

Go Make Disciples

“The Lord sustains us”

Through the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Annual Appeal, loyal parish support helps Catholic Charities continue day-to-day operations – operations so desperately needed in the western and central counties of Oklahoma. Catholic Charities depends on the generosity of our Catholic community to fund approximately 40 percent of our annual budget.

This support provides hope in darkness.

Through your faith and generosity, the Lord sustains. This support is divinely used to meet those who are struck down by discrimination, homelessness, division and hopelessness. It is used to lift the eyes of the hurting to see the Lord.

The following stories reveal the hope and help your support fuels. Names have been changed for confidentiality.

Marie

The gift of sight often is taken for granted,

but one Catholic Charities client, Marie, reminds us to be thankful for our vision. In early 2017, Marie began to struggle at work because cataracts were causing her to lose her sight. Soon after, she lost her job and was quickly unable to pay her rent. In a matter of months, she found herself living in her truck.

In June of that year, she came to Catholic Charities scared of homelessness and of losing

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Season of Creation

By Judy Hilovsky
The Sooner Catholic

The Season of Creation began Sept. 1 with a Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on Oct. 4, the feast day of Saint Francis, the patron saint of ecology.

Part of Pope Francis’s letter announcing the “World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation” states, “As Christians we wish to offer our contribution toward overcoming the ecological crisis that humanity is living through. Thus, living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.”

There are groups across Oklahoma that strive to practice the vocation of protecting God’s creation. Recently, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City chancery started a recycling program at the request of employees.

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St. Anne’s Guild is sew beneficial

By Debi Myers Wagner
The Sooner Catholic

Since 2010, the Saint Anne’s Sewing Guild at Saint Eugene’s parish in Oklahoma City has made many kinds of items for people in need. Parishioner and Guild Chairman Barbara Main said the guild began because of a need for people to make and repair items for the church.

They started making tote bags and other items for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Birth Choice and Catholic Charities clients as well as nursing home residents.

There are five members of the guild making a multitude of items for various groups in Oklahoma and abroad. Other members of the guild are Pat Maye, Barbara Koerner, Yvette Fleckinger and Betty Lucy.

“We love to sew and feel it is God’s plan to use our talents to help others,” Main said.

One of the items made by the guild is prayer shawls, which parishioners distribute when visiting nursing homes and hospitals. In 2012, a Sooner Catholic article about the prayer shawl project caught the attention of Fr. Adrian Vorderlandwehr, O.S.B. Fr. Adrian is chaplain at the Joseph Harp Correctional Facility in Lexington, and he encouraged the men there to find a way to give back to their communities. Inmate Blake Hart volunteered. He could crochet, and he started making shawls for the guild.

Once there was a good supply of shawls, they added other pieces. Main said Hart is very talented and can make anything as long as he has a picture. He makes about half of the items the guild gives away, including toys and animals for the parish mission trip to Bolivia.

He’s also making nativity sets this year, and Main says he comes up with a new project for every holiday. In addition to his own creations, Hart works with developmentally delayed inmates on different art projects. Those who don’t crochet, color pictures for Saint Ann Nursing Home residents.

A letter from Hart to Archbishop Coakley was the catalyst for this story. In his letter, Hart de-



scribes everything that Main does for the sewing guild. He expressed tremendous gratitude for her efforts and hoped to publicly thank and recognize Main for her many years of giving.

He mentioned that through this charity, Main provides inmates a way to give back to society, and that she sometimes spends her own money on supplies.

Although they have never met, Main and Hart have a mutual appreciation for each other’s gifts and talents.

The guild sells craft items at the parish craft fair in October to raise money for the youth group, and to purchase more yarn. Visit Saint Eugene’s website at www.steugenesokc.org for more information.

Debi Myers Wagner is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



Read statements from Archbishop Coakley on page 3

Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

See them as Christ sees us

“A Church without charity does not exist.” These are the words spoken by Pope Francis in 2013 to leaders of Caritas, the network of Catholic charitable institutions from around the world.

Although each nation, indeed each diocese, organizes itself differently, the Catholic Church in the United States has organized our institutional support to charity through Catholic Relief Services for our service outside the territory of the United States, and through Catholic Charities agencies like our own for service within the United States.

Each diocese has a structure to serve its own community needs. In some dioceses, that Catholic Charities consists of a small departmental staff within the chancery; in other, larger dioceses you may have a multi-level corporate structure with hundreds, perhaps thousands of staff.

In our archdiocese, we have Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, with service locations in Ardmore, Clinton, Enid, Guymon, Lawton, Midwest City, Norman and Oklahoma City, to serve others through 14 service programs ranging from crisis pregnancy and adoption services, senior housing, services to refugee arrivals, Saint Joseph’s counseling, immigration legal services, homeless services, disaster recovery and much more.

Think again about those words of Pope Francis, “A Church without charity does not exist.” Our faith in Jesus Christ, our awareness of His many blessings in

our lives, our acknowledgment that our brothers and sisters in Christ also bear His image and likeness, compel us to respond when we see others suffering, or hurt or in need.

Our Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is truly world-class in its services, and I’m particularly proud that your support, the generous support of thousands of parishioners who respond to this Catholic Charities Annual Appeal, constitute its single largest revenue source year after year.

Because of your generosity, more than three women (or women with children) go from homelessness to housing each week – that’s an astonishing impact! Our agency’s director of immigration legal services

not only serves our own archdiocesan needs (which includes critical paperwork for the foreign-born priests and religious serving in the archdiocese), she also was able to travel to Houston to assist with family reunification screening.

Our Catholic Charities’ disaster response is so well-respected that one of our staff was flown to American Samoa (U.S. territory) in the Pacific Ocean

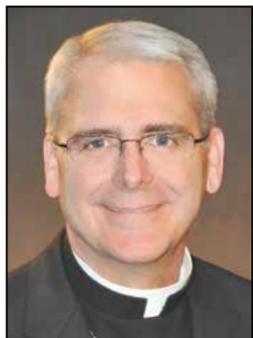
to share our policies and procedures to help them recover from a typhoon last season. Our Executive Director Patrick Raglow serves on the board of trustees for Catholic Charities USA. For a relatively small agency in a relatively small archdiocese, we truly have an impact greater than our size.

We can be justly proud of these indicators of our effectiveness. But, the best reason for us to join in supporting Catholic Charities through this annual appeal is to connect our lives, our blessings, with others in need.

I invite you to read, deeply and with an open heart, the many stories in

these pages. I pray that you experience their journey, encounter their lives, even if just a little bit. Your giving to this annual appeal enables you to share in their sorrows and become an instrument of their success.

Each of us has a responsibility to those living on the margins who are suffering or hurting. Your generous gift, large or small, to Catholic Charities is a powerful response to their cry for help. If you have given before, thank you for your past and future support. If you’ve never given before, will you please join in this great work? God will surely bless your compassion. Thank you.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

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

✓ **Rother Heritage Gallery**
The Heritage Gallery at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, presents “The Shepherd Cannot Run: A Retrospective on the Life of Blessed Stanley Rother.” The free exhibit is open 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Special tours arranged by calling (405) 721-5651, Ext. 141.

✓ **40 Days for Life**
The next 40 Days for Life peaceful prayer campaign to end abortion will be held from Sept. 26 to Nov. 4. For more information, contact Erika Martinez at (405) 615-7642 or 40days4life@gmail.com.



@archokc



Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City



*Father, your truth is made known in your Word.
Guide us to seek the truth of the human person.
Teach us the way to love because you are Love.
Jesus, you embody Love and Truth.
Help us to recognize your face in the poor.
Enable us to live out our vocation to bring love and justice to your people.
Holy Spirit, you inspire us to transform our world.
Empower us to seek the common good for all persons.
Give us a spirit of solidarity and make us one human family. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Archbishop’s statement on Viganó testimony

August 28, 2018
Feast of Saint Augustine

Dear brother priests, deacons, consecrated women and men and members of the lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City,

The August 22 release of the eleven-page “testimony” of Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganó, the former Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, has sent shock waves throughout the Catholic Church. This document merits, indeed it demands deeper examination and verification of each of its claims. Like so many, I am

deeply troubled by the assertions contained in this unprecedented document.

While I lack any personal knowledge or experience of the details contained in his “testimony,” I have the deepest respect for Archbishop Viganó and his personal integrity. His claims, yet to be investigated or substantiated, confirm the urgency of a thorough investigation of Archbishop McCarrick’s advancement through the ecclesiastical ranks given his history of alleged abuse, involving seminarians and young people. I lend my voice and support to that of Cardinal DiNardo, President of

the USCCB, and so many of my brother bishops in asking for such an investigation.

This is a very dark moment in the history of our beautiful, but wounded, Catholic Church. We are called to prayer and penance for the purification of the Church and our bishops and priests must set the example. It calls for a renewed commitment to vigilance, transparency and accountability from our shepherds and indeed for the whole Church. Only prayer, penance and deeper conversion will guide us through this dark period.

I am encouraged and finding consolation as I reflect on the

Lord’s promise to Peter that “the gates of hell will not prevail” against his divinely established Church. We have his promise, “I am with you always.” Let us cling to that promise! God is faithful. God is with us.

Please pray for all victims of abuse, especially those harmed by members of the clergy. May God deliver us from this deadly scourge! Please pray for me and for all our priests and deacons. Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Statement on clergy abuse allegation

August 22 – In the wake of the grand jury report on clergy abuse in Pennsylvania, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City received a letter from a former resident of Oklahoma who reported being abused by a priest of the archdiocese in the 1980s.

In the letter dated Aug. 17, the former resident reported abuse suffered in 1985 at the hands of former priest, Ben Zoeller. Once the allegation was received, Archbishop Paul Coakley ordered a review of the former priest’s file as well as an independent investigation, which is ongoing.

The review of the file found credible allegations of abuse by Zoeller. He was removed as a priest in 2002 and was laicized in 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI.

The brother of the former resident reported Zoeller’s abuse of his brother in 2006. He was referred to the vicar general and a victim assistance coordinator. The vicar general also provided information to contact a detective in the Oklahoma City Police Department Sex Crimes Division. The brother talked by telephone with Archbishop Eusebius Beltran, who apologized for the crimes committed by Zoeller and offered to fund counseling in his brother’s current state of residence, if desired. No further contact was included in the file.

Archbishop Coakley expressed profound sadness upon receiving the letter and apologized for the abuse suffered at the hands of a former priest. Along with the continued investigation, Archbishop Coakley asked the archdiocese to contact the former resident to assist him with the effects of these egregious acts. The allegation also has been reported to the Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office and the Oklahoma County District Attorney.

To report incidences of abuse in the past or present, contact the Abuse of Minors Pastoral Response Hotline at (405) 720-9878. Under Oklahoma law, all individuals must report an incident or suspicion of sexual abuse of a minor (person under age 18) to civil authorities. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services has established a statewide abuse reporting hotline – (800) 522-3511. A report to the archdiocese does not relieve the individual of the duty to report child abuse to civil authorities as required by state law.

Statement from Archbishop Coakley on safety of minors, vulnerable adults in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

August 17 - In the days since the Pennsylvania grand jury reported decades of abuse by clergy and with recent acknowledgement of the credible abuse by former Cardinal McCarrick, the priests and the people of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City have been on my mind and in my prayers.

