

Mental Health Awareness Week Focuses on Those Who Need Help

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Second Listening Session Helps Share the Vision

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The "door of faith" (Acts 14:27) is always open for us

La "puerta de la fe" (Hechos 14:27) siempre esta abierta para nosotros

The Year of Faith / El Año de la Fe
October 11, 2012-November 24, 2013
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Why a New Evangelization? Wasn't the Old One Good Enough?

By Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Director of the Office for Hispanic Ministry
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

During this Year of Faith, if we are going to speak clearly of a "New Evangelization," an apparent improvement over the old-fashioned, just plain common everyday "evangelization," we need to better understand this powerful word.

Yes, "Evangelization" is a powerful and even dangerous word. The power comes from the "who" that is found in its core. The danger lies in its many possible meanings that can water down, or even confuse, the powerful reality within it.

In fact, "Evangelization" has so many meanings and uses that in the end, very few truly know what we are trying to say. To some, "Evangelization" is everything we do. But here lies the problem — if everything is "evangelization," then there is a great danger that ultimately nothing specifically is "evangelization." One way of clarifying this problem, within the limits of space of this column, is by looking at another word with multiple theological meanings, like "tradition."

In Catholic theology we speak of Tradition with a big "T" and we distinguish it from tradition with a little

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Rosary Called a Vital Key to Evangelization in Year of Faith

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) — As the church is set to begin the Year of Faith and a synod on the New Evangelization, the rosary can play a key role in strengthening and spreading the word of God, said a leading American expert in Marian studies.

"This Year of Faith is a call for evangelization, a New Evangelization that's to start with ourselves" in reawakening one's love for Christ and then reaching out to those who have become distanced from the church, said Holy Cross Father James Phalan, director, Family Rosary International.

October is the month the church dedicates to the rosary, and the world Synod of Bishops will start Oct. 7, the

feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Pope Benedict XVI entrusted the synod to Mary's intercession, and he has said the rosary can stimulate missionary activity by leading Christians to meditate on the life of Jesus.

"During this Year of Faith, we're to take up the rosary in our hands again," Father Phalan told Catholic News Service during a visit to Rome in mid-September.

"Mary has always been the mother of evangelization," he said, because "she's always been the one who shows us Jesus."

Blessed John Paul II said the rosary is "contemplating the face of Christ with Mary."

By praying the rosary, people are led to listen more deeply to God's word, to contemplate events in

Christ's life, to see what his life means and to find Christ's presence in one's own life, Father Phalan said. "It's a way of identifying ourselves with Christ, so it's a profound path to holiness."

Praying the rosary together, especially for a family, has added beauty and power, he said.

"It opens up areas of sensitivity, areas of intimacy" because "prayer is one of the most intimate things we do," he said.

When couples or families pray the rosary together, "there's a real intimacy that's bonded in faith," that then fortifies relationships and solidifies the wider Christian community, he said.

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Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

God Has Opened the Door of Faith to Us

When Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch from their first missionary journey, "They called the Church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles." (Acts 14:27). The door of faith is still open to each of us and God continues to invite us across its threshold into a deeper relationship with himself in the Church. The upcoming Year of Faith which Pope Benedict XVI has declared for the whole Church is an opportunity for every Catholic to turn toward Jesus Christ, encounter him in the Sacraments and rediscover the riches of our Catholic faith.

"Porta Fidei," the "Door of Faith" is the name of the decree by which the Holy Father has called for this special year of pastoral activity dedicated to renewing the faith of Catholics. The Year of Faith begins on Oct. 11, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It will conclude on Nov. 24, 2013. During this Year of Faith we are invited to study both the documents of Vatican II and the Catechism, in order to deepen our knowledge of the faith and enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ and his Church.

The beginning of the Year of Faith this month is also the occasion for a Synod of Bishops in Rome. Its theme is "The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Faith." During this synod, bishops from around the world will meet with the Holy Father to pray, reflect and strategize together on the importance of a renewed proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, beginning with those who have already been baptized. It begins in our own hearts, and in those places where faith, perhaps once strong, has grown weak.

We have heard much about the New Evangelization in recent years. What is new about it? It certainly does not propose a new Gospel, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." (Heb 13:8). Rather it is new in its ardor, expression and methods. It seeks to present the Gospel in compelling ways that correspond to the questions, circumstances and challenges of today. The New Evangelization

proposes that each Catholic deepen his or her own faith, have confidence in the Gospel and be willing to share the Gospel with others. It is a call not merely to know our faith but to be witnesses to Jesus Christ wherever we are.

Essentially, the New Evangelization and the Year of Faith are a "summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the World." (Porta Fidei 6). The Year of Faith offers an opportunity for each of us to renew our baptismal commitment by living the everyday moments of our lives with faith, hope and love as witnesses to Christ.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

The Year of Faith offers an opportunity for each of us to renew our baptismal commitment by living the everyday moments of our lives with faith, hope and love as witnesses to Christ.

Year of Faith as the theme for ordinary programming throughout this year. Pastors are being encouraged to make use of various resources which are being made available for parish-based activities. I am currently conducting a series of listening sessions around the Archdiocese as part of a process to develop a mutually shared vision and pastoral priorities for the Archdiocese. This will be an essential part of the experience and outcome of the Year of Faith that will guide us into the future over the course of the next few years.

Please join me in praying for an abundant outpouring of grace and a new Pentecost during this Year of Faith, as together, we put out into the deep.



Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

- October 7** - Ordination of Priest and Deacons, Clear Creek Abbey, Hulbert, 10 a.m.
- October 9** - Saint Ann Retirement Center Board Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 8 a.m.
- October 9** - Department Heads Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 10 a.m.
- October 9** - Mass, Catholic Pastoral Center, 11:30 a.m.
- October 9** - Finance Committee Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2 p.m.
- October 9** - Blessing of Catholic Charities Office, Enid, 5:30 p.m.
- October 9** - Envisioning Team Listening Session, Saint Francis Xavier Church, Enid, 7 p.m.
- October 10** - Priests Council Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 9:30 a.m.
- October 10** - Envisioning Team Listening Session, Saint Peter Church, Guymon, 7 p.m.
- October 11** - School Mass and Classroom Visits, Rosary School, 8:15 a.m.
- October 12** - Conception Seminary College Board Meeting, Conception, Mo.
- October 13 - Sunday, October 14** - Annual Meeting, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, Tulsa
- October 15** - Envisioning Team Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 10 a.m.
- October 15** - Envisioning Team Listening Session, Saint Mary Church, Clinton, 7 p.m.
- October 17** - School Mass and Classroom Visits, All Saints School, Norman, 8 a.m.
- October 18 - November 1** - Pilgrimage to Poland, Prague and the Holy Land



**Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley**

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Publisher

Ray Dyer
Editor

Cara Koenig
Photographer/Special Projects

Sooner Catholic Newspaper
Volume 34, Number 18

7501 Northwest Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

(405) 721-1810 Fax: (405) 721-5210

e-mail: rdyer@archokc.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 32180

Oklahoma City, OK 73123

Visit us online through the
Archdiocesan Web Page at
www.archokc.org

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.

Mental Illness Awareness Week

October 7-13, 2012

Changing Attitudes.
Changing Lives.

Activities in observance of Mental Illness Awareness Week, Oct. 7-13 will include:

◆ **Candlelight Vigil, Sunday, Oct. 7 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Edmond's Hafer Park at 9th and Bryant.**

◆ **Interfaith Day of Prayer for Mental Illness, Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 9 a.m. at the State Capitol. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will be involved in this interfaith event.**

◆ **Champions for Change Luncheon, Thursday, Oct. 11 at The Greens Country Club.**

◆ **"Ask the Doctor," Friday, Oct. 12 at St. Anthony Behavioral Medicine's RAPP Center from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**



A Mother's Story

Education Helps Family Take First Step in Dealing with Mental Illness

My name is Debbie Allen. I am a member of St. James the Greater Parish and also a member of NAMI, The National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI is America's largest grassroots mental health organization.

My son, Daniel, is 34 years old. When he was young, I called him my "melancholy" child. As a teenager, he suffered from bullying and depression and as he grew older, he began to self-medicate with alcohol. Even though I am an RN and my husband a police officer, we were uneducated in the realm of mental illness and did not recognize what was happening. A little denial did not help matters.

Five years ago we could no longer look the other way. Daniel suffered a major break following a divorce that culminated with a suicide attempt and emergency order of detention, followed by involuntary commitment to Griffin Memorial Hospital.

We were devastated, lost, embarrassed and did not know where to turn. Through NAMI and the

grace of God we were able to find the right care for Daniel and even though he is still disabled, he is sober and living independently.

I am sharing my story with you because since my son became ill, I have become acutely aware of the need for education and the eradication of stigma. Statistics show that one in four adults experiences a mental health disorder in any given year, one in 17 adults lives with a serious mental illness and one in 10 children and youth has a serious mental condition that interferes with their daily lives. Yet fewer than one-half of the children and only 40 percent of adults get ANY treatment at all, resulting in school failure, homelessness, unemployment, incarceration and tragically, suicide. How many parishioners in our diocese are affected by mental illness and not seeking care due to lack of funds, education or the stigma attached to mental illness?

To find your local NAMI Affiliate, go to WWW.OK.NAMI.ORG, or call 230-1900.

Mental Health Week Shines Light on Those Who Need Help, Care

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mental Illness Awareness Week takes place Oct. 7-13. It is an opportunity to learn more about serious mental illnesses such as depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

Mental illnesses are medical illnesses. One in four adults experiences a mental health problem in any given year. One in 17 lives with serious, chronic illness. On average, people living with serious mental illness live 25 years less than the rest of the population. One reason is less than one-third of adults and less than one-half of children with a diagnosed illness receive treatment.

"The U.S. Surgeon General has reported that stigma is a major barrier to people seeking help when they need it," said Gail Israel of NAMI Oklahoma. "That's why MIAW is so important. We want people to understand mental illness and join a dialogue in our community. The more people know, the better they can help themselves or help their loved ones get the help and support they need."

When mental health care isn't available in a community, the results often are lost jobs and careers, broken families, more homelessness, more welfare and much more expensive costs for hospital emergency rooms, nursing homes, schools, police and even courts, jails and prisons.

"Many people in our community are directly affected by mental illness," Israel said. "The good news is that treatment does work and recovery is possible."

Learn more about mental illness support, education and advocacy at www.nami.org. NAMI Oklahoma, DBSA, OCARTA, Cutting Edge Research and OMHCC are sponsoring many activities in observance of MIAW on Oct. 7-13.

Candlelight Vigil — Sunday, Oct. 7 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Edmond's Hafer Park at 9th and Bryant

Interfaith Day of Prayer for Mental Illness — Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 9 a.m. at the state Capitol

Champions for Change Luncheon — Thursday, Oct. 11 at The Greens Country Club

"Ask the Doctor" — Friday, Oct. 12 at St. Anthony Behavioral Medicine RAPP Center from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

◆Counseling Corner◆

Imagine having compassionate non-judgmental acceptance of yourself and understanding that you are a child of God, a divine soul in human form, and that your most basic and urgent life task is to know, accept, love and nurture yourself. And with this acceptance of yourself, when you make a mistake you would remind yourself of the loving and caring person that you are, that we all make mistakes, that our merciful and loving God forgives you, and that you would continue to unconditionally love yourself. Sounds wonderful!

In the real world, however, this sounds pretty unrealistic. In the real world we are focused on having high expectations of and being harsh and critical of ourselves, making impressions, achieving results, attaining perfectionism, being right, etc. In the real world there doesn't seem to be much room for self-acceptance.

Jesus tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves and, I believe, we can increasingly love others by having compassionate self-acceptance. As we have more compassion for ourselves, we are more compassionate of others. As we are less judgmental of ourselves, we are less judgmental of others. As we are more accepting of ourselves, we are more accepting of them.

