

Sooner Catholic

Serving the People of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Volume 37, Number 14 * July 17, 2011

Fr. Cory Stanley: Our New Priest

Mother Describes Feelings Of Joy At Son's Ordination

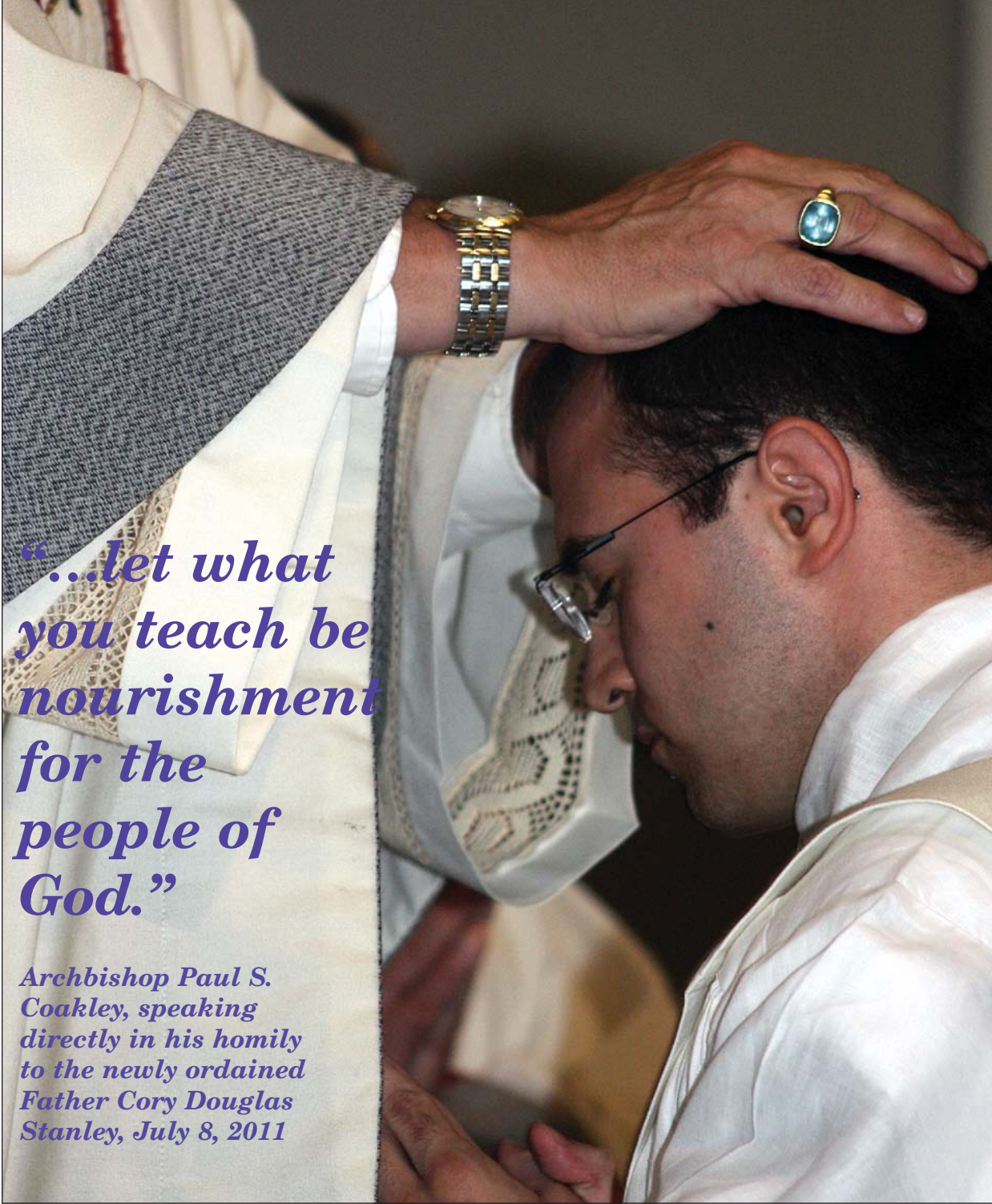
What feelings could a mother have, watching her son give his life to Christ. Cindy Stanley shares the feelings she experienced on July 8 as her son, Cory Douglas Stanley, became Father Cory Douglas Stanley.

"I am so very proud of my son, Cory, I correct that — Father Cory! I wonder how long it will take me to get used to introducing him as Father Cory. It was very special for our family to see Father Jim Griener vest Cory last year at his Diaconate in Rome and now as a priest for our archdiocese, especially since he baptized him so many years ago.

"There are no words for the bursting feeling in my heart as I watched Cory's Priestly Ordination ceremony and to watch him give his First Blessings.

"From the beginning of his childhood, Cory has always put his whole heart into whatever he is doing. From building with Lego's, to school studies, to playing the trumpet in band and at Mass — Cory has

Continued on Page 3



*"...let what
you teach be
nourishment
for the
people of
God."*

*Archbishop Paul S.
Coakley, speaking
directly in his homily
to the newly ordained
Father Cory Douglas
Stanley, July 8, 2011*

Story and photos on Pages 8 and 9

Holiness and the Word of God

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." This admonition of Saint Jerome reminds us that an adequate training in holiness and the art of prayer, which I have been writing about, calls for a renewed emphasis on listening to the word of God. In the dialogue of faith, God calls and awaits our response: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening!" (1 Sm 3:10). It is through a reverent attentiveness to the word of God, especially when it is proclaimed in the sacred liturgy, that we are able to hear and respond in faith to the saving word.

Since the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) placed renewed emphasis in the role of God's word in the life of the Church, we have witnessed great progress both in devout listening and attentive study of the Scriptures. The homily, based on the biblical texts of the lectionary, is now recognized as an integral part of the Mass. Individuals and communities do well to strive to know the Scriptures, always within the framework of the Church's faith and tradition. This effort is certainly enhanced by having recourse to good biblical and theological resources that

enable Catholics to grasp the integral nature of the Old and New Testament through the lens of our faith in Christ. The work of evangelization and catechesis draws its life and energy from being deeply rooted in the word of God.

Beyond the intellectual study of the word, however, it is particularly important that listening to the word lead to a life-giving encounter with the Person of the Word, Jesus Christ. This is the aim of the ancient traditional practice known as *lectio divina*. This slow, deliberate, prayerful reading of the Bible allows God's word to fill our mind, echo in our heart and move our will to respond, and sometimes simply to rest in God's loving embrace.

Pope Benedict described *lectio divina* as a spiritual reading of the Bible. "Spiritual reading of Sacred Scripture consists in poring over a biblical text for some time, reading and rereading it, as it were, 'ruminating' as the Fathers say and squeezing from it, so to speak, all its 'juice,' so that it may nourish meditation and contemplation and, like water,



Archbishop
Coakley

*"Put out
into the
deep and
lower
your nets
for a
catch."*

Luke 5:4

succeed in irrigating life itself." (Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus, Nov. 6, 2005).

Mary's perfect receptivity to the word of God is a model for the Church and every believer. Through her "yes" to the angel at the moment of the Incarnation, her presence at the foot of the Cross and on the day of Pentecost, Mary shares intimately in God's plan of salvation through the obedience of her faith. She lives her life in constant attentiveness to God's word, pondering it in her heart, and allowing God's Word to take flesh in and through her. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word!" (Lk. 1:38).

Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

Friday, July 22 - St. Gregory's University, 11 a.m.

Saturday, July 23 - Friday, July 29 - Pilgrimage to Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala

Sunday, July 31 - Father Stanley Rother Memorial Mass, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 10 a.m.

Sunday, July 31 - Catholic Day with the Redhawks, Bricktown Ballpark, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, August 2 - Wednesday, August 3 - K of C Supreme Convention, Denver, Colo.

Friday, August 5 - Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Camp, with Emmaus Days Participants, 10 a.m.

Sunday, August 7 - Mass, St. Katherine Drexel Retirement Center, El Reno, 11 a.m.

Sunday, August 7 - Groundbreaking for Memory Care Unit at St. Katherine Drexel, El Reno, noon

Monday, August 8 - Tuesday, August 9 - Jesus Caritas, Wichita, Kan.

Thursday, August 11 - Mass at Catholic Pastoral Center, 11:30 a.m.

Friday, August 12 - Sunday, August 14 - John Senior Colloquium at Clear Creek Abbey

Seminary Burses

A \$150 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Burse** made by the Carmelite Sisters of Villa Teresa.

A \$153.55 donation was made to the **Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse** by St. Joseph Parish, Blackwell.

Donations were made to the **Archdiocesan Seminary Fund** in memory of Father Kirk Larkin:
\$100 by an anonymous donor.
\$50 from Michael Cavallone, Rockford, Ill.
\$2,500 from Grace Living Center Foundation, Inc.
\$25 from Lawrence Maloney.

\$75 from Joe and Carolyn Dempewolf.
\$100 from the Luebbers family.
\$100 from Donald and Hellen Caughlin, Tonkawa.
\$100 from Bienvenido and Carmelina De La Paz, Ponca City.
\$50 from SL Greenwood, Ponca City.
\$15 from Mary H. Tapp, Ponca City.

Sooner Catholic

Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Publisher

Ray Dyer
Editor

Cara Koenig
*Photographer /
Special Projects*

7501 Northwest Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
(405) 721-1810 Fax: (405) 721-5210
e-mail: editor@catharchdioceseokc.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 32180
Oklahoma City, OK 73123

**Visit us online through the
Archdiocesan Web Page at
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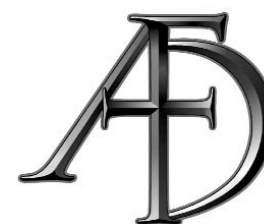
The Sooner Catholic (USPS 066-910) is published biweekly except for once in July and twice in December by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

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.

Bishop: New York Law Out of Line

WASHINGTON — In response to the enactment of a law redefining marriage in the state of New York, Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, expressed “grave disappointment with the legislature’s abandonment of the common good.”

