

Sooner Catholic

Serving the People of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Volume 36, Number 17 * September 12, 2010



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City



CALLLED TO RESPOND

Annual Appeal

September 18-19, 2010



CatholicCharitiesOK.org

We Are Called to be Saints

Dear Friends:

I recently read Father James Martin's book, "My Life with the Saints." It is very good reading, as it portrays well-known heroic saints as very human and people whom we would certainly like to personally know. Father Martin writes about the powerful influence special saints have played in his formation as a Jesuit.

Every generation has its heroes, living saints who love God by following Christ, and profess their faith in the service to those who are in need. Like each of us, they were imperfect characters who struggled with temptation and sin each day of their life. Like each of us, they had special talents which they shared with those around them. Their ordinary acts of love and kindness became extraordinary works of redemption, because each one was an expression of their identity with Jesus.

St. Francis of Assisi stripped himself of all his possessions to encounter the sick, the imprisoned and the destitute.

St. Therese of Lisieux (Little Flower) patiently endured pain, ridicule and suffering as little acts of love for God.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta founded the Missionaries of Charity who searched out the sick, the infirm and the poor and recognizing the human dignity of each person whom they washed and cared for.

God calls you and He calls me to be saints in His world. Each of us has different gifts and talents, but we are one in Spirit. Each gift of God that is shared builds His Kingdom.

Because our faith is social, we live this faith in family life first, and from there in our community, our church and our country. To quote Father Martin:

Each of us brings something to the table, and we each, through our own gifts, manifest a personal way of holiness that enlivens the community. We help build the Kingdom of God in ways that others cannot. Mother Teresa echoes this in her famous saying:

You can do something I can't do.

I can do something you can't do.

Together, let us do something beautiful for God.

Our Catholic Charities appeal is your invitation to do something beautiful for God. You and I are called to prayerfully respond with our gifts and talents to serve our neighbor. In Catholic Charities, our works of love, mercy and justice are united to bring hope to thousands of needy children and families living in Oklahoma. Please support Catholic Charities.

Gratefully yours in Christ,
Tim O'Connor



Tim O'Connor

Catholic
Charities
Annual
Appeal

1-10

The Good News

... Attention All Catholic People!

Next Sunday, Sept. 19, is the 2010 annual appeal for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. This is the day that I invite and request every Catholic person in the Archdiocese to join together in supporting these organized efforts of the Church.

Through our Catholic Charities organization, we, the Catholics of this Archdiocese, are able to reach out and help our brothers and sisters in need. The needs are not a one-time response but a daily ongoing reaching out with support and help.

It is my hope and my prayer that every Catholic person will hear and respond to this request for the financial support of Catholic Charities. Last year 6,625 Catholic people responded very, very generously with \$2.2 million in pledges. To each of you, I express my most sincere gratitude and I know I can count on you again.

Catholic Charities is the combined efforts of the Catholic people of the Archdiocese to respond to the poor and needy. Catholic Charities is the obligation of the Catholic community. Charity is not an option in the Church. Charity is an essential component of our Catholic faith. Our response and participation in Catholic Charities is a very tangible and visible sign of our faith. There are many, many more Catholics in this Archdiocese than the 6,000 who contributed to Catholic Charities last year. This is the reason I am try-

ing to reach all Catholics with this urgent request for this year's Catholic Charities appeal. Please hear and answer my call. Please, all Catholics, sign a pledge card next Sunday at Mass. I will ever be grateful and the good Lord will bless you most abundantly.

It is true that all of us have been negatively affected by the continuing economic downturn in our nation. But it is equally true that the poor among us have been more severely affected. They suffer more and will experience a much slower recovery. Thus, in true Christian charity, every one of us should joyfully and generously respond to this year's Catholic Charities appeal.

None of us lives in Utopia. We are all citizens of a real world. In our life on this earth we experience joys and sorrows, good times and bad, successes and failures. Unfortunately, because of the reality of sin in the world, we often experience fear, injustice, prejudice, violence and warfare. But we are not overwhelmed because we are people of faith. We believe in Jesus. We believe in all that He has taught us, all that He revealed.

No matter how difficult life might seem, no matter how many setbacks we might have experienced, there is always hope because Jesus has brought us the Good News. He has reminded us of the real purpose and the true goal of our human life. He has clearly and convincingly

*Catholic Charities
affords us
all an
opportunity
to practice
the great
command-
ment of love
and to help
our brothers and sisters
in need.*



Archbishop
Beltran

taught that the greatest commandment of all is love. Upon the love of God and love of neighbor rests all other commandments and reality. This is the Good News of Jesus.

Catholic Charities affords us all an opportunity to practice the great commandment of love and to help our brothers and sisters in need. Through Catholic Charities we actually share the Good News that Jesus brought us. Through our response, our participation and our generosity to Catholic Charities, we bring hope and help and consolation and love to others. Through Catholic Charities, we extend the mission and ministry of Jesus.

Please make a generous pledge to our Catholic Charities ministries next Sunday, Sept. 19. Thank you and God bless you.

Seminary Burses

A \$35 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse** by an anonymous donor.

A \$200 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse** by St. Mary Parish, Guthrie.

A \$150 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse** by St. Thomas More Parish, Norman.

A \$10 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse** by Clara Schwarz.

A \$200 donation was made to the **Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse** by Clara Schwarz.

A \$600 donation was made to the **Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse** by St. Philip Neri Parish, Midwest City.

A \$50 donation was made to the **Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse** by Mr. and Mrs. John Page.

A \$500 donation was made to the **Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse** by St. John the Baptist Parish, Edmond.

A \$200 donation was made to the **Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse** in memory of Jerry Cebulski.

Sooner Catholic

Most Reverend
Eusebius J. Beltran
Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Publisher

Ray Dyer
Editor

Cara Koenig
*Photographer /
Technology*

Mauro Yanez
Hispanic Editor

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

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

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

The newspaper is not responsible for unsolicited material.

Copyright © 2010 *Sooner Catholic*

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.

Catholic Charities Housing Provides More Than Shelter

Learning to balance your checkbook, being tutored in reading and math, learning new skills, and making new friends are hallmarks of the services provided at Catholic Charities housing. An integral part of the mission of Catholic Charities is to provide safe and affordable housing for seniors and families. With more than 180 housing units in Lawton and Oklahoma City, the housing program provided shelter to more than 400 people.

"It is not enough to give shelter to seniors and struggling families," said Catholic Charities Executive Director Tim O'Connor. "With every housing opportunity also comes the opportunity for case management and other social services."

At the Villanova Apartments in Lawton, Pauline Harris, a certified behavioral case manager, is available every day to provide social services to the residents. All of the services are geared to helping tenants avoid eviction and create a concerned community among the residents. Quarterly tenant meetings always include speakers on topics such as nutrition, health and safety issues, community resources and budgeting. Tenants in jeopardy for eviction for housekeeping violations receive cleaning supplies and instructions by

Catholic Charities staff. For the second straight year, Villanova Apartments is a summer lunch site for the Lawton Public Schools, assuring that each child is well-fed throughout the summer.

JustFaith groups from Blessed Sacrament Parish in Lawton provide additional services to the residents of Villanova which have created a lasting change in many lives. Every Thursday, volunteers read to the children and offer tutoring in math and reading in the Community Room. Another volunteer group facilitated a program for the residents to work at removing some of the causes of drug and gang activities among the adolescent residents. Creating Lasting Family Connections is a program designed to improve communication between parents and teens.

In Oklahoma City, Elizabeth House, Seton House and Casa Maria were established by Catholic Charities to provide safe transitional housing for clients who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The key component to the program is intensive case management services to help tenants move toward permanent housing and self-sufficiency. Clients receive assistance in accessing educational or vocational training with the community. Quarterly tenant meet-



Volunteers from Blessed Sacrament Parish read to the children at Villanova Apartments on Thursday evenings.

ings provide training in budgeting and cash management. Assistance in finding community resources and support systems also is provided.

At Villa Isenbart and Trinity Gardens in Oklahoma City, independent living in safe and affordable housing has been provided to seniors for 11 years.

"Residents plan activities, participate in the neighborhood watch committee and enjoy a well-deserved quality of life," O'Connor said. "Catholic Charities case managers

are available to assist with any financial needs or counseling needs for the residents. A visit to this property finds the residents engaged, active and enjoying the community living afforded by these two properties."

He said, "Recognizing the dignity of each human being is a hallmark of the housing programs at Catholic Charities. Our goal is to be more than a housing project. Building communities served by caring professionals makes Catholic Charities housing a unique program."



The summer lunch program feeds children in the community room at Villanova Apartments in Lawton.

Here we are, LORD.

CALLED TO RESPOND to the need for safe, affordable housing, we sponsored housing programs for 182 seniors, families and disabled adults.



Students from St. John the Baptist Parish work with Aimee Ryan, director of Refugee Resettlement, to create welcome letters for refugee families helped by Catholic Charities.

Students Live Summer of Service

Middle school students from St. John Nepomuk Parish in Yukon and members of the youth group from St. John the Baptist Parish in Edmond volunteered their time this summer at Catholic Charities.

Through the "Summer of Service" program, 18 students from St. John Nepomuk met at Catholic Charities to learn about Catholic Social Teaching. They later got a head start on the Christmas spirit when they wrapped gifts for the Adopt-a-Family gift program sponsored by Catholic Charities. More than 200 donated gifts were wrapped and will be distributed to families in need this Christmas. After wrapping the gifts, the students prayed for those who would receive them.

St. John the Baptist students learned about the refugee resettlement program at Catholic Charities and responded to the presentation by creating letters of welcome which will be placed in the homes of refugees when they arrive in Oklahoma.

"It is inspiring to see the young people of our faith coming forward to serve those in need and welcome the stranger in response to the gospel call on their lives. It is a hopeful sign that the Catholic faith is growing in our youth," said Catholic Charities Executive Director Tim O'Connor.

