Go Make Disciples

# **Archbishop Coakley moves confirmation to middle school**

Guidelines for Fall 2021 and Fall 2022 coming May 1, 2021

Archbishop Paul Coakley announced on Sept. 29 a change in placement for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Preparation for Confirmation will be completed in one year instead of two and will be held in the sixth or seventh grade instead of during high school.

The Secretariat for Evangeliza-

tion and Catechesis will assist parishes in preparing for and implementing the transition, which will begin by Fall 2022. No changes will be made this year.

The decision to move Confirmation to a younger age comes after months of prayer and input from clergy, parish staff and parents with the goal of boosting involvement in youth ministry and better serving families.

"We all need to think deeply about our Church and about the needs of our young people, particularly in light of our modern culture and all of the unique challenges they are facing today. We need to equip our children with all of the grace available.

Unfortunately, there are a number of youth in high school who have been baptized and received First Communion but never were confirmed, leaving thousands without the gift of Confirmation to strengthen them," Archbishop Coakley said.

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Hospital chaplains, priests bring peace, sacraments to ill during pandemic



Photo Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic.

By K.S. McNutt The Sooner Catholic

he work of priests and hospital chaplains can be beautiful and inspiring, but – in this time of coronavirus – it also can be difficult and discouraging.

"COVID has so consumed everything. It's possible to lose the dignity of the person because of the disease," said Father Kevin Ratterman, a chaplain at Mercy Hospital

in Ardmore. "Much is being lost to social distancing and lack of access."

Precautions taken to prevent the spread of the disease have limited people's access to pastoral visits and the sacraments.

"We take all of the necessary precautions when going to the hospital, including wearing gloves, masks, using cotton balls during the Anointing of the Sick and limiting contact," said Father Brian

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# Julia Anderson-Holt named educator of the year



By Sooner Catholic Staff

Julia Anderson-Holt, a science teacher at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, was named the 2020 Archbishop Paul. S. Coakley Catholic Schools Educator of the Year on Sept 25 during the annual education institute held virtually from the Catholic Pastoral Center.

Anderson-Holt has been a

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# Put Out Into the Deep<sub>Luke 5:4</sub>

# The least of my brothers and sisters

In less than a month, Americans will go to the polls to elect local, state and national leaders, including our president and vice president. This will be a consequential election no matter the outcome. There is much at stake.

Adding to the drama that every election cycle produces is the undeniable fact that this election is being conducted during a year of nearly unprecedented turmoil. We are in the midst of a global pandemic that has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives in the United States and more than a million worldwide. It has produced economic uncertainty and loss of jobs across the land. Racial tensions have spawned protests and erupted in violence. Natural disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes, floods and tornadoes have focused attention on the fragility of the environment, which is, as Pope Francis has reminded us, "our common home." Fear, incivility and division are infecting our world through the often-toxic influence of social media.

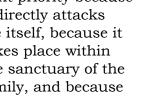
So, how do we weigh all of these factors and many others as we prepare to exercise our precious right to vote as responsible citizens and faithful Catholics?

Every four years, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issues its Faithful Citizenship document as an exercise in the bishops' duty to teach and apply moral principles that impact and guide the choices we must make so we can approach the polls in a way that reflects not primarily our party's interests, but especially our faith as Catholics.

In the 2020 version of the Faithful Citizenship document, the bishops write: "For all Catholics, including those seeking public office, our participation in political parties or other groups to which we may belong should be influenced by our faith, not the other way around." Our approach to contemporary issues ought to be guided by our identity as followers of Christ and brothers and sisters to all who are created in God's image and likeness.

There are certainly many issues that have moral weight and social importance, but they are not all equal in demanding our attention and concern. So where do we start? The bishops of the United States this year reaffirmed that "The

threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives



destroyed." There is simply no other issue that poses as great a threat to human life and dignity

To date, there have been more than 60 million unborn children lost to abortion in the United States since 1973. (There were 862,000 in 2017, according to the Guttmacher Institute.) Direct abortion is an intrinsic evil, meaning that it is always and everywhere wrong to take the life of an innocent unborn child no matter the circumstances. The protection of innocent life is fundamental to our defense of every life, and our unborn sisters and brothers are the most innocent and most vulnerable of all. If we fail to defend the most innocent, then our defense and advocacy for the rights and dignity of every other human person is inauthentic. Certainly we have not done all we must do even when we have properly considered the impact our vote will have on the unborn child.

Respect for life must begin at conception and

As he said in speaking of the last judgment, "Whatever you do or fail to do the least of my brothers and sisters you do or fail to do to me!"



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

extend to natural death. It's not either/or. It's both/and. We also must be advocates for the poor and the immigrant and the marginalized in our society. We have a duty to defend the dignity of all regardless of their race, sex, ethnicity or religion, and to protect the liberty to live those beliefs outside of the four walls of a church. We have a responsibility to care for our common home and remember those who will come after us. We have to be concerned for the incarcerated and the condemned, because it is to all of these that Jesus came to proclaim Good News and with whom he identified.

(cf. Matthew 25:40,45).

# Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

Oct. 13 - Napa Institute Principled Entrepreneurship Virtual Conference

Oct. 15 - Mass for Medical Professionals, 6:30 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC

Oct. 16 - Senior Staff meeting, 10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center

Oct. 17 - Mass and blessing of new discipleship building, 5 p.m., St. John Nepomuk, Yukon

Oct. 18 - Virtual Marriage Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m. (live-streamed on archokc.org/live)

Oct. 19-22 - Priests Retreat No. 1, Monserrat Retreat Center, Lake Dallas, Texas

Oct. 22 – Tax Credit Scholarship reception, 6 p.m., CPC

Oct. 25 - Mass, 1:30 p.m., Our Lady of Sorrow, Chandler

# Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

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

**▼** To send photos, event information or story ideas, e-mail tips@archokc.org.

✓ A Rachels' Vineyard retreat will be held Nov. 6-8 for healing after abortion for men and women. Space limited. All inquiries are confidential. Visit cceok.org/ healing-after-abortion. Contact (918) 508-7142, rachel@ cceok.org.

✓ Join the Serra Club The Serra Club of Oklahoma City is a group of lay women and men who promote and pray for vocations in the archdiocese. The group meets at 10:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month via Zoom and at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Followed by Mass. All welcome.





@archokc



Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

Almighty God, whose beloved Son, Jesus Christ, went about doing good, and healing all manner of illness and disease: continue, we beseech you, his gracious work among us. *Grant to physicians, nurses* and all health care professionals, wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; keep them safe and preserve them from all contagion. Cheer, heal and sanctify the sick, and send down your blessing on all who care for them healer, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

# "Fratelli tutti:" short summary of Pope Francis's social encyclical

Sooner Catholic

Fraternity and social friendship are the ways the Pontiff indicates to build a better, more just and peaceful world, with the contribution of all: people and institutions. With an emphatic confirmation of a 'no' to war and to globalized indifference.

#### By Isabella Piro

Vatican News

What are the great ideals but also the tangible ways to advance for those who wish to build a more just and fraternal world in their ordinary relationships, in social life, politics and institutions?

This is mainly the question that Fratelli tutti is intended to answer: the Pope describes it as a "social encyclical," (6) which borrows the title of the "Admonitions" of Saint Francis of Assisi, who used these words to "address his brothers and sisters and proposed to them a way of life marked by the flavor of the Gospel" (Par 1). The Encyclical aims to promote a universal aspiration toward fraternity and social friendship. In the background of the Encyclical is the COVID-19 pandemic which, Francis reveals, "unexpectedly erupted" as he "was writing this letter." But the global health emergency has helped demonstrate that "no one can face life in isolation" and that the time has truly come to "dream, then, as a single human family" in which we are "brothers and sisters all" (Par 8).

#### Ch. 1: Dark clouds cover the world

In the first of eight chapters, which is entitled "Dark Clouds over a Closed World," the document reflects on the many distortions of the contemporary era: the manipulation and deformation of concepts such as democracy,



freedom, justice; the loss of the meaning of the social community and history; selfishness and indifference toward the common good: the prevalence of a market logic based on profit and the culture of waste; unemployment, racism, poverty; the disparity of rights and its aberrations such as slavery, trafficking, women subjugated and then forced to abort, organ trafficking (see Par 10-24). It deals with global problems that call for global actions, emphasizes the Pope, also sounding the alarm against a "culture of walls" that favors the proliferation of organized crime, fueled by fear and loneliness (see Par 27-28).

#### Ch. 2: Strangers on the road

To many shadows, however, the Encyclical responds with a luminous example, a herald of hope: the Good Samaritan. The second chapter, "A stranger on the road," is dedicated to this figure. In it, the Pope emphasizes that, in an unhealthy society that turns its back on suffering and that is "illiterate" in caring for

the frail and vulnerable (see Par 64-65), we are all called – just like the Good Samaritan – to become neighbors to others (see Par 81), overcoming prejudices, personal interests, historic and cultural barriers. We all, in fact, are co-responsible in creating a society that is able to include, integrate and lift up those who have fallen or are suffering (see Par 77). Love builds bridges and "we were made for love" (Par 88), the Pope adds, particularly exhorting Christians to recognize Christ in the face of every excluded person (see Par 85).

