Sooner Catholic

soonercatholic.org **August 7, 2022** archokc.org

Go Make Disciples

U.S. Bishops' Secretariat for Child, Youth Protection releases annual report

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection has released their 2021 annual report. The report is based on the audit findings of StoneBridge Business Partners, a specialty consulting firm headquartered in Rochester, N.Y., which provides forensic, internal and compliance audit services to leading organizations nationwide. A survey on allegations conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate is also included as a part of the report.

This is the 19th such report since 2002 when the U.S. bishops established and adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, a comprehensive set of procedures to address allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy and made a promise to protect and a pledge to heal.

The 2021 report for audit year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, states that 2,930 victim survivors came forward with 3,103 allegations. The number of allegations is 1,149 less than that reported in 2020. This decrease is due in large part to the resolution of allegations

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Catholic Charities, parishes and communities welcome refugees

Maleeha Siddique came from Afghanistan as a refugee 19 years ago and now works for Catholic Charities in the refugee resettlement department. *Photo provided.*

By Jolene Schonchin
The Sooner Catholic

Since mid-September 2021, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has helped more than 1,800 Afghan refugees that arrived in Oklahoma. It can take many years to properly resettle a refugee into a new country and establish self-sustainability.

Some of these Afghan refugees who have arrived worked in the military as translators, journalists and other occupations that made them a target due to their allegiance to the United States government.

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Blessing the cross

Archbishop Coakley visited the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on July 25 to tour the progress and bless the cross on top of the main dome. The cross was added on after the dome was lifted into place. *Photos Avery Holt*

World Youth Day invites young adults to a life-changing pilgrimage

By Jolene Schonchin
The Sooner Catholic

World Youth Day is one year away and coordinators are busy organizing the event and inviting youth to participate in the international gathering. It will take place July 27 – Aug. 8, 2023, in Rome and Lisbon, and it is estimated that more than one million Catholic youth will attend.

The theme of the 2023 World Youth Day is to "Arise and Go." World Youth Day is about answering the Lord's call to go back to action and to move oneself and others towards him.

"It is so timely as we begin to shed the reclusive habits of the pandemic," said Jayce Palmer, director of Young Adult and Campus Evangelization and Discipleship of the

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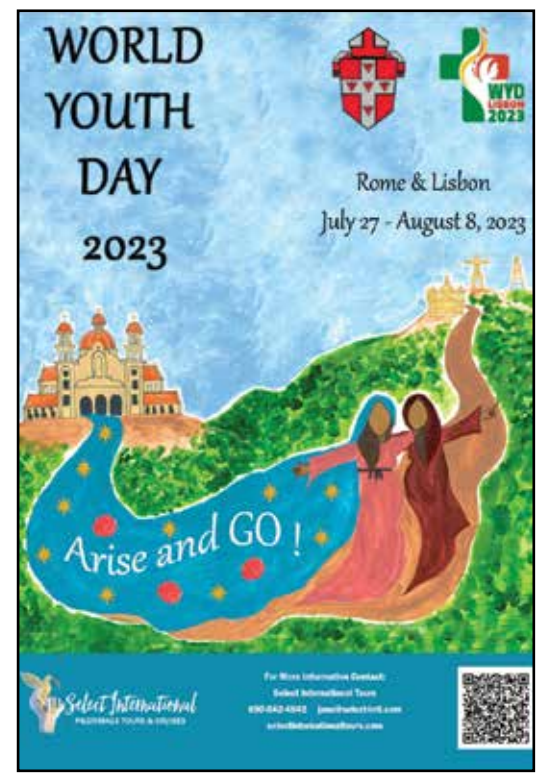
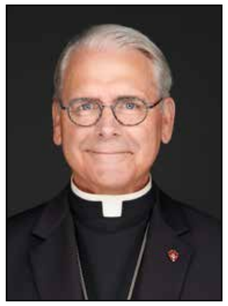


Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

A Catholic's Duty in Post-Roe America

Restricting abortion isn't enough. We need to open our doors to vulnerable mothers and children.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

"If you are pregnant and in need, come to the Catholic Church."

The late Cardinal John O'Connor spoke these words more than 30 years ago, when he founded the Sisters of Life, a Catholic pro-life religious order in New York. His remark was a welcoming call to expecting mothers with nowhere to turn and a plea to the American church to act as guardians to all of God's children. O'Connor's words rang true then and are perhaps even more important now.

The church in America stands on the precipice of a new beginning. On June 24, the Supreme Court struck down the infamous precedent Roe v. Wade, returning the question of abortion to state governments and to the hearts and minds of all Americans.

Reversing Roe represented a necessary first step to bring about a culture of life, from conception to natural death, and end a culture of abortion and death. The court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization will save many lives and help to affirm human dignity at all stages of development. But the demise of Roe is, as Churchill put it, only the end of the beginning.

It also is a reminder of our duty as Catholics. By virtue of our baptism, we are called to see Christ in every human life, and to work and pray for a society in which laws reflect the inherent dignity of the human person. This commitment requires us to create alternatives to abortion and ultimately to make it unthinkable. The end of Roe challenges us anew to open our hearts, and our doors, to mothers and children in need through foster care and adoption—to what Pope Francis called "the highest form of love, and of fatherhood and motherhood."

A year ago the high court unanimously protected Catholic ministries that serve vulnerable children in need of loving foster and adoptive homes. In Fulton v. City of Philadelphia, the justices ensured that Catholic Social Services, serving in the heart of inner-city Philadelphia, can fulfill its foster-care ministry in accordance with the faith that animates its mission. Fulton was a major victory for religious liberty and for people of faith across America. But it was also a clarion call for the church to redouble its millennia-old service to the most vulnerable among us.

Before the decision in Fulton, several Catholic foster-care and adoption ministries in the U.S.—including in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia—closed their doors when local and state governments demanded they endorse same-sex relationships. By ending decades of service to those most in need, they left untold numbers of children without a loving foster home and potentially missing out on the blessing of adoption.

It is time for dioceses across the country to reopen and reinvigorate these life-affirming ministries to serve children in need. It is imperative that we as Catholics answer this call with enthusiasm, not only to ease our nation's foster-care crisis, but to provide good soil for expecting mothers in a post-Roe America.

For decades, our country has viewed abortion as a solution to a problem, a quick fix for an unwanted burden. Catholics must resolve to undermine this deeply antihuman premise. Words and statements aren't enough. We must attend to our society's most vulnerable through our actions and our ministries. We must help mothers and children in need, and we must encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to do the same.

In Fulton, the Supreme Court vindicated the right of Catholic foster and adoption services to continue their ministry in accordance with their faith. It is now time to embrace this freedom with full force. Supporting life-affirming ministries like crisis pregnancy centers and foster and adoption agencies is an excellent start. All Catholics dioceses, churches, schools, families and individuals are essential in this effort.

Working together in faith and confidence, our Catholic communities, in every state in this union, can restore America's dedication to treasuring the miracle of life.

Originally published in the Wall Street Journal on July 10, 2022

Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

Aug. 7 – Mass and blessing of new administrative building, 11 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Purcell
Aug. 7 – Cookout with seminarians, 5:30 p.m., archbishop's residence
Aug. 8 – Photo and meeting with seminarians, 9 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 9 – Presbyteral Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 9 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., Saint Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 9 – All staff meeting, 12:30 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 9 – Archdiocesan Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 11 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., Saint Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 11 – Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine Building Committee meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Aug. 11 – Archbishop's Dinner for Seminarian Education, 6:30 p.m., Omni Hotel, OKC

Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

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

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

✔ **For the** faithful departed. May they enjoy eternal rest in God's heavenly kingdom. We pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

✔ **Oktoberfest auction** - Join parishioners at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang for the eighth annual Oktoberfest auction at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at 1100 N. Sara Rd. in Mustang. Adults only (21+). Tickets $50, includes auction, dinner, drinks and games. Register at (405) 376-9435.

✔ **Merciful mother's retreat** - A retreat for every stage of motherhood "The Merciful Mama" is 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 22 at St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church, 600 S. Garth Brooks Blvd. in Yukon. Retreat led by Lauren Nelson, creator of Gathering Manna. Cost $25 pp. Childcare available; $10 per child (four or more children free). Register at sjnok.org/news. RSVP deadline Oct. 15.

@archokc

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the
wonder of our being;for
mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they
begin a new school year.
Bless them and their
teachers and staff.
Give them strength and
grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge
as they search for
understanding; and peace
and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Statement of bishop chairmen on July 4 shooting

WASHINGTON - In response to the July 4 shooting in Highland Park, Ill., which killed seven and injured dozens more, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth issued the following statement:

"Over the holiday, yet another community experienced the devastation of a mass shooting, a situation that has become shockingly commonplace in our country. One of the many horrors that emerged from this shooting was the orphaning of a 2-year-old boy. He was found underneath his father, who died shielding him from gunfire. Our prayers are with this child, and all those who grieve in the face of this tragedy."

"It seems there are no days of the year when our nation is not grieving the latest mass shooting. It has not always been this way, and it is getting worse. That the Highland Park shooting took place on a day when we celebrate all that is good about America and America's freedoms is a devastating reminder that mass shootings do not happen with the same relentless and brutal frequency in other places in the world.

"It can be hard to find hope now, though we know our hope is in Jesus who is always near to us in suffering. We are grateful that Congress recently passed its first major gun legislation in nearly 30 years. But in the face of these repeated acts of violence, that cannot be all we do. We call on Catholics, lawmakers, community leaders, health care and social service providers, law enforcement, and families to keep pushing for change and offer prayers, support, and generous assistance to victims. For years, the Catholic bishops of the United States have supported policies to strengthen gun laws, as well as emphasized mental health, family, and cultural factors, aimed at curbing gun violence. We support a total ban on assault weapons and limitations on civilian access to high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines. It is sobering to think that as horrible as mass shootings are, they are but a sliver of total annual homicides committed with guns; and gun homicides, in turn, are far outnumbered by gun suicides.

"May we live to see an America that can celebrate its freedoms without orphaning its children. May the pursuit of liberty one day be a faithful guardian to the pursuit of life. May the Light of God's compassion shine on us and guide our feet out of darkness and the shadow of death, and into the way of peace."

Addition made to abuse list

At the recommendation of the Archdiocesan Review Board, the following priest has been added to the list of priests with substantiated allegations of abuse of a minor.

Fr. Larry Gatlin
Date of Birth: Nov. 22, 1936
Date of Ordination: Dec. 30, 1967
Date of Death: March 17, 2008

Served at:
St. Joseph (Bison)
St. James (OKC) (twice – once as pastor)
Holy Spirit (Mustang)
Corpus Christi (OKC)
St. Joseph (Norman)
St. Gregory's (Enid)
St. Joseph (Buffalo)
St. Mary (Tulsa)
Chaplain at St. Ann Retirement (OKC)

More information and the full list can be found on the archdiocesan website at archokc.org/clergyabuse.

