Parishes embrace Advent with hymns, carols

The Advent season is here and parishes across the world are preparing for the season of the celebration of Christ’s birth. In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, several choir directors have big plans and are working to prepare beautiful Advent performances to take place during Advent and Christmas Masses.

Brad Newcomb has been the choir director at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City since 2019. The parish is in a unique situation as they are currently upgrading their pipe organ and learning to adapt as they await the new instrument next spring.

"Since we’re in the organ renovations, we are having 30 minutes of carols and anthems before Mass at 4:30 p.m. and Midnight Mass, and

On Dec. 3, more than 275 volunteers, ministry leaders and catechists attended a Eucharistic Revival conference at Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman. The conference began with Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Coakley, and was followed by a keynote speech by Monsignor James Shea, president of the University of Mary in North Dakota.

The conference was organized by Father Zak Boazman, parochial vicar for Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church in Oklahoma City and the diocesan coordinator for the National Eucharistic Revival, with the goal of detailing the parish phase of the Eucharistic Revival – one year of the

continued on page 10

continued on page 8
The vision of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Oklahoma

On Dec. 11, the day before the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, I blessed beautiful bronze statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego. I also visited our replica of Tepeyac Hill on the grounds of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine. This was the first public event at the shrine. While the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is well-known in Oklahoma, not everyone may know the story behind her appearance to Juan Diego.

Seven years before the pilgrims paddled ashore on our east coast, priests from Mexico City crossed from Noon to 3:50 p.m. in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 27501 Northwest Expressway. The period of Adoration will conclude with Benediction.

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

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Archidiócesis de Oklahoma
Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the time when Christ experience the joy of adoration and celebrate with Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Put Out Into the Deep

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“Make Straight the Way”
hosted by Deacon Larry Souia

- Dec. 13 and 14: In memory of Mercie Stapp, parishioner, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Norman, former secretary/treasurer for Oklahoma Catholic Radio. Part 2
- Dec. 20 and 21: Dr. James Griffith II, parishioner, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Norman.
- Dec. 27 and 28: Kelly Allen, parishioner, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Edmond.

“Make Straight the Way” broadcasts on Oklahoma Catholic Radio Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Listen online at okcr.org.

From the Archives …
A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist

Father Herman Joseph Schafers was named after his uncle, a priest, who was the pastor of the Catholic Church in Cushin- ing at the time of his birth. The younger Schafer was born in Stillwater when his father moved the family to be near Father Schafer.

Young Herman came from a deeply religious Catholic family, as made evident by three of his sisters becoming Franciscan nuns. No doubt his uncle’s influence, who was pastor for 18 years in Cushning, played a significant role in the discernment of his vocation to the priesthood.

As the U-3 pilot broke through the clouds, the pilot saw no sight of the plane he was attempting to shepherd. Sadly, Father Schafer did not make it to the field, and it was theorized that he had exhausted his fuel and the aircraft went into a spin making a safe landing impossible. Both were killed instantly.

A profound sense of loss was palpable with the clergy and his parishioners whom he had come to love. Within a new state of his heart building, the CFL will provide cutting-edge programming paired with training and development, with collaboration from their world-class partners. They are creating a new generation of chefs, veterinarians, assistants, ballet teachers, artists, entrepreneurs, teacher assistants and leaders with mind-blowing abilities that will change the world forever.

“Make Straight the Way” is produced by the archdiocesan Office of the Permanent Deacon and broadcast by Oklahoma Catholic Radio.

Everyone can be the spark that ignites a hero

T he staff at the Center of Family Love consider their residents heroes and a new generation of leaders

What can be accomplished through hard work and development of their abilities. They have a message to the younger generation comparing disabilities. “Keep striving and we will pave a new way!”

Within a new state of the art building, the CFL will provide cutting-edge programming paired with training and development, with collaboration from their world-class partners. They are creating a new generation of chefs, veterinarians, assistants, ballet teachers, artists, entrepreneurs, teacher assistants and leaders with mind-blowing abilities that will change the world forever.

“This is so much more than just a building,” Deirdre Espino- nass, president and CEO, said. “This expansion will not only sustain all new programs but will also be a revenue generating enterprise for the entire organization. This is the most important expen- diture in our organization’s history.”