#### Ch. 3: Vision of an open world

The principle of the capacity to love according to "a universal dimension" (see Par 83) is also resumed in the third chapter, "Envisaging and engendering an open world." In this chapter Francis exhorts us to go "'outside' the self" in order to find "a fuller existence in another" (Par 88), opening ourselves up to the other according to the dynamism of charity which makes us tend toward "universal fulfilment" (Par 95). In

the background - the Encyclical recalls - the spiritual stature of a person's life is measured by love, which always "takes first place" and leads us to seek better for the life of the other, far from all selfishness (Par 92-93). The sense of solidarity and of fraternity begin within the family, which are to be safeguarded and respected in their "primary and vital mission of education" (Par 114).

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#### Ch. 4: Heart open to the world To the theme of

migration, the latter, entitled "A heart open to the whole world." With their lives "at stake" (Par 37), fleeing from war, persecution, natural catastrophes, unscrupulous trafficking, ripped from their communities of origin, migrants are to be welcomed, protected, supported and integrated. Unnecessary migration needs to be avoided, the Pontiff affirms, by creating concrete

"It has become common

to view Confirmation as a choice to become an adult in the Church. As a sacrament, God offers Confirmation as a free gift that is actually more about God confirming 'us' as his children, not us confirming our faith in God. As we move forward, let us focus on supporting our families and parents, and on being thoughtful and intentional in our formaefforts. Thank you to ev- developing options and eryone who has collaborated on this challenge and to everyone who will be working to implement the new guidelines in the future."

In the summer of 2019, Archbishop Coakley created the Sacramental Preparation Revision Task Force to review sacramental guidelines and consider potential changes for the placement of Confirmation. The task force

continued from page 1 included directors of religious education, principals, priests, youth ministers, deacons, parents and archdiocesan staff.

The Priests' Council also reviewed guidelines. and all priests were given the opportunity to provide feedback on various aspects of Confirmation and how it should be implemented in parishes.

The Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis will dedicate the tion and youth ministry remainder of this year to guidelines, mindful of parishes' unique needs. The options and guidelines will be sent to pastors no later than May 1 for a Fall 2021 or Fall 2022 start. The transition will include bolstering youth ministries for middle school and high school and planning Confirmations for youth in the "gap years."

To enroll in Confirmation, contact your parish's office.



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#### **Most Reverend** Paul S. Coakley

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# Farewell parade

for Dcn. Angelo Lombardo and his wife Annie

Darishioners at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Norman had a staff luncheon and farewell parade for Dcn. Angelo Lombardo and his wife Annie on Sept. 16. The Lombardos moved to Flower Mound, Texas. Annie Lombardo retired from her director of religious education position and Dcn. Lombardo will phase out his involvement. The choir serenaded them as the parade of cars went by. There were flowers, balloons, signs and gifts. Photos provided.



# From the Archives ...

A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist

ue to the Stock Market residence crash in October 1929, the abject poverty, the anguish of not being able to provide for the essentials of the family, and the vagaries of extreme weather all played a role when recalling the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Oklahoma's drought affected one of the staples of its society, the family farm. Citizens left in droves seeking work when crops failed, leading to the term "Okies." While most Oklahomans see the term as a badge of honor today, it was used in the pejorative sense during this dark period.

The Church in Oklahoma suffered mightily along with the people she served. Being on the brink of financial collapse caused constant frustration in not being able to help those in need. It was a struggle to keep the doors open and many of the clergy received little to no salary. In 1933, Catholic Charities had \$300 in cash and owed \$4,200 on a mortgage payment. Saint Rose of Lima in Perry lost its money due to a bank

failure in 1932. In 1932, Bishop Francis Kelley moved out of the episcopal

due to the expense of upkeep and moved into Saint Anthony Hospital in a small apartment. He remained there until a new home was purchased in 1939 as the economy began to strengthen due to the

coming war. Bishop Kelley was a prolific writer and lecturer who toured the country and his fees were gifted to the general fund of the diocese to keep it afloat.

Father David Monahan wrote, "Some Catholic institutions made feeble attempts to be of assistance - the Knights of Columbus in Tulsa tried to serve as an unemployment agency; Associated Catholic Charities served as a clearing house for the distribution of clothes; and Saint Anthonys Hospital began to feed those who gathered in

to meet them."

Despite the misery and "hard times" endured by the people of

Much is owed to the hearty souls who maintained their faith

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES



Depression era western Oklahoma family. Photo Fr. Bill Huffer.

a daily food line. Father Caudron at Henryetta hired the unemployed to work on church property. But, the appeals for help far outstripped the ability

Oklahoma, the Church persevered, and after the Second World War, enjoyed a period of unprecedented growth and prosperity.

and the sacrifices of the clergy during this tumultuous time.



**Patrick** 

This is part of a series to introduce the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.



#### What is your home parish?

My home parish is Saint John Nepomuk Catholic Church in Yukon.

#### What seminary do you attend?

I am currently studying philosophy as a sophomore at Conception Seminary College.

#### If it is God's will, what year will you be ordained a priest?

If it is God's will, I will be ordained a priest in 2027.

#### What advice would you give to someone discerning a call to the priesthood?

My advice to anyone discerning the priesthood is to always listen to what the Lord calls you to do, no matter what it may be. Your journey to the Lord is filled with many small "yeses" along the way, not just one decision to follow him.

#### What do you look forward to most about becoming a priest?

What I look forward to most about being a priest is to be able to administer the Sacraments of Healing and bringing more souls into the state of grace the Lord calls us to.

#### Name one thing that every Catholic needs to know.

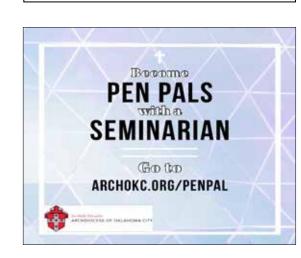
Sometimes the Lord allows us to be tested in order to draw us closer to him. Do not be afraid of trials and hardships, but instead use it as a time to grow in your relationship with

#### Why choose a life of sacrificial love?

A life of sacrificial love is a life that most closely reflects the life of our

#### To learn more about seminary, contact: Rev. Brian Buettner at

bbuettner@archokc.org or (405) 721-9351. okcvocations.com



#### continued from page 3

opportunities to live with dignity in the countries of origin. But at the same time, we need to respect the right to seek a better life elsewhere. In receiving countries, the right balance will be between the protection of citizens' rights and the guarantee of welcome and assistance for migrants (see Par 38-40). Specifically, the Pope points to several "indispensable steps, especially in response to those who are fleeing grave humanitarian crises:" to increase and simplify the granting of visas; to open humanitarian corridors; to assure lodging, security and essential services; to offer opportunities for employment and training; to favor family reunification; to protect minors; to guarantee religious freedom. What is needed above all – the document reads - is global governance, an international collaboration for migration which implements long-term planning, going beyond single emergencies, on behalf of the supportive development of all peoples (see Par 129-132).

#### Ch. 5: Better politics

The theme of the fifth chapter is "A better kind of politics," which represents one of the most valuable forms of charity because it is placed at the service of the common good (see Par 180) and recognizes the importance of people, understood as an open category, available for discussion and dialogue (see Par 160). This is the populism indicated by Francis, which counters that "populism" which ignores the legitimacy of the notion of "people," by attracting consensuses in order to exploit them for its own service and fomenting selfishness in order to increase its own popularity (see Par 159). But a better politics is also one that protects work, an "essential dimension of social life." The best strategy against

does not simply aim to contain frantic flurry of activity" that prevail in the contemporary era or render indigents inoffensive, (see Par 222-224). but to promote them in the per-Ch. 7: Renewed encounter spective of solidarity and subsidiarity (see Par 187). The task of politics, moreover, is to find a solution to all that attacks fundamental human rights, such as social exclusion; the market-

poverty, the Pontiff explains,

ing of organs, tissues, weapons

and drugs; sexual exploitation;

slave labor; terrorism and orga-

emphatic appeal to definitively

eliminate human trafficking, a

"source of shame for humanity,"

and hunger, which is "criminal"

because food is "an inalienable

The politics we need, Francis

also underscores, is a politics

centered on human dignity

because "the marketplace,

and not subjected to finance

by itself, cannot resolve every

by financial speculation has

problem": the "havoc" wreaked

Hence, popular movements have

taken on particular relevance:

as true "torrents of moral ener-

ciety with greater coordination.

will be possible to go beyond a

Policy "with" and "of" the poor

Another hope present in the

Encyclical regards the reform

predominance of the economic

dimension, a task of the United

Nations will be to give substance

to the concept of a "family of na-

tions" working for the common

good, the eradication of poverty

rights. Tireless recourse "to ne-

tration" – the Papal Document

states – the UN must promote

the force of law rather than the

further emerges

the concept of

life as the "art

of encounter"

with everyone,

even with the

world's periph-

eries and with

original peo-

ples, because

"each of us can

from others. No

one is useless

and no one is

(see Par 215).