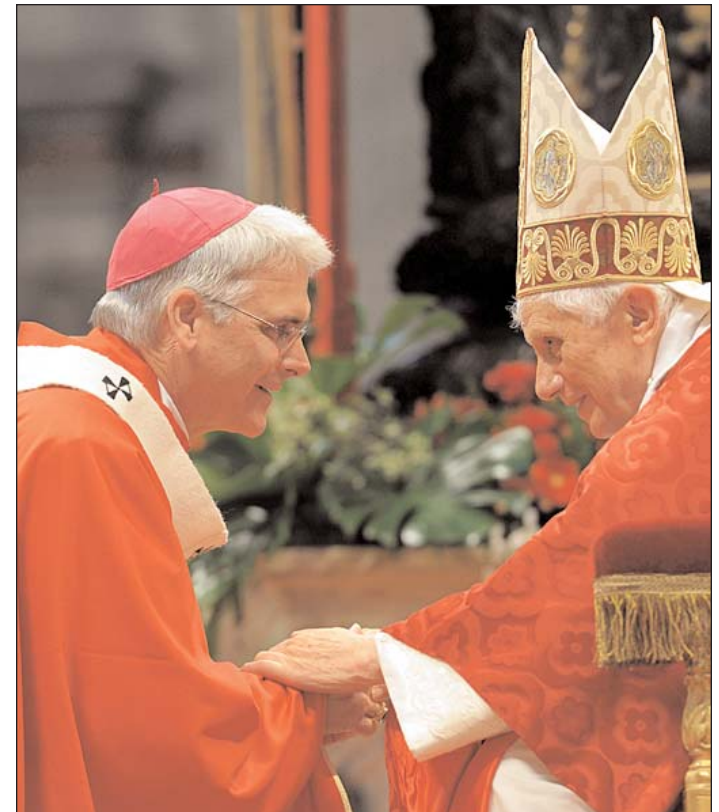
“Marriage, the union of a man and a woman, forms the foundation of social well-being by promoting love and respect between the two most fundamental representatives of the human community,” he said. “The institution of marriage also affirms the vital and unique importance to children of receiving care from both their mother and father together. Making marriage law indifferent to the absence of either sex creates an institutional and cultural crisis with generational ramifications yet to be seen. To eliminate marriage’s very essence — its essence as the union of husband and wife — from its legal definition is to ignore not only basic anthropology and biology but also the purpose of law generally. Law is meant to uphold the common good, not undermine it. Now, New York’s government will be forced to ignore that children have a basic right to be raised by their mother and father together. Also, as demonstrated in other states where marriage redefinition has occurred, officials there will be in a position to retaliate against those who continue to uphold these basic truths. This is a mark of a profoundly unjust law.”

The bill, titled the Marriage Equality Act, was passed by a margin of 33 to 29 votes in the state Senate and signed into law on June 24, four days after the legislative session was supposed to have ended. It dictates that “a marriage that is otherwise valid shall be valid regardless of whether the parties to the marriage are of the same or different sex.” The bill also directs that all other laws dealing with marriage or gender-specific subjects be reinterpreted to include two persons of the same sex who have obtained a marriage license. While the legislature included exemption language to give some protection to religious organizations — language made public only in the last hours before the vote — its actual legal effect will have to be scrutinized. Nonetheless, Bishop Cordileone noted, “Marriage is a fundamental good that must be protected in every circumstance. Exemptions of any kind never justify redefining marriage.”

Thousands of people at the grassroots level contacted key legislators in New York, urging them to oppose redefining marriage.

“Those courageous legislators and active citizens in New York who defended marriage should be applauded for their inspiring witness,” Bishop Cordileone said. His comments follow recent statements by the Bishops of New York (available at: http://www.nyscatholic.org/pages/news/show_newsDetails.asp?id=538, and http://www.nyscatholic.org/pages/news/show_newsDetails.asp?id=539) upon passage of the legislation.

Pope Benedict XVI greets Archbishop Coakley during the Pallium Mass celebrated at Saint Peter’s Basilica. The Mass was celebrated on the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul. Archbishop Coakley led a pilgrimage from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to Rome for the celebration with more than 100 people traveling with him.



Mother’s Joy

Continued from Page 1

always been determined to do his best. From the moment he told me that he had made the decision to become a priest, I had no doubt that he would follow through with his choice and be ordained someday and be a wonderful priest.

“During his eight years at Seminary — from Conception Seminary in Missouri to the Pontifical North American College in Rome, I have watched him strive to do his best once again. Just as he has been dedicated to the studies of the Catholic Church and vocations, Cory has strived to keep in touch with ‘home.’ It was amazing to see all the people from home as well as great

distances and different times of his life arrive for his ordination. They came from Elk City, his second-grade teacher was there, to various students including Saint Philip Neri students now in high school who he had corresponded with continually since his first year in seminary. A group came from Nebraska, Cory had met these friends in a restaurant in Rome. Also, various members of Oklahoma’s Knights of Columbus and Altar Societies and many members of Father Cory’s home parish, Holy Spirit in Mustang, as well as Saint Matthew’s Parish in Elk City, both mine and Cory’s birth parish.”

Red Mass to Be Celebrated Sept. 24 in OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY — Save the Date: On Sept. 24, 2011, a Red Mass will be celebrated at the regularly scheduled 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. A reception will follow in the Connor Center. The principal celebrants will be the Most Reverend

Paul S. Coakley and the Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann, Archdiocese of Kansas City. A Red Mass for judges, attorneys, law school professors, law students and government officials is traditionally celebrated in the USA to coincide with the convening of the U.S.

Supreme Court on the first Monday in October. The Mass requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the responsibility of all in the legal profession. Originating in Europe during

the middle ages, the Red Mass is so-called from the red vestments traditionally worn in symbolism of the tongues of fire that descended on the Apostles at Pentecost. The Mass will also be of interest to any parishioners who enjoy historical liturgies of the Church.

Servant of God

Oklahoma Catholics To Celebrate Life of Father Rother on 30th Anniversary

On July 28, 1981, Father Stanley Rother was shot to death while serving as pastor at Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala. In two weeks the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and his home parish, Holy Trinity in Okarche, will mark the 30th anniversary of the martyrdom of the priest the Universal Church has declared "Servant of God." His cause is being promoted for sainthood.

Bishop Victor Reed ordained Father Stanley Rother on May 25, 1963. His ordination card read, "For my own sake I am a Christian, for the sake of others I am a priest." This is the motto he lived out in his priesthood.

Early in his priesthood, Father Rother heard the call to become a missionary. The Catholic Church in Oklahoma had established ties with the Church in Guatemala and through this relationship, Father Rother volunteered to serve his new parish in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala.

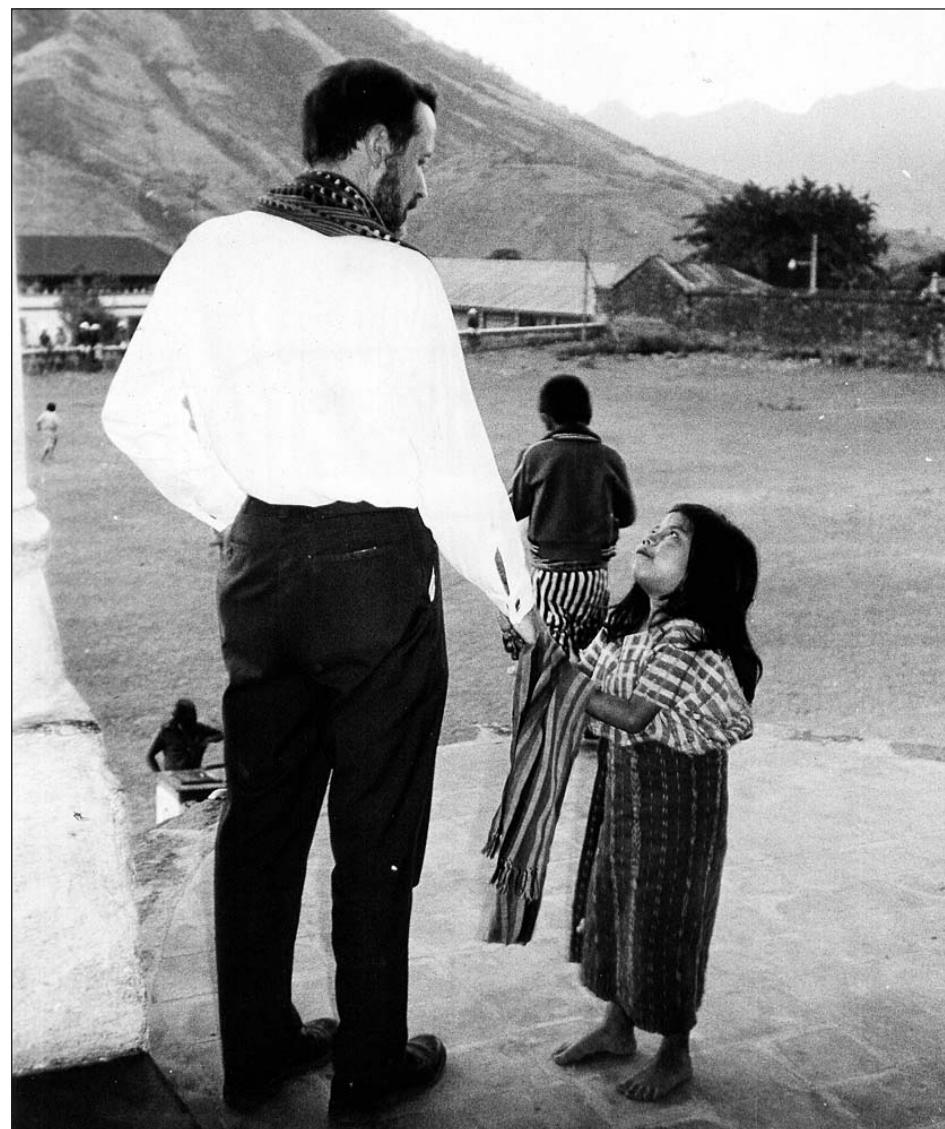
Father Rother fell in love with the people of Santiago Atitlan and they responded to this by loving him in

return.