However, being more accepting of ourselves is tough due to our woundedness and because our parents, in their woundedness, may not have been able to model self-acceptance as their parents were unable to do so with them. It is what it is!

Self-acceptance can come to us, however, as we understand that as we accept ourselves, we are accepting God's will; as we know and love ourselves, we are knowing and loving God; as

we nurture ourselves, we are acting on God's loving guidance.

In addition, we can notice when, after making a mistake, we are being harsh, critical, having excessive remorse, shame and guilt. Self-acceptance can come if, at these times we can examine our behaviors, responsibly and honestly admit our wrongs and make amends, and then forgive ourselves and let it go. It's OK, we are all human and we all make mistakes, we all have bad moments and God forgives and loves us no matter.

Self-acceptance can come when we focus more on what we are doing right in our relationships with others — on how we are loving, caring, compassionate of others and doing random acts of kindness in carrying out our Lord's will for us and being in the flow of God's presence within. We can spend more time noticing the goodness within ourselves within the attributes of the good men and women that we are in our relationships with family, business associates and friends.

Self-acceptance can come to us as we are more in touch with our gifts as being caring, understanding, generous, tolerant, accepting, analytical, intelligent, kind, etc. As we notice these gifts within, we can gently find our having more compassion for and being less judgmental of ourselves.

Self-acceptance can come to us in our prayer and meditation time when we experience God's presence in the divinity of who we are as His unique gifts to those around us. In this awareness, we can gently heal the wounds of our childhood, know that God loves us no matter what, and have compassionate non-judgmental self-acceptance. Peace and Blessings.

Joe Froehle, Parish Counselor
Spiritual Director

A Life of Faith, One Day at a Time

WASHINGTON — To honor the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pope Benedict XVI has announced a Year of Faith, starting Oct. 11 and ending Nov. 24, 2013. The goal is to strengthen the faith of Catholics and draw the world to faith by their example.

Bishop David Ricken of Green Bay, Wis., chairman of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, offers “10 Ways Catholics Can Live the Year of Faith.” Rooted in guidelines from the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, some of these suggestions are already requirements for Catholics. Others can be embraced by Catholics at all times and especially during the Year of Faith:

1. Participate in Mass. The Year of Faith is meant to promote the personal encounter with Jesus. This occurs most immediately in the Eucharist. Regular Mass attendance strengthens one’s faith through the Scriptures, the Creed, other prayers, sacred music, the homily, receiving Communion and being part of a faith community.

2. Go to Confession. Like going to Mass, Catholics find strength and grow deeper in their faith through participation in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Confession urges people to turn back to God, to express sorrow for falling short and open their lives to the power of God’s healing grace. It also offers forgiveness for the injuries of the past and provides strength for the future.

3. Learn about the lives of the saints. The saints are timeless examples of how to live a Christian life, and they provide endless hope. Not only were they sinners who

kept trying to grow closer to God, but they also exemplify ways a person can serve God: through teaching, missionary work, charity, prayer, and simply striving to please God in the ordinary actions and decisions of daily life.

4. Read the Bible daily. Scripture offers firsthand access to the Word of God and tells the story of human salvation. Catholics can pray the Scriptures (through *lectio divina* or other methods) to become more attuned to the Word of God. Either way, the Bible is a must for growth in the Year of Faith.

5. Read the documents of Vatican II. The Second Vatican Council (1962-65) ushered in a

great renewal of the Church. It impacted how Mass is celebrated, the role of the laity, how the Church understands itself and its relationship with other Christians and non-Christians. To continue this renewal, Catholics must understand what the Council taught and how it enriches the lives of believers.

6. Study the Catechism. Published exactly 30 years after the start of the Council, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* covers the beliefs, moral teachings, prayer and sacraments of the Catholic Church in one volume. It’s a resource for growing in understanding of the faith.

Another helpful resource is the *U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults* (USCCA).

7. Volunteer in the parish. The Year of Faith can’t only be about study and reflection. The solid grounding of the Scriptures, the Council and the Catechism must translate into action. The parish is a great place to start, and each person’s gifts help build up the community. People are welcome as ministers of hospitality, liturgical musicians, lectors, catechists and in other roles in parish life.

8. Help those in need. The Vatican urges Catholics to donate to charity and volunteer to help the poor during the Year of Faith. This means to personally encounter Christ in the poor, marginalized and vulnerable. Helping others brings Catholics face-to-face with Christ and creates an example for the rest of the world.

9. Invite a friend to Mass. The Year of Faith may be global in its scope, focusing on a renewal of faith and evangelization for the whole Church, but real change occurs at the local level, one person at a time. A personal invitation can make all the difference to someone who has drifted from the faith or feels alienated from the Church. Everyone knows people like this, so everyone can extend a loving welcome.

10. Incorporate the Beatitudes into daily life. The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) provide a rich blueprint for Christian living. Their wisdom can help all to be more humble, patient, just, transparent, loving, forgiving and free. It’s precisely the example of lived faith needed to draw people to the Church in the year ahead.

More information about the Year of Faith is available online: www-usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/index.cfm.



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

‘Year’ Time for Catholics to Come Together, Share Beliefs

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As the Catholic Church prepares to celebrate the Year of Faith and bishops from around the world gather in Rome for a synod dedicated to the New Evangelization, Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl called on Catholics to deepen their faith and to share it with others.

“All around us are people who should truly be with us at Mass, who should be with us at church, who should be with us in the parish,” Cardinal Wuerl said Sept. 30 in an address at the John Carroll Society’s annual brunch following the Red Mass.

The cardinal addressed the group of Catholic professionals and business men and women on the eve of his departure for Rome, where

he will attend and serve as “relator,” or general secretary, for the Synod for the New

Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith.

He said the synod — which will draw about 200 bishops from around the world — will consider, “How do we re-propose for a hearing all over again our faith.”

Lamenting that some Catholics “did not get that type of (religious) education we got when we were growing up,” Cardinal Wuerl said the New Evangelization and the Year of Faith are opportunities to reach those “who really don’t know a

“Accept and embrace the challenge to see faith as a lifelong journey. Rediscover the power, the beauty and life-giving nature of our faith.”

Msgr. Peter Vaghi

lot about the faith and those who drifted away because they think they know

the faith and it offers nothing for them.”

He called on the faithful to “renew our own faith ... have confidence that what we believe is actually true ... (and) share the faith with one other person.”

The Year of Faith begins Oct. 11 and coincides with the 50th anniversary of the opening day of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the day the Catechism of the Catholic Church was promulgated. Pope Benedict

XVI has asked Catholics to spend this year studying, professing and demonstrating their faith.

Msgr. Peter Vaghi, pastor of the Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda, Md., and chaplain to the John Carroll Society, also addressed the brunch. He said the “two firm anchors” to making the Year of Faith a success are to understand the teaching of the Second Vatican Council and to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Msgr. Vaghi said that Pope Benedict proposed the Year of Faith because he saw a need for Catholics “to recover a sense of joy in our faith.”

“Accept and embrace the challenge to see faith as a lifelong journey,” the priest urged those at the brunch. “Rediscover the power, the beauty and life-giving nature of our faith.”



Father Scott Boeckman of St. Peter Church in Woodward with Catholic Foundation 2012 Heart of the Parish award winner Peggy Kitchens, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley and CFO Immediate Past President Tom Avant. (Photo courtesy)

Kitchens Honored with Heart of Parish Award

Religious Education Director Honored for Work During Woodward Tornado

The Catholic Foundation recently presented a Heart of the Parish Award to Peggy Kitchens, Director of Religious Education for St. Peter Church, Woodward. This award is a discretionary honor that the Foundation is able to bestow on an individual that may not necessarily meet the criteria for the Religious Educator of the Year or Catholic Schools Educator of the Year, but has demonstrated extraordinary dedication and service to their parish or school.

Peggy Kitchens is being honored for selflessly giving time to assist neighbors, parishioners and local community residents during a massive tornado that affected the city of Woodward last April. Within an hour after the tornado ravaged this community, Peggy contacted her parish pastor and asked to help. She accepted the task of coordinating the community relief effort without a moment's hesitation. She spent several days making phone calls, sending emails and connecting with other agencies and churches for assistance.

The parishioners were her first priority as she began visiting them at their homes and establishing an ongoing relationship that would last throughout the recovery process. She organized a dinner for all of the affected families at the Parish Hall and led them in prayer, which provided them with an opportunity to process the impact of this storm. She coordinated relief efforts with Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul and the American Red Cross. She also oversaw the enormous amount of people and organizations who wanted to provide assistance. She personally gave Archbishop Coakley,

"I was amazed at her tireless energy. Even though she was in the middle of the storm, she seemed calm and energized. It was like this was her masterpiece, the perfect woman for this tragic situation."

Father Scott Boeckman, St. Peter Catholic Church pastor, speaking of Peggy Kitchens' work after April 2011 tornado

Catholic Charities Executive Director Tim O'Connor and Sooner Catholic Editor Ray Dyer a tour of the tornado's path and its impact.

Father Scott Boeckman, pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church, commented, "I was amazed at her tireless energy. Even though she was in the middle of the storm, she seemed calm and energized. It was like this was her masterpiece, the perfect woman for this tragic situation."

As a result of her efforts, Kitchens is now a member of the Woodward Community Effort, and she was appointed one of the charter members of Recovery Woodward — the city of Woodward's official tornado relief effort.

Catholic Foundation Past President and Selection Committee Chairman Tom Avant said, "We are very pleased to present the 2012 Heart of the Parish Award to Peggy Kitchens. We truly wanted to honor her for her extraordinary service and dedication to St. Peter Catholic Church and the entire Woodward community during this time of crisis." The award comes with a \$500 cash gift.

Catholic Foundation Names Morris Educator of the Year

At the recent Fall Teacher In-Service Day at the Catholic Pastoral Center, the Catholic Foundation awarded its 2012

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley Catholic School Educator of the Year Award to Dottie Morris. Dottie is a third-grade teacher at All Saints Catholic School in Norman. She has spent the past 16 years as

a teacher at All Saints. Prior to that, she taught at Corpus Christi and Bishop John Carroll schools for a total of 28 years as a Catholic school-teacher.

Dottie loves to teach and helps her students recognize their love for learning. She is positive and gives students "faith" in themselves to succeed. She reaches every student with her devotion to faith, her total commitment to Catholic education and her desire to always learn something new. She prays for her students and with her students on a daily basis. She is a faith leader for the students and teachers. Her nominator noted, "Every teacher looks to Dottie for guidance and always feels good about her presence in our community. Every parent wants their child to learn from Dottie. She is truly Catholic in all she does and leads by example as she lives her vocation whole-heartedly."

Annually, the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma utilizes its discretionary funds to support educational programs including the Catholic School Educator of the Year Award along with the Religious Educator of the Year Awards. Applications were narrowed down to three finalists from which the Foundation Committee selected an ultimate award-winner. The finalists for the 2012 Catholic School Educator of the Year are **Marie Engel**, ninth-grade English teacher at Bishop McGuinness High School, and **Gayle Nixon**, first-grade teacher at St. James Catholic School. The award-winner receives a \$500 award and her school receives a \$5,000 grant from the Catholic Foundation and a reception in her honor at her school. The finalists also receive a \$500 award.

Finalist Marie Engel has spent her entire 24-year teaching career devoted to Catholic education. She began teaching at Christ the King School in Oklahoma City. She taught in a Tulsa Catholic school for two years before moving back to Oklahoma City to join the staff at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School. In 2004, Marie accepted an English teaching position at Bishop McGuinness High School and is currently teaching ninth-grade English at Bishop McGuinness. As the Pre-AP English teacher for the fresh-



Above, Dottie Morris, third-grade teacher at All Saints School, was named Catholic School Educator of the Year. Pictured, Archbishop Paul Coakley, Dottie Morris, Marie Engel, Gayle Nixon, Dr. Cris Carter, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and Tom Avant, Immediate Past President of the Catholic Foundation Board of Directors.

man and sophomore classes, Marie provides a firm foundation for the very successful AP English program at McGuinness.