I have been offering my prayers and Mass for our priests and for the people of the archdiocese. I pray for wisdom and courage as your bishop as well as for the victims of such abuse and betrayal.

These are difficult times for the Church. As a bishop, I understand how difficult it must be to hear reports of such abuse done by priests and brother bishops because I feel it too. In a crisis like this, it is important to rely on the strength that comes from the truth of the Gospel. In these moments when evil and sin are being revealed to us, we are provided an opportunity for clarity and

redemption. We have worked diligently to establish protocols and systems to prevent and report abuse, but we must not rest. We must continue – all of us – to improve, evaluate and build on the progress we have made.

As your bishop, I am deeply grateful for our priests’ faithful service and dedication to their vocation and the people under their care. I am grateful for the employees, volunteers, parents and teachers who work faithfully to create an environment for children and vulnerable adults that is nurturing and inspiring and safe.

Let us always rely on the love of God who calls us, the wisdom of Christ who inspires us and the guidance of the Holy Spirit who strengthens us. We are all called to be holy, to be saints. Pray that when we fail, God will have mercy and guide us in humble repentance and continued conversion.

Statement on Sacred Heart parish

August 23 – A day after the archdiocese released a statement on an allegation of child sexual abuse against former priest, Ben Zoeller, the archdiocese learned Zoeller had been volunteering at an Oklahoma City parish.

Under the direction of Archbishop Paul Coakley, Father William Novak, vicar general for the archdiocese, informed Zoeller he was not allowed to volunteer or work at any parish or archdiocesan entity. Father Novak also notified the pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church where Zoeller was volunteering one day a week, and notified all pastors and deacons in the diocese.

“This situation is exactly why we now communicate with our priests, deacons, parishioners and the public about confirmed cases of abuse,” Archbishop Coakley said. “Ben Zoeller should never have been allowed to volunteer or work in a parish. I have taken steps to prevent that from happening from today forward. I encourage anyone who has further knowledge about concerns with Zoeller to

contact my office.”

On Wednesday, Archbishop Coakley reported receiving a letter Aug. 17 from a former resident of Oklahoma who was abused by Zoeller in 1985. He ordered a review of the former priest’s file as well as an independent investigation, which is ongoing. Zoeller was removed as a priest in 2002 and was laicized in 2011.

Archbishop Coakley expressed profound sadness upon receiving the letter and apologized for the abuse suffered at the hands of a former priest. Along with the continued investigation, Archbishop Coakley asked the archdiocese to contact the former resident to assist him with the effects of these egregious

acts. The archdiocese has been in contact with the Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office. The allegation also has been reported to the Oklahoma County District Attorney’s Office.

PROMISE TO PROTECT PLEDGE TO HEAL

Under Oklahoma law, all individuals **MUST** report an incident or suspicion of sexual abuse of a minor (person under age 18) to civil authorities. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services has established a statewide abuse reporting hotline.

(800) 522-3511

The archdiocese provides an Abuse of Minors Pastoral Response Hotline for reporting the abuse of a minor (in the past or present) by a member of the clergy or other church personnel.

(405) 720-9878

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

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

- Sept. 3** – Mass and blessing of memorial, St. Lawrence Catholic Center, Lawrence, Kan.
- Sept. 4** – St. Ann Retirement Center Board meeting, 8 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
- Sept. 4** – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Sept. 4** – All staff meeting, 12:45 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 4** – Jubilarian Dinner, 6 p.m., CPC



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Archbishop of Oklahoma City
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Five new principals join the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City



Molly Goldsworthy
Saint Eugene, Oklahoma City

What is your favorite way to spend time away from school?

I love to spend time with my boys, Samuel (5) and Henry (2). My husband Chris and I love to be outdoors with them digging in the dirt and building construction sites.

Why is Catholic education important?

Our Catholic faith is the center of our growth academically, socially emotionally, physically and spiritually. As Catholics, knowing our principles guides our purpose.

What are some of your goals as a new principal?

As a new principal within the Catholic schools, my goal is to strengthen my spiritual leadership. I want to capitalize on the strengths of my staff and school community and target areas of growth. Saint Eugene is a wonderful community and I am enjoying getting to know each student and family.

What is your favorite part of being an educator?

I love being a part of each student's (and teacher's) life as each one reaches his/her potential and finds his/her passions and purpose in life.



Sarah Hunsaker
Saint Mary, Ponca City

What is your favorite way to spend time away from school?

Most of all, I enjoy spending my time away from school with my family. I also enjoy reading, traveling and drinking coffee.

Why is Catholic education important?

I value Catholic education because it is Christ-centered, rich in tradition, and dedicated to forming the whole child through academics, service and incorporation of Catholic social teaching.

What are some of your goals as a new principal?

I hope to facilitate more professional development for our teachers to help them differentiate instruction in the classroom. Increasing the use of technology in our classrooms also is at the top of my list.

What is your favorite part of being an educator?

My favorite part of being an educator is that I have the opportunity to show God's love to so many young people every day.



Tim McFadden
Bishop John Carroll, Oklahoma City

What is your favorite way to spend time away from school?

I love spending time with my family. My wife Angela and I have three wonderful kids, and we really enjoy doing things together, whether outside on a hike, playing games, Legos or just horsing around.

Why is Catholic education important?

In education, we talk about "standards" a lot. Catholic education calls our students to live up to the highest of standards, our faith. My experience with education in the military, at the collegiate level, high school and lower levels has taught me that academics

can be overwhelming, but when we teach/mentor/exemplify and practice our Catholic faith, as educators we can demand the highest standards from our students while keeping the academics in perspective.

What are some of your goals as a new principal?

I am truly blessed to come into a wonderful school filled with fantastic students and teachers, with a rich, diverse history. It is the centennial for the cathedral and school and I hope I can help each person in our school understand how blessed we are to be part of this historic time.

What is your favorite part of being an educator?

I love seeing students take control of their education and learning. We give the students academic skills, but when they gain confidence, drive and determination to put them to use, it is a powerful time. I think that is the true reward of education.



Stan Melby
Saint Mary, Lawton

What is your favorite way to spend time away from school?

After school I like to relax with my new puppy (Ranger), a Beagle. We spend time going on walks and playing in the yard.

Why is Catholic education important?

A Catholic school is an educational community where students from all backgrounds learn about the meaning and purpose of their lives and develop the tools needed for success both in this life and beyond.

What are some of your goals as a new principal?

My goal is to work in concert with parents to help form each student with an awareness of his or her life purpose.

What is your favorite part of being an educator?

My favorite part is watching kids succeed spiritually, intellectually, socially and becoming what God has designed for them to be.



Makylah Tollefson
Saints Peter and Paul, Kingfisher

What is your favorite way to spend time away from school?

My favorite way to spend time away from school is spending time with my family, going on trips, golfing and anything else outdoors.

Why is Catholic education important?

Catholic Education is important, because it is an opportunity to provide a quality faith-based education across all curriculum. A Catholic education is important, because it gives us as educators/administrators the ability to encourage students to succeed academically, in service, and as leaders, while instilling a passion for the teachings of the Gospel.

What are some of your goals as a new principal?

One of my goals as a new principal is to bring positive leadership, consistency and enthusiasm to our school. It also is my goal to motivate, encourage and inspire faculty and students both academically and spiritually.

What is your favorite part of being an educator?

My favorite part about being an educator is building positive relationships with families and their children as well as seeing all children learn and succeed.

Giving the gift of hope

By **Jolene Schonchin**
The Sooner Catholic

There has been a war in Syria since 2011, and half the country has been displaced, meaning families are no longer living in their hometowns, cities or villages. Thousands are victims of the war and are in dire need of help.

For the past three years, Holy Family in Lawton has made it their mission to help those war-stricken families by giving Lenten offerings to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA).

"Every Lent, we have a special Lenten Project. The past three years it has been Syrian refugees, the Dominican Sisters of Iraq, and refugees," said Father Phil Seeton, pastor of Holy Family.

"People are invited to drop an envelope into a basket that we have marked with CNEWA information. As they come up, they are bringing their gifts to the altar. I know from letters that the money has gone to medical clinics, and to some refugee camps. The refugees served in the camps are mainly members of the Chaldean and Syriac Catholic churches, the

Assyrian Church of the East as well as Yzdidis and Muslims."

Father Phil expressed the need to do more.

"These folks are brothers and sisters in the faith, and they are not getting much help from governments. It comes through the generosity of the different Christian churches in Europe and the United States. These people are modern day confessors to the faith. Maybe they have not been martyred, but there are thousands who have been martyred for Christ over there. They are confessing their faith with their lives."

Luscia Hankins is the co-chairman of Holy Family's Spiritual Life

Committee, along with Mary

Beth Mullins. The committee helps organize the Lenten fundraiser for CNEWA. In 2017, they raised \$6,200.

"This year, we raised \$10,200. It was for the displaced Syrians who were placed in camps. The dona-

tion was to build camps of their own. They are being persecuted for the religion we share. It is an obligation to our fellow Christians," Hankins said.

Since 2013, they have given \$38,000 to CNEWA.

Michael J. L. La Civita, Communications Director for CNEWA, said, "We are very grateful to the parish, not only for their generosity, but for their prayers. We sometimes have a tendency to underestimate the power of prayer, and we should never discount that as much as the dollar amounts. It is remembering our brothers and sisters in prayer. We can thank the Holy Family parishioners for

helping make this happen."

CNEWA was founded in 1926 by Pope Pius XI to work for the eastern churches in the Middle East, northeast Africa, in India and eastern Europe. They are an organization of the Vatican and are headquartered in the United States.

As an agency of the Vatican, they provide funds to ensure the Eastern churches and devoted religious sisters — who run clinics, schools, orphanages and other sanctuaries — have enough money to do their vital work.

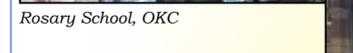
Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



Sr. Lemia Atala teaches a class at the Al Bishara School, which is run by the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena in Ankawa, near Erbil, Iraq. The students and the Dominican Sisters themselves were displaced by ISIS in 2014. The nuns have established schools and other ministries among the displaced. Photo Paul Jeffrey/CNEWA.



Bishop John Carroll, OKC



Rosary School, OKC



Mount St. Mary, OKC



Cristo Rey OKC



St. Mary, Lawton



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Edmond



Sacred Heart, El Reno



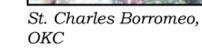
St. Mary, Guthrie



St. Philip Neri, Midwest City



Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, OKC



St. Charles Borromeo, OKC



Parishioners at Holy Family in Lawton were each blessed after Mass on the weekend of the celebration of Bl. Stanley Rother's first feast day. They lined up to be touched with the relic as a prayer was said over each person. Photo provided.



Fr. Christopher Tran, who was ordained 10 years ago, never had his own chalice until recently when the Phillips family of Clinton purchased it for him. The chalice was blessed by Archbishop Beltran and used for the first time at Mass in the Catholic Pastoral Center chapel on Aug. 10. Photo provided.

Real Life Disciples

Real life disciples: rhythm and routine

I was a middle school teacher back in the day – 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science. It was my first job fresh out of college. I'm dating myself here sharing this, but this time of year always brings me back.

