

Helicopter crash prompts ongoing outreach

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Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting to offer 24/7 programming

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Cardinal elector: Conclave 'opens up a new future'

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet said the conclave “opens up a new future” for the church and is a responsibility the cardinals see as “their main task.”

In a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. interview March 4, he said the cardinals are all considering the meaning of the “extraordinary decision of Pope Benedict” to resign and understanding that decision’s impact on the church.

When asked if he considered himself a possible contender for pope, the Canadian cardinal, one of the 115 cardinal electors, said he is “just trying to live ... day after day in obedience to God and his word,” fulfilling his duties and leaving the next day to God.

He said all of the cardinals have to be ready to take on the role as leader of the church.

“We have to be, to some extent, prepared,” he said, but noted that as far as thinking about it personally, he would “cross the river when I get to the bridge, and we are not there.”

Cardinal Ouellet, who heads the Congregation for Bishops, noted that there had been a focus on European popes for centuries but that today it would not be a surprise for a pope to come from Asia, Africa or America.

“This discernment (of who will be pope) will be quite unexpected,” he added, which has always “been the case in a way.” He said the cardinals did not “expect the election of John XXIII, and we did not expect the election of (Cardinal) Ratzinger.”

The Canadian cardinal also reiterated the often-repeated saying about the conclave: “He who goes in a pope comes out a cardinal.”

With that in mind, he said even though his name might be circulating in the media as a possible papal contender, he is “very careful to go beyond this sort of media expectations.”

In response to a question about the church’s response to the sex abuse scandal, the cardinal said: “We have learned from our mistakes,” stressing the need to “listen carefully to victims” and focus first on them.

The cardinal, who has spoken out about evils of clerical sex abuse, was among a group of bishops who led a penitential vigil in Rome last year asking for forgiveness for failing to protect children and serving instead as an “instrument of evil against them” when Catholic officials shielded perpetrators from justice.

He told the CBC that he thinks the church may have apologized enough, but he is not sure.

He also noted that the issue of abuse is not just a “Catholic problem; it is a human problem” and hopes that efforts to combat it by the Catholic Church, although not perfect, “could be also of example for others in society.”



Cardinals enter the Sistine Chapel at the beginning of the conclave at the Vatican in this April 18, 2005, file photo. (CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via Catholic Press Photo)

How they sit

Cardinals are divided into a three-tier internal hierarchy: cardinal bishops, cardinal priests and cardinal deacons. It’s the seating order for the general congregations in the Vatican synod hall. It will be the order they line up in for the procession at the Mass for the election of a new pope.

The precedence is the order the cardinal electors will process into the Sistine Chapel for the conclave, the order that determines where they will sit inside and the order in which they will cast their ballots.

Catholic News Service

Cardinals discuss needs of Church before conclave

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The College of Cardinals used the March 4 and 5 pre-conclave meetings to discuss needs of the church.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, could not give specific details of the discussions because he is bound by an oath of secrecy to give only general information. He said March 5 the subjects were “broad and varied,” and included “the activity

of the Holy See and its various dicasteries, their relationships with the bishops, the renewal of the church in the light of the Second Vatican Council, the situation of the church and the needs for new evangelization in the world, including in different cultural situations.”

He noted that by the end of the March 5 session, 33 cardinals “from every continent” had addressed the group. The meeting was attended by 148 cardinals.

There was a presentation that day

about the modifications Pope Benedict XVI made to the conclave rules, allowing the cardinals to begin a conclave less than 15 days after the end of a pontificate.

Father Lombardi also announced that the Sistine Chapel, where the conclave will take place, was officially closed to tourists beginning the afternoon of March 5 so workers could begin preparing it. The major work involves putting in a false floor so there are no steps, then putting in

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Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

"Feed My Sheep"

We have entered into an important period between pontificates known as the *sede vacante* or interregnum. As I write this column, the cardinals are gathering in Rome in preparation for the upcoming conclave during which they will elect the next successor of Peter and Vicar of Christ.

The cardinals are already engaged in an important series of meetings during which, both formally and informally, they are getting to know one another and learning about the challenges and opportunities facing the Church in various parts of the world. These meetings will continue until the conclave begins. At that point, only the cardinal electors, those under the age of 80, will be sequestered for the work of prayerfully choosing the next pope under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. These are days of great consequence for the Catholic Church and for humanity. Our task is to pray and fast for the cardinal electors and for the one whom they will choose and who is already known to the Lord.

Under the glare of intense media attention and global scrutiny, a great deal of energy is being expended speculating about who the next pope might be. What does the Church need? Should he be a young man, thus pointing to the likelihood of a long pontificate? Will he be an Italian or will the cardinals look beyond Europe for the first time in the 2000-year history of the Catholic Church? Some say what is needed is a pope who can manage and reform the huge bureaucracy of the Roman curia. Others focus on making sure the finances of the Vatican are in good order. Undoubtedly, the next pope will have to continue addressing the consequences of the terrible clergy sexual abuse crisis that began to rock the Church in 2002.

One thing is certain: There is no going backward. The papacy of the third millennium has to maintain its recently recovered evangelical focus. Good management and sound organization, as important as these might be, are not enough.

Beginning in the wake of the Second Vatican Council

with Pope Paul VI, but especially during the pontificates of Blessed John Paul II and Benedict XVI, the pope has moved beyond the walls of the Vatican to embody his duty as chief shepherd of the Universal Church in a new way. The pope is the Church's chief evangelist. Blessed John Paul II was a global pilgrim, not because he loved travel, but because the Petrine ministry of the Twenty-first Century demands it. Social media is certainly a valuable tool, but it cannot replace personal presence and witness. More people saw and heard Blessed John Paul II during his apostolic visits around the world than had ever seen any other human being.

Time will tell what the rich legacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI may be, but one thing is already crystal clear. Through his preaching, teaching and writing he focused our attention on Jesus Christ. He reminded us that what is primary is friendship with Jesus and communion with him in and through his Church. The essential path for Catholics is the path of discipleship. It is from this intimate communion with Jesus in the Holy Spirit that the New Evangelization is born. We are called to become missionary disciples. In our time, we are witnessing the Catholic Church's rediscovery of its evangelical mission for the sake of the world.

The next pope will most likely continue to lead the Church along the path that the Holy Spirit has marked out for us during the watershed events of the Second Vatican Council and these recent and remarkable pontificates. We should not expect any rupture with the past but rather a grace-filled continuity that is rooted in the Gospel mandate Christ gave to Peter for the sake of the Church: "Feed my sheep." (Jn 21:17).



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley



**Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley**

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Volume 35, Number 5
Sooner Catholic Newspaper

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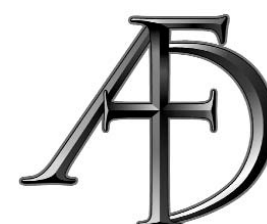
The Sooner Catholic (USPS 066-910) is published biweekly except for once in July and twice in December by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The newspaper is not responsible for unsolicited material.

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

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



The Sooner Catholic is supported through the Archdiocesan Development Fund.

Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

March 10 — Confirmation, 11 a.m., St. Mary Assumption Church, Wakita
March 11 — USCCB Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth Committee Meeting, Washington, D.C.
March 12 — Department Heads Meeting, 10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 12 — Mass, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 12 — Finance Council Meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 13 — School Mass and classroom visits, 8:30 a.m., Holy Trinity School, Okarche
March 13 — Confirmation, 7 p.m., Saint Joseph Church, Tonkawa
March 15 — 135th Anniversary Mass, Subiaco Academy, Subiaco, Ark.
March 16 — Confirmation, 2 p.m., Saint Patrick Church, Oklahoma City
March 17 - March 19 — Visit to Seminarians, Saint Meinrad School of Theology
March 20 — Priests Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 21 — Mass, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 22 — Annual Catholic Pastoral Center Staff Lenten Retreat, Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Camp (CPC Offices Closed All Day)
March 24 — Palm Sunday, 10 a.m., Our Lady's Cathedral

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✓ The March 8 **Green Tie Gala** featured world-renowned fiddler Kyle Dillingham, an auction and good-natured socializing over dinner at the Skirvin Hilton -- all in support of the vital work of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

✓ The Birth Choice "**Life of the Party**" fundraiser March 9 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum was also a gala event, with dinner, dancing and an auction.

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the Archdiocese of
Oklahoma City



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Saint Ann's Nursing Home staffers garner praise, gratitude for response to helicopter crash

By Tina Korbe Dzurisin
The Sooner Catholic

The predawn morning of Feb. 22 was cold and clear in Oklahoma City. The day before had been frigid and foggy, the grass laced with a light snow, but, for that Friday, weather forecasters predicted sunshine and slightly warmer temperatures.

On Archdiocesan property between Britton and Rockwell, most of the residents of Saint Ann's Nursing Home and Saint Ann's Retirement Center still slept. The staff -- awake and alert -- performed routine tasks and prepared for the shift change that was to take place at about 7 a.m.

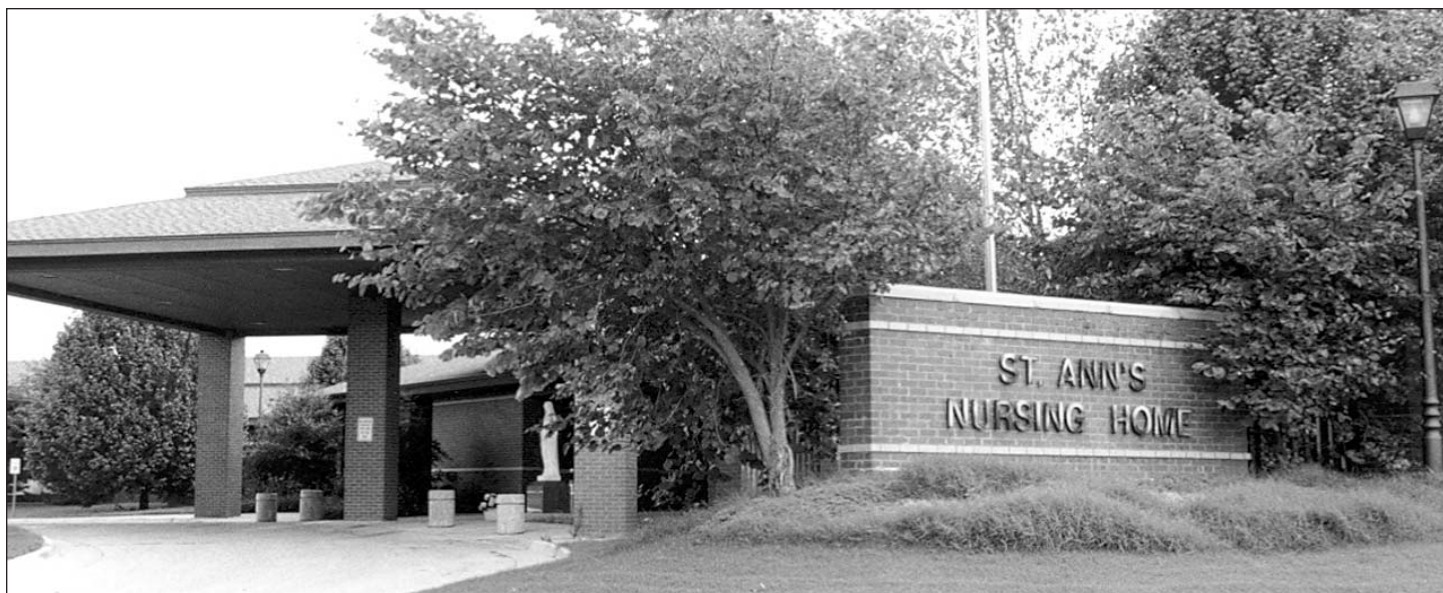
Then, around 5:45 a.m., a medical helicopter crashed into the street between the nursing home and retirement center. With that initial explosion, the quiet, cold and dark morning became raucous, scorching and bright.

Within minutes, seven staff members of the Saint Ann's Nursing Home rushed to help the victims of the crash. They were too late to even see — let alone save — pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, who both died in the crash, but a third crew member, Billy Wynne, called out and they heard his voice.

Three of the seven staffers came closer, braving the fire to ultimately rescue Wynne from the wreckage. Minutes later, more jet fuel exploded.

Soon, the property was swarming with people — firefighters, paramedics and investigators from the Federal Aviation Administration, among others.

The fire out and Wynne on his way



St. Ann's Nursing Home. Sooner Catholic file photo.

to the hospital, the little community of disaster response professionals waited for representatives from the Medical Examiner's Office to arrive to extricate the bodies from the wreckage.

In the meantime, Oklahoma City Fire Department Chaplain Ted Wilson sought out Saint Ann's courageous first responders — who had already related their testimony to investigators — to minister to them as he could.