This summer she accepted an invitation to become a teacher-leader in the Archdiocesan curriculum initiative, where she will work with English teachers in the Archdiocese to develop English curriculum. Her nominator stated, "Marie embraces the opportunity to develop students spiritually, academically and socially both in and out of the classroom. Her educational leadership is evident in her collaboration with other instructors and her mentoring of new teachers in her department, helping them grow into their true potential for the ultimate benefit of all students."

Finalist Gayle Nixon has taught at St. James Catholic School for the past 31 years, her entire teaching career. As an educator, she projects a calm, quiet, unassuming voice to guide young children toward a life of faith and a foundation of academic excellence. Gayle exemplifies all that is good about Catholic education, prayerfully teaching children to follow God's teachings, modeling her lifelong Catholic values of loving service to neighbors, presenting academics with the conviction that every child is unique and capable of achieving success, and carefully guiding her class through the day with patience, justice and a sense of dignity for each child. Gayle generously shares her knowledge with her colleagues.

Gayle volunteers to serve on numerous faculty committees — School Accreditation, Curriculum, Catholic Schools Week, Textbook Adoption and School Development. She also helps with student contests, scheduling, hospitality and service projects. Her nominator acknowledged, "We could all learn from her and those of us that are around her each day — whether very young or adults — do! She is respected. She is loved. She is truly our outstanding educator."

All of the teachers nominated are superb examples of what Catholic teachers should be — living examples of teachers as Jesus taught. They are dedicated role models for their students and are all to be commended.

Nursing Course to Partner Faith, Health

The next Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course will be held Nov. 11-16 at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center in Guthrie. The program, which blends faith and health, is open to nurses of all faiths.

"This course will offer an opportunity for nurses to gain an understanding of the knowledge needed to begin the practice of Faith Community Nursing," said Mary Diane Steltenkamp, Catholic Charities Faith Community Nurse coordinator.

An independent nursing practice, Faith Community Nursing, which combines professional nursing and health ministry, is a recognized specialty for registered nurses. Faith Community Nurses are often called "parish nurses," "congregational health nurses" or "church nurses," and emphasize health and healing within a faith community. The Faith Community Nursing program does not involve hands-on health care. Instead, the nurse performs roles of educator, referral agent, advocate, personal health counselor, developer of support groups, coordinator of

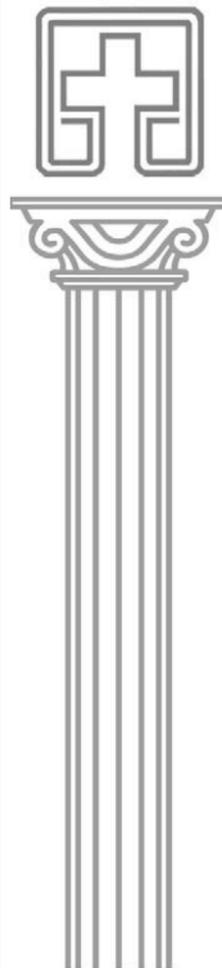
volunteers and integrator of faith and health. The spiritual aspect is key to parish nursing and nurses serve with a Faith Community Ministerial Team by actively promoting wellness, wholeness and preventive health.

The Faith Community Nursing course, revised in 2009, includes instruction from both local Faith Community Nurses, as well as community leaders who have expertise in theology, ethics, counseling, community resources and education.

Non-nurses interested in promoting health within their faith community may enroll in the program. They will receive a pin titled "Lay Health Minister."

Cost for the course is \$400, which includes tuition, materials, Continuing Education Units, first-year membership with FCNAOK, meals and lodging for five nights. Scholarships are available.

For more information or to reserve your space, contact Mary Diane Steltenkamp at 523-3006, or mdsteltenkamp@catholic-charitiesok.org. Registration ends Oct. 26 and is limited to 15 people.



CORNERSTONE

Remember your Family

Just as you would provide for your own personal family in your will, you can provide for your family of faith. With a will your wishes are known and followed after death.

There are many reasons to have a will:

With a will you can provide for your beneficiaries over and above what may have passed to them under the laws of the state of Oklahoma.

With a will you can name the person or persons who will carry out the terms of your will regarding the distribution of your assets.

With a will you can name the guardian of your minor age children.

With a will you can provide for the charitable distribution of some of your assets to your parish Church, school, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City or any other charitable organization.

With a will you are able to maximize savings from state, inheritance and income taxes.

With a will your estate will be handled in an efficient and timely manner. A will reduces the chance of argument among beneficiaries.

Formalizing a last will and testament is an extremely serious undertaking. Since it is a legal instrument and one which will be under the scrutiny of the court, an attorney should always write it.

Because a will reflects who and what is important to you, doesn't it make sense to remember your Catholic faith in your final statement to the world?

For more information on Planned Giving, contact:

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123

(405)721-4115 ■ www.cfook.org ■ bsemtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans

Across Oklahoma

Bingo Set for Oct. 25 at St. James

OKLAHOMA CITY — The last bingo in 2012 at St. James Catholic Church, 41st and South McKinley Avenue, will be Oct. 25. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5:45 p.m. Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. All games including two blackouts are \$10. There will be door prizes and special recognition for all players born in October. A Magnavox 37-inch flat screen TV will be given away this night and all players get an entry into the drawing. It only takes one entry to win.

Halloween Carnival Set

OKLAHOMA CITY — Friday, Oct. 26 is the date for St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School's 26th annual Halloween carnival. This popular event is known for providing a huge assortment of games, inflatable rides, good food and prizes galore, all in a family-friendly environment! Everyone is encouraged to come in costume and join in the festivities. Dinner is available, and in addition to fun for the kids, adults can enjoy bingo, a cakewalk and a goodies booth in this safe Halloween alternative for kids from 2 to 92!

St. Charles is located at 5000 N. Grove — between Meridian and MacArthur on N.W. 50th Street. The carnival is from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m., and food and games are reasonably priced. Feel free to contact SCBCS at 789-0224 if you have any questions, or if you or your business would be interested in sponsoring a game booth with advertisement included.

Pre-K Positions Available

OKLAHOMA CITY — Five full-time positions, Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings and occasional Saturday mornings. First Eucharist Prep, Reconciliation Prep and VBS. Available 12-31-12. Experience, Pastoral Degree and DRE certification desired or enrollment in pastoral program. Submit resume by Oct. 15 to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, P.O. Box 510, Edmond, Okla. 73034, Attention: Father Ackerman or Dr. Harry Kocurek.

Irish to Host Open House

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School will host its annual Open House for all interested and prospective students and parents on Sunday, Nov. 4 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Teachers from each academic department will be available to provide information and answer questions. Student organizations as well as parent groups will be represented and ready to help visitors. Coaches will be present to highlight the school's athletic programs. Visitors will be able to tour the campus and meet the school's administrative staff. Refreshments will be served in the Commons area.

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School is the largest Archdiocesan secondary school in the city. Its college preparatory curriculum serves approximately 700 students from grades 9-12. Its mission is to educate the whole person in mind, body and spirit and to foster students who value their faith and service to others.

Notre Dame Tailgate Set Oct. 27

NORMAN — The Notre Dame Club of Oklahoma City will host a tailgate party starting four hours before the kickoff of the Oct. 27 football game between the Fighting Irish and the Oklahoma Sooners. The event will be held in the northeast corner of the parking lot at the Lloyd Noble Center.

The menu includes, among other items, hamburgers, hot dogs, bratwurst, beans and chips as well as soft drinks, water and beer. The all-you-can-eat tailgate is \$30 per person prior to Oct. 20 and \$40 per person after Oct. 20.

Checks should be made to Notre Dame Club of Oklahoma City, 5400 N. Grand Blvd., Suite 545, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73112.

Contact Mike Milligan at mmilligan@coxinet.net for website address to pay by paypal, or call him at (405) 525-8331 Ext. 1 or (405) 919-5691. Entertainment at the tailgate will include bagpipe players and an Irish folk band.

Catherine of Siena Coming on Nov. 19

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bishop John Carroll School will be hosting *Catherine of Siena, A Woman for Our Times* on Nov. 19 in the Connor Center at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The one-woman show, performed by *Adrian Dominican Sister Nancy Murray, OP*, promises to enchant, inform and inspire the audience. The evening will begin with hors

d'oeuvres, wine reception and silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by the show at 7:30. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door.

For tickets, contact Carolyn Watkins at (405) 850-5087, or cwatkins@dunnandstone.com. For sponsorship or additional information, contact Lisa Edmonds at (405) 818-6678, or ruffin400@aol.com. Seating is limited. This is an adult event.

Test Dates Set at McGuinness

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School will be administering the STS High School Placement Test on Saturday, Nov. 10 to any eighth-grader interested in attending the school as a freshman for the 2013-2014 school year. All prospective ninth-graders must take this test in order to help with course selection. A second test date will be offered on Saturday, Nov. 17 for all those who cannot make it on the first test date.

Students will need to arrive before 8 a.m. on the day of testing. They need to bring \$15 for the testing fee and two No.2 pencils. No calculators or cell phones are allowed. The test lasts approximately three and a half hours.

Students not attending a feeder school and interested in taking the placement test must contact Amy Hanson, freshman counselor, at ahanson@bmchs.org or ahanson@bmchs.org, or 842-6638 Ext. 225 to register for the test.

Domestic Abuse Hidden in the Shadows

Montalvo-Liendo — Women's Stories Touch Too Close to Home

By Ray Dyer
Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Dr. Nora Montalvo-Liendo studies women who have been abused by men. She does so because she's curious why many women stay in relationships that inflict physical and emotional abuse, on them and on their children.

What Dr. Montalvo-Liendo said she found through her studies was that society really doesn't focus too much in terms of resources on the issue of domestic abuse, perhaps because it often hits too close to home.

She told of the woman who was beaten by her husband, a well-known attorney, and thrown virtually naked into the front yard. He tried to make her swallow an abortion-inducing pill because she was pregnant. She would not do it.

The woman's sister begged her to call the law on her husband. "Why, the battered woman said, "They didn't do anything to him the last time I called."

Turns out, her husband was a drinking buddy of a local judge.

Or there's the first woman interviewed by Montalvo-Liendo. Turns out she knew the health-care worker who was abusing this woman.

A native of Brownsville, Texas, Dr. Montalvo-Liendo was in Oklahoma to speak at the annual Statewide Conference on Domestic Violence. The conference, held in Norman, attracted more than 700 people, according to Lisa Carrasco, Associate Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Family Life and a contributor to the statewide conference. Following the conference, Dr. Montalvo-Liendo gave

presentations in English and Spanish at the Catholic Pastoral Center.

In Texas, where Dr. Montalvo-Liendo conducted her study, 142 women were killed by their husbands or "intimate partners" in 2010. In her hometown of Brownsville, population about 180,000, 939 women were victims of domestic abuse. So were 384 children.

Dr. Montalvo-Liendo said it's not uncommon for young children to witness their mothers being beaten or sexually assaulted by their husbands or "intimate partner."

Men who beat or abuse women come from all walks of life, Dr. Montalvo-Liendo said. Abusers can be blue collar workers or Ivy League educated, it makes no difference. What they all have in common is the overpowering need to control others. "Abusers are all extremely jealous and controlling," she said.

Imagine the kind of demonic jealous rage that must live inside the man who put "the hottest sauce he could find" in his wife's "private areas" to make sure she did not cheat on him while he was at work.

Or the man who made his wife eat off the floor while their children watched. The woman tried to comfort her young children by telling them it was only a game.