A Sister of Life from Oklahoma professes first vows

NEW YORK CITY - The Sisters of Life, a religious congregation with a special fourth vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life, is pleased to announce that seven sisters professed their first vows as Sisters of Life on June 25, the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Suffern, N.Y. Bishop Salvatore Matano of the Diocese of Rochester, N.Y., was the principal celebrant and homilist. Mother Agnes, Mother Superior of the Sisters of Life, received the sisters into the community at the Mass.

One sister was from Oklahoma. Karalyn Finnell, now known as Sister Zion Joy, is 29 years old and graduated from the Academy of Contemporary Music at the University of Central Oklahoma in 2015, with a degree in contemporary vocal performance. Prior to entering the Sisters of Life in 2019, she served as a Catholic singer/songwriter and a missionary through Catholic Youth Expeditions, Catholic Familyland and the Community of the Beatitudes Missions.

She is the daughter of Jeff and Kathryn Finnell of Edmond. The family attends Saint Monica Catholic Church in Edmond. Her siblings are Lorryn McGarry and her husband Taylor; Garrett Finnell and his wife Caye and Alayna Finnell.

Sister Zion Joy has been with the Sisters of Life for three years; one year as a postulant and two years as a novice, serving in the New York City area. The Sisters of Life operate crisis pregnancy centers in New York City and promote the sanctity of life at all stages of life.

Sister Zion Joy

Rother shrine update

Go Make Disciples
BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Shrine Bells

The shrine church will have two main bell towers. The northern bell tower will house a bronze bell weighing approximately 1,000 pounds. The diameter of the bell will be 37 inches and will have a steel striker. The following will be etched onto the bell:

GO MAKE DISCIPLES MT 28:18-20
ARCHBISHOP PAUL S. COAKLEY
2022
BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER,
PRAY FOR US

The second bell tower will have an electronic carillon bell system that will play different melodies for different events and seasons such as wedding peals or Christmas hymns.

LUNCHEONS 4 LIFE
A FREE MONTHLY GATHERING HOSTED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

FEATURING SPEAKER
DEACON JOE VANDERVORT
RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY COORDINATOR
AUG. 11, 2022 | 11:30 A.M.
ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH
3939 W. TECUMSEH RD.
NORMAN, OK 73072
HEAR WHAT OTHER MINISTRIES ARE DOING
PLEASE RSVP TO
JVANDERVORT@ARCHOKC.ORG

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Archbishop of Oklahoma City
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Volume 44, Number 14

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The Sooner Catholic
(USPS 066-910) is published biweekly except for once in January and July by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The newspaper is not responsible for unsolicited material.
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Subscription rate: $35 per year for all who are not members of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Periodical postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Sooner Catholic, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

The Sooner Catholic is supported through the Annual Catholic Appeal and Sooner Catholic Communications Appeal.

Official Pastoral Assignments 2022

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Assignments were effective on July 19, 2022, unless otherwise noted.

Parochial Vicar
(Associate Pastor)

Rev. Udayakumar Kandula

St. Peter the Apostle Church, Guymon; St. Frances Cabrini Church, Beaver; Church of the Good Shepherd, Boise City; Sacred Heart Church, Hooker

Parochial Vicar
(Associate Pastor)

Rev. Showri Babu Gali

St. Joseph Old Cathedral, Oklahoma City

Parochial Vicar
(Associate Pastor)

Rev. Robert J. Miller

St. Joseph Church, Norman

From the Archives …

A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist

Priest, pastor, historian, story-teller par excellence and Oklahoma treasure are just of the few of the descriptions one could use for the recently-deceased Father James White. With a wry wit and a tinge of sarcasm, Father White served the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, and later the Diocese of Tulsa, for more than 50 years. No one knew more about the history of the Church in Oklahoma than Father White, and no one could be more colorful and interesting in the rendering of that unique history.

A gifted and highly-intelligent man, James D. White was born in Chicago, Ill., on April 15, 1939. A convert to Catholicism at age 10, he quickly felt he was being called to the priesthood. He attended two seminaries as he sought to discern God's call. Before his ordination, he worked in a bank in Chicago and then at the Catholic Church Extension Society that specialized in assisting rural ministry.

After two years at Extension, he applied and was accepted as a seminarian for Oklahoma. After he finished his education at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, Texas, he was ordained on Feb. 21, 1969, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Norman. His first pastoral assignment was Holy Family Cathedral in Tulsa, where he remained for three years. His natural curiosity moved him toward learning more about his new state and especially the Church in Oklahoma.

At the encouragement of Bishop Reed, he began to research this history and capture volumes of information that would eventually lead to several books, including the magnificent "Diary of a Frontier Bishop," using the diaries of Bishop Meerchaert to highlight early history. While the Bishop's entries were sometimes brief, Father White's footnotes were fascinating and often humorous. He penned books for each diocese containing histories of the parishes and brief summations of Oklahoma Church history. His necrology of all the clergy and religious who served in the state, published in 1985, is still a constant source of information for all who seriously study the Church in Oklahoma.

In 2005, on the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of Oklahoma, Father White was the star of the video presentation commemorating the history.

Not only was he the go-to historian, but his career as a priest was also indeed admirable. With Poteau and its missions as his first pastorate, he renovated the church in Stigler and built a new one in Spiro. With the fall of Saigon and the influx of refugees into Fort Chaffee, Ark., he oversaw the sponsorship of 23 Vietnamese families.

With the restoration of the permanent diaconate after the Second Vatican Council, Father White was the director of the program starting from nothing. He held the office for eight years.

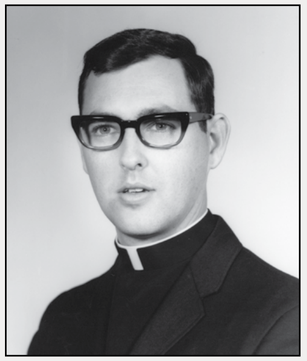
In 1978, he became the founding pastor of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church in Tulsa on the site that was supposed to have been the first seminary in the early 1930s, and due to a lack of funds became a girl's school, the historical significance was not lost on Father White. In 1984, the church was completed.

Understanding the close ties of the church with the Osage tribe, he completed another book on that very issue while pastor at Fairfax. Father White was officially appointed archivist for the Diocese of Tulsa in 2004, and his vast knowledge and insight were used to build an archive space complete with a state-of-the-art computer system for easy access. His mind never ceased creating and moving forward.

He retired to California and was priest in residence at a Los Angeles parish. Two years later, he retired from active ministry.

Returning home to Tulsa in 2018, he celebrated 50 years of priestly service in 2022 at the parish he founded: Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. With his passing on July 17, the Church in Oklahoma lost an important source who shared his encyclopedic knowledge with great energy.

Father Jim White's contributions as priest and historian were immense. His understanding of the human condition made him an effective purveyor of the faith and gave him a perspective necessary to dissect and comprehend the triumphs and foibles of that same humanity in history - and he loved preserving it. His passing leaves a void, but his writings continue to enlighten and impress.



Fr .Jim White's ordination photo, February 1969

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES

"I realized God created me to be a Benedictine"

By Diane Clay
The Sooner Catholic

Sister Lucy Marie Fitzmorris, O.S.B., is asked often how she knew she wanted to be a religious sister. She spent years contemplating the answer.

"It's still sort of a hard question to answer," she recently said during a talk on her vocation story at the Serra Club of Oklahoma City, an official lay apostolate of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City focused on fostering vocations.

"A large part of my discernment is learning who I am and who God created me to be. Living as a Benedictine is what is going to bring my whole self into communion with Christ. I realized I wanted to be a Benedictine when I realized God created me to be a Benedictine from birth."

Sister Lucy grew up in Yukon, attending Saint John Nepomuk Catholic Church with her family. She attended public school and didn't meet a religious sister until she attended Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School in Oklahoma City.

"There was still a sister teaching in the science department and just seeing her around opened new possibilities to me. Before that I didn't realize sisters were still a thing!"

As a senior, her dad began the process of becoming a deacon and she attended classes with him. As she learned, her faith grew and by the end of high school she asked if she could visit the convent in Tulsa.

She continued to discern while earning a bachelor's degree in computer engineering at the University of Oklahoma. While in Norman, she started attending Daily Mass and was among several women who started a discernment group at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church.

She attended a discernment retreat at the convent and visited the sisters every six months for the next three years. When she graduated with a master's degree in 2018, she formally entered the community at Saint Joseph Monastery.

Since 2021, Sister Lucy has served at Catholic Charities in Tulsa, helping Afghan refugees and working to help track the 10 million pounds of food distributed each year by Catholic Charities.

"When I started to discern it felt very isolating. I felt very alone as a woman considering contemplative life. When I heard people talk about communities of women, they were always romanticized, and I never thought I was called to that life, and I wasn't," she said.

"Conversion by the monastic way of life is ordinary. Come and live an ordinary life and be a human fully dedicated to Christ. As we become closer to our humanity, we become closer to becoming that image of God. Benedictine life is all about growing in our humility. I am living as God created me to live."

Sr. Lucy Marie Fitzmorris, O.S.B.

Sister Lucy said women from all backgrounds and education may be discerning a call to religious life, but many may not know where to start. She said young women need support and encouragement from their families, friends and parish communities as well as prayers for vocations.

"Nothing makes me happier than to receive a note reminding me they are praying for me," she said. "Thank you for all of the prayers for us."

Diane Clay is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Serra Club of Oklahoma City

The Serra Club of Oklahoma City meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The meetings include a speaker or presentation focused on vocations, followed by Mass.

Learn more at serraokc.org.

Br. Kevin (Eugene) McGuire, O.S.B.

Brother Kevin (Eugene) McGuire, O.S.B., monk of St. Gregory's Abbey, died July 7 in Shawnee. He was 83. Brother Kevin was born on May 17, 1939, in Oklahoma City to Paul and Doris (Ayotte) McGuire. He was baptized the next day and raised in the parish of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help along with his two brothers and one sister.

After graduating from St. Gregory's High School in 1957, Brother Kevin entered the novitiate at St. Gregory's Abbey. He professed first vows a Benedictine Lay Brother on July 11, 1958. He made his permanent commitment as a monk by professing Simple Perpetual Vows on April 13, 1962. He was nearing the 64th anniversary of his first profession at the time of his death.

Brother Kevin possessed a deep sense of piety throughout his life with devotion to the presence of the Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and the love of God made manifest in the Sacred Heart of Jesus. During his many years of outdoor work, he developed great sensitivity to God's self-revelation in nature through the changing of the seasons, the beauty of trees and the numerous species of birds that make the grounds of the monastery their home. Out of his love for birds he designed, built and installed hundreds of bluebird houses for the monastery and friends.