To fund this year’s operations, CFL must raise $2 million for their residents who cannot afford it. Out of every dollar donated, 90 cents will go directly to the resid- uent. “You are the spark that ignites these heroes,” Sanders said.

To learn more and to support the Center of Family Love movement, visit centeroffamilylove.org.

POINSETTIA SALE
Tended with love by our horticulture heroes that live at the Center of Family Love

4.5” POINSETTIA - $11.00 EACH
6.5” POINSETTIA - $21.00 EACH
8” POINSETTIA - $34.00 EACH
10” POINSETTIA - $45.00 EACH

WE OFFER DELIVERY Statewide!

Poinsettia colors: marble star, pink, red, red glitter, white and silver ribbon.

Foil pot cover colors available: gold, red, silver, green and white.

PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY
Call 405.263.4465 or email dparadis@cflinc.org

When you purchase from us, you are helping our residents develop and discover their abilities. Thank you!

Top: Travis H., Center of Family Love artist. Left: Shay S. and Emma, Center of Family Love animal trainer.

As a veteran inducted into the Army Air Force shortly after the Second World War ended, he was en- thrilled with the pos- sibility of flying his own airplane. His dream came true as he earned his private pilot’s license in 1965. Father Herman was one of three priests in the diocese to become a private pilot. He was not instru- mental rated, however, and that lack of that expertise would unfortunately contribute to his demise.

On Nov. 30, 1967, Father Schafer and his aunt Mary Ann Spellman de- parted from San Antonio, Texas, with the destination being Ponca City, Oklahoma. Struggling with a low cloud deck and a rapidly diminished fuel supply, the priest radioed assisted for assistance. Vance Air Force Base dispatched a Cessna U-3 in the area to as- sist Father Schafer in landing his Piper Comanche under these difficult conditions. The pilot of the U-3 flew with him and instructed the him to follow him through the clouds, informing him that even if they last sight of each other to continue since he was on the path to land. Throughout the ordeal, it was stated that Fa- ther Schafer showed no sign of panic and was extremely calm.

As the U-3 pilot broke through the clouds at 800 feet, he saw no sight of the plane he was attempting to shepherd. Sadly, Father Schafer did not make it to the field, and it was theorized that he had exhausted his fuel and the aircraft went into a spin making a safe landing impossible. Both were killed instantly.

A profound sense of loss was palpable with the clergy and his parishioners whom he had come to love. At age 43, Father Herman Schafer left this life leaving others asking the question, “What if?” Bishop Reed was so distraught that he forbade his priests to seek a pilot’s license.
Businesses win with tax credit program

By Sharia Smith

The Tax Credit Scholarship (TCS) program, which provides state tax credits for gifts to Catholic schools, has proven beneficial and popular for Oklahoma donors. This year, 500 students, nearly 10% of all enrolled children in the 19 Catholic schools across the Diocese of Oklahoma City, benefited from scholarships through the program.

A lesser-known side of this program, however, holds especially beneficial incentives for Oklahoma businesses owners. By participating in the Tax Credit Scholarship program, any legal business entity (LLCs, S-corps, C-corps, general partnerships, etc.) can receive 75% of their gift in state tax credits annually—up to $100,000. Business can customize their gift amount based on their tax liability, and therefore wipe out any state taxes they would have otherwise paid.

If the business operates as a pass-through entity, the tax credit on the gift can also pass through to the owner’s personal tax liability. Thus, corporate gifts have the potential to greatly expand the Tax Credit Scholarship program and transform the lives of students whose families otherwise couldn’t afford a Catholic school education.

TCS has existed since 2011, when the Oklahoma legislature passed the Equal Opportunity Scholarship Act. The state-wide cap on credits had been $5 million per year, but this year grew to $85 million thanks to a bill approved by lawmakers in 2021. TCS raised more than $1.5 million in 2021, and by growing this program, students, families, schools, parishes and donors all benefit. It is truly a win-win.

Corporate gifts offer tremendous benefits to business owners, and an opportunity to help children who need it. This is a lasting investment into a child’s future, with immediate returns.