Then, of partic-

ular note, is the

Pope's reference

to the miracle

of "kindness,"

an attitude to

because it is a

in the midst of

darkness" and

"frees us from

star "shining

be recovered

expendable"

Ch. 6: Dialogue and

friendship

gotiation, mediation and arbi-

and the protection of human

of the UN: in the face of the

(see Par 169).

gy", they must be engaged in so-

In this way – the Pope states – it

right" (Par 188-189).

The value and promotion

the cruelty ... the anxiety ... the

of peace is reflected on in the seventh chapter, "Paths of renewed encounter," in which the Pope underlines that peace is connected to truth, justice and mercy. Far from the desire for vengeance, it is "proactive" nized crime. The Pope makes an and aims at forming a society based on service to others and on the pursuit of reconciliation and mutual development (see Par 227-229). Thus, peace is an "art" that involves and regards everyone and in which each one must do his or her part in "a never-ending task" (see Par 227-232). Forgiveness is linked to peace: we must love everyone, without exception – the Encyclical reads - but loving an oppressor means helping him to change and not allowing him to demonstrated this (see Par 168). continue oppressing his neigh-

#### "Just War"

bour (see Par 241-242).

Part of the seventh chapter, then, focuses on war: "a constant threat", that represents "the negation of all rights," "a failure of politics and of humanity," and "a stinging defeat before the forces of evil". Moreover, due to nuclear chemical and biological weapons that strike many innocent civilians, today we can no longer think, as in the past, of the possibility of a "just war," but we must vehemently reaffirm: "Never again war!" The total elimination of nuclear arms is "a moral and humanitarian imperative." With the money invested in weapons, the Pope suggests instead the establishment of a global fund for the elimination of hunger (see Par 255-262).

#### Death penalty law of force (see Par 173-175).

Francis expresses just as clearly a position with regard to the death penalty: it is inadmissible and must be abolished worldwide. "Not even a murderer loses his personal dignity" – the Pope writes - "and God himself pledges to guarantee this" (Par 263-269). There is emphasis on the necessity to respect "the sacredness of life" (Par 283) where today "some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed" such as the unborn, the poor, the disabled and the learn something elderly (Par 18).

#### Ch. 8: Religion and fraternity

In the eighth and final chapter, the Pontiff focuses on "Religions at the service of fraternity in our world" and emphasizes that terrorism is not due to religion but to erroneous interpretations of religious texts as well as "policies linked to hunger, poverty, injustice, oppression" (Par 282-283). A journey of peace among religions is possible and that it is therefore necessary to guarantee religious freedom, a fundamental human right for all believers (see Par 279).



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# Tax Credit Scholarship recipients

The schools pictured received 2020 scholarships from the Tax Credit Scholarship program, which distributes scholarship money to all 19 schools in the archdiocese with gifts from individual and corporate donors. The program works as a bridge to help financially struggling

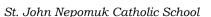
families gain access to high-quality Catholic schools. For the 2020-2021 school year, the program distributed more than \$900,000 in scholar-

As a state recognized Scholarship Granting Organization, donors to TCS can receive Oklahoma state

income tax credits for their gifts based on their tax filing status. An individual can receive up to \$1,000, a couple filing jointly can receive up to \$2,000, and a qualified business entity can receive up to \$100,000.

To learn more, visit tcsok.org or call (405) 709-2745.









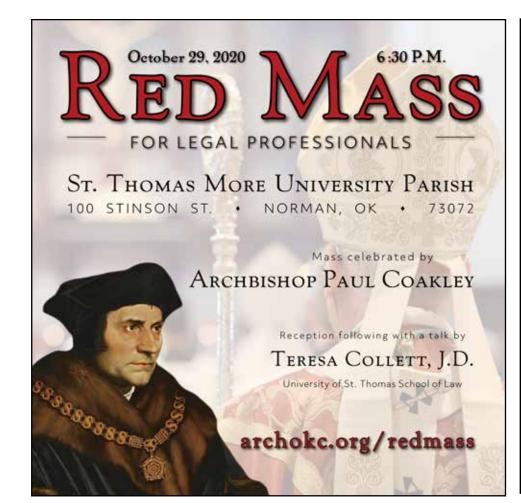
Sacred Heart Catholic School, El Reno

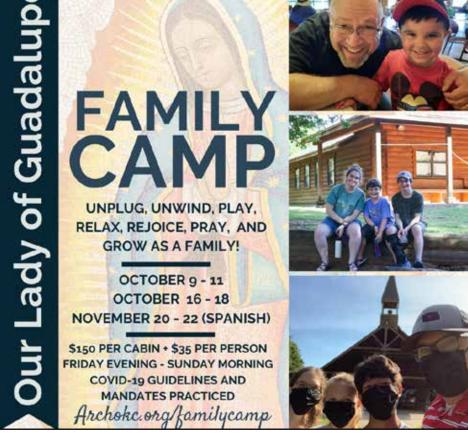


Rick A. Miller with the Knights of Columbus has been appointed the Master of the Oklahoma District in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Province. His appointment was effective Sept. 1. Photo provided.

#### **Knights of Columbus Retreat**

The Knights of Columbus Retreat is Dec. 5. Sr. Diane Koorie, R.S.M., is the host speaker. Contact Michael Zink at (405) 314-4120; michael-the-j@att.net.









# Catholic Charities 2020 appeal raising funds, awareness in archdiocese

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is engaging parishes across central and western Oklahoma to spread the word about the good works of Catholic Charities and to bring awareness to the 2020 appeal. Thirteen staff members spoke on behalf of the organization to 25 churches, totaling 53

This year, the goal of the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is to raise \$2.54 million for people and families in need.

"Everyone has been affected by the pandemic in some way, but by giving to Catholic Charities, you have the opportunity to make a

difference in the lives of our most vulnerable citizens," Executive Director Patrick Raglow

This year, a special effort has been made to reach our Hispanic parishes with the addition of a Spanish speaking resource coordinator. To date, these parishes have donated more than \$208,600.

"There has been a lot of eagerness and willingness from the archdiocese's Hispanic parishioners to participate in the ongoing culture of inclusivity of Catholic Charities," said David F. de los Santos, parish and resource coordinator. "Many Hispanic parishioners have been

yearning to come back to Mass and are excited to maintain this energy and faith.'

Catholic Charities has raised \$1,621,360 so far with a goal of \$2,540,000 by the end of

"Due to parishes being lower in attendance, we are down roughly 900 gifts, most likely due to COVID-19," said Christi Jeffreys, director of annual giving. "I have every belief the Catholic community will rally and continue to support the good works of Catholic Charities."

To make a gift, visit catholiccharitiesok.org or use the cut out form located on the back of the Sooner Catholic.

#### continued from page 1

Buettner, pastor at Saint Joseph Old Cathedral. "Our dedicated doctors and nurses give great medical care, but patients' spiritual health needs to be cared for as well."

Father Ratterman tells his parishioners at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ardmore to seek him out for anointing before a procedure and tell him when they will be in the hospital so he can visit.

He used to celebrate Mass at the hospital every Wednesday and visit all Catholic patients. Since the pandemic, Masses have been cancelled and he can visit patients only if he has a name. He won't know if a Catholic is admitted in an emergency situation unless the family alerts him or the person asks the staff to contact a priest.

Father Ratterman knows how much it means to patients to receive those sacraments. He recalls one time when he got an urgent call and arrived to find 10 people working on a patient.

"Father, get in here now and do what you have to do," shouted the doctor doing chest compressions.

As soon as the abbreviated rites were completed, the doctor called the time of death. The patient wanted to be anointed and the team had kept him alive so he could be.



"Patients are starving for company. Many hospitals only allow one person to visit, not one person at a time, but one individual who

can come visit them during the duration of their stay," Father Buettner said. "The suffering is uniquely close to Christ and his Passion. To be a priest, coming along side ailing souls and helping them bear their cross, is a powerful, yet often hidden aspect of a priest's

Father Ratterman did his training for hospital ministry at what is now Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City and served as a hospital chaplain in Enid and Ponca City. A chaplain needs to be responsive to people of different faith traditions and minister to them "where they're at," he said.

Chaplains once had access to patient records that indicated

who was Catholic and could note in the patient's file that the person had been anointed and received Communion. Privacy regulations protecting individual's health information changed that. And COVID-19 brought more restrictions.

"The system is more and more dependent on someone telling me they're in the hospital," Father Ratterman said.

From blessing a newborn to ministering to the dying, the chaplain can be the most important person to the family in the moment.