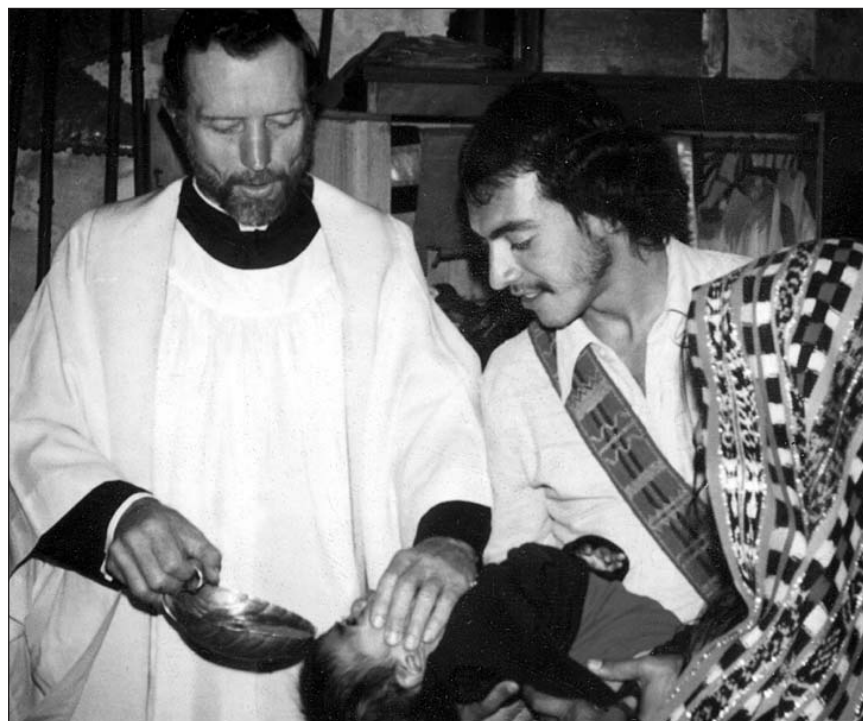
The violence of a civil war in Guatemala had raged for a number of years before it found its way to the peaceful villages that surround the beautiful Lake Atitlan. When the violence did arrive, people in the area, some of them Father Rother's own catechumens, began to disappear. Father Rother would walk the roads looking for the bodies of the dead so they could have a proper burial.

On July 28, 1981, after returning to Santiago Atitlan following a visit home to Oklahoma, the violence caught up with Father Rother. He was shot to death in the middle of the night in his own rectory. No one has ever been prosecuted for the killing. It is believed supporters of the brutal government were responsible for killing Father Rother.

The following is a letter written by Father Rother during the last year of his life. It is taken from the book "The Shepherd Cannot Run; Letters of Father Stanley Rother Missionary and Martyr." The book was compiled by the late Father David Monahan, a close friend of Father Rother's and



Father Rother and a little girl at the Mission in Santiago Atitlan.



Father Rother baptizing an infant in Guatemala.

the founding editor of *The Sooner Catholic*.

Father Monahan wrote a brief introduction to the letter which he titled:

"They may be coming here tonight."

The troubles suspected in September by the pastor fell upon Santiago Atitlan with a vengeance in late October. However, he curiously begins this letter with two items of important but rather ordinary kinds of mission business. Is Father Rother hoping, perhaps, that a possible government censor will not read farther down in the text?

The next to the last paragraph contains an offhand remark about the local radio station, the Voice of Atitlan, wandering from its original purpose. This follows along the lines of earlier private verbal comments made by Father Rother.

The letter arrived in Oklahoma

after the first word of troops coming to Santiago Atitlan was received by Archbishop Salatka from another source on Nov. 12.

November 4, 1980

Dear Archbishop Salatka:

Enclosed herein is a copy of the power of attorney that was agreed upon some time ago. It contains the necessary provisions for selling, deeding or almost any kind of divestiture. It would be a lot easier if the two of you were to sign it in front of the same Notary instead of each one doing it in his see city. The document then has to go to a Guatemalan Consulate, and if I remember right, there is one in Houston.

I feel that the option of asking Project Concern to look for a replacement for the Medical Program when they pull out is the best for us. There is no way that the local Bishop can run or finance the program. I went to see

him last week, but he was in another part of the Country at the funeral of a close friend, and I couldn't get back to him. Project Concern now has a new administrator on hand here and I hope that he can get the program going again.

Our situation here is steadily getting worse here in our town.

During the night of Thursday, October 23rd, two men were taken from their homes and vanished. It is rumored that one has returned, but it is not certain. The next night, the director of the radio was taken and it is reported that he left the house unconscious.

He was the former Deacon, got a dispensation and had a daughter of about a year. Sunday afternoon another was taken for a possible traffic violation and hasn't been seen again. Monday night a member of one of the coops was taken. By this time the people are literally scared to death. As a result, hundreds of people come to the Church to sleep for the night. Almost every night there are several catechists that come to spend the night with us to take turns standing watch. Last night the radio building was broken into, all the files rifled, and they lost four tape recorders and three typewriters. Luckily the three that were there to guard the building escaped. The radio hasn't been on the air since the director was kidnapped and today we dismantled the console, turntables and tape recorders in the control room and stored them in one of the workshops here at the parish.

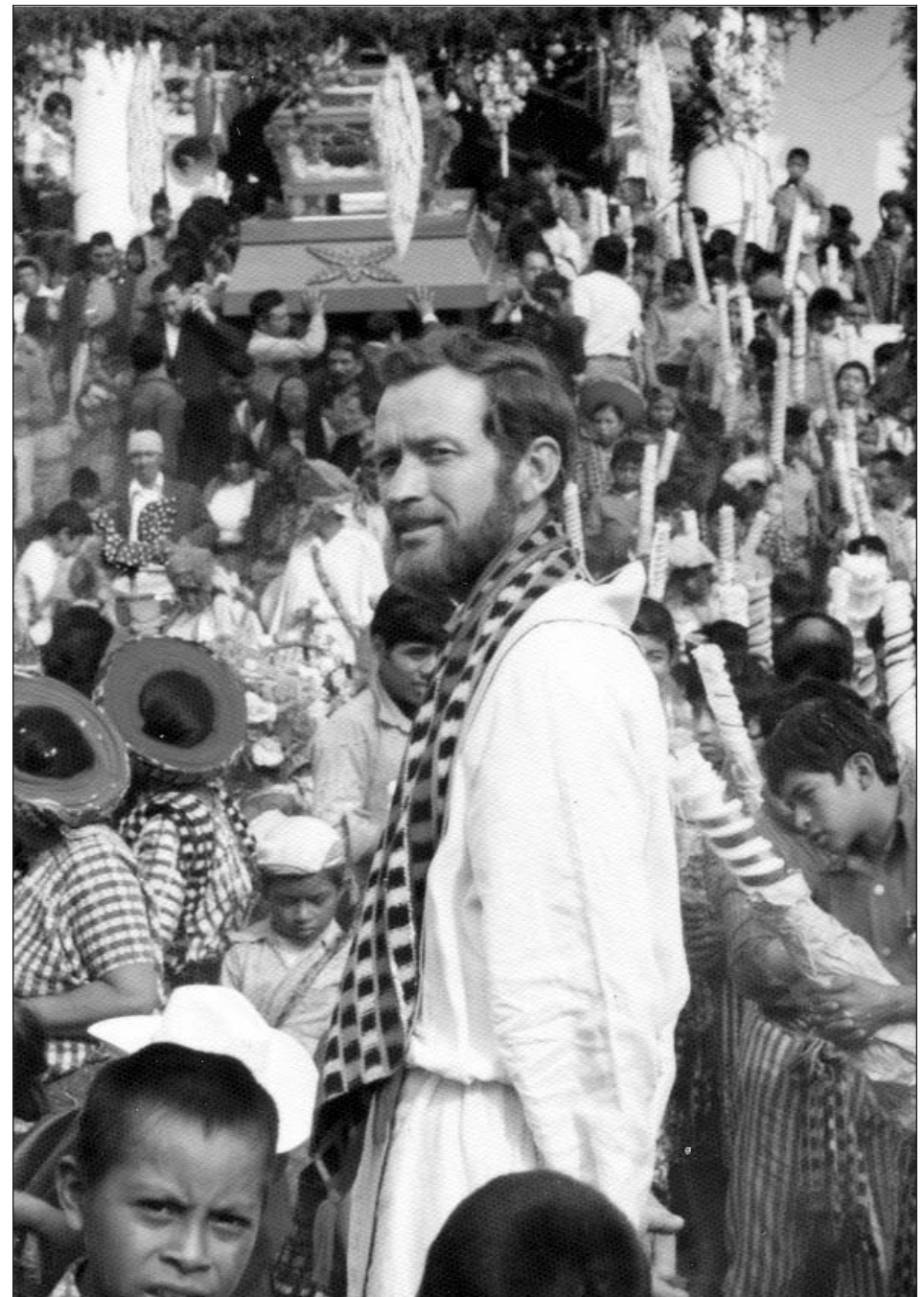
Anyone who has made an advancement at all is being pursued. As a result we have any number of catechists that have left the area. Four more were leaving today, and tomorrow I will be getting together with

our bible translator who left last Saturday. He isn't really a catechist, but is our ablest worker in translating, and has worked with various coops, etc. He was most recently the assistant administrator of the medical program. There are several hundred soldiers in the immediate area and they are camped partly on our farm. I have no intention to go ask them to move either.

I am a little tense tonight about where to sleep and whether to have someone stay here with me. The associate will be back tomorrow after leaving Sunday to get some rest. The group that broke into the radio last night may be coming here tonight. I have just about decided to leave all the doors open to avoid breaking them in, and sleep where they won't find me. There won't be much danger from ordinary thieves because people just aren't found on the streets any more at night. I can put the cash box and the good typewriters in the safe.