Go to tcsok.org to make a gift before Dec. 31. Contact info@tcsok.org or call (405) 709-2700. Sharia Smith is director of the Tax Credit Scholarship program.

Oklahoma Catholic Women’s Conference 2023

Registration is now open for the 2023 Oklahoma Catholic Women’s Conference, themed “Be Blessed.” This year’s conference will be held on Saturday, March 4, at the Embassy Suites in Norman. The conference will begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude with Mass at 6 p.m. with Bishop David Konderla. Registration is $65 or $89 for students.

Registration prices include continental breakfast, lunch and snacks throughout the day. All women are invited to join in a day of fellowship and deep encounter with the Lord. Visit okcatholicwomen.com to register online or to download a registration form to mail in.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church celebrates 60 years

Brian McQuade

Brian McQuade is the controller for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and has been here for three years! He manages and oversees the financial reporting and day-to-day accounting. He also serves as a resource for parishes and Catholic entities within the archdiocese by assisting in internal control, compliance and financial reporting. He has three children. His undergraduate degree is in music performance, and he plays string bass in various symphonic groups. He also enjoys sports.
An evening of Advent Lessons and Carols was held Dec. 4 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City.

for Christ the King Catholic Church. He has been the director of music and organist for rehearsal. The choir has been rehearsing for Midnight Mass, followed by 10 a.m. Christmas Day. The performances are especially important with a brass section backing the choir singers. There will also be several different performances with the organ, choir and brass group.

“The problem is picking what you want to do,” Anderson said. “There is a lot of music for everyone knows, and there’ll be four to five new anthems, and preludes throughout the Mass,” Anderson explained.

He added that Christ the King Catholic School’s children’s choir will also perform at the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

“There’ll be the same music, but there will be different music at all the Masses,” Anderson said.

Historically, the parish featured a handbell choir, but due to COVID-19, that choir was put on hiatus. Anderson promises it will come back soon.

“We’re going to start it up soon, but we don’t have the pipe organ right now, but we’re expecting to be a special Advent and Christmas season this year.

“I’m excited,” Newcomb said. “Even if we don’t have the pipe organ right now, but we’re really close and everything’s coming together.”

With so much to choose from the extensive selection of music, they began rehearsing Nov. 12. “We’ll do the Advent and Christmas hymns everyone knows, and there’ll be four to five new anthems, and preludes throughout the Mass,” Anderson explained.

In the Oklahoma City metro area, David Anderson is the director of music and organist for the Christ the King Catholic Church. He has only been in the role for four months, he said, replacing longtime music director, Edwin Day.

“We’ve always had a star choir performance, so the choir meets Wednesdays at the church for rehearsal. The choir has been rehearsing Christmas now for several weeks,” Anderson said.

The choir will have a gracing performance schedule, including 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. prior to Midnight Mass, followed by 10 a.m. Christmas Day. The performances are especially important with a brass section backing the choir singers. There will also be several different performances with the organ, choir and brass group.

“They’ll play for all Masses. There’ll be an organ and brass, organ and choir, and all three put together,” Anderson said.

Anderson has a considerable library of music from which to choose, and hopes it’ll be special this year.

“There are so many options that could be done. The problem is picking what you want to do,” Anderson said. “There is a lot of music for everyone knows, and there’ll be four to five new anthems, and preludes throughout the Mass,” Anderson explained.

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“We’re going to start it up soon, but we don’t have a date set yet,” he said, “After the start of the year, we’ll be looking for a start time to get them going again.”

No matter what parish one belongs to, it is expected to be a special Advent and Christmas season this year.

“I’m excited,” Newcomb said. “Even if we don’t have the pipe organ right now, but we’re really close and everything’s coming together.”

Everett Brazil, III is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
During the Eucharistic Revival conference on Dec. 3 in Norman, a panel discussion was held with Fr. Zak Boazman, Joann Mollman, a volunteer and catechist from St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Fr. John Herrera, and Jayce Palmer, director for the archdiocesan youth, young adults and campus ministry. Photo Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic.
The Carmelite Sisters of St. Therese of Lisieux would like to wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

Confirmation volunteers from St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Enid helped decorate Christmas trees in downtown Enid. The trees stand next to the world’s tallest fresh-cut Christmas tree.

