



## B1. Stanley Rother Shrine dedication week rescheduled for February

*Tepeyac Hill blessing and dedication Dec. 12*

OKLAHOMA CITY – Archbishop Paul Coakley on Aug. 22 announced the rescheduling of the Mass and dedication of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine to Friday, Feb. 17, to ensure all

non-construction items are ready, and necessary staff members are in place for the shrine to open immediately following the dedication.

The blessing of Tepeyac Hill on the northwest corner of the shrine

campus to Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego will be celebrated Dec. 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

“I am thankful The Boldt Company and contractors will be

meeting their deadlines this fall, giving us ample time to ensure the shrine, museum and pilgrim center will be open to the public

**continued on page 20**

### SUMMIT EVERY THIRD THURSDAY

7 - 9 PM

ADORATION

PRAISE

AND

WORSHIP

CONFESSIONS

CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF  
PERPETUAL HELP

3214 N. LAKE AVENUE, OKLAHOMA CITY



## Annual conference provides training, faith formation

By Everett Brazil, III  
*The Sooner Catholic*

Religious education is essential for the faith and growth of young parishioners across the globe.

Catechists, or faith teachers, are essential in that education. Catechists throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City are invited to a special conference in September for their own faith training – further equipping them to serve their parishes.

The 2022 Catechetical Conference is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 17 at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, 801 N.W. 50 St. in Oklahoma City. The theme is, “This is My Body,” the heart of the Eucharist in the Gospels, with two focuses.

“The Eucharist theme is focused on The Last Supper and Bread of Life Discourse,” Larann Wilson, associate director of the department of evangelization and discipleship for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, said. “The second focus is on St. John Paul II’s ‘Theology of the Body,’ which is our proper understanding of our dignity, according to God’s plan as human persons.”

Catechetical ministries at the conference include parent, young adult ministries, marriage and family, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults), children’s ministries, small discipleship groups, youth ministry as well as priestly ministry.

“This is a conference that supports anyone in faith formation ministries. People who work with in ministries, anybody who are coordinators in the leadership, as well as team leaders,” Wilson said. “We also have people attend from

the Diocese of Tulsa, as well.”

Parents with young will have a special focus.

“This year we’re also opening it

**continued on page 8**

SAVE THE DATE  
September 17, 2022  
Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School

Catechetical  
Conference

This Is My Body  
2022 THEME  
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

The annual Catechetical Conference gathers Catholics from around the archdiocese to grow in faith and mission. This day-long conference offers Mass, keynote speakers, breakout sessions, vendors and networking opportunities. The event continues to grow and invites people in all faith formation ministries. This year’s theme is centered on the Eucharist and Pope St. John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body*. Visit the conference webpage to explore more about the 2022 Catechetical Conference.



FR. NOVAK  
CELEBRANT



FR. JEROME KRUG  
HOMILIST



MONICA ASHOUR  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Register Today at [ArchOKC.org/CatCon](https://ArchOKC.org/CatCon)



Put Out Into the Deep Luke 5:4

The death penalty is a life issue

This column was originally published in 2019. As this edition of the Sooner Catholic is published on September 4, I will once again be on pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago with Bishop Wall and Bishop Conley. We are walking the French way from Burgos (Spain) to O Cebreiro. Please pray for us as we will be praying for you.

Each year we have an opportunity to renew our prophetic commitment to promoting human dignity and sanctity of every life from conception to natural death. Human dignity is an endowment we receive from our Creator who creates us in his image and likeness. Though we can deface that dignity by our sinfulness, we cannot totally uproot or destroy it. It is not something we earn or can forfeit. It is not granted to us by a government but created in us by God. He alone is the Lord of life.

It is a good time to focus on an important part of our Church's prophetic moral teaching about the sanctity of life that we often overlook or question. I am referring to the death penalty.

In recent years, we have witnessed an authentic development of the Church's teaching on the use of the death penalty. In 1999, Saint John Paul II called for an end to the death penalty, which he described as "both cruel and unnecessary." In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI said, "Society's leaders should make every effort to eliminate the death penalty." In 2018, Pope Francis revised the Catechism of the Catholic Church so that henceforward it reads, "The Church teaches, in light of the Gospel, that 'the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person,' and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide" (CCC, 2267).

While the Church is coming to a clearer appreciation of the incongruity of the death penalty with our fundamental conviction about human dignity and the sanctity of every human life, other factors also are leading to a growing realization in society that the time has come to eliminate the death penalty.

