

Sooner Catholic

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August 6, 2017

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Go Make Disciples

Archbishop Coakley, family, friends remember 36th anniversary of Fr. Rother's martyrdom

By Diane Clay
The Sooner Catholic

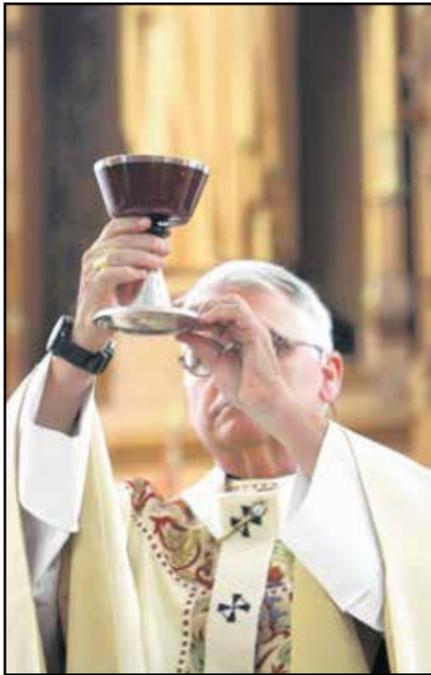
OKARCHE – When Mary Marfisee walked through the doors of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche on July 29 for a Mass commemorating the death of Father Stanley Rother, it had been 37 years since the former missionary had seen him at a clinic in Guatemala.

"I haven't thought about it since the day he died. It was too hard. I miss him," Marfisee said as her eyes glistened.

"When I picked up the Mass program and saw the picture of Stan on the front with one of his pipes in his pocket, I lost it."

Marfisee, who was in her early 20s, worked at the small hospital opened by Father Rother in

Santiago Atitlan. She and other staff members spent considerable time with their pastor, often listening to the radio or helping him find a lost pipe. She said he always played the role of their big brother, urging her to find better men to date, protecting her from seeing



Archbishop Coakley raises Fr. Rother's chalice.



Sr. Marita Rother, Fr. Rother's sister, welcomes guests before Mass begins at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche. *Photos Cara Koeing/Sooner Catholic.*

traumatic injuries and continuously imploring her to go back to school to get her medical degree, which she did.

When she would ask how she was supposed to do all of these things, "He would say 'Just start praying.' And he started out with 'Praise God first; don't ask for things.' I really can say that's a gift I got from him, learning how to pray."

Marfisee was one of nearly 400 parishioners, friends and family members to join Archbishop Coakley at the standing-room-only Mass in this small farming community northwest of Oklahoma City. The anniversary Mass is held each year to remember the sacrifice of Father Rother, who was killed July 28, 1981, in his rectory

during Guatemala's bloody civil war.

"Year after year we have gathered to commemorate this heroic life, this man who gave his life, this shepherd who could not run. Next time we gather to celebrate, it likely will be celebrating his feast day," Archbishop

continued on page 3



Fr. John Peter Swaminathan, Fr. Marvin Leven, Archbishop Coakley and Fr. Gerard MacAulay.



BEATIFICATION
OF
FATHER STANLEY ROTHER

YOU'RE INVITED

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.
Cox Convention Center
Oklahoma City, OK

OPEN SEATING - NO TICKET NECESSARY

stanleyrother.org  (405) 721-5651

Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

The Convocation of Catholic Leaders: an historic moment of grace

After years of planning, more than 3,500 Catholics from across the United States gathered in Orlando from July 1-4 for an historic event. As an initiative of the American bishops, "The Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America" brought together bishop-led delegations from around the country as well as other Catholic apostolates and movements to pray, reflect and engage in a crucial dialogue about the significant challenges and opportunities offered to the Church at this moment in our history.

Our archdiocesan delegation consisted of 14 dedicated participants who engaged with fellow Catholics by sharing perspectives, experiences and aspirations, and learning from each other.

The unique impetus for this event came from Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium" or the "Joy of the Gospel." In the "Joy of the Gospel," the Holy Father summons all the baptized to embrace our role as missionary disciples who have been touched and transformed by our encounter with Jesus Christ.

Moved by that joyful encounter, we are sent on mission to share that joy with others. The whole Church is called to be in a permanent state of mission. This summons challenges the Church and all its institutions and members to move from maintenance to mission. Just continuing to do what we have been doing because "we have always done it this way" is not an adequate pastoral plan.

Since the day of Pentecost we have been a missionary Church. Our mission is to proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. With a special urgency, Pope Francis draws our attention to the peripheries, not just as a geographical place, but especially to those persons in our lives, in our communities and in our church who are on the existential margins and who are often overlooked and forgotten.

During the convocation, we spent a good deal of time examining the landscape of our nation. What are those peripheries? How is the Church present there? What is working? In addition to daily keynote pre-

sentations from some of the leading Catholic voices in America, there were dozens of breakout sessions staffed by outstanding experts on a variety of topics to engage participants. Much of the real benefit of the convocation came through the interaction among delegates that took place spontaneously between sessions, during meals and in casual conversations around topics of mutual interest.

Certainly one of the most important aspects of this convocation was the sacred liturgy. Great care was taken in the preparation for divine worship: the beauty



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

of the music, the visual arts and experience of praying the Liturgy of the Hours, and especially in the celebration of the Mass. There was a beautiful Eucharistic Procession. There were opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Marian devotion, Eucharistic adoration, and praise and worship.

Honestly, the convocation far exceeded my hopes and expectations. My expectations admittedly were rather modest since we had never attempted such an event before. One of the encouraging fruits of the convocation for me and for many of the members of our delegation was a clear affirmation that many of the initiatives that we have undertaken in the past few years align well with where the Spirit is guiding the Church in our time.

We will continue to reflect on the fruits of the convocation so that we can share what we have received. In the weeks ahead, members of our archdiocesan delegation will be working to articulate the graces and insights of the Convocation of Catholic Leaders so that they can be incorporated into our pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Come Holy Spirit!

Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on www.soonercatholic.org.

✓ Archbishop Coakley invites married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 40, 50+) in the calendar year 2017 to attend a special Anniversary Mass at 3 p.m. Oct. 15 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave., OKC. A reception will follow. Contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944 if attending. The archbishop will impart his blessing and the local Catholic community will rejoice in the example and commitment to your Sacrament of Marriage.



@archokc



Prayer for the Cause of Canonization of Father Stanley Rother

O God, fount of all holiness, make us each walk worthily in our vocation, through the intercession of your Saints, on whom you bestowed a great variety of graces on earth.

Having graced your Church with the life of your priest and martyr Stanley Rother, grant that by his intercession this humble flock may reach where the brave shepherd has gone.

Grant that your Church may proclaim him a saint living in your presence and interceding for us.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Joseph's Orphanage sets reunion

By Judy Hilovsky
The Sooner Catholic

All former residents and employees of Saint Joseph's Orphanage and Children's Home are encouraged to gather for the fifth reunion on Aug. 12 in Oklahoma City.

Those unfamiliar with the orphanage may have driven past it without even realizing it. The home's 27 acres was situated near the half-way point of the new El Reno Interurban rail line connecting Oklahoma City and Yukon, which is now 39th Expressway. In 1973, the building was sold and became the headquarters of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church.

It all began just three years after Oklahoma

statehood when land was purchased to create the Saint Joseph Orphanage Asylum and Industrial School. On Aug. 1, 1912, Sister Mary Scholastica, superior, and Sisters Mary Anthony, Mary Raphael and Mary Ambrose, all Sisters of Mercy, arrived to receive the children. On Oct. 6, 1912, Bishop Theophile Meerschaert blessed the new facility.



Brothers Bill and Bob Streets looking over photo books from the orphanage during the 2016 reunion. Sooner Catholic archives.

Over the years, the children were cared for by more than seven religious orders, including the Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of the Blessed Carmelites, Benedictines, Missionary Sisters of the Most Blessed Trinity, Sisters of Saint Joseph and the Divine Providence Sisters.

A large brick building set on a sloping hill, saw a gymnasium added, a chapel and classrooms. It was central to many of the charities of its day for Catholics and those they helped. Oklahoma's Catholic Charities also had its start at Saint Joseph where it was headquartered until 1926.

Having grown to 60 acres by 1913, area promoters fostered the idea that the gardens, farming and livestock of the orphanage would publicize the rich farming potential of the area.

The orphanage continued to grow to include various tracts of land including the "north farm" where Resurrection Cemetery is now located.

Father James Garvey, who started as director in 1928, used a popular annual parish picnic to raise funds to reduce the home's indebtedness, resulting in the mortgage being paid off by 1934.

During the next 60 years, the orphanage would see many changes in its structure, outreach and workers. In 1965, the children's home relocated to Eastern Avenue in northeast Oklahoma City with more modern dormitories, cafeteria and chapel. Throughout the years Saint Joseph provided care and housing for more than 5,000 children until they graduated eighth grade.

Judy Hilovsky is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

ST. JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE REUNION

Aug. 12
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Trinity Gardens,
3825 N.W. 19, OKC
Mass at 5 p.m. at St. Patrick
RSVP by Aug. 7
jmoon@ccaokc.org

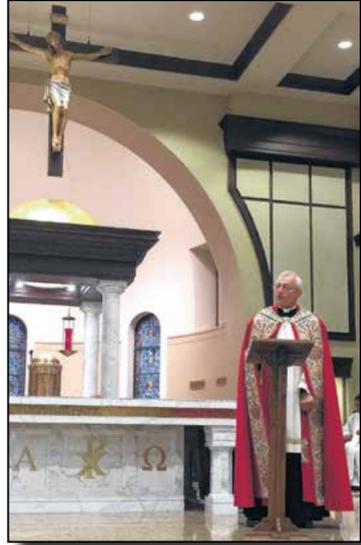
continued from page 1

Coakley said in his homily.