"Beautiful moments take place in a hospital," Father Ratterman said. "There is nothing more beautiful than a beautiful death."

It's beautiful when the family is gathered around the bed holding hands and being one in prayer as their loved one begins the journey into the next life, he said.

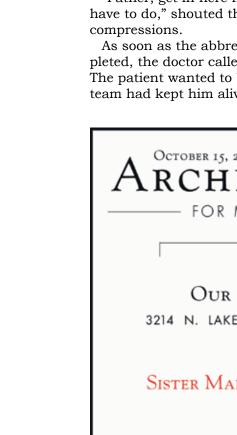
"They may not be able to respond," Father Ratterman said. "But you always assume they can hear and you give them peace of mind and heart that they are not alone at their most vulnerable point."

With the pandemic, family members currently cannot stroke the person's hand or place a cool washcloth on their forehead.

"That human aspect has been relegated as dangerous and really doesn't take place," he

"We have to be conscious of being so consumed with chasing COVID that we don't lose that we're talking about human life."

K.S. McNutt is a freelance writer with the Sooner Catholic.



CCTOBER 15, 2020 AT 6:30 PM.

RCHBISHOP'S MASS FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS THE CATHEDRAL OF Our Lady of Perpetual Help 3214 N. LAKE AVE. • OKLAHOMA CITY • 73118 with a talk by Sister Mary Rachel Nerbun, RSM, M.D. Saint Francis Hospital, Tulsa WITH RECEPTION FOLLOWING RSVP TO RSVP@ARCHOKC.ORG OR CALL (405) 709-2745 ARCHOKC.ORG/MEDICALMASS Go Make Disciples
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

8 October 11, 2020 Sooner Catholic October 11, 2020 9

# Education Institute 2020





Teachers from Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City attended the annual Fall Education Institute Sept. 25 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Other Catholic school teachers in the archdiocese attended the event virtually. Educators heard from Archbishop Coakley, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Diane Floyd and Den. Keith Strohm from M3 Ministries.

Photos Diane Clay/ Sooner Catholic.

#### continued from page 1

science teacher at Bishop McGuinness for 15 years. She is the science department chairperson, the IT coordinator for the football team, KAIROS leader and has helped several young women obtain their Gold Awards for Girl Scouts of America.

Her nomination letter states, "Julia is a passionate educator who possesses a constant thirst for learning and empowers her students to seek a higher level of understanding in all their endeavors."

Anderson-Holt was instrumental in helping set up the school's distance learning program this past spring, and she continually looks for opportunities to better her personal, spiritual and professional life. She is a graduate of Rosary Catholic School in Oklahoma City.

Her nominator said, "Since arriving on campus, Julia has improved the level of instruction in the building while helping students and faculty grow academically, professionally and spiritually.

I can say without hesitation that Julia is possibly the most gifted educator I have encountered in my 47 years in education."

The other finalists were Shivaun Adam from All Saints Catholic School in Norman and Sarah Parizek from Saint John Nepomuk Catholic School in Yukon.

Adam has served as a fourth-grade teacher for 23 years. She connects CRS Rice Bowl collections to her math and social studies lessons, and she connects her lessons in the science lab to Catholic social teachings.

Parizek has served in a Catholic elementary school for 26 years, most re-

cently as the theology teacher for PreK-3, PreK-4 and kindergarten. She puts much thought and planning into her lessons and her students act out stories with props, shouting out praises to God, marching through Jericho, fighting the giants, singing his promises, quietly talking to Jesus in their hearts, all while being still enough to hear his soft voice.

Shivaun Adam

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma provides the award each year to a Catholic school teacher in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. To learn more about Catholic schools, visit archoke. org/schools.



Sarah Parizek

# Go Make Disciples CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

# New Catholic School principal -Alice Newman

# Why is Catholic education important?

Passing on the
Catholic faith is
paramount, but
students also need
opportunities and
encouragement to
excel morally,
academically and
physically. The
advantages of
cultivating friendships
in a healthy environment

also is an important aspect of Catholic education.

# What are some of your goals as a new principal?

My goal as a new principal is to work toward excellence in all aspects of Catholic education.

# What is your favorite part of being an educator?

I love the spontaneity and innocence of small children. Their joy is infectious.

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

My favorite thing away from school is grandchildren! I also enjoy reading, relaxing on our farm and looking for movies worth watching.

Alice Newman, M.Ed.

Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School, Okarche



# 2020-2021 Catholic Education Service Awards

Five Years

# **All Saints**Diane Ackma

Diane Ackmann Heather Arrick

# **Bishop John Carroll**Gabrielle Barros John Ochoa

**Bishop McGuinness** Christopher Ruesewald Rebecca McKee

#### Christ the King

Erika Kouri Erin Holstein Katie Folks

# **Holy Trinity**Theresa McCoy

Mount St. Mary
Jeremy Carey
Kaylyn Henderson
Kyrstle Pierce
Leigha Liuzza
Cristy Welch

#### **Rosary** Melisa Gungoll

**St. Charles**Carmen Santos-Heinen

#### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Andrea Scoggins Lindsay Moore Alicia Forth

# **St. Eugene**Jennifer Schmidt

St. James

#### Patty Rios Toni Silva

**St. John Nepomuk** Ricardo Doroteo

#### **St. Joseph** Andrea McNamara Jon Mills

#### **Ten Years**

#### **Bishop McGuinness**

Alexander Genheimer Jocelyn Perez Mark Veneklasen Mayra Wood

## Holy Trinity

Haley Maass Mathew Landoll

#### Mount St. Mary John Baldridge Melanie Morris

Rebecca Lane

**St. Charles Borromeo** Beth Sprague

# **St. John Nepomuk**Nicole Crumley

**St. Mary, Ponca City** Sarah Hunsaker

#### Fifteen Years

**Bishop John Carroll** Julie Hagen

#### **Bishop McGuinness** Genieve Pezalski

Christ the King
Cari Green
Denise Leonard
Denise Phoenix
Tricia Castro

#### **Sacred Heart, OKC** Rebecca Johnson

**St. Charles Borromeo**Valerie Lassiter

#### Twenty Years

**Bishop McGuinness**Jennifer Collins
Kelly Allen

#### **Catholic Pastoral Center** Diane Floyd

Twenty-Five Years
All Saints
Frank Lawrence

#### **Christ the King** Constance Clark

#### Sacred Heart, OKC Mary Smith

**St. Philip Neri** Brenda Tener

#### **Catholic Pastoral Center** Marcia Dubey

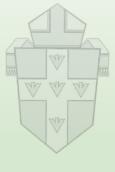
**Thirty Years Bishop McGuinness**Robert Stevenson

#### **Mount St. Mary** Talita DeNegri

# **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**Nancy McCabe

#### Forty-Five Years

#### **Bishop McGuinness** David Morton



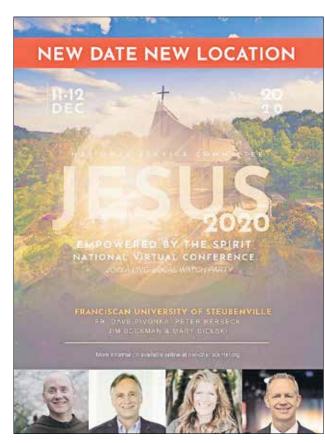
Sooner Catholic Sooner Catholic October 11, 2020 11 10 October 11, 2020

#### Real Life Disciples

# Jesus 2020 Conference

The year 2020 is likely to go down as one of the strangest in all our lifetimes. COVID-19 has taken center stage and threatens to be the highlight that everyone remembers as the year comes to an end. The year also including a presidential election only adds to the drama.

Still, with the election a month away as I write this, I wonder how we possible can take another month of this frenzied political environment. I largely stay away from all the



political drama, though the other day I found a sign that I think I could post in my front yard. It said very simply, Jesus 2020. Now, there's a candidate I can get behind!

The irony is that more than a year ago I was serving on a planning committee for a national conference. We were diligently praying about

the theme for this year's conference. What we came up with was Jesus 2020! At the time, before a global pandemic, and with no cognizant realization that it was a presidential election year, our focus was getting back to the basics.

One of the early explanations of the theme read like this: "Simple, yet powerful. Back to the basics of our faith, proclaiming the name that is above all names (Phil. 2:9). Jesus is the source of our life, he is the truth we so desperately seek, he is the way we are searching for (John 14:6)!

Yet, we recognize we can't fully come to know and understand Jesus, and even say his name without the assistance of the Holy Spirit, for no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit" (I Cor. 12:3).

Now, in the midst of this global health crisis and in the fever-pitch of the final weeks before the election, Jesus 2020 takes on a whole different meaning. In our early planning for the conference, the planning team kept hearing the word from the Lord, "For such a time as this."

Little did we know how prophetic those words would become. We eventually settled on the theme Jesus 2020 because, through prayer, the Lord also kept leading us to the simple yet powerful reality of the Gospel. Jesus is still Lord, no matter what is going on around us, no matter how dismal things may seem, Jesus is Lord and reigns supremely! He reigns over COVID-19, he reigns over this upcoming election and he reigns over our country.

