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One of the on-air guests was Father Joseph Irwin, who summed up the purpose and importance of the radiothon this way, “In my opinion, Catholic radio is among some of the most effective tools we have for evangelization and encountering the truth of our Catholic faith. It is essential for us to support and keep Catholic radio on the air.”

Father Zachary Boazman will lead archdiocesan efforts.

“The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. The better we understand the Eucharist’s role in Christian spirituality, the better we will be able to love Christ present in the Eucharist,” Father Boazman said.

The revival is intended to be more than a series of events. It aims to be a movement that invites a transformation of hearts and lives of believers.

The first year will get underway at the parish and diocesan levels with initiatives such as eucharistic adoration and processions, the development of parish teams of revival leaders and conferences on the Eucharist.

The following year there will be regional

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In November, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops called for a National Eucharistic Revival in every U.S. diocese to renew the Church by reconsecrating a living relationship with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

The revival launches in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City on June 19 with a two-mile Eucharistic procession to The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on the Feast of Corpus Christi. The procession will be the first event in a three-year phase that will culminate in a national eucharistic revival event in Indianapolis. It will be the first National Eucharistic Congress in the United States in nearly 50 years.

Spring Radiothon makes waves

By Debi Wagner
The Sooner Catholic

On April 5 and 6, Oklahoma Catholic Radio listeners had the opportunity to hear stories from other Oklahomans about how Catholic radio changed their lives.

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Since 2006, co-founders Jeff Finnell and Deacon Larry Sousa have worked to bring Catholic radio programming to the Sooner State. There are currently 12 Catholic radio stations in Oklahoma, two of which are Spanish speaking. Catholic Radio is a unique tool in that it can educate Catholics about their faith and evangelize non-Catholics at the same time, and it can do so 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“My wife Kathy and I have learned so much about our faith from listening to Catholic radio,” Finnell said.

“We are both cradle Catholics who went through 12 years of Catholic education, and when we graduated high school, we thought we knew our faith. It wasn’t until we started listening

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Mary and the month of May

“May is Mary’s month, and I muse at that and put out into the deep. Luke 5:4

Archbishop Clayko’s Calendar

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

April 24 — Confirmation, 3 p.m., St. Francis Xavier (with St. Gregory), Enid
April 26 — Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Boarding Committee meeting, 9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
April 26 — Mass, 1:30 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
April 26 — Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Boarding Committee meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
April 26 — Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Damien of Moliére, Edmond
April 27 — Confirmation, 6 p.m., St. Ann, Mustang
April 27 — MMB Corporation meeting, 9 a.m., Mount St. Mary Catholic High School, OKC
April 28 — Confirmation, 3 p.m., St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Mustang
April 28 — Confirmation, 3 p.m., St. Teresa of Avila, 5:30 p.m., Harrah
May 5 — Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., St. Matthew the Apostle, Shawnee
May 5 — Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Benedict, Shawnee
May 7 Confirmation, 3 p.m., St. Robert Bellarmine, Jones
May 8 — Confirmation, 10 a.m., Sacred Heart, Alva

O, God, who sent into the parochial mysteries the ancient apostle, who receives upon us and face every soul that will come to him for his sacraments, give us the grace

To clarify some people’s questions about the “big hill” at the northwest corner of the shrine campus, it is a replica of the Tepeyac Hill where Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego.

Bishops sign letter warning that German’s ‘Synodal Path’ could lead to schism

More than 70 bishops from around the world, including Archbishop Clayko, have released a “fraternal open letter” to Germany’s bishops warning that sweeping changes to Church teaching advocated by the ongoing process known as the “Synodal Path” may lead to schism.

The letter expresses “our growing concern about the nature of the entire German Synodal Path,” which the signatories say has led to confusion about Church teaching and appears focused more on man’s will than God’s.

“Failing to listen to the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, the Synodal Path’s actions undermine the Church’s authority, teach us that of Pope Francis; Christian anthropology and sexual morality; and the reliability of Scripture,” since “They while display a patina of religious ideas and vocabulary, the German Synodal Path documents seem largely inspired not by Scripture and Tradition — which, for the Second Vatican Council, are a single sacred deposit of the Word of God — but by sociological analysis and contemporary politics, including gender ideologies,” the letter continues.