Or the man who cut the face of his wife so she would not be attractive to other men. The woman told emergency room workers the cuts came when a mirror shattered. The doctor and nurses never challenged her story.

Dr. Montalvo-Liendo found in her studies that it usually takes a woman "up to eight times being



Dr. Nora Montalvo-Liendo addresses an audience at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The University of Texas researcher spoke at the Statewide Conference on Domestic Violence earlier in the week. (Photo by Ray Dyer)

abused" before she "recognizes" that she needs to leave the relationship for good.

She said those who argue a woman can leave an abusive relationship anytime she likes are trying to make a very "complex" situation seem simple.

"The first thought in these women's minds is the need to protect their children," Montalvo-Liendo said. Other women are so confused and desperate for "love," they will actually blame themselves for the abuse. Just as troubling, Montalvo-Liendo said, was her interview with the woman who blamed the abuse on her teenage son, rather than risk her husband going to jail.

Police actually arrested the 13-year-old boy as his own mother

blamed him for her black and blue face rather than send her abusing husband to jail. The boy is now 17 and has a hard time trusting his mother.

While these stories come from Texas, there is no difference in any other state and Oklahoma is no exception.

Last year in Canadian County alone, the Women's Service and Family Resource Center took calls from 440 victims of domestic violence. The crisis line also took 22 calls reporting sexual assaults.

Montalvo-Liendo said education about the evils of domestic violence should start in elementary school. She said health-care workers also must become more aggressive in detecting domestic violence.

HHS Mandate Opens Abortion, Contraception Market to Minors

By Kevin J. Jones
Catholic News Agency

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNA/EWTN News) — Minor children on their parents' health-care plans will have free coverage of sterilization and contraception, including abortion-causing drugs, under the controversial HHS mandate — and depending on the state, they can obtain access without parental consent.

Matt Bowman, senior counsel for the religious liberty legal group Alliance Defending Freedom, said the mandate "tramples parental rights" because it requires them to "pay for and sponsor coverage of abortifacients, sterilization, contraception and education in favor of the same for their own children."

The Department of Health and Human Services ruled in January 2012 that most employers who have 50 or more employees must provide the coverage as "preventive care" for "all women with reproductive capacity."

The mandate also requires the coverage for beneficiaries, includ-

ing minors, on the affected health plans, Bowman told CNA Sept. 20. That means that a minor on her parents' plan could be sterilized if she finds a doctor willing to perform the procedure.

"She can be sterilized at no cost," Bowman stated. "Whether her parents will know and/or consent might differ by state. But the Guttmacher Institute and other abortion advocates explicitly advocated for this mandated coverage of minors so that access without parental involvement might be able to increase."

The Guttmacher Institute, in a Sept. 1 briefing on state policies, said that an increase in minors' access to reproductive health care over the last 30 years shows a broader recognition that "while parental involvement in minors' health-care decisions is desirable, many minors will not avail themselves of important services if they are forced to involve their parents."

The institute, the former research arm of abortion provider Planned Parenthood, said that 26 states and the District of Columbia

allow all minors 12 years and older to consent to contraceptive services. At least one state, Oregon, allows 15-year-olds to consent to sterilization.

CNA repeatedly contacted the Department of Health and Human Services for comment but did not receive a response.

Employers who do not comply with the mandate face fines of \$100 per employee per day. Large employers like the University of Notre Dame could face annual fines in the millions.

There are presently 30 lawsuits challenging the HHS mandate in federal court on religious freedom grounds. The 80 plaintiffs include Catholic dioceses, universities, health-care systems and charities.

The mandate's narrow religious exemption would not apply to many Catholic institutions, despite Catholics' moral and religious objections to the covered procedures and drugs. Several Protestant institutions have also challenged the law, citing objections to abortion-causing drugs.

The Obama administration has

said it will accommodate some religious objections, though the details of those arrangements remain unclear.

Bowman rejected the idea that the Obama administration's proposed accommodations will affect the coverage of minors.

"The accommodation does not even claim it will change this part of the mandate," he said.

Legislation to allow all employers with religious or moral objections to opt out of the coverage failed in the U.S. Senate earlier this year.

Defenders of the Obama administration have depicted resistance to the mandate as a "war on women."

At the same time, a grassroots campaign called The Women Speak for Themselves has garnered the support of 34,000 women. The group says those backing the mandate are trying to "shout down anyone who disagrees" with them by invoking "women's health," while ignoring the negative physical and social effects of contraception for women.



For the first time, Catholics from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will be able to board buses for a caravan to the nation's capital. More than 300 Oklahoma Catholics are expected to take part in the 40th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. (Photos courtesy)

Oklahoma Catholics to March Together for Life

By Ray Dyer
For the Sooner Catholic

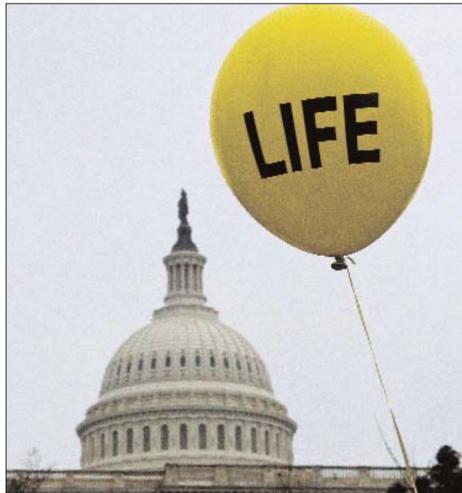
OKLAHOMA CITY — The natural rivalry between Oklahoma City and Tulsa is fine for high school football, but when it comes to the sanctity of life, Catholics in Oklahoma will march arm-in-arm, literally.

More than 300 Oklahoma Catholics are expected to fill buses in January of 2013, making their way to Washington, D.C., to take part in the 40th Annual March for Life.

And for the first time, buses will pick up participants in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Before, the pro-life walkers from our Archdiocese had to make their way to Tulsa where the bus caravan departed for the nation's capital.

Anthony Keiser, Director of Youth, Young Adults and Campus Ministry for the Diocese of Tulsa, said the bus pickup was expanded because of demand. Last year, the parishes of Saint Joseph in Hennessey and Saint Benedict in Shawnee sent more than 40 people to Tulsa to join in the march. Others are requesting to join the pro-life effort so it was decided that two buses would load in Oklahoma City at the Catholic Pastoral Center.

Keiser said the two buses will carry 96 people, so the Archdiocesan response could more than double in just one year if seats fill as expected. High school students usually fill most of the seats, while Keiser said one



Catholics will also meet with the entire Oklahoma congressional delegation, Keiser said.

Keiser said he has seen the bus trip and the March for Life "absolutely make an impact on the lives" of the young people who take part. "I have to say it's one of the most popular things we do with the high school students," he said.

bus is dedicated to college students. Adults and adult chaperones are also encouraged to sign up.

"We try to have a priest on every bus," Keiser said. He said while the focus of the trip is pro-life, "it's about more than abortion."

"When you're on a bus for 24 hours going and coming, there's time for a lot of discussion. There's a vocation element to the trip and there's an overwhelming feeling of Catholic pride."

Keiser said the bus caravan is scheduled to stop in Nashville, Tenn., where riders will meet with a Religious Order "whose average age is about 35." The Oklahoma college students will also gather at Georgetown University for a pro-life conference.

This will be Keiser's seventh time to take part in the National March for Life. The march annually draws more than 1 million people to Washington, D.C. It will be held Jan. 25, 2013, and comes each year as a way to draw attention to the infamous Jan. 22, 1973, Supreme Court decision that made abortion on demand legal in the United States.

Before heading for home, the Oklahoma Catholics will also meet with the entire Oklahoma congressional delegation, Keiser said.

A Call for Help

Society Always There for Others is Now in Need

By Rex Hogan
For the Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Adriana — she asked that her last name not be used — was shopping recently at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store for her 6-year-old daughter.

"I shop here a lot because they have nice things I can afford. I'm going to get something for my daughter. I can always find something she likes," the woman said.

For at least the last 10 years the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Archdiocesan Council of Oklahoma City, has been helping people.

The Society is probably best known for its thrift store on Northwest 10th at the intersection of Meridian, but the Society also helps those in need through its Disaster Recovery Program.

Executive director/disaster coordinator Betty Olivas said the Society's most recent annual report shows it has earned just over \$1 million and has spent just over \$1 million for "client assistance."

She said the Society has partnered with other relief agencies to provide help for victims of the April 15 tornado that struck Woodward and also to those affected by wildfires.

"We provided gift cards for food or gas at the Red Cross Multi-Agency Resource Center where at least 20 agencies and charities gathered under the same roof to provide immediate assistance to the people affected," Olivas said.

The Society is in need of some help, too.

Bill James, president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, said donations are not coming in as fast as they have in past years.

"Times are tough," he said. "Donations have been better in the past."

Kathy Vance, who oversees the Thrift Store operation, said the store needs donations of clothing, home items and furniture.



Mark Wedge, at right, works the cash register at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store. The store — which gives so much to others — is in need of donations and volunteers, organizers say. (Photos by Rex Hogan)

"This is a community store. The people who come in here and the people who make donations are from this community and I really hope we represent the Catholic Church in a positive light," Vance said.

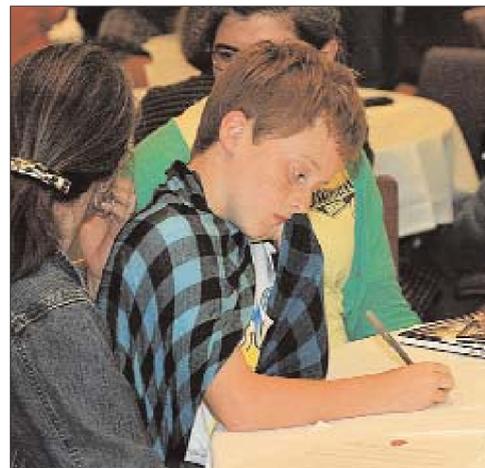
She said the attraction to the store is particularly for those on limited incomes who can purchase quality clothes or merchandise at a reasonable price.

"Those who donate, I think, feel good about it because they see we are helping others," she said.

"We can always use volunteers."



Lois Welch makes a donation.



The Art of Listening; A Vision Shared

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley held his second "Listening Session: A Mutually Shared Vision" Thursday, Sept. 27 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Norman.

About 250 people, including laity, priests, deacons, religious and youths attended the second of six Listening sessions. Shellie Greiner of St. John the Baptist Church and Pedro A. Moreno, Archdiocesan Director of Hispanic Ministry, assisted the Archbishop as session moderators.

Many attendees presented their comments in Spanish to the Archbishop. Archbishop Coakley also spoke and prayed in Spanish.

From far left, Ben Keupen, 9, of St. Mark Parish, takes notes during the Listening session; Father Jack Feehily, pastor of St. Andrew Church, introduces parish member George Fombe to the Archbishop; the Archbishop in a contemplative moment; Father Bill Pruett, pastor of St. James Church, waits his turn to address the Archbishop. (Photos by Thomas Maupin)





Bishop James S. Wall, front, and Archbishop Paul S. Coakley process out of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help following the Red Mass. Top right, Knights of Columbus Honor Guard walks from the Connor Center to the Cathedral prior to the Mass. Bottom right, attorneys, judges and law professors participated in the Red Mass. (Photos by Ray Dyer)

Red Mass Celebrates All Who Seek Justice

OKLAHOMA CITY — Archbishop Paul S. Coakley was the Principal Celebrant for the Red Mass, celebrated Sept. 22 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The Red Mass is a historical tradition within the Church first introduced in the 13th century when it officially opened the term of the court for most European countries, according to the Saint Thomas More Society. It was first celebrated in the United States in 1928.

The Mass in Oklahoma City drew a number of government officials, lawyers, judges and university professors.