I have no intention of leaving here yet. Four priests recently left from the Chimaltenango area of our diocese. Three were foreigners. I have had no indication as yet that some group wants me out. Usually there will be some kind of direct threat in a letter or by word of mouth from someone in the know. My associate feels the tenseness more than I do, and we will probably go ahead and try for his visa. We haven't talked to the Bishop on that yet either.

The early part of October we pulled the old Bronco out of the lake. It was in worse shape than I first imagined — the frame is badly bent. It hasn't been released yet from the police, so it is parked out back hidden from public view. The driver was transferred to the prison farm about



Father Rother during the yearly festival of St. James.

the same time and I have been there twice to see him. I have a lawyer working on his defense, but the thing goes slowly. We may be able to get him absolved of the charge of stealing, but the culpable homicide will probably stick. I told him the last time that he is safer there in jail than out here with us.

The Sisters are away this week at the provincial chapter. They were also gone last week for their annual retreat. They are finding out that there is more than they can handle if they aren't selective in the jobs that they take on starting in January. One of the things that is being asked for by

the girls is alphabetization. That is the one thing that the radio was started for twelve years ago and gradually they went to other things. And that is the reason for their troubles now too. By the way, I sent a picture of the Sisters to the Sooner Catholic and the Eastern Okla. Cath. and it hasn't appeared in our paper. It just may be that it never did get there. I sent them the same day. I heard from two different sources that it appeared in the Tulsa paper.

Remember me to the staff there at the Pastoral office. We can use an occasional prayer for our safety if that is

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Save the Date:

On July 28, Father Stanley Rother will be remembered throughout the day at Holy Trinity Church, Okarche, starting with Exposition and Adoration of the Eucharist, all day starting at 8 a.m. The day will end with benediction and Mass at 5 p.m. All are welcome.

On Sunday, July 31, a Memorial Mass will be held at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City. Archbishop Coakley and Archbishop Beltran will be the principal celebrants. All are welcome.

Father Rother Pilgrims Will Travel to Guatemala

OKLAHOMA CITY — Archbishop Paul S. Coakley and Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran will lead a pilgrimage to Guatemala later this month to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the death of Father Stanley F. Rother.

Father Rother, a native of Okarche, has been declared by the Universal Church as a Servant of God. He was shot to death in his rectory on July 28, 1981. The Church in Oklahoma believes Father Rother died for his faith. His cause is being promoted for sainthood and the Vatican has agreed to accept information supporting the effort.

Some 40 pilgrims, including Bishop Anthony Taylor of the Diocese of Little Rock, Ark., will make the journey to Guatemala. The pilgrimage begins July 23 and will include daily Mass with two memorial Masses set for July 28, the day Father Rother was killed.

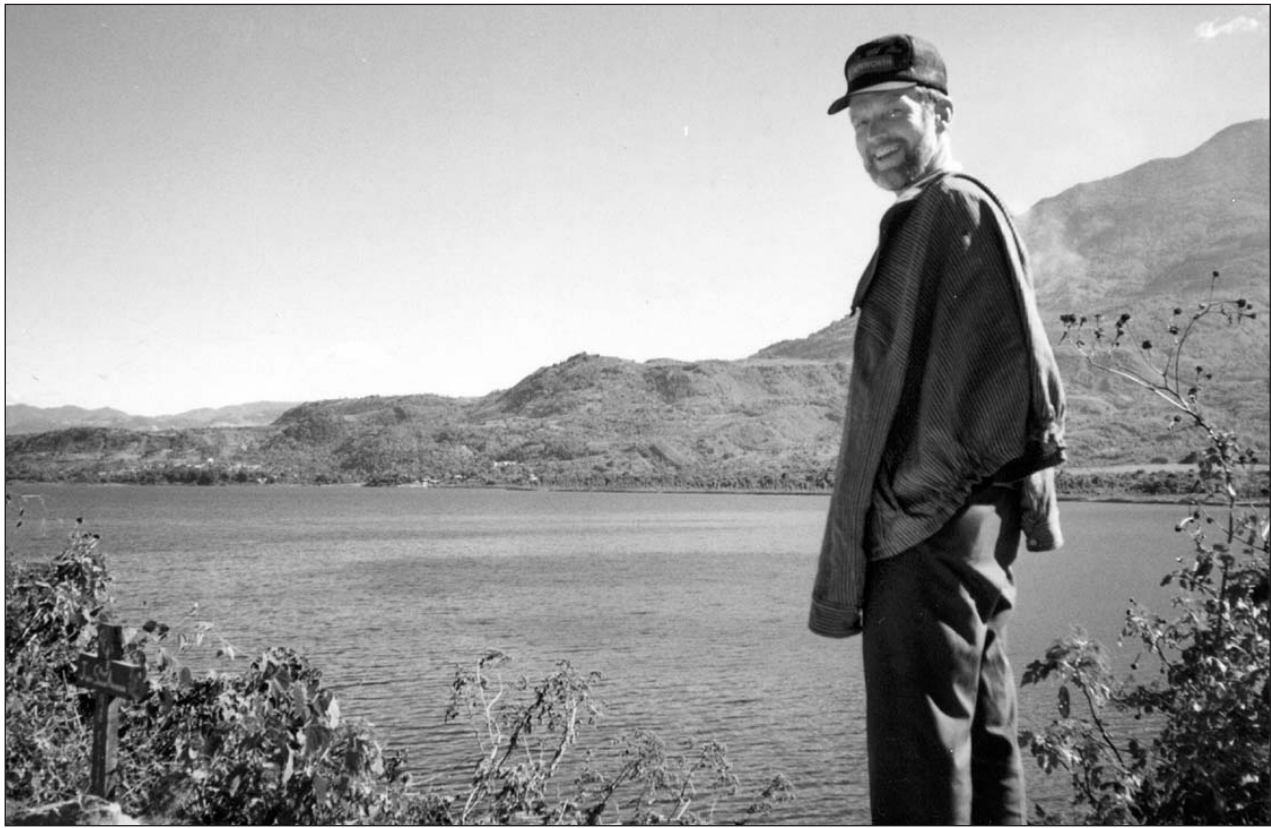
So loved was Father Rother by the people in Santiago Atitlan they received permission in 1981 to remove his heart before his body was returned to Oklahoma. The heart of Father Rother is buried beneath the altar in Santiago Atitlan.

The pilgrims will also tour and celebrate Mass at the site of the 2005 mudslides that claimed hundreds of lives in the area.

On July 25, Archbishop Emeritus Beltran will preside over the blessing of the Hospital Atitlan built with support from Oklahoma Catholics.

The following is a partial list of those making the pilgrimage to Guatemala:

Archbishop Paul Coakley
Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran
Bishop Anthony Taylor
Monsignor Edward Weisenburger



Father Rother at Lake Atitlan.

Monsignor Peter Wells
Abbot Jerome Kodell, OSB
(Subiaco)
Abbot Lawrence Stasyszen, OSB
Rev. Stephen Bird
Rev. Michael Chapman
Rev. Timothy Luschen
Rev. Tony Robbins

Sister Kathryn Olsen
Carol Davito
George Rigazzi
Jack and Jean Nashert
Ana Romero
Maria Scaperlanda
Dennis and Dianne Frazier
Carol Shean

Ken Greiner
John and Dee Ward
Elizabeth Hathaway
Anne McGuire
Larry Wells
Paul and Jeanne Meyer
Cheryl Wheeler
Tom and Katrina Morris

Father Rother

Continued from Page 5

the will of the Lord. I still don't want to abandon my flock when the wolves are making random attacks.

Peace in
Christ Jesus,
Stanley F. Rother

Notes and identifications:

"The two of you" are Archbishop Salatka and Bishop Beltran.

"Project Concern," a private non-profit primary health care and nutrition organization for Third World places, is based in San Diego, Calif. It had staffed and operated the Santiago Atitlan hospital since 1975. The hospital was built in the late 1960s by the mission team with

Father Robert Westerman and Father Rother performing much of the physical labor and supervisory work.

"The former deacon" was Gaspar Culan, who was to have been the first Tzutuhil Indian ordained a Catholic priest. Before ordination he chose to return to the lay state and to marry. In 1979, he began to work for the radio station, the Voice of Atitlan, and eventually become its director.

"Chimaltenango" is a city located along the Pan American Highway about halfway between the Lake Atitlan area and Guatemala City.

"Alphabetization" is the process of learning to read and write.

Purchase a copy of *The Shepherd Cannot Run*
Letters of Stanley Rother Missionary and Martyr

Or the movie *No Greater Love: The Story of Father Stanley Rother*

Fill out the form below and mail it with a check or money order payable to Sooner Catholic History Account, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73123.

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Conference Focuses on Forgiveness, Conversion

By Anamaria Scaperlanda
For The Sooner Catholic

NORMAN — As summer began, the University of Oklahoma College of Law played host to the sixth annual conference on Catholic Legal Thought. The University of Oklahoma was the first public university to host the event that grew out of a dinner conversation between four law professors who attended “The Call to Justice: The Legacy of Guadalupe et Spes Forty Years Later” at the Vatican in 2005. These professors saw the good that law professors could do in revitalizing our culture and wanted to better position themselves and other professors to do so by providing greater education to legal scholars in the Catholic philosophical and theological tradition, creating a viable community of scholars, and developing a systematic way for reaching out to newcomers.

As such, scholars from Notre Dame, Duke, St. Thomas, Gonzaga, Villanova and Loyola Chicago, among other universities, joined students and faculty from OU for this three-day conference centered on Augustine. The conference opened with a panel led by keynote speaker Paul Griffiths, the Warren Professor of Catholic Theology at Duke University. Griffiths’ talk was followed by response from Luis Cortest from the Modern Languages Department at OU, George Martinez of Southern Methodist University, and Brian McCall from OU’s College of Law. The panel was titled “The Essential

Augustine for 21st Century Lawyers and Law Professors” and touched on the role of civil authority, common law and how to talk with non-Christians. The purpose of the panel was to enhance attendees’ understanding of the works of St. Augustine, especially on matters related to the law.