"I just let them talk and tell their story and tell about their emotions," Wilson said.

What he heard inspired him.

"They reached into fire without gloves or equipment to pull (Wynne) out," Wilson said. "We (firefighters) do it with gloves and all that gear, but they didn't. They risked their lives. We were able to get there and take over, but, had they not done what they did, he would not have been alive."

Sister Kathy Olsen, a licensed clinical social worker who works at the Catholic Pastoral Center, arrived at Saint Ann's Nursing Home as the first responders were talking to Chaplain Wilson, and Monica Palmer and Sister Betty Kehoe of the Catholic Charities Saint Joseph's Counseling Center arrived shortly thereafter.

"Some of the residents also needed some attention," Olsen said. "Some of them had seen the fire or heard the crash and they needed to talk to someone. An event like this (amplifies) many of their ordinary concerns and frustrations. Some of them were also confused, so we wanted to calm them. I also wanted to talk to the first responders. I just wanted to thank them for their courage."

In the days to come, many people — from Wynne's family to several local reporters — expressed a desire to do

the same. The Saint Ann's responders were steadfast in their refusal to claim the spotlight for themselves.

"They're very heroic; they're not looking for glory in any way," Olsen said. "They're 'salt of the earth' people. They were working off the instinct of their heart. Not only do they provide care inside, but they rush to help outside. You hear about 'onlookers.' They weren't onlookers. They were on-doers."

Palmer echoed Olsen.

"They were selfless," she said. "The natural response when something like this happens is to run away from danger. Some people run to it, and I'm in awe of that. For someone to put that aside and run toward someone who needed help is incredible."

Tina Korbe Dzurisin is the director of communications for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Helicopter crash prompts ongoing outreach to those affected

By Tina Korbe Dzurisin
The Sooner Catholic

The professional and personal response to a Feb. 22 crash of an EagleMed helicopter on Archdiocesan property continues, as helicopter crew member Billy Wynne recovers in a Dallas hospital, friends and family mourn the losses of pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, and counselors assist the Saint Ann's Nursing Home staff and residents who witnessed the crash.

Wynne, the lone crew member to survive the crash, was transferred from OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City to Parkland Hospital in Dallas in the late afternoon Feb. 22. As of the afternoon of March 4, the hospital listed his condition as critical.

Oklahoma City Fire Department Chaplain Ted Wilson said Wynne's family has been with him at the Dallas hospital since he was moved there. Parkland Hospital was chosen because it houses both a burn and trauma center, Wilson said.

"In Oklahoma City, we have a level one burn center and a level one trauma center, but they are not under one roof," Wilson said. "Parkland has both units under the same roof."

Wynne suffered both burn and trauma injuries in the pre-dawn crash.

Co-workers, friends and family members of pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, who both died in the crash, gathered at a memorial service Saturday, March 2.

"Mark was an excellent pilot, a master aviator who spent the last seconds of his life trying to save others," EagleMed president Larry Bugg said, according to a Newson6.com report of the service. "Chris was a professional

healer who mentored many and saved untold lives."

At Saint Ann's Nursing Home, the staff and residents who witnessed the crash -- either by sight or sound -- have spoken repeatedly with counselors to process the experience of that day.

"We like to do follow-up as far down the road as we possibly can," said Monica Palmer, Catholic Charities associate director for clinical services.

Palmer, along with Sister Kathy Olsen of the Catholic Pastoral Center and others, responded to the staff and residents the day of the crash. On Feb. 28, Palmer and Olsen facilitated a debriefing for the Saint Ann's Nursing Home staff who rescued Wynne from the wreckage of the crash.

"It was a very phenomenal thing," Palmer said. "Even as a counselor, you feel the trauma yourself. (The debriefing) was therapeutic not only for them but also for me because I could already see how they were doing better. To see God's work and their efforts to be supportive of each other and take those steps to get back to a new normal enabled me to breathe a sigh of relief."

The "response to the responders" has been a team effort, Palmer said.

"It seems to have been well-received from the feedback the staff and residents have given us," she said. "They have felt really cared for. I credit (Saint Ann's Nursing Home director) Dorothy (Joyce) with that. The Archbishop also came out the day of the crash and people were very touched and honored he was there. He gave individual blessings and it was one of the most healing things that could have happened that day."

Tina Korbe Dzurisin is the director of communications for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.



The unique impossibility of the papacy

ROME — At the point at which John Paul II began his papacy in the first volume of my biography of him, *Witness to Hope*, I borrowed some thoughts from Hans Urs von Balthasar and tried to explain a bit of the uniqueness of the papal office:

"To be pope is to take on a task that is, by precise theological definition, impossible. Like every other office in the Church, the papacy exists for the sake of holiness. The office, though is a creature of time and space, and holiness is eternal. No one, not even a pope who is a saint, can fully satisfy the office's demands. Yet the office, according to the Church's faith, is of the will of God, and the office cannot fail, although the officeholder will always fall short of the mark. That distinction between the office and the man who holds it is a consolation to any pope. According to (Balthasar), it is also 'unutterably terrible.' The office reflects the unity of person and mission in Jesus Christ, of whom the pope is vicar. Every pope, the saints as well as the scoundrels, 'stands at an utterly tragic place' (Balthasar continued), because he cannot be fully what the office demands. If he tries to be that,

he arrogantly makes himself the equal of the Lord. If he consoles himself too easily with the thought that he must, necessarily, fail, he betrays the demand that the office makes of him, the demand of radical love. The Office of Peter always reflects Christ's words to Peter—that, because of the depth of his love, he will be led where he does not want to go (John 21:18)."

But if the job is, essentially, impossible the Church is not without the resources of history and contemporary experience to imagine the qualities one would like to see in the man who must, as someone must, take up this uniquely impossible yet essential task. In *Evangelical Catholicism: Deep Reform in the 21st-Century Church*, published just before Pope Benedict XVI's stunning announcement of his resignation, I suggest seven such qualities.

A profound and transparent faith. The pope must be so convinced of the Catholic symphony of truth, and so



By George Weigel

transparent to it in his own life, that he readily invites others into friendship with Jesus Christ, simply by being who and what he is. The preaching, catechetics and teaching are important, but they come "after" transparency to Christ and his love.

Natural resilience amplified by grace. The pope must be able to draw from the wellspring of his prayer an abundance of energy, patience, endurance and compassion. The pope knows the wickedness and evil sins of the world in macrocosm and the sorrows of individual men and women in microcosm. The grace of strength needed to bear that burden of knowledge without being crushed by it must build on a natural physical and psychological hardiness and resilience.

Pastoral experience. John Paul II's papacy as previewed by the work as archbishop of Cracow and his successful ministry there. That model makes sense for future popes, who must have demonstrated evangelically effective pastoral leadership and a capacity to meet the challenges of aggressive secularism, which did not end when the Berlin Wall came down.

Good judgment in people. A holy,

brilliant, humanly decent pope will find his ministry impeded if he does not have shrewd judgment in choosing men for high Church office, both as local bishops and as leaders in the Church's central administrative machinery in Rome.

Openness and curiosity. One of the keys to the success of John Paul II's papacy was his openness to a range of inputs from outside conventional ecclesiastical channels. A 21st-century pope must look to a wide range of information to inform his own evangelical ministry.

Courage. A timid man who sees dilemmas but not ways to address them is ill-qualified for the papacy. So is a man easily rattled by failure. Doing what is hard and absorbing the criticism for doing it is part of the essential responsibility of the pope.

Languages. In a multilingual Church, a multilingual pope is helpful.

All of which suggests that nationality is irrelevant in choosing a pope.

George Weigel's column is distributed by the Denver Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303-715-3215.

Facing the downstream effects of same-sex parenting

In March, 2013, the British paper *The Independent* ran an article entitled, "Children in gay adoptions at no disadvantage: Research confirms same-sex couples are just as good at parenting as heterosexuals." The article, based on a study at Cambridge University, concluded there was "no evidence" to support the claim that children's masculine or feminine tendencies were affected by having gay or lesbian parents, nor were the quality of their family relationships significantly different.

The studied outcomes, however, were limited to children four to eight years of age, so that any later effects, as they passed through puberty, for example, and "came of age," were not included. Although *The Independent* claims this was the first study to look

at how children in non-traditional families fared when compared with heterosexual households, at least two other major studies addressing the question were published during 2012 -- one by Mark Regnerus, a sociologist at the University of Texas at Austin, and the other by Loren Marks, a researcher at Louisiana State University. Both studies presented compelling evidence countering the claim that a child's psychosocial growth is equally supported in lesbian and gay environments as it would be in heterosexual parenting environments.

Common sense, instead of common clichés, ought to serve as our starting point in discussions about adopting children. One of the clichés we hear is that adopting children is really

just a matter of the "rights of parents." As Phoebe Wilson noted in an article in the *New Woman*: "If adoption is going to be debated as a 'right,' then the rights of the child (innocent and defenseless) are the rights that must prevail. Adoption exists for the benefit of the child, not for the couple who adopts him." Same-sex couples who seek to adopt a child can doubtless be motivated by the best of intentions and by genuine compassion for the plight of an orphan. Yet Wilson goes on to explain the deeper reasons that need to motivate adoption:



By Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk

"A child in need of adoption is a child who is in extraordinary and abnormal circumstances: he is a child without parents. Adoption seeks to 'create,' from a social and legal point of view, a relationship similar to what would be natural for the child, meaning a family relationship: mother, father, child."

A compassionate society seeks to help and assist orphaned children, but no reasonable society intentionally deprives those children of a mother or a father. That is, however, what placing them into a same-sex home invariably does.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and is the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

Of St. Celestine V and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Farewell, Papa.

Catholic apologist Scott Hahn Feb. 11 described the complex situation best when reflecting on the lead-up to the resignation by the Holy Father:

"Back on April 29, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI did something rather striking, but which went largely unnoticed," Hahn wrote.

"He stopped off in Aquila, Italy, and visited the tomb of an obscure medieval pope named St. Celestine V (1215-1296). After a brief prayer, he left his pallium, the symbol of his own episcopal authority as Bishop of Rome, on top of Celestine's tomb!"

"Fifteen months later, on July 4, 2010, Benedict went out of his way again, this time to visit and pray in the cathedral of Sulmona, near Rome, before the relics of this same saint, Celestine V.

"Few people, however, noticed at the time.

"Only now we may be gaining a better understanding of what it meant. These actions were probably more than pious acts. More likely, they were profound and symbolic gestures of a very personal nature, which conveyed a message that a pope can hardly deliver any other way.

"In the year 1294, this man (Father Pietro Angelerio), known by all as a devout and holy priest, was elected pope, somewhat against his will, shortly before his 80th birthday (Ratzinger was 78 when he was elected pope in 2005). Just five



By Jeremy A. Ingle

months later, after issuing a formal decree allowing popes to resign (or abdicate, like other rulers), Pope Celestine V exercised that right. And now Pope Benedict XVI has chosen to follow in the footsteps of this venerable model."

* * *

I remember thinking about Hahn's very points back when Benedict made that visit in 2010. I had read that he left his pallium and thinking to myself, "This means something. This isn't (just) a gift ... it's the symbol of his office. He's connecting with St. Celestine in a very personal way."

The Holy Father's resignation is shocking to us, but, considering the extreme faith of Benedict XVI, it can only be the work of the Holy Spirit, and we must rejoice in the pope's enormous decision.

As Catholics, we are actually quite

fortunate to be witness to such a slice of history. While it is saddening to see the willful departure of a kind and loving shepherd, it is with great rarity that one can say they recall a time when one pope was in power while his predecessor is still among us. It is run-of-the-mill for the presidency, but a unique opportunity for the papacy.

We faithful have got to hang on now. It's going to be a very bumpy ride for the next couple of months, emotionally speaking. The major media and entertainment industry are likely to be less than even-handed in their treatment of the legacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Prayerfully, we will come out even stronger on the other side with our new Bishop of Rome.

Jeremy Ingle is a parishioner at Saint Damien of Molokai Church.

Papal tailors ready no matter what size the new pope is

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY— Even though a conclave to elect a new pope has not yet started, the papal tailors have the white cassock ready for the new pontiff when he appears less than an hour after his election on the balcony overlooking St. Peter's Square.

The Gammarelli shop proudly showcased in its street-level window the white wool cassocks in three different sizes: "tall," "medium," and "small," as no one knows who will be the new pope or what his measurements will be.

"We received the order (from the Vatican) to prepare the three outfits a few days after Benedict gave the announcement" Feb. 11 to step down, Lorenzo Gammarelli told *Catholic News Service*.

It takes three-and-a-half days to cut, prepare and sew by hand one complete cassock, said the sixth-generation family member, so all three were finished "very quickly" by March 1 and displayed in the shop window the morning of March 4.