"What kept him from running? He knew the danger. ... He spent months praying, discerning, reflecting on what the Lord was asking of him. He knew treasure already pearl of He had life. He Jesus in He knew that was where he was being called. Jesus was inviting him to come home."



Fr. Rother prayer service



Fr. Don Wolf reflects on the life of his cousin, Fr. Stanley Rother, during a prayer service on July 28 at St. Eugene in Oklahoma City. The prayer service was held on the 36th anniversary of martyrdom for Fr. Rother. Nearly 300 people attended, and Fr. Mejia sang "A New Vessel" in Spanish, "Un Vaso Nuevo."

To view a recording of the prayer service, visit www.steugenes.org.

Photo Nicole Hughes.

In December, Pope Francis declared Father Rother a martyr for the faith, clearing the way for his beatification and making him the first U.S.-born martyr for the Catholic Church. On Sept. 23, in Oklahoma City, Father Rother will be the first U.S. priest to be beatified, the last step before sainthood.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.

From the Archives ...

A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist



Fr. Stanley Rother is seen crossing Lake Atitlan near his parish in Guatemala. Heeding the call of Pope John XXIII to evangelize a largely neglected Church in Latin America, the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa sent a contingent to Guatemala in 1964. Headed by the mercurial and talented Father Ramon Carlin, the mission at Santiago Atitlan grew. In 1968, Father Rother was invited to come to the mission, which he gladly did. His farming and mechanical skills proved vital to the expansion of services provided. More importantly, he found his niche as his faith and spiritual life flourished. The missionary life was indeed what God had called him to do.



ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES

Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

- Aug. 6** – Mass at Wichita Family Life Conference, 11 a.m., Wichita
- Aug. 8** – Photo with seminarians, 8:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
- Aug. 8** – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Aug. 8** – Finance Council, 2 p.m., CPC
- Aug. 8** – Archbishop's Dinner hosted by Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, 6:30 p.m.
- Aug. 9** – Servant of God Father Stanley Rother Luncheon for ecumenical leaders, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Charities, OKC
- Aug. 9** – Dinner with seminarians, 5:30 p.m., archbishop's residence
- Aug. 10** – Meet with seminarians, 9 a.m., CPC
- Aug. 10** – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Aug. 19** – ACCW Women of Faith/Women of Action luncheon; Noon, CPC



Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
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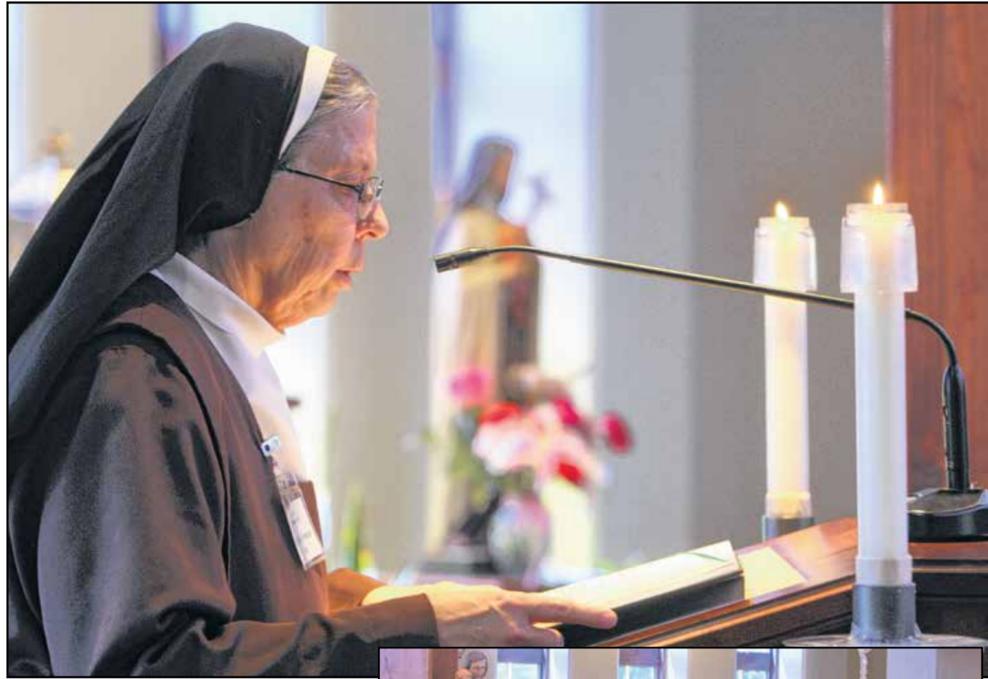
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Sr. Mary Frances Coker reads during Mass at St. Ann Retirement Center's St. Joachim Chapel.

OPEN HOUSE

Celebrating 100 years



Sr. Barbara Joseph shows guests their foundress' wool habit worn year-round.



Archbishop Coakley celebrates Mass.

The Carmelite Sisters of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus celebrated the 100th anniversary of their community with a come-and-go open house on July 16, at St. Ann Retirement Center, in Oklahoma City. The community was established on July 16, 1917 in Bentley, Okla. when Carmelite Father Edward Soler recruited two young women from the east coast to help teach Choctaw Indian children in Atoka County in southeastern Oklahoma.

Photos Cara Koeing/Sooner Catholic.



Guests look at historic memorabilia.

Sisters of Providence celebrating jubilees

Four Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, with ties to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City are celebrating jubilees this year.

60-year jubilarian Sister Janet Gilligan

Sister Janet, formerly Sister Janet Marie, entered the congregation on Jan. 7, 1957. She professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1964. Her ministries in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City



Sr. Janet Gilligan

include field consultant economy company, Corpus Christi (1971-76); common core of data-junior high, Corpus Christi (1976-77); and editor, economy publication company, Oklahoma City (1977-78).

70-year jubilarians Sister Agnes Maureen Badura

Sister Agnes entered the congregation on July 22, 1947. She professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1955. In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, she taught at Corpus Christi from 1951-54.



Sr. Agnes Maureen Badura

Sister Lucille Nolan

Sister Lucille, formerly Sister Mary Lucille, entered the congregation on July 22, 1947. She professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1955. She taught at Corpus Christi in Oklahoma City from 1969-73.



Sr. Lucille Nolan

75-year jubilarian Sister Francis Edwards

Sister Francis is a native of Oklahoma City. Formerly Sister Francis Bernard, she entered the congregation on Sept. 8, 1942. She professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1950. She earned a master's degree in library science from the University



Sr. Francis Edwards

of Oklahoma. In the archdiocese, she taught at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School from 1972-77, and served as librarian from 1978-79.



Gift of Love Gala

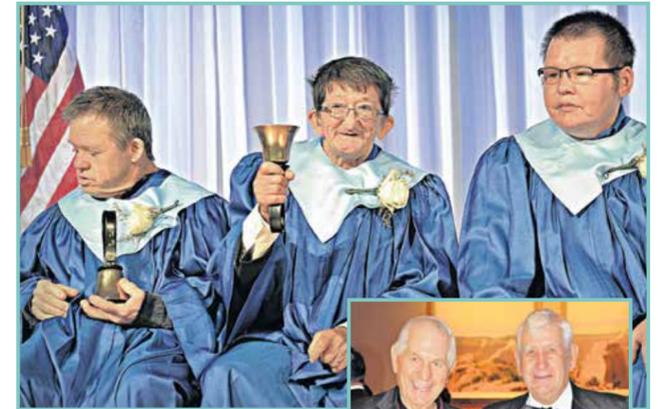
Gala raises thousands for the Center of Family Love

The Gift of Love Gala celebrated its 4th annual event on June 17 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. More than 700 people attended the gala, which benefits The Center of Family Love.

The Gala raised more than \$677,000 for the center's residents who live with intellectual and physical disabilities. Located in Okarche, the center provides innovative, educational and vocational opportunities for residents. The care is designed to meet the individual needs of those who live with autism, blindness, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and traumatic brain injuries.

It is incredibly humbling to see so many come together and share their gifts with our residents who make The Center of Family Love their home. Everything we do is in service to God, who has blessed our organization and the success of this event," said Debbie Espinosa, CEO of The Center of Family Love.

"The Center of Family Love has always been one of my favorite organizations! Each one of their residents has been designed in God's perfect image and I am



The Center of Family Love Hand Bell Choir. Photos provided.

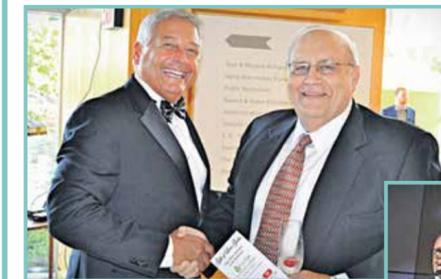
looking forward to the gala next year," said Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb, who was master of ceremonies at the gala.

The event features various live auction items, and honors long-time friends and supporters of the organization.