Scout Makes Great Difference for Holy Family Maternity Home

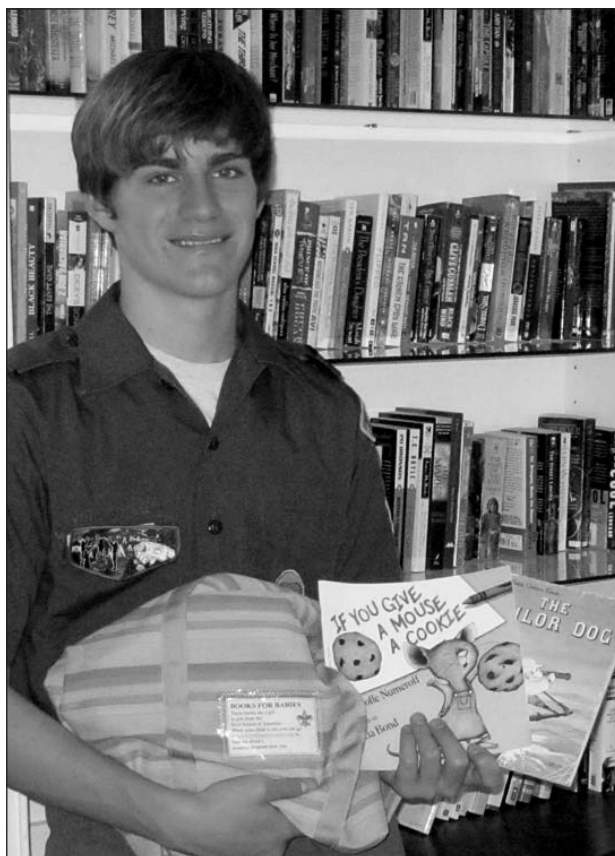
As most Boy Scouts can attest, the rank of Eagle Scout is definitely a badge of honor, one that only 2 percent of its membership earn. So, when longtime Boy Scout and Casady High School sophomore Brannan Crossno decided to earn the Eagle Scout rank, he looked at a variety of projects that would make an impact on the community and chose Catholic Charities Holy Family Maternity Home (HFMH).

"My church, school and family all emphasize service to others as being an important part of an adult Christian lifestyle," said Crossno, a member of Christ the King Parish. "My entire life I have been involved in volunteer work — even when I was too short to reach the counter, I stood on a chair, helping my mom fill containers for Loaves and Fishes. When I was 2 years old, I broke my front tooth, falling forward onto a flight of stairs — helping to carry empty boxes for a Christmas drive."

As part of his project, Brannan had to plan the work, organize the personnel needed and direct the project to completion. He began his planning in October 2009, when he met with HFMH director Mary Jane Webster to determine the home's needs.

Following his meeting, his project grew to include:

1. Reorganizing the multi-purpose room with storage units and a conference table.
2. Creating a reading area with new furniture, lighting, paint and books.
3. Creating Books for Babies tote bags to give to each mother a tote with children's books to encourage literacy in the home.
4. Inviting local artists to donate original works to enhance the home's beauty.
5. Cleaning out the flower beds and planting new flowers around the patio and in the prayer garden.



Boy Scout Brannan Crossno.

To make the project formal, he created a proposal which stated:

The girls in residence will have fresh and clean surroundings in which to study, read, relax and live while waiting for their babies to be born. This project will be a service not only to the girls who currently live at Holy Family but also to those who will live there in the future.

This project will develop a beautiful and even more comfortable environment, for the girls to do

homework and recreate. Since the girls are in residence for a number of months, this project will support the charity in offering leisure reading as well as an environment that is conducive to studying and reading for pleasure.

When I imagine what these months must be like for a girl, who for whatever reason is not able to stay in her home while pregnant, I feel strongly that any immediate comfort or opportunity to imagine the future, and even prepare for it, is not only practical but compassionate.

It makes me proud that Scouting can do such a real thing to show support for the girls who experience teenage pregnancies.

His spring break vacation was devoted to writing donor letters as well as visiting donors, gathering donations and organizing the details of the project.

"We are grateful to Brannan for his hard work and dedication to this project, which will make so many wonderful improvements to the Holy Family Maternity Home," said Webster.

The son of Kevin and Stephanie Crossno of Oklahoma City, Brannan began Scouting as a Tiger scout at Our Lady's Cathedral in 2000, later joining the boy-led Troop 201 at Covenant Presbyterian Church. While in Troop 201 Crossno has held several positions of leadership including patrol leader, quartermaster, scribe, assistant senior patrol leader and senior patrol leader.

Crossno has also performed 20 additional hours of service in order to meet the requirements for his confirmation.

"A project of this size and scope relies on many, many good people choosing to participate — it is the only way things really get done," said Crossno. "I am humbled by all the ways people have helped me to carry this project out, and I hope it really meets the needs of the Holy Family Home."

DISASTERS:

Catholic Charities is Called to Respond to Both Natural and Manmade Disasters

The story is a familiar one for Oklahomans. On May 10, 2010, a series of tornadoes destroyed or damaged homes in eastern Oklahoma and Cleveland and Pottawatomie counties, leaving residents homeless or living in compromised situations. As a part of the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) organization, Catholic Charities was called upon to assist FEMA and other federal and state agencies in staffing Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) in five locations.

“As victims enter the DRC, they are greeted by the FEMA staff and are directed to a phone bank to register for services using the toll-free FEMA hotline,” said Angela Dickson, associate director for Children and Family Services at Catholic Charities. “The process includes applying for Small Business Administration loans for financial assistance and discussions with a FEMA specialist regarding their situation. Catholic Charities is there to meet the needs that are not being met by the governmental entities.”

In one case, Bob and Mary came to the DRC on a Sunday afternoon with no idea what to expect. After working their way through the FEMA assistance application process, they were directed to the Catholic Charities staff to discuss their immediate and long-term needs. “It was clear that the tornado and the financial recovery processes had taken an emotional and physical toll on them,” recalls Nancy



This is all that remains of the mobile home that belonged to one of the tornado victims receiving long-term recovery case management from Catholic Charities.

Largent, Catholic Charities director of administration. “Bob is a disabled Vietnam veteran whose injuries make it impossible for him to do the debris removal needed on his property. Mary suffers from a heart condition and had been trying to move pieces of their mobile home in an effort to recover family keepsakes. Their insurance would only pay \$800 toward debris removal and every estimate they received was in excess of \$2,000. Volunteers from the community cleared the debris at their home and Catholic Charities provided ongoing case management to them.”

Catholic Charities Executive Director Tim

O'Connor says, “The goal of long-term recovery case management is to coordinate services for clients after a disaster and help the family achieve the same level of lifestyle that they had prior to the storm. In some cases we have been able to help families achieve a better standard of living.”

Catholic Charities has experienced an increase in the calls to respond to the needs of the people of Oklahoma in times of disaster. Largent says that during the past year, case managers, volunteers and other staff members have contributed more than 1,463 hours of service in response to nine federally declared disasters.

Disaster Supply Kit

Case managers who work with long-term disaster recovery say families that are prepared by having an emergency disaster kit are much better able to access services in a time of crisis, says Nancy Martinez, disaster recovery case manager for Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities USA created the following preparedness guide for families. *Use kit if evacuating or staying put in a disaster!*

When preparing for a disaster, use the “15-minute rule.” This rule states that essential things you need to evacuate or prepare for a disaster should take you 15 minutes or less to get together. To make sure that items are readily accessible: (a) assemble the supplies in easy-to-carry containers like backpacks or duffle bags; (b) have important papers already packed in waterproof containers; and (c) have plastic sheeting easily available.

Use this checklist to prepare your family disaster supplies kit:

- ☐ Household Items
- ☐ Battery-powered radio
- ☐ Battery-powered flashlights
- ☐ Extra batteries
- ☐ Cash or traveler's checks and change
- ☐ Map to follow evacuation routes and find shelters
- ☐ Minimum three-day supply of non-perishable, packaged or canned food (e.g. canned or dried juice mixes, powdered or canned milk, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, unsalted nuts, trail mixes, cereals, rice, cookies, hard candies, instant coffee, tea bags)
- ☐ Basic food seasoning such as salt and pepper
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Paper plates and cups
- ☐ Minimum three-day supply of bottled drinking water — 1 gallon of water per person per day. Don't forget water for pets. Store water in sealed unbreakable containers. Replace every six months.
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Fire extinguisher (small ABC type)
- ☐ Duct tape
- ☐ Waterproof matches
- ☐ Sewing kit
- ☐ Plastic storage containers
- ☐ Paper, pencils and pens
- ☐ Aluminum foil
- ☐ Plastic sheeting and tarps
- ☐ Basic tool kit (adjustable wrench, screwdrivers, hammer, etc.)
- ☐ Family documents (stored in a water-proof container or zip-lock bags):
 - ☐ Birth certificates
 - ☐ Marriage certificates
 - ☐ Death certificates
 - ☐ Ownership documents
 - ☐ Insurance policies
 - ☐ Passports and visas
 - ☐ Social Security cards
 - ☐ Bond and stock issues

- ☐ Wills and living trusts
- ☐ Medical records and children's vaccination histories
- ☐ Photocopies of all cards carried in wallet
- ☐ Backup disks of computer information
- ☐ Irreplaceable photographs, videos and family heirlooms
- ☐ Inventory of personal property for filing insurance claims. List everything and include receipts of big-ticket items.
- ☐ Videos or photos of home contents to supplement your written inventory of your home.
- ☐ Clothing and bedding (for each family member)
- ☐ Sturdy shoes or work boots
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Blankets and sleeping bags
- ☐ Hat and work gloves
- ☐ Thermal underwear
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Insect repellent and sunscreen

Volunteers Are Backbone of Charity

Volunteers give a gift that can never be repaid: their time. Because of this, volunteers are priceless, says Molly Bernard, president of the Catholic Charities Board of Directors. "At Catholic Charities, the volunteers extend the reach of the works of mercy that are performed each day. In serving others, our volunteers find that they too are served," Bernard says.

Pennie Vandenbroek is a volunteer at the Sanctuary Women's Development Center operated by Catholic Charities for women and children who are homeless. Case managers and volunteers at Sanctuary help the women access the services they need to find stable housing, employment and other services that enable them to become self-reliant.

Vandenbroek summed up her volunteer experience, saying, "With many of us doing small things, the women are helped in big ways. I'm amazed at what a joyful experience

this has been in my life. Working with the women at Sanctuary has shown me that we are all the same in God's sight and I am blessed by the women and children I meet each week as I hope to bless them."