The shop eventually will deliver the ensemble to the Vatican in time for the conclave and election.

The Gammarelli shop was founded in 1798 and has served every 21st- and 20th-century pontiff except for Pope Pius XII, who stuck with his family's tailor.

It's not a given that every pope will call on the shop's services, so the shop always waits to receive orders from the Vatican.

But chances are good they will be called to do work for the next pope "since we have served all these popes," he said, nodding toward a row of pictures of seven popes on the wall near the shop's front entrance.

The sets available for the new pontiff to wear after he is introduced with the words "Habemus papam" ("We have a pope") include a cassock with an attached capelet, a white silk sash, a white skullcap, red leather shoes and a red velvet mozzetta or capelet with ermine trim, a style retired Pope Benedict XVI brought back into style.

Blessed John Paul II "preferred very light-weight clothing and evidently the fur (and velvet mozzetta) was too heavy for him. Therefore, he preferred not to use it," Gammarelli said.

If it's necessary, a



Papal red shoes are seen in the window of the Gammarelli clerical tailor shop in Rome. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)



Three sizes of cassocks for the future pope are displayed in the window of the Gammarelli clerical tailor shop in Rome. At the request of the Vatican, the famous shop has prepared three sizes of clerical wear to be used by the new pope immediately after his election. Pictured leaving the store is Dominican Father Thomas Petri, assistant professor of theology at Providence College in Rhode Island. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Gammarelli tailor will head to the apostolic palace a few days after a successful election to take measurements of the new pope for a properly fitted cassock and vestments, he said.

However, "often (a new pope) is already one of our clients, and we already have his measurements on file," he said.

The old shop, which is located just a few yards from the Pantheon, was bustling as shopkeepers quickly packaged a backlog of old orders. One shopkeeper was busily folding magenta sashes for a bishop and sealing them in brown wrapping paper, while another stacked shoe boxes containing black kidskin shoes, men's size 9, for

delivery.

Getting the order of papal cassocks and the sartorial needs of the upcoming conclave ready trumped all else the past three weeks, Gammarelli said.

"Therefore, now we have to make up the time ... we lost with clients who had ordered things first," he said.

The shop walls are lined with cubbyholes and shelves containing bolts of different weights of black cloth, embroidered fabrics for liturgical vestments and silks in cardinal red and magenta. There are also miniature models of scarlet and black hats as well as a small wooden torso form draped with a cardinal's full attire.

Large, deep wooden drawers are labeled and contain different kinds of sash fringing, tassels and pompoms for the four-cornered biretta hat.

One drawer was even labeled "under-things." Gammarelli said that while the shop offers full clothing service for the pope, from the skullcap down to the papal socks and shoes, it did not include underwear.

Cardinals discuss needs of Church

continued from page 1

tables and chairs for the cardinals. Two stoves will be installed: one to burn ballots and the other to burn chemicals to create different colored smoke to let the public know if a pope was selected or not.

During the conclave, the cardinals will use three urns for the ballots. Video images of the urns, commissioned by the Vatican for the 2005 conclave, were shown to reporters during the March 5 news conference.

One urn is for the ballots cast in the Sistine Chapel and another is for ballots cast in the Domus Sanctae Marthae by cardinals too ill to go to the chapel. Once those ballots are counted, they will be placed in the third urn and carried to the stove for burning.

As of March 5, 110 cardinal electors had arrived in Rome, Father Lombardi announced.

The cardinals who had not arrived do not need to be present in order for the college to vote on a day to begin the conclave, provided the other cardinals know they will arrive by the starting date.

The five electors yet to arrive were Cardinals Antonios Naguib, former Coptic Catholic patriarch;

Karl Lehmann of Mainz, Germany; Jean-Baptiste Pham Minh Man, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Kazimierz Nycz of Warsaw, Poland; and John Tong Hon of Hong Kong.

Father Lombardi said the cardinals who have yet to join the other cardinals had personal reasons for their delay but plan to arrive soon.

The cardinals met twice March 4. Arriving only in time for the afternoon session were Cardinals Bechara Rai, Maronite patriarch; Joachim Meisner of Cologne, Germany; Rainer Maria Woelki of Berlin; Dominik Duka of Prague; and Theodore-Adrien Sarr of Dakar, Senegal.

At the March 5 morning session, two cardinal electors joined: Cardinals Antonio Maria Rouco Varela of Madrid and Zenon Grocholewski, prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

Father Lombardi said March 4 that only two cardinals -- Indonesian Cardinal Julius Darmaatmadja, the 78-year-old retired archbishop of Jakarta, and Scottish Cardinal Keith O'Brien, 74, who retired as archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh after being accused of sexual misconduct -- have formally informed the Vatican that

they will not attend the conclave

The cardinals also accepted a proposal to conduct an evening prayer service March 6 at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica, presided by Cardinal Angelo Sodano, dean of the College of Cardinals.

"The cardinals hope to give a good example of the call to the whole church to live in prayer this time of preparing for the important moment of electing a pope," Father Lombardi said.

During the second day of pre-conclave gatherings, the cardinals also thanked Pope Benedict XVI for his "tireless work" and example of "generous pastoral concern."

The telegram, dated March 5, was signed by Cardinal Sodano and sent on behalf of all the cardinals present.

The Vatican said 4,432 journalists had requested credentials just for the interregnum and conclave by March 4; they join some 600 reporters, photographers and videographers accredited to the Vatican permanently. The media represent 1,004 outlets from 65 countries and work in 24 languages, Father Lombardi said.

Starting over was a ‘Beginning Experience’

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

Psalm 40: 1-3

By Marka Acton
For the Sooner Catholic

I was standing in a furniture store leaning against a cabinet of some sort while looking at a couch. I had not taken our couch with me when I had moved out after acknowledging my marriage of 25 years had reached an end. I had gone into the store thinking that I needed something to sit on so I could watch TV.

But I found myself confused and wondering how could I possibly pick out a sofa? To choose an expensive

piece of furniture, you needed to have an idea of your future and the life that you would be leading. I had no idea what a life lived alone looked like.

At that moment, it was as though total despair had descended on me and I was completely lost. When a clerk in the store stopped, became worried, and stopped to see if I was all right, I knew something had to change!

At the end of Mass a few weeks later, the priest announced a retreat for people who were widowed, divorced or separated. I heard him say that Beginning Experience was for those who were ready to move on after their loss.

My interest was sparked. Even though I had been separated for quite some time, I still had no idea about the future. Because I could not under-

stand where I had gotten life so wrong in the past, how could I make sure I made good choices now? If anyone had suggestions, I was ready to listen.

“Can you tell me a little more about Beginning Experience?” was all I asked after I finally stopped and made the call. A very nice person started telling me about how the weekend had helped him so much with the grief he had been suffering since the death of his wife.

He explained how it had helped him to accept the past, look at the person he had become, and then envision all the wonderful possibilities ahead. He told me that they provide excellent meals and there was a Mass for the whole group before everyone went home. And you know what ... he was right.

I was nervous about going, but I felt

so much relief and peace at the end of the weekend. I am a different person than the lost soul standing in the store causing others to worry. I have found joy and many friends who understand and listen without judging.

So give yourself a gift and join us for the Beginning Experience set for March 22, 23 and 24. The retreat is at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 7501 NW Expressway.

It costs just \$100 for all food and lodging. If you really need help with the costs, it is available. For any questions you may have, please call Tonya at (405) 556-0994 or try the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-5651 Ext. 108.

I am looking forward to having the opportunity of meeting you. Together we can all have the sunshine a little brighter as we once again find joy in our hearts.

Across Oklahoma



the crisis in marriage.” In fact, researchers are finding that couples that practice their faith are more likely to be successful in their marriage.

Among the programs used by parishes to help married couples grow in faith, two stand out for their ease of use and their effectiveness. They are SIX DATES for Catholic Couples and The BEATITUDES: A Couple’s Path to Greater Joy.

The effectiveness of these programs is tied to their approach, which is appealing especially to busy couples with young children at home. With these programs, parishes invite spouses to go on regular dates. Couples bring their children to the parish for child care, watch a short video and then go to their date on their own, as they did before they got married. Spouses are also given conversation starters on the subject of the evening. The topics range from remembering our love story and the meaning of Christian marriage to the problem of selfishness and living the Beatitudes in our daily life.

The experience of dating is natural/organic to the marital relationship. In today’s busy world, spouses know that spending time together is good for their marriage, but often other priorities take precedence. Couples welcome such invitation from their pastors.

Parishes have found that these programs are well received and appreciated by spouses. One husband wrote: “That was the best date Melissa and I have had in years! Just wanted to thank you for arranging all of this.” Another couple said: “The program reminded us of what we as Catholics believe about marriage.”

Many parishes across the USA are offering these programs in 2013, especially during Lent. Pastors recognize the need to strengthen marriages by strengthening a couple’s faith.

Find out more about these programs at www.happy-together.net.

Council of Catholic Women to provide scholarships for seniors

The Oklahoma City Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women funds a \$500 scholarship to high school seniors of its affiliated organizations.

To qualify, a student must possess and maintain a 2.5 grade point average or better and/or pass a college entry exam, show record of community and parish volunteer service, and show financial need.

To obtain a scholarship application, please contact Leda Hedglon, 5733 NW 86th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73132, or call (405) 722-8954.

Deadline for the receipt of the completed application is April 10. If you know of students who fit these requirements, please encourage them to apply.

Event to support Sister Sponsa Beltran Ministry

OKLAHOMA CITY — A brunch and auction honoring Sister Sponsa Beltran’s 88th birthday will be hosted by Pearl Sullens and the Teach Peace Foundation.

The event will be held at 10 a.m. March 20 at Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Blvd.

The sister of Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran, Sister Sponsa dedicated much of her life to helping the disabled, orphaned and abandoned children of Libera.

At her retirement she handed the ministry to the Teach Peace Foundation. All proceeds from the March 20 celebration will go to the Teach Peace Foundation in support of the children it helps.

Sullens, a longtime supporter, said Sister Sponsa will not be able to attend the event, but asked that donations be made to Teach Peace Foundation and mailed to Pearl Sullens, 1941 NW 17th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73106.

Those attending will learn more about how the Teach Peace Foundation is carrying on the ministry created by Sister Sponsa Beltran.

Bingo at St. James, March 21

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bingo at St. James Catholic Church, 41st and South McKinley Ave., will begin again March 21. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5:45 p.m. Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m.

All games (some new games) including two blackouts are \$10.

Door prizes and special recognition for all players born in January, February or March. A large flatscreen TV will be given away in October and all players get an entry into the drawing.

Skirvin plays host to The Green Tie Gala for Catholic Charities

The Green Tie Gala, an annual fundraiser for Catholic Charities, was March 8 at the Skirvin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Chris Reen, publisher of *The Oklahoman*, was the special honoree for this year’s event.

Proceeds from the Green Tie help support the Women’s Sanctuary and Resource Development Center operated by Catholic Charities. The center offers support for women and their children who are struggling for various reasons.

For full coverage of the event, visit the Sooner Catholic website at www.soonercatholic.org.

Birth Choice holds annual Life of the Party fundraiser

Birth Choice of Oklahoma, Inc., held its annual Life of the Party fundraiser March 9 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. To full coverage of the event, visit the Sooner Catholic website at www.soonercatholic.org.

Organizations join forces to present March For Life event

OKLAHOMA CITY — For the second consecutive year, Catholics are invited to participate in the March for Life.

Deborah Krisch of 40 Days for Life, the Archdiocesan Office of Family Life, Oklahomans for Life, Inc., and the Knights of Columbus

are working to coordinate the March 25 event.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with Mass celebrated by Father John Metzinger at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The March will follow at 10:30 a.m. and go from the Cathedral to the state Capitol, about 2.4 miles. The March will travel along NW 23rd and those who don’t wish to walk the entire route are invited to join in anywhere along the way.

