Recently, a new business has been graciouslying the art community of Oklahoma City, offering a variety of items including stationary, magnets and prints – with a decidedly Catholic influence, all sold online from a home in northwest Oklahoma City.

Stephen and Leigha Liuzza are the proprietors of Zelie Creative Co. Leigha is the co-founder with sister, Julia Price, who serves as a graphic designer. Stephen is a physical therapist and serves as CFO and COO of the company. The business was named after Saint Zélie Guérin Martin, the mother of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. “She was a devoted wife and mother, focused mostly on leading her family to Christ. Leigha and her sister, Julia, really connect with that priority,” explained Stephen. “Secondly, she was a lace-maker and small-business owner. So, to call her our patron seems right since she’s also a creative spirit.”

The Liuzzas are members of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. It was at Saint Eugene that the couple met, although Stephen is originally from New Orleans. His father relocated to Oklahoma City for his medical career, and Stephen soon followed, after graduating from Louisiana State University. “My father took a job doing hospital administration, and after graduating, I moved home to live with my parents, and save money,” said Stephen.

Leigha added, “We met at church, and the rest is history.” Stephen would later finish his physical therapy education at Langston University. The couple soon started a family together, with Stephen in his physical therapy role, and Leigha as an art teacher at Mount Saint Mary.
The following events are part of Archbishop Coakley's official calendar.

- **November 13, 2022**
  - Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC

- **Nov. 22**
  - Confirmation, 3 p.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Okarche
  - USCCB general meeting, Baltimore

- **Nov. 27**
  - 60th Anniversary Mass, 10 a.m., St. Andrew Catholic Church, Moore
  - Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC

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The witness of Scripture is clear that gratitude is a daily duty of those who follow Christ. The same attitude we have on Thanksgiving Day, in which we call to mind the blessings we have received, ought to be our attitude every single day of our lives, in every circumstance in which we find ourselves. This poses a challenge to each of us: How do I continue to see the sense of gratitude with which I am called to live constantly as a Christian disciple? I would like to offer two very simple ways in which we can foster this virtue of thanksgiving or gratitude in our daily lives.

The first is to make a daily examination of our lives. At the end of your day, before you go to bed, spend a little time looking back at your day. On hour by hour and recall the events of your day. As you do so, search in your memory for the ways in which the Lord worked in your life. Whether it be through a good conversation with a friend or one of our beautiful Oklahoma sunsets or a particular word you received from the Lord while praying with Scripture.

God is constantly bestowing blessings upon us. In everything that happens in our lives, it is possible to discern the hand of God inviting us closer to himself. This daily habit of prayerfully examining how God has been present and active in our lives will open our hearts to recognize him more clearly. It also will foster a greater sense of wonder and gratitude as we live our lives each day.

A second thing we can do to foster thankfulness is found again in Sacred Scripture. In Psalm 116, we pray, “How can I repay the Lord for the good done for me? I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord” (Ps 116:12,17). When I was ordained a priest, my parents gave me a beautiful chalice as an ordination gift. I had those words engraved on the chalice as a reminder to be thankful always.

Eucharist means thanksgiving. The celebration of the Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life” (Lumen Gentium 11). Every day at Mass, the Christian faithful throughout the world gather to celebrate the Eucharist and participate in the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. What better way is there to foster a eucharistic heart, a heart filled with gratitude? In the Paschal Mystery of Christ that brings us the blessings we have received, ought to be acknowledged every single day of our lives. In this way, we can foster a greater sense of wonder and gratitude as we live our lives each day.

This is the story of Promise Ekpe and his brother.

Promising beginning.

Promise Ekpe was born in Nigeria, United States for several years. Then, he was diagnosed with a rare genetic disease. The disease is called Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) and Aplastic Anemia. Both are caused by a gene mutation, and in cases as severe as Promise’s, the only treatment is a bone marrow transplant from a compatible donor.

According to the Institute of Justice, 75% of people of African American descent requiring a bone marrow transplant perished as a result of not finding a compatible donor. There was not a single match in the bone marrow registry for Promise.