Charlene Smith, another volunteer at Sanctuary who teaches arts and crafts, says, "When a lady makes something and smiles, it shows that her self-esteem is blossoming. I am blessed that I can help her."

Administration director Nancy Largent says, "We look forward to increasing the volunteer opportunities in the coming year. Without our volunteers at Sanctuary, many women and children would not be blessed with individual attention that our volunteers give."

For more information about volunteer projects at Sanctuary and other Catholic Charities programs, contact Largent at (405) 523-3000 or visit www.catholiccharitiesok.org.



This year's "Reds, Whites & Boots" wine-tasting event raised funding for a new playground at the Sanctuary Women's Development Center. In addition to the playground, proceeds are being used to furnish and equip a kitchen to be used for cooking classes and new computers for the center. The annual "Reds, Whites & Boots" is hosted by the Stockyards City Main Street Association, Cattlemen's Steakhouse, Glazer's, and the wineries of Ehlers Estate and Oakville Ranch.

Woodward Parish Partners with Catholic Charities to Develop Ministry

By Ray Dyer
The Sooner Catholic

WOODWARD — For several months, parishioners at Saint Peter Church have been working to develop a Parish Nursing Ministry, and with the help of Catholic Charities, the new outreach is about to get off the ground.

Father Scott Boeckman of Saint Peter said the Parish Nurse Ministry is greatly needed in the Woodward area. "The parish is very excited about this," Father Boeckman said. "There is a great need to get health information out to the overall community. Our parish is probably more than half Hispanic. This will help open doors and provide a safe place for people to find health information and support."

Mary Diane Steltenkamp, director of Faith Community Nursing for Catholic Charities and considered the founder of the Parish Nurse Ministry in Oklahoma, said the Woodward Parish is bringing a new twist to rural health care. It's a twist she believes may catch on in other parts of Oklahoma.



Dr. Jan Chleborad takes a blood pressure reading at the first screening held at St. Peter's Parish in Woodward.

Steltenkamp said traditionally a registered nurse has been in charge of the Parish Nurse Ministry. Saint Peter, under the leadership of Father Boeckman, has created a Health Ministry Team that is comprised of parishioners both in and outside the medical field.

Steltenkamp said bringing people from diverse backgrounds

together to focus on health care and healthy living programs will provide a more comprehensive approach to the issues that impact rural Oklahoma.

Father Boeckman said not only will the ministry provide support for those individuals who are ill or "who are hurting," the purpose statement developed by the committee will

include reaching out to the entire community. He said one program ready to begin is an exercise class for adults over the age of 65.

"The overall purpose is to bring Christ the Healer to the entire community," Father Boeckman said. "If someone is struggling with cancer, we want to provide a support group for that person." He said blood pressure checks will be provided on a regular basis as well as general information about creating healthy life choices.

The parishioners of Saint Peter will provide financial support for the ministry and grants will be pursued, Father Boeckman said.

Later this month, several members of the Saint Peter Health Ministry Team will travel to Guthrie for Parish Nursing training at Our Lady of the Lake retreat center.

Father Boeckman said the parish is excited about bringing the ministry to the community because the purpose is to bring "spiritual, physical and emotional well-being to the community."

"Everyone is welcome and this is such a great need," he said.

Technology Allows Catholic Charities to Help People From a Distance

For Oklahoma's immigrant population in rural areas, finding legal help can be difficult. Challenges including language barriers, long work hours and limited income can make travel to Oklahoma City almost impossible.

Realizing that there is a real need to reach those in outlying areas, Catholic Charities found a way to provide legal assistance without the drive, by utilizing webcams — an innovative program that links immigrants outside of Oklahoma City to immigration experts. The webcams allow clients to have online conversations with their attorneys, receive legal advice and learn more about the immigration services Catholic Charities provides.

"This program has truly helped us reach more people in need of our services without incurring a travel expense or uprooting their families for a day-long trip," said Margie Solis, director of Catholic Charities Immigration Services. "In the past, clients from Guymon had to drive five hours or more to meet with us, just for an initial consultation. Now we can use the webcam to meet face to face with our clients more often and provide assistance to those who might not have been able to make the drive."

Initially launched in Enid in October 2008, the webcam program was expanded to Guymon in April of this year, which boasts the state's fourth largest Hispanic population. The program has helped 20 people since its inception, with popularity growing, especially amongst the priests in these areas.

"The priests in Enid and Guymon have been instrumental in making this program successful. They want people to be able to access our services," Solis said. Despite the program's successes, educating the immigrant population about the program is still an ongoing challenge. Solis said many immigrant workers don't believe they are eligible for immigration and may not seek legal assistance unless there is a problem with Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE).

"We are proud of those we've been able to help using this program, and look forward to helping many more as word of it grows. There are so many options available for those who are seeking immigration assistance," Solis said. "The best time for immigrants to learn about legal options is before an ICE problem arises, but if it does, we are only a webcam appointment away."



Margie Solis, director of the Catholic Charities Immigration Assistance Program, provides initial consultation to a client in Guymon via the webcam.

Our Challenge as Catholics is to Love Without Measure

By Richard Klinge
Catholic Charities

"The measure of love is to love without measure." This simple, poignant statement is not only the theme for the Respect Life Program of the United States Conference of Bishops (USCCB) for 2010-2011, it is a call and a challenge for all Catholics and all people of good will to make our lives, both private and public, and our laws reflect a true respect for all life. As Pope Benedict says, the "key to [our] entire existence" is to know and understand that because we are created in the image of God, who is Love, our identity and our vocation is to love.

In the public arena, how can we, as Catholics, respond to this challenge to "love without measure?" At the Oklahoma Legislature, in my role as legislative advocate for the Archdiocese and in our collective roles as citizens, we must jointly continue to make the effort and to take the time to educate our legislators about why the dignity of human life is at the core of Catholic moral and social teaching. We must remind our elected representatives, as Cardinal

DiNardo — the chair of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities — says, that the "task of good government is to use its funding power to direct resources where they will best serve and respect human life, not to find new ways to evade this responsibility."

In the 2010 Oklahoma legislative session, our Legislature passed several bills that meet Cardinal DiNardo's challenge. These bills included protections against the use of abortion for sex selection of children, safeguards against coerced abortions, the requirement of an ultrasound immediately prior to an abortion and freedom of conscience clause protections for health-care professionals. At the same time, however, our Legislature had the opportunity, but failed, to address a growing moral and ethical issue involving the financial inducements offered primarily to poor and college-aged women to sell human oocytes.



Richard Klinge

At the federal level, the USCCB is supporting legislation to write into permanent law a policy that the federal government "should not use taxpayers' money to support and promote elective abortion." This legislation would allow federal health care legislation "to be debated and supported in terms of its ability to promote the goal of universal health care" and how it could best serve "the common good, instead of being mired in debates about one lethal procedure that most Americans know is not truly 'health care' at all."

If we are going to be effective advocates for life, we must continue to educate ourselves about the

issues, both locally and nationally, which impact, either positively or negatively, our Catholic moral and social teachings on the inherent dignity of all human life. If your church or group would like more information about any of the issues discussed in this article or about other respect life issues or legislation, or if you want to join our legislative efforts at Catholic Charities to promote life in the public arena, contact Richard Klinge at rklinge@catholic-charitiesok.org.

Richard Klinge is associate director for Advocacy, Outreach and Legal Services at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Here we are, LORD.

CALLED TO RESPOND to the stranger, we helped resettle 240 refugees to our country and reunited families through our Immigration Assistance Program.

Utility, Rent Support Help Offered Through Catholic Charities

Oklahoma's hot summers and freezing winters, coupled with ongoing economic difficulties, can make it hard for some Oklahoma families to pay their bills. Fortunately, Catholic Charities is offering assistance to some Oklahoma families who have been hit hard by rising costs.

"Higher electricity and utility bills can put a burden on local families," says Nancy Largent, director of administration at Catholic Charities. "This is a lifeline for those in dire need. We don't want families to have to choose between keeping their home cool, paying rent and putting food on the table."

The utility and rent assistance program is open to those in need who are behind on their utility bills, have received a utility cut-off notice or are experiencing past due rent. People of all faiths are welcome to apply.

In order to qualify for utility assistance, applicants must have a current bill, proof of current and identifiable income and a valid I.D. For those requesting rent assistance, a copy of the lease in the applicant's name must be presented with I.D. and proof of income. Handwritten letters from a



Case manager Brad Hyde teaches a money management class to clients receiving rent and utility assistance.

landlord will not be accepted as proof. Due to increased need throughout Oklahoma, Catholic Charities cannot pay the entire bill. Applicants must pay the first portion to qualify for assistance.

People interested in applying may phone (405) 523-3028 to make an appointment, said Damon Britton,

director of Catholic Charities Family Support Services. He said assistance is provided by appointment only, and appointments and funds are limited.

As a part of the rent and utility assistance program, clients are required to attend a money management class. The class is designed to teach the basics of budgeting, banking

and making good decisions with money. Britton said, "We have had a very positive feedback from clients who have taken the class. It gives them some practical ideas to take home and implement immediately."

Catholic Charities need-based program provides emergency rent and utility assistance to thousands of families throughout western Oklahoma each year. In 2009, the organization provided 1,530 families with rent and utility assistance, a number that is expected to rise this year due to the state of the economy and the extreme weather.

The program is made possible through the support of the Inasmuch Foundation and private donations. For those who would like to contribute to this and other community services, Catholic Charities is accepting donations online at www.catholiccharities-ok.org, through the mail and at their Oklahoma City headquarters.

"We rely on donations to make these programs possible. It is because of the support of the Oklahoma City community that we are able to assist these families in their time of crisis," Largent said.

Woman Credits Catholic Charities Counselor With Providing Guidance

By Ray Dyer
The Sooner Catholic

CLINTON — For nine years Jennifer Clayton was abused by a man who had promised to love her through thick and thin.

She tried to escape the physical and verbal abuse by swallowing pain pills. Then one day her 2-year-old daughter found the pills, put them in her mouth and came close to death.

In doing so, Jennifer Clayton's 2-year-old daughter saved her mother's life.

Clayton was arrested for possession of a controlled and dangerous drug. She spent two days in jail and was then sent off to detox and rehab. The state of Oklahoma took her daughter into custody. For the next four months, Clayton would learn that addiction to painkillers doesn't ease the pain, it only makes it different.