Joe Pierce accepted the Harold J. Wittrock Humanitarian Award, recognizing a lifetime of dedication and service to The Center of

Family Love, and Bill and Carolyn Brown were honored with the Outstanding Community Ambassador Award after Bill and Carolyn Brown," Espinosa said. "We are proud to remember their legacy, which will live on through this award, and we cannot think of a better example for others to follow than this incredible couple."

Gifts are a critical part of the organization's success, helping to off-set the \$1.2 million needed to operate the center each year. The mission of The Center Family Love is to provide quality lifetime care to adults with developmental disabilities. For more information about the center, go online to www.centeroffamilylove.org.



Sid Espinosa (left) and Rick Jones with Rick Jones Buick in El Reno. Jones is a sponsor of the Gift of Love Gala.



Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb and Debbie Espinosa.

honored to have been a part of this event that raises money for them. Monica and I are already

Midwest City celebrates Fr. Fuller anniversary

Father Timothy Fuller of Saint Philip Neri recently was honored with a parish-wide celebration for his decade of priesthood with the Midwest City church and school.

The event was held in the recently dedicated Family Life Center complete with a luncheon. Entertainment was provided by the Tulsa Praise Orchestra.

Father Fuller thanked the guests who attended the party saying, "Being here for a long period of time has allowed me to be your pastor and your servant and it has truly been an honor and a privilege."

Father Fuller will celebrate his silver anniversary - 25 years as priest - next year.



Father Timothy Fuller chats with parishioners during the anniversary celebration lunch on June 25 at St. Philip Neri. Photo Jeff Harrison/MWC Beacon.

Catholic Foundation 2017 grant applications available



The new children's Liturgy of the Word RE curriculum at St. Patrick in Anadarko has helped expand the religious education program. The curriculum was funded through a 2016 grant from the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. *Photo provided.*

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma annually awards grants in support of education-related projects to parishes, schools, religious education and parish youth programs throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

In addition to program materials, many of the grant requests have focused on computers, audio-visual equipment and technology as a means of engaging more students in the education process.

Grant awards will be based upon the educational objective of the specified project to the parish/school, its expected outcome and the need for financial assistance to accomplish the stated goal.

Funds awarded are intended to support educational projects at the organization, and are not intended to supplement operating expenses. Grant requests will not be considered for auctions, fundraising events, debt reduction, brick and mortar projects, endowment funds or capital campaigns. Equipment, furniture or other items will only be considered if significant to the educational program. Only one request per parish or school will be considered for funding.

The grants program will have an additional

focus on school STREAM programs. STREAM stands for Science-Technology-Religion-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics. A portion of the new money available will go toward promoting new or existing STREAM programs in Catholic schools. The foundation is particularly interested in grants for STREAM programs

in classrooms that will offer a curriculum that is integrated, emphasizes questioning and inquiry, and gives

students frequent opportunities to apply engineering design, creativity, faith-building and problem-solving. The foundation desires to support classroom teachers who will gain access to standards-based instructional tools, quality curriculum materials and the latest internet materials through its grant program.

Last year, more than \$100,000 in grants was presented to 51 parishes and schools.

Application deadline – Sept. 29
Award notification – Nov. 1

Grant applications available with pastors, RE directors and school principals

www.cfook.org
(405) 721-4115
bsemntner@archokc.org



Making Sense of Bioethics

Considering the options for infertile couples

When Catholic couples experience trouble getting pregnant, they often seek medical help and begin to research what options are available to them.

A number of moral considerations and questions generally emerge during this process: Why are techniques like in vitro fertilization (IVF) considered immoral? What approaches will the Church allow us to try? What does our infertility mean, spiritually and personally, in the face of our fervent, but frustrated, desire for a baby?

When a couple, after having non-contraceptive sexual intercourse for a year or more, begins to investigate whether there are issues related to infertility, some medical professionals simply encourage them to turn to the infertility industry and try IVF or a related technique like artificial insemination.

These approaches, however, raise a host of moral concerns, including that they substitute an act of "production" for the act of marital self-giving, allow a third party outside the marriage to become the cause of the conception, often require masturbation, and may result in significant "collateral damage," including embryo destruction, embryo freezing and disruptive effects on a woman's physiology from the powerful super-ovulatory drugs used during the procedures.

It can be helpful to keep in mind a particular "rule of thumb" for determining whether a procedure is morally acceptable: treatments that assist the marital act are per-

missible, while those that replace, or substitute for, the marital act raise serious moral objections.

The ideal approach to resolving infertility involves identifying the underlying causes (endometriosis? fallopian tube blockage? problems ovulating? etc.) and addressing those causes so that marital intercourse can result in a conception.

While this may seem sensible and even obvious, many obstetricians and gynecologists today do not offer much more than a cursory workup or exam prior to recommending that the couple approach a fertility clinic and employ their services to produce a baby via IVF.

Couples ought instead to look into techniques that can methodically diagnose and heal the underlying reasons for infertility, like FEMM (Fertility Education and Medical Management, <https://femmhealth.org>) pioneered by Dr. Pilar Vigil, or NaProTechnology (Natural Procreative Technology, see www.naprotechnology.com), led by Dr. Tom Hilgers. Both are Catholic OB/GYNs with great track records in helping to resolve underlying infertility issues and helping couples conceive naturally.

NaPro has been around a little longer and employs a range of approaches that may include, for example, hormonal modulation of menstrual cycle irregularities; surgical correction of fallopian tube damage or occlusions; fertility drugs to help a woman's ovaries

release eggs; Viagra or other approaches to address erectile dysfunction; correcting penile structural defects such as hypospadias;

addressing premature ejaculation; using NFP (natural family planning) to observe naturally occurring signs of fertility during the woman's cycle to time intercourse; using LTOT (low tubal ovum transfer), in which eggs are retrieved and transplanted into the uterus or fallopian tube at a point likely to result in fertilization following the marital act; and surgical resolution of endometriosis. Dr. Hilgers has formed and trained a number of other physicians who work as independent NaProTechnology specialists in the United States and abroad. FEMM is building a similar network.

On the other hand, a number of other widely-available techniques, instead of assisting the marital act, end up replacing it with another kind of act altogether, namely, an act of "producing" or "manufacturing" children in laboratories. These techniques — like IVF; intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI); artificial insemination; hiring a surrogate to carry a pregnancy; and cloning — obviously raise serious moral objections.

In some cases, a couple's infertility will end up being irresolvable. Even as a husband and wife face the grief and sorrow of not being able naturally to conceive children of their own, they can still realize their paternal and maternal desires in other meaningful, fruitful and loving ways.

For example, they may discern a call to adopt a child, providing a mom and a dad to someone whose parents have died or felt that they could not care for the child. They



Father Tad Pacholczyk
National Catholic Bioethics Center

might decide to become a camp counselor or a schoolteacher, or provide temporary foster care to a child in crisis, generously taking on an authentic parenting role. They may become a "Big Brother/Big Sister" to youth in the community who yearn for a father or mother figure in their lives.

Although these solutions do not take away all the grief, they are a means by which God helps to draw good out of their situation. By these means, couples are challenged to "think outside the box" and enter into the mysterious designs of God within their marriage. By stepping away from a desire to conceive and raise biological children of their own, couples facing irresolvable infertility can discover new and unexpected paths to marital fruitfulness, paths that bring great blessings to others, and that can lead to abiding joy and marital fulfillment.

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.

The Catholic Difference

Questions of competence

It's a safe bet that 99.95 percent of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics have never heard of "La Civiltà Cattolica" (Catholic Civilization), a journal founded in 1850 by the Jesuits of Rome to combat the evils of the age (then taken to be secularist liberalism and freemasonry).

Its current circulation is perhaps half that of "First Things," and while it has recently made attempts to broaden its readership by publishing English, Spanish, French and Korean editions, it's also a safe bet that "Civiltà Cattolica" will remain a small-circulation magazine with a readership confined to what we might call "Catholic professionals:" clergy of various ranks; papal diplomats; officials of the Roman Curia; academics and pundits.

And, the vast majority of them will read (or at least scan) it, not

for scintillating content, but because its articles are vetted by the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, and are thus assumed to have some sort of quasi-official status: which means that those articles are taken to reflect the cast of mind of the current pontificate. So, if you want to be in the know, you read (or at least scan) "Civiltà Cattolica."

On occasion, however, that can be a journey through the looking glass and into Wonderland.

Last month, "Civiltà Cattolica"

featured an article co-authored by its editor-in-chief, Father Antonio Spadaro, S.J., and Pastor Marcelo Figueroa, who edits the Argentine edition of "L'Osservatore Romano," the Vatican newspaper. The article purported to analyze a startling "ecumenism of hate" in the United States, forged by ultra-conservative Catholics and evangelical Protestants, and creepy-dangerous for its indulgence in a new Manicheism that distorts the Gospel and divides everything in the world into rigid and narrowly-defined categories of good and evil.

This bizarre screed generated weeks of controversy in the blogosphere, during which Father Spadaro tweeted that the article's critics were "haters" whose vitriol

temporary American religious life like R.J. Rushdoony and Michael Voris; its misreading of the dynamics of religiously-informed public moral argument in American politics; and its weird description of the premises of current Vatican diplomacy, which will give comfort to the likes of Vladimir Putin, Raul Castro, and Nicolas Maduro.

Those who care to sift through this intellectual dumpster can consult Dr. Reno's article, Dr. Royal's, and Fr. De Souza's. The questions I'd like to raise here involve "Civiltà Cattolica's" relationship to its putative overseers in the Vatican Secretariat of State.