All of Promise’s family voluntarily went through the process of becoming a stem cell donor. However, his brother was a match. Promise’s brother lived in Nigeria. His daily life is in devotion to others. He works at a boarding school in Nigeria, helping to shape the minds of young people. His education for his family and spends all his free time caring for his brother. When Promise’s brother traveled to the United States for several years.

**Archbishop Paul S. Coakley**

Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

Loving God, you are the source of all blessing. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to recognize the blessings you have placed in our lives and help us to be grateful for all that we have received. For people who travel, grant safe passage and good health. For people who will not see family or friends, grant the solace of your loving presence. Make us one in your love, as you are one, God, forever and ever. Amen.

**Archdiocese of Oklahoma City**

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

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**Archbishop Coakley's Calendar**

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

- **November 13, 2022**
  - USCBC Divine Worship committee, 12:30 p.m., Baltimore
  - USCRC Religious Liberty committee, 6 p.m., Baltimore

- **November 14 – 17, 2022**
  - USCBC general meeting, Baltimore

- **November 18**
  - Wine tasting supporting Catholic education, 6 p.m., private residence

- **November 20**
  - Confirmation, 3 p.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Okarche

- **November 22**
  - Archdiocesan Building Committee, 9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
  - Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC

- **November 23**
  - Archdiocesan Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
  - Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC

- **November 27**
  - CPC offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

- **November 28, 2022**
  - 60th Anniversary Mass, 10 a.m., St. Andrew Catholic Church, Moore

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**Visit the Sick – The story of Promise Ekpe and his brother**

**“Christ has no body but yours, no hands no feet on earth but yours”**

As construction of the IL Stanley Rother Shrine is finishing up, and people are preparing for the dedication events, the shrine itself is also being built up. In October, Vany Basulto joined the shrine team, and she will serve as the manager of the gift shop and museum.

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Community organizers meet with Pope Francis, Vatican officials

By Fr. Tim Luschen

On Friday, Oct. 14, several leaders of the Industrial Areas Foundation network had the rare opportunity to visit with Pope Francis at the Vatican. I was fortunate to be part of this group as pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Oklahoma City and leader of the local IAF organization, VOICE.

I was among the group of the internally delegated of 20 leaders and organizers from the West/ SouthWest Industrial Areas Foundation. We met with the Holy Father to share our collective work of broad-based organizing at a time when Pope Francis is engaging the global church in the historic Synod listening process.

The Holy Father sat side-by-side with us in his residence. What ensued was a true dialogue, a 90-minute conversation in Spanish with lots of back-and-forth engagement. The encounter was filled with many profound moments about both the joys and the struggles of organizing work, and the work of the Church, past, present and to come.

This invitation to meet was in large part due to the recognition of our work by local bishops, in particular those involved with the Recognizing the Stranger strategy, which is dedicated to formation and leadership development of immigrant parishes. As well, our involvement to support the Synod process in multiple discourses has helped to bring those in the margins to the center of the synodal dialogue.

As the leaders shared experiences of organizing, we were struck by how carefully he listened, asked questions, and engaged with lots of humor.

Early on, the Pope reflected, “Usaron mucho las palabras ‘ver’ que ninguno de ustedes es parte de algo teorico. Ninguno dice ‘yo lees y me interesao.’” (“You constantly use the words ‘to see’ and ‘to listen.’ I am impressed that none of you start with any theory. No one says ‘I read a book and I am interested.’”) “El peligro es intelectualizar el problema.” (“The danger is when you intellectualize a problem.”)

Pope Francis emphasized the importance of being with people and paying attention to their reality, emphasizing “Amor Concreto,” love concretely in action, saying that he understood our work as seeing and hearing of injustice in the real lives of people, acting to change the situations and seeing ourselves as a result.

He expressed his appreciation for the focus on what the leaders are doing, rather than to complain about what is not being done or to disparage anyone. “Ustedes no menoscapan a nadie.”

Before concluding our meeting, he thanked us for the visit, saying that although he had never known of IAF before, he was glad that he knew us now and he welcomed further conversation around our continuing work with the Synod process.

Above: Leaders of the Industrial Areas Foundation network met with Pope Francis in October.

Left: Fr. Tim Luschen, pastor at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, met Pope Francis on Oct. 14 at the Vatican.