Brother Kevin served the monastic community in a wide variety of ways through manual labor, as caretaker of the Abbey cemetery and as a member of the Abbey Senior Council. He worked with the care of Abbey cattle, the harvest of farm crops, the maintenance of the facilities and vehicles and the beautification of the monastery and college grounds. Early in his monastic life he suffered frostbite in his hands, resulting in Raynaud's Syndrome. Despite this persistent condition, his love for outdoor work never wavered. He was particularly committed to adding trees to the campus, eventually planting most of the current trees on the property.

Br. Kevin (Eugene) McGuire, O.S.B.
May 17, 1939 – July 7, 2022

Photos Theresa Bragg.

He installed and maintained a network of pumps and irrigation pipes to bring water from monastery ponds to trees, shrubs and other plants during hot and dry periods of the long Oklahoma summer.

A natural engineer, Brother Kevin used discarded materials to design and build several tools and devices to use in his work. In the early1980s he combined an office chair, scrap pipe and an old car to build a system with which he ascended, sandblasted, cleaned and tuck-pointed the brick exteriors of the Abbey Church and the monumental academic center, Benedictine Hall. Along with serving as mechanic for the monastery, he assisted generations of students and friends who were having trouble with their cars and trucks. A triumph of his engineering and mechanical skills was the motorcycle he made from scrap, which he christened "Recycled Grace." For many years he used it to make an annual four-week "pilgrimage" to various parts of the United States to visit with family, alumni, friends, strangers and the occasional law-enforcement officer whose curiosity was piqued by the unusual bike.

Having lived his entire monastic life in residence at the monastery, Brother Kevin forged bonds of friendship with countless persons of all walks of life, backgrounds and ages. He read widely, and often expressed himself through

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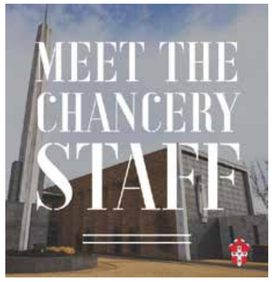

Lisa Carrasco

Lisa Carrasco is the coordinator of Hispanic marriage and family life. She has been at the Catholic Pastoral Center for 25 years. She serves as a primary diocesan resource for Hispanic family ministries and programs. Carrasco has a passion for helping couples see the beauty of living a sacramental marriage and guiding families to a better understanding of domestic church. Outside of the chancery, she enjoys yardwork when the temperature allows it, taking her 10-year-old dog, Max, for walks, and listening to oldies music with her husband of 38 years.

For more information on the programs and resources provided by the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry, visit archokc.org/family-life.

continued from page 5

poetry and the beautiful prose of his extensive correspondence. Many found inspiration, wisdom and guidance in his simplicity of life, spiritual outlook and direct manner of speaking.

As he likely would have wanted, Brother Kevin died while engaged in outdoor work on July 7. He is survived by the monks of St. Gregory's Abbey, brothers Hilary Paul (Phyllis) and Frank McGuire, sister Kathy Milot, and many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the Abbey Church on July 15 with interment following in the Abbey Cemetery.

Gifts in honor of Brother Kevin can be sent to The St. Gregory's Abbey Benefit Trust, 1900 W. MacArthur, Shawnee 74804, or online at monksok.org.

"Wonderfully Made"

The second annual "Wonderfully Made" mother/daughter event is Aug. 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman. This program is bilingual and geared toward helping mothers and daughters learn about the "feminine genius" as taught by St. John Paul II. The keynote speaker will be Silvia Vega, Catholic singer and recording artist from Memphis, Tenn., who will share her story about rejection from the secular music industry and how she is now using her talents for the Lord. There will be a presentation on Theology of the Body and a presentation on cycles – what is normal, abnormal and how to advocate for health. This year there will be an opportunity to practice charting cycles. The cost is $20 per household. Space is limited. Register online at archokc.org/wonderfully-made, or Contact Lisa Carrasco at lcarrasco@archokc.org.

A wonderful retreat for sacramentally married couples to begin or deepen their spiritual journey together as a couple.

Contacts: Brian and Kristy Simmons
domesticchurchokc@gmail.com or (405) 637-8231
Register online at www.DomesticChurchFamilies.com

Craft fair - Norman

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church Ladies Auxiliary in Norman is preparing for their annual craft fair on Nov. 12 and is looking for vendors. Crafters and artisans interested in reserving a booth should contact Teri O'Dell at (405) 250-2471.

Craft Fair - Mustang

Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang is reserving vendor tables for the annual Altar Society Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 12. Crafted and handmade items are highly encouraged. Contact Karen Lally for forms and more information at Klally50@gmail.com or (405) 488-8365.

Dcn. Byron Ray Jacobson Sr.

Deacon Byron Ray Jacobson, Sr. died July 19. He was a beloved husband, father and grandfather. He was born on Aug. 30, 1955, in Port Hueneme, Calif., to his loving parents, Russell Eugene Jacobson and Vivian Jane (Chase) Jacobson.

Dcn. Byron Jacobson Sr.

He married Cheryl Jacobson on Jan. 10, 1976, in Las Vegas, Nev., They have five children, their spouses and 12 grandchildren. Deacon Byron began his career with the United States Postal Service in 1977. He began as a letter carrier in the San Fernando Valley area of California. Moving up the ladder quickly, this brought his family to make the move from California to Norman, as he accepted the position as postmaster in 1990. He finished his career with the postal service at the National Center for Employee Development in Norman.

Deacon Byron was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City on Nov. 6, 1998. Following his retirement from the postal service, he faithfully served as the pastoral associate at Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman until August 2018.

To say he was the perfect gentleman would be an understatement. He was a good listener, the voice of reason, honest and humble. Those blessed to know him, loved him. There are no words to express how much his family and friends will miss him.

Deacon Byron is survived by his wife of 46 years, Cheryl Jacobson; sons, Byron Jacobson, Jr. (Allie) of North Carolina, Daniel Jacobson (Katie) of North Carolina; daughters, Meredith McCornack (Kenny) of Norman, Tanya Kohout (Bryan) of Norman, Becky Moran (Chasen) of Norman; mother, Vivian Jacobson; brother, Rusty Jacobson (Cheryl) of Basehor, Kan.; sisters, Tina Cunningham (John) of Yukon, Nancy Hughes of Norman; grandchildren, Madison, B.J., Alexis, Ashlyn, Charlee, Marshall, Eliot, Max, Ruby, Ryan, Madelyn, Jake; and a host of other family and many friends.

A prayer vigil was held July 25 at Saint Andrew Catholic Church in Moore. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 26 at Saint Andrew Catholic Church with interment following at Saint Joseph Cemetery in Norman. Online condolences may be shared at tribute.care.

Third annual Love Run to benefit The Center of Family Love

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

On Aug. 13, everyone is invited to Diamondback Harley Davidson in Lawton at 9:30 a.m. for the annual Knights of Columbus Knights on Bikes Love Run benefiting The Center of Family Love in Okarche. The center offers lifetime care to adults with physical and intellectual disabilities.

Debbie Espinosa, president and CEO of The Center of Family Love, said, "Each time we partner with this generous group of men, we are reminded of God's continuous love towards us. The Knights have been walking by our side since 1981 and their commitment grows stronger every year!"

The event this year is a dice run starting and ending at Diamondback Harley Davidson in Lawton. The participant with the high hand wins $700 and the low hand wins $300. What differentiates this year's program is a live band, barbecue, tacos and all types of vehicles are welcome. Participants will have the opportunity to win money, merchandise or gift certificates.

Tim Burns, president of Knights on Bikes, said, "Steve Rose, program director, has done most of, if not all of the work, in the planning and execution of the 2022 event. All the credit should go to him regarding the new and exciting program features."

Rose said, "I have received so much cooperation from almost every individual and corporation I have contacted. Everyone understands what a great cause The Center of Family Love is. The event this year will feature five stops with the route traveling through historic Medicine Park and the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Everyone will roll the dice at each stop. High hand and low hand will be the winners, but the real winner will be The Center of Family Love. Our goal is that everyone has a great time with the band, the food and the knowledge we are helping those with physical and intellectual disabilities."

"We are so excited and thankful to be partnering with Knights on Bikes again this year for the Love Run. Events like this, help us fill our annual $2 million shortfall and help propel us into the future," said Nellie Sanders, vice president of philanthropy at The Center of Family Love.

With over 40 years of experience, the center has developed nationally-recognized and innovative solutions to the ever-growing worldwide demand for comprehensive development programs for people living with physical and intellectual disabilities.

"Our residents have been born with incredible untapped and underdeveloped talent. These lives have been entrusted to us, and we have the opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the next generation conquering intellectual disabilities," Sanders said.

Rose said, "Our program on Aug. 13 offers the people of the Oklahoma City archdiocese an easy and fun way to follow Christ. I cannot think of a better way to serve Christ than through the intellectually disabled!"

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

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received as a result of lawsuits, compensation programs and bankruptcies. Of the allegations received, 2,284 (74%) were first brought to the attention of the diocesan/eparchial representative by an attorney.

During this audit year, 30 allegations were made by current minors, six of which were substantiated, nine are still under investigation, nine were unsubstantiated, five were unable to be proven and one was referred to the provincial of a religious order.

During the audit period, dioceses and eparchies provided outreach and support to 285 victim survivors and their families who reported during the audit period. Continued support was provided to 1,737 victim survivors who had reported in prior audit periods.

The report notes the ongoing work of the Church in continuing the call to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. In 2021, the church conducted 1,964,656 background checks on clergy, employees and volunteers. In addition, in 2021, more than 2 million adults and more than 2.4 million children and youth were trained in how to identify the warning signs of abuse and how to report those signs.

Despite restrictions experienced due to the pandemic, elements included in the Charter audit process conducted by Stonebridge Business Partners, were not altered:

- 70 dioceses/eparchies were visited either in-person or via remote technology and data collected from 122 others.
- There were four instances of non-compliance: the Diocese of Corpus Christi, the Diocese of Lafayette in Louisiana, the Diocese of New Ulm and the Eparchy of Newton were found non-compliant with Article 2 of the charter due to inactivity of their review boards. Subsequent convening of the respective review boards brought each into compliance with Article 2 of the charter.
- Three eparchies and one diocese did not participate in the audit: the Chaldean Eparchy of Saint Peter the Apostle, the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy and the Diocese of Saint Thomas in the Virgin Islands.

The USCCB's Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the National Review Board continue to emphasize that the audit and continued application of zero-tolerance policies are two important tools in the Church's broader program of creating a culture of protection and healing that exceeds the requirements of the charter.

The full annual report, and all previously published annual reports, may be found on the secretariat's website, along with the full text of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, along with additional information and resources on diocesan requirements for the protection of children and young people.