We have partnered with Franciscan University of Steubenville for this event, which will be held Dec. 11-12. The conference will be a 'hybrid" event – a gathered and virtual event at the same time. Our hope is that small groups, prayer groups, renewal centers, parish groups, etc., from across the country will gather in their local area and join us as we live-stream the conference from the campus at Franciscan University in Ohio.

The schedule will allow time for group prayer and discussion as will the live-stream of the general sessions from the speakers: Father

Jobs Box

Pivonka, president of Franciscan University; Peter Herbeck,



Jim Beckman Executive Director of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis

president of Renewal Ministries; Mary Bielski, national speaker; and myself. There even will be TED Talk-style breakout sessions throughout the day on Saturday. We hope for thousands of people to join us from all over the country!

Saturday evening, Dec. 12, which also is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will feature a special separate event called "A Night of Hope." Franciscan University hosted a similar event this past summer and more than 44,000 people attended. It will be a night of prayer, inspiration and hope in the midst of what many would describe as one of the most difficult years in recent history. As this historic year comes to an end, will you consider joining us for Jesus 2020?

On Dec. 11-12, let's cap off this strange yet amazing year with a powerful call to our knees and falling on our faces before our God. Don't let the coronavirus be your greatest memory of this past year, let Jesus be your lasting memory of 2020!

In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, there will be four to five Jesus 2020 gatherings. Local host site locations will be available soon. For more information, go to archokc.org/Je-

"Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:9-11).

# A new Pentecost

"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language" (Acts 2:4-6).

This event will mark the birth of the Catholic Church, the birth of its Catholic identity. It is the diverse context of the Church's birth that reveals not only its Catholic nature and universal mission but reminds us that the gift of the gospel message always comes wrapped in a particular culture and linguistic package. There is no other way because faith builds on

Something similar is happening in the Church in the United States today and, specifically, in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The cultural and linguistic diversity that we're accustomed to in some churches and in large metropolitan areas is now permeating every ministry, parish and movement. More than 40 parishes and mis-

sions in the archdiocese today offer Mass in Spanish. Some even offer religious education programs in Spanish. So, what happens now, when, as in Pentecost, the whole world shows up on the doorstep and wants to come in?

The first thing we have to do is

not to panic. This is not new! In the book of Acts, the first council of Jerusalem is convened because of an integration challenge (Acts 15:5-35). There were questions related to ethnicity and religious practices. But, specifically, the Catholic Church in America always has been shaped by massive waves of immigration, initially from European countries that organized along national parish lines. This helped them to keep their Catholic-ethnic identity. This type of ethnic Catholicism always has been part of the Catholic Church in the United States. In some sense what we are going through today is not new.

However, as the descendants of Euro-Catholic immigrants entered the mainstream of U.S. society, the acceptance of the Church as "American" grew. The melting pot model for dealing with diversity

through assimilation became the general stance of the Church.

Then, the great social move-

ments of the 60s and 70s as well as the religious renewal of Vatican II led to significant changes in how the Church approached cultural and linguistic differences. Unlike the previous models of isolation or assimilation, this model seemed to welcome cultural diversity. Diversity became a blessing to be celebrated and not a problem to be solved, at least ideally.

Under this model we have established Hispanic ministry offices. Almost every diocese in the United States has an office with the specific task of working with Hispanic Catholics. However, and despite its good intentions, it has created other problems. First, it has focused on external cultural elements and not recognized that every group has a culture, including European Americans. Culture and cultural identity are mostly an internal reality encompassing values, beliefs and mindset.

Hispanic ministry has isolated itself from the rest of the Church, considering its Hispanic nature prevalent to its Catholic nature or **Luis Soto** 



identity. Of course, this facilitated the ministry in many ways and made Hispanic ministry offices more efficient dealing with one ethnic group only.

The model has not promoted collaboration between groups and has divided us into several different groups within one Church. Many pastors will often say they feel they are "running two (or more) parishes under one roof."

And, most importantly, the Catholic identity as the common ground for ministry has been forgotten. We have to work on fostering a new Pentecost and avoid perpetuating a state of "Babel."

In all cases, it starts with a deep encounter with the living Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. And, across cultural lines.

#### Sidewalk advocates

Are you interested in becoming a peaceful and prayerful sidewalk advocate? Contact Julie Lewis at norman@golifemobilemedical.com. Find more information at sidewalkadvocates.org.

# Building Your Marriage and Family Life on the Rock Marriage Retreat for Couples min SATURDAY, 9:00am NOVEMBER 7 2020 3:30pm Featuring Keynote Speakers "Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his lesus tells us that if we hear his words and put them into practice we will be building our house upon the rock, But what is the rock? And what are his "words?" Many couples find themselves uniquely challenge these days trying to navigate the tricky waters of modern culture, keep their families together, and striving to keep their kids Catholic while facing a tunami of secularism and conflicting values. This retreat equips couples with practical ideas for how to not only survive but thrive as a couple and as a family! Cost \$50 per couple ■ RSYP by October 31 ■ archokc.org/marriageretreat CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH 8005 DORSET DR. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73120 EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

### "Stories of the Blessed Sacrament"

By John H. Dolezal The Sooner Catholic

"Stories of the Blessed Sacrament," written by Francine Bay and Hengjing Zang, is an easy-toread book designed to "help the reader enter more deeply into the mystery of the Sacrament of the Eucharist." The book seems to be primarily targeted at children, but

from my personal Book experience in reading through the Review brief 95 pages, I enthusiastically

recommend it to all Catholics. The authors have provided 12 fascinating stories that seem to enrich understanding for the personal significance one can enjoy from the beautiful Sacrament of the Eucharist. There is much to be gained from reading this book, whether the reader is a young child or an adult, whether one is inexperienced with the sacrament or well-experienced having participated in the Eucharist many times for many years. While we as Catholics have ample opportunity to learn about the Eucharist through scripture and by participating in religious education, these short, true stories help deepen our awareness for the true

presence of Jesus. From Ch. 1, "The Bread in the Desert," to the final chapter, "The

Secret Ordination at Dachau," the story content and the accompanying, bright illustrations seemed to easily hold my full attention and provide easy personal connection. While I was familiar with some of the stories, there were new ones for me to enjoy (Saint Anthony's Mule for example).

The Second Vatican Council tells us that "the Eucharist is the source and summit of all that we believe (Vatican II, Lumen gentium, No. 11). Our entire faith

> around this small, seem ingly insignificant piece of bread, because we truly believe that this piece of bread is Jesus Christ. It does not merely sym-

is based

bolize, represent or contain the essence of Christ, but rather, it truly IS CHRIST, who becomes present during the Transfiguration so that we may have the opportunity to meet him and enter into communion with him."

The authors have provided us a real gift for strengthening our faith and deepening our appreciation for the mystery of this Blessed Sacrament and I highly recommend this book.

John Dolezal is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

#### Hispanic leadership development coordinator - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City seeks a coordinator for Hispanic Leadership Development. This position will collaborate with and serve as a resource for the offices of Religious Education and Youth and Young Adults in their formation programs with the Hispanic community; work with both the director of the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute as well as the assistant director of Evangelization and Catechesis in articulating formation programs to respond to the leadership development and formation needs of Spanish-speaking Catholics; facilitate meetings, gatherings and parish leadership training activities and assist with recruiting and developing new faculty for the Spanish programs of the institute. Must be fluent in speaking and writing in Spanish and English; have a bachelor's degree or five years of experience; be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church; have several years of parish Hispanic Ministry

experience preferably as catechist and leader; must possess basic computer knowledge; including use of Microsoft Office tools. Submit resume to mmills@archokc.org.

#### Cook - OKC

The Catholic Pastoral Center seeks an experienced cook for a part-time position. Flexible schedule (approximately 25 hours per week), some evening and weekends. Minimum five years' experience in food service. Catering experience preferred. Submit a resume to mmills@archokc.org. Applications available during regular business hours at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City 73132.

#### Classroom substitutes - OKC

The Catholic School of St. Eugene is seeking applicants for an on-call substitute list. Teaching experience is not required. Must pass a background check and have Safe Environment training (or be willing to complete). Please fill out an application at bit.ly/

AOKCTeacherApplication and contact Mrs. Goldsworthy at jobs@ steugeneschool.org. St. Eugene is PreK-8th grade.

#### Mother's Day Out position- OKC

Christ the King Catholic Church is hiring for a part-time position in its Mother's Day Out program. Regular shifts are 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays with occasional evening and weekend shifts. Seeking good communicators who are nurturing and genuinely enjoy working with children. Contact Children's Formation Coordinator Margaret Tunell at (405) 242-4521 or margaret@ckokc.org.