My classroom was on the third floor, right above the playground where all the students would line up coming in from morning recess. On the first day of the new school year, I would rig some speakers out of my classroom windows, and blare over the playground the Soul II Soul classic "Back to Life, Back to Reality."

It got a good laugh every year, but also some moans and groans from the students.

I can't tell you though how much I love this time of year. As a parent of older teens and young adults, the summer months can be a small form of torture for me. There are sleepovers and game nights almost every day, to all hours of the night. And, then the next morning when all the kids are sleeping in (to all hours of the day), I have to get up and go to work. By August, I am just plain tired. So, when the school year comes back around, I find some joy in the return to rhythm and routine. Back to reality.

This all rings true for me for what real discipleship is like. When it comes to faith and spiritual things, people many times can tend to focus on the big

things – big spiritual experiences, big acts of service, extraordinary commitments that often aren't sustainable, etc. But, in my experience over the years, real discipleship gets its traction in the little, everyday things.

It's the stuff you do consistently, over time that gets momentum. You could say that the real measuring stick for a disciple is honesty and consistency. A good analogy might be going on a diet.

If my aim is to lose weight, the real key would be to consistently stick to what my new diet is, and to be

The same is true with discipleship. Think about the root word of disciple – discipline. Real discipleship requires the disciplines of a disciple. The daily habits, if you will. You won't really make much progress if you just say that you want to be a disciple. It actually requires some effort; the daily work of patterning your life after that of Christ.

I worked for the past 10 years or so in Denver for the Augustine Institute where we developed and launched the youth ministry resource, YDisciple. One of the sessions we developed was called



Jim Beckman
Director of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis

school year are a great time to incorporate some new disciplines in our lives. How is God inviting me to grow this year? How is He moving in my heart and drawing me toward Him? What are some daily disciplines that I can start doing, with honesty and consistency, over the next couple months to respond to that movement?

That kind of response won't just happen by accident or on its own. It requires some intentionality and planning. We periodically need to take time to reflect on how God is inviting me to grow toward Him. You don't need to overwhelm yourself. Start with one thing. Pick one discipline that isn't really a part of your life and just start doing it. There are tons of resources on the internet for every one of them.

And, many parishes are offering access to these kinds of disciplines through various programs and classes. If you can't find something at your own parish, contact us at the chancery and we will point you to some resources at a parish near you or to something online.

As we begin this new school year, let's embrace the new rhythm and routine of back-to-school time to jump start our own commitment to discipleship!

H.A.B.I.T.S. THE DISCIPLINES OF A DISCIPLE

- HOLY HOUR** Commitment to daily prayer
- ACCOUNTABILITY** Commitment to honest sharing with another
- BIBLE** Commitment to studying and praying with Scripture
- INVEST** Commitment to tithing and service in your parish
- TELL** Commitment to telling others about Jesus
- SACRAMENTS** Commitment to frequent Confession & Eucharist

completely honest with myself and others over the course of the diet. I wouldn't be that successful to just say that I was on a diet, but then every chance I had when no one else was looking, cheat and eat stuff I shouldn't be eating. Honesty and consistency are key.

H.A.B.I.T.S. – The Disciplines of a Disciple. The acronym was a simple way to speak about the daily disciplines that are characteristic of disciples: Holy hour, Accountability, Bible, Invest, Tell and Sacraments.

The rhythm and routine of a new

Discerning the quality of a relationship

Loving or using

Decide on which of the following two fictitious husbands love their wives and have a better chance at a long-lasting relationship. Which husband probably loves his wife, and which one could just be using her?

The first couple enjoys each other's company. She is a beautiful and intelligent career-oriented woman and he is a top executive with an impressive six-figure salary. He has made it clear

that while he claims to love her that he also loves many others. He has stated that no one should be surprised when, in fits of anger, he begins to

trash her name and drag it through the mud. She needs to be patient with him. To top it off, he is neither interested in having children with her and doesn't want to be tied down with regular date nights or special events together, unless he comes up with the idea first.

The second couple also enjoys each other's company. A very handsome couple well-rooted

in their faith and dedicated to their professions. He has made it clear, and has demonstrated, that she is his No. 1 and only. He is committed to loving her to the exclusion of all others.

He holds her name in special regard. He even tattooed her name on his bicep. Even in those rare difficult moments, moments of intense anger, he never cheapens her name or reputation. He totally respects her. He wants her to be, not only his wife, but the mother of their children. He repeats this often to her – sometimes during their regular Thursday evening date nights and every Sunday at Mass.

The answer is obvious. There can be no true relationship when a partner behaves as the husband in the first example. That person is just interested in possessing and using. He is not interested, or maybe even capable, of a true loving and sacrificial relationship.

How about our relationship with God? Is it love? Or are we just possessing and using God for our own egocentric purposes?

Do we seek to possess God because He makes me feel good and happy? Do we just seek God because he can grant us three or more wishes? Are we using God or loving God? Do we trust him? Or does trust depend on if God gives us what we want, when we want it?

God knows us better than we know our-

selves. Do you really know who God is? God keeps his promises, just look at the cross. Do we keep his law and follow his guidance? God values us. Do we value and appreciate him?

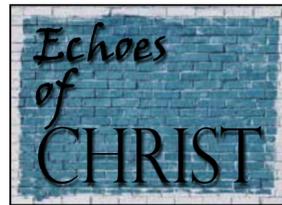
God accepts us as we are and invites us to grow in him. Do we accept God as he is, or do we want to change him, so he can fit into our personal understanding of what he should be? God loves us more that we can imagine. Do we love him?

God only can be loved above and beyond our love of everyone and everything else. Our love for God must be No. 1. Our love for God should be so intense that his name is special and sacred to us. Our love for God is so life-giving that we join our brothers and sisters for our "date night" with God by celebrating that loving relationship with him at Sunday Mass.

The first three commandments help us in discerning the quality of our relationship with God.



Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis



Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Annual Appeal 2018

Meet some people who have been helped by Catholic Charities

Saint Joseph's Counseling

As a dedicated wife of 11 years and mother of three children under age 10, Bethany was happy with her life. As a stay-at-home mom, she dedicated herself to raising her children and being involved with every aspect of their lives.

Then, one day, a life-altering decision was made. Her husband wanted a divorce. Bethany was shocked and devastated. Her once steady and loving life was now broken and full of uncertainty.

Bethany was experiencing a great amount of loss and guilt and was struggling with learning to be a single parent while trying to understand the process of divorce to help her kids cope with the transition. Fortunately, she found Catholic Charities Saint Joseph's Counseling Center.

Through counseling, Bethany has been supported as she has redefined herself as a soon-to-be graduate and a strong, independent single mother who is on her way to finding a full-time job and gaining financial stability. By not being afraid to ask for help, Bethany has secured a better future for her and her children.



Adoption

When Brett and Erin were ready to start a family, the process was not as easy as they had expected. Through the span of a couple of years, Erin experienced two miscarriages and two ectopic pregnancies.

After their first miscarriage, Brett and Erin briefly thought about adopting, but wanted to try to conceive one more time. They understood God's plan more clearly after they were unsuccessful at the second attempt to expand their family.

There is one thing they knew for sure; they wanted a child to laugh with, to hold and to love. While researching local adoption agencies, Brett and Erin became more familiar



continued on page 8

"The Lord sustains us"

continued from page 1

the remainder of her vision. With the help of her case manager, she got on the Section 8 housing list and signed up for Medicaid to monitor her eyesight.

As the year went on the client's vision continued to deteriorate. She could not receive cataract surgery until she had obtained housing. In January 2018, she received her Section 8 voucher, and she was housed the next month. Marie has successfully undergone cataract surgery, and she thrives in her new life. She volunteers with Catholic Charities to help other clients receive the same help and

hope she experienced.

Michael
House fires happen all too often, and Catholic Charities is there to help clients recover. Michael had been displaced due to an apartment fire and was sleeping in his vehicle. By working with The American Red Cross Oklahoma and The Homeless Alliance, Catholic Charities was able to get him into a hotel and help with a deposit for another apartment.

The disaster response team didn't expect to hear from Michael, but a short time later he sent the following message to his disaster case manager: "Thank you so much for everything. I had no idea of what I was going to do.

You are a true God send." Catholic Charities is pleased to have had the opportunity to serve alongside partner agencies.

Community
While attending a Thunder game, a Catholic Charities case manager was approached by two children who enthusiastically thanked her for her help. Although she did not immediately recall how she knew their familiar faces, she smiled and said, "You're welcome!"

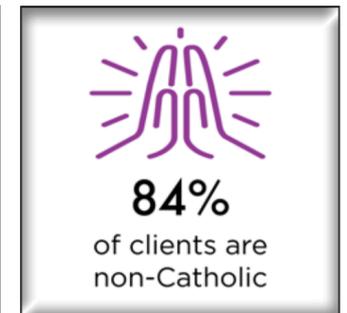
As they walked away, our case manager overheard their teacher ask, "Who was that you were talking to?" One of the boys replied, "She was the girl who helped fill out the paper work, so we could stay in America."

Director of annual giving

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a director of annual giving who will direct and oversee the annual appeal, planned giving and donor giving societies. Includes donor prospect management and stewardship as well as the development of materials, mailing lists, printing, follow-up and targeted donor interaction. Minimum qualifications: bachelor's degree in public relations, communication, business or related field; three years of experience in prospect management, annual gifts, planned giving or campaign management; bilingual in Spanish and English preferred; combination of education and experience considered. Send resume and cover letter to jriesenberg@ccaokc.org.

Marketing, development coordinator

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a marketing and development coordinator who is responsible for assisting the community outreach function of Catholic Charities by providing effective and timely coordination of all volunteer activities, ensuring all social media and website properties of the organization are maintained and regularly updated, and produce and distribute all news releases and media alerts. Bachelor's degree and two years of marketing/fundraising experience. Send resume and cover letter to jriesenberg@ccaokc.org.



Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Annual Appeal 2018

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continued from page 7

with Catholic Charities and put their faith in our staff and the process of adoption. After the initial meeting, they felt confident they were where they were intended to be.

A few months later, Brett and Erin were picked by a birth mother to be Henry's parents.

"We were so excited. And, while the process was very up and down emotionally, from birth forward it was all positive," Brett said.

Catholic Charities' adoption program is unique in that it requires a fostering process to ensure the birth mother truly understands the process and the adoptive parents are a good fit for the baby.

"The day we met our son, Henry, we loved him and couldn't wait to bring him home," Brett continued.

They were able to visit Henry twice a week for an hour or two each time, until they were approved to take Henry home. Brett and Erin write letters to Henry's birth mother each quarter to give updates of what is changing in Henry's life. Since completing the adoption process, Brett and Erin have noticed just how many people are touched by adoption and feel very blessed to be a part of that community now.

"Henry's birth mother made that choice to entrust us with Henry and make those life decisions for Henry and we couldn't be happier or feel more humbled," Brett said.

The Family Hope Network - Ardmore

The mission of Catholic Charities is to provide help and hope in 46 counties of central and western Oklahoma. Our regional offices play a large part in reaching as many clients as possible by offering counseling outreach and case

management in cities across the state.

The Family Hope program is available at the regional locations. The program exists to empower clients to gain independence through classes and case management.