What kind of vetting did this misbegotten article get? Were any knowledgeable experts on U.S.

Catholicism or American evangelical Protestantism consulted on what the overseers must have

known would be an incendiary piece? Does the Spadaro/Figueroa article really represent the views of the Secretariat of State about today's debates at the intersection of religion and politics in the United States?

If the answer to the last is "Yes," then what does the Secretariat of State make of the American situation as described by the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Christoph Pierre, in his addresses to the U.S. bishops —

confirmed the article's hypothesis — a Trumpian outburst ill-becoming a paladin of "dialogue."

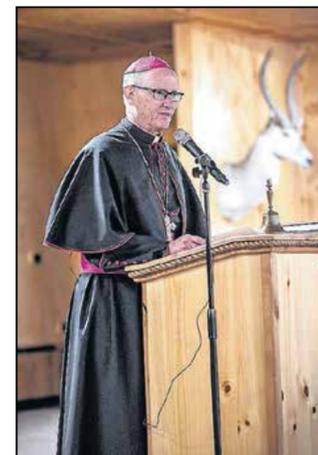
My friends and colleagues R.R. Reno, Robert Royal and Fr. Raymond de Souza have ably replied to the comprehensive inanities of the Spadaro/Figueroa article: its ill-informed misrepresentation of American religious history; its surreal descriptions of 21st-century American Catholicism and evangelical Protestantism; its obsessions with marginal figures in con-

Idea of a Village conference: Learning God's language of silence

By Ted King
The Sooner Catholic

The Idea of a Village conference held in June near Clear Creek Abbey in northeastern Oklahoma focused on Christian culture in a secular world. The theme for this year's conference was the promotion of silence.

The speakers at the conference were Bishop James Conley, from the Diocese of Lincoln, Neb.; Natalia



Bishop James Conley speaks about "A Revolution of Silence" at the Idea of a Village Conference June 10 near Clear Creek Abbey. *Photos provided.*

Sanmartin Fenollera, a Spanish investigative economic journalist; Father Francis Bethel, O.S.B., of Clear Creek Abbey; John Cuddeback, head of the philosophy department at Christendom College in Front Royal, Va.; and Daniel Kerr of Saint Martin's Academy.

In his talk titled "The Silent Revolution," Bishop Conley mentioned English writer Aldous Huxley, who said modernity is an age of noise.

"We live in a moment of constant urgency and crisis. The tyranny of the immediate where reactions to the latest news unfolds at a breakneck pace often before much thought or reflection or consideration in our response," Bishop Conley said. "We are living in a moment where argument proceeds analysis. Outrage or feigned outrage has become the ordinary kind of virtue signaling."

He warned that technology can take over our relationships with others and God. To rebuild Christian culture, he said, we need to become sincere disciples of Christ and learn the language of silence.

Natalia Sanmartin Fenollera, who came from Spain to Oklahoma to

speaking at the conference about her novel, spoke in Spanish. A printed English translation of her talk was provided to those in attendance.

Her novel, "The Awakening of Miss



Constance Lovall enjoys a tour of the Clear Creek Abbey farm.

Prim," is about Prudencia Prim, a young, professional woman who takes a job in a village as the librarian. The man who hires Miss Prim is a convert to Catholicism as a result of having attended a seminar in Kansas. The village, which is next to a Benedictine monastery, is steeped in western Christian tradition. All of this was a culture shock for Miss Prim, but she discovers the value of



George Weigel
Ethics and Public Policy Center

a description that bears no resemblance to the wasteland of madcap pseudo-theology and hatred described by Spadaro and Figueroa? If the answer is "No," then why was the Spadaro/Figueroa article cleared for publication?

Does the Secretariat of State share the authors' seeming view that murderous jihadists rightly think of those who oppose them as "crusaders?" And, can it be true that the Holy See's approach to conflict situations in the world has abandoned the notions of "right" and "wrong," as the Spadaro/Figueroa article suggests?

Because of its relationship to the Secretariat of State, "Civiltà Cattolica" has long been read, not in the way serious readers read serious journals, but like ancient augurs read the entrails of sacrificial animals. Perhaps both the future of this venerable journal and the credibility of the Secretariat of State would be better served by severing the connection.

For at the moment, the auguries raise deeply disturbing questions about the competence of both parties.

a community based on family and children, an economy based on local needs, and the importance of faith and love.

In citing Chesterton's "A Short History of England," Fenollera said, "Progressing toward a valley flowing with milk and honey and progressing toward a dark cliff are not the same thing."

Father Francis Bethel gave a talk titled "The Goal — a Rich, Full Silence." He talked about his first night at the French Benedictine Abbey of Notre-Dame de Fontgombault, which years later became the mother house of Clear

Creek. He quoted Psalm 46:10, "Be quiet and recognize that I am God."

His philosophical talk had three parts — the value of silence, silence in its domains and divine silence. He said silence is better than any praise we can give to God with our own sounds and said Satan was the first creature to make discordant noise.

continued on page 11



Photos Cara Koeing/Sooner Catholic.

Youth and Young Adult Office

Nancy Housh, director
nhoush@archokc.org
(405) 721-5651, Ext. 115

St. Mary Ardmore health initiative honored



Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ardmore was recognized this summer for taking a stand against heart disease.

"The Battle of the Heart Program" is a call to action that began in 2015 as a competition and transitioned into an incentive program for faith groups with the understanding that health encompasses all areas: mind, body and soul, said Shante Fenner, the American Heart Association's multicultural initiatives director.

Twelve churches were honored by the American Heart Association in June for their effort to improve the heart health of their congregations through the "Battle of the Heart" initiative.

Saint Mary was the first and only Catholic Church in Oklahoma to apply. When Connie Hestily, a registered nurse at Saint Mary, received information about the four-month program, she consulted with Father Thomas Dowdell about applying for the program.

Father Dowdell thought it would be a terrific opportunity to make those in the church and also in the community more aware of heart health issues. The program consisted of enrolling Saint Mary's parishioners into a free "Check, Change, Control" web-based blood pressure

health management tool.

The tool allowed individuals to track and chart their blood pressure numbers. They had to register their blood pressure weekly. The American Heart Association provided free resources and education to the congregation and community.

During the four months, there were many activities offered by the parish nurse and volunteers –

Teresa Rodrigas, Celsa Thomas and Nora Luna. Participants learned CPR, helped distribute water after Mass, wore red for heart health Go Red Sunday and provided a heart healthy food and beverage meal.

In the final two Saturdays, the nurse and volunteers were able to attend the Faith Based Health Academy for training sessions.

Among the 860 participants from all churches, 39 percent experienced improvement in their blood pressure readings and 29 individuals moved from an uncontrolled blood pressure level to controlled.

Saint Mary was one of the top 12 participating churches. They received \$450, and gifts such as a health ambassador tool kit that included two electronic blood pressure cuffs, a CPR kit for training, and items for the church kitchen.

VOICE defends those affected by payday lending



Photos provided.

Leaders of a program at Saint Charles Borromeo called "Standing with the Poor against Payday Lending" spoke up recently against legislation they believed would be detrimental to the usually lower income citizens who are targeted by payday loans.

The project was funded by a grant from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and supported by Voices Organized in Civic Engagement.

The program aimed to defeat harmful payday lending legislation passed through the Oklahoma Legislature. Grant funds were used to train leaders who organized and planned events to gather supporters. VOICE leaders organized press conferences for payday lending reform before the legislative session began. During these press conferences, individuals gave first-hand testimony about

dealing with lenders constantly calling their home to collect money and discussing the fear tactics used by lenders to achieve their goals. One fear tactic is the inflation of interest rates on those who cannot afford to pay.

To ensure the end of the tactics, VOICE joined with the Oklahoma Policy Institute to lead opposition of the legislation.

VOICE members wrote a letter to Gov. Fallin on behalf of the clergy, which was supported by more than 100 Oklahoma pastors. Gov. Fallin vetoed the bill, stating "a bill that has drawn strong opposition from many Oklahoma church leaders because of its negative impact on low income families has been vetoed."

The goal of the Catholic Campaign for Human

CCHD GRANT APPLICATION

<http://catholiccharitiesok.org/ParishOutreach>
Deadline: Sept. 1
Contact Becky VanPool
(405) 523-3000, Ext. 245
bvanpool@ccaokc.org



Development is to stop root causes of poverty.

Applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development are now being accepted for the 2017-2018 year. All parishes are encouraged to apply.

Rise Against Hunger

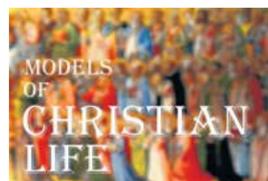
On July 25, during high school week at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp, more than 200 campers, counselors and mission team members packed more than 15,000 meals. The "Rise Against Hunger" program is part of Catholic Relief Services.



Photos provided.

Have you ever heard about St. Drithelm?

This 7th century native of England, with a strange name that I can't even begin to pronounce, was for all accounts a very decent and devout Catholic. His loving wife and children seemed to be model Christians, and I haven't found anything out of the ordinary written about them.



Then, came a unique epidemic that killed many throughout the country and even Drithelm became gravely ill. During the peak of his illness, he had a near-death experience. While his wife, friends and family were holding a vigil by his bedside, assuming he was transitioning into eternity, Drithelm arose from his bed and informed everyone that he was back!

This caused some major commotion and everyone, except his wife, ran screaming from the house.