Report abuse or inappropriate behavior with a minor IMMEDIATELY

Contact local law enforcement, state Department of Human Services **(800) 522-3511** and the archdiocesan abuse hotline at:

(405) 720-9878

Reporting situations include, but aren't limited to, incidences involving priests, deacons, volunteers, youth, chaperones and employees of a parish, school or diocese.

Go Make Disciples
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

KOC retreat

The Knights of Columbus annual retreat is 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. The guest speaker is Sr. Diane Koorie, R.S.M. Cost is $30, includes breakfast rolls and drinks, lunch, afternoon snacks and note-taking materials. Send checks to Chris Victor, 4129 S. Tamarack Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74011. Make checks payable to Oklahoma State Council. Contact Michael Zinc at michael-the-j@att.net for a retreat flyer.

Find more briefs at archokc.org/briefs.

Like Canada, U.S. also has history of Native American residential schools

Catholic Church in Oklahoma launches project to clarify its involvement in state project of forced assimilation

By John Burger
Aleteia

While visiting Canada July 24 - July 30, Pope Francis said that the Catholic Church will cooperate in further investigating what occurred at Native American residential schools and will walk with survivors in their journey toward healing.

That process has already begun in the United States.

The pope's visit, which he described as a penitential pilgrimage, began with an apology for the Catholic Church's involvement in a long-standing state-run system meant to assimilate Indigenous people in Canada. Thousands of young people were taken from their families and forced to live in boarding schools where they were not allowed to use their native languages, traditional attire, or tribal customs. The system began in the 19th century, and the last schools closed in 1997. Many alive today were students at the schools, and some have reported having suffered there.

The United States had a similar system, beginning when Ulysses S. Grant was president. One area of the country where residential schools operated — with the help of the Catholic Church and other religious bodies — was Oklahoma. Last year, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa and Saint Gregory's Benedictine Abbey, which was the earliest Catholic presence in Oklahoma, launched the Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project and commissioned a historian to research the extent of the Church's involvement.

"The project is really to explore our history," said Michael Scaperlanda, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. "This really started as we were reading about the Canadian experience. We really didn't know about how our Catholic Native American boarding schools operated, and what people's experiences were."

In a statement, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, archbishop of Oklahoma City, said, "It is important we learn and understand the experiences of American Indian children and their families at Catholic boarding schools in Oklahoma so we can make better and more informed decisions moving forward. We will continue to build a culture of inclusion, healing and understanding related to Native Americans in our state."

The archdiocese, diocese and abbey will work with Marquette University in Milwaukee, which holds the archives for the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions. Marquette professor Bryan Rindfleisch, who specializes in American Indian history, has already delved into hundreds of historical documents. Researchers in Oklahoma will conduct oral histories.

"It is by understanding the past that we are able to improve and build on good ideas in the present and, where necessary, make amends for failures in the past," said Bishop David A. Konderla of Tulsa.

Targeting children

Eleven Catholic Indian boarding schools existed in Oklahoma between 1880 and 1965. The first one opened in Konawa in 1880 and closed in 1926. The last Catholic Indian boarding school, Saint Patrick's in Anadarko, closed in 1965. They were all overseen by various religious orders.

In an interview, Rindfleisch said that Oklahoma was the largest center of Indian boarding schools in the U.S.

"Roughly one-third of the entire Catholic Native American population in the 19th and 20th centuries was centered in Oklahoma," he said.

Though some religious orders who were involved in the residential school system have already been documenting that history, Rindfleisch believes that Oklahoma City is the first American archdiocese to undertake such an effort at research and reconciliation.

The Society of Jesus – the Jesuits – in the US said on its website they have "sorrowfully acknowledged the Society's participation in these assimilation policies which separated families and suppressed Native cultures, contrary to core tenets of our Catholic faith. We are examining this part of our history and making available the records we hold so others may do so as well. Openness, transparency and knowledge of our history are essential elements for reckoning with the sins of our past and moving forward together toward healing."

Rindfleisch said that uncovering the history of the schools matters to him because "there are still generations of survivors who went to those boarding schools, who had lost loved ones in those boarding schools, who have physical, sexual and emotional trauma and abuse on account of those boarding schools.

"I have never met an Indigenous person, scholar, community member, friend [who didn't] have boarding school stories in their family," he added.

After the Civil War and various military operations that the US government called "wars of conquest," there was an effort to assimilate Native peoples into American society. Richard Henry Pratt, the architect of the Indian boarding schools, was known for the saying, "Kill the Indian to save the man."

"His idea was to take all the children, put them in schools, raise them according to Western ideals and education and civilization – you know, industrial arts, farming, agriculture – but then tell them they can't speak their language and must cut off their hair, cut off their various customs that are tied to their identity," Rindfleisch said. "Give them civilized clothing, give them Christianity."

He said children were targeted because "they are the future generations, and they will teach their children and their children, and then hopefully, the Indian peoples, the parents and the grandparents, will just die off. This is the one example where we can often pinpoint that this was a genocidal policy on the part of the United States, starting in the 1870s and continuing all the way up to the 1970s."

Types of abuse

Rindfleisch said "hundreds of thousands" of Native American children from all over the United States were placed in residential schools, away from home so their parents could not maintain some sense of history, culture and identity for them.

As well, problems of abuse crept in.

"These boarding schools are rife with what are called disciplinarians, even at the Catholic schools," Rindfleisch said. "How do you enforce taking the language away from them, forcing them to go to church, to become Christians or acclimate to Western ideas of education? Well, you verbally and physically abuse them.

"And in some cases there's also sexual abuse," he continued. "You have figures of power – predominantly men – who are taking care of all these different children. You just look at the Catholic clergy scandal: men who are in positions of power. When they have that power over children it can lead to horrible, horrendous things, and that's what happened in this case too. And the one thing that we learned from the clergy abuse scandal is that they swept it under the rug and they wanted to put various members away: put them in a place where they're out of the limelight. And what better place to do that than oftentimes reservations, which people in general just didn't care about."

Not all horror stories

Rindfleisch admits there were bright spots as well, and there are Native American alumni today who have good stories about the schools.

"For some people the boarding schools were good places," he said. "If you lost your parents and grandparents, the school could save the kid's life."

And many tribes already had been evangelized by Catholic missionaries.

"A number of Native Nations that were removed to Oklahoma from

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Cardinal Community House to offer nonmedical respite shelter for men, women experiencing homelessness

OKLAHOMA CITY – Cardinal Community House (CCH) is pleased to announce the launch of a nonmedical respite shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness who have recently been discharged from hospitalization. The goal of the program is to provide a healing environment for individuals who can perform basic activities of daily living but who do not have access to a stable home environment where they can recuperate from an injury or illness.

"We take for granted how fortunate we are, in that we have a comfortable and safe space to recover after hospitalization, but there are many in our community who do not have that luxury," said Kelli Ude, JD, Cardinal Community House executive director. "Homelessness can be very physically demanding. Individuals experiencing homelessness often travel by foot for places to eat, shelters to sleep, or places to get services or check their mail. They do this with their belongings in tow. When illness or injury strikes, the options are few and bleak. We try to alleviate that pressure by providing all meals, necessities and storage for their belongings while they focus on rest and recovery."

Cardinal Community House began offering nonmedical respite in collaboration with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in March 2021 to serve a limited number of clients referred by the Oklahoma City-County Health Department.

This spring, SSM Health St. Anthony became the first health system to enter into a formal agreement with CCH to provide respite shelter for patients experiencing homelessness being discharged from its Oklahoma health ministries. The respite shelter agreement is part of SSM Health St. Anthony's larger strategy to address homelessness in its 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan.

"The hospital capacity challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have underscored the need for additional resources in our community to care for patients experiencing homelessness after they no longer require hospitalization," said Tammy Powell, president, SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital.

"Our organization was founded 150 years ago by Catholic Sisters famously dedicated to 'turning no one away.' Today, we endeavor to expand on that legacy by doing as much as possible for our most vulnerable neighbors, and we could not be more grateful for the opportunity to partner with Cardinal Community House and our longtime partners at Catholic Charities to achieve this."

Staffed 24-hours per day, CCH is comprised of four dormitories with 40 private rooms serving adult men and women. To support long-term client success after recovery, the organization makes available a patient advocate, a case manager and a housing navigator. Among other services, these professionals help ensure clients make and keep follow-up medical appointments critical to long-term recovery, which is often a barrier for patients outside of a respite setting.

There are also on-site educational opportunities and therapy resources available for multiple topics, including alcohol and substance abuse. Additional amenities include, but are not limited to, three meals per day, clothing and hygiene offerings, transportation assistance, outdoor recreation space and more. The long-term vision is to one day offer medical respite with trained medical staff on-site, as well, Ude said.

"Cardinal Community House provides an environment not only for healing of the body but also of the soul," said Patrick J. Raglow, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. "Serving individuals of all faiths and backgrounds, CCH upholds the same values we do, providing loving care to those in need with an emphasis on mercy, charity and justice. We encourage additional local health systems to consider this innovative resource for their unhoused patients in need of long-term recovery outside a hospital environment."

Cardinal Community House works directly with hospital staff to place eligible clients at their facility. Health care providers interested in nonmedical respite care for their patients experiencing homelessness are invited to contact CCH at (405) 232-0231.

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Catholic Charities helps with their immediate needs such as temporary housing and providing cultural meals for the family each day. When they are greeted at the airport, usually by a volunteer of Catholic Charities, they are taken to a nearby hotel where they are temporarily housed. Catholic Charities has partnered with several local hotels to take on this task.

"We then begin assessments which may include educational or employment history, medical needs, documentation or lack thereof. We have a job coordinator at Catholic Charities who helps determine what trade or job they could qualify for here in Oklahoma. Based on that assessment and the size of the family, we aim to find housing near their job," said Carly Akard, director of communications for Catholic Charities. "We employ a housing navigator who has made a diligent effort to house many of the refugees in the same neighborhood to create a small community for them."

Akard said Catholic Charities also provides cultural orientation and English as a Second Language classes to help introduce them to the culture in America. The goal for any refugee is self-sustainability. Education, social integration and job placement all play a key role in long-term success.

Akard added there have been many parishes within the archdiocese that have sponsored refugee families. When refugees arrive in Oklahoma, they often arrive with a suitcase with very few items. Establishing residency includes having to completely furnish apartments and homes. Many parishes not only purchased or donated furniture but decorated and set up these homes. This not only saved Catholic Charities money but saved time and resources to be able to work more directly with the clients.

Catholic Charites has also had other faith-based organizations pitch in. Donations of money, supplies, countless volunteer hours for transportation to appointments, airport pickups and so much more – they simply could not do this without community support.

The refugees, especially children, have begun to adapt to life in Oklahoma.

"The children are the quickest to adapt to our culture. They are inherently keener to learn English as their age allows them to do so. Children also are in a unique position, in that their departure from Afghanistan was not as traumatizing as their parents who fled with them. Adults left behind parents and siblings, extended family and friends and colleagues they may never see again, whereas children were kept with their immediate families," said Akard.