Photos provided.

Fr. Tim Luschen is a priest of the Diocese of Oklahoma City, pastor at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, and leader of the local IAF organization, VOICE. He was one of the 20 leaders and organizers from the West/Southwest Industrial Areas Foundation who met with Pope Francis at the Vatican on Oct. 14.

The Sooner Catholic
5 November 13, 2022

Sooner Catholic
5 November 13, 2022

From the Archives ... 

A photo serves from George Ripant, archdiocesan archivist

Br. Dominic Lambert standing to the right of Fr. Isidore Robert with the Mercy Sisters.

Dom Isidore’s companion on his many travels throughout the state until the Prefect’s resignation in 1886. Brother Dominic returned to Sacred Heart to become the master of the wine cellar, as his wines provided what was necessary for sacramental wine and consecration at the altar. This was his work until he decided to return to Europe in 1912 to the Abbey at Kain in Belgium, where he died three years later. As the integral part to one of the most prominent figures in the history of the Church in Oklahoma, Brother Dominic Lambert is one of the lesser-known figures of this critical time and fulfilled his duties while being faithful to the Benedictine credo “Ora et Labora” (pray and work).

B etter Dominic Lambert, OSB, was a Benedictine monk to the very beginnings of the Church in Oklahoma as the traveling companion, and assistant, to Father Isidore Robert. The monks came to the state from France to establish the faith in what was most uncharted mission territory. Brother Dominic’s story is unique, so that he served as a Papal Zouave until he took the veil as a Benedictine and became a monk in the Papal States and Rome from the Italian Nationalists in the 1860s. He became a member of a strict-observance Benedictine monastery at Fiere-quivire in France, making his profession in 1870. His experience and physical prowess made him the obvious choice to accompany the less robust Robot.

Embarking from New Orleans, they spent time in Louisiana where Brother Dominic contracted yellow fever. Extremely ill, he battled through the disease that killed thousands, and with Father Isidore, finally arrived in Atoka on Oct. 12, 1875.

With the generosity of the Pokotahosti tribe, the monastery of Sacred Heart was founded near Konawa. Father Isidore had been appointed Prefect Apostolic of the Territory to oversee the expansion of the Church in Oklahoma. The ever-resourceful Brother Lambert helped to build the first log structure at Sacred Heart in 1877. He continued to serve as a spiritual leader and pastor in Oklahoma until his death on July 23, 1886.
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to hold collection to aid Catholic aging religious

OKLAHOMA CITY — The National Religious Retirement Office announces that on Dec. 10-11, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will hold the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection in parishes throughout the archdiocese.

Last year, parishioners of the archdiocese donated $101,401.98 to the collection. In 2022, the Benedictine Fathers received a total of $33,131.47 in financial support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious.

About the upcoming collection, NRRO Executive Director Sister Stephanie Still, a member of the Sisters of the Presentation of San Francisco, said, “The care of our aging religious presents an enormous financial responsibility. It is our privilege to care for those who gave a lifetime of tireless service, and I feel we are deeply blessed by all the U.S. Catholic donors who have steadfastly contributed to this fund.”

Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests — known collectively as women and men religious — served for little to no pay. With rising health-care expenses, hundreds of U.S. religious communities face a large gap between the needs of their older members and the funds available to support their care. As a result, many now lack adequate retirement savings.

The 2022 appeal raised nearly $28.5 million, and the NRRO distributed funding to 271 U.S. religious communities. Donations also underwrite resources that help religious communities improve elder care plans and provide for long-term retirement needs.


The Catholic Church here is healthy and growing, and that’s not the case as much in some parts of the country,” said Archbishop Coakley. “Your gifts will help parishes, schools and other ministries for years to come.”

If anyone has provided a gift in their will to support their parish or other Church ministry, let the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma know. Supporters will be enrolled in the Bishop Meerschaert Legacy Society and will be invited to future society activities. Visit cfook.org/legacysociety or call (405) 721-4115.

The legacy society is named for Theophile Meerschaert, the first Catholic bishop in Oklahoma. Meerschaert was named Vicar Apostolic of Indian Territory in 1891. During the next 32 years, he established parishes, appointed pastors and recruited religious sisters to staff schools and hospitals.