Last month’s midterm elections made it painfully clear that many pro-life advocates and politicians are set in their post-Roe v. Wade environment. Shawn Carney and Steve Karlen’s “What to Say When: The Complete New Guide to Discussing Abortion” (Kolbe & Associates) is a good primer for all those working to rebuild a culture of life in the United States. David Hoffman’s “Give Me Liberty: The True Story of Oseuldo Paya and His Dollar Quest for a Free Cuba” (Simon & Schuster) is the gripping tale of a man of Christ’s experience who would not be cowed by Castroite thugs — and who was last certainly murdered by them as a result. This powerful biographical portrayal of the case that Mr. Paya should be considered a contemporary martyr.

The Brooklyn Dodgers’ immortal Number 42 was a man of no less courage than Oseuldo Paya. In “True: The Four Seasons of Jackie Robinson” (St. Martin’s Press), Kosta Kennedy is respectful and effective in helping us imagine life in Montreal in 1946 (Robinson’s Triple-A stop before the big leagues) and baseball-mad Brooklyn in 1949. The author lapses into mockery by questioning Robinson’s criticism of Paul Robeson before a congressional committee. Nonetheless this is not just political correctness, Kennedy paints a moving portrait of one of the greatest American heroes: a man committed to racial equality in a color-blind society. Would that 42 were with us today.

And while we’re on the subject of God’s law, let me recommend “The Greatest Stage: A History of the World Series,” by Tyler Kepner ( Doubleday). I enjoyed this richly-detailed catalogue of baseball gems so much that I temporarily forgot my grievances over the 1969, 1971 and 1973 Series, all of which ended in frustration.

In this season of renewed nuclear arms negotiations, Serhii Plokhy’s “Nuclear Folly: A History of the Cuban Missile Crisis” ( Norton) is a sobering account of a very close-run thing. Drawing on previously unexplored Soviet archives, the Harvard historian demythologizes the canonical Kennedy account of those 13 days while vindicating (many of) President Kennedy’s instincts in managing the crisis; rehabilitates two figures who unusually get short shrift in accounts of the drama of October 1962 (U.S. Secretary of state Dean Rusk and the old Armenian Bolshevik, Anatoli Dobrynin); and provides a devastating portrait of Fidel Castro’s anti-American mania.

It was an honor to provide the foreword to “A Grain of Wheat” (HarperOne) for a new generation of readers. This novel by Nobel laureate Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o is a compelling portrait of one of the great African heroes: a man committed to racial equality in a color-blind society. In fact, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o has been impressed so much that I temporarily forgot my grievances over the 1969, 1971 and 1973 Series, all of which ended in frustration.

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### Jobs Box

Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

**Front desk receptionist - Shrine**
The Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a front desk receptionist to provide hospitality and assistance to visitors. Must be able to answer telephone and direct calls to appropriate person or department. One to three years of experience, high school diploma, receptionist or equivalent or any combination of education and experience which demonstrates the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions of this position is preferred. Experience and interest in adventist culture preferred.

**GLO summer camp staff**
Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church is seeking fun, energetic camp counselors to assist with all camp activities. Duties include planning, coordinating, and executing programs in light of guidelines and previous experiences of staff to help campers with the highest quality experience. Must be at least 21 years old, have experience working with children, and possess excellent verbal and interpersonal communication skills. Apply at archokc.org/ campstaff.

**Administrative assistant/family service coordinator**
Resurrection Cemetery in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time administrative assistant/family service coordinator to provide administrative services for the cemetery. Must be able to document and maintain service reports for families and members and help with all aspects of the cemetery's business operations. Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, computer proficiency, and customer service skills. Middle age preferred. Send resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