#### Special education teacher - OKC

Christ the King Catholic School is looking for an educator to work with students in the Supplemental Opportunities for Academic Readiness (SOAR) program. A bachelor's degree in education is required along with special education certification. Send resume and cover letter to Amy Feighny, Christ the King Catholic School, 1905 Elmckschool.com. Download teacher application packet at archokc.org/

hurst Ave., OKC 73120; afeighny@

#### Children's minister - Stillwater St. Francis Xavier Catholic

Church, Stillwater, is accepting applications for a full-time children's minister. Experience with Spanish-speaking communities and children with special needs highly valued. Send resume and cover letter to Stacy Humbert, director of evangelization and mission, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 711 N. Country Club Rd., Stillwater 74075; stacy@sfxstillwater.org.

#### Night, weekend direct care staff

The Rose Home is seeking night and weekend direct care staff to assure the well-being and safety of residents (women and children) by ensuring compliance with house expectations. Send resume to dperson@willowpregnancy.org.

To see more job openings, go on*line to www.archokc.org/jobs-box.* 

# El más pequeño de mis hermanos y hermanas

En menos de un mes, los norteamericanos asistiremos a las urnas para elegir a líderes locales, estatales y nacionales, incluyendo al presidente y vicepresidente. Este es una elección que tendrá importantes consecuencias, sea cual sea el resultado. Hay demasiado en

Además del drama que produce todo ciclo electoral, no podemos negar el hecho de que esta elección se lleva a cabo en medio de confusiones sin precedentes. Estamos en medio de una pandemia global que ha reclamado cientos de miles de vidas en los Estados Unidos y más de un millón en todo el mundo. Una pandemia que ha producido además incertidumbre económica y pérdida de empleos en todo el país. Las tensiones raciales, por su parte, han provocado protestas y algunas se han tornado violentas. Los desastres naturales, tales como incendios forestales, huracanes, inundaciones y tornados nos han hecho pensar en la fragilidad de la creación, la cual, como el Papa Francisco nos recuerda, es "nuestro hogar común". El miedo, la descortesía y la división están infectando nuestro mundo a través de la influencia, muchas veces nociva, de las redes sociales.

Por lo tanto, ¿cómo podemos evaluar todos estos factores, y muchos más, al tiempo que nos preparamos a ejercer nuestro valioso derecho al voto como ciudadanos responsables y fieles católicos?

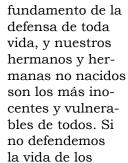
Cada cuatro años, en un esfuerzo por ejercer la misión de enseñar la fe y aplicar principios morales que impacten y guíen las decisiones que tomamos, la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos publica el documento llamado "Ciudadanos Fieles", para ayudarnos a acercarnos a las urnas de una manera que refleje no solamente los intereses de nuestro partido político, sino de manera especial nuestra fe católica.

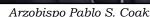
En la versión del año 2020 del documento Ciudadanos Fieles, los obispos escriben: "Para todos los católicos, incluyendo aquellos que buscan ser elegidos para una posición púbica, la participación en partidos políticos o en otros grupos debe ser influenciada por nuestra fe, y no al revés." Nuestra manera de entender los asuntos actuales debe ser guiada por nuestra identidad como seguidores de Cristo, y como hermanos y hermanas de todos aquellos que han sido creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios.

Sin duda que hay muchos asuntos que tienen peso moral e importancia social, sin embargo, no todos ellos merecen la misma atención y cuidado. Así que, ¿por dónde debemos comenzar? Los obispos de los Estados Unidos reafirmaron este año que "la amenaza del aborto continúa siendo una prioridad preeminente, porque ataca directamente a la vida misma, porque sucede bajo el santuario de la familia y por el número de vidas que destruye." En pocas palabras, no hay ningún otro asunto social que represente un reto más grande a la dignidad y a la vida humana que el aborto.

Al día de hoy, más de 60 millones de niños no nacidos han muerto por causa del aborto en los Estados Unidos desde el año 1973. (Se practicaron 862,000 abortos en el 2017, de acuerdo con el Instituto Guttmacher). El aborto directo es un mal intrínseco, lo cual significa que el quitarle la vida a un niño no nacido inocente, sean cuales sean las circunstancias, es siempre y en todo lugar, moralmente incorrecto. La protección de la vida inocente es el

defensa de toda vida, y nuestros hermanos y herson los más inocentes y vulnerables de todos. Si no defendemos





más inocentes, nuestra defensa y lucha por los derechos de cualquier otra persona humana, será inauténtica. Ciertamente que aun cuando hayamos propiamente considerado el impacto que nuestro voto tendrá en los niños no nacidos, no habremos hecho todo lo que debemos

El respeto a la vida comienza con la concepción y se extiende hasta la muerte natural. No es uno u otro. Son ambos. Debemos también luchar por los derechos de los pobres, los inmigrantes, los marginados de nuestra sociedad. Tenemos la obligación de defender los derechos de todos sin importar su raza, sexo, grupo étnico o religión, y de proteger la libertad para vivir lo que creemos dentro y fuera de los cuatro muros de nuestras iglesias. Tenemos la responsabilidad de cuidar nuestra casa común y pensar en los que vendrán después de nosotros. Debemos preocuparnos por los encarcelados y condenados, porque es a todos ellos que Jesús vino a proclamar la

Buena Noticia y con quienes se identificó. Como dijo Jesús cuando hablaba del juicio final, "¡cuanto hiciste o dejaste de hacer por el más pequeño de mis hermanos o hermanas lo hiciste, o dejaste de hacer, por mí!" (cf. Mt 25,

Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

# El Arzobispo Coakley mueve la edad de la Confirmación a la escuela secundaria (middle school)

Las directrices para su implementación en el otoño del 2021 y del 2022, estarán disponibles a más tardar el 1 de mayo

OKLAHOMA CITY – El Arzobispo Paul Coakley anunció 29 de septiembre que ha decidido cambiar la edad para recibir el sacramento de la Confirmación en la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City.

La preparación para el sacramento se hará en un año, en lugar de dos, y se llevará a cabo durante la Confirmación a una edad más el sexto o séptimo grado escolar, en lugar de hacerlo durante la preparatoria (high school), como hasta ahora

El Secretariado para la Evangelización v la Catequesis asistirá a las parroquias en la implementación de este cambio, el cual será efectivo a partir del otoño del 2022. No habrá ningún cambio en

La decisión de mover la edad de joven se da después de meses de oración y diálogos con sacerdotes, personal parroquial y padres de familia, y busca promover una me-

Vive el Viola
Evangelio de la MES RESPETEMOS LA VIDA Octubre de 2020

jora en la pastoral juvenil y servir mejor a las familias.

"Todos debemos reflexionar profundamente sobre nuestra Iglesia y las necesidades de la juventud, particularmente a la luz de la cultura moderna y de todos los retos puntuales que enfrentamos hoy. Necesitamos equipar a nuestros jóvenes con las gracias a su alcance. Desafortunadamente hay muchos jóvenes en preparatoria que han sido bautizados y recibieron la Primera Comunión, pero que nunca fueron confirmados, dejándolos sin el don de la fortaleza que nos brinda el sacramento de la Confirmación", dijo el Arzobispo Coakley.

"Comúnmente se ve la Confirmación como una opción para convertirnos en adultos en la Iglesia.

Como sacramento que es, Dios nos ofrece la confirmación con un don gratuito que consiste más en Dios confirmándonos como sus hijos, que nosotros confirmando nuestra fe en Dios. De ahora en adelante, concentrémonos en apovar a nuestras familias v a los padres de familia, y en implementar iniciativas profundas e intencionales de formación y pastoral juvenil. Agradezco a todos los que han estado involucrados en este desafío y a todos aquellos que estarán involucrados en la implementación de las directrices en los próximos meses"

En el verano del 2019, el Arzobispo Coakley creó un grupo de trabajo para revisar las directrices de preparación sacramental y hacer recomendaciones sobre la edad a la que debería administrarse el sacramento de la Confirmación. El grupo de trabajo estaba formado por directores de educación religiosa, directores de escuela, sacerdotes, ministros de pastoral juvenil, diáconos, padres de familia y personal arquidiocesano.

continúa en la página 13

# Un nuevo Pentecostés

Sooner Catholic

"Quedaron todos llenos del Espíritu Santo y se pusieron a hablar en otras lenguas, según el Espíritu les concedía expresarse. Había en Jerusalén hombres piadosos, que allí residían, venidos de todas las naciones que hay bajo el cielo. Al producirse aquel ruido la gente se congregó y se llenó de estupor al oírles hablar cada uno en su propia lengua." (Hch 2, 4-6)

Este evento marcará el nacimiento de la Iglesia Católica, el nacimiento de su identidad católica. Es el contexto diverso del nacimiento de la Iglesia el que nos revela no solamente su naturaleza católica y su misión universal, sino que también nos recuerda que el regalo del evangelio viene siempre envuelto en una cultura particular y en un lenguaje específico. No puede ser de otra manera, porque la fe se construye sobre la naturaleza.