Archbishop Coakley noted during the luncheon that Meerschaert’s work put the Church in Oklahoma on solid ground, and that estate gifts from those in attendance will help the Church in the future.

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On Nov. 2, All Souls Day, St. Barbara Joseph Foley, Fr. Rex Arnold, two members of the Order of Malta and Resurrection Cemetery staff interred the first cremated remains into a crypt purchased by St. Barbara Joseph at Resurrection Memorial Cemetery in Oklahoma City. The crypt will be the final resting place for the cremated remains of those who had no family to provide a proper burial, including those who were orphaned and those who didn’t have the means to pay for a proper burial. Fr. Arnold, chaplain of St. BJ’s Pantry, a ministry to homeless men and women in Oklahoma City, blessed the space and interred the remains of two individuals. The first was Claude Boswell, a homeless gentleman who St. BJ’s Pantry worked with during his life. The second individual was a man who died in 2008, was cremated and never claimed by his family. Both now have a proper burial.

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Together in Holiness conference help couples discover God’s plan for their marriages

continued from page 1

Many couples, ranging from newly engaged couples to couples who have been married for more than 30 years, gathered for Mass and a marriage decidedly engaging presentations, reconciliation, and eucharistic adoration.

The Together in Holiness Conference also allowed couples to socialize with other Catholic couples. During his homily, Archbishop Coakley discussed countercultural scripture passages and stressed the importance of understanding what the pattern of a Christian life is. “Spouses and wives should be subordinate to one another out of reverence to Christ,” exhorted Archbishop Coakley, quoting scripture. “The pattern of the Christian life is to become a gift for others and to receive a gift from others.”

Archbishop Coakley, quoting scripture, explained that the Christian family is subordinate to one another out of reverence to Christ, “reminds us that we will be judged on the religious migration of our families,” said Schimpf. “In the end, what will be important is, ‘did you help your family get to heaven?’” After the panel discussion, couples were encouraged to spend time in prayer together and to participate in the sacrament of reconciliation.

The final speaker of the conference was author Haley Stewart. She discussed the importance of intergenerational living in the home. The first Together in Holiness Conference concluded with closing comments and a sending forth.

Learn more about the Saint John Paul II Foundation, speaking about the Eucharistic Form of Life. “We are called to integrate the sacraments into our daily lives, which is why the eucharist must become the very form of our lives,” explained Millare.

Alexander Schimpf, director of Marriage and Family Life Ministry for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, spoke on a panel discussing the meaning of the domestic church. He emphasized the Christian family as being the first place of education in prayer. The domestic church “reminds us that we will be judged on the religious migration of our families,” said Schimpf. “In the end, what will be important is, ‘did you help your family get to heaven?’”

The Together in Holiness Conference help couples discover God’s plan for their marriages.
Parishioners at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church in Harrah and St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in McLoud celebrated the Feast Day of St. Teresa of Avila on Oct. 16. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Deva Undralla and Rt. Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B., abbot of St. Gregory’s Abbey. The day included a catered meal and a procession from the church to the garden near the statue of St. Teresa of Avila. This year, parishioners had a nine-day novena to St. Teresa of Avila in the church prior to her Feast Day on Oct. 15. Photos provided.

Parishioners at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman held an Octoberfest celebration on Oct. 2. Photos David Long.

Seven students from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School were selected as National Merit Semifinalists. They are (l to R) Jacob Love, Noah Rice, Maureen Grimes, Jack Dolan, Henry Ison, Encho Genchev and Curt Schwager. Photo provided.

The Mount St. Mary Catholic High School volleyball team won the 2022 Class 5A Volleyball State Championship. The Rockets defeated Bishop McGuinness in three straight sets to claim the title. Rocket Volleyball finished the season with 41 wins, the most wins in Mount St. Mary history. The team includes - Freshmen: Kenleigh Booth, Ally Catasuno, Ella Hale and Bella Hackley. Sophomores: Georgia Albert, McKenzie Bass, Sienna Kadle, Abby Podleski, Gia McGrew and Liz Ward. Juniors: Ally Fees and Avery Moses. Seniors: Jane Ertl, Caroline Galanen and Maria Rogers. Team Manager: Sophomore, Maddison Russell. Photo provided.