Following her stint in rehab,

Clayton was ordered to continue counseling. She could not afford an expensive counselor, so in stepped Eileen McGee, a counselor and the coordinator of the Clinton office of Catholic Charities.

"For 18 months I've been talking weekly with Eileen," said Clayton. "She's so wonderful. She has helped me so much."

McGee, Clayton said, is "very professional and very compassionate."

"I'm in a much better place now and much of the credit goes to Eileen. There's just certain people in my life that I couldn't live without."

Clayton pays for her counseling provided by Catholic Charities, but it's a fraction of what would be charged if she were being seen by a private therapist.

The 42-year-old woman was born in New York and raised in Europe. She said she made her way to Oklahoma after meeting her future husband while living in Dallas. He

was from Oklahoma, so they moved here.

That's when the abuse started. But with the help of her support group, which includes Catholic Charities' McGee, a recovery program provided by the local Church of Christ and a Bible study group at the Clinton First Baptist Church, Clayton has been able to straighten out her life.

At one time in her life, Clayton

said she turned to faith "only when it was convenient."

"God was always there, but I have free will, I made my choices."

Now, with support of people like Eileen McGee, Clayton vows to continue walking the right path.

"God places people in your life that are very supportive and who help you find the way. I am very blessed."

"I have hope because I have faith."

Here we are, LORD.

CALLED TO RESPOND to those who are alone or afraid, we provided free counseling services to 626 people.

Catholic Charities Finds Special Needs Child Loving Home

Throughout its nearly 100 years, Catholic Charities Adoption Services has placed thousands of children. Recently, however, the program encountered one of its most challenging and rewarding cases when it placed Baby M, an adorable special needs girl, with a loving new family.

A young woman who found herself unexpectedly pregnant with her second child, Baby M's birth mother was not ready to care for another child. Realizing that in her current situation it would be difficult to care for two children financially or emotionally, she began looking at placing her child for adoption. She contacted Catholic Charities Adoption Services, where she met with Kirsten Lee, director of Adoption and Maternity Services, to learn more about placing her unborn child for adoption.

"When the birth mother met with me, she wasn't sure she wanted to place for adoption. She wanted the child to have the best care possible and knew that adoption would provide Baby M with more opportunities than she could offer right now," Lee said.

When Baby M was born last March, she was diagnosed with Craniosynostosis, a congenital defect that causes the sutures on a baby's skull to close early. Found in about one of every 2,000 babies, Craniosynostosis can result in abnormally shaped heads, and in rare cases, developmental problems. Fortunately, in Baby M's case, the defect was minor, with a slight elongation in her head. Otherwise, she was a healthy, happy baby. To offset any possible problems, the doctor recommended surgery within three to six months, an expensive prospect for any parent.

After talking with Lee at length and learning that she could select the adoptive family, the birth

mother chose to place the baby with the Joneses (not their real name). A loving family with a 10-year-old son, the Joneses had been trying for several years to have another, but were not able to conceive naturally. When they received the call from Lee that a baby was available, they had been waiting more than a year to adopt through Catholic Charities and although excited to pursue the adoption, they were a little nervous.

"There's always risk when placing a special needs child with a family. Not only does the child require more attention, there are emotional and financial demands that may not arise with a healthy child," Lee said. "Fortunately, when someone adopts a special needs child through Catholic Charities, they're not alone. When they get the baby, our work is not over. We do home supervision visits and are always available by phone, and are here for support to ensure the family has everything they need to care for their baby."

After a successful meeting between the birth mother and the Joneses, the family adopted Baby M. At this time, Catholic Charities began working with the family to enroll Baby M in Medicaid and private insurance to help cover the much-needed surgery. Although there were a few obstacles in obtaining coverage, the Joneses remained positive that this was God's plan.

In July, Baby M had surgery, which was successful. Although she will have a scar from where the doctor made the incision, she will not need to wear a helmet to reshape her head. Since surgery, Baby M has made a remarkable recovery and is hitting all of the milestones expected of a 5-month-old, Lee said.

For Lee, the experience has been both challenging and rewarding. She said, "Despite the hurdles



in securing insurance, it was truly worth every moment to see Baby M get the help she needs while finding the family that was meant for her. These are the experiences that make my job worthwhile."

Called to Respond

*O, true and ever faithful God,
O, Father of Jesus and of us all,
Call us out of the darkness and into your light
So that our security rests in you and not in the full barns of our
wealth.*

*Pull us up so that the measure of our success
rests in the well-being of our neighbors
and not our isolation from their plight.*

*Pierce our hearts so that our confidence rests in giving,
not receiving;
Turn our world upside down,
even if that is what frightens us the most.*

Not our wills but yours be done and thy kingdom come. Amen
By Vince Brady

Here we are, LORD.

*CALLED TO RESPOND to the plight of the unborn,
we gave shelter and direction to 15 pregnant
adolescent girls at the Holy Family Home and
supported family life through our Maternity and
Adoption Services.*

Help Catholic Charities Reach Its \$2.4 Million Goal

Pledge Card

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Parish _____
 E-mail Address _____

Catholic Charities has my permission to publish
 my name as a donor. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Annual gift: \$ _____

Amount paying today: \$ _____

☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card
 (complete reverse side)

Balance: \$ _____

I will pay my balance by August 2011 according
 to this schedule:

- ☐ Monthly (10 payments: Nov. 2010 thru Aug. 2011)
☐ Quarterly (4 payments: Nov., Feb., May and Aug.)
☐ Semiannually (2 payments: Nov. and May)
☐ One-time gift

Payment method:

- ☐ Personal Check or Money Order - Please bill me.
☐ Electronic Funds Transfer (complete reverse side)
☐ Credit Card for one-time gifts only
 (complete reverse side)

Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

Make checks payable to:
 Catholic Charities' Annual Appeal

This side of pledge card MUST BE COMPLETED

*You may now give online with a credit card
 at catholiccharitiesok.org*

SEE REVERSE SIDE OF PLEDGE CARD
 FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT
 OR ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER.

Complete this section for CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

☐ AmEx ☐ Discover ☐ MC ☐ VISA

_____/_____/_____/_____

Expiration Date ____/____

Card Verification Code _____
 (last 3 digits on back of card near signature line)

- ☐ By checking this box I agree to pay the amount indicated
 on the reverse side, according to card issuer agreement.

 Name on Card

 Signature Required

If your account information changes in any way (i.e., card
 expires, card lost, etc.), please notify Catholic Charities
 at (405) 523-3000, ext. 1109 as soon as possible.

Complete this section for ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

For monthly EFT transfer ÷ 10
 (10 monthly payments beginning Nov. 2010)

AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT
 PAYMENT TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE
 ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY, INC.

 Name of Financial Institution

City _____ State _____

Print Name: _____

 Signature Required

IMPORTANT:
 VOIDED CHECK MUST BE ATTACHED
 TO PROCESS (NO DEPOSIT SLIPS)

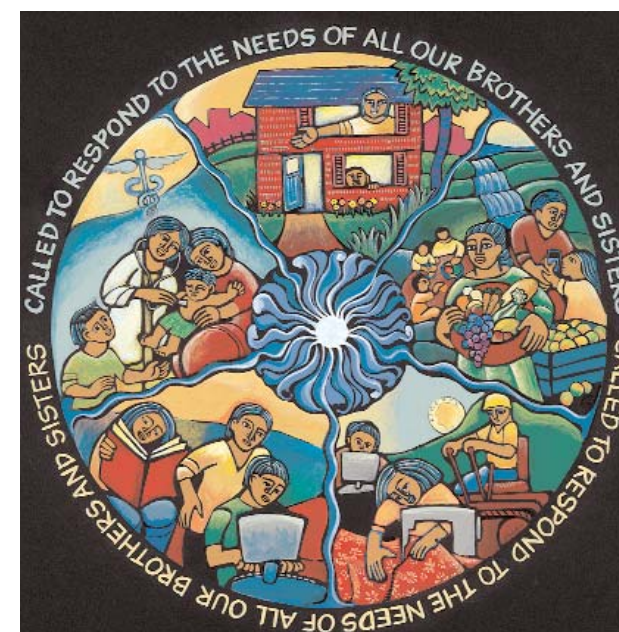
If your account information changes in any way
 (i.e., closed account, lost check book), please notify
 Catholic Charities at (405) 523-3000, ext. 1109
 as soon as possible.



A note from Archbishop Beltran...

*"Who is my brother? Who is my
 sister? Jesus gave us a clear and
 direct answer in the story of the
 Good Samaritan, which we all
 know."*

*"Catholic Charities of the
 Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
 offers us a direct opportunity to
 become Good Samaritans. We
 share in this charitable work of the
 Church personally and effectively
 when we make a financial
 contribution to Catholic Charities.
 Please be generous to this year's
 appeal."*



92% of your donation goes to direct Client
 Assistance and Social Action.

From Oklahoma With Love

St. Monica Helps the Poor in Villages near Piura, Peru

In late 2005, St. Monica Catholic Church began a missionary effort to serve the poor in the villages near Parroquia Santísimo Sacramento (Parish of the Most Blessed Sacrament). The first donation of \$365 provided \$1 per day for one family, of many, who lives on exactly that amount. Since then, over a quarter million dollars have been sent to Santísimo. Many visits by missionaries show this money is being spent with great care.

The initial \$365 donation grew to \$140,000 for the year 2009. Missionaries identify needs in Piura and then solicit funds at home to meet them. These funds partially come from all St. Monica parishioners via the parish's tithe to the Third World. Specific parishioners and a few non-parishioners help more directly.

St. Monica daily serves 1,400 Peruvians. About 100 families (700 persons) are provided a monthly food package of \$30. Five villages with 550 children are fed breakfast five days per week. A home of 110 teenage girls, whose families cannot afford to feed them, are provided two square meals per day as well as all of their daily hygiene products. All operating costs of a Hospice Center are being provided. A chapel was built in a new village so people could have a place to pray and gather for events. No-interest mini-loans have been provided to farmers. One hundred percent of targeted donations go to those in need.