Bishop James S. Wall, Bishop of Gallup, N.M., served as homilist for the Mass. Bishop Wall's Episcopal motto is "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22). The bishop said this passage is to remind us that we must not only listen to the words of Christ, but put them into daily action, following the teachings of Our Lord.

Special Anniversary Mass Scheduled for Nov. 18

Archbishop Coakley invites married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 40, 50+) in the calendar year 2012 to attend a special

Anniversary Mass on Nov. 18. The special Mass is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. and will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral, located at 3214 N.

Lake Avenue, Oklahoma City. A reception will follow.

It is imperative that if you plan to attend, please contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944.

The Archbishop will be imparting his blessing and the local Catholic community will rejoice in your example and commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage.

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ANNUNCIATION
RADIO of
Oklahoma



Knights Share Fair, Fun, Fellowship With Students

By Rex Hogan
For the Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Delanie Brewer's son is a 17-year-old special education student at Northwest Classen High School. He and 19 other special education students attended the Oklahoma State Fair Sept. 19 as guests of the Oklahoma City Knights of Columbus Council 1038.

The Classen students were among three other schools sending students as part of the Council's 66th annual Kids Day at the Fair.

"Elizah has been before and he just loves this day," Brewer said. She accompanied her son's group as a chaperone. "We have three kids and we just don't get to go because it's so expensive. Last year he rode the Ferris wheel for the first time and the look on his face when he got off was priceless. He is non-verbal and he had this big grin," she said.

Holly Partin is a special education teacher at Classen. She said the students always look forward to this day.

"For some of our students, this is their first time at the fair. Those who have been here look forward to it as soon as school starts," she said.

Melissa Phillips was a chaperone for the 15 St. Anthony Hospital youngsters.

"They have to earn coming here and they do because they know what a great time it is," she said. Becky Shelby, a Putnam City special education teacher, said her students are "grateful" to be guests of the Knights.

"A lot of them have never been here before so they'll be thankful after today," she said.

The Knights of Columbus, Council 1038 Kids Day at the Fair began when the Council decided to take kids from the now closed Catholic Orphanage home. The Norman school district also sent a busload of students to the fair.

The Council pays for the kids to get into the fair and provides lunch and helps escort the students around.

Knight Earnie Chastain said those Knights who volunteer for



Knights of Columbus Council 1038 members Mike Cotter, left, and D.W. Hearn prepare to walk with a group of students at the state fair. (Photo by Rex Hogan)

the first time to walk with the youngsters probably don't understand just how much it means.

"I would say you have to

experience it," Chastain said. "You have to go out there and walk with them to understand what that day means."

Rachel's Vineyard Offers a Helping Hand

Are you suffering from an abortion or know someone who is? You are not alone.

Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ at a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat Oct. 26-28.

The retreat offers a profound opportunity, with a team of trained companions, therapists and clergy, to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Participation is strictly confidential.

The retreat is sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office of Family Life.

For more information about the retreat or our mission, call (405) 623-3844, or email rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com

The cost for the retreat is \$75. This includes the cost for meals, a private room and all retreat materials. Payment plans and financial assistance for the retreat are available.

For a description of the October retreat and a complete list of other retreat dates and locations, call 1 877 HOPE 4 ME, or visit the Rachel's Vineyard international website, located at www.rachelsvineyard.org.



"We can't change the world by ourselves. And we can't reinvent the church. But we can help God change us. We can live our faith with zeal and conviction — and then God will take care of the rest."

Archbishop — Catholics Should Follow Pope's 'Road Map' of Faith Renewal

By R.W. Dellinger
Catholic News Service

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — In a wide-ranging address at the eighth annual Los Angeles Catholic Prayer Breakfast, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia spoke of the "debris of failure" that must be dealt with if the Catholic Church in America is to be truly renewed.

The Archbishop said the obvious problems include the clergy sex abuse crisis, a decline in priestly vocations, struggling Catholic schools and parishes, years of deficit spending and unrealistic financial management, and drastic demographic changes.

"That's our reality as disciples. That's the debris of failure we need to deal with if we want to repair God's house," he told the crowd of 1,550 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels Plaza.

In his Sept. 18 address, Archbishop Chaput stressed that Pope Benedict XVI had given the church a "road map" of renewal in his Oct. 17, 2011, apostolic letter "Porta Fidei" ("The Door of Faith") In it, the Pope announced the upcoming Year of Faith, which begins Oct. 11, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, and ends Nov. 24, 2013, the solemnity of Christ the King.

"Morally, we live in chaotic times," Archbishop Chaput said. "In such a climate, it's very easy for people to develop habits that undermine virtue, character and moral judgment. It's hard to reach a moral consensus when a culture can't agree on

even the most basic standards of right and wrong. As a result, for individuals, today's conditions of daily life are often isolating and even frightening."

Basically, during this period of New Evangelization, the Pope is asking Catholics to receive a blessing, he said. He's asking members of his flock to examine their hearts and life habits without excuses or alibis.

"If you think that sounds easy or pious," he said, "try it for a week."

"We can't change the world by ourselves. And we can't reinvent the church. But we can help God change us. We can live our faith with zeal and conviction — and then God will take care of the rest."

The Archbishop said Pope Benedict had some "concrete suggestions" for parishes and church groups in the Year of Faith. First: to study in detail the Apostles' Creed and the catechism. Second: to intensify their witness of charity. And third: to study the history of their faith and, in particular, see how "holiness and sin" are so often woven together.

"The clergy scandal of the past decade has wounded victims and their families, damaged the faith of our laypeople, hurt many good priests and found too many American bishops guilty of failures in leadership that resulted in bitter suffering for innocent persons," he pointed out. "As a bishop, I repent and apologize for that failure — and I commit myself as zealously as I can to do the work a good bishop must do, which is shepherding and protecting his people."

Lánzate a lo más Profundo Luke 5:4

Dios Nos ha Abierto la Puerta de la Fe

Cuando Pablo y Bernabé regresaron a Antioquía de su primer viaje misionero, “A su llegada, convocaron a los miembros de la Iglesia y les contaron todo lo que Dios había hecho con ellos y cómo había abierto la puerta de la fe a los paganos.” (Hechos 14:27) La puerta de la fe sigue abierta para cada uno de nosotros y Dios nos sigue invitando a través de su umbral hacia una relación más profunda con Él en la Iglesia. El ya cercano Año de la Fe, declarado por el Papa Benedicto XVI para toda la Iglesia, es una oportunidad para que cada Católico de un giro hacia Jesucristo, encontrándolo en los Sacramentos y redescubriendo las riquezas de nuestra fe Católica.

“Porta Fidei,” la “Puerta de la Fe,” es el nombre del decreto por el cual el Santo Padre ha convocado este año especial de actividad pastoral dedicado a la renovación de la fe de los Católicos. El Año de la Fe comienza el 11 de octubre, el cincuenta aniversario de la apertura del Concilio Vaticano II y el veinte aniversario de la publicación del Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica. Concluirá el 24 de noviembre de 2013. Durante este Año de la Fe se nos invita a estudiar tanto los documentos del Concilio Vaticano II y el Catecismo, con el fin de profundizar en el conocimiento de la fe y entrar más profundamente en el misterio de Cristo y de su Iglesia.

El comienzo del Año de la fe en este mes es también la ocasión de un Sínodo de Obispos en Roma. Su tema es “La Nueva Evangelización para la Transmisión de la Fe.” Durante este sínodo obispos

de todo el mundo se reunirán con el Santo Padre para orar, reflexionar y juntos elaborar estrategias sobre la importancia de un renovado anuncio del Evangelio de Jesucristo, comenzando con aquellos que ya han sido bautizados. Comienza en nuestros propios corazones, y en aquellos lugares donde la fe, quizás una vez firme, se ha debilitado.

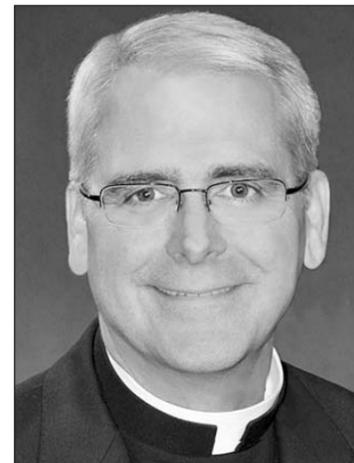
Durante estos últimos años hemos oído hablar mucho de la Nueva Evangelización. ¿Qué hay de nuevo en ella? Sin duda, no propone un nuevo Evangelio, “Jesucristo es el mismo ayer, hoy y siempre.” (Heb 13:8). Más bien es nueva en su ardor, métodos y expresión. Su objetivo es presentar el Evangelio de manera convincente que corresponden a las preguntas, las circunstancias y los desafíos de hoy. La Nueva Evangelización propone que cada Católico profundice en su propia fe, que tenga confianza en el Evangelio y esté dispuesto a compartir el Evangelio con los demás. Es un llamado a no sólo conocer nuestra fe, sino a ser testigos de Jesucristo dondequiera que estemos.

Esencialmente, la Nueva Evangelización y el Año de la Fe es un “una invitación a una auténtica y renovada conversión al Señor, único Salvador del mundo.” (Porta Fidei 6). El Año de la Fe ofrece una oportunidad para que cada uno de nosotros renovemos nuestro compromiso bautismal al vivir los momentos cotidianos de nuestras vidas con fe, esperanza y amor como testigos de Cristo.

En la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City estaremos

poniendo a su disposición una variedad de recursos para el Año de la Fe. Estampas y carteles serán distribuidos en cada una de las parroquias. Nuestro periódico el Sooner Catholic y nuestra página sitio web tendrán presentaciones especiales que saldrán con regularidad. Nuestros departamentos en la Arquidiócesis están tomando el Año de la Fe como el tema de la programación ordinaria a lo largo de este año. Los pastores están siendo alentados a hacer uso de los diversos recursos que se ponen a su disposición para las actividades parroquiales. Actualmente estoy realizando una serie de sesiones de escucha alrededor de la Arquidiócesis, como parte de un proceso para desarrollar una visión mutuamente compartida y prioridades pastorales para la Arquidiócesis. Esto será una parte esencial de la experiencia y de los resultados del Año de la Fe que nos guiará hacia el futuro en el transcurso de los próximos años.

Por favor, únense a mí en la oración por una abundante efusión de la gracia de un nuevo Pentecostés durante este Año de la Fe, mientras que juntos, nos lanzamos a lo más profundo.



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Vivencias de Fe

¡Los que se Aman se Hablan!

La comunicación es esencial para las relaciones humanas. Aun más, sin comunicación no hay amor. Amor maduro, amor real y verdadero no puede existir en lo meramente abstracto, no puede existir sin alguna forma de expresión. El amor tiene que comunicarse, el amor necesita expresarse y darse a conocer.

Este indispensable dialogo de amor, ésta comunicación de un corazón a otro, no solo se realiza de un ser humano a otro. Este dialogo de amor también se lleva a cabo entre cada ser humano y Dios mismo, y es entonces que se le llama oración. Mientras no es de extrañarse que nuestras vidas de oración tengan elementos comunes no se puede negar que cada persona tiene un estilo, o manera, personal de hablar con Dios. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica nos dice, en su párrafo número 2672, algo importante sobre este punto:

...*Ciertamente hay tantos caminos en la oración como orantes, pero es el mismo Espíritu el que actúa en todos y con todos. En la comunión en el Espíritu Santo la oración cristiana es oración en la Iglesia.*

El Cardenal Francis Arinze, Prefecto de la Congregación para el Culto Divino y la Disciplina de los Sacramentos, nos enriqueció con unas palabras sobre tres tipos de oración que quisiera compartir con ustedes.