He shared with his wife his desire and commitment to live a very different life from the one he had lived. During the next few days, he began spending many hours at prayer in the local church and soon after divided his riches and spread them throughout his family, including his wife.

Drithelm went on to visit the king. He shared with his majesty the story of his vision during

his near-death experience. The story was so powerful that through the intercession of the king, Drithelm was admitted to Melrose Abbey where he would live a penitential life as a monk until the end of his life.

Among his many penances, he would do something I have never heard before. He would spend hours in the frozen waters of a nearby river.

But, what was this vision? What was this near-death experience that change his life in such a dramatic fashion? What did he see that would motivate him to do such a penitential life?

Drithelm was blessed with seeing the afterlife. He had three visions: heaven, hell and what we refer to today as purgatory. Here is Venerable Bede's telling of the story of this man's trip through a place that is not heaven and surely not hell. "The third vision was of a pleasant meadow full of sweet-smelling flowers and happy peo-



ple. The guide said, 'This is not the Kingdom of Heaven.' When they did come toward that kingdom and sensed from afar its light and sweetness, the guide would not let him go any further. He then explained to Drithelm that the first valley was filled with people who had been saved only at the moment of death. They had much purification to endure, but the prayers and Masses offered for them on earth could shorten their suffering. The pleasant meadow was for those whose need for purification was slighter. Those who died without imperfection, he said, would enter heaven at once. But, those who entered the dark hole of hell could never escape. The guide then told Drithelm that he must return to life, but should live better thereafter. Actually, Drithelm was sad to leave this afterworld."

This vision of a temporary place for purification before entering eternity with God sounds beautiful. Knowing that our prayers and Masses for the dead are so effective gives me hope. I thank Saint Drithelm for having shared his vision.



Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Director, Office of Hispanic Ministry

From atheist to Catholic: An accidental journey to find God

By J.E. Helm
The Sooner Catholic

This book would be interesting reading even if the author didn't end up in the Catholic Church. Jennifer Fulwiler's "Something



Other than God" is her story of life's ups and downs that eventually

landed her on the shores of faith. The book is subtitled "How I Passionately Sought Happiness and Accidentally Found It." The title is taken from a quote by C. S. Lewis, who wrote that "all that we call history ... (is) the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God that will make him happy."

Fulwiler is an entertaining writer. When her East Texas summer camp counselor asked the fifth-grade Fulwiler if she was ready "to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior," little Jennifer could only stammer, "Can I think about it?"

Her parents were not church going people, and Jennifer just didn't know what to do or say. Her father, a self-identified atheist, cautioned her to "Make sure you don't start believing things because someone says it's true, even if it's coming from me. Question everything."

The first big issue that began to draw the young girl toward faith was mortality: how to deal with the fact that everyone is going to die. "Part of me wanted to give up on everything and sit frozen in despair, but another part of me felt like I should do my math homework instead," she writes.

Fulwiler went on to attend Tex-

as A&M University, her father's alma mater. "It was elementary school all over again," she said. "In anthropology class, a guy would raise his hand and suggest that the Amazonian tribe we were studying wouldn't have so many problems if they would embrace the Lord Jesus Christ."

"By the semester of my sophomore year, I couldn't take it anymore," she said. She transferred to the University of Texas and graduated there.

She got a great job in the area of computers and the media, and it was then that she met Joe, the man she would marry. He did not push his religious beliefs, but he simply told her, "You're reasonable, so you'll get over the atheism thing eventually."

Four months after their wedding, she found out she was pregnant. As luck would have it, her husband's job had fallen apart, and they decided to start over by establishing a law firm. They sold their swanky condo and moved in with her mother to come up with the money they needed to get started.

In a bookstore, Jennifer picked up Lee Strobel's "The Case for Christ."

She read more books like C.S. Lewis's "Mere Christianity." She moved from atheism to agnosticism, "But I couldn't bring myself to say agnostic. It was like saying you're bisexual," she writes.

She read more books: "Augustine's Major Writings" and the Bible. She started a blog to explain and explore her search for God. She found a great deal of help from people who responded to her posts, and to her surprise, she eventually learned that the people who helped her the most were Catholics.

She and husband decided to try going to Mass. "We managed to make it through the front doors without any atheist detector sirens going off," she writes. Her husband had researched the Church

and the Mass; he had brought a printout of "the letters of Justin Martyr, who was born around the year 100, and Hippolytus of Rome, born in 170, both of whom described the Christian church services of their time." Jennifer realized that "Some woman stood in a church on a Sunday in the year 200, and she heard the same words I was hearing now."

Together, they worked through the Church's beliefs, and "dug through the Catechism (of the Catholic Church) for hours."

When Jennifer discovers she is pregnant for the third time, all she can think is "A baby! And no insurance! ... medical bills that were already killing us!" Husband Joe calmly maintains that "God will work it out."

Then, Joe is offered a good job at an established law firm. Providentially, Jennifer's father helps out with money and some furniture for their new

home whose financing has been miraculously approved.

They move into their new house days before being received into the Church. Friends and family come to attend the Easter Mass, and

Jennifer's blog inbox is filled with "well wishes from Catholics all over the world who had discovered my site," she writes.

"Something Other than God" is not just a tale of how they all lived happily ever after. This is a real life story of emotional and financial struggles, of near disasters and miraculous misses. Most of all, Fulwiler's biography is one more example of God revealing

himself in a very personal way and guiding this young family to a home in the Catholic Church.

The book's "afterword" by Timothy Cardinal Dolan concludes with saying that Jennifer went on to have six home-schooled children while becoming a writer, a radio host, a sought-after speaker and one very good Catholic.

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

A Millennial Journey in Faith

Creating a world view with principles, knowledge and Catholic wisdom

This past spring, I had the privilege to attend my dad's inauguration as president of Saint Gregory's University. The day began with Mass in the abbey church, continued with lunch in the monastery, and peaked with the inauguration itself at the field house.

Throughout the events, I heard about the beginning of the Benedictine monks in Oklahoma, who arrived at the invitation of the Potawatamie Nation long before the land run, the role of the university in the life of some of its graduates, and many reflections on the importance of the liberal arts. Each presenter placed the liberal arts at the center of learning, including a practical education oriented to career preparation.

The speakers' thoughts prompted me to contemplate my own liberal arts education: the clarity in thinking my classes required, the precision of prose my thesis adviser demanded and the ability to imagine a different paradigm that studying a foreign language rendered.

These are all skills, as the College of Arts and Letters reassured parents concerned with their children's future employment opportunities, that would prove useful in any career. Indeed, they have benefited my classmates and me as we have undertaken to bring these skills, knowledge and perspective into our work as educators, doctors, lawyers, homemakers, writers, entrepreneurs and other professions. But, none of these capture the indispensable role of the liberal arts as well as my own father's inau-

gural address, which focused on its necessity for sound moral reasoning.

In his address, my dad drew on his long experience as a law professor. The topic of slavery emerged every semester while studying the Dred Scott decision in his Constitutional Law class. With each new crop of students, my father would ask them if they thought that slavery was wrong. As you might expect, almost unanimously, they did. However, when asked why it was wrong, throughout his decades of teaching, only handful could give anything resembling a compelling answer. The majority stammered, unsure, or said, "Because I wouldn't want you to own me," a far cry from a moral argument.

These students would have benefited from studying the philosophy of a man better known for his sanctity and papacy, Saint John Paul II. My first great philosophy class, taken while studying abroad in Santiago, Chile, centered on his thought. We learned from his works, written before his papacy under the name Karol Wojtyla, especially his book on sexual ethics, "Love and Responsibility."

Here, in the words of the future pope, we find the clarity in moral thinking that my father's law students lacked. Wojtyla outlines an argument against utilitarianism, the idea that something is morally good if it brings something good to the greatest number of people - a worldview that could argue for slavery as something good. Instead, he says that "a person must not be merely a means to an end for another person. This is precluded by the very nature of personhood."

The principle that we must never treat others merely as an end clearly denounces slavery, where slaves are treated as an end to their master's prosperity, but it can and should be applied in our everyday lives. Do we treat the grocery clerk merely as a means to our own end of buying groceries, or, in our short interaction with him, do we acknowledge his personhood? Do we treat our children as unique persons, with their own "distinct personal ends," or as an instrument to our own satisfaction? Do we treat our employees as a means only to profit, paying them the least we are able in order to maximize monetary gains, or do we allow for their distinct personal ends (and compensate them according to their dignity)? And, as the subject of Wojtyla's book is sexual ethics, do we treat the opposite sex as a tool for pleasure, or as unique persons?

In my other classes, I learned how many of the principles in Wojtyla's thought were rooted in centuries-long Christian tradition. I learned, too, where Western tradition veered off course, trying to establish a foundation in pure "reason," separated from reality. Wojtyla's philosophy made even more sense - it is grounded in tradition while directly addressing many of the common mistakes made in modern philosophy. I am left with gratitude for the wisdom of our Church and its leaders.



Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick
For the Sooner Catholic

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The talk by John Cuddeback, who with his wife and many children lives on a farm near Front Royal, was titled, "Determining the Place for Technology in the Home Today."

He said we spend most of our life with very few people inside a household. He said relations with a spouse and children are most important.

"My only concern about technology in the household is how it affects these relationships," he said.

Cuddeback said work should focus on how it will serve the household, using technology without being dominated by it.