Let's be clear that we do acknowledge the harm done to the victims of crime and to society at large because of heinous acts of violence. We do stand for justice. We must stand with victims of crime. However, we can protect society and punish crime without resorting to the death penalty.

The use of the death penalty only contributes to the continued coarsening of society and to the spiral of violence. Taking another life does not ultimately bring closure and peace to those who have lost a loved one

through violent crime. Justice is necessary, but it is not enough. As William Shakespeare wrote, "Mercy seasons justice." Mercy perfects justice and brings healing and closure. This is the message of the Cross and Resurrection.

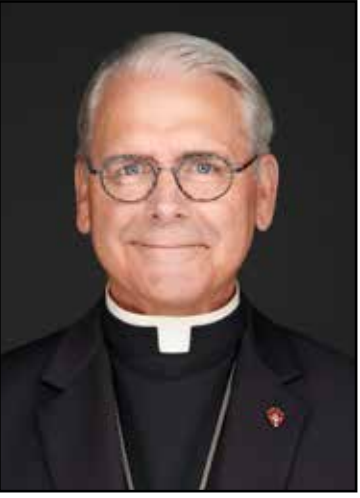
For many years, we have tolerated the death penalty based on our belief that it was a deterrent to crime. The facts do not bear that out. In fact, 88 percent of criminologists do not accept this assertion. The areas of the country with the highest execution rates also have the highest crime rates. Conversely, those areas of the country with the lowest execution rates also have the lowest crime rates.

There are many other factors that we should consider. While execution is final, our system is not infallible. To date, there have been 166 exonerations of death row inmates. These often have been based on DNA evidence that was not available at the time of trial. A profile of the inmates on death row and those executed show that they are disproportionately poor, people of color and those who suffer from intellectual disabilities or mental illness. Contrary to what many believe, it is far more costly to execute a criminal than to sentence that person to life without parole.

For many years, the tide of public opinion has trended away from support of the death penalty. The number of executions has declined dramatically since 1999 and an increasing number of states are doing away with it altogether. It is certainly a cause for concern that the federal government has recently decided to begin executions again for federal crimes, something that has not occurred since 1993.

I know that in Oklahoma people are generally strongly in favor of protecting the innocent unborn from the violence of abortion. It is harder for many to understand and accept with equal conviction the Church's teaching on the inadmissibility of the death penalty. But, there is consistency in our position based on the inviolable dignity of every person.

I encourage everyone to study this issue and to pray about it. Those interested in learning more will find valuable resources through the Catholic Mobilizing Network. These are available at catholicismobilizing.org.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

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.

✓ **We pray that the Lord** may comfort all those who have been affected by suicide, grant eternal rest to those who have died by suicide and provide hope and healing to those who have attempted it. We pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

✓ **A suicide grief support** group meets from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., on every third Tuesday of the month at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 N.W. 18 in Oklahoma City.



@archokc



Archdiocese of Oklahoma City  
Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

God of Justice,  
open our eyes to see  
you in the face of  
those in poverty.  
Open our ears to hear you  
in the cries of  
those exploited.  
Open our mouths to defend  
you in the public square as  
well as in private deeds.  
Remind us that what we do  
to the least ones,  
we do to you.  
Amen.

Archbishop Coakley's statement on denial of clemency for James Coddington

"No matter how serious the crime committed, we do not forfeit the dignity bestowed upon us by God. Governor Stitt's denial of clemency to James Coddington is disappointing.

There are other ways to administer just pun-

ishment for crimes without resorting to lethal measures that do not align with our state's pro-life values and only serve to perpetuate the cycle of violence.

Pray for an end to the death penalty. Pray that our leaders may have the wisdom and

compassion to recognize the humanity in every person, regardless of their state in life. Pray for the victims of violence and their families that God brings them comfort and peace. Pray for the soul of the condemned and those who will be involved with his execution."

"Walking with the Holy Spirit"

Corpus Christi Catholic Church will host a "Walking with the Holy Spirit" revival Sept. 11-13 at 1005 N.E. 15 St. in Oklahoma City. Fr. Anthony M. Bozeman, pastor of The Church of the Transfiguration in Los Angeles, will be the keynote speaker.

The 11 a.m. Mass on Sept. 11 will include a celebration of the Feast of St. Peter Claver. For more information, visit corpuschristichurchok.org.



Confirmation in June at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Chickasha.

"Wonderfully Made"

The second annual mother and daughter breakfast, "Wonderfully Made," was held on Aug. 13 at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman. The keynote speaker was singer Silvia Vega. The day consisted of talks on Theology of the Body and more. Photos provided.