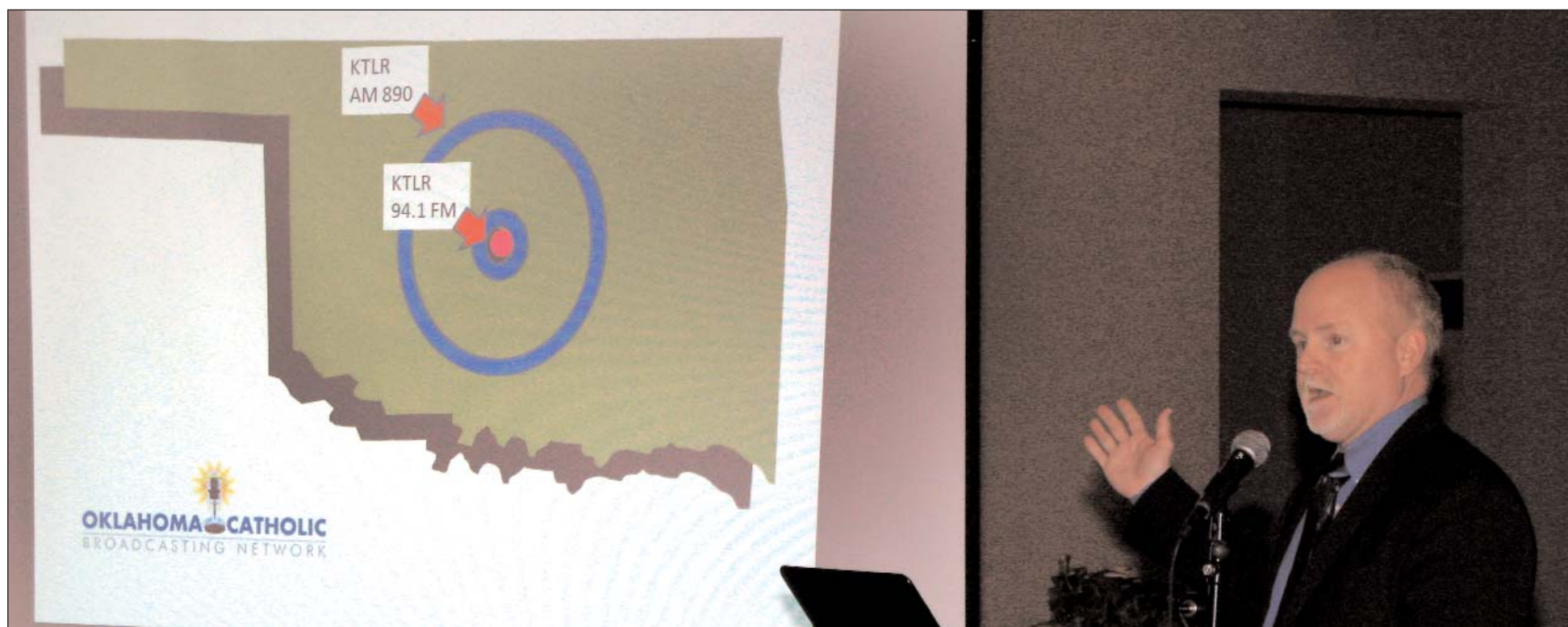
Last year, several thousand people participated in the first March for Life and organizers are hoping for as good or greater turnout this year.

The March is to demonstrate to the state of Oklahoma “how we feel about the sanctity of life,” said Krisch. She said prayers for success of the March are appreciated.

For more information, contact her at dmkrisch@hotmail.com.

Ministry invites married couples to go on a date

In this Year of Faith, Catholic parishes around the country are reaching out to the people in their communities to spread the Good News. Married couples are one of the groups pastors want to reach. Pope Benedict XVI stated at the opening of the Synod on the New Evangelization: “There is a clear link between the crisis in faith and



Jeff Finnell of Oklahoma Catholic Radio speaks to an audience of supporters at Christ the King Church Feb. 28. (Photo by Brianna Joyce)

Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting expands reach with addition of powerful KKNK

"You are to deliver my words to them whether they listen or not, for they are a tribe of rebels." Ezekiel 2:7

By Ray Dyer
Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Jeff Finnell said it was about six years ago when Deacon Bill Bawden told the 900 or so men attending the annual Catholic Men's Conference that some fellows were working to create a Catholic radio station in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Deacon Bawden said the men had an information booth set up along with the other vendors at the conference and anyone interested in learning more about their idea could stop and visit with them.

"I think a few guys came by to wish us luck and said they would pray for us," Finnell said. "One man gave us a \$20 bill."

If you need proof of what the Lord can do with \$20 and some prayers, look no further than Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

On March 1, Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting began broadcasting on Oklahoma City's KKNK, 97.3 FM. Once well known for its classical music and later for country and western, KKNK is now broadcasting Catholic radio content 24 hours, seven days a week.

Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting, formerly known as Annunciation Radio, has experienced incredible growth in the past two years and now reaches more than half the

Catholic Radio Seven Days a Week

**KKNK 97.3 FM
Oklahoma City**

**In Tulsa at 94.9 FM
In Lawton at 88.3 AM
In Prague at 88.3 FM
In Bristow at 105.7 FM
In Antlers at 90.3 FM**

**And beginning on
March 18
KTLR 890 AM Spanish
in Oklahoma City**

Go to
www.okcatholicbroadcasting.com
for the current schedule of
programs

**Catholic
Radio of
Oklahoma**



population in the state.

That audience will grow again when, on March 18, KTLR 890 AM will begin broadcasting Catholic content in Spanish. The Spanish broadcast will air each day from 5 a.m. to dusk. Pedro Moreno, director of Hispanic Ministry for the

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, said the Hispanic Catholic community "is deeply indebted to those responsible for Oklahoma Catholic Radio."

"I'm going to buy that man a steak," Moreno said of Finnell, who serves as president of Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

Finnell is quick to point out he's had plenty of help from an idea first discussed in June of 1996 to where Catholic radio is today in Oklahoma. Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran gave approval for Finnell and the others to pursue their plan, while Archbishop Paul S. Coakley has continued the support, voicing promotional spots encouraging Oklahoma Catholics to tune in and help support the communications ministry.

Deacon Larry Sousa has been on board with Finnell since the beginning, as has Fred Pope and Father Price Oswalt. Tom Krug and Marlene Stapp also continue to serve on the board for Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

Finnell credited Tyler Media with helping to negotiate what he described as "not your normal business deal," opening the door to the KKNK studios.

Finnell said Mike Miller, KKNK station manager, first approached Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting about the idea of leasing the station. The board had been discussing ways to grow when Miller's call came to them.

Finnell said the board discussed the proposal and "prayed about it" and then decided to take the leap.

Just as Christ instructed his Apostles to cast their fishing nets, Finnell said, "Archbishop Coakley challenges us to 'Put out into the deep,' so that's what we're doing."

He admitted the cost to operate a station with the reach of KKNK will be more expensive, but added, "God has provided us with the people to pay the bills" with each and every step Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has taken.

"We are taking measured steps, but they are steps of faith," said Finnell.

Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has been able to create a system Finnell describes as "Chinese checkers" linking the broadcast together. With towers in Lawton in the southwest, Prague in the east-central and soon in the southeast with a signal in McAlester, Catholic radio content is reaching much of the state. KKNK, Finnell said, can be picked up as far north as Guthrie and south to the Arbuckle Mountains, as well as to near Weatherford on the west and Shawnee to the east.

With a few more links, Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting may soon be reaching as far as Wichita Falls and the Oklahoma panhandle. One thing Finnell knows for sure, it's reaching hearts and minds.

"Archbishop Coakley told us he was called to the Oklahoma County Jail to confirm three prisoners who have been listening to our broadcasts," Finnell said. He said the same broadcast will eventually make its way into the state prison in McAlester.



Susan Conroy, one of the speakers at the March 2 Oklahoma Catholic Women's Conference, signs copies of her book for conference participants. For full coverage of the conference, please visit www.soonercatholic.com. (Photo by Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick.)

Archbishop Coakley celebrates Mass, dedicates new Holy Innocents Chapel

By Ray Dyer
Sooner Catholic

WARR ACRES — Archbishop Paul S. Coakley celebrated Mass and blessed and dedicated the new Holy Innocents Chapel Feb. 22.

The chapel, located at 6114 NW 63rd St., is nestled in an office area and sits about 20 feet from the only abortion clinic in Oklahoma County.

The Mass and dedication was attended by more than 60 people, not a huge turnout, but overflowing considering Holy Innocents is designed to hold about 40.

Father Price Oswalt led the charge to create the chapel and the Holy Innocents Foundation. He said he got the idea several years ago while watching a program on EWTN in which a priest from New Mexico described opening a chapel across the street from an abortion clinic in Albuquerque. It is believed the Warr Acres chapel is only the third of its kind in the United States.

Archbishop Coakley said Holy Innocents was created to be a place of prayer and reflection. While he said in no way would those inside Holy Innocents confront those entering the nearby abortion clinic, the Archbishop made clear the purpose of the prayer and adoration Chapel.

Holy Innocents exists to “prayerfully witness to the sanctity of life,” the archbishop said. In doing so, he said, the prayerful mission is to put the “clinic out of business.”

“This is not the place to shout or demand an end to abortion,” Archbishop Coakley said. He said there is a place for that to occur, but at Holy Innocents the focus is on prayer, including for those who are involved in working in the abortion industry.

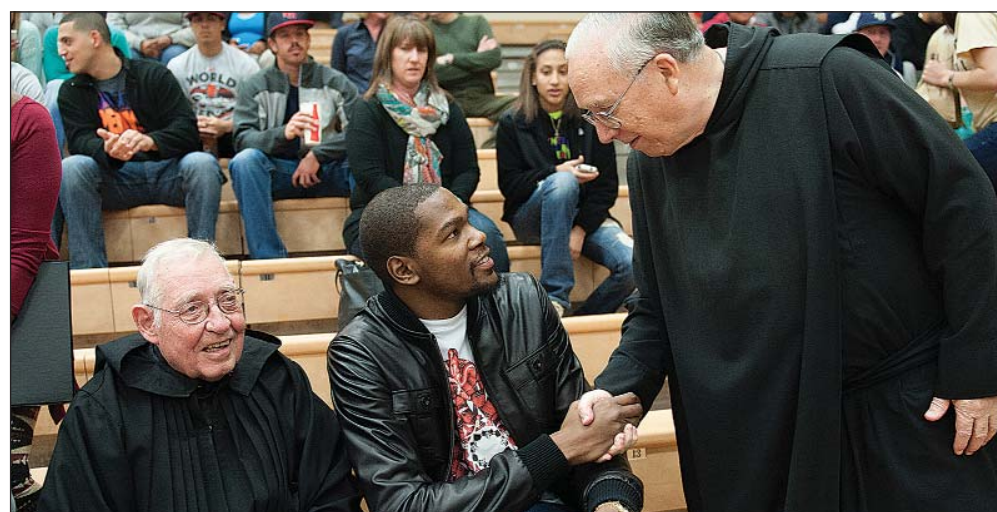
The goal is for Holy Innocents to eventually offer 24-hour perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. More adorers will be needed for this to take place.

“This is a big commitment,” the archbishop said. “There is much work to do.”

Toni Harrelson is coordinating the Adorers for Holy Innocents. An hour a week is the requested commitment. Harrelson can be reached at (405) 341-2199 or by email at AdorationHolyInnocents@gmail.com.



Above, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley admires a wooden box given to him by Father Oswalt, at right. The hand-crafted box is to hold the archbishop's pallium. The box was made from African wood. Father Stephen Hamilton is at the left. At center, Holy Innocents Chapel begins to fill prior to the Feb. 22 Mass and blessing. At right, a statue of the Infant Jesus with our Holy Mother. (Photos by Ray Dyer)



At right, Oklahoma City Thunder forward and NBA All-Star Kevin Durant poses with childhood friend and St. Gregory's University basketball player Devonte Young Feb. 23 at W.P. Wood Field House on the SGU campus. Durant was in attendance to support Young on his Senior Night. Young's mother, Jacqueline, is on the left. At left, Durant visits with Father Louis Vander Ley and Father Patrick McCool. (Photos by Brother George Hubl, O.S.B.)





Saint Katharine Drexel opens new memory unit

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley blessed and dedicated the new Cottages at Saint Katharine's in a visit to El Reno last week. He was assisted by Father Mark Mason, pastor of Sacred Heart Church. The 16-unit memory care center was added to Saint Katharine's Assisted Living Center, a 59-person retirement home that was opened in 2007 by Sacred Heart Catholic Church in partnership with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Anderson-House served as general contractor for the project, while the \$2.9 million addition was designed by ADG of Oklahoma City.



David Eaton, chairman of the St. Katharine's Board, points out one of the features of the new memory care center to Archbishop Coakley. At left, 5-year-old Alester Wall prepares to sample one of the "cottage cookies" at the blessing ceremony. (Photos by Ray Dyer)

Brenda Miller serves as executive director for Saint Katharine's.

To see a video of the blessing and dedication ceremony, visit www.soonercatholic.org.

'Rock It Old School' theme for Irish dinner, auction

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School recently celebrated its 27th annual dinner and auction.

The "Rockin' It Old School" vintage rock-and-roll-themed event was held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. More than 450 guests were in attendance.

Guests viewed more than 400 auction items at four separate silent auctions as well as big board displays, fixed price events, Sweet Shoppe and dutch auction items.