Piura is in northwestern Peru in the desert between the Andes Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. Piura was selected for missionary work because the pastor of Santísimo Sacramento grew up at Christ the King in Oklahoma City and he has many U.S. connections to facilitate an effective missionary ministry. The parish consists of about 40,000 parishioners, one priest, no deacon, and a large staff to help facilitate missionary efforts.

An earlier federal government

caused the economic infrastructure of Peru to be decimated such that jobs are still difficult to find. Half of rural Peruvians live on less than \$1 per day.

Missionary trips each summer last for 10 days. These trips provide ideas for doing things during the other 355 days of the year. Serving the poor is not just a 10-day event. A

mission trip is planned for June 18-27, 2010.

The Peru Mission Subcommittee oversees raising and distribution of funds for St. Monica.

Deacon Lee Hunt and his wife, Karen, began sponsoring a Peruvian family in April 2000. Deacon Lee went on his first missionary trip in 2003 and eventually initiated a Peru Ministry at St. Monica. Deacons are supposed to serve the poor within and outside of their parishes.

At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

St. Monica parishioners have not gone to all nations, but they are bringing hope to the many Catholics in Peru who wish to escape the cycle of poverty.



Villagers receive medical care including eye surgery.



Members of the St. Monica Mission crew with some of the supplies sent by St. Monica Parish.

A Celebration of Mercy

Sisters Ministry in Oklahoma To Be Recognized Sept. 24

By Ron J. Jackson Jr.
Mercy Information

OKLAHOMA CITY — Tucked away in a small room of Mercy's convent, inconspicuously hanging on framed displays, are the names of the Sisters of Mercy who have served and died in Oklahoma. The names are a roll call of the faithful: Sister Mary Joseph Shields ... Sister Mary Catherine Troy ... Sister Mary Genevieve Halpin ...

Dating back to 1884, there are 140 names in all — names that leave an observer tantalized not merely by how they died, but more importantly, by how they lived. For each Sister of Mercy listed is part of a towering legacy in the Sooner State where they pioneered Christianity, education and health.

Today, their imprint is all around us, from the bustling Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City to the thriving Mercy Memorial Health Center in Ardmore. Mercy will celebrate that rich heritage with Mercy Day Sept. 24 — the day foundress, Sister Catherine McAuley, opened the first House of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland, in 1827.

"They left us a lot," said Tim Lowery, president of the Sacred Heart Historical Society. "And think of the first Sisters who arrived here. They had the courage to venture into what was then the wilderness."

Lowery oversees the storied grounds of the Sacred Heart Mission, which is located in the southeastern tip of Pottawatomie County between the present-day towns of Asher and Konawa. In 1884, Sacred Heart was often referred to as "an oasis" by travelers journeying through the wilds of Indian Territory. Yet the sight came with a price.

Fear of the unknown shadowed five Sisters of Mercy as they traveled westward 126 years ago. At the time they were answering a plea for help from Father Isidore Robot, who with the assistance of Brother Dominic Lambert, founded the Sacred Heart Abbey in October 1875.

Sacred Heart — Indian Territory's first center of Catholicism



An early photo of the Sisters of Mercy at Saint Mary's.

— initially consisted of a church and a school for boys. The missionaries eventually built St. Mary's Academy for girls, and on Sept. 5, 1880, six Sisters of Perpetual Adoration from New Orleans arrived to take charge. They found frontier life extremely harsh.

"The records of the convent ... indicate that the great distance involved and the exceedingly trying character of the life in the Indian Territory convinced the Mother Superior that the task was just a bit too difficult," wrote Father Robot after the Sisters returned to the east. He quickly turned to the Sisters of Mercy in Lacon, Ill., for help.

Without hesitation, five Sisters volunteered for the assignment — Sister Mary Joseph Shields, Sister Mary Catherine Troy, Sister Mary Cecilia Herron, Sister Mary Aloysius Lonergan and Sister Mary Magdalen O'Conner. They were all young and eager to serve.

"They acted on faith," said Sister Mary Rose Elizabeth Power, who served as Mercy Health Center's vice president for two decades and now oversees Mercy's Oklahoma City convent. "Communication being what it was in those days, they knew they were journeying to a place far from civilization — a place they would live for years. I'm sure they were fearful.

"Oklahoma was a wilderness. Undoubtedly, they had heard stories

of the 'wild Indians' on the frontier, and we know they also expected to find a lonely, barren land."

The journey proved rugged at times, but memorable. On the night of July 9, 1884, the Sisters arrived by train at the Atoka depot. By the light of lanterns, they were greeted by Father Robot and Brother Lambert and informed they were still a three-day journey from Sacred Heart. The overland trek would be made in four prairie schooners with the aid of local Indians who traveled to welcome them to the territory.

The Sisters enjoyed a sound sleep that first night at a small church near the depot, and assisted in Mass the next morning before striking out across the prairie. Nightfall stirred the imagination.

"A tent was pitched ... every night and like gypsies we entered our primitive quarters," one traveler later remembered. "Sleep no doubt would have been refreshing but for the thought of the rattlesnake, the hooting of the owl, and the dog-like bark of the coyote, or the unpleasant buzzing of the mosquito."

Tragedy nearly struck on their third day as the party crossed the treacherous waters of the Canadian River. A horse became mired in quicksand, and if not for the quick action of the other drivers, someone might have died. The remainder of the group crossed at another point without inci-



Mother Mary Joseph Shields

dent. They were still frightened, but thankful to be alive.

A few hours later the party crested a ridge and beheld Sacred Heart. One of the Sisters recounted that moment five years later in *The Indian Advocate*.

"We finally arrived at Sacred Heart Mission, and how agreeably surprised we were," she wrote. "Instead of a small log cabin for a convent, a tent for a kitchen, the wide prairie for the garden and walks to which we had bid adieu, the many little comforts inseparable to ordinary life, which we had left behind with good will, never expecting to see them again for years, when lo! We suddenly came in full view of the convent with its surrounding groves and fields — the latter in waving grain, the monastery to the right — all presenting a grand surprise and delight to our longing eyes."

The Sisters of Mercy were finally home. This time, for good.

"I don't think I would have ever climbed into that wagon," Sister Power said humbly. "I'm a city girl."

Sister Power paused in a moment of reflection, adding, "Then again, so were they."



On Pentecost Sunday, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City recognized 15 persons who completed ministry formation programs this past year. Evening prayer with Archbishop Beltran presiding was followed by a reception for graduates and their families and friends. Pictured are Alfonso Lopez, Ann Grover, Mary Fahy, Paul Lewis, Bill King, Irene Haefele, Gary Peterson, Barbara Harris, Geri Hough, Peggy Kitchens, Archbishop Beltran [standing], Sister Merys Jimenez, Danna Schweitzer and Denise Slattery. The Pastoral Ministry Program, offered in affiliation with Newman University in Wichita, leads to a BA in Pastoral Ministry or an Archdiocesan Diploma. The Aquinas Ministry Formation program leads to an MA in Pastoral Ministry, and is offered in affiliation with Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis. The Pastoral Ministry Program offers courses in theology and ministry during fall, spring and summer. The next cohort in the master's program begins in March 2011. For information on either program, call or e-mail the Pastoral Ministry Office, (405) 721-4208, pmp@catharchdioceseokc.org.

Briefs

Bible Study Offered

NORMAN — The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study is a weekly Bible study that meets on Wednesdays, September through April, from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church. This year we will explore Saints Peter, James and John and their Letters From Home. We will have an information meeting on Sept. 15 and will begin the study on Sept. 22. For more information, please call Monica Rauch at 210-4121, or Michelle Wehling at 408-8422, or go to our website: TheCornerstoneScriptureStudy.org. Please pray about coming to this Bible study. All are welcome!

Bingo at St. James

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bingo at St. James Catholic Church, 41st and South McKinley Avenue, will be held Sept. 23 in the gym. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5:45 p.m. Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. All games including two blackouts are \$10. Door prizes and special recognition for all players born in September. An HDTV flat screen television will be given away in October. Each time you play you get an entry ticket into the TV drawing. Come on down and make it a party.

Annual Cookout Sept. 26

The Sixth Annual Youth and Young Adult Mass and Cookout will be held Sunday, Sept. 26 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The event is open to single or married Catholics in the Archdiocese from ages 18-39.

The day begins at 2:30 p.m. with registration at 3 p.m. Participants will be welcomed with prayer. At 3:15 the program, Jesus as a Young Adult, will be presented. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. and the cookout will follow at 6 p.m.

To register, call your parish young adult contact or the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office at (405) 721-9220, or you can e-mail Becky at BJamie@catharchdioceseokc.org.

Registration should be completed by Sept. 21.

Parish to Host Oktoberfest

OKLAHOMA CITY — The 22nd Annual OKTOBERFEST will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and Rosary School, 1910 NW 19th St., on Sunday, Oct. 3, starting at 1 p.m. This event is held each year on the first Sunday in October, coinciding with the Feast of St. Francis and the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The event begins with a 2k Fun Run/Walk through the Historic Gatewood Neighborhood and continues

through the afternoon with great food, music and entertainment. There will be fun activities for families and people of all ages, including games, prizes, rides and much, much more! Please join us for an afternoon of fun! For more information or to register for the 2k Fun Run, please contact Rosary School at 525-9272.

Wanted: Medical Help For Mission Work

EDMOND — Do you work in or have an interest in the health-care field? Looking for ways to share your gifts of healing and compassion? Join Father Joseph Uhen for a fun evening of South American wine-tasting, music and fellowship hosted by the mission teams from St. John the Baptist, Christ the King and St. Monica's Catholic churches.

Learn about our first year using the newly completed Santa Lucia Clinic (Surgery Center/Clinic) and plans for its future use.

Visit with previous medical missionaries and experience the sights and sounds of Piura. Guests and spouses are encouraged to attend.

RSVP or questions to Cheryl Pierce at 924-6232 or Rhonda Doherty at 771-3965 or by e-mail to piuramedmission@hotmail.com.

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Stewardship is the management of all of life's resources given by God to each of His children. Our management of these gifts calls us to be accountable and responsible for their use. You are a steward. Your fellow parishioners are stewards! Actually all God's people are stewards whether they acknowledge it or not. "Will I be a steward?" Rather we must ask, "What kind of steward will I be?"