"It's encouraging to see the children thrive. Many of them had not experienced an educational setting, so here we get to witness their growth and excitement in being able to learn in a safe environment."

Catholic Charities is the only resettlement agency in the state of Oklahoma. The organization continually receives refugees from other countries.

"The last family we received was from Vietnam. It is still unclear whether we will be asked to resettle refugees from Ukraine. United for Ukraine, a new government initiative that was announced, relies solely on sponsorships of refugees," said Akard. "This initiative may be why we have not been asked to settle any of the 100,000 refugees that President Biden said we would accept into the United States. Should we be asked to do so, our answer will be a resounding 'yes.'"

Above: An Afghan family is picked up at the airport.

Left: Sr. Donna Markum observes children working in the classroom led by the Spero Project.

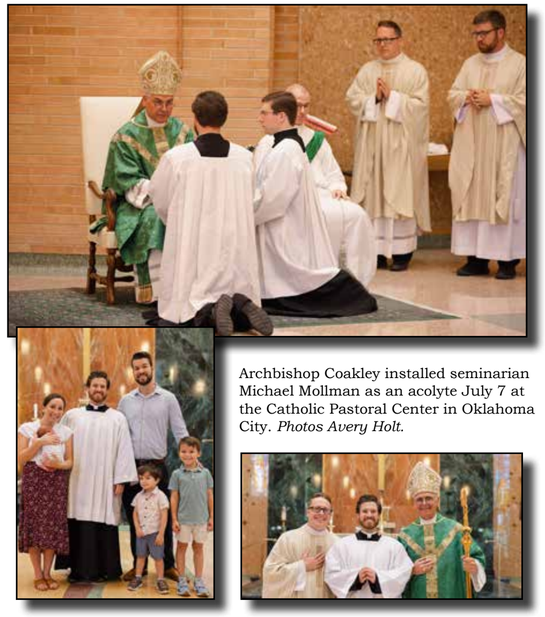
Photos provided.

For more information about Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, contact Carly Akard at cakard@ccaokc.org or (405) 523-3009.

Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Around the Archdiocese

The Catholic Daughters Court Saint Jude No. 2166 held a priest appreciation dinner on June 9 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton. The court is comprised of members of Bl. Sacrament Catholic Church and Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton. *Photos Jolene Schonchin/Sooner Catholic.*



Archbishop Coakley installed seminarian Michael Mollman as an acolyte July 7 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. *Photos Avery Holt.*

Students at St. Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City attended Vacation Bible School June 20-24. There were many activities including music, dancing, games, snack time and learning about God and the Bible. *Photos Everett Brazil III/Sooner Catholic.*

A catechist appreciation dinner was held in May at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton. *Photo provided.*

Parishioners of Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton ended the month of the Rosary with a Rosary of the Apparitions of Our Lady prayed in Spanish, English and Korean. *Photo provided.*

St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church in Yukon had more than 140 children and 70 volunteers at their 2022 Vacation Bible School. Children spent the week learning how to trust Jesus in their lives. *Photo provided.*

Bonnie Wright and Helena Folger from Christ the King Catholic Church in Oklahoma City sold religious artwork in June and donated the proceeds to Sister BJ's Pantry and an Afghan family sponsored by the parish. *Photos provided.*

Fr. Balraj (Bala) Sagili Jesudas enjoyed a summer fun day with youth at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Alva. *Photo provided.*

St. James Catholic Church, Oklahoma City

St. James Catholic Church, Oklahoma City

St. James Catholic Church, Oklahoma City

Learn more about Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp at **campolog.org**. *Photos Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic and Rachel Smith.*

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other parts of the country in the 19th century already had Catholic missionaries among them for decades," Rindfleisch said. "So if they had to choose between Protestant, federal or Catholic boarding schools, they wanted Catholic boarding schools."

And in some places, the Church could go to bat for their Native parishioners, such as representing them to the government in cases of land disputes. Some Native Catholics, Rindfleisch said, gently reminded pastors that their kids were in the Catholic school, so they should advocate for them.

Burying the dead

Nevertheless, many students died at the residential schools, a fact, Rindfleisch said, that can be attributed to disease, malnutrition, accidents, and in some cases abuse. Too often, the bodies of students were never returned home, and now many of them are lost.

"A big part of what needs to happen after this – I think this is the legacy for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa going forward – is trying to figure out what happened to the bodies of those children," the historian said.

When he spoke with Aleteia in June, Rindfleisch said a good friend of his was visiting the school Richard Henry Pratt ran in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, reclaiming one of her ancestors who had died there.

"She has to go up there with a couple of elders who have to conduct this long ceremony so they can purge these children's remains of all that bad history, so they can bring her home," he said.

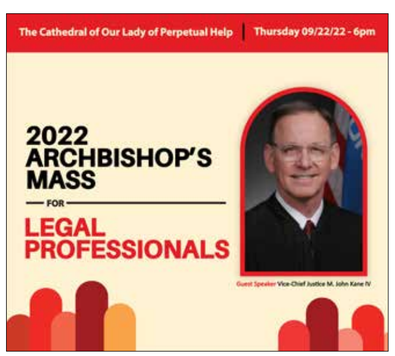
Rindfleisch said he has gone through the entire Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions records at Marquette – about 900 boxes – and has been to various archives of parishes in Oklahoma, as well as the records of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa. He's also been working with the Sisters of Divine Providence and other religious orders that were involved in the schools. He will be collecting oral histories of any boarding school survivors who want to be a part of the project.

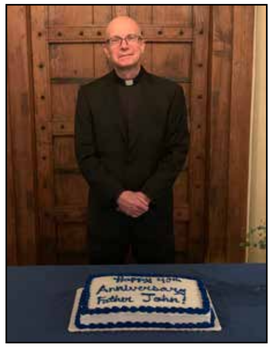
"And early next year I'll start drafting," he said. "By the end of 2023 we want to have something.

"The big thing that really needs to happen in terms of Native American history with the United States government, with the Catholic Church, with all of the churches, is just owning the pain and trauma that we created for these legacies," Rindfleisch concluded, "these generations of Indigenous populations who are still coming to terms with what's happened to them."

Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project

To contribute documents, photographs or an oral history to the project, e-mail **info@oknativeschoolsproject.org**. Learn more at archokc.org/oknativeschoolsproject.





Parishioners of St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church in Yukon celebrated Fr. John Metzinger's 40th ordination anniversary on May 29. There was a luncheon at the Palace Event Center with approximately 300 people in attendance. Irene Parizek, one of two 99-year-old parishioners, joined the celebration. *Photos provided.*

Fr. Jack Feehily celebrated his retirement on June 26 in the ballroom at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. More than 400 people attended the celebration including Archbishop Coakley, fellow priests and parishioners from Hollis and Midwest City. Fr. Jack served as pastor of St. Andrew Catholic Church for 25 years. He will celebrate 50 years of priestly ministry in 2023. *Photos provided.*

Franciscan Sisters celebrate jubilee

Jubilarian served Oklahoma City diocese in education

ASTON, Pa. - On June 12 more than 150 members of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Philadelphia and their companions gathered in Our Lady of Angels Chapel in Aston, Pa., to give witness to the lives and service of the congregation's 2020, 2021 and 2022 jubilarians.

Golden jubilarian, 2021, Sister Rose Christopher Sheridan, O.S.F., previously ministered at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in Purcell from 1956 to 1961, where she served as a teacher.

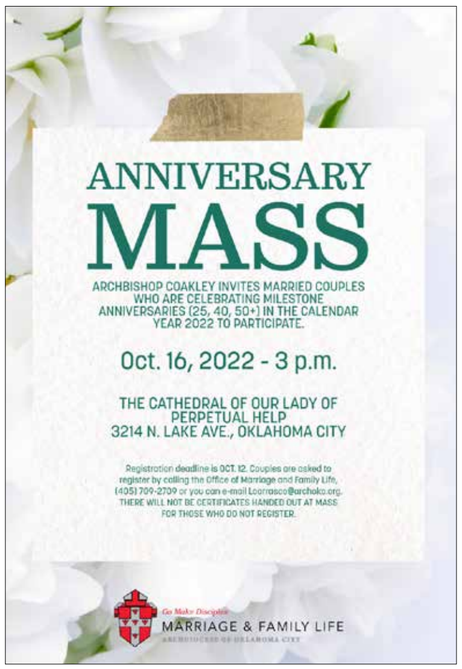
Sr. Rose Christopher Sheridan, O.S.F.

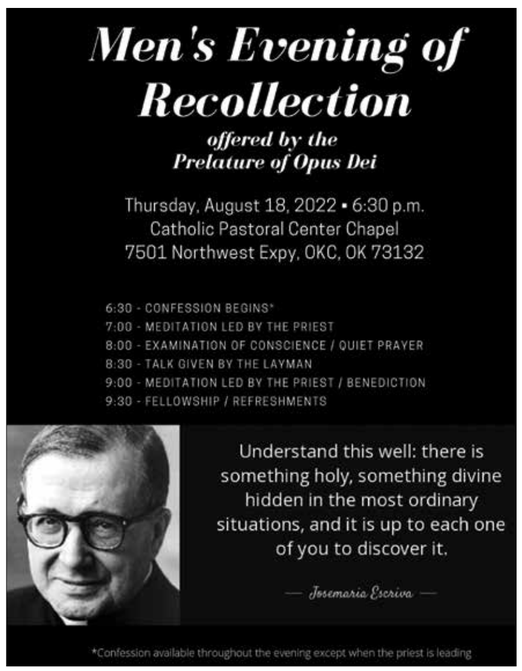
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is having a weekend to strengthen and build up marriages Oct. 28-30 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. Contact Bryan and Karen Berland at bkberland@gmail.com or (405) 850-4274. Apply at meoklahoma.org.

Sidewalk advocates

Anyone interested in becoming a peaceful and prayerful sidewalk advocate can contact Julie Lewis at norman@golifemobilemedical.com. Find more information at sidewalkadvocates.org.





Jobs Box

To see more job openings, go online to archokc.org/jobs-box.

Cook, event hospitality

The Catholic Pastoral Center is seeking a part-time cook and event hospitality person to assist with meal preparation in the staff dining room, and refreshment set-up and replenishment for meetings and conferences. The flexible schedule will be 20-30 hours per week and will include most weekends and some evenings. Kitchen experience in food preparation preferred; customer service-related experience a plus; high school diploma a must. A background check and safe environment training will be required. Send resume and cover letter to humanresources@archokc.org.