Conference participants then journeyed to St. Thomas More University Parish to attend Mass with Archbishop Paul Coakley. In his homily, Archbishop Coakley spoke about the martyrdom of Stephen, underscoring how this led to the spreading of the Gospel among the Gentiles before reminding attendees that “part of our lives as believers is to mine the faith that we’ve accepted, the mystery that’s inexhaustible and continues to offer deeper veins of exploration. Faith sheds light on our experience and helps us to understand our lives.”

The following day began with Mass, celebrated by Reggie White, O.P., who is also a law professor at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. Following breakfast, the academic portion of the conference continued with a panel titled “The City of Man: What role should the law play in infusing the City of Man with the City of God?” with professors John Breen from Loyola Chicago, Kevin Lee from Campbell University, and Lisa Shultz from the University of St. Thomas. The panel discussed to what extent the law should educate people about the moral life.

The afternoon’s panel, “Forgiveness and Conversion: What should be the law’s attitude toward and treatment of post-conviction criminals?” featured professors Mark Olser and Susan Stabile, both from the University of St. Thomas, alongside Megan Ryan from Southern Methodist University. Professor Ryan opened the panel discussing the use of modern science in the law as well as the “Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause” of the U.S. Constitution, stating that new punishments, specifically those using modern science, are more suspect under the Constitution because they are unusual.

Professor Olser continued the panel. He began by admitting that he’s not a theologian, a philosopher or even a Catholic, but an unrepentant prosecutor from Detroit, which, he said, “is a good place if you’re into criminal law. It’s like being in love with someone who breaks your heart the same way over and over.”

Olser continued, “It’s interesting to see Augustine as a participant in the process [of justice]. His concern is that mercy have an identifiable role in the process, which is a damning indictment of what we do in this country where the trend is to close the gap where mercy entered.”

Specifically, Olser spoke about mandatory life without parole for juveniles who commit certain crimes and the pardon power of the president. The trend in both of these areas of criminal law is away from mercy. Mandatory sentencing for

certain crimes, specifically for juveniles, is in place in many states, which does not even allow the fact that it’s a child to enter into the decision. It should not always matter, he says, but, as it is, it cannot matter in many states. Additionally, presidents have historically pardoned hundreds and articulated a principle for pardoning, while the last three only pardoned a few and did not even attempt to articulate a principle for pardoning.

Susan Stabile, Olser’s colleague, concluded the panel by discussing the re-integration of those who have served their sentence to become part of the community again, something that is important because of the interdependence of all humans. As it is, re-integration is not helped by the way that people serve their sentences, which includes tremendous obstacles and ends, at best, with a strained relationship with their family and community.

The conference also included Spiritual Exercises led by Father Greg Kalscheur, S.J., and concluded with a discussion on the limits of secular discourse led by Steven Smith from the University of San Diego.

Mark Olser, a non-Catholic, articulated the importance of the conference. “These are my people. These are the people who have that strong connection between faith and vocation that’s both limiting and freeing.”

Catholic Social Teaching: The Basis of Parish Life

Would you like to learn new ways to reach out to the poor, vulnerable and the suffering with your fellow parishioners? Do you want to learn practical ways of integrating the mission of the church throughout your parish community? Would you like to see how each Catholic could be connected to someone who is in need of support, help and hope?

A workshop will be held on Friday, Aug. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen, Oklahoma City. Jack Jezreel, director of JustFaith Ministries, will present the key components of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Statement, Communities of Salt & Light:

Reflections on the Social Mission of the Parish. He will demonstrate how it is a model for integrating Catholic Social Teaching into parish social ministry and the life of your parish.

Becky VanPool, director of Parish Outreach for Catholic Charities, says that the workshop will challenge every participant to answer the question: “If your parish disappeared, would the poor in your community care?”

Jack Jezreel has over 25 years of experience of working in parish ministry and spent eight of those years at a parish in Louisville, Ky., developing a conversion-based justice formation program.

JustFaith Ministries, with partners including Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services, is a nonprofit organization that creates social justice formation programs.

The workshop is for anyone in your parish, whether clergy, staff or laity, who is interested in learning more about integrating service to the poor and vulnerable into all aspects of parish life.

There is no charge for the workshop, but pre-registration is required. A light lunch will be served. To register or if you have any questions, contact Becky VanPool at bvanpool@catholiccharitiesok.org or (405) 523-3003.

Catholics Applaud Ordination of Fr. Cory Douglas Stanley

OKLAHOMA CITY — Thunderous applause broke out after the faithful gathered at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for the Ordination of Father Cory Douglas Stanley recited the words “Thanks be to God.” With that simple yet heartfelt prayer, Jesus Christ welcomed a new Roman Catholic priest into His ministry and the people of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City expressed their thanks and gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

Just prior to the applause, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley accepted the recommendation of Father William Novak, director of Vocations for the Archdiocese, who testified that Cory Stanley had indeed been found worthy of the priesthood.

“Relying on the help of the Lord God and our Savior, Jesus Christ, we choose this, our brother, for the Order of the Priesthood,” said Archbishop Coakley.



Archbishop Coakley and Father Stanley exchange the sign of peace after which Father Stanley exchanged the sign of peace with all of his brother priests who were in attendance.

Several hundred Catholics, including many of Father Stanley's family, packed into the Cathedral for the July 8 Ordination and Eucharistic Celebration. In the front pew were his parents, Doug and Cindy Stanley, and his brother, Kyle. At the beginning of his homily, Archbishop Coakley greeted and thanked Father Stanley's family for their faithfulness to God and their willingness to give their son and brother to the service of our Lord. The family delivered the Offertory Gifts of bread and wine that were given to Archbishop Coakley, who then placed them in the hands of the newly ordained as he knelt before him.

Also celebrating the Ordination and Mass were Oklahoma City's Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran and Bishop Anthony Taylor of the Diocese of Little Rock, as well as dozens of priests and deacons from throughout the Archdiocese. Archbishop Coakley welcomed all, including Monsignor Dan Mugenborg and Father Xavier Nacke, OSB, instructors of Father Stanley while he studied in seminary.

Alvin Schones, a great-great-uncle to Father Stanley, said following the Ordination he was “overwhelmed” by the beauty and excitement that surrounded the sacred ceremony.

“He's one of my boys,” said Schones, who himself years ago had spent some time in the seminary contemplating a possible vocation to the priesthood.

In a true-life script that could have only been written in heaven, Father James Griener, who baptized Cory Stanley some 26 years ago as an infant at St. Matthew's Parish in Elk City, was one of two priests to help the newly ordained priest receive his vestments. Father Timothy Luschen also assisted with the Investiture of the priestly stole.

Following the Ordination, Father Stanley greeted priests, family and well-wishers, as he delivered “first blessings” to all who stood patiently waiting their turn to offer thanks and support to our new priest.

In his homily, Archbishop Coakley emphasized that all are called to be disciples of Christ, although priests are called especially to this “entrusted” friendship with our Lord.

“Though His words are intended for all who would be his disciples, they are spoken especially to those to whom the Lord entrusts a special participation in his own saving mission, in His own priestly ministry. I have called you



Father Stanley kneels as Archbishop Coakley says a prayer over him.

friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. I call you friends,” Archbishop Coakley said.

“A priest is many things to many people. It has always been so. Today the expectations are perhaps more complex and demanding than ever before. A priest is a steward of the mysteries of God. He is a pastoral leader. He is an administrator of the temporal goods of the Church. Through Holy Orders, every priest shares sacramentally in the threefold office of Jesus as teacher, shepherd and sanctifier. But priesthood is not merely what we do. It is who we are. It is a life. It is an identity. At the heart of this priestly identity is friendship. Jesus calls each priest to be his friend and to share his life. It is from that special friendship, from an intimacy born of daily conversation with the Lord in prayer and reflection on the



Archbishop Coakley anointing Fr. Stanley's hands.



Father Tim Luschen and Father James Greiner vest Father Stanley in his priest vestments for the first time.

Word of God, and rooted in a sacramental communion with Jesus Christ as Head, Shepherd and Spouse of the Church that the fruitfulness of our ministry flows. “I have told you this that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete!

“Today we rejoice that the Lord continues to call to this special friendship, to anoint and consecrate for service those He has chosen from among us for a special share in the one eternal priesthood of Jesus Christ.

“Now, Deacon Cory, you are to be raised to the Order of the Priesthood. For your part you will exercise the sacred duty of teaching in the name of Christ the Teacher. Be submissive to the Word with the obedience of faith. Impart to everyone the word of God which you have received with joy. Prayerfully meditating each day on the law of the Lord, see that you believe what you read, that you teach in its fullness what you believe, and that you practice what you teach. Thus, your teaching and preaching will have the ring of authority and compelling force of the truth.”



Above, Father Stanley gives first blessings after ordination. Left, Father Stanley and his family.

Bike Race Helps Raise Funds For St. Greg's Abbey

SHAWNEE — Organizers of a Memorial Day bicycle race and ride that raised money for St. Gregory's Abbey and University hope the course's challenge will help it grow into a nationally recognized race event. Around 50 cyclists gave \$500 for a chance to win a bicycle frame and fork, donated by Cannondale Bicycle Corporation and Bicycle Shoppe of Shawnee. The money will help pay for graduate or seminary studies for young monks at the Benedictine monastery. The event was a combined race and ride that started at Tecumseh City Hall and ended at the site of the original Sacred Heart Abbey and Mission, four miles west of Konawa.

"The monastic community is very pleased that the annual ride brings attention to the rich historical importance of the site of Sacred Heart Abbey and Mission," said the Most Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, abbot and chancellor for the university. "We also very much appreciate the donation of funds raised through the event. The money will support the education of our younger monks, who one day will continue, here at St. Gregory's, the missionary work begun by the Sacred Heart monks."