May is a time of extraordinary abundance. Abundance of life, of year. Mary’s special association with this beautiful time of year.

Blessed Stanley Rother, pray for us

Archbishop Paul S. Clayko
The church in Oklahoma grew by leaps and bounds due to the increasing immigrant population and their Catholic roots. Since the entire state made up the Diocese of Oklahoma (until February 1973), it is fitting that the contributions to that growth in the coal mines of southeastern Oklahomans be examined. Italians, Poles, Russians, and the Irish were the most plentiful ethnic groups. As the Katy railroad was completed in the eastern part of what would be the State of Oklahoma, coal, the life blood of a railroad, was discovered near McAlester. Part of the Chisum mine, an agreement was reached with the tribe to begin to mine the coal. Figures of the day (the mid-1880s) estimate that 300,000 tons of anthracite were removed from the earth.

The towns of McAlester, Krebs, Lehigh, Savannah and Hartshorne expanded rapidly. The Beneficent of Sacred Heart Abbey saw the need to provide for the faithful in these towns and Lehigh converted a schoolhouse into Our Lady of Good Counsel in 1884. By 1896, North McAlester, Krebs and Savannah had church buildings.

Krebs was predominantly Italian and maintained a connection with its roots as numerous Italian restaurants dot the landscape as well as Laverne’s Italian grocery. By 1888, about 4,000 people lived in the town and six years later school had more than 300 children. The parish still exists. and the church built in 1903 is the oldest in the Diocese of Tulsa. Savannah and Lehigh no longer have Catholic churches and North McAlester merged with Krebs. A church was built in McAlester proper in 1895.

The first Catholic priest to visit Hartshorne was Father Bernard Murphy (later abbot of Sacred Heart) in 1896. The Benedictine presence continued until the arrival of the Carmelites in 1916. They headquartered in Hartshorne early in their Oklahoma experience. These immigrant communities stretched the limits of the clergy and presented numerous challenges. Due to the arduous nature of the work, the priest could be rough and tumble and for a time they could be lawless. The Church was present to smooth some of the jagged edges and offer the sacraments as well as structure and organization.

Serving as a priest could be trying in this environment and it often required courage as Italian anarchists were none too fond of the Catholic Church. Eventually, civilization prevailed, and some towns turned their backs on the demand for coal diminished. What is certain, however, is that the primary apostolate of being missionaries to the American Indian shifted dramatically to serving a growing immigrant population and thus changed the face of the Church in Oklahoma.

From the Archives …

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St. Eugene students serve community during Lent

Spirit, mind and body – the commitment to the education of the whole person is one of the facets of Catholic education. In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Catholic schools’ emphasis on academic excellence is rivaled only by their emphasis on service. Serve, appreciate, love and teach has been a component of Saint Eugene Catholic School’s curriculum since 2018. S.A.L.T. was implemented as a resource to foster an early love for service by focusing on a specific age-appropriate theme throughout the school year. From Prek to eighth grade, students study lessons related to their theme, culminating in a school-wide day of service. On April 1, students from Saint Eugene spent the day serving the community.

Caring for living things/God’s creations: Prek students spent the day planting flower seeds around the school campus and making flower pots for church staff members while land surveyors made donations to animals at Martin Park Nature Center.

Caring for the sick: Second graders toured Bethany Children’s Health Center and decorated the sidewalk with messages of encouragement to patients.

Poverty and homelessness: Third graders learned about available programs at The Sharer.

Sally Linhart
The Sooner Catholic

Kim Hattaway, a Saint Eugene parent and employee, described S.A.L.T. as the underpinning of a Catholic education. “I love that we focus on this all year long; it’s not just a one-day event,” Hattaway said.

Guest speakers and smaller projects are typical in the months leading up to the day of service. Guest speakers from The Sperm Project visited with seventh graders to talk about refugees in Oklahoma.

“The students aren’t just learning about doing good works, they are getting out there to serve,” she said.

Brigitte Silvernail and Colleen de Keratry serve together as S.A.L.T. co-chairwomen. The idea came to fruition after de Keratry learned about a similar program in Chicago.

“Her idea is to educate students about the theme, provide opportunities for them to take action and encourage prayer and reflection,” Silvernail stated. “It’s a concrete way for students to demonstrate love for their neighbors, and see how their faith relates to serving other people, so they carry it forward the rest of their lives.”