Archbishop Coakley's Calendar

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

- Sept. 6 – St. Ann Retirement Center Board meeting, 8 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
- Sept. 6 – Presbyteral Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., CPC
- Sept. 6 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Sept. 6 – Archdiocesan Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 6 – Jubilarian Dinner, 6 p.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC
- Sept. 8 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Sept. 8 – Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Building Committee meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 9 – Mass and breakfast with archdiocesan missionaries, 8:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
- Sept. 9 – ACCW Priests and Presidents' luncheon, 11:30 a.m., CPC
- Sept. 9 – Napa Institute Communications Committee virtual meeting, 3 p.m.
- Sept. 11 – Mass and celebration for Feast of Our Lady of LaVang, 11:45 a.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC
- Sept. 11 – Young adult cookout, 3 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 13-14 – USCCB Administrative Committee meeting, Washington, DC
- Sept. 15 – Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Board meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 15 – Walking with Moms in Need event, 7 p.m., CPC
- Sept. 16 – Mass for Fall Education Institute, 8:30 a.m., Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School
- Sept. 16-18 – Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher Investiture, Houston, Texas

Rother shrine update



Although the dedication of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine has been rescheduled for February 2023, construction continues to progress. The blessing of Tepeyac Hill and the statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego will be celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in December. As soon as construction concludes, staff will begin moving in and will prepare for the general operation of the shrine and the welcoming of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world to this site, which will stand as a beacon of faith to all.

The construction of the zócalo is also underway. A zócalo is a plaza or public square. In Mexico City, the zócalo is a location for large public events, such as the ones expected to be held at the shrine. The zocalo in front of the shrine church will include a large fountain.

For more information, visit rothershrine.org.



Day of Reflection, "The Widow's Might; The Strength of Widows and Other Heroic Women of the Bible," presented by Fr. Simeon Spitz, O.S.B., is 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sept. 24 at St. Gregory's Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Limited seating. Masks are recommended, but not required. Attendees must pre-register by e-mailing retreats@monksok.org or call (405) 878-5656. Cost \$30 pre-paid or \$35 at the door. Lunch included.





**Most Reverend**  
**Paul S. Coakley**  
Archbishop of Oklahoma City  
Publisher

**Avery Holt**  
Interim Editor

**Dana Attocknie**  
Managing Editor

Volume 44, Number 16

Sooner Catholic Newspaper  
7501 Northwest Expressway  
Oklahoma City, OK 73132  
(405) 721-1810

**E-mail:** communications@  
archokc.org

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 32180  
Oklahoma City, OK 73123

**Visit us online at**  
**soonercatholic.org**

**Visit the archdiocesan website**  
**at archokc.org**

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

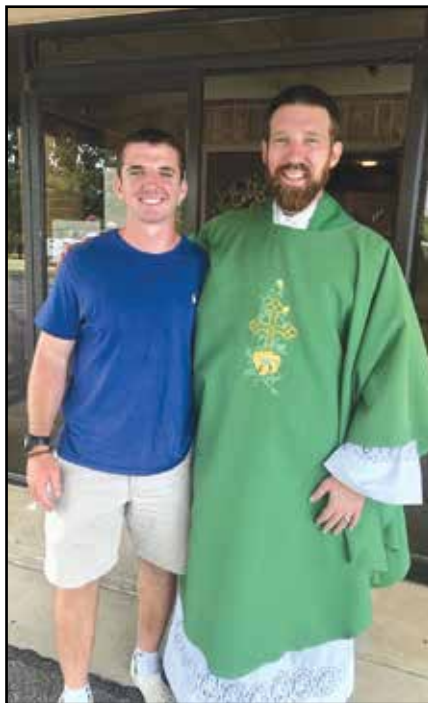
The newspaper is not responsible  
for unsolicited material.  
Copyright © 2022 Sooner Catholic

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.



Fr. Kelly Edwards greeted students on the first day of school at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. He greeted Julius Koons, blessed his dorm room and offered some advice: Go to Mass, go to class and go to confession. Koons is pictured with Fr. Kelly at Noon Mass on the first day of school. *Photo provided.*



A ministry fair was held Aug. 20-21 at Bl. Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton. *Photos provided.*

## From the Archives ...

*A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist*

Catholicism in the Oklahoma Panhandle can be traced back nearly 500 years to when the Coronado Expedition crossed the area and Mass was celebrated there in 1542. The history from that point, however, is less clear.

What is known, though, is that a priest, Father David Dunne, from nearby Amarillo, Texas, came to offer the Mass in the area around Guymon in 1904.