Gift shop, museum manager - Shrine

The Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a gift shop and museum manager to be responsible for all operations of the Shrine gift shop and museum, including purchasing and maintaining a complete inventory of religious items that reflect the Catholic faith and promote knowledge of and devotion to Blessed Stanley Rother. The manager will be responsible for tracking purchases and accurately accounting for payments made in the gift shop; provide ongoing oversight of the museum, including inventory of artifacts and relics, training and scheduling staff and volunteers, and ensuring that exhibits effectively convey information about the life and heroic martyrdom of Blessed Stanley Rother. Applicants are not required to have experience in both gift shop and museum management but should have a bachelor's degree in management or a related field, and/or at least three years of work experience in merchandising, business management/administration, or any combination of education and experience which demonstrates the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the above-described responsibilities. Must have a desire to promote the Church's work of evangelization and to promote knowledge of, and devotion to, Blessed Stanley Rother. Send resume and cover letter to humanresources@archok.org.

Volunteer coordinator - Shrine

The Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a volunteer coordinator to oversee the daily management, coordination and support of volunteers at the Shrine. Job duties will include recruiting, training, scheduling, supervising and recognizing volunteer efforts in support of pilgrimage activities as well as special events and celebrations held at the Shrine. Applicant must be a Catholic in good standing, have a minimum of two years' relevant experience or a bachelor's degree in a related field, exhibit an interest in and energy for volunteerism and community building and must demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with diverse populations. Leadership experience with volunteer groups within the Catholic Church is preferred. Bilingual in Spanish is a plus. Must have a desire to promote the Church's work of evangelization and to promote knowledge of and devotion to Blessed Stanley Rother. Send resume and cover letter to humanresources@archok.org.

Music director – Jones

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Jones is seeking a part-time music director for the Spanish Mass on Saturdays. The director will select the hymns according to the liturgical season, play the music and sing for the Saturday evening Masses, sing the Psalms and Alleluia, organize the choir and help translate the bulletins into Spanish. Contact Fr. Tang Pau at pau.titus@gmail.com.

Pastoral assistant – Jones

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Jones is seeking a full-time pastoral assistant to help with religious education, maintenance of parish sacramental register, bulletin, website, volunteer schedule, safe environment, budget, liturgy and other duties as assigned. Salary with benefits. Contact Fr. Tang Pau at pau.titus@gmail.com.

Youth, young adult evangelization director

Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang is seeking a director of youth and young adult evangelization to organize and lead the efforts to evangelize and catechize the youth (Grades 7-12) and their families, as well as the young adults of the parish community. Contact Dcn. Paul Lewis at plewis@holyspiritmustang.org or (405) 376-9435.

Mother's Day Out teachers - OKC

Christ the King Catholic Church in Oklahoma City has openings for full-time and part-time caretakers in the nursery and toddler rooms. Full-time teachers will plan daily crafts, activities and communicate with parents regarding their children's day. Part-time employees will assist the lead teachers with crafts, story time, games, lunch and naps. Full-time is 30-38 hours per week including 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and assorted morning, evening and weekend shifts. Part-time is 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday and Wednesday with one evening or morning shift per week. One Sunday per month and one Saturday evening required. Must be over the age of 16 and complete the archdiocesan Safe Environment program once hired. Contact Margaret Ballas at Margaret@ckokc.org.

Childcare – Edmond

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond is seeking part-time childcare employees to care for children while their parents attend Mass, Bible studies and other church functions. Must be 16 years or older. Safe environment and CPR/First aid training will be required, ability to lift up to 20 lbs. and care and patience for children. Contact Eva at childcare@stjohn-catholic.org.

Teachers – OKC

St. Eugene Catholic School is accepting teaching applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Applicants should hold at least a bachelor's degree in education with state certification. For more information and specific positions visit steugeneschool.org/careers. Send resume, cover letter and archdiocese teacher application to Principal Molly Goldsworthy at jobs@steugeneschool.org.

Teachers - Okarche

Holy Trinity Catholic School in Okarche is seeking teachers for the 2022-2023 school year for the following positions: middle school English language arts, middle school music, and grades K-8 art. These positions can be combined into a full or part time position. Bachelor's degree with Oklahoma state teaching certification is desired. Send a resume and cover letter to Principal Alice Newman at anewman@holytrinityok.org.

Volleyball, cross-country coach

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is looking for both a volleyball and cross-country coach for their teams. Practices will be three-four days/week after school. Seasons run from late July to mid-October. Driving a van will be necessary for away games/meets. Experience is preferred and a stipend is involved. Contact the athletic director at jeremy.tilton@cristoreyokc.org.

Director of Admissions – OKC

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking a director of admissions to recruit students to apply to the school, direct the admissions process from point of inquiry to enrollment, supervise staff and volunteers for admission events and manage the Office of Admissions. Bachelor's degree in education or related field required; master's degree preferred. At least three years of admissions administration experience; knowledge of Microsoft Office and Applicant Tracking Systems preferred. Bilingual (English /Spanish) required. Apply at cristoreyokc.org/careers.

Registrar - OKC

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking a registrar for the 2022-23 school year to be responsible for assisting the principal and academic leadership by managing the school's student information system, records management, grade reports, student transcripts and school re-enrollment. Must have bachelor's degree and prior experience as a registrar to be ready to serve as the school's system administrator on PowerSchool. This position starts as soon as possible. Apply at cristoreyokc.org/careers.

Band teacher – OKC, Yukon

Christ the King Catholic School, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School and St. John Nepomuk Catholic School are seeking a band teacher. This individual would split time throughout the week at all three schools and work with students in grades 4th-8th. Applicants must have knowledge of music (band) instruction. Send resume and cover letter to either Amy Feighny, afeighny@ckschool.com, Todd Gungoll, mr.gungoll@scbokc.org or Denise Heard, denise.heard@sjnok.org. Find application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Music, drama teacher - OKC

St. James Catholic School is seeking a music and drama teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Must have a bachelor's degree and Oklahoma certification in the desired teaching area. E-mail a resume with references to Principal Alicia Vazquez at avazquez@stjames-catholic.org.

Health services coordinator, refugee resettlement - OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a health services coordinator for refugee resettlement to develop relationships with health care organizations to promote wellness programs and increase health literacy within the refugee community. The coordinator works with case managers to access health care as appropriate. Bachelor's degree in a related health care or social service field. Two years' experience preferred. Ability to drive and possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and clean driving record. Send cover letter and resume to Christy Knotts at cknotts@ccaokc.org.

Accountant - OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an accountant to assist the finance director and be responsible for all grant reporting and reconciliation/billing, recording financial transactions, ensuring compliance with department internal controls, evaluating financial and reporting questions and issues as they arise, and communicating financial results and expectations with the directors. Three plus years' experience in accounting, financial reporting, accounts payable, payroll, accounts receivable. Non-profit experience preferred. Send cover letter and resume to Deacon Dave Ashton at dashton@ccaokc.org.

Real Life Disciples

Fear is useless!

Jim Beckman
contributor to the Sooner Catholic

I recently shared lunch with some friends. Each of us are amid some transitions in our lives. Times of change can be uncomfortable and even anxiety ridden.

There was a clear sense of that anxiety in the conversation: concern over financial stability, experiencing fear of the unknown, and wishing there was some kind of "safety net" for following God's call in our lives. At some point in the conversation, a scripture passage came to my memory. I couldn't remember where it was from, or even what the context of it was, but I shared it nonetheless with my friends: "fear is useless, what is needed is trust!"

In the moment, the word was powerful, and not just for my friends, but for me too. Just saying it out loud had an effect on me. A search afterwards for that passage in scripture made it even more powerful.. Those words were spoken by Jesus himself; you can find them in Luke 8:50 and Mark 5:36. The context is significant – these words fall in between Jesus healing a woman from a hemorrhage she had suffered with for 12 years, and him raising a young girl from the dead. Fear is useless indeed, especially when there is power like that at our disposal!

The call to discipleship is filled with ups and downs, times of grace and fruitfulness as well times of great challenge and difficulty. I would argue that we don't really grow in times of blessing and fruitfulness. Those are consoling times, and they feel great. It seems like everything is going well, things are "clicking," we feel close to God and are very aware of his guiding presence. It's in times like these we are typically on the other side of a steep climb. I believe we are plateauing not growing during these times. It was in the suffering and hardship of the climb that we were growing. The abiding consolation we now feel is usually the result of a period of struggle and felt absence.

This is all very biblical. I could rattle off many scripture passages to support it. To name just a few, Sirach tells us: "My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for trials. Be sincere of heart and steadfast, and do not be impetuous in time of adversity," Sirach 2:1-2. Psalm 27 says: "Wait for the Lord, take courage; be stouthearted, wait for the Lord," Psalm 27:14. Romans chapter 5 says: "More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us," Romans 5:2-5.

We grow through struggle! God shapes us, molds us and perfects us through difficulty and hardship. Don't shrink away from these things or try to avoid them. They are the path that leads to where we're trying to get to. One of my favorite Evangelical leaders, Charles Stanley, says it this way: "Adversity is not simply a tool. It is God's most effective tool for the advancement of our spiritual lives. The circumstances and events that we see as setbacks are oftentimes the very things that launch us into periods of intense spiritual growth. Once we begin to understand this, and accept it as a spiritual fact of life, adversity becomes easier to bear."

I'd like to close with a real-life example of all we have been talking about. My wife and I are part of a small community of couples that meet every month to pray and share our faith lives together. In one of our recent meetings, one member was sharing where he felt uniquely called to grow when he said, "I need more courage!" He was sharing about being in a secular workplace every day and desiring to share his faith with co-workers, but having no idea how to do so, and even if he did, being so fearful of their reaction that he typically never acted on it. What made his sharing so amazing was that just two years earlier when he had first joined our group, I'm not sure evangelizing others would have ever come up in his thoughts. Several of us were inspired by the spiritual growth that was evident in his life. He was now leading us!

That meeting with those couples was on June 13. None of us would have ever dreamed that less than two weeks later he would no longer be with us. The man who shared those thoughts was Jose Blanco, who passed away on the morning of Saturday, June 25. His words still ring in all of our ears, "We need more courage!" Jose, as sudden and tragic as his death was, died "in between" the hearts of Jesus and Mary. He was passing through the night of Friday, June 24, the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Saturday, June 25, the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. That a pretty good place to be when you are passing from this life to the next. His faith, and particularly the growth he had gone through the past couple years, are an inspiration to all of us. But that growth was marked by hardship, trial and difficulty. God was working through it all to bring about what he desired for Jose. He was making him ready, without any of us realizing what was about to happen. We miss you, Jose! Thank you for being such a bold witness to all of us.

Book review: "The Franciscans in Colonial Mexico"

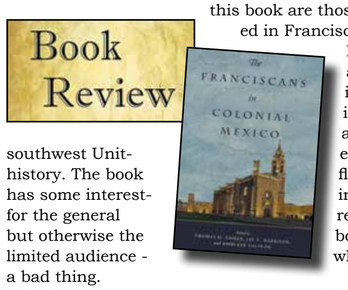
By Br. Benet Exton, O.S.B.
The Sooner Catholic

This book, "The Franciscans in Colonial Mexico," is a collection of articles in honor of Father Francisco Morales Valerio, O.F.M., a leading historian of the Franciscan order in Mexico. There are articles originally in English and others that were originally in Spanish and have been translated into English. The translator did a great job.