Algo similar sucede con la Iglesia de los Estados Unidos hoy en día y, de manera específica, en la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City. La diversidad cultural que estábamos acostumbrados a ver en solamente algunas Iglesias y grandes áreas metropolitanas es ahora parte de todo ministerio, parroquia y movimiento. Más de 40 parroquias y misiones en la arquidiócesis ofrecen hoy misa en español. Algunas ofrecen también programas de educación religiosa en español. Por lo tanto, ¿qué sucede ahora cuando, como en Pentecostés, el mundo entero se aglomera a las puertas y quiere entrar?

Lo primero que debemos hacer es no asustarnos. ¡No es algo nuevo! En el libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, se convoca al primer concilio de Jerusalén precisamente por un reto de integración (Hch 15, 5-35). Se tenían dudas relacionadas con la etnicidad y las prácticas re-

ligiosas. De manera específica, la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos siempre ha sido tocada por diversas ondas migratorias, inicialmente de países europeos que se organizaron al llegar en parroquias nacionales. Esto les ayudó a conservar su etnicidad e identidad católica. Este tipo de catolicismo ha sido siempre parte de la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos. De alguna manera lo que experimentamos ahora no es nuevo.

Sin embargo, cuando los descendientes de los primeros inmigrantes católicos europeos se asimilaron a la sociedad norteamericana, la aceptación de la Iglesia como "americana" creció. El concepto del "melting pot" (crisol de culturas) se hizo prevalente al tratarse de la diversidad cultural a lo largo y ancho de la Iglesia.

Después, los movimientos sociales de los 60's y 70's, así como la renovación religiosa del Concilio Vaticano II, nos llevaron a cambios significativos en la manera en que la Iglesia enfrentó la diversidad cultural y lingüística. A diferencia del modelo de aislamiento anterior, este buscaba promover y dar la bienvenida a la diversidad cultural. La diversidad se convirtió en una bendición que debía ser celebrada y no un problema que debía ser resuelto, al menos de manera ideal.

Bajo este modelo es que se establecieron las oficinas de ministerio hispano. Casi todas las diócesis de los Estados Unidos tienen hoy en día una oficina que se dedica al trabajo con la comunidad hispana-católica. Sin embargo, y aun a pesar de sus buenas intenciones, este modelo ha creado otros problemas. Primero que nada, se ha concentrado en los aspectos

les externos y no ha reconque todo tiene una

ocido

grupo

cultura,

incluy-

**Luis Soto** Subdirector Ejecutivo del Secretariado de Evangelización y Catequesis

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endo los europeos americanos. La cultura y la identidad cultural son, mayormente, una realidad interna que incluye valores, creencias y manera de

El ministerio hispano se ha aislado del resto de la Iglesia y ha considerado su identidad hispana como prevalente a su identidad católica. Por supuesto, este enfoque ha hecho que el ministerio con hispanos sea más fácil y eficiente, dado que solo se tiene que trabajar con un solo grupo étnico.

El modelo no ha promovido la colaboración entre los diversos grupos y nos ha dividido en muchos grupos dentro de una sola Iglesia. Muchos párrocos afirman que sienten que están a cargo de "dos parroquias (o más) bajo un solo techo".

Y, más importante aun, la identidad católica como base común para todo ministerio, ha sido olvidada. Debemos trabajar en promover un nuevo pentecostés y evitar perpetuar un estado de "Babel".

En cualquier caso, todo comienza con un encuentro profundo con Jesucristo vivo, quien es el mismo ayer, hoy y siempre. Y en todas las

#### continuado de la página 12

El Consejo Presbiteral también revisó las directrices y a todos los sacerdotes se les dio la oportunidad de ofrecer sus puntos de vista sobre los distintos aspectos de la Confirmación, y cómo debería implementarse en las parroquias.

El Secretariado de Evangelización y Catequesis trabajará en lo

que resta del año en desarrollar opciones y directrices, tomando en cuenta las necesidades particulares de nuestras parroquias. Las opciones y directrices serán enviadas a los párrocos a más tardar el 1 de mayo, para que puedan ser implementadas en el otoño

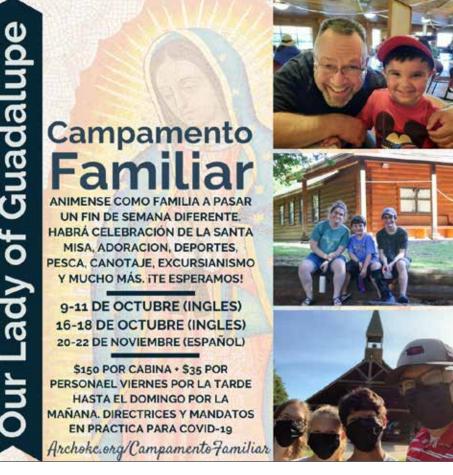
del 2021 o del 2022. El proceso

de transición incluirá iniciativas para mejorar la pastoral juvenil en edad de la escuela secundaria y la preparatoria, así como opciones para la administración del sacramento de la Confirmación a los jóvenes cuya edad se encuentre en la brecha entre la edad anterior y la nueva.

Toda la información sobre la Confirmación y las nuevas directrices arquidiocesanas se encontrarán disponibles en archokc.org/ confirmation tan pronto como estén listas para su implementación.

Para inscribirse para recibir el sacramento de la Confirmación, visite la oficina de su parroquia.





# **Briefs**

Please contact event or meeting organizers before attending.

#### Mask requirement in place

Until further notice, Archbishop Coakley has issued a mandatory requirement for masks to be worn for all public Masses in the archdiocese. For more information or to read the "Letter to the Faithful," go online to archokc.org/mass.

#### New safe environment training

The archdiocese announced a new training program for volunteers, staff members and clergy that will be required before working with minors in the diocese's Catholic churches or schools. Visit archokc.org/safe-environment.

#### Shrine webcam

Watch construction of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on a live webcam at archokc.org/ shrinewebcam.

#### Watch Heritage Gallery episodes on Bl. Stanley Rother

The Communications Office of the archdiocese has produced a series of short videos to highlight items in the Heritage Gallery related to Bl. Stanley Rother. Watch each episode on YouTube or Facebook. Find Episode 1 at https:// youtu.be/0HX1iDrM8zg. To support the building of a museum at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, go online to stanleyrother.org.

#### Rother documentary, beatification available on DVD

The DVD set of the Beatification Mass of Bl. Stanley Rother and the official Emmy-nominated documentary, "An Ordinary Martyr," are online at rotherstore.com or call (405) 721-5651, Ext. 114.

#### Online Mass Tuesdays

Join Archbishop Coakley and

priests of the archdiocese for online daily Mass at 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday from the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Mass will be livestreamed at archokc.org/live, You-Tube Live and on Facebook Live.

#### **COVID-19, live Mass information**

Find a list of online daily and Sunday Masses, Procedures for Resuming Ministries, prayers, an act of spiritual communion and other resources related to the quarantine and coronavirus at archokc. org/health, archokc.org/mass or archokc.org/digitalresources.

#### Support your parish

With public Masses not at full capacity, parishes and priests still need financial support from parishioners. Find online giving links and mailing addresses for your parish at archokc.org/parishgiving.

#### Study guides available!

Archbishop Coakley encourages all clergy and lay people to spend time studying the latest pastoral letter, "Go Make Disciples! Building a Culture of Conversion and Discipleship for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City" with the help of new study guides in English and Spanish. The letter and pastoral plan lay out the vision for the archdiocese through 2030. Find the pastoral letter and study guides at archokc.org/Vision2030.

#### 40 Days for Life

The 40 Days for Life campaign is Sept. 23 - Nov. 1. There are locations in Edmond, Norman and Oklahoma City. Sign up at 40daysforlife.com. Contact respectlife@archokc.org.

#### Youth, young adult events

The Youth, Young Adult and Campus Evangelization and Disci-

#### Sr. Clara Smith, A.S.C.

Sister Clara Smith, A.S.C., who taught grade school for four decades before finding her heart in prison ministry, died Sept. 22 at the Caritas Center in Wichita. She was 94.

Sr. Clara had been a professed member of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ for 78 years. She was born on Feb. 12, 1926, in Spearville, Kan., the sixth of 12 children born to Andrew and Mary Elizabeth (Tepe) Smith. Influenced by her teachers and an aunt who had joined the congregation, Clara entered the community in 1940, the novitiate a year later, who seek comfort in a time of taking the name Mary Florentine. Later, she reclaimed her baptismal name of Clara.

She received a bachelor's degree in education in 1959 from Sacred Heart College, now Newman University, in Wichi-

Florentine, she taught elementary school for 44 years in Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, New Mexico and Texas, and sometimes served

ta. As Sister



as principal. She was New Mexico's corrections employee of the year in 2001 for inspiring "those who are in need of hope and those despair and pain." Even after retirement in 2005 when she returned to the Wichita Center, she kept in touch with the men through letters.