The 26-mile fun ride took a direct route from Tecumseh to the old mission. The race was 39 miles long, meandering through the South Rock Creek area, Earlsboro and Maud. Race director Michael Cappo said the race route is as hilly and difficult as any in Oklahoma. "It was

the hardest thing I've ever done on a bike," Cappo said. "We had sustained headwinds of 35 miles per hour the entire race. It was incredibly challenging." This year was the first time bikers have both raced and toured from Tecumseh on Memorial Day. The event combined two components: the Fred Weber Memorial Day Ride, which has been held annually for 30 years, and a benefit race to Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart cycling event in previous years was held the last Saturday in September until a few years ago. This year the Pedalers Cycling Club of Shawnee revived the defunct fundraiser to coincide with the Weber ride. Cappo and Larry Smith, Bicycle Shoppe owner and a longtime Shawnee cycling enthusiast, plan to apply to have the event nationally sanctioned through USA Cycling. Sanctioning would allow the awarding of prizes and draw a larger number of competitive cyclists. USA Cycling is the official governing body for all disciplines of competitive cycling in the United States. "I think this event has a lot of potential for the future to benefit St. Gregory's," Smith said.

In the race, the three fastest men and women won trophies. In the women's division, winners were Monica Mullins of Shawnee, followed by Tami Sanders and Teresa Pedder, both of Edmond. Winners in the men's division were Brady Schmiedeberg of Oklahoma City, Brian Ricker of Ada and Michael Kimberling of Norman.



Michael Cappo, race director for the Sacred Heart Memorial Day Race, presents a check of the race proceeds to Abbot Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B. Also pictured are, second from left, David Isbell, Larry Smith and Kaitlin Isbell. (Photography by Brother George Hubl, O.S.B.)

Donations Requested to Help Holy Family Home

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Holy Family Maternity Home is asking the community for low-cost donations of movie theater gift certificates, museum tickets, restaurant gift cards and passes to local attractions, such as Celebration Station and Orr Family Farm, which can be used for six to eight residents and a chaperone.

"Many of our residents are from a different part of the state, and sadly, their only experience with the Oklahoma City metro area is school and the home. For these girls, the opportunity to

see a movie or visit a museum is a much-needed distraction from the difficult reality of life as an expectant teenage mother," said Mary Jane Webster, director of the Holy Family Maternity Home. "Fortunately, just a small donation of a gift card or museum pass can make a large difference in a young girl's life."

Based in Oklahoma City, Catholic Charities Holy Family Maternity Home is a full-service home for young women ages 12-17 in crisis pregnancies. The program is licensed by the

Oklahoma Department of Human Services and provides 24-hour care and supervision in a safe and comfortable home environment. The Holy Family Maternity Home promotes the respect and dignity of life through assisting each resident and her family in making and carrying out plans that will ensure a positive future for herself and her child.

For more information about the program or to make a donation, please call Catholic Charities at (405) 523-3000.

Does the Church Have Doubts About Brain Death?

The Catholic Church has long acknowledged the role of the medical professional in declaring death. It is the proper competency of medicine, not theology, to identify reliable signs that death has occurred. The hardening of the body known as rigor mortis, for example, is a reliable medical indicator that death has occurred. When the heart permanently stops beating and the lungs permanently stop functioning (cessation of cardio-pulmonary function), medical professionals recognize these signs as another reliable way to assess that death has occurred. The complete and irreversible loss of all brain function (commonly known as “brain death,”) is yet another reliable way medical professionals determine that a patient has died.



By Father Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D

In an August 2000 address, Pope John Paul II took up the particular question of brain death and concluded: “The criterion adopted in more recent times for ascertaining the fact of death, namely the complete and irreversible cessation of all brain activity, if rigorously applied, does not seem to conflict with the essential elements of a sound anthropology.” In other words, he affirmed that the Church does not see any fundamental conceptual problems with the idea of brain death. The complete cessation of all brain function (brain death), is also referred to as “neurological criteria” for determining death, to distinguish it from the classic “cardio-pulmonary criteria” used for centuries.

The medical profession initially accepted the notion of brain death not because it was looking to procure organs for transplant, as is sometimes supposed, but because of a new situation that arose from the burgeoning use of ventilators, with some patients becoming permanently “ventilator-

dependent.” As early as 1959, well before widespread organ transplantation was possible, Drs. Mollaret and Goulon wrote in the Review of Neurology about a subgroup of these ventilator-dependent patients who had suffered catastrophic brain injuries. This could result in a definable condition from which recovery was impossible (“a state beyond coma”). Patients in this state had died, even though ventilators could continue to oxygenate their bodies and preserve organs for a limited period of time. Following the publication of a pivotal 1968 report detailing this kind of situation by a committee at Harvard Medical School, the notion of brain death gained consensus and became widely accepted within both the medical and legal communities.

The Catholic Church likewise acknowledged these medical developments and has never expressed any serious conceptual reservations about brain death in the years following the Harvard report. Today, medical professionals remain in broad agreement that the complete and irreversible cessation of all brain activity serves as a reliable indicator that a person has died. Major medical societies such as the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Neurology have issued official statements affirming this.

Nevertheless, a certain number of Catholics today insist that brain death is not really death. One moral theologian, for example, recently expressed doubts “that ventilator-sustained brain dead bodies are corpses.” Several Catholic physicians have raised similar concerns. As long as thorough and accurate medical testing is performed, however, the Church continues to support the determination of death based on neurological criteria. In addition to Pope John Paul II’s address mentioned earlier, a number of other Church documents and declarations affirm this.

These include statements from the Pontifical Academy of Life, the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers and the Pontifical Academy for Sciences, among others. In a recent article on the Catholic News Agency website, Dr. John Haas argues that the number and common thread of these ecclesiastical statements in recent years indicates that the teaching authority of the Church has “generally resolved” the question of the acceptability of relying on neurological criteria as a means for ascertaining death.

In the face of clear church teaching on this issue, Dr. Haas further observes how it is not responsible for Catholics to generate uncertainty by openly and publicly disputing the suitability of neurological criteria for determining death. Such speculations can “cause confusion in the minds of the faithful and unsettle consciences.” If consciences become unsettled on this matter, the practical ramifications can be far-reaching: consent to harvest organs is not given, transplants of such organs do not occur, and lives that could validly be saved by such transplants are instead lost.

The fact remains that the Catholic Church to date has expressed no official doubts about brain death, emphasizing instead that a health-care worker can use neurological criteria as the basis for arriving at “moral certainty” that death has occurred. Meanwhile, the Church continues to recognize the generous nature of freely-chosen organ donation, an act Pope John Paul II once called “particularly praiseworthy” and an act which can offer “a chance of health and even of life itself to the sick who sometimes have no other hope.”

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.

Women of Faith Conference Set for Aug. 20 at Parish

OKLAHOMA CITY — Registration continues for the third annual Women of Faith/Women of Action Conference to be held Aug. 20 at Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church at 7336 W. Britton Road. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. for registration, coffee, doughnuts and browsing with Catholic vendors. Reconciliation will be available during lunch break. Prayer service begins at 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Stephen J. Bird, pastor of Epiphany of the Lord Parish, presiding. Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City, will be principal celebrant and homilist at closing Mass at 5:30 p.m.

You may register by PayPal on our webpage at <http://okaccw.tripod.com/woa/index.html>. Speaker bios and a hotel list along with general information are available. Registration is \$40; high school and college students are \$25. A catered box lunch is

\$10 and a conference T-shirt is \$15. For mail-in registration, e-mail or call Chris Thomas, (405) 306-5187, thomaschrisL@sbcglobal.net (2115 Parkview Drive, Moore, Okla. 73170), or Barbara Wann, (580) 875-2278, wannb@sbcglobal.net (302 E. Ohio Walters, Okla. 73572).

The theme of this year’s conference is “We Walk by Faith Not By Sight.” Opening our conference is our keynote speaker, Sister Rosalind Moss, Daughters of Mary/Mother of Israel’s Hope, speaking about “The Making of a Jewish Nun.” Sister Rosalind will present an inspiring journey from her Jewish heritage to the Catholic Church — and now to founding a religious order of Sisters who will be messengers of hope to all longing for a sign of God’s mercy.

Marcus Grodi, president and founder of Coming

Home Network International and host of EWTN weekly TV show, The Journey Home, will address the assembly with “What Is Truth,” the story of his conversion to the Catholic faith. In the afternoon sessions, Sister Moss will speak to attendees about “The Father’s Gifts,” a look at all God has given in giving us his Church.

Grodi will talk to the afternoon assembly about “The Verses I Never Saw,” the Scripture that opened his heart to the Catholic Church.

Sister Moss will close the conference with a question and answer session, “From the Heart.” Donations from the Women of Faith/Women of Action Conference will benefit “Help-A-Child,” one of four Works of Peace projects the National Council of Catholic Women support in association with Catholic Relief Services.

St. Eugene Parish Rejoices on Corpus Christi

By **Barbara M. Curcio**
St. Eugene Parishioner

OKLAHOMA CITY — The parish of St. Eugene has been celebrating the Solemnity of Corpus Christi with a procession of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for six years now. This traditional practice, in which He blesses the church, school and public environment of St. Eugene Parish, has been a joy and a grace to us every year.

Each year it also becomes more and more dear to us as an expression of our commitment to Eucharistic Adoration. Being as it is, an open joyful witness to the real presence of Christ

in the Holy Eucharist, in the public community, we also know this rich tradition in the Church fits right in with the spirit of the “new evangelization.”

However, this year, because the parish family of St. Eugene has been praying for a new church for some time and making considerable sacrifices to make it happen, on June 26, 2011, it was even more meaningful to bring our Lord in a joyful, prayerful procession to a stop at the construction site of our long-awaited and much prayed for new building, taking shape under the blue sky of Oklahoma.



Father Jacobi carries the Eucharist during the Celebration of the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Briefs

ACTS Retreats Are Set

SHAWNEE — Adoration, Community, Theology, Service — is a parish weekend retreat patterned after the description of the early Church in the Acts of the Apostles breaking bread together, worshipping together, receiving instruction together, sharing in common, and reaching out in loving service.