The articles are from a conference that honored Father Francisco's 80th birthday. There are 13 articles that cover several topics of Franciscan history in colonial Mexico, which does not only include present-day Mexico, but also the southwest United States. The topics start with the beginnings of the Franciscans in North America and cover three centuries starting around the time of the fall of the Aztec empire.

The authors discuss the development of missions to the Natives of colonial Mexico and their struggles with converting them and protecting them from those who would abuse them. They discuss how Franciscan colleges were created to prepare the Franciscan missionaries. The missionaries were not always successful converting the Natives. The Natives would stay around the mission if they benefited from being there. They were not always successfully indoctrinated with the Catholic faith. The Franciscans would learn one language they thought was the dominant language and hoped they could find translators for the local language. There are maps, black and white illustrations, footnotes that can at times take up half a page and a list of the contributors with a short biography.

The average reader will not be interested in this book; it is an academic work. Those who would enjoy this book are those interested in Franciscans, their history, and those interested in Mexican and/or southwest United States flows and history. The book ing tidbits has some interest- reader, for the general book has a but otherwise the which is not limited audience - a bad thing.



The historic missions in California, and the rest of the southwest, are interesting and some are very artistic. I have seen some of these missions. This book is recommended to those with an interest in academic and historical works.

As a Benedictine monk from Oklahoma, it was interesting to read the history of another order that brought the faith to Mexico and southwest United States, as did the Benedictines to Oklahoma.

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

Annulment information session

Fr. Rick Stansberry will lead a general information session about annulments 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Sept. 11 in the Great Hall at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 900 S. Littler Ave. in Edmond. Open to everyone. Contact the church at (405) 340-0691.

Mass of Remembrance

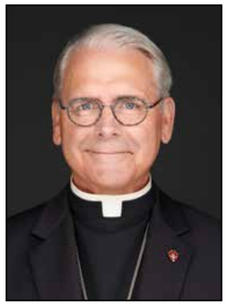
The 2022 Mass of Remembrance will be 6 p.m. Sept. 15 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 NW 18 St. in Oklahoma City. The Mass is in memory of people lost to suicide. Everyone welcome. People who have experienced the loss of someone to suicide are invited to attend and celebrate their loved one's life.

Bl. Karl symposium

Join Bishop Athanasius Schneider and other speakers for a symposium on Bl. Karl von Habsburg of Austria-Hungary 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 15 at the Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek, in Plano, Texas. Visit blessedkarl.org.

Lánzate a lo más Profundo Luke 5:4

La obligación de los católicos en una América después de Roe



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

"Si estás embarazada y necesitas ayuda, acércate a la Iglesia Católica".

Estas fueron las palabras del Cardenal John O'Connor hace más de 30 años, cuando fundó en New York a las Hermanas de la Vida, una orden religiosa católica pro-vida. Sus palabras eran una invitación y bienvenida a todas las madres embarazadas que no tenían a donde más acudir, y un llamado a la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos para actuar como guardianes de todos los hijos de Dios. Sus palabras eran totalmente ciertas en ese entonces, y probablemente lo son aun más en nuestros días.

La Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos se encuentra al borde de un nuevo comienzo. El 24 de junio, la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos derogó el infame precedente Roe vs Wade, regresando así la autoridad sobre la legalidad del aborto a los gobiernos estatales y a los corazones y las mentes de los norteamericanos.

La derogación de Roe representó un primer paso necesario en el camino de la construcción de una cultura de la vida, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural, y para ponerle fin a la cultura del aborto y la muerte. La decisión de la corte en el caso Dobbs vs Jackson Women's Health Organization salvará muchas vidas y nos ayudará a afirmar la dignidad humana en todas las etapas de su desarrollo. Pero el fin de Roe, como diría Churchill, es solo el fin del principio.

Es también un recordatorio de nuestra obligación como católicos. Por nuestro bautismo, somos llamados a descubrir a Cristo en cada vida humana, a trabajar y orar por una sociedad cuyas leyes reflejen la dignidad inherente en la persona humana. Este compromiso nos exige que creemos alternativas al aborto, para hacerlo incluso impensable. El fin de Roe nos reta de nuevo a abrir nuestros corazones, y nuestras puertas, a las madres y sus hijos que necesitan un lugar donde vivir y opciones de adopción, abrirnos a lo que el Papa Francisco llamó "la más grande forma de amor, y de paternidad y maternidad".

Hace un año, la misma corte protegió de manera unánime los ministerios católicos que sirven a niños vulnerables que necesitan hogares temporales y de adopción. En el caso Fulton vs la Ciudad de Philadelphia, los jueces sentenciaron que la agencia de servicios sociales católicos, que sirve en el corazón de la ciudad de Philadelphia, podía seguir cumpliendo su misión de ofrecer hogares temporales de acuerdo con la misma fe que los anima en su misión. El caso Fulton fue una victoria mayor para la libertad religiosa y para personas de fe a lo largo y ancho del país. Pero fue también un llamado importante para que la Iglesia redoblara sus milenarios servicios hacia los más vulnerables entre nosotros.

Antes de la decisión en el caso Fulton, varios servicios católicos de hogares temporales y de adopción en los Estados Unidos, incluyendo algunos en California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York y el Distrito de Columbia, tuvieron que cerrar sus puertas ante las exigencias de los gobiernos locales y estatales de que apoyaran relaciones entre personas del mismo sexo. Al ponerle fin a décadas de servicio a los más necesitados, dejaron un gran número de niños sin un hogar amoroso y potencialmente perdiendo la oportunidad de encontrar la bendición de una adopción.

Es momento que las diócesis a lo largo y ancho del país reabran y refuercen estos ministerios que afirman el derecho a la vida de niños en necesidad. Es imperativo que, como católicos, respondamos a esta llamada con entusiasmo, no solo para ayudar a la crisis de escasez de hogares temporales en nuestro país, sino para proveer una tierra buena a las madres embarazadas que vivirán una América después de Roe.

Por décadas, nuestro país ha visto el aborto como una solución a un problema, un arreglo fácil a una carga no deseada. Los católicos debemos comprometernos a eliminar esta premisa profundamente anti-humana. No bastan las palabras y las declaraciones. Debemos servir a los más vulnerables de nuestro país con acciones y hechos. Debemos ayudar a madres y niños en necesidad, y debemos motivar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo a que hagan lo mismo.

En el caso Fulton, la Corte Suprema revindicó el derecho de los servicios de hogares temporales y adopción católicos a continuar ofreciendo sus servicios de acuerdo con su fe. Es momento ahora de aprovechar esta libertad con toda la fuerza. El apoyo a ministerios que afirman la vida, tales como centros de ayuda para mujeres embarazadas, agencias de adopción y hogares temporales, es un buen comienzo. Todas las diócesis católicas del país, las iglesias, las escuelas, las familias y cada individuo son esenciales en este esfuerzo.

Es solo trabajando juntos con fe y confianza que nuestras comunidades católicas, en cada estado del país, pueden restaurar la dedicación de los Estados Unidos a atesorar el milagro de la vida.

Publicado originalmente en el Wall Street Journal el 10 de julio del 2022.

Taller de quinceañera

Un Taller de preparación para "Quinceañeras / Quinceañeros (post) and Sweet Sixteen" es de 9 a.m. a 6 p.m. 13 de agosto en el gimnasio de la Iglesia Católica Holy Name of Jesus, 210 S. 7 St. en Chickasha. Para obtener más información y registrarse, llame al (405) 224-6068.

Pre Caná

Se llevará a cabo un programa de enriquecimiento/prematrimonial en español de 8:30 a. m. a 4:30 p. m. el 13 de agosto en la Iglesia Católica Holy Name of Jesus, 210 S. 7 St. en Chickasha. Para obtener más información y registrarse, llame a Rosa Muñoz al (405) 224-6068.

Las actualizaciones del Santuario

Go Make Disciples
BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Las campanas del santuario

La iglesia del Santuario tendrá dos campanarios principales. El campanario norte albergará una campana de bronce que pesará aproximadamente 1,000 libras. El diámetro de la campana será de 37 pulgadas y tendrá un percutor de acero. En la campana se grabará lo siguiente:

VAYAN Y HAGAN DISCIPULOS MT 28:18-20
ARZOBISPO PAUL S. COAKLEY
2022
BEATO STANLEY ROTHER,
RUEGA POR NOSOTROS

El segundo campanario tendrá un sistema de campanas de carillón electrónico que reproducirá diferentes melodías para diferentes eventos y estaciones, como repiques de boda o himnos navideños.

Reportar abuso o comportamiento inapropiado con un menor. ¡INMEDIATAMENTE!

Póngase en contacto con las autoridades locales, el Departamento de Servicios Humanos (800) 522-3511 del estado y la Coordinadora Arquidiocesana de Asistencia a Victimas al:

(405) 720-9878

Las situaciones de notificación incluyen, entre otras, incidencias con sacerdotes, diáconos, voluntarios, jóvenes, chaperones y empleados de una parroquia, escuela o arquidiócesis.

PROMESA DE PROTEGER COMPROMISO PARA SANAR

Los líderes del movimiento de Cursillo se reunieron el 18 de junio en la Iglesia Católica St. James the Greater en la ciudad de Oklahoma para pasar un tiempo en compañerismo y fromación. *Fotos proporcionadas.*

Se llevó a cabo una procesión y adoración en la Fiesta del Corpus Christi el 16 de junio en la Iglesia Católica St. Andrew en Moore. *Fotos proporcionadas.*

El 9 de julio se llevó a cabo un concierto Eucarístico con alabanza y adoración organizada por la Renovación Carismática de Oklahoma en la Iglesia Católica del Sagrado Corazón en la ciudad de Oklahoma. Participaron Vacijas de Barro, Jesús Demara y Glady's Gardete. *Fotos proporcionadas.*

Los feligreses de la Iglesia Católica Holy Cross en Madill se reunieron en junio para agradecer al Padre. Oby Zunmas por su trabajo, amor y dedicación a la comunidad parroquial antes de comenzar su nueva asignación pastoral en St. Joseph Old Cathedral en Oklahoma City. *Fotos proporcionadas.*

Briefs

Please contact organizers before attending. Find more briefs at archokc.org/briefs.

Three public events during shrine dedication week

Three events during the week leading up to the dedication of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine will be open to the public. The first is an all-night vigil with Bl. Stanley's casket from 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, to 5 a.m. Monday, Oct. 31, at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The second is the dedication of the shrine at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4, and the third is the procession and blessing of Tepeyac Hill on Saturday, Nov. 5, on the shrine campus. Stay updated at archokc.org/shrinededication.