A Catholic community in Hooker had been formed by Father Peter Kamp, the pastor at Woodward. The first Sacred Heart Church was constructed in 1907 and included a rectory. Saint Peter's in Guymon was also built in 1907. In the beginning, Hooker was the parish and Guymon the mission. With the arrival of Father Albert Monnot, later Monsignor and rector of the Cathedral in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa, in 1909, Guymon became the parish and Hooker the mission. Father Monnot used a motorcycle to make his pastoral rounds on the rural dirt roads. The missionary spirit was alive and well with Father Monnot.

From 1916 until 1922, the pastor of Dallhart, Texas, cared for Guymon, Hooker and the Kollman farm in Beaver County. A grotto was fashioned in honor of the Immaculate Conception and was built during the pastorate of Father Harold Pierce. It boasted rock from 32 states, Canada, Mexico and the Holy Land, and was a source of great pride in the parish.

In 1943, Bishop Kelley invited Franciscans from Cincinnati, Ohio, to man the



ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES



St. Peter Catholic Church, circa 1948.

missions of the Panhandle. They accepted and remained through 1964. In the meantime, the first Catholic church in the vicinity of Boise City was Good Shepherd Chapel on the Lujan Ranch, near what is now Wheelless. It had been closed for decades until Bishop Reed asked Father John Scheller to build a church in 1961, and it was dedicated to the patronage of Saint Philip Benizi. In the early 2000s, the original name was restored back to Good Shepherd to honor its roots. It is still attended by Guymon.

Saint Frances Cabrini in Beaver was established in 1947. The Kollman ranch had been the Catholic presence in Beaver County, but Bishop Kelley believed a parish church in the town of Beaver had become necessary. He chose the name of the newly canonized naturalized American citizen, Mother Frances Cabrini. Saint Frances had come to America to serve Italian immigrants and was a remarkable woman. Bishop Kelley had

a fondness for her when, as the head the Catholic Church Extension Society, preached her funeral homily in Chicago in 1917. A schoolhouse was purchased, renovated and became the parish church.

Guymon was transformed in the 1970s as economic opportunities arose that changed the face of the town. A larger church became an inevitability, and in 1985 the new Saint Peter's was constructed at a different location. Ministries expanded and due to an emergent Hispanic population and the parish is thriving.

Due to its rather isolated geography, it is a unique church. The ability of the church to grow and maintain the faith under sometimes trying conditions, and being so far removed from the Archdiocesan See, is the story of Catholicism in the Panhandle. The grit and perseverance of the people is indeed inspiring to the entire archdiocese.

# Vagabond Missions to begin evangelizing to inner-city youth in 2023

**By Jolene Schonchin**  
*The Sooner Catholic*

Inner-city teens across the United States face numerous obstacles in their lives such as neglect, violence and broken family life.

Vagabond Missions introduces them to Jesus and a loving community by mobilizing missionaries. Through outreach, every inner-city teen can be known, loved and experience hope for their lives.

The organization was given permission by Archbishop Coakley to establish a presence in Oklahoma City with the goal of evangelizing the inner-city youth.

"Vagabond Missions is not called vagabond because of the kids. It is called Vagabond Missions because Jesus was a vagabond. Jesus went to where people were and found them. He sought to save the lost," Joe Cipriano, director of the Oklahoma City mission, said. Vagabond Missions follows that ideal as it seeks to be among the young people in their world – in their present environment. The ministry of Vagabond Missions is not necessarily focused on the kids who are coming to Church with their families, but rather those who are outside of the reach of the Church. Vagabond Missions aims to be in neighborhoods and around schools in inner-city areas. Their approach is to start with the relational aspect of ministry, and in time they open what are called "undergrounds," or youth centers. The mission looks for the right area, the right spots and sometimes it is in inner-city areas. Sometimes it is in across the street from a high school, sometimes its attached to a parish, depending on the location. It is varied throughout the country.

"We were trying to bring Vagabond Missions here to Oklahoma City, but they did not have anybody to run the site. As we prayed through how to bring the mission here, my wife and I began to realize God might be calling us to be the ones who begin it here in Oklahoma City," Cipriano said.

For him, this mission has personal ties.

"In 2007, they officially opened their doors in Steubenville, Ohio, and it was the first official Vagabond sight, but it really had its origins in upstate New York, where I grew up," Cipriano explained.