The audience participation events "Lady Luck" and "Heads or Tails" were once again crowd favorites. In Lady Luck, guests purchase a card for \$100 out of a deck of 52 cards, vying to win a trip to Las Vegas, staying at the luxurious Bellagio hotel. As card holders assembled on the dance floor, numbers were drawn and

one by one cards were discarded. The lucky winner was Bishop McGuinness alum parent Mark Lester. In Heads or Tails, sponsored by the Bishop McGuinness Alumni Association, participants purchased a \$10 string of beads for a chance to win \$500. As guests touched their hands to their head or tail and a flip of the coin, the last person standing was Julie Goodnight.

The highlight of the evening was the raffle drawing for \$10,000. The winner was Bishop McGuinness parent Billy Smallwood and wife, Tammy. Selling the most raffle tickets were students Braden Roy and Cory Jones. Auction proceeds will support endowment growth and capital improvements such as the new math and science addition, which opened this past fall.



Lady Luck winner — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School Principal David Morton poses with Mark Lester, winner of the trip to Las Vegas.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran honored by Knights of Columbus with Excalibur Award for service

By Patrick B. McGuigan
For the Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran was honored at the anniversary awards dinner of the Chief Justice Kane Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

With worldwide attention focused on a papal vacancy, it seemed appropriate that this year's dinner fell on what is designated the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter.

Paul Weigl, a regional leader of the Knights, presented Archbishop Emeritus Beltran the Excalibur Award for his service to the Catholic Church and to Oklahoma.

In an introspective address, Archbishop Beltran said, "I have had a happy life. I have felt blessed, always feeling close to God, thanks to my parents."

The Archbishop Emeritus told the Knights, their families and guests, including Air Force Gen. Rita Aragon, that his father was born in Spain, while his mother was of Polish descent.

The Archbishop said his father had felt family pressure to become a priest. "Grandmother had wanted my father to be a priest," but his father, as a young man, did not believe that was his life's



Eusebius J. Beltran, Archbishop Emeritus of Oklahoma City, was named winner of the "Excalibur Award" at this year's anniversary dinner of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Chief Justice Kane Assembly. (Photo by Patrick B. McGuigan)

purpose. He was in and out of seminaries, but he did not want to be a priest."

As young Eusebius grew up, his oldest sister "begged and begged to become a nun before she went to the convent." Eventually, she became a nun. Sister Sponsa Beltran served a lifetime as an African missionary before retiring in the United States. She is now 88.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran said he felt the call to priestly life. Years later, he said he wrote a letter to his grandmother to tell her of his studies at St. Charles Seminary in his home state of Pennsylvania. He invited her to his priestly ordination. She was unable to come, and, yet, "Because of her prayers, she had five grandsons who became priests, serving in the United States, Argentina and Spain."

The Archbishop Emeritus encouraged attendees, especially young people, to learn what God intends for their lives. He observed, "Every person has a vocation. Each one of you is called to a definite life, to a calling from God. Discover the plan God has for you. If you find it, follow it. I know He called me to be a priest 53 years ago."

Addressing fellow members of the Knights, Archbishop Emeritus Beltran said, "The Knights have interrelated with my vocation throughout my life."

Office of Communications staff to spearhead media relations and social media outreach

A Q-and-A with Director of Communications Tina Korbe Dzurisin

By Sooner Catholic Staff

In February 2013, Archbishop Paul Coakley created the Office of Communications to enhance the many extant communications channels of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, by, among other things, coordinating media relations for the Archdiocese and spearheading Archdiocesan social media efforts. This month, we caught up with Director of Communications Tina Korbe Dzurisin to find out how it's going so far.

SC: How do you pronounce your last name?

TD: That's the first question everyone asks me! It's pronounced "Zur-ISH-in." My maiden name was Korbe (pronounced KOR-bee), and I thought *that* was hard.

SC: What is your role as the Director of Communications?

TD: Like every office at the Catholic Pastoral Center, the Office of Communications exists to support the teaching, sanctifying and governing ministry of the archbishop in whatever way we can and in whatever way he needs.

More specifically, the Office of Communications exists to ensure that the community at large and the Catholic faithful in particular receive the information they need to understand and participate fully in the life of the Church in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Practically, that means I work closely with reporters to garner earned media coverage of Archdiocesan news, as well as with Archbishop Coakley and the staff at the Catholic Pastoral Center to convey important information and ideas through our many distribution channels.

SC: Tell us a little bit about your background.

TD: I call myself a "Kan-Okie-saw" because I was born in Kansas, but grew up primarily in Oklahoma

and Arkansas. I graduated from the University of Arkansas and started my career in Washington, D.C. I come to the Archdiocese with a background in public policy research and analysis, grassroots coalition-building and media relations, professional blogging and investigative journalism. Previously, I've worked at public policy think tanks at both the national and state level, as well as at a national news commentary website.

SC: What are your goals for the Office of Communications?

TD: At both the parish and Archdiocesan level, priests, religious and lay Catholics provide a wide variety of programs and resources that invite anyone and everyone to a renewed encounter with Christ. My goal is to reduce the chances that someone will miss out on a Church-related opportunity simply because he or she didn't know about it -- and to increase the chances that Oklahomans of all stripes will come to know and love the Lord!

SC: What are your impressions of the job so far?

TD: My very first day was the day Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI announced his plans to resign. My second week on the job, a helicopter crashed between Saint Ann's Nursing Home and Saint Ann's Retirement Center, both owned and operated by the Archdiocese. The first event came as a powerful reminder that, while I work for the Church in a particular location, the Church is, indeed, universal. The second event came as an equally powerful reminder that life is short. John Paul II once said, "Life has meaning to the extent that it becomes a free gift for others." Three of the staff members at Saint Ann's Nursing Home made their lives a gift for others when they risked personal injury to rescue helicopter crew member Billy Wynne (Page 3). The archbishop makes his life a gift

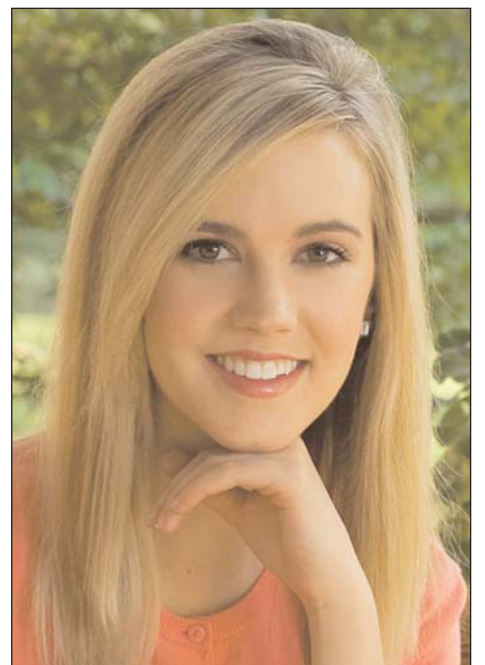
for others every single day - just check out his calendar (Page 2)! This job provides me with an opportunity to do the same -- and I will certainly do my best.

SC: How have communications efforts changed since the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City was first established in 1905?

TD: We've seen so many incredible technological inventions -- from the telephone to the television to the Internet to smart phones to social media -- that have increased the pace and volume of communications. Professional communications is no longer a one-way affair; it's a dialogue. Publishing a statement or broadcasting a message is just the first step in a long process that includes seeking feedback and incorporating that feedback into future efforts. Professional communications today is also very much a 24/7 affair. Archbishop Coakley is a perfect example of the way the field has changed. Not only does he personally visit the many parishes of the Archdiocese, write letters and record audio messages, as previous archbishops have done, but he also communicates via email, Facebook and Twitter -- all of which he can check on his iPhone.

SC: What are your predictions for the future of communications -- particularly within the Church?

TD: Writer Maria Scaperlanda has a great piece on the Our Sunday Visitor website called, "In praise of the pope who tweeted." In it, she writes: "Pope Benedict's eight-year-reign may be deemed the blink of an eye in the Church's existence. But he bequeaths the next pope a number of impressive digital initiatives, not the least of which are 2.5 million Twitter followers. All this, from an 85-year-old pontiff who was born the year that the first transatlantic telephone call was made via radio from New York City to London." It's safe to say the Church has acknowledged that social media is a powerful vehicle for the truth and will continue to use websites like Facebook and Twitter as instruments of evangelization.



Tina Korbe Dzurisin

SC: What will stay the same?

TD: The Gospel truth is the Gospel truth -- and the Church will never stop teaching it. Furthermore, evangelical Catholics will continue to share the good news in at least one way they always have -- by personally inviting friends, family and other acquaintances to come to know Christ and His Church. As Archbishop Coakley writes in this edition's "Put Out into the Deep" column (Page 2), "Social media is certainly a valuable tool, but it cannot replace personal presence and witness."

SC: How can members of the Archdiocese connect with the Office of Communications?

TD: Please check the Archdiocesan website regularly; we update it daily Monday through Friday. That address is <http://archokc.org>. If you're on Facebook, please "Like" the official page of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. If you're on Twitter, follow us @ArchOKC -- and follow Archbishop Coakley @ArchbishopOKC. We also just created a brand new tips line for the *Sooner Catholic*. Send us your feedback about this issue of the paper and/or story ideas for future issues by emailing tips@archokc.org.



Edmond scouts earn Eagle rank

EDMOND — Two scouts earned the rank of Eagle and are members of Troop 331 at St. Monica Catholic Church. John Shelden and Wilbert Hundl III were honored with the highest Scout ranking last year.

John, 17, is a junior at Edmond North High School. His parents are Susan Bennett and David Shelden. He has been a member of Unit 331 at St. Monica's since joining Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub. John's Eagle project involved redesigning a section of the multi-use trail at Lake Arcadia. The section of trail that was eroded has been moved and has a drainage system that will ensure erosion control in the future.

John is a member of Order of the Arrow. He has earned 27 merit badges and served in

numerous leadership positions in the troop.

Wilbert is a freshman at Edmond North High School. He is the son of Paula and Wilbert Hundl II. Wil earned the highest rank in Scouting in less than three and a half years. Wil is an active member of St. Monica Parish, participating in the youth group and Confirmation classes. Wil's Eagle service project was revitalizing a courtyard at Sunset Elementary School in Edmond. This project will allow for safe and comfortable outdoor learning opportunities for students at the school.

Wil is a member of Order of the Arrow. He has earned 22 merit badges to date. In addition to holding the position of Senior Patrol Leader, Wil has served many positions of leadership within the troop.

Powers returns to head Safe Environment office

By Ray Dyer
The Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — If for some reason you didn't get the chance to attend the retirement party held for Sister Catherine Powers, CND, last June 29, no worries. Eventually there should be another one coming around.

On Feb. 1, Sister Kay, as she is affectionately known, came out of retirement to become the Safe Environment coordinator for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Her retirement lasted exactly seven months.

Sister Kay served as Superintendent of Catholic Education for the Archdiocese for 17 years. Her ministry in education began in 1961 at the age of 19.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley tabbed Dr. Cris Carter, who served as assistant superintendent with Sister Kay, as the new education leader for the Archdiocese. At the time Sister Kay said she planned to enjoy some traveling and was looking forward to a spiritual retreat in New Mexico.

"I was in Albuquerque for six weeks at a retreat for Religious in transition," Sister Kay said. She said nine nuns as well as a Jesuit priest took part in the retreat.

She returned to Oklahoma in time to make it to Norman where she watched her Notre Dame Fighting Irish defeat the Oklahoma Sooners. She also had time to clean out her garage, but Sister Kay said she knew there was something she needed to be doing for the Church.

"I kept seeing the ad in the paper (*Sooner Catholic*) seeking a Safe

Environment coordinator. It was there when I retired in June and it was still there when I came back from New Mexico," Sister Kay said. She said she spoke with Archbishop Coakley and Tish Eason, Archdiocesan Chancellor, about the position and it was decided she would assume the role.

"It's a bit ironic since I helped create the position," Sister Kay said.

The Office of Safe Environment is charged with educating adults about the Church's priority of keeping children safe. It's a national ministry that was created by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops following the priest scandal. Former FBI agents audit the Safe Environment Offices in every diocese and archdiocese and Oklahoma City has consistently scored high in each audit.

Sister Kay will be hosting a Safe Environment Workshop in April for those working in parish ministries.

In the meantime, she's getting acclimated to her new position, holding meetings and in the evenings giving Lenten talks at a number of parishes.

"The one nice thing is I won't have to go around and introduce myself to everyone," Sister Kay said, a smile spreading across her face.