The Lord has called His people to be faithful and wise stewards. We answer His call when we grow together in our stewardship.

How to become a good steward:

We are called and sent to proclaim the coming of the reign of God. This call and mission implies a need for change and is a lifelong process. Jesus' call is urgent. He does not tell us to follow Him at some time in the future but here and now — at this moment, in these circumstances.

Stewardship is a part of that interior change of heart (conversion). When we decide to become good stewards ourselves, the changes we experience in our lives enable us to carry the stewardship message to our sisters and brothers in the great family we call the Catholic Church.

Stewardship is the mission of the Church. We do not teach it; we must live it. A far more basic understanding of stewardship is rooted in our awareness of God, of how God is involved in our lives, and how we see ourselves as disciples of Jesus in today's world.

Three basic convictions underlie the message of stewardship:

A) To live as a Christian steward is an expression of mature discipleship. It is a conscious, firm decision carried out in action to be a follower of Jesus Christ despite the cost.

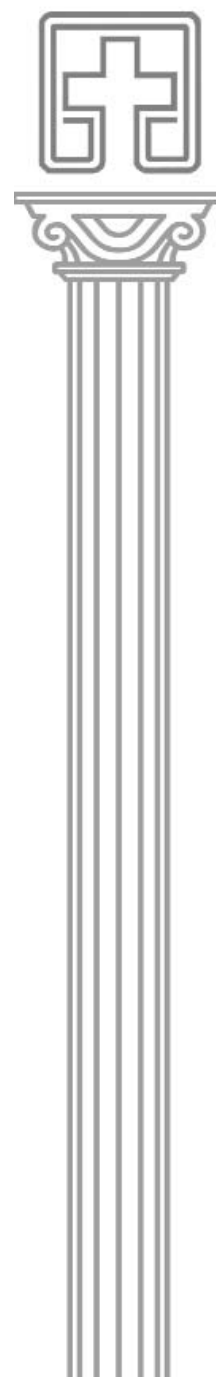
B) Beginning in conversion, a change of heart, this commitment as disciple-steward is not carried out in a single action, nor a series of actions over a period of time, but in one's entire way of life.

C) The practice of stewardship has the power to change the way we understand our lives. Steward-disciples recognize God as origin of life, giver of freedom, source of all they have and are.

The call to be a disciple is one common element we share with all Christians. In fact, we might say that to be disciples is the common vocation of Christians; discipleship is the Christian life. Jesus not only calls people to Him but also sends them out in service. (Mt 10:5; Mk 6:7; Lk 9:1).

To be sent on mission is central to being a disciple. Someone who wants to follow Christ will have much work to do on His behalf — serving others as Jesus did.

Good stewardship begins at the parish level. For help with developing a plan of action or establishing a stewardship committee at your parish, call the Archdiocesan Office of Stewardship and Development at (405) 721-4115.



The Catholic Foundation **CORNERSTONE**

What if Jesus Left No Will?

You inherited the Eucharist, your greatest treasure. Jesus was sure to give you this Sacrament BEFORE He died. Now is the time to consider what you will leave behind. If Jesus had waited, what would have happened to you?

Consider these questions: Do persons without children need wills? Does joint ownership make a will unnecessary? Do I need a will if my estate is small? If you have similar questions, please call the Catholic Foundation and we will work with you on a plan to create a lasting legacy.

For more information about making a gift to the Catholic Church in Oklahoma, contact:

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 32180

Oklahoma City, OK 73123

(405) 721-4115 www.cfook.org

bsemtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans

Tennis Tourney Sept. 25

EDMOND — The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School PTO is hosting the first SEAS Open Tennis Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 25 at Kickingbird Tennis Center, 1500 E. Danforth Road, Edmond.

Registration is \$50 per team and all monies raised will go to provide much-needed items for the

St. Elizabeth classrooms.

Registration/sponsorship forms are available at Kickingbird Tennis Center or the St. Elizabeth school office on 9th and Boulevard. The registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 17, 2010.

Questions? Please contact Anne Resolute, alreso@cox.net, or Leslie Stockel, rexstockel@cox.net.

Marriage Encounter Oct. 22-24

Attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend and renew your most precious Sacrament of Marriage. The next Oklahoma City weekend is Oct. 22-24, 2010. For information and registration, call Dan and Jean Fergie - Dan - (405) 760-0349, or Jean - (405) 760-0390, e-mail: partspeople@att.net.

Dorothy Day Center a Community Response to Hunger

By Monica Knudsen
For the *Sooner Catholic*

In the middle of the night on Sept. 9, 2005, Marcus Evans, newly appointed director of The Dorothy Day Center, was wide awake and wondering what the next morning would bring. Nearly 200 hungry households would be waiting for the first grocery deliveries from The Dorothy Day Center. Success for the food ministry facility of St. Charles Borromeo Parish depended entirely on volunteers. Evans prayed that enough people would be inspired to rise early on a Saturday and drive their own cars to near and far points of Oklahoma City to deliver emergency food assistance.

On the other end were folks without transportation or money for gas, the elderly or chronically ill, low-wage workers with families, single mothers with small children — some of the most vulnerable among us.

Evans, Bob Waldrop of Archbishop Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House, and a committee of St. Charles parishioners spent four years planning, and a hectic year raising \$107,000, paying off the building, recruiting help, clearing zoning hurdles and constructing the 2,000-square-foot warehouse. Committee member Mary Jones said, "Everyone brought a different strength to the table ... because it was meant to be, everything did fall into place." Archbishop Beltran dedicated the facility in November 2005.

Named after activist and founder of The Catholic Worker Movement, Dorothy Day, the ware-

All Invited For Anniversary Celebration

All are cordially invited to commemorate the fifth anniversary of The Dorothy Day Center. We will give thanks to God for St. Charles Borromeo's parish food ministry. Archbishop Eusebius Beltran and our pastor, Father Luschen, will celebrate the Mass at 5 p.m. After Mass, in keeping with the spirit of the ministry, a simple dinner of beans and sausage, rice and corn bread will be held in St. Charles School gym. Help decorate and fill our table centerpiece baskets by bringing one (or more) canned goods to donate to The Dorothy Day Center.

An open house at The Dorothy Day Center will begin at 7:15 p.m. The Dorothy Day Center is located on State Street, one block south of NW 50th and one block east of Grove, on the southeast corner of the church grounds.

For further information, contact Monica Knudsen at 887-6768 or stcharlesgarden@cox.net. Directions: St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 5024 N. Grove, Warr Acres. The church faces NW 50th Street, between MacArthur and Meridian.

"Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord ... He secures justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry." - Psalm 146:5-7

house would be the central storage point for all of St. Charles' food ministries: The Dorothy Day Center, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Program, Mobile Meals, as well as Archbishop Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House. With a climate-controlled facility, these programs could obtain nearly 12,000 pounds of food a month from the Regional Food Bank.

Five years later, almost 60,000 individuals have received help from the all-volunteer work force, which solely operates the delivery-only food ministry. More than 100 people from all walks of life and faiths serve the Lord in a true community-wide project. Some have their own large life challenges and still find time to give. Others have experienced childhood hunger

themselves. They know that nearly half of those receiving food are children. Most do their jobs without others knowing who does them. All are busy people, including Evans, who provides leadership in between his jobs as an Oklahoma City firefighter, roofing company owner, and his vocation as father to nine children.

In the simple yet powerful spirit of the food ministry's namesake, volunteers perform countless tasks with great love and faith — keeping the warehouse spotless, stocking and organizing the shelves, unloading trucks, delivering food, keeping records, shopping for fresh foods for the walk-in refrigerator and freezer, writing grants, recycling cardboard, tending the St. Charles Community Garden.



The Dorothy Day Center

Many report profound spiritual experiences in the course of their work. Evans said that sometimes recipients will donate a dollar to the Dorothy Day Center when their food arrives. "That is the story of the widow's mite," he said. "A dollar is a large amount of money for someone in this life situation." He noted that The Dorothy Day Center serves a two-fold purpose, to help those facing food crises but also, to quote Dorothy Day's associate Peter Maurin, "to make it easier for people to be good."

Several years ago, while plans for the project were still under way, Dorothy Day Center committee member Gloria Criser wrote a succinct statement about the physical and spiritual aim of the Center: "Hunger and poverty are not scheduled events. Families in crisis do not always have the transportation or resources to help themselves. It is our duty as Christians to live our faith, share our abundant blessings, and help renew dignity to our brothers and sisters in need."

Hispanic Institute Renamed in Honor of Father Rother

At the opening ceremony of the Hispanic Cultural Institute of St. Joseph's last spring, we were inspired by Archbishop Eusebius Beltran's keynote presentation about Servant of God Father Stanley Rother's life and his commitment to love, study and understand other people's languages and cultures in the name of the Lord. Thanks to the suggestion of Father Billy Lewis — and with the approval of our pastor, Father

Menasco, the board of the HCI has decided to change the name of the Institute to The Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute. We believe that the goals of the Institute are well-exemplified by Father Rother's life, whose cause for Beatification was officially sent to Rome last month. We are getting ready for the fall 2010 semester. The opening ceremony for our fourth year will be on Sept. 14, 2010, at 7 p.m. at the

gym of the Parish Center, 421 East Acres St. Everyone is invited. It is not necessary to be a member of the Institute in order to attend this night. Please come and learn more about the program.

For more information or to register, please call the Parish Office (321-8080) and/or e-mail: mariadejp-ruiz@ou.edu or iruiz4@att.net. Visit <http://hculturalinstitute.blogspot.com/>.

Buenas Noticias...

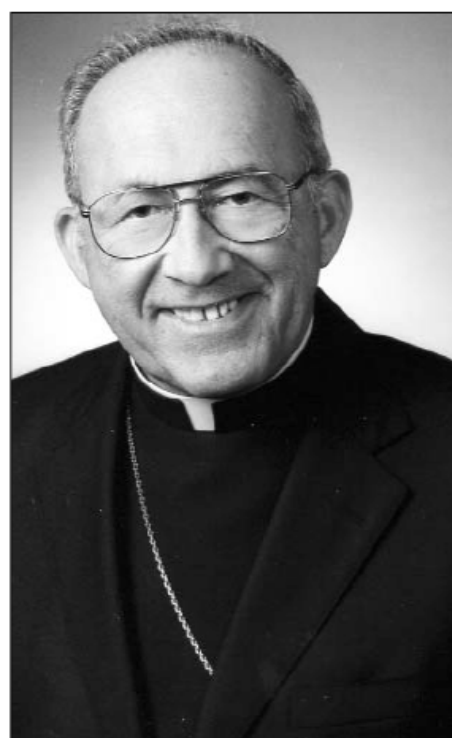
Mis queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:

El próximo domingo 19 de septiembre es la colecta anual del año 2010 para Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City. Ese es el día en que yo invito y le pido a todos los Católicos de la Arquidiócesis para que juntos apoyemos los esfuerzos de la Iglesia.