Adam enrolled in Family HOPE in April 2017 at the Ardmore office. Through the program, he consolidated his \$1,800 in loans with 2 percent interest and plans to have it paid off by November. He has been working with a local housing agency to obtain his own home, and his credit score has been steadily rising. It already has increased from the low 500s to the low 600s.

Jessie enrolled in the program in February. She was fleeing an abusive relationship, so she began counseling and has opened a savings account. She is learning how to budget with the help of financial literacy classes and is on a waitlist to move into a new apartment complex.

Adam and Jessie benefited from their individualized case management services and are on their way to self-sufficiency with the guidance of the Ardmore regional office.

Enid counseling successes

Many of our clients find themselves facing anxiety and depression, and without help and support these conditions can negatively impact their lives.

This was the case for Theresa who was battling extreme anxiety that affected all areas of her life. Despite earning a degree and obtaining a professional career, her disorder became so advanced she ended up losing her job. She was left unemployed, hopeless and afraid.

Fortunately, she discovered Saint Joseph's Counseling Center in Enid where she found a team of counseling professionals who provide opportunities for change and growth in an environment of love and acceptance. After working through some of her problems, she reached a milestone by being able to gain a temporary contract position.

After continued counseling, Theresa obtained the skills to successfully manage her anxiety, and she thrives in a full-time job in her chosen field.

Sanctuary Women's Development Center - OKC

A few years ago, Cindy fled from her home in another state to Oklahoma. She was a victim of gang violence, abused drugs for more than 10 years, faced a serious addiction and was in a life-threatening situation. Her husband was newly incarcerated, and her children were at risk of being homeless and subjected to drugs.

When Cindy arrived in Oklahoma, she was homeless. She knew she wanted more for herself and for her children, so Cindy contacted Catholic Charities and checked herself into a sober living program. Her family members took her children into their care while their mother regained strength and stability.

Now, after two years of working with her case manager and going through sober living programs and transitional living, she is close to being reunited with her children. She has a new job with great benefits and is working toward a management position. Her journey is

a testament to her strong will to get her children back.

"Ten years of my life working so hard to get a drug fix," Cindy said. "I figured that I can work just as hard to get my kids back."

Sanctuary Women's Development Center - Norman

If there is one thing we have learned since opening the Sanctuary Women's Development Center in 2014, it is that homelessness can affect anyone. Ordinary people can be faced with extraordinary circumstances that leave them with nowhere else to turn.

Jeanette was living between streets and shelters for four years. She moved from county to county with the availability of shelter openings, and while in Norman she stumbled upon Sanctuary.

After getting to know Jeanette, our case manager discovered she had limited work experience since she was primarily a housewife prior to homelessness. With her case manager's help, Jeanette was able to find employment. Shortly after, Norman housing officials approved her case to receive a homeless voucher. Jeanette moved into her apartment in May 2018 - her first home in four years.

Norman Sanctuary helped her discover her value and helped build her confidence by helping her find reputable resources and walking with her on her journey.

Holy Family Home Hero

Through a referral from the Oklahoma Department of Health Services, Amy came to Holy Family Home battling depression, substance abuse and domestic violence. She recently lost the roof over her head and the custody of her children.

Luckily, Holy Family Home was there to help. Through housing and counseling, Amy gained the skills and confidence she needed to secure employment and visitation privileges with her kids. Amy has been sober for 10 months and has gained public housing. Holy Family Home helped her receive furniture, and rental and utility deposits to set up her new home.

She maintains all of her counseling, parenting and substance abuse classes and has gained higher paying employment.

Best of all, Amy recently received approval for weekend visitation with her children at her new home. Catholic Charities Holy Family Home works diligently to help our clients reach self-sufficiency by providing a supportive and positive culture to come home to everyday.

Immigration Legal Services

Our Immigration Legal Services Department often works with clients as soon as they arrive in the United States, but sometimes our clients already have been in the country for years.

Sofia was faced with a dilemma, as immigration lawyer, Janie Tapia recalled.

"[Sofia] will always be remembered for the type of case it was," she said. "She had been brought to the United States when she was a child, spoke perfect English, graduated from high school and had a great job."

However, Sofia did not have a green card, which would allow her to live and work permanently in the United States. Married to an active service

member, Sofia was eligible to apply for her green card and Catholic Charities was there to help with the application process.

"Once she obtained her green card, we requested an expedited naturalization," Tapia said.

With help from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Military Hotline and a congressional liaison, we were able to help the client obtain her expedited naturalization. Soon after, Sofia and her newborn son joined her husband overseas.

The Immigration Legal Services Program at Catholic Charities exists to provide information and legal services to lower-income individuals and families who face obstacles to family unity and/or diminished personal, social and economic opportunities as a result of their immigration status.

The bond of brothers

Our Refugee Resettlement Department works tirelessly to provide guidance to those entering our country, and we are so proud of our clients who are thriving in their new lives.

Two such clients are brothers, Juan and Carlos, who arrived from Honduras in February to join their parents in Oklahoma City. Their father had left Honduras when they were only children.

Many years later, he was able to apply for his kids through the U.S. Department of State's Central American Minors refugee program, and their case was approved.

Now young adults, the brothers have reunited with their parents in America, and have been diligently attending English classes. The brothers recently passed their driver's license exam and have started full-time employment.

Dreamer to doer

One of our clients had a dream, and she was willing to work for it. When Maria Martinez came to Catholic Charities, she was frustrated and discouraged. She went through nursing school in her native Guatemala, but her skills and knowledge could not be used in the United States due to her lack of American credentials. She was stuck working a few hours a week for a home health company, and she felt underutilized and unfulfilled.

Martinez joined our case management program and sat down with her case manager to come up with a step-by-step education plan to further her chance of self-sufficiency. A few years later she arrived at our office with an invitation to her graduation.

"Before sitting down with my case manager, I thought it would be very difficult to accomplish part of my dream," Martinez said. "I realized the only one stopping me from working on my education was myself. I would like for other clients to see that anything can be accomplished when you set your mind to it."

Martinez has set her mind to continuing her education - this time at a college level. We are looking forward to attending her next graduation.

Go confidently

Sometimes all it takes for a client to break out of poverty is a little bit of confidence.

This was the case for Jessica who went through our Family HOPE program at our Guymon office. When she began

the program, she had been living on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits since age 16. After learning some budgeting skills, Jessica decided she wanted more from life than living check to check.



A participant enjoys the Queen-for-a-Day event.

With the help of her case manager, she began to apply for jobs around the area. After some searching, she eased into a part-time position and soon was promoted to a full-time employee.

She continued to manage her monthly expenses and expressed gratitude to her case manager for being there every step of the way.

After two years of case management,

Jessica is working full time and is no longer receiving SSI benefits. Jessica is confident in her abilities and looks forward to her future.

Disaster recovery

What would you grab if a tornado were headed straight for your home? Many people would save photos or family heirlooms, but one client forgot to grab something a little different - their teeth.

In a rush to seek shelter from a spring 2015 tornado, Joseph forgot to grab his dentures from the restroom counter. Joseph's dentures were destroyed in the storm, and he did not have the resources to replace them. Additionally, he was concerned about the possible pain of the denture fitting process.

With the help of Catholic Charities, Joseph found a local dentist and was able to get an estimate to his case manager. Catholic Charities partnered with a local church to split the cost of the dentures, and he was fitted - without any pain.

Now Joseph is able to easily eat and, as he put it, "able to smile again."

Family support services

Not long ago, Laurie was homeless, pregnant, addicted to drugs and living in a sober living house. She was referred to us from a partner agency and was seeking housing and employment. What she discovered was the Family HOPE case management program.

Since joining, she has diligently attended N.A. and A.A. meetings, maintained custody of her baby boy, and secured and retained employment.

The transformation began by just staying sober for 24 hours. Those hours became days, which increased to weeks, which led to months of sobriety.

"My journey has been one of recovery," Laurie said. "I got sober for myself, and now I'm trying to learn to live again and be OK with myself. I am always in recovery, and as long as I keep that in my head, I'm OK."

However, she is not stopping at her own recovery; Laurie has already begun to share the knowledge she has learned through Family HOPE.

"My goal is to keep using the tools I've gained to help me along my recovery journey, so that I can be more involved with others who are struggling with addiction."



Jane Moon standing with donations from several parishes to bless clients during A Very Giving Christmas.



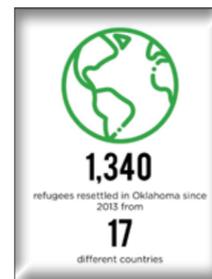
clients who transitioned from transitional housing to permanent housing from 2016 to 2017



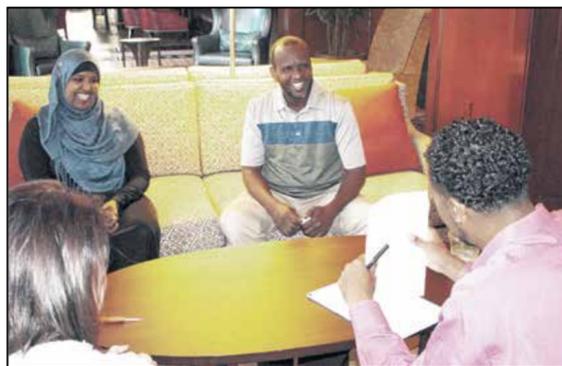
\$1.1 million given in legal assistance to 418 clients through Immigration Legal Services



homeless women visiting Sanctuary Women's Development Centers housed between 2016-2017



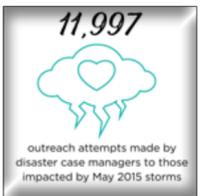
1,340 refugees resettled in Oklahoma since 2013 from 17 different countries



Refugee resettlement clients are interviewing for employment at a local hotel.



Maria Martinez and friends



11,997 outreach attempts made by disaster case managers to those impacted by May 2015 storms

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY
ST. JOSEPH'S COUNSELING

HEALING ANXIETY GROUP

Is anxiety getting in the way of your life, and the things you enjoy? Have you tried to gain confidence, only to be left further doubting yourself? Do you have panic attacks?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO STRUGGLE ANY LONGER!

St. Joseph's Counseling Center is offering a no-cost 6-week Healing Anxiety Group, designed to help you better understand your anxiety and how to overcome it. In a small and confidential group setting, you will learn:

- The roots of anxiety and panic attacks
- The link between anxiety and low self-esteem
- How to change your negative thoughts
- Practical coping skills and self-care
- And much more!

Contact our office or view our website today to get more information, and see how this group can improve your life!

*Childcare will not be provided

STARTING AUGUST 2018

TUESDAY EVENINGS

6 WEEKLY SESSIONS, LASTING 75 MINUTES EACH

SMALL, CONFIDENTIAL GROUP SETTING

SPACE IS LIMITED CONTACT US TODAY!

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES
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OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106
(405) 524-0969
CCAOKC.ORG
KCALLAWAY@CCAOKC.ORG



Making Sense of Bioethics

Can we pay others to donate a kidney?