Acts 2:42-47. Men's retreat will be Sept. 22-25. Women's retreat will be Nov. 3-6. For more information, please contact Tom or Patty Keller at (405) 513-3900.

Parish to Host Bingo

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bingo July 28 at St. James Catholic Church, 41st and South McKinley Avenue. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5:45 p.m. Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. All games including two black-outs are \$10. Door prizes and special recognition for all players born in July. Play and you get an entry for a big screen TV to be given away in October.

Knights to Golf for Ultrasounds

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, July 23 at Silverhorn Golf Course, 11411 N. Kelley Ave. It will be an 8 a.m., four-person scramble, with lunch provided. Cost is \$75 per person with prizes for the first-, second- and third-place teams. There will also be closest to the hole and longest drive contests. Mulligans will be available. Please send information

(team(s)) and money to Richard J. Schulte, (405) 341-2779, 1511 E. Coffee Creek Road, Edmond Okla. 73034. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Program.

Sisters Celebrate Anniversaries

Sister Barbara Ann Herrmann, ASC, celebrated the 65th anniversary of her first profession of vows on June 5, 2011, at the ASC Wichita Center in Wichita, Kan. She made her first profession on July 1, 1946.

Sister Barbara Ann was born in Kinsley, Kan. Her first years of ministry were spent as a lab X-ray technologist at hospitals in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Marion, Kan. In 1964 she began working as a pastoral minister, first in the Diocese of Springfield, Mo., and then in several cities in Oklahoma. From 1975 to 1981 she returned to health care at the new Minor Emergency Facility at St. Joseph Hospital in Wichita. In 1982 she went to Providence, R.I., where she spent several years as pastoral assistant. While there she received her MA in pastoral counseling. In 1986 she returned to Oklahoma, working in pastoral ministry at parishes and then for eight years as a chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. She worked as a chaplain and bereavement coordinator at Heart of the Valley Hospice in Harlington, Texas, from 1995 to 1998. She is currently Living Mission in Later Life at the Wichita Center.

Sister Barbara Riebel, ASC, celebrated the 70th anniversary of her first profession of vows on June 5, 2011, at the ASC Wichita Center in Wichita, Kan. She made her first profession on Aug. 10, 1941.

Sister Barbara was born in Schoenchen, Kan. Her primary ministry has been as kitchen supervisor in several hospitals including St. Mary's in Enid, as well as hospitals in Carlsbad and Artesia, N.M., and Marian, Kan., spanning a period of 40 years. From 1975 to 1980 she served as a dietary supervisor at St. Anne's Home in Oklahoma City. From 1980 to 2000, she began serving as a cosmetologist at St. Anne's and also ministered there in pastoral care. She is currently Living Mission in Later Life at the Wichita Center.

Martin Valverde en Concierto

En el Centro Guadalupano de la Florecita
1125 South Walker Ave., Oklahoma City
28 y 29 de Julio 2011 – 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.



Para comprar Boletos o más informes llame a: La Florecita 235-2037 o Alma Marquez 245-2466

Cupo es limitado.

Martin Valverde in Concert

At Little Flower Church
1125 South Walker Ave., Oklahoma City
July 28 and 29, 2011 – 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

For tickets or more information, please call Little Flower Church at 235-2037 or Alma Marquez at 245-2466
Limited seating.

Jobs Box

Field Agent

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a field agent for a career opportunity representing our insurance program in Oklahoma. This professional position offers the chance to make an above average income, a career path into management if desired, paid advanced education and generous bonus opportunities. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. Works in an assigned and exclusive marketing area to sell and service our insurance and retirement products. Performs needs analysis for assigned members and recommends appropriate products to meet those needs. Develops positive relationships with the local councils to help recruit new members. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please e-mail a resume to Kevin Pierce, FICF, General Agent, at Kevin.Pierce@kofc.org or call (405) 514-7660.

Youth Minister

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Edmond, a parish of 2,900 families, is seeking an energetic candidate to serve as our full-time high school youth minister and assist with middle school youth. Most importantly, we are looking for a faithful and passionate Catholic, willing and able to share their love for Jesus and His Church in our community and with our youth. This person will work closely with the pastor and under the supervision of the Director of Religious Education, sixth through 12th grade. The qualified applicant should be an active Catholic, fully formed in the teachings of our Church, with a passion for youth ministry in a vibrant youth

program. Can envision, plan, promote and carry out Life nights, Bible studies, retreats, conferences and special events. Must be skilled in technology. Must possess the leadership skills required to lead our high school youth in worship and formation. Must be self-motivated and able to work in a multi-tasking team environment.

Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree in Pastoral Ministry or a related field and a minimum of three years experience in youth ministry. Salary varies with education and experience. Send resume to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Attn: Becky Coyle, P.O. Box 510, Edmond, Okla. 73083.

VP for Enrollment Management

St. Gregory's University invites applications for the position of Vice President for Enrollment Management. The successful candidate is responsible for providing leadership and vision and to organize and direct all functional areas within the Office of Admissions. The vice president is responsible for analyzing and improving criteria for recruitment and admission activities. This position manages the budget for the office and supervises the admissions counselors and office support staff. Applicants must possess an understanding of and willingness to support the St. Gregory's University Catholic and Benedictine mission. Bachelor's degree required, master's preferred. Four-plus years of progressive experience in university admission; supervisory-level experience preferred. Priority given to applications received by July 17. Further information can be obtained at www.stgregorys.edu. A cover letter, resume and

contact information for three references should be sent electronically to VPEnrollmentStGregorys@gmail.com.

Kindergarten Teacher

Holy Trinity School in Okarche has an opening for a kindergarten teacher. Applicants must be certified in Early Childhood. If you are interested in joining a well-established staff and work with small classes and outstanding parental involvement, please send your resume to Tammy Jacobs, Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School, P.O. Box 485, Okarche, Okla. 73762. You may also send it via e-mail to tiacobs@holyltrinitvok.org.

Teachers Needed

Sacred Heart Catholic School in El Reno is in need of two certified teachers for the 2011-2012 school year. Please send resume and references c/o Shannon Statton, 210 S. Evans, El Reno, Okla. 73036, or fax (405) 262-3818. Sacred Heart Catholic School will be hiring a janitor pending a background check for the 2011-2012 school year. Please apply in person after 3:30 p.m. or send resume to Sacred Heart School, 210 S. Evans, El Reno, Okla. 73036.

Part-Time Music Teacher

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking a part-time music teacher for the 2011-2012 school year. Liturgical music director duties for leading student choir and accompaniment at school Masses to be negotiated. Please fax résumé and certification to Todd Gungoll at (405) 789-3583 or e-mail to tgungoll@scb-school.org.

Illinois Catholic Charities will fight exclusion from foster care

Chicago, Ill. (CNA/EWTN News) — Catholic Charities of Illinois plans to challenge the Department of Children and Family Services' unexpected decision to end its foster care partnership with three local dioceses.

"We are going into court tomorrow in an attempt to stop this, because we believe it's an illegal action for several reasons," said Peter Breen, Executive Director and Legal Counsel at the Illinois-based Thomas More Society, in a July 11 interview with CNA.

"What the Quinn administration has done," he said, "is a statement of wanting to end, unilaterally, an over 30-year partnership with Catholic Charities to provide foster care for the children of the state of Illinois. He said the move would "displace

2,500 children in foster care across the state, who are under the care of Catholic Charities."

Catholic Charities' dispute with the state centers on Illinois' recently implemented Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Unions Act, which gave a measure of legal status to same-sex partnerships.

The three dioceses claim that their Catholic Charities offices remain free, under that law, to place foster children only with married couples and single individuals without live-in partners. In June 2011, Catholic Charities sued the state of Illinois, seeking to confirm their status as a foster care agency under the new law.

However, on July 8, Department of Children and Family Services Director Erwin McEwen wrote to

inform Catholic Charities that their contracts could not be renewed, over an alleged refusal to comply with the civil unions law.

"The Department of Children and Family Services is unable to accept the offer and execute the contracts," McEwen wrote, "because your agency has made it clear that it does not intend to comply with the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act."

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn confirmed the decision at a press conference July 11. He said Catholic Charities had "made a choice" not to "voluntarily participate with the state," and that the state was "not going back," according to the Capitol Fax website. Breen criticized Quinn and the department for an action he

described as "reckless" and an "end-run around the court."

"Now the executive branch is ignoring the legislative intent of the law, and pushing a partisan political agenda instead of enforcing the laws as they were written and intended by the General Assembly."

He said the Department of Children and Family Services' decision violated the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, "which protects firmly held religious beliefs and religious practices of people and organizations."

Breen also argued that the relationship between the state and a competent longtime contractor was subject to "different rules" than those which would govern a situation where no prior contract existed.

Calendar

JULY

17 Monthly Novena to The Infant Jesus, the 17th-25th of each month. Nine days of novenas to Infant Jesus of Prague monthly National Shrine is located at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd. in Prague. (405) 567-3080, or www.shrineofinfantjesus.com.

17 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 meets at St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery in Piedmont from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Susan Staudt at (405) 282-6624.

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

20 Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, NW 32nd and Western, every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

21 Eucharistic Adoration at Epiphany Parish Chapel, every Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and daily (M,T,W,F) from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Epiphany is located at 7336 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City 73132.

21 Eucharistic Adoration, every Thursday night from 5 p.m. to midnight at St. Gregory's Chapel, St. Gregory's Monastery, Shawnee. The evening will begin with Mass at 5 p.m. with adoration to follow. Included is vespers with the monks.

21 TAP into FAITH! This month's topic: Natural Family Planning with Joel and Jeanne Blasi. Single or married, ages 21 to 121. 8 p.m. talk, 8:45 p.m. Q & A. Stay afterwards for fellowship. Tap into Faith is held at Lottinville's, located on South Kelley, just south of 15th in Edmond. For more information, call Mary Lacher at 401-4105.

23 Spanish-Language Marriage Preparation Program for couples that are married civilly or through

common law and want to have their marriage blessed by the Church. For more information or to register, contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944.