Rother store

Find items such as rosaries, prayer cards, books and Guatemalan crafts at the Rother Store online at rotherstore.com.

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 an oral history to the project, e-mail info@oknativeschoolsproject.org. Learn more at archokc.org/oknativeschoolsproject.

Retreat in Daily Life

St. Ignatius of Loyola's Retreat in Daily Life is offered throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City from October to May. This weekly guided journey is rooted in Scripture and prayer. To learn more about the retreat and how to apply, visit archokc.org/spirituallife or contact Nancy Vargas at navargas54@gmail.com or Sherry Alexander at (405) 315-7559. Applications and interviews are conducted July 1 through Aug. 31.

Wonderfully Made

The second annual mother/daughter breakfast "Wonderfully Made" is 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Aug. 13 at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman. Cost: $20 per household. Keynote speaker Silvia Vega, singer. Talks on Theology of the Body and more. The event is bilingual. Space limited. Visit archokc.org/wonderfully-made. Contact Lisa Carrasco at lcarrasco@archokc.org.

Love Run

The "Love Run," a Knights on Bikes annual poker run to raise money for The Center of Family Love begins at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 13 at Diamondback Harley Davidson in Lawton. Open to both motorcycles and cars. Cost: $20 for singles; $30 for couples; $10 for each additional hand. Cash prizes: $700 for the high hand; $300 for the low hand. Contact Jim Spaeth at (405) 769-4379 or Steven Rose at (580) 951-4002.

Quinceañera workshop

A preparation workshop "Quinceañeras / Quinceañeros (post) and Sweet Sixteen" is 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Aug. 13 in the gym at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, 210 S. 7 St. in Chickasha. For more information and to register, call Rosa Munoz at (405) 224-6068.

Pre Caná

A Spanish pre-marriage/enrichment program will be held 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Aug. 13 at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, 210 S. 7 St. in Chickasha. For more information and to register, call Rosa Munoz at (405) 224-6068 or Lisa Carrasco at (405) 709-2709. Special invitation to couples in Purcell, Pauls Valley, Norman, Ada, Lindsey, Duncan, Chickasha and Ardmore.

Men's Evening of Recollection

The Prelature of Opus Dei presents a "Men's Evening of Recollection" at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 18 in the chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, in Oklahoma City. Confession available, meditation and a talk. Evening will culminate in fellowship and refreshments.

Ad Altare Dei

The "Ad Altare Dei" is a program developed by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting for Boy and Girl Scouts of the Catholic faith. There will be an information and registration meeting 6 p.m. Aug. 21 at Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church, 7336 W. Britton Rd. in Oklahoma City. Weekly classes will meet at 6:30 p.m. Sundays beginning in September. Contact Mandy Brown at (405) 722-2110 to RSVP or for more information.

Married Couples Retreat

A Domestic Church Married Couples Retreat will be held Sept. 2-5 in Oklahoma City. Register at domesticchurchfamilies.com. Contact Brian and Kristy Simmons at domesticchurchokc@gmail.com or (405) 637-8231.

Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass to honor the memory of more than 62 million unborn children who have been the victims of abortion will be at 9 a.m. Sept. 10 at St. Gregory's Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Bishop David Konderla will be the celebrant at the Mass. The Mass is a part of the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.

"Make Straight the Way"
hosted by Dcn. Larry Sousa

- Aug, 9 and 10: **Katy Gordy**, ministry to alcoholics. Hosted by Sally Crowe Nash.
- Aug. 16 and 17: **Sandy and Kelley**, abortion. Hosted by Sally Crowe Nash.
- Aug. 23 and 24: **Mr. Ray Haefele**, past president of the board of directors of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and coordinator of the Oklahoma Catholic Men's Conference.
- Aug. 30 and 31: **Fr. Don Wolf**, pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oklahoma City and rector of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine.

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

OKLAHOMA CATHOLIC RADIO
OKCR.ORG
LISTEN ONLINE
okcr.org/listen
OKLAHOMA CITY & TULSA
Oklahoma City - 97.3 FM
Tulsa - 94.9 FM
AROUND THE STATE
Broken Arrow - 102.9 FM
Clinton - 98.3 FM
Edmond - 100.9 FM
Elk City - 100.7 FM
Lawton - 88.3 FM
Ringwood - 104.9 FM
Enid - 104.9 FM
Shawnee - 107.1 FM
Woodward - 93.3 FM
SPANISH STATIONS
East OKC - 97.7 FM
West OKC - 99.3 FM

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.

August

7 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

7 Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., at Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com.

7 Meeting of the Third Order (Lay) Dominicans, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Monica, Edmond (St. Ambrose Building) in room No. 105, for any Catholic layperson drawn to religious life. Call John or Mary McClernon, (405) 313-6611, (405) 414-9407.

8 Feast of St. Dominic.

9 Feast of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

10 Feast of St. Lawrence.

10 Catholic War Veterans USA the Oklahoma Memorial Post No. 168 meeting, 7 p.m., Sunnylane Family Reception Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact (405) 760-3886, OklaPost168@cox.net.

11 Feast of St. Clare.

12 Feast of St. Jane Frances de Chantal.

13 Feast of Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus.

13 "Love Run," (poker run) benefiting The Center of Family Love, 9:30 a.m., Diamondback Harley Davidson, Lawton. Contact Jim Spaeth, (405) 769-4379.

13 "Wonderfully Made," 9 a.m., St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Norman. Contact Lisa Carrasco, lcarrasco@archokc.org.

14 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

14 Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., at Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041.

15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Catholic Pastoral Center closed.

16 Feast of St. Stephen of Hungary.

16 Serra Club of Oklahoma City meeting, 10:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, OKC. Visit serraokc.org.

16 Suicide grief support group, 6 p.m., St. Francis, 1901 N.W. 18, OKC.

17 Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. Nine days of prayers to the Infant Jesus of Prague. During the nine days, the novena prayers will be: Monday-Friday following Noon Mass, Saturday following 5 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.

18 "Men's Evening of Recollection," 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, OKC.

19 Feast of St. John Eudes.

20 Feast of St. Bernard.

20 The Oklahoma City Community of Secular Carmelites meets monthly at Little Flower, OKC. Anyone interested in deepening prayer life with community support, call Vicky Caudell, (405) 637-4611 or William Ginn, (405) 737-2024.

20 Lay Missionaries of Charity provides an explanation through prayer and the charism 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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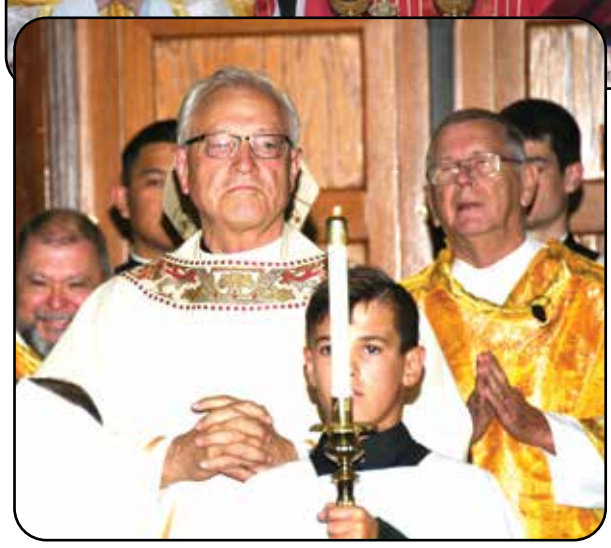
Bl. Stanley Rother Feast Day

The 41st annual Bl. Stanley Rother Feast Day Mass was celebrated on July 28 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche. Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Peter Wells, Papal Nuncio to Southern Africa. Archbishop Emeritus Beltran concelebrated Mass with Bl. Stanley's cousin, Fr. Don Wolf. Festivities also were held in Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala. *Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic and Felipe Coche Pablo.*



World Youth Day invites young adults to a life-changing pilgrimage

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Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

"The main goal of World Youth Day is to grow even closer to Christ in relationship with over a million other young Catholics. World Youth Day is the largest gathering of young-adult Catholics in the world. It is a moment where the youth of the Church can come together and celebrate what the Lord has done in our lives. The pope comes and addresses the young Church as well. We will be taking adults aged 18-35 and children 16 and over accompanied by a parent or legal guardian," said Palmer.

Palmer added what makes the 2023 World Youth Day unique is, with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, they will not only be going to Lisbon for World Youth Day, but also spending time in Rome and Fatima before and after Lisbon. This particular World Youth Day will be larger since it had been cancelled for the last few years. The group will be accompanied by three young priests, Father Alex Kroll, Father Jerome Krug and Father John Paul Lewis.

Pilgrims will get to experience tours of Christian Rome and the treasures of the Vatican. They will enjoy the full World Youth Day experience, including Mass and stations of the cross with Pope Francis and all-night adoration with millions of people. Then pilgrims will have a chance to visit and worship in Fatima for a day.

"The potential impact of a trip like this is nothing short of life-changing for a young person's faith journey. The experience of going on pilgrimage and leaving the distractions and labors of everyday life to be with the Lord is truly amazing. Not only that, but pilgrims will also get to do this with millions of others from around the world and be lifted up by their brothers and sisters in Christ. It truly is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Palmer.

Palmer expressed that the safety of the children is their primary concern and coordinators are taking the utmost security measures during the pilgrimage.

"We will organize our group into small groups of 10, with one person in charge of keeping their small group together and keeping them together with the larger group. In addition, we will have two, or more, adults who are responsible for checking in regularly with the small group leaders to ensure that their small group is accounted for and where they should be," said Palmer.

"Minors attending must attend with a parent or guardian, and this is partly to ensure that the minor has a safe and secure environment, but also to grow the relationship between the parent and minor."

Communication is one of the most difficult aspects of a large trip like this, and Palmer said it would be wonderful to take everyone to World Youth Day, but to do that they must be very coordinated in the way they promote the event and ensure everyone knows about it.

In addition, Palmer is very happy to announce the winner of the World Youth Day poster contest: Tracy Kinely of Saint Thomas More Catholic Church in Norman. She hand-painted and designed the winning poster.

Tracy Kinely of St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Norman hand-painted and designed the winning poster for a World Youth Day contest. *Photo provided.*

The rose and stars represent the 13 patrons of World Youth Day 2023; three women, roses, and 10 men, stars. The depiction of the visitation is tied to the World Youth Day theme from Luke 1:39. The landmarks on the right side represent the destinations. On the left side is the Shrine of Blessed Stanley Rother, from which Our Lady of Guadalupe has gone in haste to lead to World Youth Day. Lastly, Elizabeth while greeting Mary, points onward to Christ just as her son, John the Baptist, does in countless depictions and reality, in preparation for Christ.

For more information about the 2023 World Youth Day, visit archokc.org/worldyouthday.

Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.