Student Lauren O’Donnell said, “We went to Saint Ann to play bingo with the seniors. At first, I was nervous, but then I found it fun, even though I didn’t win. In the end, I didn’t want to leave.”

In addition to learning about their specific theme, students at each grade level researched a saint that is relevant to the theme. Throughout the year, students shared their knowledge with their peers by presenting the information to the school.

Silvernail and de Keratry noted that S.A.L.T. provides intentional opportunities for students and their parents – to be active in the community.

Susan Ison, faith formation facilitator at Saint Eugene, explained that for students, another important aspect of S.A.L.T. is ownership.

“Students are involved in the planning process of their service projects, they brainstorm to figure out how they can help and what they can do, including researching organizations,” Ison said.

“Our hope is that when they leave Saint Eugene and see the importance of service and carry it with them.”

For more information, visit steugeneschool.org.

Sally Linhart is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Irish academic team wins 5A state title

By Kate Fletcher
Ch: Bozue web editor

The academic team at Bishop McGuinness Catholic School won the 5A Academic Bowl state championship April 2.

The school placed in the top six the last 15 of 17 years, but had not won state since winning back-to-back titles in 1999 and 2000.

“Going into the last quarter of the championship game against Bishop Kelley it was tied, so it was nerve-wrecking, but it was very exciting once we won,” team captain Curt Schwager said.

Team member Chris Bayless was chosen as one of the 36 high school seniors among all OSSAA classes to be honored as Academic Bowl All-State. He competed in the All-State games April 9.

In addition to Schwager and Bayless, members of the championship team include Lindsay Best, Jacob Love, Riley McCoy, Chisa Nwanebu, Lucia Corredor and Sam Wilson. Physics teacher Nicky Goff is the head coach for the team, and science department coordinator Julia Anderson-Holt serves as assistant coach.
**Cristo Rey OKC business program teaches for the future**

By Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski
Catholic News Service

In October 2023, Pope Francis will convene the 21st Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops with the theme, “For a Synodal Church: Community, Participation and Mission.”

Since the close of the Second Vatican Council, popes have convened such synods, made up of representative bishops gathered from across the world, to advise them on important matters to the life of the Church. The one that will open in Rome in October 2023 will be the 16th such gathering of bishops and other delegations composed of priests, religious and lay people, to collaborate with the pope in the exercise of his universal magisterium.

Usually, after the close of the synod, the pope will solicit the suggestions, insights and recommendations of the Synod Fathers and issue in his own name an apostolic exhortation. But, as Pope Francis put it in a speech on Oct. 26, 2019, “The Synod is a fundamental experience of the church’s synodal nature.”

**Synodality**

The word itself comes from the Greek and it means basically “journeying together.” “Synodal” refers to the very essence of the Church, its constitutive reality and thus is always oriented to evangelization. But, as Pope Francis himself admits, “Journeying together is also a task for the bishop-pastors, the bishop of Rome – it is an easy concept to put into words, but not so easy to put in practice.”

Usually, themes for general synods are selected by the bishops of the world and once chosen by the pope the bishops collaborate on “linesman” (a preliminary outline) to elicit feedback from concerned parties, from which an “instrumentum laboris” — a working document — will serve as a basis for the discussions at the synod.

However, Pope Francis has decided on a novel approach. He wants every local church (diocese) to participate, followed by consultations at the level of national conferences of bishops and continental assemblies. This ambitious undertaking will take two years to complete — with the diocesan phase beginning in October 2021.

The General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops has prepared a supplementary document, accompanied by a questionnaire and a “catechumen” with proposals for consultations in each local church. The Holy Father opened the synod in the Vatican Oct. 9. Bishops were asked to open their own diocesan “phase” in their cathedrals on Oct. 17. By the end of April 2022, everyone who wished to were given the opportunity to “be ‘listened’ to in some fashion so that the pope can benefit from the ‘sermua fabit in credente’ (the sense of faith in believing).

The pope views this as an exercise of “spiritual discernment.” One listening to the others and all listening to the Holy Spirit (Pope Francis, Oct. 17, 2019).

So, as we embark on this “journeying together” let us accept the “Comun, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful ... and you shall renew the face of the earth.”