Often we envision donating our organs after we are dead, but we also can choose to become an organ donor while we are alive, if we share part of our liver or donate one of our kidneys. The proposal to give one of our two kidneys away, though, does raise some ethical and safety concerns. There can be long-term risks for the donor. Donating a kidney, moreover, would not be therapeutic for us – only for someone else – and in fact might slightly increase our own risk for experiencing renal failure in the future.

Clearly, we have a general duty to respect the integrity of our body. This means we shouldn't cause injury to it, or damage it, for example, through surgeries or treatments that are not necessary to preserve our health or save our life. In light of these considerations, donating one of our kidneys would seem to run counter to our responsibility to maintain bodily integrity.

Yet, the notion of integrity also can be understood in a broader sense, namely, as functional integrity, so that if one of our kidneys were removed without imposing undue risk, and without a significant loss of blood filtering function, then we could say that the functional integrity of our renal system was preserved. In that case, the removal of one of our kidneys, as a sacrificial act and for a proportionate reason such as saving or improving another person's life, could be justified. This is what the Church affirms.

A further ethical concern, however, centers on the fact that the decision to donate must be made freely by the donor, and consent should be given without any undue pressure. This means that offering payments for organs is fundamentally coercive and unethical.

We face a serious shortage of available kidneys for transplant in the United States. Av-

erage wait times for a kidney are approaching five years, and about 15-20 people die each day while waiting for an organ – the majority for a kidney. In August of 2018, I participated in a conversation with some of the health policy team at the White House as they considered possible strategies for increasing the supply of live donor kidneys. We discussed the ethical, legal, economic and health implications of some proposed solutions, including the proposal to reward organ donation by providing various non-cash benefits.

During the White House meeting, some parties to the discussion offered recommendations that the government provide lifetime guaranteed coverage of all future medical expenses, or lifetime health insurance, to every person who becomes a living kidney donor. I emphasized that we should not be "encouraging" donation by offering "incentives" to donors as a direct benefit at all.

Offering lifetime health insurance or similar proposals would, in my view, constitute a form of payment or "valuable consideration" offered to the donor, and would again raise the problem of improperly incentivizing the donation of organs, pressuring someone to consider donating as a way to secure lifetime health insurance coverage.

When Congress passed the National Organ Transplant Act in 1984, this concern about incentivizing donations was directly addressed. This law prohibits the purchase of organs or any exchange of "valuable consideration." This same law, however, clearly permits reimbursement of various expenses associated with the transplant such as travel costs to get to the hospital to have the kidney removed, temporary housing at the time of surgery, lost wages incurred in connection with the donation of the organ, etc.

Providing reimbursement of expenses should not be viewed as encouraging or incentivizing the donation itself, but rather as "eliminating disincentives," or "removing hindrances or roadblocks." An organ donor should not have to assume extra personal expense or take on other heavy burdens to be able freely to help out another patient who would benefit from receiving his or her kidney. From the ethical point of view, our ultimate goal should be not so much to "incentivize donation," as to "support or encourage personal generosity" on the part of those individuals who may desire to donate freely one of their kidneys. The distinction is an important one. At the end of the day, we want people to become organ donors, not organ vendors.

Human organs and tissues, because of their close proximity and connection to our human identity, cannot be reduced to commodities to be acquired or sold on an open market. We must do what we can, legally and otherwise, to safeguard the generosity of the organ donor's freely chosen act and prevent others, especially the poor and disadvantaged, from being exploited because they need money, health care or other "incentives."

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



Father Tad Pacholczyk
National Catholic Bioethics Center

Book Review

By J.E. Helm
The Sooner Catholic

Many parents encourage their children to read and want to see their youngsters grow in their Catholic faith. Two very fine books that will help parents achieve both these goals are: "Mother Teresa of Calcutta" by Francine Bay and Emmanuel Beaudesson and "Mother Teresa: The Smile of Calcutta" by Charlotte Grossetete and Catherine Chion.

"Mother Teresa: The Smile of Calcutta" would be a nice book for very young readers, reading on their own, or parents could read this book to their children. The illustrations by Catherine Chion are somewhat simplistic and would be very easy for even preschoolers to take in. The story line, written by Charlotte Grossetete, is relatively straightforward. It begins with the young Gonxha, later Mother Teresa, arriving in Dublin, Ireland, from her homeland in Albania to begin life with the Sisters of Loreto. Her dream is to become a missionary, and she is soon sent

to Calcutta, India.

Sister Teresa asks permission of the bishop of Calcutta to begin working among the poor. Her request is granted, and she lays aside the black and white habit she had worn for so many years and dons "a white sari with a blue border," dressed like the poorest Indian women of Calcutta.

The book talks about her "great courage," how she was at first "all alone." Eventually, she was joined by young women who wanted to share her life.

The illustrations help move the story along. There is a full-page drawing of Mother Teresa lifting a dying woman from the street, a double half-page showing the sisters at prayer, and another double half-page showing sisters working in the home for the dying.

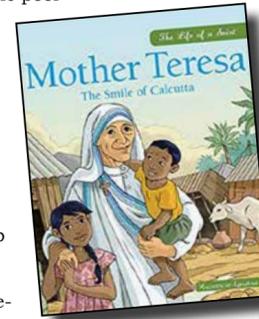
"The Smile of Calcutta" also talks about Mother Teresa's "great sorrow," the dark night of the soul in which she suffered for years. Grossetete writes about how she also recruited "suffering cooperators" and how she eventually won

the Nobel Peace Prize.

The storyline is not overburdened with too many details, and so it would be very easy for very young children to follow.

While "The Smile of Calcutta" is billed as a book for children age 5 and up, "Mother Teresa of Calcutta" is recommended as a book for age 9 and up.

"Mother Teresa of Calcutta" is beau-



tifully illustrated by Emmanuel Beaudesson, and the artwork is much more detailed than "The Smile of Calcutta." The drawings offer a slightly older audience more about life in Calcutta.

Mother Teresa is shown "drawing letters on the ground" to teach

street children to read. Her face is seen as lined, even when she is smiling slightly as she comforts a man in the home for the dying.

The story line by France Bay also offers more detail.

She writes about how some people in Calcutta thought she was "going to take our children away to make them Christians!" A dying woman was "lying in the street, with rats starting to sniff around her." Mother picks up a "child abandoned in the street. It had just been attacked by a dog."

Bay and Beaudesson beautifully present the growth of the Missionaries of Charity, the receipt of the Nobel Prize, and Mother Teresa's canonization in 2016.

This book also includes a timeline of her life and a prayer to Saint Teresa of Calcutta, both nice artistic touches.

Both books by Ignatius Press would make an excellent birthday or Christmas gift, and would be a fine addition to a school or home library.

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

Jobs Box

MS English teacher - Yukon

St. John Nepomuk Catholic School in Yukon has an immediate vacancy for a middle school English language arts teacher. The candidate must be certified to teach English in Oklahoma. Download application at bit.ly/archokteacherapp. Candidates also may send a copy of their current Oklahoma teaching certificate and resume to Natalie Johnson, St. John Nepomuk Catholic School, 600 Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon 73099 or principal@sjnk.org.

Drivers - OKC

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking drivers to transport students to and from their workplaces. Vehicles include 12-passenger vans and a 14-passenger activity bus. No CDL required. Must be at least age 25, possess valid Oklahoma's driver's license, acceptable motor vehicle report and proof of current insurance. Will complete safe environment training. Morning and afternoon shifts available, Monday – Friday. \$25 per shift, per day. Multiple drivers are needed for each shift. Flexible schedule. Submit application and information to Regina Birchum at Regina.Birchum@CristoReyOKC.org or drop off at the school.

Activity director

St. Ann Retirement Center is seeking a full-time activity director for independent living. Job requires great interactive skills working with senior adults, organizational skills in planning activities with assisted living activity director, computer skills, CDL license or obtaining a license and working some nights and weekends. Submit resume to Sid Espinosa at ed@saintannretirementcenter.com. Contact (405) 721-0747.

CMA or med tech aide

St. Ann Retirement Center is seeking a CMA or medical tech aide for the night shift only 10:30 p.m. – 7 a.m. Must pass background check and drug test. Full-time benefits. A 403B available. Opportunity for growth and advancement. Apply in person at St. Ann Retirement Center, 7501 W. Britton Rd., OKC. (405) 721-0747.

RE director - OKC

Little Flower in Oklahoma City is hiring a part-time religious education director. Must be bilingual. Ideal candidates should have experience as a DRE or a minimum experience as a catechist for 3-5 years in a Catholic church. Contact Angelica at (405) 235-2037.

After-school program - Lawton

St. Mary Catholic School in Lawton is seeking a staff member for after-school care program. Hours are 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday on school days. Contact Joanne Linville at (580) 355-2054 for application.

Catapult teachers needed

Provides contracted instructional services with the necessary educational expertise in reading, mathematics, writing and related areas; diagnoses learning skill deficits and delivers prescribed instructional delivery methods as determined by the company; consults with school personnel to coordinate efforts in providing services to students; communicates and conferences with parents providing information on student progress. Bachelor's degree and Oklahoma teaching certificate required. Teaching experience preferred. All classroom, instructional materials, prepared lessons and paid training provided. Apply online at <https://careers-catapult.icims.com/jobs/5936/teacher/job>

Development coordinator - Okarche

The Center of Family Love provides residential and employment programs for adults with intellec-

tual disabilities by cultivating their interests, skills and independence to live creative, productive and joyous lives. The development coordinator will perform duties related to fundraising, marketing and public relations. They will be involved with stewardship activities related to non-profit fundraising and relationship management, including working with a team to create and implement the fundraising, development and communications strategy for the center. Send cover letter and resume to hr@cflinc.org.

Administrative assistant - Edmond

St. John in Edmond is seeking a full-time administrative assistant to work Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The position is responsible for answering/screening calls, greeting visitors, recording sacraments, developing ministry schedules, updating parishioner database and other office support functions. The ideal candidate will have prior parish office experience and be knowledgeable of Parish Data System (PDS) software, and Microsoft products, especially Access and Excel. Submit resume to Amy Dennis at adennis@st-john-catholic.org.

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

From the Archives ...

A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist

Father John Sullivan was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa on Sept. 23, 1944.

As a historian, Father David Monahan recalled, "He was a person with lots of zeal and dynamism and he had an appeal to people. He was so fervent about what he was doing. I don't think he ever lost that."

His extroverted and bigger-than-life personality made him a favorite of the first parish in which he was pastor, Saint Mary in Guthrie. His recall was astounding as numerous stories attest to his ability to recall the names of those he had met 20 years earlier and had not seen since.

His enthusiasm was contagious, and consequently was asked to head the Catholic Church Extension Society's volunteers. This was a national phenomenon that provided teachers and lay workers in areas that were poor or lacked a strong Catholic presence. From 1961-1968, he worked tirelessly for the success of the program. In one year, there were more than 450 volunteers from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

His commitment to lay ministry blossomed and when he came back to Oklahoma instituted some his ideas at the Church of the Madeline in Tulsa. Such talent, however, is seldom ignored in the Church. He was ordained as Bishop of Grand Island, Neb., in 1972.

During his episcopate, he began to form theories on team ministry and put these ideas to the test. Since his reputation was that of a successful bishop, he was made bishop of the much larger Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph in Missouri in 1977. Shortly after his installation, he founded the Center for Pastoral Ministry designed to train the laity to serve different roles in the Church.