A través de nuestra organización Caridades Católicas, nosotros, los Católicos de esta Arquidiócesis, podemos alcanzar y ayudar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en estado de necesidad. Estas necesidades no se resuelven en un día, sino con una respuesta diaria y continua, la cual permite un verdadero apoyo y una solidaridad con los desamparados.

Tengo el desco y ruego a Dios para que cada Católico escuche y responda a este requerimiento para apoyar financieramente a Caridades Católicas. El año pasado solamente 6,625 Católicos respondieron muy, pero muy generosamente con \$2.2 millones para ayudar a Caridades Católicas con su misión de ayuda. A cada uno de ustedes, les expreso mi más sincera gratitud y sé que puedo contar con ustedes de nuevo.

Caridades Católicas es un esfuerzo combinado de los Católicos de la Arquidiócesis para responder a los pobres en estado de necesidad. Caridades Católicas es una obligación de compasión de la comunidad



*Muy Reverendo Eusebius Beltran
Arzobispo Metropolitano de la
Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City*

Católica. La caridad no es una opción en la Iglesia. La caridad es parte esencial de nuestra fe Católica.

Nuestra respuesta y participación en Caridades Católicas es un signo tangible y visible de nuestra fe. Hay muchos, pero muchos más Católicos en esta Arquidiócesis que seis mil, quienes fueron los que contribuyeron el año pasado. Esta es la razón por la que estoy tratando de

...¡Atención a todos los Católicos!

llegar a todos los Católicos con este pedido urgente para la colecta de este año de Caridades Católicas. Por favor escuchen y respondan a mi llamado. Por favor, le pido a todos los Católicos que hagan y respondan afirmativamente con su compromiso de ayuda el próximo domingo en Misa. Yo siempre estaré agradecido y nuestro bondadoso Señor los bendicirá en abundancia.

Es verdad que todos hemos sido afectados por los efectos negativos de la debacle económica en nuestra nación que todavía persiste. Por ende, no menos cierto es que, quienes realmente se han visto más afectados es la gente pobre y de escasos recursos. Ellos sufren más y experimentarán una recuperación mucho más lenta. Así, con un verdadero sentido de caridad cristiana, cada uno de nosotros deberíamos con simpatía y generosidad responder a la colecta de este año para Caridades Católicas.

Ninguno de nosotros vivimos en una utopía o fantasía. Somos todos residentes del mundo real.

En nuestra vida en esta tierra experimentamos penas y alegrías, buenos y malos tiempos, logros y desaciertos. Desafortunadamente, debido a la realidad del pecado en el mundo, frecuentemente experimentamos miedo, injusticia, prejuicio, violencia y guerra.

Pero nosotros no debemos desesperarnos porque somos perso-

nas de fe. Creemos en Jesús. Creemos en todo lo que Él nos enseñó y en todo lo que Él nos reveló.

No importa la dificultad en la que nos encontramos porque lo cierto es que la vida sigue. No importa cuántos retrasos hayamos experimentado, hay siempre una esperanza para solucionar todo, porque Jesús nos trajo la Buena Nueva. Cristo nos recuerda el propósito y la meta real de nuestra vida humana. Jesucristo fue claro y convincente cuando nos enseñó que el más grande mandamiento de todos es el amor.

Fundamentado en el amor a Dios y el amor a nuestro prójimo, descansan todos los otros mandamientos y es todo esto la Buena Nueva de Jesús. Caridades Católicas nos brinda a todos la oportunidad de practicar el gran mandamiento de amor y ayudar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en estado de necesidad. A través de Caridades Católicas compartimos la Buena Nueva que Jesús nos trajo.

A través de nuestra respuesta, participación y generosidad con Caridades Católicas, brindamos esperanza, ayuda, consuelo y amor al prójimo. A través de Caridades Católicas extendemos la misión y el ministerio de Jesús. Por favor hagan un generoso aporte a nuestro ministerio de Caridades Católicas el próximo domingo 19 de septiembre. Gracias y que Dios los bendiga.

The announcement was made by Dr. María Ruíz to honor our martyr **The Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute**

NORMAN — At the opening ceremony of the Hispanic Cultural Institute of St. Joseph's last Spring, Catholics were inspired by Archbishop Eusebius Beltran's keynote presentation about Servant of God Father Stanley Rother's life and his commitment to love, study, and understand other people's languages and cultures in the name of the Lord.

Thanks to the suggestion of Father Billy Lewis with the approval of Father Menasco and the Board of

the Hispanic Cultural Institute has decided to change the name of this Institute to: The Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute. The goals of the Institute are well exemplified by Father Rother's life, whose cause for Beatification was officially sent to Rome last month.

On behalf of the Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Catholics like to thank all the participants in the Program for

the last three years. Now we are getting ready for the Fall 2010 Semester.

The Opening Ceremony of the Fall will be on September 14, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gym of the Parish Center (421 East Acres Street). Everyone is invited. It is no necessary to be member of the Institute or to be a Catholic in order to attend this night. Likewise Catholics invite everybody to participate on the Classes of Spanish Language and Cultural Studies that

we will be offering every Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Enrollment is currently underway and will continue till September 28. Please include the registration fee of \$25 per Semester (payable to St. Joseph's). You can pick up a Registration form at the Parish Center.

We look forward to seeing you on September 14. Please come and learn more about the Program. For more information or to register, please call the Parish Office at 405- 321-8080.

Jaime Cortez se presentó en la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

En Tiempo Ordinario estamos viviendo intensamente en Cristo



Jaime Cortez invita con sus cantos a seguir a Dios en todo momento.

Por Mauro Yanez
Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — El pasado 4 y 5 de septiembre, feligreses de las diferentes parroquias del área metropolitana de nuestra Arquidiócesis se hicieron presentes en las instalaciones de la parroquia Florecita. Con un gran espíritu de unidad, el cantante evangelizador, nacido en Nueva York y criado en el Salvador, Jaime Cortez, deleitó con su repertorio musical a los presentes en su concierto y retiro espiritual. Cada canción de Jaime Cortez tiene un gran significado y contenido del mensaje de amor y solidaridad que predica nuestra Iglesia Católica.

Jaime Cortez reside en el estado de Arizona y al respecto cuándo se le increpó sobre la situación que viven los latinos en Arizona dijo

lo siguiente: "Lo importante es que nos podamos ver como católicos, que nos podamos ver como hermanos, todas las personas que venimos a este país estamos en busca de una vida mejor para nuestras familias, desgraciadamente han puesto a un sector del pueblo de los Estados Unidos en contra de los inmigrantes, pero como católicos y hermanos del Cuerpo de Cristo debemos ayudar a nuestros hermanos sin miedo, con unidad y respeto. Estoy siendo actualmente inspirado en la transformación para hacer un repertorio nuevo donde mis canciones hagan mucho énfasis en la misión de la Iglesia y recibamos al forastero como lo establece nuestra doctrina. Somos gente de Cristo, tenemos que sentir la transformación y unificarnos con Dios. Recordemos que somos el Cuerpo de Cristo".



Diversidad en nuestra feligresía. (Fotos por Mauro Yanez/Sooner Catholic)

Jaime Cortez vino sólo con su guitarra y contó en su presentación musical con una banda y coro que pertenece a varias parroquias de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City. Sin mucho ensayo, los cantos dieron alegría a esta jornada de reunión espiritual en Tiempo Ordinario. Jaime reconoció el talento de los músicos católicos que lo acompañaron y animó al pueblo de Oklahoma a que busquen la unidad, no solamente dentro de nuestra Iglesia sino también en la sociedad.

La música y el canto son esenciales en toda actividad que hacemos en nuestra Iglesia. No son un mero adorno para que las actividades salgan bonitas, más bien son una forma de alabar a Dios y orar dos veces. En nuestras parroquias, donde se celebran la liturgia y actividades en español, contamos con ver-

daderos talentos que conforman coros, que representan nuestra cultura hispana bajo la tutela de los ritos y normas de nuestra Iglesia Católica. Nuestros coros no son un espectáculo, tampoco son una forma de hacer propaganda sino un medio de evangelizar bajo nuestra doctrina Católica. Es importante aprender que los cantos varían según los tiempos litúrgicos, hay cantos y actividades que se solamente se hacen en el Adviento, la Navidad, la Pascua y Pentecostés o en Tiempo Ordinario, donde conmemoramos fiestas como la Santísima Trinidad, Cuerpo y Sangre del Señor, Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y el último domingo durante el año, Cristo Rey del Universo, las fiestas marianas y las de los Santos universales. En esta ocasión, Jaime Cortez vino a cantar en un retiro espiritual en Tiempo Ordinario.

Film to Highlight Life of Archbishop Sheen

Edmond Woman Grew Up Around TV Icon

By Mallery Nagle
Edmond Life & Leisure

Anyone who has explored the branches of his or her family tree has probably found some very interesting characters amid the leaves — a draft dodger, a bootlegger, or perhaps a pirate or two. But among the boughs of Rosemarie Costello's family tree sits the man who may become America's first male saint.

Costello, of Edmond, said she became interested in the effort to canonize her grandmother's cousin, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, when her own daughter began her confirmation courses at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and the instructor asked parents if they had anything to share with the class.

Costello had much to share because earlier in this decade, John Cardinal O'Connor in New York City had approved the formal request to begin Sheen's canonization process. The Catholic Diocese of Peoria, Ill., is the sponsoring diocese because Archbishop Sheen was a young parish priest there.

She is today a member of the advisory committee of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation. If Sheen's name sounds familiar, it is because he hosted radio and television programs during the 1950s and 1960s that were popular with people of all faiths. Archbishop Sheen died in 1979.