Fr. Joe Arledge and parishioners at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Oklahoma City celebrated All Saints’ Day with a celebration after Mass on Oct. 30. Photos Fran Kozakowski.

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Parishioners at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in Duncan held their first religious education fall festival. The parents dressed their children up as a saint or Bible character. The evening started with everyone enjoying pizza donated by the Knights of Columbus. The students then rotated to three different stations: games, story and a craft station. Photos provided.

The Enid Catholic Community hosted a Dia de los Muertos dinner fundraiser on Oct. 29 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Enid. Proceeds will benefit Totus Tuus and a Steubenville trip. Photos provided.
Making Sense of Bioethics

The possibility of suffering from dementia later in life is a worrisome and commonplace prospect for many of us. Most people know I would like to remain in possession of my mental faculties until the end. Stephen Post, director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics at George Mason University describes it this way: “The leading symptoms of dementia are, frankly, terrifying: loss of memory, of language and of reasoning ability. We all feel at least a slight anxiety about dementia because these dreaded symptoms seem to assault our very dreadfully, symptoms which are trying to erode our very minds and our ability to reason. We need to slow down and learn to love, as best as we can. We need to offer up our prayers for them. This is time is useful. It is valuable. For everything there is a season, and this winter season of my father’s life is part of what will help guide his soul into eternity. Dad, through his dementia is working out his salvation. He isn’t doing the way he wanted. He is doing it the way God has deemed that he must do it... if you become like little children, you will not rule the Kingdom of Heaven.’” (Matt. 18:3)... With each passing month, my father grows more humble and more childlike, more dependent and more trusting and I do not doubt, closer to our Lord and to Heaven. As the symptoms and complications of dementia unfold, the challenges we face from the disease can unexpectedly become an invitation from God. Although dementia can contribute to spiritual growth, it almost always involves a great deal of suffering for all concerned, and the challenges should not be underestimated. Such moments, nevertheless, offer important teaching moments to grow in grace, to slow down, to reevaluate our priorities and to enter into a more profound relationship with him who is our final destination and abiding hope.

The Knights of Columbus

Christmas poster contest winners

The Knights of Columbus and the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. This program was designed to engage youth in their creative talent and imagination while understanding the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. The contest was open to students aged 5 - 14. Entries competed in one of three age groups: 5 to 7, 8 to 10 and 11 to 14. Winners were awarded to members of the pastoral staff at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, members of the Knights of Columbus and a few parents from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School. The following entrants, aged 5 to 7, received accolades and certification of participation. Third place was awarded to John B., second place to Martha C. and first place to Caroline B. In the 8 to 10 age group the following participants submitted posters which were embrossed and expressed the message very clearly: Third place was awarded to Isabella C. along with $15. Second place, with a cash prize of $25, was awarded to Katherine D. The first-place winner, Matthew P., impressed all the judges with his display of the message of Christmas on several levels. He was awarded a $50 gift card to the library.

Above: First place poster in the 8 to 10 age group is by Matthew P.

Second place poster in the 8 to 10 age group is by Katherine D.

Third place poster in the 8 to 10 age group is by Isabella C.

Golden Rule Raffle

We are privileged to have worked alongside the Oklahoma community at:
SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital, Oklahoma City
SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital, Shawnee
SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital, Midwest, Midwest City
SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital South
Thank you for journeying with us.
Franciscan Sisters of Mary
(Formerly known as the Sisters of Mary and Sisters of St. Francis of Maryville, MO)

$25 donation per ticket, 5 for $100
CASH PRIZES:
$300 for first place
$200 for second place
$100 for third place

DRAWING:
November 24, 2022 (Thanksgiving Day)

Order your tickets by Nov. 23 here:
Gospel of Life
301 E. 5th Street
Enid, OK 73701
(580) 774-5830

Gospel of Life
301 E. 5th Street
Enid, OK 73701
(580) 774-5830

This annual raffle benefits the Gospel of Life Dwellings (GOLDI)
St. John Paul II Dwellings
4515 E. Emerson Avenue
Enid, OK 73701
St. Mary of the Trinity
401 S. Washington
Enid, OK 73701
GospelOfLifeEnid.org

Knights of Columbus

Soccer Challenge champions

Four boys and girls from Edmond, ages 9 to 14, were named local champions of the 2022 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge, and have earned the right to compete at the district level. St. John the Baptist Council No. 6477 in Edmond sponsored the local competition held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School playground and soccer field. All youths aged 9 to 14 were eligible to participate.