It was marred with controversy due to the forward thinking it required as not all priests were on board with his agenda. His commitment to women religious also was strong and was beloved by many.

Parkinson's disease led to an early retirement in 1992 and he struggled with illness to the end. As to his vision and legacy, it could be said that the People of God spoken of in Vatican II were his inspiration and as a priest he gave his all to serve them well.

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES



Abbot Primate visits St. Gregory's Abbey

SHAWNEE – Abbot Primate Gregory Plan, O.S.B., visited Saint Gregory's Abbey Aug. 13-15.

He had organized the "fraternal visit" after visiting with Abbot Lawrence in February during the annual meeting of the abbots of North America. Abbot Primate Gregory served as abbot of Conception Abbey until his election as Abbot Primate in September 2016. During his two-day visit to Shawnee, Abbot Gregory gave conferences to the monastic community, presided

at Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, and participated in a reception with Oblates and friends of the Abbey.

Abbot Gregory's conferences to the monks were based on the theme of "an eternal weight of glory." He built his remarks on 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 and Colossians 1:24-27, pointing to the fact that even in suffering for the sake of Christ and the Gospel one experiences the glory that God has in store for those reborn in Christ.

Lánzate a lo más Profundo

Luke 5:4

Véalos como Cristo nos ve

“Una Iglesia sin caridad no existe”. Estas son las palabras pronunciadas por el Papa Francisco en 2013 a los líderes de Caritas, la red de instituciones caritativas de la Iglesia Católica en todo el mundo.

Aunque cada nación, y de hecho cada diócesis, se organiza de manera diferente, la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos ha organizado nuestro apoyo institucional a la caridad a través de Catholic Relief Services para nuestro servicio fuera del territorio de los Estados Unidos, y a través de las agencias de Caridades Católicas como nuestro servicio dentro de los Estados Unidos.

Cada diócesis tiene una estructura para servir las necesidades de su propia comunidad. En algunas diócesis, Caridades Católicas consiste en un pequeño grupo de emplea-

dos dentro del personal de la cancillería; en otras diócesis más grandes, pueden tener una estructura corporativa multinivel con cientos, quizás miles de empleados.

En nuestra arquidiócesis, tenemos Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City, con centros de servicio en Ardmore, Clinton, Enid, Guymon, Lawton, Midwest City, Norman y Oklahoma City, para servir a otros a través de 14 programas de servicio, que van desde crisis de embarazo y servicios de adopción, alojamiento para personas mayores, servicios para personas refugiadas, Centro de Consejería Saint Joseph, servicios legales de inmigración, servicios para personas sin hogar, recuperación de desastres y mucho más.

Piensa nuevamente en esas palabras del Papa Francisco: “Una Iglesia sin caridad no existe”. Nuestra fe en Jesucristo, nuestra conciencia de sus muchas bendiciones en nuestras vidas, nuestro reconocimiento de que nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo también llevan su imagen y semejanza, nos obligan a responder cuando vemos a otros sufriendo, heridos, o en necesidad.

Nuestras Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City es, en sus servicios a la comunidad, verdaderamente de primera clase, y estoy particularmente orgulloso de que su apoyo, el generoso apoyo de miles de feligreses que responden a esta Campaña Anual de Caridades Católicas, constituya su principal fuente de ingresos año tras año.

Debido a su generosidad, más de tres mujeres (o mujeres con niños) van de una falta de vivienda a tener alojamiento cada semana. ¡Es un impacto asombroso! La directora de servicios legales de inmigración de nuestra agencia no solo atiende nuestras necesidades arquidiocesanas (que incluyen trámites críticos para sacerdotes y religiosos nacidos en el extranjero que prestan servicio en la arquidiócesis), sino que también pudo viajar a Houston para ayudar con el proceso de reunificación familiar.

La respuesta a desastres de nuestras Cari-

dades Católicas es tan respetada que uno de nuestros empleados fue trasladado en avión a Samoa Americana (Territorio de EE. UU.) en el Océano Pacífico para compartir nuestras políticas y procedimientos y ayudarlos a recuperarse de un tifón el año pasado. El Director Ejecutivo Patrick Raglow es miembro de la junta de fideicomisarios de Caridades Católicas USA. Para una agencia relativamente pequeña en una arquidiócesis relativamente pequeña, realmente tenemos un impacto mucho mayor que nuestro tamaño.

Podemos estar orgullosos de estos indicadores de nuestra efectividad. Sin embargo, la mejor razón para que nos unamos para apoyar a Caridades Católicas a través de esta campaña anual es conectar nuestras vidas, nuestras bendiciones, con otras personas necesitadas.

Los invito a leer, profundamente y con un corazón abierto, las muchas historias en estas páginas. Le pido a Dios que puedas sentir lo que ellos experimentaron en sus diversas situaciones, concéntense con sus vidas, aunque sea un poco. Su donativo a esta campaña de recaudación anual te convierte en un participante en sus penas y en un instrumento de su triunfo.

Cada uno de nosotros tiene responsabilidad por aquellos que viven marginados, sufriendo o heridos. Su generoso donativo, grande o pequeño, a Caridades Católicas es una poderosa respuesta a su grito de auxilio. Si ya contribuíste, gracias por su apoyo pasado y futuro. Si nunca has contribuido, ¿podrías unírte a esta gran obra? Dios seguramente bendecirá su compasión. Gracias.

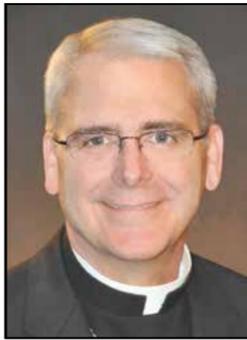
Declaración sobre la parroquia Sagrado Corazón

23 de agosto - Un día después de que la arquidiócesis publicara una declaración sobre una denuncia de abuso sexual infantil contra el exsacerdote, Ben Zoeller, la arquidiócesis se enteró de que Zoeller había sido voluntario en una parroquia de Oklahoma City.

Bajo la dirección del Arzobispo Paul Coakley, el Padre William Novak, vicario general de la arquidiócesis, le informó a Zoeller que no se le permitía ser voluntario ni trabajar en ninguna parroquia o entidad arquidiocesana. El Padre Novak también notificó al párroco de la Iglesia Católica Sagrado Corazón donde Zoeller se ofrecía como voluntario un día a la semana, y notificó a todos los pastores y diáconos de la diócesis.

“Esta situación es exactamente la razón por la que ahora nos comunicamos con nuestros sacerdotes, diáconos, feligreses y el público sobre casos confirmados de abuso”, dijo el Arzobispo Coakley. “A Ben Zoeller nunca se le debería haber permitido ser voluntario o trabajar en una parroquia. He tomado medidas para evitar que eso ocurra de hoy en adelante. Animo a todos los que tengan mayor conocimiento sobre las preocupaciones con Zoeller a que se comuniquen con mi oficina “.

continúa en la página 13



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Discernir la calidad de una relación

Amar o usar

Decidan cuál de los siguientes dos esposos ficticios ama a su esposa y tienen una mejor oportunidad de una relación duradera. ¿Cuál esposo probablemente ama a su esposa y cuál podría estar usándola?

La primera pareja disfruta de su mutua compañía. Ella es una mujer hermosa e inteligente dedicada a su carrera y él es un alto ejecutivo con un impresionante salario de seis cifras. Él ha dejado en claro que, si bien él dice amarla, también ama a muchas otras. Él ha declarado que nadie debería sorprenderse cuando, en

momentos de ira, comienza a tachar su nombre y arrastrarlo por el barro. Ella necesita ser paciente con él. Para colmo, no está interesado en tener hijos con ella y no quiere estar atado con citas regulares o eventos especiales con ella, a menos que la idea venga primero de él.

La segunda pareja también disfruta de su mutua compañía. Una pareja muy guapa y bien arraigada en su fe y dedicada a sus profesiones. Él ha dejado en claro, y ha demostrado, que ella es la número uno, y la única, en su vida. Él está comprometido en amarla a ella

excluyendo a todas las demás.

El tiene su nombre en especial consideración. Incluso tiene un tatuaje de su nombre en su brazo. También, en esos raros momentos difíciles, momentos de ira intensa, nunca rebaja su nombre o reputación. Él la respeta por completo. Él quiere que ella sea, no solo su esposa, sino la madre de sus hijos. Él le repite estas ideas a menudo. A veces se lo dice durante sus citas juntos como pareja cada jueves por la noche y también se lo dice todos los domingos en Misa.

La respuesta es obvia. No puede haber una verdadera relación cuando una pareja se comporta como el marido en el primer ejemplo. Esa persona solo está interesada en poseer y usar. Él no está interesado, o tal vez ni siquiera sea capaz, de una verdadera relación de amor sacrificado.

¿Qué tal nuestra relación con Dios? ¿Es amor? ¿O simplemente estamos poseyendo y usando a Dios para nuestros propios propósitos egocéntricos?

¿Buscamos poseer a Dios porque Él me hace sentir bien y feliz? ¿Buscamos a Dios porque puede concedernos tres o más deseos? ¿Estamos usando a Dios o amando a Dios? ¿Confiamos en él? ¿O la confianza en Dios depende de si Él nos da lo que queremos, cuando lo queremos?

Dios nos conoce mejor de lo que nos conocemos a nosotros mismos. ¿Sabes realmente

quién es Dios? Dios cumple sus promesas, solo mira la cruz. ¿Guardamos su ley y seguimos su guía? Dios nos valora ¿Lo valoramos y apreciamos?

Dios nos acepta tal como somos y nos invita a crecer en él. ¿Aceptamos a Dios tal como es, o queremos cambiarlo, para que pueda encajar en nuestra definición personal de lo que debería ser? Dios nos ama más de lo que podemos imaginar. ¿Lo amamos?

Solo Dios puede ser amado más allá de nuestro amor por todos y por encima de todas las cosas. Nuestro amor por Dios debe ser lo primero, él es el número 1. Nuestro amor por Dios debe ser tan intenso que su nombre sea especial y sagrado para nosotros. Nuestro amor por Dios es tan vivificante que nos unimos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas para nuestra “cita” con Dios al celebrar esa relación amorosa con él en la Misa dominical.

Los primeros tres mandamientos nos ayudan a discernir la calidad de nuestra relación con Dios.



Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Secretariado de Evangelización y Catequesis

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY 2018 COLECTA ANUAL

A través de tu fe y generosidad, el Señor nos sostiene.

Declaración del Arzobispo sobre el testimonio de Viganó

28 de agosto del 2018
Festividad de San Agustín

Queridos hermanos sacerdotes, diáconos, mujeres y hombres consagrados y fieles laicos de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City:

El comunicado, con fecha 22 de agosto, del “testimonio” de once páginas del arzobispo Carlo María Viganó, ex nuncio apostólico de los Estados Unidos, ha provocado conmoción en toda la Iglesia Católica. Este documento amerita, de hecho, exige un examen y verificación más profundos de cada una de sus declaraciones. Como muchos otros, estoy profundamente desconcertado por las afirmaciones contenidas en este documento sin precedentes.