Sister Catherine Powers, CND

Legislative update

Bills to protect religious liberty advance at both state and national level

By Sooner Catholic Staff

In the first month of the 2013 regular session of the Oklahoma legislature, House and Senate committees have approved nearly 500 bills for consideration by the full House or Senate respectively. Among them is House Bill 1918, a bill that aims to protect the religious liberty of employers. The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requires employers to provide their employees

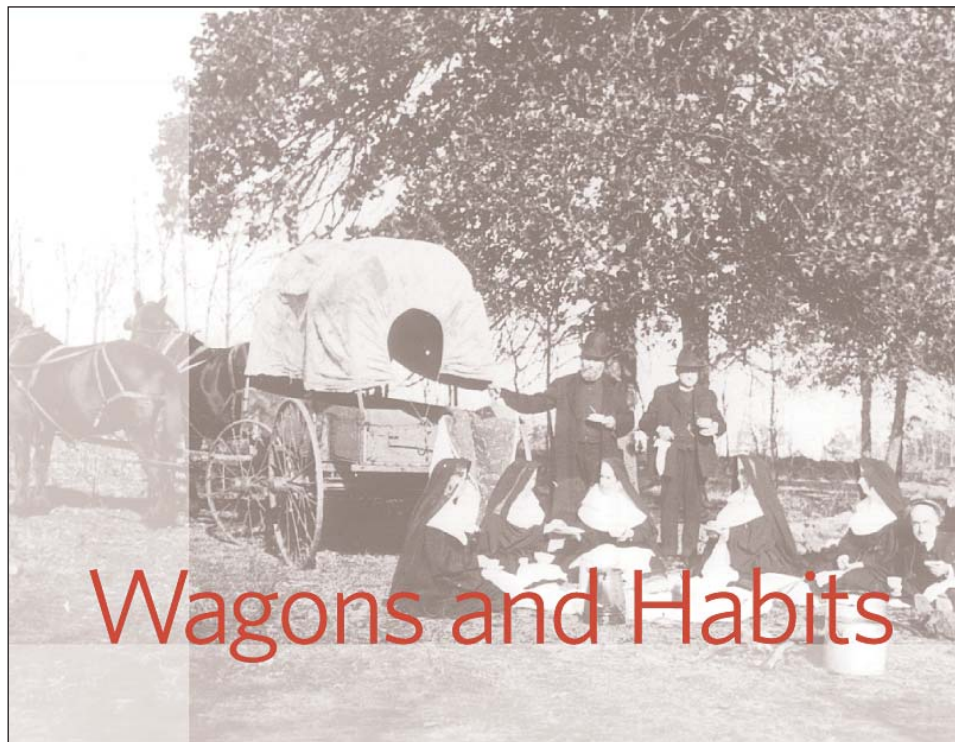
with insurance that covers contraception, including abortifacients, or face steep fines. Sponsored by Oklahoma Speaker of the House T.W. Shannon (R-Lawton), H.B. 1918 would allow businesses to subtract those fines from taxable state income.

"Freedom of religion is one of the core values this country was founded on," Shannon said in a Feb. 25 news release. "Abortion procedures go against the moral and religious views

of many people. Forcing such people and businesses to face fines because of their religious views infringes on their rights under the First Amendment."

At the national level, three Republican members of the House of Representatives March 5 introduced a bill to protect conscience rights for both workers in the health care industry and for employers in light of the federal mandate requiring employers

to cover contraceptives, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs. The Health Care Conscience Rights Act would offer a full exemption from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate for individuals and health care entities that refuse to provide, pay for, or refer patients to abortion providers because of their religious beliefs, according to a report from the Catholic News Service.



Wagons and Habits

In 1884, five years before the Land Run of '89, five Sisters of Mercy made the long trek by covered wagon into Indian Territory. They crossed raging rivers, encountered outlaws and survived tornadoes. But unlike others before them, the Sisters of Mercy never turned back.

True mercy can't be contained.

It spreads like a prairie fire through the lives it touches.

Mercy
mercy.net

SGU to Rebless Benedictine Hall

St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Okla., will host a brief ceremony Monday, March 11, at 10 a.m. to officially commemorate the start of the Benedictine Hall Centennial Restoration Project.

Benedictine Hall, the historic heart of St. Gregory's, was completed in 1915 and damaged during the earthquake that shook central Oklahoma on Nov. 11, 2011, resulting in the loss of the structure's iconic towers. Long seen as the symbol of St. Gregory's, the restoration of Benedictine Hall will launch a larger campaign to reinvigorate the entire campus.

The ceremony to bless the Benedictine Hall Centennial Restoration Project will take place in front of Benedictine Hall and will include remarks from St. Gregory's President Greg Main and a blessing by Abbot Lawrence of St. Gregory's Abbey.

For additional information, please contact St. Gregory's Director of Communications, Breanne Hill, at bhill@stgregorys.edu or (405) 878-5102, or Communications Specialist Michael Mahaffey at mmahaffey@stgregorys.edu or (405) 878-5171.



Lánzate a lo más Profundo Luke 5:4

"Apacienta mis ovejas"

Hemos entrado en un período importante entre pontificados conocido como Sede Vacante o Interregno. Al momento que escribo esta columna, los cardenales se están reuniendo en Roma en preparación para el próximo Cónclave en el que elegirán al próximo sucesor de Pedro y Vicario de Cristo.

Los Cardenales ya están participando en una importante serie de reuniones en las que, de manera formal e informal, están llegando a conocerse unos a otros y a aprender sobre los desafíos y oportunidades que está enfrentando la Iglesia en varias partes del mundo. Estas reuniones continuarán hasta que el Cónclave comience. En ese momento, sólo los Cardenales electores, aquellos que tienen menos de 80 años, serán secuestrados para que en ambiente de oración comiencen el trabajo de elegir al próximo Papa, bajo la guía del Espíritu Santo. Estos son días de grandes consecuencias para la Iglesia católica y para la humanidad. Nuestra tarea es orar y ayunar por los cardenales electores y por aquel a quien elijan, y que ya es conocido por el Señor.

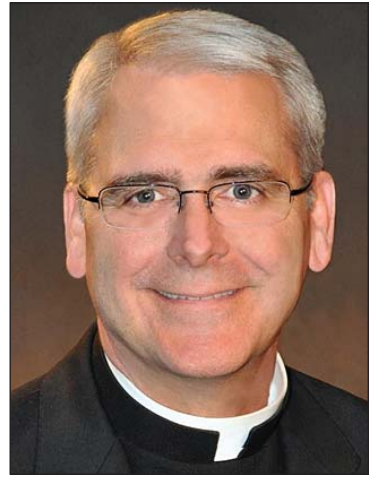
Bajo el resplandor de una intensa atención de los medios de comunicación y el continuo análisis de todas partes del mundo una gran cantidad de energía se está gastando especulando sobre quién será el próximo Papa. ¿Qué es lo que la Iglesia necesita? ¿Será un hombre joven, estableciendo la probabilidad de un largo pontificado? ¿Será un italiano o los cardenales, por primera vez en la historia de casi 2000 años de la Iglesia Católica, miraran más allá de Europa? Algunos dicen que lo que se necesita es un Papa que pueda gestionar y reformar la enorme burocracia de la Curia Romana. El enfoque de otros es el asegurar que las finanzas del Vaticano estén en buen estado. Sin duda, el próximo Papa tendrá que seguir haciendo frente a las consecuencias de la crisis del terrible abuso sexual por el clero que comenzó a conmover a la Iglesia en el 2002.

Una cosa es cierta, no se puede dar marcha atrás. El papado del tercer milenio tiene que mantener su recientemente recuperado enfoque evangélico. Habilidades gerenciales y organizativas, por más importantes que sean, no son suficiente.

A partir de la raíz del Concilio Vaticano con el Papa Pablo VI, pero especialmente durante los pontificados de Beato Juan Pablo II y Benedicto XVI, el Papa ha ido más allá de los muros del Vaticano para encarnar su deber como pastor principal de la Iglesia Universal en una nueva manera. El Papa es el evangelista principal de la Iglesia. El Beato Juan Pablo II fue un peregrino global, no porque le encantaba viajar, sino porque el ministerio Petrino del siglo XXI lo exige. Los medios sociales son sin duda una herramienta valiosa, pero no pueden sustituir la presencia personal y el testimonio. Más personas vieron y oyeron al Beato Juan Pablo II durante sus viajes apostólicos a través de todo el mundo de lo que jamás se había visto a ningún otro ser humano.

El tiempo dirá lo que el rico legado del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI pueda ser, pero una cosa ya es clara. A través de su predicación, enseñanza y escritos centró nuestra atención en Jesucristo. Nos recordó que lo primero es la amistad con Jesús y el estar en comunión con Él y a través de Su Iglesia. El camino esencial para los católicos es el camino del discipulado. Es a partir de esta íntima comunión con Jesús en el Espíritu Santo, que la Nueva Evangelización nace. Estamos llamados a ser discípulos misioneros. En nuestros días somos testigos del redescubrimiento de la Iglesia Católica de su misión evangélica por el bien del mundo.

El próximo Papa será muy probable que continúe dirigiendo a la Iglesia a lo largo de la ruta que el Espíritu Santo ha trazado para nosotros durante los sucesos decisivos del Concilio Vaticano II y estos últimos y notables pontificados. No debemos esperar una ruptura con el pasado, sino más bien una continuidad llena de gracia que tiene su origen en el mandato del Evangelio que Cristo le dio a Pedro por el bien de la Iglesia: "Apacienta mis ovejas" (Jn 21:17).



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Las reuniones de cardenales empiezan con charlas administrativas

Por Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — Se fijó el calendario para que los cardenales empezaran sus reuniones en el Vaticano el 4 de marzo; y mientras que los observadores tienen su atención fija en quién será el próximo papa, los cardenales tienen que atender a charlas de tipo administrativo.

El cardenal hondureño Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga de Tegucigalpa dijo que las reuniones generales empiezan con la ventilación del asunto de cómo dirigir la iglesia durante este periodo extraordinario en el que no hay papa activo.

Dejando por un lado el hecho de que los cardenales no tienen que planear ni fijar un presupuesto para funeral y entierro, asunto que en las anteriores reuniones se tuvo que estudiar, después de la muerte de un papa, existe todavía la "sede vacante" que exige un presupuesto y autorización formal de timbres y monedas de sede vacante.

En la asamblea general, los cardenales fijarán la fecha para el inicio del cónclave.

Los cardenales también empiezan a examinar juntos, y a profundidad, las reglas a seguir en el cónclave y la elección de un nuevo papa, le dijo el cardenal Rodríguez Maradiaga al Catholic News Service, el 1º de marzo. Los cardenales extienden una invitación a expertos en Derecho canónico para que se les unan y les den consejo sobre varios puntos que no estén claros o sean disputables.

Y solamente después de que atiendan las cuestiones prácticas administrativas, dijo, será que empiecen a dis-



Un Guardia Suiza saluda como EE.UU. Cardenales llegan a la reunión primera congregación general en el Aula del Sínodo en el Vatic un 4 de marzo. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

cutir los principales problemas a los que se enfrenta la iglesia.

En 2005, dijo, sostuvieron amplias discusiones, para después reunirse en pequeños grupos, de acuerdo con su continente geográfico de origen, "para poder definir mejor los problemas específicos" particulares de cada región. "Creo que haremos lo mismo" en esta ocasión, dijo el cardenal.

Cuando se le preguntó si existen reuniones secretas en cuartos privados y restaurantes, antes del cónclave, dijo: "Esas son simplemente historias que se cuentan. Nunca tuve ninguna clase de reuniones de ese tipo durante el pasado cónclave. Es cosa muy diferente elegir a un papa que votar por un candidato de un partido (político). Nosotros, en lugar de pensar en candidatos, pensamos en los problemas principales y obstáculos, y después tratamos de reflexionar, en medio de la oración, quién sería la persona mejor calificada para enfrentarse a esos

problemas y tratar de ayudar a la iglesia".

Tan pronto como el papa Benedicto anunció su renuncia, dijo el cardenal, todas las Misas celebradas en la arquidiócesis de Tegucigalpa se iniciaron con una oración especial por la elección de un nuevo papa.

Una vez iniciado el cónclave, dijo, "habrá muchos nombres" que aparezcan en las primeras planillas de voto; "pero conforme pase el tiempo, trataremos de enfocarnos, especialmente, en los problemas principales de la iglesia y en quién pueda ser la persona que se avoque mejor a esos obstáculos".

El cardenal Rodríguez Maradiaga, de 70 años de edad, dijo que era necesario que los cardenales consideraran la edad biológica de los candidatos; pero eso no quiere decir que será la edad el factor determinante "pues sabiendo ahora que hay precedencia de renuncia, como resultado tenemos que el próximo papa no se verá atado hasta

que le sobrevenga la muerte. Es posible servir durante un cierto número de años; y, después, retirarse. ¿Por qué no?"

El cardenal Maradiaga dijo que es posible que sus hermanos electores decidieran escoger a alguien fuera de Europa para que sea el próximo papa, "pero no se trata de la nacionalidad o del lugar en donde uno haya nacido; se trata de los principales problemas de la iglesia y de la persona que pueda afrontarlos, sin importar el lugar de nacimiento".