Theodore H. was the winner in the 10-year-old boys’ division. In the 11-year-old boys’ division, Thomas H. was the boys’ champion. Finishing in second place in the 11-year-old boys’ bracket was Levi S. Twelve-year-old winner in the girls’ division is Tatiana C. Each of these students were invited to compete in the District 11 level on Oct. 22.

The District 11 competition resulted in the following students now moving up to the State of Oklahoma competition on Nov. 12, on the soccer field behind St. Monica Catholic Church, 2001 N. Western Ave. in Edmond. Theodore H. and Tatiana K. will represent Council No. 6477 and District 11 at the state competition. Council No. 6477 in Edmond is one of 17,000 Knights of Columbus councils that make up the world’s largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded in 1882 to assist working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States, today the approximately two million members of the Knights put their faith into action through a broad range of charitable causes locally, nationally and internationally with financial contributions and hands-on service.
By Br. Benet Estont, O.S.B.

**The Sooner Catholic**

“Saints Around the World” written by Meg Hunter-Kilmer is illustrated by Lindsey Anderson. It is an introductory series of biographies of saints and blesseds that would be appealing to teenagers and adulds of all ages. The biographies consist of two pages in length with colorful illustrations, suitable for both student and general readers. The book will maintain a simple layout, plus an attractive side right is a map of the world which shows where saints or blesseds lived and birth. Below the image of the person is an explanation of the symbolism of the artwork. Hunter-Kilmer considered an geographical index, feast day index, topical index and a chronologi cal index. The front in a world map that the reader can find where the saint is from. She includes a special section of prayers for the reader to encounter a prayer from the saint in their own language.

By Br. Benet Estont, O.S.B., The Sooner Catholic

**Book Review: “Pray for Us: 75 saints who sinned, suffered, and struggled on their way to holiness”**

There are several books containing biographies of saints and blesseds. In this book, “Pray for Us: 75 saints who sinned, suffered, and struggled on their way to holiness” the reader will be introduced to some figures they may not have heard of before. In fact, the book was the case for me in learning about Blessed Nicholas Steno, Saint Luigi Vergaia, Francesca Margaret Sinclair, Saint Lourdes Foy, Saint Dunstan Pulegro, Blessed Anthony Neery and many others for the first time. This biography spotlight is meant to open the way to holiness for some well-known saints: Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Francis Xavier, Saint John of the Cross, Saint Maximilian Maria, and many others. “Pray for Us: 75 saints who sinned, suffered, and struggled on their way to holiness” is one of the patrons for many ages. The reader will be encouraged to pray for the one of five different books by Br. John Michael Nguyen, O.S.B. This book is packed with all kinds of information that is intriguing to the reader. The introduction and foreword inform the reader how to use the book. There are erudite discussions of both outside books and websites. There is an alpha betical arrangement of the saints, biog rap hy, feast index, feast day index, geography index and the book ends with a topical index.

Hunter-Kilmer earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Notre Dame. She has been a freelance writer and an associate editor. She was involved with the former team of the Oklahoma City archdiocese’s campus ministry. This book is highly recommend ed to all interested in an intro duction to some of the men and women who have the Church for living lives of holiness. Unfortunately, however, for us Oklah omans, this book does not include a biography of Blessed Stanley Rother.

By Br. Benet Estont, O.S.B., Saint Gregory’s Abbey, Shawnee, is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

By Br. Benet Estont, O.S.B., The Sooner Catholic

**Book Review: “Make the Straight Way”**

hosted by Dustin Larry Stouza

“This category covers many kinds of people. The reader will be exposed to some figures they may not have heard of before. In fact, the book was the case for me in learning about Blessed Nicholas Steno, Saint Luigi Vergaia, Francesca Margaret Sinclair, Saint Lourdes Foy, Saint Dunstan Pulegro, Blessed Anthony Neery and many others for the first time.”