Si bien carezco de cualquier conocimiento o experiencia personal sobre los detalles contenidos en su “testimonio”, siento el más profundo respeto por Arzobispo Viganó y su integridad personal. Sus afirmaciones, aun por ser investigadas o substanciadas, confirman la urgencia de una investigación exhaustiva del ascenso del Arzobispo McCarrrick en las filas eclesiales, dado su historial de presuntos abusos que involucran a seminaristas y jóvenes. Uno mi voz y apoyo al Cardenal DiNardo, Presidente de la USCCB,

y a tantos otros de mis hermanos obispos al solicitar dicha investigación.

Este es un momento muy oscuro en la historia de nuestra hermosa, pero herida, Iglesia Católica. Estamos llamados a la oración y penitencia para la purificación de la Iglesia, y nuestros obispos y sacerdotes deben dar el ejemplo. Esta situación requiere un compromiso renovado a la vigilancia, transparencia y responsabilidad por parte de nuestros pastores y de toda la Iglesia. Solo la oración, penitencia y conversión profunda nos guiarán a través de este periodo oscuro.

Me alienta y encuentro consuelo al reflexionar sobre la promesa de nuestro Señor a Pedro de que “las puertas del infierno no prevalecerán” contra su Iglesia divinamente establecida. Tenemos su promesa, “Yo estoy con ustedes siempre”. ¡Aferémonos a esa promesa! Dios es fiel. Dios está con nosotros.

Por favor oren por todas las víctimas de abuso, especialmente aquellas dañadas por miembros del clero. Por favor oren por mí y por todos nuestros sacerdotes y diáconos. ¡Que Dios nos libre de este flagelo mortal! Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

Reverendísimo Paul S. Coakley
Arzobispo de Oklahoma City

El Señor Nos Sostiene

A través de la Campaña Anual de Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City, el apoyo leal de las parroquias ayuda a Caridades Católicas a continuar sus operaciones diarias, operaciones que se necesitan con tanta urgencia en los condados occidentales y centrales de Oklahoma. Caridades Católicas depende de la generosidad de nuestra comunidad católica para financiar aproximadamente el 40 por ciento de nuestro presupuesto anual.

Este apoyo proporciona esperanza en la oscuridad. A través de tu fe y generosidad, el Señor nos sostiene. Este apoyo se usa divinamente para conocer a quienes son abatidos por la discriminación, la falta de vivienda, divisiones y desesperanza. Se usa para levantar los ojos del herido para que pueda ver al Señor.

Las siguientes historias revelan la esperanza y ayudan a tu apoyo a generar combustible. Los nombres han sido cambiados por confidencialidad.

Marie
El don de la vista a menudo se da por sentado, pero un cliente de Caridades Católicas, Marie, nos recuerda que debemos estar agradecidos por nuestra visión. A principios del 2017, Marie comenzó a luchar en el trabajo porque la cataratas la hacían perder la vista. Poco después, ella perdió su trabajo y rápidamente no pudo pagar el alquiler. En cuestión de meses, se encontró viviendo en su camioneta.

En junio de ese año, ella vino a Caridades Católicas con miedo de quedarse sin hogar y de perder el resto de su visión. Con la ayuda de su administrador de casos, se inscribió en la lista de viviendas de Sección 8 y se inscribió en Medicaid para controlar su vista.

A medida que avanzaba el año, la visión del cliente continuaba deteriorándose. No pudo recibir cirugía de cataratas hasta obtener vivienda. En enero del 2018, recibió su comprobante de Sección 8, y fue alojada el mes siguiente. Marie se ha sometido con éxito a una cirugía de cataratas y ahora progresa en su nueva vida. Es voluntaria de Caridades Católicas para ayudar a otros clientes a recibir la misma ayuda y esperanza que ella recibió.

Miguel

Los incendios en las casas ocurren con demasiada frecuencia, y Caridades Católicas está ahí para ayudar a los clientes a recuperarse. Miguel había sido desplazado debido a un incendio en su apartamento y estaba durmiendo en su vehículo. Al trabajar con La Cruz Roja de Oklahoma y La Alianza de Aquellos Sin Hogar (The Homeless Alliance), Caridades Católicas pudo llevarlo a un hotel y ayudar con un depósito para otro apartamento.

El equipo de respuesta de desastres no esperaba recibir noticias de Michael, pero poco tiempo después envió el siguiente mensaje a su administrador de casos de desastre: “Muchas gracias por todo. No tenía idea de lo que iba

a hacer. Son verdaderos enviados de Dios”. Caridades Católicas se complace de haber tenido la oportunidad de prestar servicios junto con las agencias asociadas.

Comunidad

Mientras asistía a un juego de los Thunder, un administrador de casos de Caridades Católicas fue abordado por dos niños que le agradecieron con entusiasmo su ayuda. Aunque no los recordó inmediatamente sus rostros le eran familiares, sonrió y dijo: “De nada”. Mientras se alejaban, nuestro administrador de casos escuchó a la maestra de los niños preguntando: “¿Con quién estaba hablando?” Uno de los niños respondió: “Ella fue la chica que nos ayudó a completar el papeleo, para que pudiéramos quedarnos en los Estados Unidos”.

Con 14 programas en seis centros de servicios, incluyendo Ardmore, Enid, Guymon y Lawton, nuestro modelo de servicio tiene como objetivo ayudar a quienes han caído en las grietas de la sociedad proporcionando apoyo, servicios de gestión de casos y destrezas tangibles para ayudar a nuestros clientes a obtener su independencia.

La campaña anual respalda esta misión y brinda a Caridades Católicas más oportunidades para llegar a quienes lo necesitan. Con su ayuda, Caridades Católicas ayuda a nuestros vecinos a encontrar la esperanza y la luz que Jesucristo nos promete a todos.

Gracias por su fe y generosidad.

continuado de la página 12

El miércoles, el Arzobispo Coakley informó haber recibido una carta el 17 de agosto de un ex residente de Oklahoma que fue abusado por Zoeller en 1985. Ordenó una revisión del archivo del exsacerdote así como una investigación independiente, que está en curso. Zoeller fue destituido como sacerdote en 2002 y fue laicizado en 2011.

El Arzobispo Coakley expresó profunda tristeza al recibir la carta y se disculpó por el abuso sufrido a manos de un exsacerdote. Junto con la investigación que continúa, el Arzobispo Coakley le pidió a la Arquidiócesis que contactara al ex residente para ayudarlo con los efectos de estos actos atroces. La arquidiócesis ha estado en contacto con la Oficina del Procurador General de Oklahoma. La acusación también ha sido reportada a la Oficina del Fiscal de Distrito del Condado de Oklahoma.

Para informar incidencias de abuso en el pasado o en el presente, comuníquese con la Línea Directa de Respuesta Pastoral de Abuso de Menores al (405) 720-9878. Según la ley de Oklahoma, todas las personas deben denunciar un incidente o sospecha de abuso sexual de un menor (persona menor de 18 años) a las autoridades civiles. El Departamento de Servicios Humanos de Oklahoma ha establecido una línea de denuncia de abuso en todo el estado - (800) 522-3511. Un informe a la arquidiócesis no exime a la persona del deber de denunciar el abuso infantil a las autoridades civiles.

Briefs

Assisted living openings

St. Ann Retirement Center has openings in their assisted living community. One-bed apartments on the second floor. Cost includes all meals, daily Mass, transportation, medication administration, bathing and dressing assistance, reminders, escort to meals, activities and much more. Contact Richard Amend at (405) 721-0747 about a move-in special.

Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who already have separated or divorced. The next weekend program is Sept. 7-9 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway. To register, call (405) 443-3541 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

The day of remembrance event in Oklahoma will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Mass Sept. 8 at St. Gregory's Abbey Chapel, Shawnee. A Rosary procession will follow, then remarks and blessing of wreaths placed at various burial sites.

RCIA - OKC

St. Joseph Old Cathedral will begin adult RCIA classes Sept. 9.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or would like to come back to the faith, contact (405) 235-4565.

Surviving Divorce

The Surviving Divorce program offers hope, healing and community to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. This 14-week program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them answer their questions, restore hope and begin authentic healing. Classes begin Sept. 10 and will meet 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. each Monday at St. John, 900 S. Littler Ave., Edmond. Contact Jason Zimdars at (405) 474-7639 or survivingdivorce@icloud.com.

Forming a Blended Family

This new program is being offered by the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway. This class may be used as a marriage preparation class, but all couples with blended families are invited. Download the registration form at www.archokc.org or call the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry at (405) 709-2709.

Shawnee retreat trip

Depart from St. John, Edmond, at 8 a.m. Sept. 15, to St. Gregory's Abbey, Shawnee, for a Day of Reflection. After 9 a.m. Mass, Br. Damien Whalen, O.S.B., will present "Made in God's Image: Called to Union with God." Participants attend midday prayer before lunch. Another session follows lunch with Eucharistic Adoration, and then guided tour of the Mabee-Gerrer Museum. Dinner follows at the Benedict Street Market. Return to Edmond at around 7:30 p.m. Cost \$100/pp. Call (405) 340-0691, Ext. 109.

ry's Abbey, Shawnee, for a Day of Reflection. After 9 a.m. Mass, Br. Damien Whalen, O.S.B., will present "Made in God's Image: Called to Union with God." Participants attend midday prayer before lunch. Another session follows lunch with Eucharistic Adoration, and then guided tour of the Mabee-Gerrer Museum. Dinner follows at the Benedict Street Market. Return to Edmond at around 7:30 p.m. Cost \$100/pp. Call (405) 340-0691, Ext. 109.

Rose Home garden party

Birth Choice of Oklahoma Inc. invites everyone to a garden party luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at the Quail Creek Golf and Country Club, 3501 Quail Creek Rd., OKC. The luncheon benefits the Rose Home, a shelter for pregnant women and their children. Tickets \$25 at www.birthchoice.org. Contact (405) 606-8426.

St. Gregory's Days of Reflection

The monks of St. Gregory's Abbey invite everyone to monthly "Days of Reflection" sessions. "Made in God's Image: Called to Union with God" by Damian Whalen, O.S.B., on Sept. 22; "Speak Lord, Your Servant is Listening" by Fr. Boniface Copelin, O.S.B., on Oct. 27, and "The Spirituality of Knitting and Crocheting" by Br. Damien Whalen, O.S.B. on Nov. 17. Mass at 9 a.m. Closing session at 3 p.m. Cost \$30, lunch included. Space limited to 40. Contact the retreat office at (405) 878-5656 or retreats@MonksOK.org.

School of Lectio Divina

St. Joseph Monastery's School of Lectio Divina will have a session Sept. 26-29. Trained instructors lead sessions on the practice of prayer taught by the early Church fathers and facilitate the incorporation of that deep prayer experience into one's daily life. Contact Sr. Barbara at (918) 746-4209 or lectio@stjosephmonastery.org, or visit www.stjosephmonastery.org/retreats. Limited number of rooms available at the monastery for overnight accommodations.

Marriage as a Covenant

The Marriage as a Covenant weekend provides a unique opportunity for a couple to gift themselves with the time to discover a method of intimate communication away from the distractions and demands of a busy world. The next program is Sept. 28-29 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway. For more information or to register, contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry at (405) 721-8944.