Archbishop Wenski has headed the Archdio- cese of Miami since June 2010.

**Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School uses the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship cur- riculum each year to inspire students’ creativity and tech- nical know-how.**

Students are challenged to design and create fully func- tioning apps and products addressing needs they see in the community. The students showcase their entrepreneurial and app-building skills each year to secular judges in the community.

This year’s NFTE showcase was March 31 where each stu- dent presented to six judges. The support of the students and individuals allows Cristo Rey stu- dents to engage with successful members of society and aspire to reach ambitious goals.

The students’ innovation is also able to shine as they presented products. One product was Green Snack, which packaged uniquely for specific plants to Nature’s Tainted, which deemed what would happen to animals if people continued to destroy the environment using hand-crafted wooden figurines as symbols.

St. Anthony Catholic School reunion

St. Anthony Catholic School Alumni Association is planning an all-school reunion for any- one who attended St. Anthony School from 1917 to 1970. The reunion is on 1 p.m., July 16 at the St. Anthony Activity Center (former St. Anthony School/ gym). Dinner reservations, $20 pp. Deadline June 15. Contact Larry Bulde at certchurchcatholic@hotmail.com, (816) 756-1792.

Ignatian Year Spirituality Conference

The Ignatian Year Spirituality Conference, “See All Things New in Christ,” is July 20-31 at Mar- riant Dallas (Fair North West- lake. The event is hosted by the Ignatian Spirituality Institute of Dallas. For more information and to register, call (940) 268-8788 or visit igntnaisstitute.org.

**“Journeying together” is at heart of Church’s synods, synodal preparation**

By Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski
Catholic News Service

Seminarium formation after the conclusion of the post-Vatican II era – the fruits of which we are now seeing in the quality of priests ordained in recent years. Perhaps better known to many today is “Evangelii Gaudium” (the new evangelization for the formation of the Christian faith), in which the newly elected Pope Francis published in 2013 the direction in which he wished to take his pontificate.

Besides these general synods, the pope can convene a particular synod of a special region. Saint John Paul II held several continental synods, and most recently, Pope Francis held a Pan-Amazonian regional synod. Many dioceses also hold synods – here in the Archdiocese of Miami we had two in our 60-plus-year history. One convened by Archbishop McCarthy in the late 1950s, the other in 2003, accompanied by a questionnaire and a “vade-mecum” with proposals for consultations in each local church. The Holy Father opened the synod in the Vatican Oct. 9. Bishops were asked to open their own diocesan “phase” in their cathedrals on Oct. 17. By the end of April 2022, everyone who wished to were given the opportunity to “be ‘listened’ to in some fashion so that the pope can benefit from the ‘sermua fabit in credente’ (the sense of faith in believing).”

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revival events, leading to the eucharistic congress in Indianapolis in 2024. It is expected to draw at least 80,000 people from across the country.

The U.S. bishops approved plans for the revival and the congress this past Novem- ber during their full general assembly in Baltimore. Both are being spearheaded by the USCCB’s Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis.

“As Pope Francis reminded us, even in a time of turbulence and crisis, Jesus is present among us in the Eucharist – body and blood, soul and divinity,” Archbishop Coakley said. “The salvation offered in the life, death and resurrection of Christ is nothing less than sharing in the commu- nion of love among the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. There is no greater gift God could give us. The Eucharistic Revival will be a tremendous opportu- nity for the faithful in our parishes and schools to reconnect and be fulfilled in the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus.”

To learn more about the Eucharistic Revival, visit archokc.org/revival.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Cath- olic.
Photos Chris Porter, Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic and provided.
Archbishop Coakley celebrated a confirmation Mass on April 13 with students from Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Hobart, and Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Mangum. Photos provided.

Fr. Jim Goins saved his cat, Nova, from a tree at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Norman. Photo provided.

Parishes and Catholic schools throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City brought awareness to National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To report abuse or inappropriate behavior with a minor immediately, contact local law enforcement and the state Department of Human Services at (800) 522-3511, archdiocesan clergy abuse hotline at (405) 720-9878. Learn more at archokc.org/safe-environment.

An outdoor egg hunt was held on Easter Monday at the Gospel of Life Disciples St. John Paul II Dwelling in Moore. Sr. Maria of the Trinity started the morning with a prayer, and children were treated to cookies and juice after the egg hunt. Photo Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic.