### Coordinate of Hispanic ministry - Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time coorde- nator of Hispanic ministry to work closely with the community to facilitate and promote the catechisti- cal, evangelical and pastoral needs of the Hispanic community. This position will work closely with the pastors, priests and staff members to implement, coordinate, and maintain a comprehensive outreach as well as work with English-speaking priests to act as a communication bridge and meet the needs of the growing Hispanic communities. Must be very well informed and demonstrate a strong commitment to Hispanic cultures and a deep un- derstanding of the pastoral needs and gifts of the Hispanic community. At least three years of pasto- ral experience. A bachelor's degree is a plus. Knowledge and experience of Latina/Hispanic cultures in the United States, fluency in both English and Spanish, strong interpersonal, presentation, teach- ing and leadership skills. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church and possess a strong knowledge of the Church's catechesis. Send resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

### Coordinator of youth, young adult, and campus evangelization - Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time coordi- nator of youth, young adult and campus evangelization. This position will work closely with the pastors, priests and staff members to implement, coordinate, and maintain a comprehensive outreach as well as work with English-speaking priests to act as a communication bridge and meet the needs of the growing Hispanic communities. Must be very well informed and demonstrate a strong commitment to Hispanic cultures and a deep understanding of the pastoral needs and gifts of the Hispanic community. At least three years of pastoral experience. A bachelor's degree is a plus. Knowledge and experience of Latina/Hispanic cultures in the United States, fluency in both English and Spanish, strong interpersonal, presentation, teaching and leadership skills. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church and possess a strong knowledge of the Church's catechesis. Send resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

### Executive assistant - Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time execu- tive assistant to provide admin- istrative services for members of the administration and finance senior staff. The executive assistant will be a primary point of contact among executives, clergy and staff throughout the archdiocese. Res- ponsibilities include maintaining databases and coordinating com- plete office projects; calendar and meetings, distributing publications, tracking expenses and payments and maintaining office supplies and inventory. Required competencies in- clude being highly organized with the ability to prioritize responsi- bilities, excellent computer skills in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, exceptional attention to accuracy and the ability to communicate in a professional manner within a multicultural environment. Must have previous office experience and be a prac- ticing Catholic. Bi-lingual in Spanish and English a plus. Generous retirement and insurance benefits, with many of the plans, including health and dental, no cost to the employee. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.
La visión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Oklahoma

El 11 de diciembre, el día antes de la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, bendijeron la hermosa estatua de bronce de Nuestra Señora en la cima del cerro del Tepeyac, en los terrenos del Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother. Este fue el primer evento público del Santuario y estuvo abierto al público.

Aunque la imagen de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es bien conocida en Oklahoma, no todos conocen la historia detrás de su aparición a San Juan Diego. Siete años antes de la llegada de los primeros peregrinos a la costa este, los sacerdotes de México cruzaron el Rio Rojo y llegaron hasta el Bois d’Arc y se establecieron en los cedros de la nación Rojo y llegaron hasta la punta del noreste, cruzando el Rio Rojo hasta el extremo del cerro del Tepeyac. La Iglesia que debía construir estaría el don de salvación que se ofrecía a todos los que habitaban esas tierras. A través de su imagen y su arte, de las complejidades del lenguaje y la poesía, el mensaje del evangelio de Cristo echó raíz y comenzó a florecer en el continente americano.

El obispo entendió de inmediato que la Iglesia que debía construir era el don de salvación que se ofrecía a todos los que habitaban esas tierras. A través de su imagen y su arte, de las complejidades del lenguaje y la poesía, el mensaje del evangelio de Cristo echó raíz y comenzó a florecer en el continente americano. El mensaje de salvación de su divino Hijo que trajo Nuestra Señora llenó hoy en día a la Iglesia de Oklahoma. En el don de aquellos que han venido desde México tenemos una conciencia renovada de aquellos que han venido desde México para tomar su rumbo y que se derramara hacia el norte y el sur del continente americano.

La visión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es bien conocida en Oklahoma. Desde los primeros momentos que Cortez puso pie en Veracruz, y a lo largo de la historia de la exploración de América, los esfuerzos misioneros españoles alcanzaron las tierras altas del centro de los Estados Unidos, desafiando sombrías costas de los tetones, a lo largo de la cordillera de las montañas rocosas y hasta la punta del noreste, en las planicies que después se convertirían en Oklahoma. El éxito de la evangelización española tuvo logros sobresalientes.

La fuente central de esta energía misionera estuvo inspirada por la aparición de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Esto fue lo que sucedió.