Oktoberfest

Holy Spirit, 1100 N. Sara Rd., Mustang, will host its fourth annual Oktoberfest and auction at 6 p.m. Sept. 29. Reservations \$40. Variety of food, beer and wine available at this adults-only event.

Entertainment includes games with prizes, music and a live and silent auction. All proceeds support the construction of the new church. For tickets, visit www.holyspiritmustang.org or call (405) 376-9435.

Falcon 5K and fun run

St. John Nepomuk Catholic School will host the one-mile fun run and 5K race at 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., respectively, on Sept. 29 at the school, 600 Garth Brooks Blvd, Yukon. Register at bit.ly/falcon5k. For more information, e-mail falcon5k@sjnok.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend gives couples the tools to deepen communication and help relationships grow. The next encounter weekend is Oct. 5-7 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Visit www.meoklahoma.org.

St. Benedict annual carnival

St. Benedict, 632 N. Kickapoo in Shawnee, invites everyone to attend their annual carnival 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Oct. 6. The Granny's Attic Garage Sale and pancake breakfast begin at 8 a.m. There will be game booths, vendor booths, inflatables, bake sale, food booths and entertainment. Activities for all ages. Contact (405) 275-0001.

Knights of Columbus Retreat

The Knights of Columbus Retreat open to all Catholics will be held Oct. 6 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC. Fr. Lance Warren will speak about "What is Evil." Cost \$20 pp. Includes coffee, breakfast roles, snacks and lunch. Contact Michael Zink at (405) 314-4120, Michael-the-j@cox.net. Make checks payable to Michael Zink, KofC, 14616 Collingwood Lane, Edmond 73013.

Anniversary Mass

Archbishop Coakley invites married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 40, 50+) in 2018 to attend a special Anniversary Mass at 3 p.m. Oct. 21 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave., OKC. A reception will follow. If attending, contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry at (405) 721-8944.

Domestic Church retreat

A retreat for Sacramentally married couples that provides them with an opportunity to begin their spiritual journey together (or deepen it if it already exists) as well as an introduction to Domestic Church for people interested in beginning formation in a Domestic Church circle. Find out more at the retreat Nov. 1-4 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC. Register at www.domesticchurchfamilies.com/events-1. Contact Alex Schimpf at (405) 709-2755, or aschimpf@archokc.org.

Calendar

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

September	7	12	15
2 St. Francis of Assisi Secular Franciscan Fraternity of Greater OKC meeting, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., St. Anthony Hospital, 1000 N. Lee. Contact (316) 558-0422, billfull@cox.net .	7 First Friday Sacred Heart Mass at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 p.m.; reconciliation available prior to Mass. Mass at 7 p.m. Call (405) 721-8944, (405) 528-6252.	12 Catholic War Veterans USA the Oklahoma Memorial Post No. 168 will meet at 7 p.m., Sunnyside Family Reception Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact (405) 739-0036, OklaPost168@cox.net .	15 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
2 Meeting of the Third Order (Lay) Dominicans, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Philip Neri, Midwest City, for any Catholic layperson drawn to religious life. Call (405) 313-6611, (405) 414-9407.	8 Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	13 Feast of St. John Chrysostom.	15 Forming a Blended Family program, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, OKC. Contact Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry, (405) 709-2709.
2 Pray the Rosary for Life at 6:30 p.m., 2453 Wilcox Dr., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com .	8 National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, 9 a.m. Mass, St. Gregory's Abbey Chapel, Shawnee.	13 Catholic Women's Activity Club meeting. Lunch 11:30 a.m. Contact Sharon Fernbaugh, (405) 721-2183.	15 The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of St. Teresa of Calcutta, meeting at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC. Mass at 9:30 a.m.; meeting following. Contact Rex McLauchlin, (405) 819-6192.
3 Feast of St. Gregory the Great.	8 The Red Plains Benedictine Oblates of Mt. St. Scholastica, Noon-2:30 p.m., Rm. A/B, St. Charles Borromeo, 5024 N. Grove Ave. Contact (405) 635-5665, jmmartinosb@yahoo.com .	13 St. Ann's Ministry for pregnancy and infant loss, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., St. John Raphael House, Edmond. Contact (405) 340-0691, Ext. 197, parishnurse@stjohn-catholic.org .	15 The Oklahoma City Community of Secular Carmelites meets monthly at Little Flower, OKC. Anyone interested in deepening prayer life with community support, call Vicky Caudell, (405) 637-4611, or William Ginn, (405) 737-2024.
3 Labor Day.	10 Surviving Divorce program, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., St. John, 900 S. Littler Ave., Edmond. Contact Jason Zimdars at (405) 474-7639, survivingdivorce@icloud.com .	14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.	
5 Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta.	11 Catholic War Veterans (of any war/conflict) meeting, 7 p.m., St. Ann Retirement Center community room. Contact Fr. M. Price Oswald, (405) 567-3404.	14 A Mass of Remembrance in memory of people lost to suicide, 6:30 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi, 1901 N.W. 18, OKC.	
6 Charismatic Catholic prayer meeting, 7 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center. Contact Elaine, (405) 358-3610, ccrprayers@gmail.com .	12 Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary.		
7 Retrouvaille Sept. 7-9, Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, OKC.			

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IN MEMORY OF THOSE LOST TO SUICIDE
Those who have experienced the loss of someone to suicide are invited to celebrate their loved one's life at...

A MASS OF REMEMBRANCE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 @ 6:30 PM
FEAST OF EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
1901 NW 18TH ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106
Officiant: Rev. William L. Novak, V.G., Pastor

Those who wish to pray for and offer support to families and friends are welcome to attend.
A reception will follow in Parish Hall
For more information, please contact the parish office at 405.528.0485

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Local co-op strengthens roots through grants

By **Judy Hilovsky**
The Sooner Catholic

With the help of three grants from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) through Catholic Charities, Fertile Ground's roots are growing deeper.

Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church has sponsored the company for these grants.

"Fertile Ground Cooperative is an application of Catholic social justice and economic principles at work," sponsor Bob Waldrop said. "Across the world there are millions of people who own, and work, in worker-owned cooperatives. They provide an excellent way for micro-enterprises to get started, often as part-time jobs that can grow into full-time jobs owned by the workers themselves. The people at Fertile Ground are true examples of what it means to 'pull yourself up by your bootstraps.'"

The company's website echoes those sentiments.

"Fertile Ground is a worker-owned cooperative attracting worker-owners who have an interest in composting, gardening and permaculture-related activities. Worker-ownership is at the center of Fertile Ground's core values. When workers own their labor voluntarily, businesses thrive not for distant shareholders, but for everyone – workers, customers, the community, the environment and the local economy.

They invest their time and energy into making their community a better place."

Founder Terry Craghead said, "The \$2,000 grant for 2018 allowed the cooperative to purchase

Plastic, paper, aluminum, tin cans and cardboard can be placed in the cart, no separation necessary. This helps the environment, and businesses reduce company waste and costs.

The co-op provides commercial recycling and composting services for offices, restaurants, churches, apartments and condos in Oklahoma City area and Norman.

Another way Fertile Ground is helping Oklahoma is through "zero-waste" strategies for companies hosting special events.

haul away and appropriately process the recycling," he added.

There also is residential compost collection that picks up food scraps weekly, composts them at its site or at a community garden compost site, and provide customers with a portion of compost in return. Bike collection routes are near downtown, midtown and uptown. A complete service area map is available at fertilegroundok.coop.

Craghead thinks people have various reasons for not composting. "Sometimes people are just afraid of trying something new. Most people are set in their ways and trash is one of those concepts the average person doesn't think about until it becomes a problem. Many people live in multi-family units with no space available for backyard or community composting and for others, the "yuck!" factor prevents them doing it. Fertile Ground exists for all of these folks," Craghead said.

Annually, CCHD takes up a collection in parishes throughout the country the week before Thanksgiving.

Donations are divided to fund grassroots projects that assist in carrying out Catholic Charities' mission. All grant funds are awarded and reviewed by a local advisory committee.

Judy Hilovsky is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



100 carts for commercial recycling. These 96-gallon poly-carts can be rolled in and out for convenience on collection day, which could be weekly or several times a week depending on the needs of the business."

"In the zero-waste strategy nothing is sent to the landfill," Craghead said. "Much of what would have gone to the landfill is turned into a nutrient rich compost or recycled. Fertile Ground can design a compostable, recyclable, and/or reusable waste disposal system for any event, provide receptacles,

continued from page 1

"We are very excited to start the program and see how it works," said Tom Maxell, facility manager. A bin was delivered to the Catholic Pastoral Center as were containers for offices, desks and the lunch room.

At Saint Charles Community Organic Garden, the work of feeding the poor has been part of an ongoing mission. In 2007, the garden was built and funded by Justin Sine of Saint Charles' Boy Scout Troop No. 179 as an Eagle Scout project.

The garden has served as a source of fresh food for the wider community and food recipients, and a place to pray and relax. In 2016, the garden was expanded and remodeled for a total of 18 4-by-8-foot beds.

"Volunteers can choose any job: weeding,

watering, checking for insects and diseases, and deadheading plants. No gardening experience is necessary and only requires about 10-15 minutes per visit to the garden," Monica Knusten said.

Individual gardeners agree to share half or more of their crops with the Dorothy Day Center or other food pantry. The garden partners with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, which provides plants and seeds through its Urban Harvest Program.

Next to the garden is The Dorothy Day Center, a unique food pantry that serves individuals and families who cannot access local food pantries for many reasons, including chronic illness, lack of transportation, no money for gas, mothers with small children, and the working poor whose schedules are different from food pantry hours.

Anyone can contribute by leaving non-perishable food donations in a wooden bin located inside the southeast entrance of Saint Charles Borromeo. For information about volunteering, visit www.thedorothydaycenter.com.

Here are some ideas to implement in homes, schools and churches:

- Grow food or a few herbs, plant trees for shade;
- Drive less, walk and pick up trash along

the way;

- Don't run water while brushing teeth and washing dishes. Dry clothes with sun and wind on a clothes line. Those with allergies can use drying rack in their homes;

- Buy local from farmers, shops, and restaurants;

- Reduce, reuse, recycle;

- Work with neighbors to heal and regenerate the natural environment and increase the safety, security, health and well-being of the neighborhood;

- Support public and private initiatives that promote water conservation, renewable energy, local food systems, tree planting, organic gardening and farming;

- Store food in reusable containers, not plastic wrap or foil, to reduce waste. Avoid plastic whenever possible. Use reusables, such as coffee mugs, reusable bags, or cloth napkins. Commit to making one change during this time;

- Stop using Styrofoam at parish functions. Styrofoam rarely can be recycled, and it takes 500 years to decompose in landfills;

- Pray before and after meals, giving thanks for the food and those who help bring it to the table;

- A four-part prayer service to be said after Mass each week was developed by The Catholic Climate Covenant. Holding this service outside may allow for a deeper experience. Visit bit.ly/CCC-PS to access this resource.

Judy Hilovsky is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

"O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, who are so precious in your eyes. ... God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, God of mercy, may we receive your forgiveness and convey your mercy throughout our common home. Praise be to you! Amen."

-- Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on Sept. 1, 2016