"The Catholic Hour" was the radio program and "Life Is Worth Living" was the hugely popular television show that ran from 1951 to 1960. The show drew some 30 million viewers each week, sometimes beating "The Milton Berle Show" in the ratings.

"They used to call Milton Berle 'Uncle Miltie,'" Costello said. "Sometimes they called him 'Uncle Fultie.'"

And Uncle Fultie even won an Emmy Award for being the Outstanding Entertainer. The Bishop Sheen Show followed on television during the 1960s.

"This was all done live," Costello

baptized and confirmed her and her five brothers and sisters. "He was a big part of my life."

To celebrate the 91st anniversary of Sheen's ordination, St. John the Baptist Church will

host a

today and he used technological advances to spread the word of Jesus Christ."

Monsignor Deptula noted that television and radio were on the cutting edge of Sheen's day, and today the Internet and social media have been useful tools to preach the Gospel. "It really brings people together," he said, pointing to how Archbishop Sheen brought people together.

Costello said Archbishop Sheen's celebrity sprouted like a mustard seed because of his message. He had broad appeal because his message was ecumenically-minded; it was for everyone of all faiths, she said. "Some of his biggest fans were non-Catholics." She added that he was often asked to address conventions of Protestant ministers and of rabbis.

Costello said one of her favorite analogies that Archbishop Sheen often used was to think of faith as a wagon wheel with God at the hub and all of the spokes as different faiths. As people came closer to hub, not only were they closer to God, but closer to one another.

Aside from his enormous outreach efforts, Archbishop Sheen wrote more than 60 books and numerous articles. His celebrity enabled him to raise money for those who were most dear to his heart, the poor. Costello said \$17 million was donated through his various media programs, and every penny went to the poor worldwide.

"If he saw a homeless person on the streets of New York in the winter-time, he would give them his coat," she said. "It would be 20 degrees outside and people would say, 'Bishop Sheen, where is your coat?'"

Archbishop Sheen has been named a "Servant of God," the first milestone along the journey to sainthood.



The Archbishop with Costello and siblings.

noted.

"He never used a Tele-Prompter or cue cards. It was the same way he delivered his speeches and his homilies.

She recalled not only his oratory skills, but his sense of humor and his "piercing" blue eyes.

Costello remembered childhood visits to the television studio and Archbishop Sheen's famous chalkboard. He would write on the board and flip it over to reveal a fresh slate. He told the audience that his angels would erase the other side.

"I remember asking him where his angels were," she said.

"I knew him personally; he was a grandfather figure to me," said Costello. Sheen introduced and married her parents. He also

screening

of the

PBS documentary,

"Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen: Servant to All" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19. The hour-long presentation chronicles his life and works. Costello calls the program "beautifully done."

"This is an opportunity to bring his life to a new generation," Costello said. "For a lot of people, a saint is an abstract concept. A lot of them date back to ancient times. You can go on YouTube and watch him. I think that makes things more real to people."

Monsignor Stanley Deptula agrees. He is the executive director of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation in Peoria. "He is the kind of saint we need today," Monsignor Deptula said. "He faced many of the same questions that we still face

Calendar

SEPTEMBER

12 Sts. Peter and Paul School is turning 100! A day of family fun is planned with a carnival from 4 to 7 p.m. Centennial T-shirts and carnival admission tickets are online at www.stspeterandpaul.org.

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

14 “Catholics Coming Home!” St. John the Baptist Parish hosting the program on three consecutive Tuesday evenings: Sept. 14, 21 and 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Child care will be provided. For more information, call Deacon Gary Peterson at 340-0691 Ext. 110.

15 The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study is a weekly Bible study that meets on Wednesdays, September through April from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Norman. We will have a informational meeting on Sept. 15 and will begin on Sept. 22. For more information, call Monica Rauch at 210-4121, or go to our website: TheCornerstoneScriptureStudy.org.

15 Adult formation sessions will be offered on Wednesday evenings beginning Sept. 15 at The National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague, from 7 to

8 p.m. Father M. Price Oswalt and lay apologist Rhett Brotherton will be offering the sessions, held in the parish hall, at the Shrine, located at St. Wenceslaus Parish. These sessions are open to all, but child care is not available. The shrine is located at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd., Prague, Okla. For more information, call the Shrine office at (405) 567-3080.

16 TAP INTO FAITH! Topic: Papal Infallibility: What it Means and What it Doesn't Mean. 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 Pepe's Mexican Restaurant located at 1701 S. Broadway in Edmond. For more information, call Mary Lacher at 401-4105.

17 Monthly Novena to The Infant Jesus. Nine days of novenas to Infant Jesus of Prague monthly. At Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd. in Prague, (405) 567-3080, or www.shrineofinfant-jesus.com.

18 Retreat Praying with the Women of the Bible with Joanne Yankauskis, OSB, Sept. 18, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Fee: \$40 (\$10 deposit). Place: Red Plains Spirituality Center – Library. Bring a sack lunch.

For a full calendar of events, go to www.catharchdioceseokc.org and click on Calendar on the left-hand side of the page.

Jobs Box

Part-Time Organist Needed

St. Philip Neri Church in Midwest City is in need of a principal organist/accompanist to play for Sunday Masses (8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.), solemnities and feast days and accompany Wednesday evening (7 p.m.) choir rehearsals. The candidate must be proficient in sightreading and possess a level of playing skill to confidently lead an attendance of 350 in the singing of hymns, psalm, and other liturgical music, and accompanying the choir in special numbers. Knowledge of the Catholic liturgy is preferable but not required. An interview and audition is required. Present a resume at the time of interview/audition. To arrange for an audition/interview, please contact Bernard Jones at 737-4476 or bernard_jones@me.com. — SPN has a Rogers Trillium 958 three manual organ with MIDI capability, and a Kurzweil PC2x synthesizer.

Library Media Specialist

Mount St. Mary High School is now accepting applications for a library media specialist. Please send resume and letter of interest to tdenegri@mountstmary.org or fax to (405) 631-9209.

DRE Opening

St. James the Greater Parish, Oklahoma City, is accepting applications for a part-time, leading to full-time position, as Director of Religious Education. The parish is searching for a candidate deeply rooted in the Catholic faith who has a vision and experience in setting objectives, priorities and deadlines, and in serving our 1,000 parish families. The director will develop, maintain and administer catechetical programs for the children and adults of the parish. The director will also be responsible for recruiting and training catechists,

attending scheduled diocesan DRE meetings, and fostering cooperation with other parish organizations. Interested candidates should contact Deacon Marti Gulikers at (405) 636-6805 to initiate the application process.

Substitute Teachers

Bishop John Carroll School in Oklahoma City is now taking application for substitute teachers for pre-K through eighth grade. We will be also seeking a long-term substitute beginning in mid-October. Please contact Connie Diotte at (405) 525-0956 or cdiotte@bjcs.org.

Safe Environment Coordinator

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a Safe Environment Coordinator. The Safe Environment Coordinator is a member of a team of Archdiocesan professionals who are charged with developing and implementing Archdiocesan Safe Environment Programs consistent with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (Charter) adopted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002, as revised in 2005 (the “Charter”). The position is part time, requiring approximately 18 hours per week. Applicants should have a background in child protection services, education and/or behavioral sciences, have a firm understanding of Catholic religious education and youth ministries and have excellent communication skills. Job duties include planning and implementing training sessions and workshops for Archdiocesan personnel and parish facilitators and assisting parishes with their Safe Environment Programs, including on-site visits to parishes and schools to gauge compliance with the requirements of Archdiocesan Safe Environment

Programs and the Charter. The Safe Environment Coordinator also assists with the USCCB annual audit for compliance with the Charter. If you are interested in this position, please send a complete Archdiocesan Application (available on the Archdiocesan website) and your resume to Tish Eason, Chancellor, Catholic Pastoral Center, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73123.

Part-time Music Director

St. Benedict Parish, Shawnee, has an opening for a part-time music director. Please contact Father Don Wolf at 275-0001.

Director of Music

St. Charles Borromeo Church in Oklahoma City seeks full-time Director of Music. Duties include planning and staffing weekend liturgies, holy days, weddings and funerals. The director is responsible for directing, scheduling and rehearsing with the choirs as well as providing keyboard accompaniment for the English liturgies. The director would also provide supervision and assistance for the Spanish Choir. Degree in music is required as well as thorough knowledge of the Roman Catholic Liturgy along with excellent keyboard and vocal skills. Send cover letter and resume to Rev. Tim Luschen, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 5024 N. Grove Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73122. E-mail at Thluschen@prodigy.net.

Volunteer Driver

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store needs a volunteer driver for the donation truck. Person applying needs to have a clear driving record and be able to load and unload furniture. Call 917-5999 for further information.



CARIDADES CATÓLICAS

Arquidiócesis de la Ciudad de Oklahoma



Llamados a Responder
COLECTA ANUAL
18 y 19 de Septiembre del 2010



www.CatholicCharitiesOK.org

Aquí estamos, SEÑOR.

LLAMADOS A RESPONDER al extraño, nosotros ayudamos a restablecer a 240 refugiados en nuestro país y a reunificar familias a través de nuestro Programa de Asistencia de Inmigración.

LLAMADOS A RESPONDER a las necesidades del aún no nacido, nosotros dimos refugio y orientación a 15 adolescentes embarazadas en el Hogar Maternidad de la Sagrada Familia y apoyamos a la vida familiar a través de nuestros Servicios de Adopción y Maternidad.

LLAMADOS A RESPONDER al hambriento y necesitado, nosotros alimentamos tanto el cuerpo como alma. A través del programa Esperanza Familiar 3,185 personas recibieron ayuda con el pago de sus rentas y recibos (electricidad, gas, agua.) A través del Centro Santuario de Desarrollo para Mujeres, 52 mujeres y niños se mudaron a viviendas permanentes.

LLAMADOS A RESPONDER a los que se encuentran solos o atemorizados, nosotros proporcionamos servicios gratuitos de consejería a 626 personas.

LLAMADOS A RESPONDER a la necesidad de una vivienda razonable y segura, nosotros patrocinamos programas de vivienda para 182 adultos mayores, familias, y adultos discapacitados.