"A lot of kids from the inner cities began showing up who were involved with gangs and drugs, and they brought with them all the

negativity that goes with it, including fights in the parking lot with the police showing up at the youth group, it was unexpected. The minister began researching what was available for the inner-city youth, and his research concluded there was hardly anything. At the same time, there was a kid who was coming to the youth ministry that was causing a lot of trouble. One night a group of the adult volunteers showed up and told the youth minister they were quitting if this one youth did not stop coming because he was causing so much trouble. The minister told the volunteers he will gladly accept their resignation because if they give up on one of these youth,

then they are not doing God's work," Cipriano said.

It is a personal connection because Joe was the youth causing the trouble.

"I had this tremendous conversion in my life that came from it. I ended up going back to school, went to Franciscan University and studied Theology and Catechetics, went on to get my master's degree at the Augustinian and have been doing youth ministry for 15 years. My family and I moved here so I could be the director of youth ministry for the archdiocese," Cipriano explained. "My background in

Oklahoma definitely helps. While I was the diocesan director of youth ministry, I could see the needs of the parishes, the needs of the community and see their resources. There are a lot of resources out there in Oklahoma City, especially for the poor. There are a lot of organizations we can have as a partner," Cipriano stated.



Missionaries and participants from Vagabond Missions, an outreach to inner-city youth.

For more information, visit [vagabondmissions.com](http://vagabondmissions.com).

*Photos provided.*

The goal of Vagabond Missions is to preach the gospel to inner-city teens. Cipriano said there are other organizations helping with housing, helping with addiction and help with the social justice aspect.

"We primarily are there to bring Jesus into the lives of the inner-city youth. I have worked with teens from all different economic backgrounds. Throughout my lifetime I have worked in Kentucky and South Texas, with all different types of people, and the reality is every kid is facing obstacles. Especially the obstacle of living in a post Christian society where it is no longer socially acceptable to be a Christian for many teens. A lot of teens in the inner city, you pile on the obstacle of poverty, increased drug use, increased abuse and you start to find many young people who feel trapped and feel like there is no way for them to move forward with a joyful life. I really believe that Jesus and the Gospel give people hope and give people life. Their obstacles are more frequent, and some are almost impossible to overcome," Cipriano said.

**continued on page 8**





Jason Fugikawa

Jason Fugikawa is the director of the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute. The institute focuses on designing, developing and offering catechetical and formational courses and events for adults in the archdiocese. When not leading the institute, Fugikawa enjoys studying theology, education, entrepreneurship and leadership. He has taken up deer hunting since moving to Oklahoma, plays disc golf and enjoys table games with his children. For more information on the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute and course offerings, visit [archokc.org/institute](http://archokc.org/institute).

## The Ladder of Ascent / La Escalera de Ascenso

This fall, the Bl. Stanley Rother Institute is offering The Ladder of Ascent, a course for adults on the Catechism of the Catholic Church presented in English and in Spanish. Students will encounter the richness of the Catholic faith, understand the Church's reasoning and embrace their call to Go Make Disciples. To learn more and enroll, visit [archokc.org/ladder](http://archokc.org/ladder).



**BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER INSTITUTE**  
CATECHETICAL SCHOOL  
(405) 721-4208 | [ARCHOKC.ORG/INSTITUTE](http://ARCHOKC.ORG/INSTITUTE)

**WHAT IS THE LADDER OF ASCENT?**  
It is an exciting course offering from the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute. Those who take the course will make an in-depth study of four areas: the Creed, the Sacraments, Christian Morality, and the Life of Prayer. Using the Catechism of the Catholic Church as the primary text, students will meet for two hours each week for a lecture and small group discussion on the weekly assignments from the Catechism and other supplementary texts. This is a two-year, four-semester course that addresses the whole content of faith. Each year consists of weekly classes from September to May, as well as outside preparation time.

**WHY SHOULD I TAKE IT?**  
If you have ever been stumped by a faith question from a relative, friend or neighbor, if you're a catechist or a youth minister looking for a little refresher, if you're just someone who wants to enjoy a deeper faith experience, this course is for you! Much more than a refreshing of facts about the faith, this course will show you the narrative thread linking the teachings of the Church together.

**WHO SHOULD TAKE IT?**  
This course is aimed at committed adult learners who are willing to give themselves to a deeper study of their faith. No particular educational background is required, and don't worry if you haven't been a student in a long time.