Daniel Kerr spoke about his Foundation of Saint

Martin's Academy, which will be a boarding school for boys in a farm setting. It is scheduled to open in the fall of 2018 near Fort Scott, Kan.

Cardinal Robert Sarah's book, "The Power of Silence against the Dictatorship of Noise," was mentioned several times during the conference.

Ted King is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Sister Valeria Cisneros, A.S.C.

Sister Valeria Cisneros, A.S.C., died July 5. She was age 95, and had spent nearly 78 years as a professed Adorer of the Blood of Christ.

Sister Valeria was born Jan. 25, 1922, in Clovis, N.M., one of seven children born to Arnold and Victoria (Trustensky) Cisneros, and named Clara. Her mother died when Clara was 3, and her father, a train engine repairer and musician, remarried. Her stepmother, Maria Ateaga, nicknamed "Cuca," taught the family Spanish. She and Arnold had two children.

Valeria attended elementary school in Waynoka, and later, Saint John's Academy in Wichita.

Valeria, who had three siblings who became sisters, entered the Adorers and made first vows Aug. 10, 1939, and final vows, Aug. 10, 1944.

Valeria wanted to be a catechist and teach religion to poor Mexican children, but the ASCs did not provide that ministry at the time. Instead, she kept house at convents, a hospital and two archbishops' homes for 40 years in Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Her remains were inurned in the Wichita Center cemetery.



Sister Valeria Cisneros, A.S.C.

Give a Catholic School Scholarship - Get a Tax Credit

What could be easier?

With an Oklahoma state income tax credit obtained by a gift to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund, for every dollar you give, you'll get a state income tax credit of 50% or 75% of your gift. (up to a \$1,000 credit for individual taxpayers, up to a \$2,000 credit for married couples filing jointly and up to a \$100,000 credit for business entities). It's simple—the more you give, the more you save. If you make a 2 year pledge, you receive a 75% tax credit on your gift for both years. A one time gift allows you a 50% tax credit on your donation. You can get the federal and state charitable deductions, too. The numbers will vary, but here's an example for someone in the 35 percent federal tax bracket:

Donation to Any 501(c)(3) Charity	Donation to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholar. Fund (one year gift with 50% credit)	Donation to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholar. Fund (2 year pledge with 75% credit)
Gift:\$2,000	Gift:.....\$2,000	Gift:\$2,000
Federal Deduct. ...-700	Federal Deduction -700	Federal Deduct -700
State Deduct-100	State Deduction -100	State Deduction -100
.....	Tax Credit-1,000	Tax Credit-1,500
Net Cost :\$1,200.00	\$200	\$-300
	A SAVINGS OF \$1000!	Make \$300 each year!

When St. Paul describes the gifts God has given the church, he includes teaching among the most important (1 Cor 12:28). No surprise there. "Go teach!" was the final mandate of Jesus. History has long taught that without teachers to announce the Gospel and educate the young, the church struggles to survive. Evangelization through good teaching is essential to Catholic life. Please consider supporting Catholic Schools by making a donation to the Catholic School Opportunity Scholarship Fund today. Thank you for your thoughtful gift.

On behalf of the many students whose lives are touched by your generosity, we thank you. **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
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My income tax filing status is: individual married filing jointly corporate entity

I'D LIKE TO DONATE: one time gift; two year pledge
 _____% Earmark (up to 75%) to a specific Catholic school or schools:
Name of School: _____

Gift Amount: \$2,667; \$2,000; \$1,000; \$500; \$250; \$100
 Other amount \$ _____
 My check made out to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund, Inc. is enclosed.

I wish to charge (one-time charge) my gift of \$ _____ to my
 Visa; MasterCard; Discover; American Express

Account #: _____
Expiration: _____ 3-Digit Security Code: _____

Signature as it appears on credit card _____ Date _____

Lánzate a lo más Profundo
Luke 5:4

La Convocatoria de Líderes Católicos un momento histórico de gracia

Después de años de planificación, más de 3,500 católicos de todos los Estados Unidos se reunieron en Orlando del 1 al 4 de julio para un evento histórico. Como iniciativa de los obispos estadounidenses, "La Convocatoria de Líderes Católicos: La Alegría del Evangelio en América" reunió a delegaciones de todo el país dirigidas por obispos, así como otros apóstolados y movimientos católicos para orar, reflexionar y participar en un evento crucial. Diálogo sobre los retos y oportunidades significativos que se ofrecen a la Iglesia en este momento de nuestra historia.

Nuestra delegación arquidiocesana consistió en 14 participantes, muy dedicados todos, que con otros católicos compartieron perspectivas, experiencias y esperanzas, y aprendieron unos de otros.

El impulso único para este acontecimiento provino de la Exhortación Apostólica del Papa Francisco "Evangelii Gaudium" la "Alegría del Evangelio". En la "Alegría del Evangelio", el Santo Padre convoca a todos los bautizados a abrazar nuestro papel de discípulos misioneros que han sido tocados y transformados por nuestro encuentro con Jesucristo.

Movidos por ese encuentro gozoso, somos enviados en misión para compartir esa alegría con los demás. Toda la Iglesia está llamada a estar en permanente estado de misión. Esta convocatoria desafía a la Iglesia y a todas sus instituciones y miembros a pasar del mantenimiento de la comunidad de fe a la acción misionera. Sólo seguir haciendo lo que hemos estado haciendo porque "siempre lo hemos hecho de esta manera" no es un plan pastoral adecuado.

Desde el día de Pentecostés hemos sido una Iglesia misionera. Nuestra misión es proclamar y dar testimonio del Evangelio de Nuestro

Señor Jesucristo. Con una especial urgencia, el Papa Francisco nos invita a ir hacia las periferias, no sólo como un lugar geográfico, sino especialmente a las personas en nuestras vidas, en nuestras comunidades y en nuestra iglesia que viven en los márgenes existenciales y que a menudo son ignoradas y olvidadas.

Durante la convocatoria, pasamos mucho tiempo examinando la realidad social de nuestra nación. ¿Cuáles son esas periferias? ¿Cómo

sobre temas de interés mutuo.

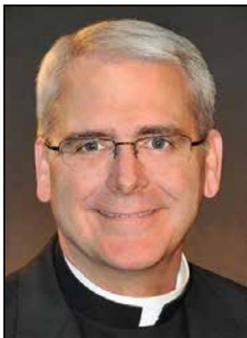
Ciertamente uno de los aspectos más importantes de esta convocatoria fue la Sagrada Liturgia.

La preparación para el culto divino se hizo con gran cuidado: la belleza de la música, las artes visuales, la experiencia de orar todos juntos la Liturgia de las Horas, y especialmente en la celebración de la Misa. Hubo también una bella procesión con el Santísimo Sacramento. Se ofrecieron además oportunidades para el Sacramento de la Reconciliación, la devoción mariana, la adoración eucarística, la alabanza y la adoración.

Honestamente, la convocatoria superó mis esperanzas y expectativas. Mis expectativas sin duda eran bastante modestas ya que nunca habíamos intentado hacer un evento como este antes. Uno de los frutos alentadores de la convocatoria para mí, y para muchos de los miembros de nuestra delegación, fue una clara afirmación de que muchas de las iniciativas que hemos emprendido en los últimos años aquí en la arquidiócesis van por el mismo camino que el Espíritu Santo está guiando a la Iglesia en nuestro tiempo.

Continuaremos reflexionando sobre los frutos de la convocatoria para poder compartir lo recibido. En las próximas semanas, miembros de nuestra delegación de la Arquidiócesis trabajarán para articular las gracias y las ideas de la Convocatoria de Líderes Católicos para que puedan ser incorporadas en nuestra planificación pastoral para la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City.

¡Ven, Espíritu Santo!



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

July 1-4, 2017
Convocation of Catholic Leaders
The Joy of the Gospel in America

Para los resúmenes, recursos y videos de "La Convocatoria de Líderes Católicos: La Alegría del Evangelio en América", visiten <http://usccb.org>.

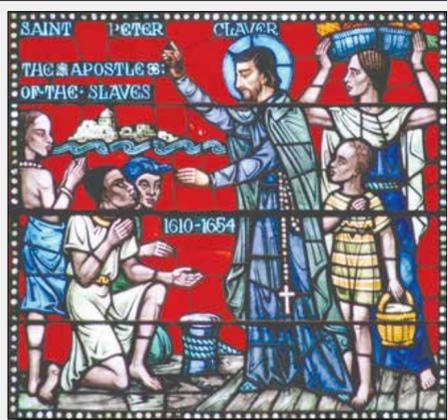
está presente la Iglesia en esos lugares? ¿Qué está funcionando? Además de las presentaciones magistrales diarias de algunas de las principales voces católicas en los Estados Unidos, hubo decenas de sesiones organizadas por expertos destacados en una variedad de temas para los participantes. Gran parte del beneficio real de la convocatoria se produjo a través de la interacción entre los delegados que tuvo lugar espontáneamente entre las sesiones, durante las comidas y en conversaciones casuales

Misa de Aniversario

El Arzobispo Pablo Coakley invita a las parejas casadas que estén celebrando su aniversario especial de (25, 40, 50+) del presente año 2017 para que participen en la Misa Especial de Aniversario el domingo 15 de Octubre de 2017, iniciando a las 3 p.m. en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro, 3214 North Lake Avenue, (N.W. 32 Y Western) en Oklahoma City.

Después de la Misa habrá una recepción. Es muy importante que si usted desea asistir por favor contacte a la Oficina de Vida Familiar al (405) 721-8944.