I. Oración Litúrgica es la oración oficial de la Iglesia en la cual Jesucristo es el orante principal y en donde Él asocia a su Iglesia con Él. La celebración eucarística es la fuente y cima de esta clase de oración.



Por Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.

II. Oraciones Comunitarias son como el Via Crucis, el Santo Rosario, diversas devociones a la Santísima Virgen o de los santos, oraciones particulares de órdenes o congregaciones religiosas, asociaciones o movimientos.

III. Oración Personal es la oración de un individuo. Brota de lo más profundo del corazón de la persona.

El 15 de octubre la Iglesia celebra el Memorial de Santa Teresa de Jesús, Virgen y Doctora de la Iglesia. Su título de Doctora no es por sus muchos estudios sino por la profundidad de sus escritos. ¡Felicidades a todos los Carmelitas de Oklahoma! En su libro Camino de Perfección la gran santa del pueblo de Ávila, hablando de la oración personal, nos dice en el capítulo 4, #9 ...guarda el silencio cada una por sí, y acostumbrarse a soledad es gran cosa para la oración; y pues éste ha de ser el cimiento de esta casa...

Hermanos y hermanas, démosle gracias a Dios por las oportunidades que tenemos en la Arquidiócesis para crecer en la vida de oración personal, comunitaria y sobre todo la liturgia de la Santa Misa. Nuestra mejor oportunidad para nuestro dialogo de amor con Dios.

Nota del Editor: El Sr. Pedro A. Moreno, O.P., MRE, Director de la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City, es graduado de la Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico y fue profesor de teología en la Universidad de Dallas. El Sr. Moreno es casado, tiene tres hijas y está disponible para actividades de formación en las parroquias de la Arquidiócesis. Para más información pueden contactar a la a la Sra. Edith Miranda emiranda@archokc.org.

Nueva Evangelización del Mundo: En la Agenda del Sínodo se Incluye a América

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — Cuando el beato Juan Pablo II inició el proyecto que él llamó una nueva evangelización, dijo bien claramente que la meta era sobretodo la de revivir la fe antigua en un Occidente en donde se alimentaba una atmósfera sin fe: “países y naciones en donde la religión y la vida cristiana habían florecido,” ahora se veían amenazados por “un constante aumento de indiferencia religiosa, secularismo y ateísmo.”

Esas palabras se toman generalmente para referirse al corazón tradicional de la cristiandad, Europa. Y sin embargo, el papa Benedicto XVI, que ha abrazado con entusiasmo la iniciativa de su predecesor, ha expresado con toda claridad que la nueva evange-

lización se extiende a otras sociedades seculares de Occidente, incluyendo los Estados Unidos. El Sínodo mundial de obispos, dedicado a la nueva evangelización, se llevará a cabo en el Vaticano del 7 al 28 de octubre.

“Parece que nos acercamos al punto último de equilibrio en donde encontramos un ateísmo militante creciente y secularismo en nuestra sociedad,” dijo Carl Anderson, caballero supremo de los Caballeros de Colón, que asistirá al Sínodo como observador. “Hemos podido evitar el descenso que se ha experimentado en Europa, pero la pregunta es cuánto tiempo lo podremos hacer. Este Sínodo puede ser la mejor oportunidad para lograr una respuesta.”

La hermana Sara Butler, profesora de teología en la Universidad de Santa María del Lago en Mundelein, Illinois., que fungirá como experta en el Sínodo, dijo que la interpretación de “tolerancia” hace que se vea “cualquier intento de compartir la fe... como una especie de ‘imperialismo’” y que los medios de difusión de los Estados Unidos celebran una idea de libertad definida como “libertad sin restricción de cualquier clase.”

Esto hace que muchos católicos “se queden avergonzados de revelar su fe, y mucho menos de compartirla con otras personas,” dijo la hermana Butler, que pertenece a la congregación de las Misioneras Siervas de la Santísima Trinidad y que formará

parte de la Comisión Teológica Internacional del Vaticano.

Para cambiar tal actitud se necesita una instrucción substancial en los conceptos de fe, dijo el experto en sínodos Ralph Martin, presidente de Renewal Ministries en Ann Arbor, Michigan, y director del programa de graduados en la nueva evangelización en el Seminario del Sagrado Corazón en Detroit. “No es suficiente la ortodoxia; en realidad necesitamos una infusión de Dios y del Espíritu Santo,” dijo Martin, que ha estado a la cabeza del movimiento de renovación carismática desde la década del 1970. “Uno no puede tener una nueva evangelización sin contar con un nuevo Pentecostés.”

¿Qué son los Talleres de Oración Y Vida?

Los talleres de Oración y Vida son una nueva forma de evangelización, más viva y con una visión más positiva de lo que se ha mostrado siempre.

Es una presentación más vibrante y activa de Jesús, que posee una mayor adaptación a las necesidades de la sociedad actual y a lo que realmente las personas necesitan.

Está basada en el amor y en lo que éste es capaz de realizar, no en el temor ni en el castigo.

Por eso decimos con pleno convencimiento que los Talleres de Oración y Vida son una respuesta al mundo de hoy.

1. Basado en la Biblia: Talleres de Oración y Vida es un método de evangelización que está íntegramente basado en la Palabra. El eje de cada sesión es la lectura y meditación de la Palabra. Para todos los días de la semana, durante cuatro meses, se les señala a los participantes, textos del Antiguo y Nuevo Testamento para meditarlos y rezarlos en sus casas, con una pedagogía especial, con un maravilloso instrumento que se llama Pequeña Pedagogía para meditar y vivir la Palabra.

2. Con Cristo como centro: Jesucristo es, en los Talleres, el principio, el centro y la meta para pensar, sentir, actuar y amar como Jesús, con la eterna pregunta en el corazón: "¿Qué haría Jesús en mi lugar?"

3. Fuente de vocaciones apostólicas: toda experiencia acaba en testimonio. El taller quiere ser no sólo escuela de formación, sino también escuela apostólica, de tal manera que los participantes, una vez constituidos en discípulos y amigos de Jesús, participen directamente de la misión sacerdotal, profética y regia de Cristo Jesús, y donde quiera que se hagan presentes, implanten el Reino de Dios con su presencia, conducta, palabra y

acción. De esta manera los Talleres se convierten en instrumentos de vitalización de la Iglesia local.

4. Servicio exclusivamente laical: los Talleres, convencidos de que sólo con una autonomía completa tendrían un laicado maduro, apostaron desde el principio por los laicos, entregándoles la responsabilidad integral para organizar y gobernar el servicio de los Talleres en el mundo entero. Siendo un servicio eminentemente laical, siempre hemos insistido firmemente en el propósito de establecer y mantener unas relaciones fluidas y afectuosas con los Obispos y Párrocos.

5. Carácter totalmente práctico y experimental: el Taller no es una doctrina; tampoco una teoría o teología. El taller funciona a base de orientaciones de vida y puesta en práctica. Se trata de una pedagogía experimental, tanto durante la sesión como en la práctica semanal en casa. Orar no consiste en una reflexión intelectual, es una actividad vital, y las cosas de la vida se aprenden viviéndolas, practicándolas. Por este carácter práctico hablamos de Taller, porque así como cualquier taller se aprende trabajando y se trabaja aprendiendo, en nuestro caso, orando se aprende a orar.

6. Actividad orante pasó a paso y adaptada a la persona: la oración, además de gracia, es arte. Y como arte, está sometida a un aprendizaje metódico y progresivo. Por eso nos hemos esforzado por colocar en la organización interna del Taller objetivos claros, una pedagogía progresiva, contenidos y mucha disciplina.

7. Taller liberador y sanador a través del conocimiento de Dios y de uno: a través de una vivencia del

Abandono, el participante va llegando a una profunda paz; y por medio de mensajes y ejercicios, el participante llega paulatinamente a liberarse de tristezas y angustias, sanarse de las heridas, superar complejos y miedos, recuperando el sentido de la vida y la alegría de vivir.

8. Transformación a la luz de la palabra: el Taller toma al participante y, a la luz de la Palabra, lo introduce en un complejo entramado de reflexión, oración, mensaje evangélico y análisis de la propia vida. En este contexto, el participante, casi sin darse cuenta, es arrastrado a una transformación vital. El bien y el mal nacen en el corazón. El taller aborda al corazón y lo transforma en un baluarte de armonía, serenidad y paz. Desde el corazón convertido estos dones se irradian a la familia, y de la familia a la sociedad. Quien transforma un corazón, transforma al mundo.

9. Compromiso con los pobres: Cristo quiso identificarse de manera preferente con los necesitados de todos los tiempos (Mateo 25, 31-46). Son los pobres el lugar privilegiado donde Dios se manifiesta. Los Talleres quieren hacer lo que Jesús hizo, sus preferidos serán nuestros preferidos, sus objetivos, nuestros objetivos. También nosotros queremos bajar de la montaña de la oración y hacernos presentes con la Palabra y la presencia, preferentemente en el pueblo de los últimos, para defender a los débiles, liberar a los cautivos y anunciar un año de gracia y salvación, como dice Isaías.

10. Promoción de valores del evangelio. Misión Este servicio de los Talleres de Oración y Vida, reconocido y probado por la Santa Sede en

1997 y confirmado, según Decreto de Aprobación dado por el Concejo Pontificio para los laicos el 4 de octubre de 2002, constituyen la cumbre y coronación de toda la actividad apostólica del Padre Larrañaga, por su fuerza expansiva, por sus frutos y por el alto aprecio hacia los mismos, manifestado por la Santa Sede y los Obispos.

Con más de 16.000 Guías actuando en el mundo entero, a través de los PLW, están enseñando a la gente a orar, de una manera experimental y progresiva, introduciéndolos en la oración litúrgica y en la vida sacramental.

La misión del Guía es la de implantar a Dios vivo en los corazones, y al mismo tiempo abrir un manantial de paz, de fortaleza y de alegría en estos mismos corazones. Por un lado es una tarea eminentemente evangelizadora y, por otro lado, es una tarea eminentemente humanitaria.

Padre Ignacio Larrañaga, Fundador Ignacio Larrañaga, sacerdote franciscano, capuchino

Ignacio Larrañaga, sacerdote franciscano, capuchino originario del País Vasco, ha desarrollado una amplia labor animadora y evangelizadora durante 25 años en América Latina, Norteamérica y Europa.

Los Encuentros de Experiencia de Dios, que se iniciaron en el Brasil en 1974, y los Talleres de Oración y Vida, que datan de 1984, transmiten de manera pedagógica su mensaje y se han convocado a lo largo de los años a decenas de miles de personas.

El Padre Larrañaga es asimismo autor de catorce libros que han alcanzado numerosas ediciones y han sido traducidos a 10 idiomas

Si quieres conocer más sobre los Talleres de Oración y Vida, y saber en donde se imparten, consulta la página Web www.tovpil.org



Cortas Enseñanzas de Apologética Católica No.3

Un saludo querido hermano católico. Una vez más, nos encontramos para continuar estas cortas enseñanzas de apologética; pidiendo a nuestro Señor su luz y auspicio en esta tarea.

Hace quince días, en la última edición de *Sooner Catholic*; habíamos dejado expuesto cuales eran los enemigos que hoy acosan y atacan ferozmente y casi rapaz a la Iglesia. No sería redundante recordarlos. A propósito, reconozco omití uno y muy importante como es el secularismo. Recordemos pues hermano y hermana estos enemigos y tengámoslos presente: EL ATEISMO; EL ANTITEISMO; EL RELATIVISMO; EL SUBJETIVISMO MORAL; LA NEW AGE; EL Gnosticismo y LOS GRUPOS PROSELITISTAS PROTESTANTES. Sin olvidar por supuesto el SECULARISMO.