En 1531, en el cerro del Tepeyac, al norte de lo que hoy es la Ciudad de México, Juan Diego, que era un azteca en su cultura y lenguaje, pero católico en su fe y convicción, se encontró a una joven mujer que se llamó a sí misma la “Madre de Dios” y la “Virgen de Guadalupe”.

Le confió un mensaje para el obispo local, que quería que se construyera una iglesia en aquel lugar. Con algunas dudas, Juan Diego se apresuró a decirle al obispo y pedirle que cumpliera el mandato de la joven mujer.

Después de varios intentos fallidos de convencerlo, el obispo fue finalmente convencido de que lo que Juan Diego decía era verdad debido a la imagen milagrosa de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe que apareció en las ropas de Juan Diego, en su tilma. Esa tilma se encuentra expuesta hoy en día en la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en la Ciudad de México. Cuando el obispo se dio cuenta de la misión que se le había encargado a Juan Diego, y por su medio a la Iglesia, entendió algo nuevo estaba sucediendo.

El encuentro era una expresión de la voluntad divina en la cima de este cerro en México. Juan Diego vio a la joven mujer, vestida con el sol, hablándole en su propio idioma, rodeada de símbolos y vestida con imágenes de su propia tierra. Cuando la vio, entendió. El mensaje del evangelio y la historia del amor de Dios se habían dirigido a él y a su gente.

No se trataba solamente de una sugerencia para el obispo; era una visión de un mundo nuevo, la promesa de Dios para el pueblo de México, expresada en el idioma de su corazón y usando las profundidades de su propio arte. La aparición de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe era tan solo un pequeño atisbo de la semilla de la venida de Dios que florecería en el sueño y el aire de México.

El obispo entendió de inmediato que la Iglesia que debía construir era mucho más que una capilla en el cerro del Tepeyac. La Iglesia que debía construir estaría el don de salvación que se ofrecía a todos los que habitaban esas tierras. A través de su imagen y su arte, de las complejidades del lenguaje y la poesía, el mensaje del evangelio de Cristo echó raíz y comenzó a florecer en el continente americano.

El mensaje de salvación de su divino Hijo que trajo Nuestra Señora llenó hoy en día a la Iglesia de Oklahoma. En el don de aquellos que han venido desde México tenemos una conciencia renovada de aquellos que han venido desde México para tomar su rumbo y que se derramara hacia el norte y el sur del continente americano.

En el encuentro, María, en su tierra natal, había hablado de la Fuente de la Vida “En ti está la fuente de la vida, y por tu luz vamos la luz”. Beato Stanley Rother, puebla por nosotros!

Las actualizaciones del Santuario

La construcción está por conclu- ir en el Santuario del Beato Stand- ley Rother. Se avanzan en la par- timentación del Zócalo y las aceras. La excavación de amñas para las luces alrededor de la iglesia está en progre- so y la instalación de la fuente tam- bién está avanzando. El Salmo 36:10 dice de la Fuente de la Vida “En ti está la fuente de la vida, y por tu luz vamos la luz”. Beato Stanley Rother, puebla por nosotros!

El Día de la Cer- tificación Campestre se llevó a cabo el 19 de novem- bre en la Iglesia Católica St. Joseph en Norman. Católicos de varias parroquias de Oklahoma se reunieron para fortalecer su conocimiento de la Misión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. La réplica del Cerrito del Tepeyac y las estatuas de Nuestra Señora y Juan Diego en el Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother son también un recordatorio de lo que implica esa visión. Dios sigue trabajando aquí y ahora. Si nos detenemos a escuchar, lo escuchamos debemos edificar la Iglesia, aquí.
Roster shrine dedication
Joan Archbishop Cauley, priests of the archdiocese, bishops and priests of the Diocese of Oklahoma City, Bishop Anthony Sako, and the community. The dedication will be the centerpiece of a mass celebration open to the public. Seating will be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find more information at rothershrine.org.

Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project
Dec. 20, 2022, at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. The guest speaker is Archbishop Cauley. Visit ssnrep.org.