23 COMPANY: Single adults ages 35-plus will be going to 5:30 p.m. Mass in Perry to see Father Dan Letourneau, then to Stillwater for dinner at Eskimo Joe's. We will meet in the Braum's parking lot at 4:25 p.m., so we can carpool there by 4:30 p.m.

23 St. Charles Catholic Singles Dance from 7:30 to 11 p.m. The church is located at 5024 N. Grove Ave., OKC. For more information, call Al at 631-0763.

24 Pilgrimage Sunday, Mass at 11 a.m. National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague is located at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd. in Prague. (405) 567-3080, or www.shrineofinfantjesus.com.

28 Martin Valverde in Concert. At Little Flower Church, 1125 S. Walker Ave., OKC, July 28 and 29, 7 to 10 p.m. For tickets or more information, call Little Flower Church at 235-2037 or Alma Marquez at 245-2466. Limited seating. Martin Valverde en Concierto En el Centro Guadalupano de la Florecita, 1125 S. Walker Ave., OKC, 28 y 29 de Julio 2011 – 7– 10 p.m. Para comprar Boletos o más informes llame a: La Florecita, 235-2037 o Alma Marquez, 245-2466. Cupo es limitado.

28 Why Natural Family Planning? Have you ever wondered why the Church teaches against contraception? Join us at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 7 p.m. as we examine the Church's teaching on marriage, contraception and family planning. Limited child care will be available by reservation only through the Office of Family Life. Call (405) 721-8944 for more information.

30 Respect Life Group meets at noon the last Saturday of the month at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral. Call Debby Krisch at (405) 824-5578 for more information.

AUGUST

1 Perpetual Adoration at St. Monica, held in the St. Augustine Chapel. For more information, contact Toni Harrelson at tonimah@sbcglobal.net or at (405) 341-2199. St. Monica Parish is located at 2001 N. Western Ave., Edmond.

5 Marriage Encounter Weekend is a process designed to give you and your spouse a special opportunity to examine your life together. For more information or to register, contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944.

5 First Friday Adoration at St. Francis of Assisi in Oklahoma City. After the 7:30 a.m. Mass, and concludes at 5:30 p.m. with closing prayer and Benediction. This is open to all. St. Francis is located at 1910 NW 19th, Oklahoma City.

5 Holy Family Home Mass, 11:30 a.m., Holy Family Home, 6821 Eddie Drive, Midwest City. To confirm that Mass will be held that day and for directions, call 741-7419.

5 Catholic Social Teaching: the Basis of Parish Life Workshop will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen, Oklahoma City. To register or if you have any questions, contact Becky VanPool at bvanpool@catholic-charitiesok.org or (405) 523-3003.

5 First Friday Sacred Heart Mass at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is at 5:30 p.m. with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available prior to Mass. Mass is at 7 p.m. For more information, call the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944.

5 Learning from Our Life Retreat led by Rev. Charles Buckley, O.S.B. For more information, contact Father Charles at (405) 878-5462 or visit www.monksok.org.

6 The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, meets at St. John the Baptist Parish, Edmond, on the first and third Saturday of each month. Mass at 7:30 a.m. in the

chapel. For more information, contact Toni Harrelson, LMC, at (405) 341-2199 or lmc-oklahoma@sbc-global.net.

7 The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Claire Fraternity meets at 1:15 p.m. the first Sunday of the month at St. Thomas More Church in Norman in the library. All are welcome. For more information, call Alice at (405) 473-7680.

7 Byzantine Liturgy will be offered at 5 p.m. in St. Mark's Church, 3939 W. Tecumseh Road, Norman. Moleben-Intercessions to Christ Emmanuel will be celebrated after Liturgy. For more information, call Father Phil Seeton at (580) 536-6351.

9 Catholic War Veterans (of any war/conflict) meet the second Tuesday of each month in the community room of St. Ann Retirement Center at 7 p.m. For more information, call Father M. Price Oswalt at (405) 567-3404.

11 CCHD Grant Workshop at 7 p.m. The workshop is aimed at answering the questions regarding new ways to empower people as well as addressing the root causes of social issues. The workshop will be presented in a video-conferencing format. Locations are as follows: Oklahoma City Catholic Pastoral Center; Lawton Holy Family Church; Enid St. Francis Church; Clinton St. Mary Church; and Woodward St. Peter Church. To register or if you have any questions, contact Becky VanPool at cchdoklahoma@gmail.com or (405) 523-3009.

12 Bingo at St. Joseph's Church in Norman. Light supper served at 6:30 p.m. Games begin at 7 p.m. with a first session; second session at 8:30 p.m. \$5 per session, no limit on black-out cards.

13 The Benedictine Oblates of Red Plains Spirituality Center will meet from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month. They join the Community for Vespers, followed by a potluck dinner. For more information, contact Sister Eunice at 373-4565 or osboko@ionet.net.

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down a homemade slip and slide that ended with a splash into wading pools that waited at the end of the ride. About 50 yards away other campers climbed up to the top of a water castle that featured a slide, also ending in a wading pool, while others offered their own unique versions of cannonballs and belly flops in the pool that cools the campers in the hot summer sun.

Housh said the extreme temperatures have meant keeping the kids inside during the blistering afternoon hours. But that's not down time. While inside the campers are challenged with quizzes pertaining to their faith and other games that challenge them to grow in the knowledge of that faith.

Daily Mass brings the campers together in worship and offers them a time to join in the liturgy, as altar servers and readers. Before Mass, the youngsters join in song while seated in the chapel.

"Jesus I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you," the young voices sing together as they await the beginning of the Eucharistic Celebration.

Another day at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp, "Wacky Water Wednesday" and all.





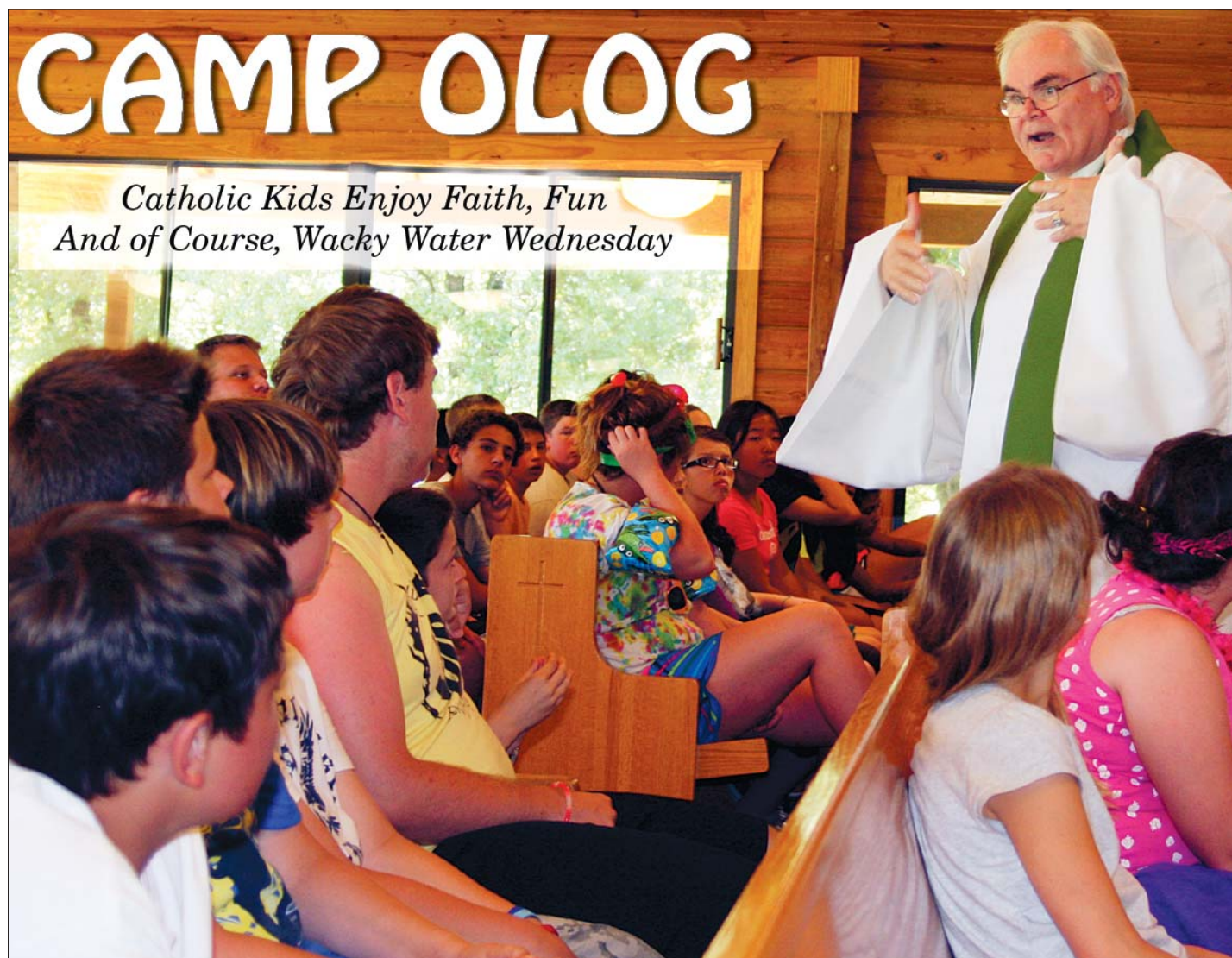
By Ray Dyer
The Sooner Catholic

Young Catholic campers from across the state again converged on Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp this summer for fun, worship and the traditional “Wacky Water Wednesday.”

Nancy Housh, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Archdiocese, said “Wacky Water Wednesday” is a tradition campers of all ages look forward to during their weeklong stay at the beautiful camp located in Lincoln County.

“The kids love it,” Housh said, as the young Catholics took turns racing

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Father Carl Janocha delivers his homily during Mass for sixth- and seventh-graders at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp.