**WHAT DOES IT COVER?**  
**THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (CCC)**, published in 1994, was the first universal Catechism intended for the whole Catholic Church in more than 400 years! It is divided into four sections, upon which the Church's teaching is based. The four sections are suggested in a description of the early Church found in Acts of the Apostles 2:42: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers."  
**SEMESTER 1: "APOSTLES TEACHING," THE CREED: THE STORY IN MINIATURE**  
**SEMESTER 2: "BREAKING OF THE BREAD," THE SACRAMENTS: THE BLESSINGS REVEALED AND COMMUNICATED**  
**SEMESTER 3: "FELLOWSHIP," THE MORAL LIFE: FULFILLMENT IN BEATITUDE**  
**SEMESTER 4: "PRAYER," THE BLESSINGS GIVEN AND RECEIVED**

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**  
All tuition rates are for an entire academic year and include a \$20 non-refundable fee (where applicable) due at registration.  
• General Student = \$620  
• Senior (65+ years old) = \$560  
• Catholic Young Adults Sports League Participant = \$560  
• Military, Veteran, First Responder = \$380  
• Parish Volunteer Catechist = \$380  
• Employee of the archdiocese or a Catholic parish / school / ministry = \$320  
• Priest/Seminarian/Deacon/Professed Religious = Free

Limited need-based tuition assistance is available. The application for tuition assistance is included in the registration process for all students. Contact the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute ([rotherinstitute@archokc.org](mailto:rotherinstitute@archokc.org) or 405-721-4208) for more information.

**OCT. 1, 2022**  
**1:00 PM**  
THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

**ARCHBISHOP'S REMEMBRANCE MASS FOR PREGNANCY & INFANT LOSS**

PLEASE EMAIL NAMES OF CHILDREN TO BE HONORED TO [CARRIED.LOVED@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CARRIED.LOVED@GMAIL.COM)

**Fundraiser**

Knights of Columbus Council 12108 is having a fundraiser to provide financial support for five seminarians for the 2022-2023 school year.

**First prize:** TCL 55" class 4k KDR LED Smart Roku TV.

**Second prize:** LG-TONE free wireless active headphones.

**Third prize:** OU Legacy letter jacket.

Tickets \$10 each or three for \$25. Drawing on Oct. 2. Purchase tickets via the QR code below.

**To purchase tickets online:**  
Open phone camera  
Aim at QR code  
Tap the banner

**The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help | Thursday 09/29/22 - 6pm**

**2022 ARCHBISHOP'S MASS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**

Guest Speaker Dan Oblinger

**The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help | Saturday, 10/22/22 - 10am**

**2022 ARCHBISHOP'S MASS FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS**

Guest Speaker Dr. Natalie King



Center of Family Love residents, NextGen Dance Heroes, at the 9th annual Gift of Love Gala. Photos provided.

## Over \$2 million gala launches new CFL vision

The Center of Family Love's multi-million-dollar, 9th annual Gift of Love Gala, provided the impetus towards world-change, literally, for those conquering intellectual and physical disabilities.

The black-tie event, held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum earlier this summer, provided the platform that launched a new direction and expansion for the Okarche-based organization. Founded in 1981, the Center has been providing lifelong care and career opportunities for adults conquering disabilities, at no charge to families who cannot afford their care.

"We are excited to unlock the talents of our NextGen Heroes and infusing their love into the world," Debbie Espinosa, president and CEO of CFL, said. Espinosa's remarks referred to the biggest news of the night, that the Center of Family Love, and their partners attending the gala, are igniting an unstoppable global movement to empower future leaders in the workplace with different abilities.

"The Center of Family Love is determined to change the biggest gaping hole in society for those who live with disabilities. For generations, children with developmental differences have not been given the opportunity for professional development after high school. Their extraordinary talents have been underdeveloped and they have not had opportunity to incorporate their abilities in advanced positions in our workforce ... until now," Espinosa said.

The Center of Family Love does much more

than provide quality lifetime care to their residents. They discover and develop the hidden talents of each hero. A hero is someone who is admired for their courage, outstanding achievements and noble qualities.

"When our residents conquer their disabilities every single day, they are heroes to us, and will one day soon be heroes to the next generation. We call them NextGen Heroes," Espinosa said.

A centerpiece of their new vision is a brand-

gala proceedings with several other head chefs and owners from top Oklahoma City restaurants including: Kurt Fleischfresser, director of operations at Vast; Oliver Boudin, chief executive officer at Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club; Michel Buthion, owner of La Baguette Bistro; Verej Jazirvar executive vice president of Oklahoma City Petroleum Club; Rick Naifeh, president of Premium Brands Wine & Spirits and Greg Gawey, owner of Jamil's Steakhouse.