The Mass of the Resurrection was held Sept. 25.

pleship Office has many upcoming events such as a volleyball tournament, Halloween block party, family camp and more. Visit archokc. org/youth-young-adult or www. facebook.com/archokcYACampus.

#### **Mass for Medical Professionals**

Archbishop's Mass for Medical Professionals will be at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. Reception to follow. Speaker: Sr. Mary Rachel Nerbun, R.S.M., M.D., St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa.

#### **Anniversary Mass**

Archbishop Coakley invites married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 40, 50+) in the calendar year 2020 to participate in the annual Anniversary Mass that will be livestreamed at 3 p.m. Oct. 18 in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Register with the Office of Marriage and Family Life at (405) 709-2709 or lcarrasco@archokc.org. Couples are asked to send in a picture of themselves to be shown on the live-stream.

#### Walk for Willow

Join Willow Pregnancy Support Oct. 18 - Nov. 3 for their fall fundraiser Walk for Willow 2020, a virtual step-bet competition. Participants will track their steps through a mobile app and can walk or run from anywhere at any time during the weeks of the competition. Visit willowpregnancy.org or e-mail jfritz@willowpregnancy.org.

#### Zoom and See

The Adrian Dominican Sisters will host a virtual Zoom and See Weekend Oct. 23-24 for women discerning whether they are called to religious life – and particularly to life as a Dominican Sister of Adrian. Register at tinyurl.com/ ADSDiscern. Contact Sister Tarianne DeYonker, O.P., vocation co-director, at tdeyonker@adriandominicans.org; (517) 920-1395.

#### Day of Reflection

A Day of Reflection: "A Day of Silence at the Abbey" with Br.

bird discount \$30; \$35 at the door, includes lunch. Contact (405) 878-5656, retreats@monksok.org. **Red Mass** Archbishop Coakley will celebrate

Damian Whalen, O.S.B., will be

8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Oct. 24, at St.

Gregory's Abbey in Shawnee. Early

a Red Mass for Legal Professionals at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 29 at St. Thomas More University Parish in Norman. Reception to follow. Speaker: Teresa Collett, J.D., University of St. Thomas School of Law.

#### **CRS** chapters

Catholic Relief Services is building a network of CRS chapters to equip and empower volunteers to become champions for the families and communities that CRS serves, leading the way to a more just and peaceful world. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is hosting a Come and See meeting via Zoom 9 a.m. -10 a.m. Nov. 7. This workshop will enable participants to learn about the importance of chapters in the work of CRS, especially in support of its two major campaigns on hunger and on refugees and migration. For additional information or to learn more, subscribe to the CRS flocknote at archokc. flocknote.com/CatholicReliefSe.

#### Ladies Auxiliary raffle

The St. Mark Council 12108 Ladies Auxiliary is having a raffle to help fund their scholarship programs. Tickets \$10 each from an auxiliary member or at www. kofc12108.org. Drawing will be held at the Made with Love Craft Fair, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Nov. 14 at St. Mark Catholic Church, 3939 W. Tecumseh Rd. in Norman.

#### **Surviving Divorce**

A 14-week Surviving Divorce class starts Nov. 16 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang. Contact Brenda Arambula, (405) 822-1803, survivingdivorceok@ gmail.com.

#### Thanksgiving dinner cancelled

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bison has cancelled its annual community Thanksgiving dinner.



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### 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.

#### October

- 11 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- **11** Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., 2453 Wilcox Dr., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@ gmail.com.
- 12 Columbus Day.
- 13 Daily Mass live-streamed from St. Francis de Sales Chapel, 11:30 a.m., archokc. org/live, Facebook Live, You-Tube Live.
- **14** Feast of St. Callistus I.
- **14** Catholic War Veterans USA the Oklahoma Memorial Post No. 168 will meet at 7 p.m., Sunnylane Family Reception Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact (405) 739-0036, OklaPost168@cox.net. Masks and social distancing required.
- **15** Feast of St. Teresa of Jesus.
- 15 Archbishop's Mass for Medical Professionals, 6:30 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC.
- **15** Charismatic Catholic prayer meeting, 7 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center. Contact

- Elaine at (405) 358-3610, ccrprayers@gmail.com.
- 16 Feast of St. Hedwig.
- **17** Feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch.
- **17** Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. Nine days of novenas to the Infant Jesus of Prague.
- 17 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 at (405) 637-4611 or William Ginn at (405) 737-2024.
- 17 The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of St. Teresa of Calcutta, meeting at St. Ann Independent Living, OKC. Mass 9:30 a.m. in the St. Joachim Chapel; meeting 10 a.m. - Noon. Contact Toni Harrelson, (405) 341-2199, (405) 694-1292.
- **18** Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- **18** Archbishop's Anniversary Mass live-streamed, 3 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center.
- 18 Walk for Willow, fundraiser for Willow Pregnancy Sup-

- port, Oct. 18 Nov. 3. Visit willowpregnancy.org.
- **18** Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., 2453 Wilcox Dr., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@ gmail.com.
- **19** Feast of Sts. John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions.
- **20** Feast of St. Paul of the Cross.
- **20** Serra Club meeting, 10:30 a.m., via Zoom and at the Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC. Visit serraokc.org.
- **20** Daily Mass live-streamed from St. Francis de Sales Chapel, 11:30 a.m., archokc.org/live, Facebook Live, YouTube Live.

- 20 Suicide grief support group, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., St. Francis, 1901 N.W. 18, OKC.
- **22** Feast of St. John Paul II.
- **22** Charismatic Catholic prayer meeting, 7 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center. Contact Elaine at (405) 358-3610, ccrprayers@gmail.com.
- **23** Feast of St. John of Capistrano.
- **24** Feast of St. Anthony Mary Claret.
- **24** Day of Reflection "A Day of Silence at the Abbey" with Br. Damian Whalen, O.S.B., 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., St. Gregory's Abbey, Shawnee.







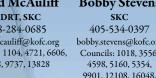
**Kevin Pierce** Regional Agency Executive Consultant General Agent SKC Office: 877-707-0752 Cell: 405-514-7660

kevin.pierce@kofc.org











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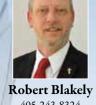








Michael Dalby 405-638-1274 michael.dalby@kofc.org Councils: 965, 1287, 2604, 4889, 5168, 8523, 9900, 11648, 11909, 12819, 12382







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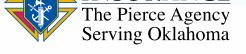












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# When you give, you help people in need.

# YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION



174 homeless women visiting Sanctuary Women's Development Centers were placed in housing.

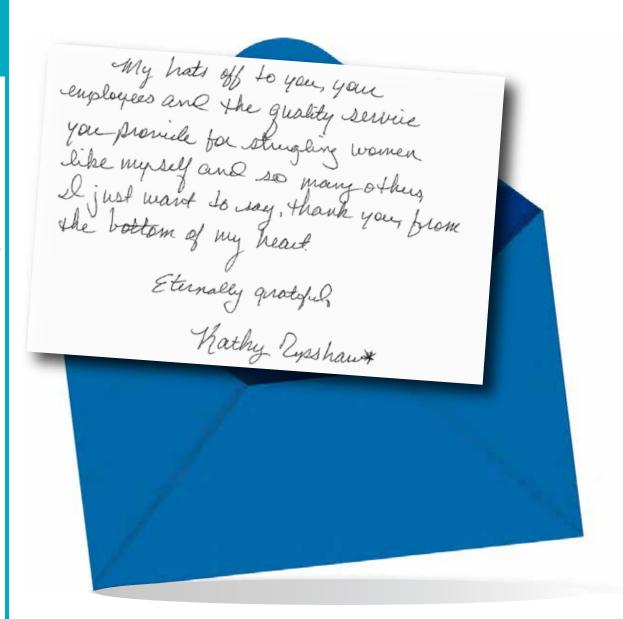


3414 snack packs were distributed.



2558 hours of infant care were provided by our foster parents.

OI would like information about planned giving.



Please visit givetocc.org

Contact Information Gift \$	Payment Options  □ Option 1 − Credit Card □ AmEx □ DSC	□ Option 2 − Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)
Title First Name Middle Initial Last Nam	Card Number CSV	By signing below, I authorize Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Inc. to debit the amount indicated on the other side according to the selected payment schedule from the below account.
Address	Name on Card	*Important: Voided check must be attached for processing. -
City State ZI	By signing below, I agree to pay the amount indicated on the reverse side according to the selected payment schedule, pursuant to card issuer agreement.	Account Holder Name
Mobile		Name of Financial Institution
	Signature Date	- City State
Email	Please check preferred withdrawal date: □1st □15th	
Parish OI would like my gift to remain anonymous.	_ □ Option 3 – Cash, Check or Money Order	Please check preferred withdrawal date: □1st □15th
O I would like information regarding a gift through my IRA.	Make checks payable to:  Catholic Charities Annual Appeal 2020	□ Option 4 - Online Giving  Please visit givetocc org