El Arzobispo le impartirá su bendición y la comunidad local se alegrará en su ejemplo y compromiso al Sacramento de Matrimonio.



La imagen de san Pedro Claver adorna un vitral en la catedral St. Mary's en Peoria, Illinois. Canonizado en 1888, san Pedro Claver ahora es considerado en Colombia el santo patrón de los derechos humanos. (Foto CNS-The Crosiers)



BEATIFICACIÓN
DEL
PADRE STANLEY ROTHER

COORDIAL INVITACIÓN

Sábado 23 de septiembre del 2017
10:00 a.m.

Centro de Convenciones Cox
Oklahoma City, OK

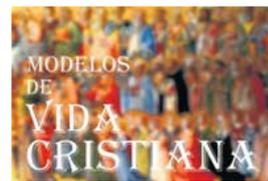
ENTRADA LIBRE - NO ASIENTOS ASIGNADOS



stanleyrother.org

¿Alguna vez has oído hablar de San Diritelmo?

Este señor, originario del siglo VII de Inglaterra y con un nombre extraño que nunca había escuchado antes, fue desde cualquier punto de vista un católico muy decente y devoto. Su amorosa esposa e hijos parecían ser cristianos ejemplares, y no he encontrado nada fuera de lo ordinario escrito sobre ellos.



Una vez llegó una devastadora epidemia que mató a muchos en todo el país. Incluso Diritelmo se enfermó gravemente. Durante una crisis intensa en su enfermedad, tuvo una experiencia cercana a la muerte. Mientras su esposa, sus amigos y su familia llevaban una vigilia junto a su cama, pues creían que estaba en transición hacia la vida eterna, Diritelmo se levantó de su cama y les informó a todos que había regresado.

Esto causó cierta conmoción y todos, excepto su esposa, salieron corriendo y gritando de la casa.

Compartió con su esposa su deseo y compromiso de vivir una vida muy diferente de la que había vivido. Durante los siguientes días, comenzó a pasar muchas horas en oración en la iglesia local y poco después dividió sus riquezas y las repartió a sus familiares, incluyendo a su esposa.

Diritelmo fue a visitar al rey. Compartió con su majestad la historia de su visión durante

su experiencia cercana a la muerte. La historia que compartió con el rey fue tan fuerte que el rey intervino por él y Diritelmo fue admitido en la Abadía de Melrose. Allí vivió una vida monástica y penitencial hasta el final de su vida.

Entre sus muchas penitencias, haría algo que nunca había escuchado antes. Pasaba horas en las aguas heladas de un río cercano.

Pero ¿cuál fue esta visión? ¿Cuál fue esta experiencia cercana a la muerte que cambió su vida de manera tan dramática? ¿Qué vio Diritelmo que lo motivara a una vida tan penitencial? Diritelmo fue bendecido con ver la vida después de la muerte. Tuvo tres visiones: el cielo, el infierno y lo que hoy llamamos purgatorio.

El Venerable Beda cuenta la historia del viaje de este hombre a través de un lugar que no es el cielo y seguramente no es el infierno.



"La tercera visión era de un agradable prado lleno de flores de olor dulce y gente feliz. El guía dijo: 'Este no es el Reino de los Cielos'. Cuando llegaron a ese reino y sintieron de lejos su luz y dulzura, el guía no lo dejó ir más lejos. Luego le explicó a Diritelmo que el primer valle estaba lleno de gente que sólo habían sido salvados en el momento de su muerte. Tenían mucha purificación que soportar, pero las oraciones y Misas ofrecidas por ellos en la tierra acortarian su sufrimiento. La agradable pradera era para aquellos cuya necesidad de purificación era más ligera. Aquellos que murieron sin imperfección, dijo, entrarían al cielo inmediatamente. Pero, aquellos que entraron en el oscuro agujero del infierno nunca podrían escapar. El guía entonces le dijo a Diritelmo que debía volver a la vida, pero debería vivir mejor después de eso. En realidad, Diritelmo estaba triste por tener que abandonar este mundo del más allá."

Esta visión de un lugar temporero para la purificación antes de entrar en la eternidad con Dios suena hermosa. Saber que nuestras oraciones y Misas por los muertos son tan eficaces me da esperanza y le doy las gracias a San Diritelmo por haber compartido su visión.



Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Director, Oficina de Ministerio Hispano

Obispos de EE.UU. piden protección permanente para migrantes jóvenes

Por Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON - El presidente del comité sobre migración de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos pidió al gobierno "protección permanente" para jóvenes que vinieron a Estados Unidos cuando eran menores de edad sin documentación legal.

El obispo Joe S. Vásquez de Austin, Texas, presidente del Comité sobre Migración, reiteró el apoyo de los obispos al programa Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia (conocido como DACA), promulgado en el 2012 por el entonces presidente Barack Obama que, aunque no provee estado legal, protege temporalmente de la deportación y da a los beneficiarios autorización para trabajar en los Estados Unidos -- siempre y cuando cumplan ciertos criterios.

Durante su campaña presidencial, Donald Trump dijo que eliminaría el programa, después

dijo que era una decisión difícil y todavía no está claro qué le sucederá los aproximadamente 750,000 jóvenes que reciben beneficios del programa.

"Los jóvenes de DACA contribuyen a nuestra economía, son veteranos de nuestra milicia, son

y jóvenes, tiene que ser protegida". El instó a la administración "a continuar administrando el programa DACA y a asegurar públicamente que los jóvenes de DACA no sean prioridad de deportación".

Los obispos se unen a otras instituciones católicas preocupadas por el grupo pidiendo protección para los jóvenes. En mayo, más de 65 presidentes universitarios representando instituciones católicas estadounidenses solicitaron una reunión con el secretario del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional para conversar sobre las normas de inmigración, particularmente DACA, diciendo que estaban preocupados por el futuro de sus estudiantes. Ellos citaron incidentes en que beneficiarios de DACA fueron detenidos por autoridades de inmigración, incluso un caso en que uno de ellos fue deportado.

En su carta, los presidentes expresaron preocupación al ver a los jóvenes salir de las universidades durante el descanso de verano para trabajar, para participar en prácticas profesionales o pasantías, sin saber si podrán regresar a sus estudios en el futuro.



Foto CNS.

destacados académicos en nuestras universidades y son líderes en nuestras parroquias", dijo el obispo Vásquez en un comunicado del 18 de julio. "Estos jóvenes entraron a Estados Unidos cuando eran niños y conocen Estados Unidos como su único hogar. La dignidad de todo ser humano, particularmente la de nuestros niños

"Oramos para que ellos regresen", dice su carta, pero hasta ahora no han habido anuncios de lo que la administración hará o no hará respecto al programa.

Retiro del Viñedo de Raquel en Español 25-27 de Agosto

El Viñedo de Raquel es una oportunidad extraordinaria para cualquier persona que lucha con dolor emocional y espiritual del aborto. El fin de semana es un proceso único y efectivo diseñado específicamente para ayudarle a sentir la misericordia y compasión de Dios.

Este proceso es extremadamente bueno para ayudarles a los que luchan con perdonarse a sí mismos o a otros. ¡El fin de semana ayudará que su alma encuentre una voz, y transforme el dolor del pasado en esperanza! Para más información y para registrarse comuníquese al (405) 709-2708 o mande un mensaje a Aromero@archokc.org.

No habrá costo para asistir a este retiro pero su pre-inscripción es requerida. Todas consultas son estrictamente confidenciales. El retiro es patrocinado por la Oficina Arquidiocesana de Vida Familiar.

Briefs

ACCW Women of Faith/Women of Action luncheon

The luncheon is Aug. 19 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, Noon - 1:30 p.m. Archbishop Coakley will speak about his work with Catholic Relief Services. Father Tim Fuller, St. Philip Neri, will share details of his recent trip to Africa with CRS. Cost is \$25. Proceeds go to CRS. Fair Trade items for sale. Limited seating. Register online by using PayPal or print registration form at okcaccw.com. Call/text Mary Ann Schmitt, (405) 650-9674.

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius

The Retreat In Daily Life is July 1 - Aug. 31, and is led by a trained spiritual director and retreat facilitator. Call Nancy Vargas, (405) 715-0283, or Danna Schweitzer, (405) 263-4472.

Pastoral Ministry Program

The fall 2017 schedule begins in August. Cost is \$200 plus textbooks; personal enrichment/audit: \$100 plus textbooks; and graduates of the program-Continuing Education (no credit given): \$80 plus textbooks. Classes held at the Catholic Pastor Center and video conferencing sites. Contact (405) 721-4208, (800) 721-5651, Ext. 131, cgrimes@archokc.org.

Discipleship with the Saints

The series features presenters discussing fundamentals of discipleship as lived out by some of the Catholic Church's greatest saints. On Aug. 14, St. Teresa of Kolkata; Oct. 23, St. John Paul II; Nov. 13, St. Francis of Assisi; and Dec. 11, Mary, mother of Christ. All discussions 7:30 p.m. at St. James, 4201 S. McKinley, OKC. Presented by the Gospel of Life Disciples.

Archbishop's Dinner 2017

Archbishop Coakley and Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Board of Directors invite everyone to attend the 2017 Archbishop's Dinner at 7 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club, 7000 N.W. Grand Blvd. in Nichols Hills. Tickets \$250. Proceeds benefit the St. John Vianney Fund, a permanent endowment supporting seminarian education for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Call (405) 721-4115; cfookc.org/dinner.