"Pero, por supuesto, la iglesia crece en el continente americano. Tenemos la cifra mayoritaria de católicos en el mundo, que es un factor muy interesante para tenerlo en cuenta", dijo. "Asia representa un gran desafío y el horizonte abierto pues tiene más de un tercio de la población total del mundo y el menor número de católicos; así que, bajo el aspecto misionero, será importante. África florece en esperanzas y en número de católicos".

Todos esos asuntos regionales pertenecen al ministerio universal a los que se tendrá que avocar el próximo papa, dijo.

La iglesia es una institución trascendental, divina y espiritual hecha de seres humanos y vidas en el mundo, dijo; lo que quiere decir que "el principal problema de la iglesia es cómo anunciar el mensaje de Dios", especialmente en culturas modernas que tratan de excluir o negar la existencia de Dios.

Todos los otros problemas a los que se enfrenta la iglesia y la humanidad se derivan de este problema, dijo. Cuando la gente niega la existencia de Dios, "¿cómo puede uno predicar principios éticos?"

Tres: Es un Número Mágico

By Por el Padre Shane Tharp
Para el Sooner Catholic

Nota del autor: Mis disculpas por mi ausencia en estas páginas durante un par de semanas. Quiero dar las gracias al Sr. Moreno por relevarme. La redacción de esta edición viene del Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, párrafos 185-267.

La televisión del sábado por la mañana me hizo el hombre que soy hoy. Gracias a Schoolhouse Rock (una serie de caricaturas educativas que en las canciones actuales ilustran diversos temas), puedo explicar cómo un proyecto se convierte en ley y cómo funcionan las conjunciones. Cuando el calendario de la Iglesia recurre a la fiesta de la Santísima Trinidad, un episodio en particular de Schoolhouse Rock viene a la mente.

A través de los tonos graves de guitarra con melodías de la época de los 70, una voz canta: "Un hombre y una mujer tienen un pequeño bebé / sí, sí / son tres en su familia / Es un número mágico." Tres Realmente es un número mágico. Triángulos, tiendas de campaña, estructura de la oración, los valores trascendentales,

los acordes musicales, estados de la materia, la sociedad se basa en el número "3". Es como si la realidad apunta a lo que es a la vez distinto (puedes identificar los componentes) e inseparable (pierdes un componente y todo se desmorona).

Para la mente cristiana, la gloria de Dios llena el mundo. Todo da pistas a la gran verdad de que Dios es, que Dios ama a todo lo que él ha hecho, y que Dios busca a una verdadera comunión con la creación. Estamos bien familiarizados con el doble relato del Génesis sobre el orden y el propósito de la Creación. Ahora está de moda pensar en ellos como dos relatos en competencia sobre la Creación. Ellos armonizan entre sí, suplementando lo que el otro no trata. El significado y el propósito de la creación fascinan a los autores



no quería que algo fuera, no lo sería. La Creación fascina a los autores del Antiguo Testamento, porque la creación es tan buena y tan limitada. La experiencia del pecado, del sufrimiento y la muerte impulsa el deseo de conocer a Dios, un deseo de vivir de una manera amorosa con Él, un deseo irresoluto dentro de sus páginas.

San Pablo, en su carta a los Romanos, encuentra la resolución: La Creación nos estaba dirigiendo hacia el conocimiento del Creador, pero

del Antiguo Testamento. Los Libros Sapienciales, en particular, apenas pueden resistirse a meditar sobre las preguntas esenciales sobre la creación. El libro de la Sabiduría testifica como todo depende de Dios para su existencia, que Dios no creó el mal, y que si Dios

nuestra naturaleza caída nos dirigió a adorar lo creado, en lugar de al Creador mismo. Es en Jesucristo, que el significado de toda la creación entra en un enfoque agudo. Como el nuevo Adán, Cristo restaura lo que el pecado de Adán rompió. Este nuevo Adán pone a la creación de nuevo en su curso. Él consagra las cosas de la creación - pan, vino, agua, día, noche, vida, muerte - para que estas cosas proclamen que Dios no ha abandonado a su creación.

RICA nos provee a todos nosotros con un momento de reflexión. Cuando les pregunto a los participantes, ¿cuál es el misterio central de la Fe Cristiana? la respuesta usual es Jesús. Aunque nosotros mismos nos llamamos Cristianos, el misterio central de la Fe no es Jesús, es la Santísima Trinidad. Ese es el gran misterio de nuestra Fe. Que nuestro único Dios son tres personas divinas: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo, viviendo en indisoluble comunión el uno con el otro. El hombre hecho a su imagen y semejanza, a través de la gracia salvadora, puede también vivir de esa manera.

Cortas Enseñanzas de Apologética Católica

En este número, entraremos a mirar si es verdad eso, que los católicos adoramos IMAGENES. Los hermanos no católicos, nos acusan sin misericordia y con desacierto, tamaña falsedad.

La mentalidad protestante, especialmente los grupos que no tienen más de cien años, son los más incisivos en esta acusación, del todo errónea, y porque no decirlo, descabellada. Muchos grupos proselitistas protestantes, enseñan y explican cosas que la Iglesia jamás explica y enseña dentro de su doctrina magisterial. Eso hace que posean prejuicios y nos mal interpreten.

Aclaremos a ver si es verdad, que nosotros somos unos idolatras.

En principio y de entrada, decimos clara y rotundamente, los católicos NO adoramos imágenes. Los católicos solo adoramos a Dios Nuestro Señor. Solo a Él rendimos honor y gloria por los siglos de los siglos.

Entonces, ¿por qué las imágenes en los templos, capillas, casas etc.? Las imágenes, las pinturas religiosas, son solo representaciones de lo sagrado. El hombre a través de la historia, en su expresión artística ha usado la pintura, las figuras; las esculturas; los dibujos. Todo esto para darse a entender, para comunicar algo. Es bueno recordar, que la Biblia, ya como tal, con la totalidad de los libros, solo apareció en el siglo IV. Entonces la palabra de Dios se comunicaba de manera oral y se utilizó el arte para hacer más sensible y comunicar mejor las cosas de Dios. Por eso se dice que las imágenes y las pinturas religiosas es la Biblia de los pobres. Las Biblias eran muy caras y muy pocas, pues no existía la imprenta, solo fue hasta el siglo XV que por la invención de esta máquina se hicieron más populares y mas asequibles. Pero en el principio se evangelizaba de manera verbal y con las imágenes. Las imágenes para el católico no son dioses, son un recurso para evangelizar, para orar, no para adorar.

El culto de nuestra fe no se dirige a las imágenes en sí mismas, sino como canales y solo bajo ese aspecto las entendemos que nos conducen a Dios.

Los hermanos protestantes afirman que la Biblia prohíbe las imágenes, basados en el texto de Éxodo 20,4. Pero como es sabido ya por nosotros, estos hermanos manipulan los textos, no solo cambiando su sentido, sino enseñando cosas

que no enseña la Biblia. Dios jamás prohíbe las imágenes, lo que prohíbe es que la imagen sea tenida como "dios" y se postren ante ella. Expliquemos, si Dios hubiera prohibido las imágenes, no hubiera mandado hacer a Moisés dos querubines (imágenes de lo que hay arriba en cielo) para ponerlas en las extremidades de la cubierta del arca. (Éxodo 25,18-20); y tampoco hubiera mandado a Moisés hacer una imagen de serpiente (imagen de lo que hay abajo en la tierra) para ponerla en un palo (Números 21,8-9). No, Dios no tiene problemas con las imágenes, pues las manda hacer. Otros ejemplos están en segunda de Crónicas 3,10; segunda de Crónicas 3,5; segunda de Crónicas 3,7 etc.

Ahora se debe aclarar que es una imagen y que es un ídolo dentro del contexto cultural religioso. La imagen es una representación de una realidad que nos evoca y nos remite a Dios, al cielo, a los santos, a la virgen. No son dioses; no los adoramos, si se caen y se rompen seguimos teniendo fe en el Dios invisible y trascendente, nuestro Padre de los cielos. Un ídolo es una imagen, figura, estatua, escultura, pintura que es adorada, y es tenida como "dios". El católico por muchas imágenes que posea; santos, vírgenes, cruces etc., no son más que representaciones de una realidad religiosa, que acogemos con cariño, respeto y veneración, pero nada más.

Los grupos proselitistas protestantes, son en su supina ignorancia y arrogancia doctrinal grandes artífices de engaños. Su enseñanza es torpe, corta, inadecuada, engañosa y pertinazmente errónea.

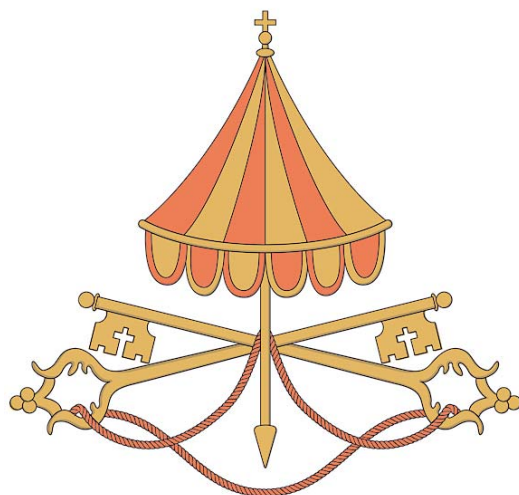
El católico venera sus imágenes por lo que representan y adora a Dios por lo que es.

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.



Por Padre
Raúl Sánchez

Vocabulario Católico Para Esto Días



El escudo del Estado de la Ciudad del Vaticano durante la Sede Vacante. El escudo está compuesto por las dos llaves cruzadas, una de oro y la otra de plata, (conocidas como las llaves del Reino de los Cielos; el conjunto está surmontado por un ombrellino, un toldo o sombrilla en franjas alternas de rojo y amarillo, que representa también la Sede Vacante (es decir, un interregno papal).

Sede Vacante, o Interregno, es el período de tiempo después de la muerte o renuncia válida de un Papa y antes de la elección del siguiente Papa por Cardenales autorizados reunidos en Cónclave, el cual está previsto para marzo de 2013. Sede Vacante es una expresión que nos llega del latín y significa que el sitio, refiriéndose a la cátedra o silla del Papa, está vacío.

El Cónclave es la reunión que celebra el Colegio cardenalicio de la Iglesia católica romana para elegir a un nuevo obispo de Roma, cargo que lleva aparejados el de papa (Sumo Pontífice y Pastor Supremo de la Iglesia católica) y el de jefe de Estado de la Ciudad del Vaticano. El término Cónclave procede del latín "cum clavis" ("bajo llave"), por las condiciones de reclusión y máximo aislamiento del mundo exterior en que debe desarrollarse la elección, con el fin de evitar intromisiones de cualquier tipo.

La Capilla Sixtina es el lugar donde se celebra el Cónclave. Sus frescos son obra de Miguel Ángel y está considerada una de las máximas cumbres del arte mundial.

Three: It's a magic number

By Father Shane Tharp

This issue's essay comes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraphs 185-267.

Saturday morning television made me the man I am today. Thanks to Schoolhouse Rock, I can explain how a bill becomes law and how conjunctions function. When the Church's calendar turns to the Feast of the Holy Trinity, a particular spot from Schoolhouse Rock comes to mind.

Over the bass tones of '70s funk guitar, a voice sings, "A man and a woman have a little baby/yes, they did/they have three in their family/-it's a magic number."

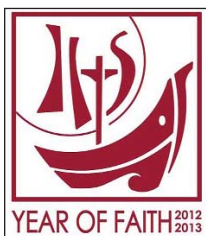
Three really is a magic number. Triangles, tents, sentence structure, the transcendental values, musical chords, states of matter: Society rests upon the number "3."

It's as though reality points at

that which is both distinct (you can identify the components) and inseparable (you lose a component and the whole thing falls apart).

For the Christian mind, God's glory fills the world. Everything hints at the great truth that God is, that God loves everything that he has made, and that God seeks after real communion with creation. We are well familiar with the dual accounts in Genesis concerning the order and the purpose of Creation. It's fashionable to think of them as two competing accounts of Creation.

They harmonize with each other, supplementing what the other doesn't treat. The meaning and purpose of creation fascinates the Old Testament authors. The Wisdom



Books, in particular, scarcely can resist meditating on essential questions about creation.

The book of Wisdom testifies how everything depends upon God for its existence, that God didn't create evil,

and that, if God didn't want something to be, it would not be. Creation fascinates the Old Testament authors because creation is so good and so limited.

The experience of sin, suffering and death drives a desire to know God, a desire to live in a loving way with Him, a desire unresolved within its pages.

St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, finds the resolution: Creation was leading us to know the Creator, but our fallen nature led us to worship the created thing, rather

than the Creator himself. It's in Jesus Christ that the meaning of all creation comes into sharp focus.

