg and I have been married for 21 years and we have a son, Tanner, who is an All Saints' graduate and now a freshman at Mount Saint Mary High School. We have been members of St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church since we got married.

**What is the best thing about your school?** There is a great spirit of service at All Saints. From the fire department to Sister BJ's Pantry to Birth Choice. Our teachers are guiding our students to work in our community and beyond to share their time and develop servant hearts. Our staff truly teaches as Jesus did.

**What are your goals for this year?** We want to draw more of the Catholic families in and around Norman to our school.



**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not at school?** I like to read and cook, and watch my son play sports for Mount St. Mary!

**Why is Catholic education important to you?** I graduated from Sacred Heart in Oklahoma City and The Mount. After teaching in public schools for a while, my heart told me to go back to Catholic schools. I remember tearing up at my first school Mass as a teacher at All Saints – I knew I was back in the right place! The priorities of our Catholic schools make them a great place to learn and grow.

\*\*\*

**Brenda Tener** –  
St. Philip Neri  
School, Midwest  
City



**Tell us a little about your family:** I have been married to my husband Bob for 28 years. We have three children – Mary Kate teaches at Saint Eugene's, Whitney is a registered nurse and works in the neonatal intensive care unit at Mercy Health Center, and John is a junior at the University of New Mexico. All of our children attended St. James the Greater Catholic School as well as Mount Saint Mary High School. I am proud to tell everyone that I am a graduate of St. Philip Neri.

**What is the best thing about your school?** The best thing about St. Philip Neri is the care and compassion as well as commitment and sacrifice that I see daily. I know the parents sacrifice to send their children here. I know the faculty make personal sacrifices. This is a community that cares for one another, and that care is demonstrated in the way they help each other and support each other.

**What are your goals for this year?** My goals are to strengthen the school. St. Philip Neri has won first place nationally in the Future City competition for several years. But, we cannot rest on our laurels. We want to continue to get better. I also want the world to know what a great school we have so they will want to send their children here.

**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not at school?** I like to read fiction, especially mysteries. I walk regularly at the local park. My absolute favorite thing is to spend time with family. My husband and I are true empty nesters this year so we like to catch up with our children and their busy lives.

**Why is Catholic education important to you?** After some 35 years in education, both public and Catholic, I have seen firsthand the impact Catholic education can have on young lives. Catholic education is a true ministry and a tremendous source of evangelization for the Church.