Pretendo ahora definirlos, conceptualizarlos uno por uno a través de las distintas ediciones del *Sooner Catholic*; sin adentrarme mucho en ellos. Cosa que se hará de forma más precisa en el futuro Dios mediante. Por lo pronto, se trata de poner en contexto al lector de manera somera sobre las ideologías que van en contra del cristianismo y más concretamente de la Iglesia; así poder entender mas

fácilmente como operan estas ideologías y como atacan la fe del creyente; el de a pie, el humilde, el sencillo, el que no conoce de doctrina, ni sabe mucho de religión; ese tal vez que es de misa dominical, no mas; de pronto como su hija, o su primo o seguramente usted mismo.

En la medida que se conocen las ideologías, las filosofías, los planteamientos racionalistas modernos y posmodernos, descarnados de la dimensión espiritual; deshumanizando a la persona, será más sencillo abordarlos, comprenderlos, enfréntalos para contrarrestarlos. El católico debe estar seguro de ser hijo amado de Dios; debe estar totalmente convencido que Dios ama profundamente al hombre a la mujer. A Usted, a mí. Que todos poseemos la misma dignidad, y que ningún planteamiento o razonamiento que excluya a Dios puede ser totalmente valido y verdadero; eso sería un humanismo frío, solo basado en la razón y el sentido común.

Comencemos definiendo, ATEISMO: De una manera elemental, se entiende este, como la no creencia en Dios o en seres sobrenaturales. El ateísmo entonces, no concibe a Dios, lo descarta, es una hipótesis no nece-

saria para vivir. Este es el primer enemigo de la Iglesia, no considerar a Dios es no considerar a Cristo y no considerar a Cristo es no considerar y descartar de plano a la Iglesia que el mismo fundó. "El



Por Padre Raúl Sánchez

que cree en mí, cree en aquel que me ha enviado." Por lo tanto, no creer en aquel que envió a Jesús, es no creer en Dios. ¿Y si no se cree en Dios, en Cristo, en la Iglesia y todo lo que ella enseña, vive y celebra? ¿en que o en quien va a creer? ¿Qué sentido tiene entonces la vida? ¿Para que entonces tanto sufrir, trabajar, tener hijos, gozar etc. si al final todo termina cuatro metros bajo tierra? ¿Entonces la muerte tiene la última palabra? ¿No fue más bien todo lo contrario que enseno Cristo? ¿No venció Cristo la muerte? ¿No nos da una vida en abundancia? ¿No nos da la vida eterna? Hoy día muchas personas han dejado de creer. ¿En qué creen? en ellos mismos como personas; en la razón; en la ciencia. La razón, la ciencia y la tecnología tienen la última palabra. Lo curioso es que la razón humana y la

enorme tecnología que poseemos en la actualidad no han podido darle solución a los problemas más hondos de la persona, especialmente los de sentido de vida y los morales. El ateísmo no le ha aportado nada positivo a la sociedad. Solo rebeldía y casi odio a la Iglesia, por pensar erradamente que Dios coarta la libertad y la limita, por creer que la Iglesia es enemiga de la ciencia. Ambas cosas totalmente falsas y sin base alguna desde la historia. La fe en Jesucristo es un don, pero ese don se puede sostener y fundamentar con la razón. Existen poderosas razones para creer en Dios, no solo por la apertura a lo trascendente, sino porque se puede probar y dar razón de dicha fe.

Con ateísmo o sin él, Dios no va a dejar de existir y de actuar en la historia.

El Padre Raúl Sánchez, original de Bogotá, Colombia incardinado a esta Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City es Pastor Asociado en la Parroquia San Pedro Apóstol en Guymon, Oklahoma. El Padre Sánchez es abogado en Derecho y Ciencias Políticas de la Universidad la Gran Colombia, de su país. Y es Licenciado en Teología del Seminario Mayor de Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

American Foreign Policy More About An Inward View

The foreign policy debate in the United States has often been peculiar, in that it's not infrequently about the United States rather than the world. Throughout history, other great powers have thought about world politics in terms of national interest. Americans typically think about the world through the prism of their image of America.

Thus in the 1920s and 1930s, American isolationists worried that American involvement in Europe's bloody affairs would corrupt the United States. Two generations later, Vietnam-era neo-isolationists argued precisely the opposite: a racist, imperialist, militarist America (often spelled "Amerika") was bad for the world. Good America, bad America: how Americans think about our own country has a profound effect on how we imagine U.S. foreign policy.

Thus in the wake of the recent murder of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, when an Egyptian demonstrator declares, "We hate America" and *USA Today* headlines his declaration above-the-fold on Page 1, Americans (and those who would lead us) quickly divided into two camps. One camp, while deploring the death of Ambassador Christopher Stevens, immediately begins apologizing for alleged American hostility and insensitivity toward

Islam. The other camp deplors intolerance but argues, correctly in my view, that stupidity is no excuse for homicide. This second camp also believes (again correctly, in my view) that the lethal attack on Ambassador Stevens and other U.S. diplomatic personnel had far more to do with the anniversary of 9/11, the cultural pathologies of the Arab Islamic world, the despair among jobless young Arab men, and a pattern of U.S. fecklessness in the face of Islamist aggression than it did with an idiotic film trailer shown on YouTube.

This division is mirrored in the Catholic debate about world politics, which reflects different understandings of the relative moral and prudential merits of conventional expressions of power (called "hard power") and new forms of non-violent political action ("soft power"). The soft power camp rightly points to the success of the non-violent Revolution of 1989 in central and Eastern Europe, and argues that, if soft power could crack the Berlin Wall and put an end to the greatest tyranny in history, there's absolutely no problem that the



By George Weigel

deft application of soft power can't solve.

While acknowledging the contributions of soft power to the communist crack-up, Catholic hard power advocates remember that a successful exercise in new modes of political action took place within a hard power context set by western re-armament under Reagan, Thatcher and Kohl and the Strategic Defense Initiative. In this view, soft power alone is no guarantor of peace, security and freedom, especially when the West is confronted with the irrational passions of jihadist Islam.

Despite the priority that the next president and Congress will necessarily give to fixing a broken U.S. economy, America's leaders must also confront grave foreign problems that will not be wished away.

The jihadists smell American weakness and irresolution, and history has taught us the harsh lessons of where that perception can lead.

Religious freedom is under assault throughout the world, with thousands of new martyrs being consecrated annually, yet the present administration has, for almost three years, refused to promote religious freedom in full (dumbing religious freedom down to a mere "freedom to worship" mantra) — just as the previous administration did not grasp that

the assault on Christians in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan was symptomatic of serious problems which any effort at democracy-building in those societies had to confront.

Russia has indeed accepted the present administration's offer of a "re-set," except the "re-set" is likely not what the administration anticipated: Vladimir Putin has "re-set" Russian grand strategy back to the days of Peter the Great, aiming to recover the losses incurred by the collapse of the Soviet Union. This, in turn, has created new pressures on the new democracies of central and Eastern Europe, some of whom are making accommodations with Moscow in light of a perceived American withdrawal from world leadership.

Americans are not imperialists by nature, yet history has thrust global responsibilities upon us. How shall we respond? From behind? Or from ahead?

*George Weigel
is a Distinguished Senior
Fellow of the Ethics and Public
Policy Center in Washington,
D.C. Weigel's column
is distributed by the
Denver Catholic Register,
the newspaper of the
Archdiocese of Denver.*

Evangelization

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"t." The big "T" Traditions are set in stone and will not change or cease to be, like the Canon of Scripture or our belief in the Most Holy Trinity. God has revealed this to us and this will not change. On the other hand, little "t" traditions are common in our devotional life. Examples of these little "t" traditions are some devotions and chaplets. These are good and beneficial but they are not at the same level as our belief in the Trinity or the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Evangelization with a big "E" is to share Jesus Christ specifically, explicitly and lovingly. Jesus Christ is our "evangel," our Good News, the heart of Evangelization. This sharing of Jesus Christ with others, to be true "Evangelization," must be the product of a deep personal encounter, and continued relationship with our Lord, Savior and Redeemer Himself. Jesus Christ is, and has to be, number one in our lives.

The one sharing Jesus Christ with others, the evangelizers, are like those who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. They could not stop giving public witness, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord." This made some very uncomfortable, evangelizing usually does. The Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus that day, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." In other words, "Get them to shut up!" Jesus said in reply, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!" There is hope! Even stones, like many of us at various times, can become evangelizers! (See *Luke 19, 40ss*)

On the other hand, evangelization with a little "e" can be any act that is done as a consequence of putting the Good News of Jesus Christ into action, of being a disciple — this is why almost anything could be evangelization. It could be as simple as handing out food to the poor or placing a bandage on a wound.

Both manners of evangelization are needed and important. At times the act of charity even needs to take precedence, but we must be careful to not abandon the explicit proclamation of Jesus Christ. Continued acts of charity by themselves, without the explicit proclamation of Jesus Christ as the ONLY Savior and Redeemer of the world, relegate us to mere humanitarians. Proclamation and charity are at times separate but they should never be divorced.

So ... Why do we need a New Evangelization? Why do we need to once again proclaim to others who Jesus Christ is? Simply stated, because we are surrounded by many signs that an abandonment of Christian values, and a truly Christian lifestyle, has occurred. Too many who were previously evangelized, introduced to and united to Jesus Christ, no longer practice the Christian faith. Many, who have been baptized, confirmed and even

receive the Eucharist, do not live lives which reflect Jesus Christ or His Gospel; many Christians are too secularized. This is why we need a New Evangelization.

The Old Evangelization was good. "Jesus Christ is the same Yesterday, Today and Forever." The problem is that there are too many signs that many "Christians" have dropped, to varying degrees, the Christ they once knew, loved and followed.

The New Evangelization is a new opportunity for many to not just be knowledgeable of Jesus Christ but to have our hearts and lives transformed by the power of His Love and Mercy. New Evangelization is one more chance for us to grow as reflections of the Light and Life of Christ in the world and be salt of the earth. New Evangelization is an opening for all of us to improve our ability to be the yeast that is spoken about in Matthew 13, and grow as truly joyful Christians.

Rosary

continued from Page 1

The rosary has been "a tried and true" way to strengthen Christian life in the home and to pass on the faith from generation to generation, he said.

"I'm convinced that when we talk about the New Evangelization, we need to talk about evangelization in the home," because unless one's

prayer life and faith are reignited there, "it ain't gonna' work, frankly," he said.

Reawakening the faith in the home is not only a very effective way to develop a solid base for evangelization, it also helps families during troubled times, he said.

Family Rosary International was started by the late Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton, who coined the phrase, "A family that prays together stays together," as part of his mission to build family unity through the daily recitation of the rosary.

"He knew that something really simple" like prayer in the home

could make a big difference in facing problems that seem so complex and difficult, Father Phalan said.

"Our work continues on his simple but profound insight, which is more important than ever, that family prayer can do so much in the face of the apparently chaotic situations of so many families," he said.

Calendar

OCTOBER

7 Rosary Oktoberfest starting at 12 p.m. The event begins with a 2-mile Fun Run/Walk through the Historic Gatewood Neighborhood and continues through the afternoon with great food, music and entertainment. For more information or to register for the 2-mile Fun Run, please contact Rosary School at 525-9272.

7 Birth Choice 20th Life Walk at Wiley Post Park (2021 S. Robinson Ave., along the Oklahoma River). Registration begins at 1 p.m., walk begins at 2 p.m. For more information or to register, go to www.watchfortheunborn.org and click on events.

7 The Byzantine Divine Liturgy at St. Mark in Norman, 5:30 p.m.

7-8 Julie Carrick, Catholic recording artist, will be at St. Paul in Del City on Oct. 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. for a special Mission Concert Living Our Catholic Creed. All are invited. Admission is free, a free will offering will be taken at the concert. See the posters and visit www.JulieCarrick.com.

9 Listening Session from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church (Leven Center), Enid.

10 Listening Session from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Peter Parish, Guymon.

12-14 Outdoor Retreat at Camp OLOG. This retreat is for fifth through 12th grade. Youth groups, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire USA, Ventures, individuals, leaders and parents.