St. Joseph's Orphanage reunion

The reunion of former residents and staff members of St. Joseph's Orphanage in Bethany and St. Joseph's Children's Home in Oklahoma City is 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Aug. 12, at Trinity Gardens, Garvey Room, 3825 N.W. 19, OKC. Free admission. RSVP by Aug. 7 to Jane Moon at jmoon@ccaokc.org or (405) 526-2308.

Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille is for couples with troubled marriages, including separated and divorced couples who want to make their marriage work. Names kept confidential. Six follow-up sessions required. The next weekend is Aug. 18-20 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Call (405) 433-3541, e-mail okc@retrouvaille.org or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

Rother Heritage Gallery

The Heritage Gallery at the Catholic Pastoral Center is presenting "The Shepherd Cannot Run: A Retrospective on the Life of Father Stanley Rother." The free exhibit is open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday; and 9 a.m. - Noon on Saturday Aug. 19. For special tours call (405) 721-5651, Ext. 141.



The Catholic Foundation

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Did you know you can give mineral rights as a gift to the Catholic Foundation? "Mineral rights" are the ownership of the minerals below a parcel of land. Minerals include oil, natural gas, ores of metals, coal, gemstones, dimension stone (quarried natural rock shaped to a specific size), and construction aggregate and evaporates, including salt, potash and gypsum. Mineral rights sales are filed at the county recorder's office. Mineral rights are verified through deeds. Mineral ownership may be affected by a will, trust, divorce decree or other documents. Oil and gas mineral interests or royalties are gifted for a number of reasons. An example would be to reduce the taxable portion of a person's estate. Another reason would be if the oil and gas royalties are too small to divide among the number of heirs. Some owners gift rights because they no longer have the desire to manage their royalties. Gifts of more than \$5,000 of real estate, mineral or royalty interests to the foundation require an appraisal. Contact that Catholic Foundation for more information about making a gift of mineral interests.

For more information, contact the foundation office at:
The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Inc.
 P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
 (405) 721-4115 ■ www.cfookc.org ■ bsemtner@archokc.org

Please remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in your estate plans.

Rachel's Vineyard retreat

On Aug. 25-27, is an opportunity for any person dealing with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The free retreat offers an opportunity to experience God's

love, forgiveness and compassion. Call (405) 709-2708 or e-mail Aromero@archokc.org. Pre-registration required. Participation is confidential. Sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Family Life.

Jobs Box

Chancellor

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a skilled professional to serve as chancellor. As part of the diocesan curia, the chancellor's principle function is to gather, arrange and safeguard documents and records of the curia. The chancellor also is an ecclesiastical notary and secretary of the curia, and serves as canonical advisor to the bishop. The chancellor serves as a member of the archdiocesan bishop's internal consultative body to assist in analysis and discussion of various issues. The chancellor makes recommendations to the archbishop and advises the bishop, moderator of the curia and other staff members on legal matters, interpretation of laws, rulings and regulations and assists in the development of strategies dealing with legal issues. Must be a Catholic in good standing and possess either a juris doctorate or a juris canonici licentia and have five years administrative experience. Submit resume to nlargent@archokc.org.

Substitute teachers - OKC

Sacred Heart Catholic School, OKC, needs substitute teachers for all grades (PK4-8). Classroom experience preferred. High school diploma. Bilingual in Spanish a plus. Contact Adriana Garza, principal, principal@sacredheartokc.org.

Teachers - Edmond

The Child Development Center at St. John, Edmond, seeks full-time and part-time teachers and assistant teachers. Must be reliable, flexible, work well with others and capable of lifting up to 30 pounds. Must pass a background check and complete the archdiocesan safe environment workshop. Send resume to cdc@stjohn-catholic.org.

Mother's Day Out - OKC

The Mother's Day Out program at Christ the King is seeking a part-time worker. Program serves children ages 3 months to 3 years on Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Must communicate

and work well with children and other adults. Must complete safe environment training and background check. Contact director of discipleship and evangelization, Jenni Butch, at jenni@ckokc.org.

Director of community engagement

Directs and oversees all events, marketing and community related functions for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Primary functions include development of corporate collateral and marketing pieces, event management, coordination of United Way relationships and oversight of all community related functions. Should have bachelor's degree in communication, business or related field, and three years of fundraising and event management experience. Apply at www.ccaokc.org/careers.

Director of administration - Norman

St. Joseph, Norman, is seeking a director of administration to manage the parish office, facilities,

business functions, and assist the pastor in the implementation of parish evangelization activities and ministries. Should have a bachelor's degree in business administration or related field, and be a practicing Catholic. Send resumes to diradmin@stjosephsok.org.

HS Spanish and technology teachers

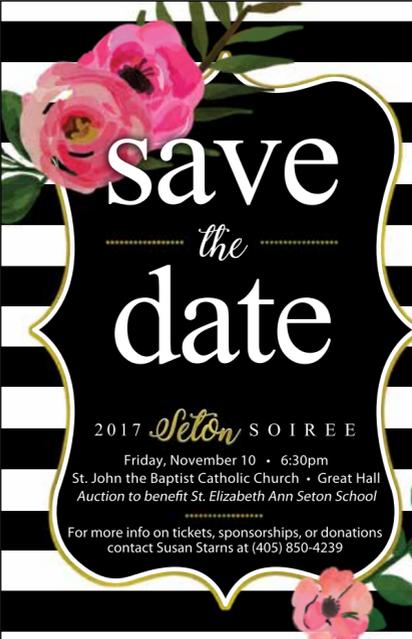
Mount St. Mary Catholic High School is seeking a part-time Spanish teacher and full-time technology education teacher (computer apps, video production, TV/webcast production) for the 2017-18 school year. E-mail letter of interest and copy of Oklahoma Certification to Talita DeNegri, tdenegri@mountstmary.org, or fax to (405) 631-9209. EOE.

To see more job openings, go online to www.soonercatholic.org.

Calendar

This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar, go to www.soonercatholic.org.

August	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Feast of St. Dominic.	Feast of St. Clare.	The Red Plains Benedictine Oblates of Mt. St. Scholastica meeting, Noon - 2:30 p.m., Rm. A/B, at St. Charles Borromeo, 5024 N. Grove Ave. Contact Judith Martin, (405) 635-5665, jmmartinosb@yahoo.com.	Charismatic Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception, 3901 S.W. 29, OKC. Call (405) 685-4806.	Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe.	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. Nine days of novenas to Infant Jesus of Prague. During the nine days, the novena prayers will be as follows: Monday-Friday following Noon Mass, Saturday following 5 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.	Retrouvaille Aug. 18 - 20, Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC. Call (405) 433-3541, e-mail okc@retrouvaille.org or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.	The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC, will meet following 9:30 a.m. Mass. Contact Karen Banks (405) 396-9086 or Toni Harrelson at (405) 341-2199.	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, Little Flower Church, OKC, Noon - 4:30 p.m. Call Barbara Basgall (405) 826-3860 or Susan Staudt (405) 473-6328.
Archbishop's Dinner, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club. Call (405) 721-4115; cfookc.org/dinner.	Catholic War Veterans (of any war/conflict) will meet at 7 p.m., St. Ann Retirement Center community room. Contact Fr. M. Price Oswald, (405) 567-3404.	Catholic War Veterans USA the Oklahoma Memorial Post No. 168 will meet at 7 p.m., Sunnyslane Family Reception Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact Ken at (405) 739-0036, OklaPost168@cox.net.	Pray the Rosary for Life at 6:30 p.m. at the abortion center, 2453 Wilcox Dr., Norman. In cases of inclement weather, meet at the chapel at St. Thomas More, 100 Stinson St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com.	Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe.	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. Nine days of novenas to Infant Jesus of Prague. During the nine days, the novena prayers will be as follows: Monday-Friday following Noon Mass, Saturday following 5 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.	Retrouvaille Aug. 18 - 20, Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC. Call (405) 433-3541, e-mail okc@retrouvaille.org or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.	The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC, will meet following 9:30 a.m. Mass. Contact Karen Banks (405) 396-9086 or Toni Harrelson at (405) 341-2199.	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, Little Flower Church, OKC, Noon - 4:30 p.m. Call Barbara Basgall (405) 826-3860 or Susan Staudt (405) 473-6328.



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Deacon Roy Callison, American Indian Catholic Outreach coordinator for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City; Most Rev. David Konderla, Bishop of Tulsa; Susan Callison; and Rt. Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B., Abbot of Saint Gregory's.

Head Lady Dancer for the 2017 St. Kateri Honor Dance, Angelyn Connywerdy, dances the fancy shawl dance during the grand entry.



Dorothy Whitehorse DeLaune and Bishop David Konderla.



The annual St. Kateri Honor Dance was held July 8 at St. Gregory's Abbey in Shawnee.

This year's principal celebrant was the Most Rev. David Konderla, Bishop of Tulsa. The celebration included Mass, a pilgrimage to the St. Kateri Tekakwitha statue, gourd dancing, supper and a powwow with dance contests.

Sponsors of the celebration were the Black and Indian Mission Office, St. Gregory's Abbey and American Indian Catholic Outreach for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.



Bishop David Konderla received a Pendleton blanket.

Head Man Dancer for the 2017 St. Kateri Honor Dance, Akhyka Pewo, dances the fancy dance during the grand entry.



Comanche Little Ponies 2017-2018 princess Malayna Dinwiddie.