Support Oklahoma Catholic Radio!
Visit OKCR.org (833) 652-7234

Oklahoma Catholic Radio is an affiliate of EWTN. The network recently got permission to add seven more stations.

Deacon Sousa said he loves to hear from people in Oklahoma call into national Catholic radio programs such as “Catholic Answers Live” or “Call to Communion with Dr. David Anders.” Of course, operating and expanding a robust radio network is an expensive project. For each station there are licensing, permitting, utility and other overhead costs that must be met to continue to provide quality programming.

Deacon Sousa said making a commitment to a monthly gift is especially helpful because that allows the staff to plan and budget. People who give monthly are called “Keepers of the Airwaves.”

All gifts to Oklahoma Catholic Radio are tax deductible.

Debi Wagner is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
**School accreditation manager - OKC**
The Catholic Education Office for the Diocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time accreditation manager to support and coordinate the accreditation process. The individual will be working closely with the diocesan School Accreditation Office and the Diocesan Accreditation Office. This is a full-time position requiring a Bachelor’s degree in education, administration, or a related field. Experience in educational accreditation is preferred. Applicants must be able to work independently, manage a large volume of information, and communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders. This position offers a competitive salary and benefits package. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to archdiocese@archokc.org.

**Social services case manager**
Lifeway Ministries in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time social services case manager to assist with the daily operations of the LifeWay Network, providing support and guidance for individuals in need. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in social work or a related field, along with two years of experience in the social services field. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to lifeway@archokc.org.

**Principle - OKC**
Brother John, O.S.B. is seeking a part-time principle for a local school in the Oklahoma City area. This position requires a strong work ethic and the ability to work well with students and colleagues. A Bachelor’s degree in education or a related field is preferred. This is a part-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to brotherjohn@archokc.org.

**Director of Youth Ministry - Enid**
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Enid is seeking a full-time director of youth ministry to coordinate and implement youth programming and events. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in theology, education, or a related field, along with at least two years of experience in youth ministry. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to directorofyouthministry@archokc.org.

**Youth Minister - OKC**
The Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time youth minister to coordinate and implement youth ministry programs and events. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in theology, education, or a related field, along with at least two years of experience in youth ministry. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to youthminister@archokc.org.

**Organist - Kingfisher**
St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Kingfisher is seeking an organist to provide spiritual leadership and direction to the musical life of the parish. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in music or a related field, along with at least two years of experience in organ performance. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to organist@archokc.org.

**Church Choir Director - OKC**
The Secretariat for Stewardship and Development in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time Church Choir Director to coordinate and implement music ministry programs and events. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in music or a related field, along with at least two years of experience in church music direction. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to churchchoirdirector@archokc.org.

**Teacher - OKC**
Mount St. Mary Catholic High School in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time teacher for the following positions: Religion, Spanish, English, and Math. This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in the subject area, along with at least two years of experience in teaching. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and be able to work independently. This is a full-time position with benefits. For consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to teacher@archokc.org.
María y el mes de mayo

“Mayo es el mes de María, y me maravilla y no sé por qué”. Así comienza el poema “El Magníficat de mayo” de Gerard Manley Hopkins. Deberíamos maravillarnos también. La coronación de la Virgen en mayo, el día de las madres, la fiesta de la Visitación y la abundancia de flores en la primavera son todos buenos motivos para asociar a María en este mes de extraordinaria abundancia. Mayo es un mes de extraordinaria abundancia. Abundancia que fluye en el camino de Dios. María nos enseña, para poder llenarnos de la vida abundante de Dios, debemos primero vaciarnos de todo lo que no nos hace honor a Él. Nos enseña a que hagamos espacio para Dios.

María no es solo la madre de Dios, sino la primera discípula del hijo que María misma concebía en su vientre virginal: “He aquí la esclava del Señor; hágalme de todo lo que no sea Dios. No me démos la mano y no me cedas el corazón”. María se entregó a la voluntad de Dios con espíritu de sacrificio: “Hágase en mí según tu palabra” (Le 1,38).