Egan spoke for the group, stating, "we believe in what the Center of Family Love is building, and we want to partner with your culinary art school to develop the next generation of sous chefs with different abilities. We can all use our expertise to help you develop your culinary program."

Restauranters were not the only people that were impressed; a new documentary by a former BBC internationally-acclaimed documentary filmmaker will begin filming in 2022, covering the genesis of this global movement.

"Together we are going to ignite a generational impact like nothing the world has ever seen. We invite you to join our global movement and redefine the next generation of role models, with different abilities, entering their rightful place in our workforce," Espinosa said.

Located in Okarche with more than 41 years of experience, the Center of Family Love has developed nationally recognized, innovative solutions to the ever-growing, worldwide demand for comprehensive development after high school, at no charge for those who cannot afford their lifelong care.



Left: Center of Family Love resident, Jon, attended the annual Gift of Love Gala.



Right: Center of Family Love culinary partners, led by David Egan, pledged their partnership to the new culinary program during the gala.

new 69,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art building that will serve, Espinosa described, "as a catalyst for career development and leadership training for those conquering disabilities. This building will not only serve our 130 current heroes, but an additional 600 elderly, veteran and disabled adults living in the Oklahoma City metro area who will continue to live at home supported by their families."

The vision is shared by some of the most influential Oklahomans in the restaurant industry as well. David Egan, director of operations for Cattleman's Steakhouse interrupted the



**Oktoberfest auction**

The Holy Spirit Catholic Church eighth-annual Oktoberfest auction is 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.

**St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day Mass**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will celebrate their patron's feast day with Mass at 6 p.m. Sept. 27 at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 1005 N.E. 15 St. in Oklahoma City. A potluck meal will follow.

**Knights of Columbus retreat**

The Knights of Columbus retreat is 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Guest speaker is Sr. Diane Koorie, R.S.M. Cost \$30. Send checks to Chris Victor, 4129 S. Tamarack Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74011. Make checks payable to Oklahoma State Council. E-mail michael-the-j@att.net for a retreat flyer.

**Pregnancy, infant loss remembrance Mass**

Join Archbishop Coakley for a Mass in remembrance of babies lost before birth or during infancy at 1 p.m. Oct. 1 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City. E-mail names of children to be honored to carried.loved@gmail.com.



continued from page 1

up to parents, because parents are the first faith formators," Wilson said.

The conference begins with Mass, followed by numerous breakout sessions in the morning and afternoon. Those sessions include Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist; Spirituality of the Catechist; Engaging Youth in Confirmation Preparation; Leading Children in Adoration; Recognizing Anxiety and Depression within Ministry; Discover Your Spiritual Gifts; Accompaniment: Walking with Others in Faith and Raising up a Virtuous Generation, among others. There will be morning and breakout sessions to allow for more opportunities for catechetical training.

"This allows them to attend a breakout session that speaks to their own personal development for ministries, or equipping them with tools for ministry," Wilson said.

Several speakers throughout the day will also address participants' needs.

Father William Novak will be the celebrant at the conference. He is the pastor of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Oklahoma City and vicar general for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Homilist and keynote speaker, Father Jerome Krug serves as parochial vicar of Saint Eugene Catholic Church and chaplain at Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School in Oklahoma City.

Monica Ashour, co-founder of the Body Evangelization Team, holds two master's degrees from the University of Dallas and is an author of a Theology of the Body curriculum for religious education and Catholic schools.

"There is an opportunity for networking with people in ministry,"

Wilson said. "We also provide vendors so the participants can look at different resources available, different publishers or other tools in ministry."

The goal of the conference is to teach catechists new concepts in being a faith leader as well as advancing a devotion to the Eucharist.

"We're growing in our own faith in order to share with others," Wilson said. "We look at the Eucharist, which this year, coincides with the Eucharistic Revival, which was initiated by the bishops. It is a three-year ministry, to help people grow in their love of the Eucharist."

For more information about the 2022 Catechetical Conference, visit [archokc.org/catcon](http://archokc.org/catcon).

Everett Brazil is a freelance writer for the *Sooner Catholic*.

**SEPT. 17**  
**8:30 A.M. - 3 P.M.**  
**BISHOP MCGUINNESS**  
**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
801 NW 50 ST.  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73118  
**Cost: \$10**  
**BREAKOUT SESSIONS INCLUDE**

- Spirituality of the Catechist
- A Model for Confirmation
- Jesus & the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist
- Discover Your Spiritual Gifts
- and much more!