As the new Adam, Christ restores what Adam's sin broke. This new Adam puts creation back on course. He consecrates the things of creation — bread, wine, water, day, night, life, death — so that these things proclaim that God has not abandoned his creation.

RCIA provides us all with a moment of reflection. When I ask participants, "What is the central mystery of the Christian Faith?" the usual response is Jesus. Although we call ourselves Christians, the central mystery of Faith is not Jesus; it's the Holy Trinity. That's the great mystery of our Faith. That our one God is three divine persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, living in indissoluble communion with each other.

Catholics speak out against Colo. civil unions bill

DENVER (CNA/EWTN News) — Those who testified against a Colorado civil unions bill last week included a Catholic man with same-sex attraction and a Colorado attorney general who was adopted through Catholic Charities.

State attorney general John Suthers told the Colorado House Judiciary Committee Feb. 28 that, if the bill passes in its current form, "Catholic Charities and some other religiously affiliated social service agencies will no longer be in the adoption business in Colorado."

Suthers, a Catholic and a Republican who testified against the bill in his capacity as a private citizen, was adopted through Catholic Charities as an infant.

The bill S.B. 11 would create civil unions for two people of any sex that would be legally equivalent to marriage under state law. Unlike previous versions of the bill, the present version has dropped a religious freedom provision ensuring that child placement agencies were not required to place children with same-sex or unmarried couples.

The legislation passed the House Judiciary Committee by a vote of 8-3. It now heads to the House Finance Committee before a final vote on the House floor.

Catholic News Agency columnist Patrick Einheber, who writes on living as a chaste Catholic with same-sex attraction, read to the House committee his Jan. 28 column, "Same-sex attraction and the specter of inequality."

"I felt it was important to testify about the major thing that separates marriage from same-sex relation-

ships: the ability to create new members of society through a committed sexual relationship," Einheber told CNA March 5.

He said he generally felt civil unions proponents' testimony was "mostly emotional appeal and centered on what they wanted from society."

"It ignored the fullness of what marriage provides back to society," he said, explaining that the debate should focus on "why the government cares about marriage to begin with."



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Calendar

MARCH

10 **Open House**, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Holy Trinity School, Okarche.

10 **Open House**, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School, Oklahoma City.

10 **Penance Service**, 5 p.m., Epiphany parish, Oklahoma City.

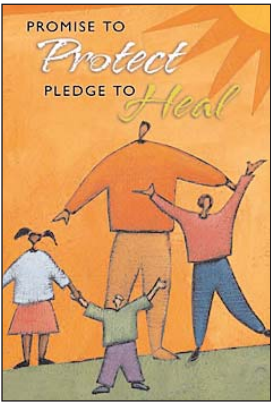
10 **Charismatic Healing Mass**, 5:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Oklahoma City. For more information, call the church office at (405) 685-4806.

10-12 **Lenten Retreat**: "The Call of Our Baptisms; The Call of Our Hearts" led by Father James A. Goins, March 10, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., March 11 and March 12, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Connor Center. Child care available upon request. For more information, call Faith Reilly at (405) 523-3057 or email freilly@cathedralokc.org.

10-12 **Lenten Mission** with guest Preacher Brendan Moss, OSB (Saint Meinrad), 7 p.m., St. Mark, Norman.

12 **Execution Vigil**, 5 p.m., Holy Innocents Chapel, Oklahoma City. The vigil will begin with Mass, then the Rosary. Participants will stay in prayer until after the execution. The

Safe Environment Workshop, April 9, 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center. This workshop is for Safe Environment Facilitators, Principals, DRE's, and Youth Ministers. Pre-registration is required by March 26. Contact Sr. Catherine Powers at (405) 721-5651 ext 150.



Holy Innocents Chapel will hold these vigils for every state execution.

12 **Open House**, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Good Shepherd Catholic School for children with autism and related neurological disorders, Oklahoma City.

12 **Catholic War Veterans meeting**, 7 p.m., St. Ann Retirement Center community room. For more information, call Father M. Price Oswalt at (405) 567-3404.

12 **Penance Service**, 7 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, Oklahoma City.

13 **Penance Service**, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., St. Monica parish, Edmond.

13 **Penance Service**, 6:30 p.m., St. Peter parish, Woodward.

13 **Catholic War Veterans USA The Oklahoma Memorial Post 168 meeting**, 7 p.m., the Sunnyslane Family Reception Center, Del City. For more information, call Ken at (405) 739-0036 or email OklaPost168@cox.net.

14 **Penance Service**, 6:30 p.m., Holy Family, Lawton.

16 **The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta meeting**, 7:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish Chapel, Edmond. For information, call Toni Harrelson, lmc, at (405) 341-2199 or email lmcoklahoma@sbcglobal.net.

16 **The community of the Secular Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus - Oklahoma**

Community and Province of St. Therese - meeting, 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Little Flower Church, Oklahoma City. For more information, call Katherine Payne at (405) 210-4826.

17 **The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Francis Fraternity meeting**, 1:15 p.m. St. Anthony's Hospital Chapel. For more information, call Jim Disbrow at (405) 830-8688.

17-25 **Monthly Novena to The Infant Jesus**. Nine days of prayer to Infant Jesus of Prague. During these nine days, the novena prayers will be as follows: Monday to Friday following noon Mass, Saturday following 6 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.

18 **Penance Service**, 6:30 p.m., St. Ann Church, Elgin.

23-24 **Beginning Experience Weekend**, Catholic Pastoral Center, Oklahoma City. This weekend program addresses the natural grief process and offers an opportunity, through God, for turning the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth. For registration information, call the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944 or download the registration at archokc.org/office-of-ministries/home.

Job Box

Summer Camp Staff
Our Lady of Guadalupe Summer Camp has openings for this summer. Are you interested in making a difference in the life of a child? Download an application at <http://archokc.org/youth-and-young-adult-office/summer-camp/join-our-staff>. Deadline is March 15.

Refugee Job Developer
Catholic Charities has an opening for a creative and energetic social service provider to work with employers to build relationships leading to job placement for clients in the Refugee Resettlement Program. Preference will be given to bilingual clients (Burmese or Arabic). Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Refugee Case Manager
Catholic Charities has an opening for a creative and energetic social service provider to provide case management services in our Refugee Resettlement program. Requires a degree in social work or a related field and the ability to establish and maintain relationships with local community service providers. Bilingual candidates with Burmese, Arabic or Spanish language skills preferred. Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. For more information, email

nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org
Bilingual Receptionist
Catholic Charities seeks a bilingual receptionist (Spanish). Successful candidate will possess the following: computer proficiency, including word processing, database management, and Excel; organizational skills and ability to multitask; excellent typing skills; positive communication skills, and the ability to relate to and professionally interact with staff, volunteers and the public. Send cover letter, resume and salary history to Human Resources, 1501 N. Classen Blvd, OKC, 73106, or email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Part-Time Driver
Catholic Charities has an opening for a part-time driver (25 hours per week) to provide transportation for clients of the Refugee Resettlement Program. Position requires a valid Oklahoma Driver's License and a good driving record. The driver will provide transportation to English language classes, employment and other social-service-related activities. Evening availability is required on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. Application may also be made in person. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Bilingual Case Manager
Catholic Charities has an opening

for a Bilingual Case Manager. This opportunity exists for a creative and energetic social service provider to provide case management services in our Family HOPE program. Requires a degree in social work or a related field and the ability to establish and maintain relationships with local community service providers. Preference will be given to bilingual clients (Spanish). Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106 For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Summer Internship
Catholic Charities and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) to provide a 10-week paid summer internship for any U.S. Catholic who is interested in community service and leadership development. Applicants must be open to the values of participation, option for the poor, and solidarity building, and show potential for continued leadership. Internships are paid at a rate of \$12.00 an hour and include an expense-paid orientation in Washington, DC, May 29 to May 31, 2013. Deadline for applications is March 15. For more information, call Becky VanPool at (405) 523-3003 or email bvanpool@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Choir Director
Tinker Air Force Base Chapel is seeking a Catholic Choir Director. The successful applicant should be

familiar with Roman-Catholic worship practices, rites and music, have at least three years experience and be able to pass a background investigation. Interested applicants should obtain a Statement of Work from the Chapel and submit a resume and bid by COB March 27. Interviews, in which the applicant will demonstrate proficiency in vocal and instrumental performance, will be conducted the week of April 1. For more information, call the Tinker AFB Chapel at (405) 734-2111.

Cafeteria Help Needed
Bishop McGuinness Cafeteria is now taking applications for part-time cafeteria help. If interested, please contact Laura Scott by email lscott@bmchs.org or call 842-6656 for an appointment.

Director of Pastoral Care
Via Christi Village, Ponca City, OK. The position is responsible for the delivery of spiritual care, as part of care team, to residents, their loved ones and, as appropriate, staff. Responsible for coordinating programs and services to strengthen alignment of decisions and behaviors of the organizations' personnel with VCH Mission and Core Values. Candidates must be knowledgeable and supportive of Catholic doctrine and the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. Apply online at www.viachristi.org or in person at Via Christi Village Ponca City, 1601 Academy Road, Ponca City, OK 74604.



University of Oklahoma students were some of those who took part in the recent college retreat. (Photo Courtesy)

Oklahoma Catholic university students take part in retreat

OLOG — More than 140 college and university students from around the state attended the 2013 Oklahoma Catholic College Student Conference.

The weekend retreat was held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Camp in early February.

The students enjoyed the opportunity to meet and connect with other Catholic college students from around Oklahoma. They spent the weekend learning about documents of Vatican II in breakout sessions, listening to prominent speakers like Bob Rice and Francis Beckwith, and having a blast playing Catholic Trivia. There were morning prayers, adoration and Mass celebrated by Archbishop Paul Coakley and Bishop Edward Slattery.

Among the colleges represented were OU, OSU, TU, St. Gregory's, Southwestern, Southeastern, Panhandle State, UCO, USAO, OSU-OKC, East Central, Mid America Christian University and even a few from out of state.

Students took an active role in the weekend.

Amanda Ortiz, an intern with the St. Thomas More Campus Ministry at OU, helped lead praise and worship during the weekend. She said the weekend emotionally and spiritually prepared her for the rest of her school semester.

Ortiz said she felt "better equipped to strengthen her relationship with God and the community" after her time at the college conference.

Nate McMullen, a freshman at STM, helped lead prayer during a weekend Bible study, and likewise said he benefited from the weekend. McMullen said he appreciated the community-like environment and the chance to meet Catholic students from other communities and schools.

In bringing together students from around the state, the weekend was able to facilitate discussion and new connections between Catholic college students.

The students learned about ways to live out their Catholic faith as young adults and college students.

FOCUS missionaries from the University of Oklahoma and Tulsa

University introduced to the group the concept of leading a Bible study, showing that it was feasible and perhaps simpler than expected for college students to create their own Bible studies with their peers.

Students like Lucy Fitzmorris, a student at the University of Oklahoma and a leader in St. Thomas More's Campus Ministry, said she especially enjoyed the weekend's talks, which focused on topics relevant to college students, including the Catechism and the evolution of Catholic doctrine.

Through the weekend, the students were able to grow deeper in their Catholic faith and answer the call of the New Evangelization.

Saint Ann health fair April 17

OKLAHOMA CITY — Saint Ann Retirement Center is hosting the annual "Health Fair and Open House" on Wednesday, April 17. This special event will take place in the Grand Theater from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Healthy snacks and beverages will

be served. Representatives from various health-related organizations will be on hand to discuss health issues and the services they provide.

The event will feature drawings for gifts donated by vendors.

Guests will be able to tour the facility.

Saint Ann's currently has a spring special for available one-bedroom Independent Living apartments.

To reserve a table at the health fair, call Richard, Martha or Tereasa at (405) 721-0747. Saint Ann Retirement Center is located at 7501 W. Britton Road.



Catholic Family Day at the Ballpark

Sunday, April 28 at 2:05 p.m.

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

Tickets are just \$11 and include:

- Limited edition RedHawks cap and PlayBall! game program.
- Pre-game player autographs.
- All kids 12 and under can run the bases immediately after the game.

Note: St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton School Choir will be singing the national anthem. George Ragazzi will be throwing the first pitch.

Deadline to order, March 22

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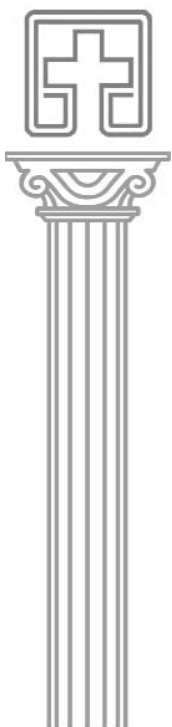
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