These categories cover many kinds of people. The reader will be exposed to some figures they may not have heard of before. In fact, the book was the case for me in learning about Blessed Nicholas Steno, Saint Luigi Vergaia, Francesca Margaret Sinclair, Saint Lourdes Foy, Saint Dunstan Pulegro, Blessed Anthony Neery and many others for the first time. This biography spotlight is meant to open the way to holiness for some well-known saints: Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Francis Xavier, Saint John of the Cross, Saint Maximilian Maria, and many others. “Pray for Us: 75 saints who sinned, suffered, and struggled on their way to holiness” is one of the patrons for many ages. The reader will be encouraged to pray for the one of five different books by Br. John Michael Nguyen, O.S.B. This book is packed with all kinds of information that is intriguing to the reader. The introduction and foreword inform the reader how to use the book. There are erudite discussions of both outside books and websites. There is an alphabetical arrangement of the saints, biography, feast index, feast day index, geography index and the book ends with a topical index.

Hunter-Kilmer earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Notre Dame. She has been a freelance writer and an associate editor. She was involved with the former team of the Oklahoma City archdiocese’s campus ministry. This book is highly recommend ed to all interested in an introduction to some of the men and women who have the Church for living lives of holiness. Unfortunately, however, for us Oklah omans, this book does not include a biography of Blessed Stanley Rother.

By Br. Benet Estont, O.S.B., Saint Gregory’s Abbey, Shawnee, is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

**Book Review: “Make the Straight Way”**

hosted by Dustin Larry Stouza

“Make the Straight Way” broadcast on Oklahoma Catholic Radio Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Tune in at okcr.org.
Demos gracias siempre

En 1863, el presidente Abraham Lincoln decí-
rió que el Día de Acción de Gracias debería ser
observado el último jueves del mes de noviembre en los Estados Unidos. Las procedencias de dicha celebración van mucho más atrás en la historia.

La Sagrada Escritura da en el Día de Acción de Gracias como nacimiento tomando el tiempo de dar gracias y expresar nuestro reconocimiento por las cosas que hemos recibido: vida, familia, libertad, y como cristianos, nuestra fe. En este día, todo-

Las actualizaciones del Santuario

Así como la construcción del Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother está terminando, y la gente se está preparando para los eventos de dedicación, el personal del santu-

Asistente ejecutivo - OKC

El Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother está buscando un asistente ejecutivo con buena reputación en la Iglesia que habilite con éxito a la gente que registra en el Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother.

Director de comunicaciones – Santuario

El Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother está buscando un director de comunicaciones para supervi-

Coordinador del Ministerio Hispano – OKC

La Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City está buscando un coordinador de ministerio hispano para trabajar en diferentes misiones en la comunidad para facilitar y promover los pro-

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Día de Acción de Gracias

El Día de Acción de Gracias es una celebración que nos invita a recordar las gracias que recibimos del Señor mientras oramos con la acción de gracias, una práctica que se remonta a los primeros días de la Iglesia. En la Sagrada Escritura, encontramos una referencia a la acción de gracias en el libro de Efesios 5:20, donde se nos invita a "sacralizar todos nuestros actos y palabras con gracia, con intención de agradecer a Dios por todo lo que nos ha dado.

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Eucharistic Revival conference
Join Archbishop Coakley, priests, parish staff and ministry leaders from around the archdiocese for a Eucharistic Revival Conference 8 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Dec. 3 at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, 3939 W. Tecumseh Rd. in Norman. There will explore the various aspects of the three-year initiative. The Revival, one year of the parish phase of the National Eucharistic Revival, one year of the diocesan phase and one year will be Mass, a keynote talk by Msgr. James Shinn of the University of Mary, adoration, prayer, discussions and lunch included in registration. Learn more at archdioceseok.org/revival-conference.

Shrine Tepeyac Hill dedication
Dec. 11
Join Archbishop Coakley, priests of the archdiocese and guests at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the St. Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City for the dedication of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on Friday, Dec. 17. Bishops and other invited guests for the dedication of the Bl. Rother shrine dedication Feb. 17 at Rojas Ranch, 2001 N. Western Ave. in Oklahoma City. Visit rojasranch.org/tepeyac-hill.