Visitation
The Secular Order of the Discalced Carmelites of the St. John of the Cross community will have visitations of their member who passed away in December. Anyone inspired by the spirituality of St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross can contact Letty Silva, O.C.D.B., formation director, at (405) 706-4817 or Susan Staudt, O.C.D.B., president, at (405) 473-5427. Visit ssnrep.org.

Living nativity
The Gospel of Life Disciples will have a living nativity at 3 p.m. Dec. 17 at the St. Stanley Rochelle Shrine, 3460 NW 17, at Oklahoma City. The dedication will be the centerpiece of a mass celebration open to the public. Seating will be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find more information at rothershrine.org.

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Sacred Relics of the Saints: Treasures of the Church
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church presents a teaching and exposition of “Sacred Relics of the Saints: Treasures of the Church” at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 21 at 110 North Main St. in Enid. Fr. Carlos Martins, a Vatican-appointed expert on relics will be here with a Vatican-appointed relic that dates as old as 2,000 years. Among the treasured relics of St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. John of the Cross (”Little Flower”), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. Some features include:
- A portion of the hair of St. John of the Cross,
- A portion of the Veil of Our Lady of Guadalupe,
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Oklahoma March for Life
Dec. 11, 2022, at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. The event will feature the Eucharist,” presented by Br. Thomas Joseph O.C.D.S., president, at (405) 473-5427 or reg@meoklahoma.org.

Wedlock Marriage Encounter

Day of Reflection
Day of Reflection, “The Gift of the Eucharist,” presented by Br. Damien Wisdom, O.S.B., is 6:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Jan. 30 at St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1901 W. MackArthur St., Shawnee. Limited seating. Visit stgregoryok.org or call (405) 706-8417, or via the link in the online registration. Attendees are encouraged to bring $56. Cost $30 pre-paid or $35 at the door. Lunch is included. Visit stgregoryok.org.

Magic at the Mount Gala
Mount St. Mary Catholic High Magic at the Mount Gala will be held Feb. 11 at the Omni, 100 West Oklahoma City Blvd. in Oklahoma City. Visit ssnrep.org.

Faith community nurses’ conference

Monthly Neovenia to the Novena of Jesus of Prague begins.

Trophy for Life 2023
The 2023 Sheep of Mercy Caritas Mass will take place in the Oklahoma City area. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary of the Cross Church in Oklahoma City. Visit ssnrep.org.

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Widerkunft, Die Kost Im Gutshaus, zur Erinnerung an die Erntedankfestfeier der Gemeinde, 10 a.m. Jan. 21 and the route is the Oklahoma City area. Couples will grow closer in love and find new ways of communicating with their spouse. Contact Bryan and Carolined Carmel in Oklahoma. Visit ssnrep.org.

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Turn your Taxes into their Tuition!

Mission
The Tax Credit Scholarship Program is a scholarship granting organization (SGO) that supports all students’ access to the life-changing benefits of Catholic education while providing donors a way to maximize their impact and redirect their tax dollars to a cause that matters most to them.

Why is it important?
At our Catholic schools, every student matters and can make a difference in the community. This year the TCS program, provided nearly $1.5M in scholarships to more than 500 students to attend one of the 19 Catholic schools in the archdiocese. For some of these schools, nearly 40% of the students rely on this assistance. With your help we can go even further and support the tuition assistance needs of every student.

Give your tax dollars a deeper meaning.
When you make a two-year pledge through TCS, you will receive a state tax credit for 75% your donation. This is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your state tax liability. You can also designate your gift to a local school to make an impact where it matters most.

Maximum Credit Scenarios
The below samples are examples based on the maximum state tax credits. A gift or pledge may be made at any level that fits your circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 year pledged commitment (75% Credit)</th>
<th>1 year gift commitment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
<td>Annual Gift Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple files jointly: $5,334</td>
<td>$2,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filing as an individual: $2,667</td>
<td>$1,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified Business Entity: $266,000</td>
<td>$133,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another way to look at it...
For example when filing joint taxes
Pledge the following for 2 years:

- Total Annual Gift: $2,667
- Remaining $667 can be itemized for a charitable tax deduction
- 75% Oklahoma Tax Credit

www.tcsok.org Make your gift by December 31st! 405-709-2700