12 Spiritual Women's Prayer Retreat. All ladies are invited to attend a half-day retreat sponsored by the OKC Central Region of Catholic Women at the Catholic Pastoral Center. There will be no charge to attend the retreat. The topic of the retreat will be "Deepening Our Spirituality" led by Rev. Bill Pruett. It will begin with fellowship from 9 a.m., with the retreat from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. You are invited to stay for lunch at noon. Lunch will be \$7. For more information, call Mary Ann Schmitt at 943-5758.

12 Bingo at St. Joseph Church in Norman. A light dinner is served at 6:30 p.m., first session begins at 7 p.m., second session at 8:30 p.m. It is \$5 for each pad of 10 games, plus door prizes and unlimited blackout purchases.

13 Arts and Crafts Fair. St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the church gym at 600 Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon. Admission is free.

13 Craft Festival at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 1100 N. Sara Road, Mustang.

14 Charismatic Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 3901 S.W. 29th St., Oklahoma City. For more information, call the church office at (405) 685-4806.

16 Listening Session from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Mary Church, Clinton.

17 Craft Fair at St. Ann Retirement Center from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

18 TAP into FAITH! This month's topic is The Death Penalty with Father M. Price Oswald, St. Wenceslaus, Prague. Single or married, ages 21-121. 8 p.m. talk, 8:45 p.m. Q & A. Stay afterwards for fellowship. Tap into Faith is held at Alfredo's Mexican Cafe located at the southwest corner of 33rd and Broadway, Edmond. For more information, contact Alison Giordano at 639-9787.

20 Fashion Show and Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Belle Isle Restaurant & Brewery, 1900 NW Expressway, 50 Penn Place, third floor. \$25 (includes lunch). Reservations are a must! RSVP to Mary Ann Schmitt at 943-5758 by Oct. 12. Fundraiser for OKC Central Region Council of Catholic Women.

20 St. Charles Catholic Singles Dance from 7 to 11 p.m. with mix and mingle from 7 to 8 p.m. Snacks are welcome. For further information, contact Al Frejo at 631-0763.

21-24 Yukon Parish Mission. All parishioners of the Archdiocese are invited to a parish mission featuring Dr. Jerry Galipeau. The four-day mission will include morning and evening sessions as well as opportunities for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and daily Mass attendance. All sessions will take place in Assumption Chapel. For more information, contact the parish office at 354-2743.

For a full description of each event and for more calendar listings, go to www.soonercatholic.org

Jobs Box

DRE Pre-K - 5

St. John the Baptist Parish in Edmond is looking for a DRE pre-K - 5, full-time position, Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings and occasional Saturday mornings. First Eucharist Prep, Reconciliation Prep and VBS. Available 12-31-12.

Experience, Pastoral Degree and DRE certification desired or enrollment in pastoral program. Submit resume by Oct. 15 to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, P.O. Box 510, Edmond, Okla. 73034, Attention: Father Ackerman or Dr. Harry Kocurek.

Evening/Weekend Monitors at Group Home

Birth Choice is looking for evening/weekend monitors for a part-time/full-time basis for our group home. We can be flexible with other work or school schedules. This position will be working with the

women and children at Rose Home, monitoring the facility, making sure basic needs are met, rules are enforced and general procedures are followed. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Roberts, Rose Home director, at 361-9172, or eroberts@birthchoice.org.



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kevin.pierce@kofc.org

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Trey Welker
Assistant GA
405-850-4092
Trey.Welker@kofc.org
Councils: 3113, 3220, 8204



Rob Blakely
405-243-8324
Robert.Blakely@kofc.org
Councils: 916, 1038, 1044, 1053, 5266, 13366, 949, 1533, 1537, 1903, 2974, 3309, 3336, 4042, 9334, 11135



Troy Snow
918-856-9303
Troy.Snow@kofc.org
Councils: 1104, 1302, 1677, 10388, 11194, 11734, 11959, 13313, 14248, 775, 4519, 7392, 9333, 14106



Chad McAuliff
918-284-0685
Chad.McAuliff@kofc.org
Councils: 6606, 962, 4804, 9668, 4721, 7395, 8433, 13828, 3167, 14448, 14220, 11633



Ric Moore
405-641-9582
Richard.Moore@kofc.org
Councils: 6477, 10822, 11237, 12669



Chris O'Lague
405-343-9661
Chris.OLague@kofc.org
Councils: 1018, 5160, 8523, 9901, 11648, 12108, 12605, 12819, 3556, 5168, 5354, 12382

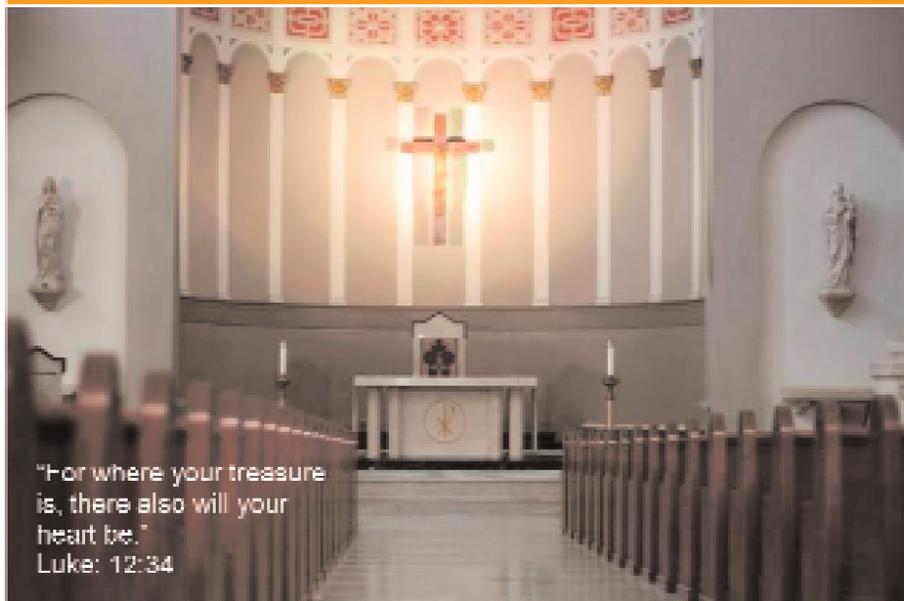


Jody Snowden
405-474-6192
Jody.Snowden@kofc.org
Councils: 767, 3101, 4601, 5440, 6478, 12518, 14744, 8633



Michael Calhoun
405-990-0572
Michael.Calhoun@kofc.org
Councils: 965, 1287, 5396, 5759, 4026, 4598, 11909, 4889, 9583, 9900, 2604

Wills and Trusts Week 2012 in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City



"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."
Luke: 12:34

THE FINANCIAL DECISIONS YOU MAKE TODAY WILL DEFINE YOUR LEGACY

Come to Wills and Trusts Week 2012, October 15-18:
Informative and spirit-filled sessions on Estate Planning for Catholics.

Decisions about your estate plans are some of the most important you will make. Are you prepared? We can help. Catholics from all parishes are invited to attend one of the seminars during Wills and Trusts Week, October 15-18.

The Local Parishes listed here, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma — financial stewards of the Catholic faith in Oklahoma — and Catholic Charities — providers of vital services to those in need, combined to present this special program of information and prayer at this very important time in your life.

Stewardship: Giving Back to God — In a call to all Catholics, Archbishop Paul Coakley said, "A Christian steward is someone who receives God's gifts gratefully, cultivates them responsibly, shares them generously, and returns them with increase to the Lord. Planning is an essential part of stewardship and I encourage all Catholics to participate."

Monday Evening, October 15
7-9 p.m., Christ the King Church
8005 Dorset Drive, Oklahoma City

Wednesday Evening, October 17
7-9 p.m., St. Joseph Church
421 E. Acres, Norman

Tuesday Evening, October 16
7-9 p.m., St. John Nepomuk Church
600 S. Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon

Thursday Evening, October 18
7-9 p.m., St. Francis Xavier Church
110 N. Madison Street, Enid

Sessions will be presented by local Catholic estate planning attorneys

Admission is free. Reservations are not necessary but welcome. Refreshments will be served. You don't have to be a parishioner to attend a session at that parish.

Call, email or go online to make your reservation:
(405) 721-4115 mmills@archokc.org www.cfook.org

Sponsored by the local parishes and the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma and Catholic Charities.



Grand Knight Neal Hubbard presents an oversized check to St. Mary's Principal Paolo Dulcamara and teacher Richard Little. Accompanying Hubbard were Knights Raul Mendez Jr. and Harold Walker. (Photo courtesy)

Knights Fund Books for Lawton School

By Emily Kindiger
For the Sooner Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic School in Lawton recently received Catholic textbooks with the help of its local Knights of Columbus.

St. Mary's Principal Paolo Joseph Dulcamara said three classes received new textbooks for this school year, and while researching, he had trouble finding "authentic Catholic textbooks." After "hours and hours" of searching, he said he found Catholic Textbook Project.

They present information "in a very organic, natural fashion ... (with books) that celebrate our Catholicity."

For example, he said all social studies books present a history of western civilization, but west is only a direction. He said it should be the history of Christian civilization because "they formed the world we know of today. It was built upon a Christian civilization."

Catholic Textbook Project is "honest about history," he said. "They approach history in a narrative format."

But "textbooks are expensive," Dulcamara said, so he talked

with the Holy Family Catholic Church's Knights of Columbus about helping with funding.

"We're very excited to help the school," said Grand Knight Neal Hubbard.

He said they participated in the Catholic Textbook's Textbook Angel program, and held a bingo fundraiser in August to raise the funds for one classroom's books.

A set of textbooks costs \$1,500 and includes 25 student books, a teacher's guide and media materials, Hubbard said. The Knights raised the \$1,500 for geography and social studies for St. Mary's sixth- and seventh-grade class.

"I'm so thankful to the Knights of Columbus for assisting us in this ... (The books) aren't slanted," said Dulcamara. "The teacher (Richard Little) loves them and he's not Catholic. (They give) the tools to incorporate the Catholic faith into teaching ... I've been pleased with everything in the books. They provide excellent academics through the perfect 20/20 lens of Jesus."

For more information on the Catholic Textbook Project, visit www.catholictextbook-project.com.

Prayer, Service Fuel Annual St. Mary's Food Drive

By Emily Kindiger
For the Sooner Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic School in Lawton teaches its children to combine prayer with service during its annual food drive.

St. Mary's director of campus ministries Robert Quinnet said the entire student body, all 141 children from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, participated in the Oklahoma-wide Students Against Hunger food drive. St. Mary's drive ran from

Sept. 19-27, and 868 pounds of food were collected and donated to the Lawton Food Bank. The students also gained \$155 in monetary donations.

"It gets the students involved in the community first and foremost," Quinnet said.

He said each student was given four sacks and a slip of paper telling what they were doing. The kids then went to their friends and neighbors to collect donations.

"It's professional and presents

itself very nicely to neighbors and the community," showing St. Mary's is not only academic, but also promotes service to the needy, he said.

St. Mary's Students Against Hunger food drive differs from other schools' drives because "we connect what we do with prayer," Quinnet said. We did "a novena to St. Vincent de Paul during the food drive," and invited the St. Vincent group at Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton to participate and have their work recognized on Sept. 27.

St. Mary's Principal Paolo Joseph Dulcamara said he "has been very pleased" with the students' efforts.

"It gives kids a chance to make a gift of themselves," he said, and the novena ties in "a reflection of Jesus Christ ... (It shows) prayer and action joined together for the sake of others."

"It lets the community know that we as a Catholic school are not just a place of academics," he said. It gives kids the chance to "evangelize in a real, concrete way."