Mañanitas of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec. 12
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa and St. Gregory’s Abbey have launched the “Miracle of Guadalupe on Monday, Dec. 12 and Our Lady of Guadalupe.” This will explore the various aspects of the spirituality of St. Teresa of Jesus Community of Oklahoma and the blessing of Tepeyac Hill at the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, 744 N. Western Ave., Oklahoma City.

Mañanitas of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, Dec. 12 at 5 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. will conclude with Benediction.

Briefs

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November

13 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.
18 The Dedication of the Basilica of Its. Peter and Paul.
19 “Theology of the Eucharist” 9 a.m. – St. Mary, Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church, 7336 W. Britton Rd., Oklahoma City.
24 Feast of St. Cecilia.
26 St. Bl. Faustina Kowalska, January 2.
27 St. Bl. Thérèse of Lisieux, January 3.
30 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.
December

24 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This year the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, Dec. 12 at St. Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City. Join Archbishop Joseph Coakley and priests of the archdiocese for a Eucharistic Revival Conference 8 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, 3939 W. Tecumseh Rd. in Norman. There will explore the various aspects of the three-year initiative. The Revival, one year of the parish phase of the National Eucharistic Revival, one year of the diocesan phase and one year 23 of 2027 is now open. Apply between Nov. 1 and Dec. 1 to save a seat. Visit eventsonsale.com/wp/tepeyac-hill.
31 St. Bl. Faustina Kowalska, January 3.
31 Holy Innocents’ Day.

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 soonercatholic.org.
Local Catholic artists seek to bring truth, beauty and goodness to the world of art and design

continued from page 1

Catholic High School in Oklahoma City. It was there she first received inspiration in her art. “For the last six years, I’ve taught at Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School, so Catholic art has always been on the forefront of my mind, especially working there,” said Leigha. Leigha had long toyed with the idea of a venture into the art world, especially with a Catholic perspective, and with a growing family, she found an opportunity as she became a stay-at-home mom. “We had two kids, and expect our next one next year, and teaching at that time was going to be challenging – raising kids – and we thought this would make a bigger impact,” said Stephen. Leigha added that it impacted both their faith and community. “I’ve loved art for years, but once I started focusing on Catholic art and imagery that glorified God, I’ve been overflowing with ideas, and I think that the only way to describe it is the Holy Spirit’s influence,” said Leigha. “God wants me to be doing this. He will take care of our family, even if there are ebbs and flows in the business side of things.” The Liuzzas started their business in January, and by February they would see a “flow,” starting with the SEEK Conference, which is put on by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Although it is traditionally a national conference, because of the pandemic, it was only held at the state level. “This year, because of COVID-19, the Oklahoma schools that have FOCUS on their campus were all at the Omni Hotel together,” explained Leigha, adding that there were approximately 300 people in attendance. “Most of our sales have come through local conferences and craft fairs. That is how we meet a lot of people and make a lot of connections.” Since then, they have exhibited at several other conferences, making more connections along the way. “We started at the SEEK conference, and we’ve done about six more conferences this year already,” said Stephen. Zelie Creative Co. offers a variety of artwork, including magnets, stationary, stickers and prints, all created from a Catholic perspective. In addition to conferences, they also sell online through their website, as well as on Etsy. Their customers are primarily Catholics, but they certainly do not need to be. “It ranges from high school students to young members, middle-aged people looking for Confirmation gifts,” said Leigha. “We’ve had the older population, who will buy for their grandchildren.” The company has also seen business from individual parishes. “We’ve had a few communications with priests within our archdiocese who have ordered from us to use in their ministry, as well,” said Leigha. Leigha and Stephen don’t intend to open a store soon, but through the internet, they are seeking to make a positive impact; not just in the archdiocese, but in the community at large. “We are very appreciative of the support that has been shown to us, and we are looking forward to reaching out to other people and parishes in the archdiocese," explained Stephen. “We are thankful for and prayerful of our community.”

Everett Brazil, III is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.