En principio a fin, la Inmaculada Virgen María permeó totalmente cooperativa con la obra de la gracia de Dios en su vida. Su oyente corazón estaba siempre listo para responder con la obediencia de la fe. Ella siempre estaba preparada para hacer la voluntad de Dios. Nunca se trastó de ella. Como exclamó a su prima Isabel: “El Todopoderoso ha hecho grandes cosas por mí, y santo es su nombre” (Lc 1,49).

En 1965, san Pablo VI publicó una carta encíclica titulada “En el mes de mayo”, en ella escribió a los fieles invitándolos a que “en este mes mariano nuestras súplicas para imporlar con crecido fervor y confianza sus gracias y favores”. Mayo, el mes de María, nos ofrece una oportunidad para renovar y descubrir algunas de las ricas devociones marianas que la Iglesia nos ha ofrecido a lo largo de los siglos.

“Mayo es el mes de María, y nos brinda una oportunidad para renovar y descubrir algunas de las ricas devociones marianas que la Iglesia nos ha ofrecido a lo largo de los siglos”. La belleza de esta devoción es que nos ayuda a cimentar nuestro día en la oración. Hay muchas maneras de honrar a María con prácticas devocionales e imitando sus virtudes.

Muy importante es aprender a honrar a María en nuestros hogares. A cada día del mes, el Santuario del Beato Rother tendrá bendición y dedicación a las 11:30, del 6 de mayo al 30 de mayo. Para obtener más detalles y actualizaciones sobre los eventos de dedicación, visite archokc.org/shrinededication.
**Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa and St. Gregory's Abbey have launched the Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project to better understand the history, educational value and experiences of Native students in Oklahoma Catholic boarding schools from 1880 to 1965. To contribute documents, photographs or oral history to the project, e-mail info@okcatrivesproject.org.

**Listening Sessions**

Dcn. Roy Callahan and Susan Callahan with the American Indian Catholic Outreach office are coordinating Listening Sessions throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa to provide a forum for people to discuss their experiences in former Catholic Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma. For more information, contact Dcn. Callahan at okcatrivesproject.org or go online to archokc.org/okcatrivesproject.

**Poland, Vienna, Germany pilgrimage**

Join Fr. Rick Stanislawski on an 11-day pilgrimage to Poland, Vienna and Germany May 1-11. The pilgrimage includes a 3-night stay at the Benedictine Monastery Passion Play. Other hosts include Marcinioł Ambrozio, Fr. Casey J. Jones and Dn. Pete Maidak. Contact Select International Tours at (800) 842-4842, jancek@select-intl.com. Visit selectinternationaltours.com.

**Rakiec's Vineyard**

A Rachael's Vineyard retreat weekend for people working toward healing after abortion is June 3-5, in Oklahoma City. Pre-registration is required. Call (405) 709-2714 or e-mail rachael@vinyardokc.org, and begin the process to reconcile the pain and hurt in a confidential, non-judgmental environment.

**Gift of Love Gala**

The Center of Family Love and Oklahoma Knights of Columbus will host the annual Gift of Love Gala on June 4 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. Visit okc.org or call (405) 263-4658, Ext. 1009.

**Day of Reflection**

Day of Reflection, “Blessed are the Meek and Courageous Christians,” presented by Br. Peter Schulz, O.S.B., is 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. June 25 at St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Limited seating. Masks are recommended, but not required. Attendees must pre-register at retreat@okcarch.org or visit helpourmarriage.org.

**Easter celebration**

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church is celebrating the Easter Season with a family day of festivities 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. May 14 at 3901 S. Stanton Blvd., in Del City. The day will include crafts, drama, music, lunch and an Easter egg hunt. RSVP by May 4 to religiouseducation@paolokc.org.

**Day of Silence**

A Day of Silence, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Lunch is open to the public. Call (405) 787-5656. Cost $30 pre-paid or $35 at the door. Lunch included.

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**TRIP INFORMATION:**

- **TOUR INCLUDES:**
  - Round trip scheduled commercial air transportation to St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Leningrad, Leningrad Oblast, Russia
  - 6 night accommodations in Leningrad & St. Petersburg
  - Round trip airfare - round trip airfare (St. Petersburg, Leningrad Oblast, Russia)
  - All meals (8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners)
  - Entry into known tourist attractions
  - Complimentary airport pickup and dropoff
  - Tour guide in English

- **TRIP COST:**
  - $5,559.00 per person

- **TRIP DATES:**
  - October 6 - 15, 2022

- **VISAS:**
  - Russian visas are required. Call (405) 709-2714, jvandervort@archokc.org, (405) 709-2714, jvandervort@archokc.org.

- **TOUR QUALIFICATIONS:**
  - Kloster is limited to the public and requires previous pilgrimage to Europe.
  - Call (405) 709-2714 for more information.

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**Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women convention**

9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expwy., Oklahoma City. Visit okcarch.org/events.

**Bretzvouille**

May 6-8. Contact (405) 443-3541 or helpourmarriage.org.

**Father and son retreat**

May 6-7. Visit okcarch.org/archdiocese/fathers. Contact Dcn. Joe Vandervort at (405) 709-2714, jvandervort@archokc.org.

**First Saturday Sacred Heart Mass**

Mass at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:30 p.m.; reconciliation prior to 7 p.m. Mass. Call (405) 721-8944, (405) 528-6252.

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**Lay Missionaries of Charity**

Provides an explanation through prayer and the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Meeting on the first Saturday of the month at St. Ann for Holy Mass at 9:30, adoration and the Rosary. On the third Saturday of the month the meeting is at Holy Innocents’ conference room. Contact Toni Harrelson at (405) 341-2199.

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Rother shrine roof, brick nearing completion

By Diane Clay
The Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY – For several months, the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine has been blue and salmon as crews worked to finish placing roof tiles and brick. Starting next month, the shrine church will begin to resemble its Spanish Colonial style.

The roof and brick will be completed by the end of June, taking a major visual step toward the completion and dedication of the shrine on Nov. 4.

The roof of the shrine, including the large dome and smaller dome caps, is 30 percent complete. It will be covered with the same synthetic Spanish tile as the rest of the shrine roof with final roof tiles scheduled to be placed mid-June.

White brick already covers the sides of the shrine, and masonry crews are working their way up the front towers of the church.

The brick work is 75 percent complete and will be finished by the end of May.

Near the end of the project the zocalo will be completed, creating a large gathering space leading to the front doors of the shrine, complete with fountain.

Inside the shrine, drywall has begun in the chapel, nave, sacristy and entry wings.

Each day, these projects are being undertaken by 60 to 70 crew members, some of whom will attend Mass at the shrine church.

The Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine will be blessed and dedicated at 11 a.m. Nov. 4 with the first Mass celebrated by Archbishop Coakley. He will be joined by bishops from across the country and Guatemala, priests from Oklahoma and other dioceses, religious men and women, the Rother family and the faithful.

The event is open to the public.

The following day, Nov. 5, Archbishop Coakley will lead a procession, blessing and dedication of Tepeyac Hill on the shrine campus with statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego at the top.

The shrine is named for Blessed Stanley Rother, an Okarche farmer who in 1963 became a priest of what was then the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa and served as a missionary in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala. In 1981, Father Rother was murdered in his rectory during a violent civil war. The perpetrators have never been caught. In 2016, Pope Francis declared him a martyr for the faith – the first recognized Catholic martyr from the United States. He was beatified in 2017 in Oklahoma City.

The $40 million shrine is the signature element of the first-ever capital campaign for the archdiocese – One Church, Many Disciples. The site eventually will include the 2,000-seat church, a chapel where Blessed Stanley will be entombed, an educational building, an event space and several areas designated for shrines and devotion. The site will be developed over time.

Along with the Spanish colonial-style church – which will be the largest Catholic Church in Oklahoma – additional elements at the shrine site will be a Tepeyac Hill and a museum and pilgrim center. Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City is where Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego in 1531. The pilgrim center and museum will welcome thousands of visitors each year to an experience that leads them through the life, witness and martyrdom of Blessed Stanley.

The church will host many large diocesan events and will help accommodate the growing Hispanic population whose parishes are significantly overcrowded.

The design architect for the project is Franck & Lohsen Architects in Washington D.C. They are supported by local architectural firm ADG. The general contractor is The Boldt Company in Oklahoma City with Cooper Project Advisors serving as the owner’s representative.

For more details and updates on dedication events, visit archokc.org/shrinededication. For more information about the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine, visit rothershrine.org.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.