## Vagabond Missions to begin evangelizing to inner-city youth in 2023

continued from page 5

To qualify as a missionary, one must be a young adult who is willing to spend one to two years working with young people, especially the poor and the lost, be willing to learn, have a heart for mission and be faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

There are three ways the community can help as well. The first way is through prayer support. The goal of Vagabond Missions is to have more than 200 people intentionally praying for young people, especially those in the inner-city communities.

The second way is to build a donation base. Vagabond Missions is a non-profit organization and is run by individuals. They are trying to build a donor base of 100 people.

The third way people can assist is through volunteering. Vagabond Missions is hoping to have 50 volunteers – some who volunteer daily and some to volunteer weekly.

One goal of Vagabond Missions in Oklahoma City, which is not yet finalized, is to open a

Heart Catholic Church on the campus of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine. Because they are a Catholic organization, their goal is to have kids to go Mass on Sundays and hopefully join RCIA.

"We are partnering with these parishes because on Sunday mornings, we will pick kids up by vans and bring them to Church," Cipriano said.

Cipriano is grateful to Archbishop Coakley for allowing this ministry to come to Oklahoma, as well as to Father Joe Arledge from Saint Patrick Catholic Church and Father Rusty Hughes from Holy Angels Catholic Church for being good partners and supporters.

To learn more about Vagabond Missions, visit [vagabondmissions.com](http://vagabondmissions.com).

Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the *Sooner Catholic*.



youth center in the fall of 2023, close to Northwest Classen High School. Vagabond Missions is partnering with two Oklahoma City parishes: Saint Patrick Catholic Church and Holy Angels Catholic Church, which will soon join Sacred

## The Catholic Daughters of the Americas holds national convention

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas held its 59th biennial national convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico on July 20-24. The Oklahoma delegation included State Regent Karin Dush, Altus; State Treasurer Jo Ella Newbury, Tulsa and State Chaplain Fr. Jim Caldwell, Tulsa. Delegates were Lisa Koeller, Harrah; Elizabeth Carillo, Lawton and Laura Hamilton, Lawton. Iris Fraticelli, Lawton, also attended as an alternate delegate.

Mass was said each day and a chapel for prayers and contemplation was available. There were many business meetings since it had been four years since they were able to meet.

Oklahoma received several recognitions from the CDA National Board. The Oklahoma State Court won first place in the National Newsletter Contest. They were also presented with the National Leadership State Court Award for the State Workshop "You are the Apple of His Eye," which was held on Sept. 25, 2021, at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City.

Court Salve Regina No. 847, El Reno, received first-place recognition in the National Family Circle of Love category. They contacted Love the Children, formerly Birth Choice, which is a nonprofit organization in their community that provides clothing, dia-

pers and formula to mothers in need, and asked what items most in need were. The staff said they needed car seats that are certified as safe for mothers to bring their babies home from the hospital.

Court Salve Regina members collected monetary donations from the parish and the community. They walked door to door with a letter explaining the fundraiser and made numerous phone calls asking business owners for \$120 to purchase one car seat.

Within weeks, the committee raised \$1,670. They purchased 12 car seats, formula and diapers. They hope to continue this award-winning project annually.

Finally, Maureen Wortham from Court St. Francis of Peace in Altus received a St. Faustina Membership Award. These awards are presented to women who have been instrumental in increasing CDA membership in each state.



Oklahoma representatives from the Catholic Daughters of the Americas attended the Catholic Daughters National Convention in July. *Photo provided.*

In the last year Wortham was instrumental in bringing six new members into her home court. The Oklahoma Catholic Daughters are proud of their accomplishments and would like to invite all Catholic women in the state to join them.

## Book review: "In the Eye of the Storm: a biography of Gregory the Great"

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

At Saint Gregory's Abbey, there is a book read to the monks at their evening meal, typically Monday through Friday. This book, "In the Eye of the Storm: a biography of Gregory the Great," by Sigrid Grabner, was read during March and April. It of course was of interest to the monks since Saint Gregory the Great is the patron of the abbey.

The book is a fast-paced biography of the first monk to become pope. It starts with the story of Saint Gregory's early days, Rome and the world he lived in. Rome was no longer the center of the world politically, it had been replaced by Constantinople, modern day Istanbul, Turkey, where the Roman emperor resided.

Saint Gregory was of an aristocratic family, the Anicii. He was taught to be of service to his home city of Rome. He was well educated due to this noble birth, and he quickly rose in rank within the administration of the city of Rome to eventually become the prefect. He was of great service to the people of Rome. When his father died, the path for him to become a monk was opened. His mother, Saint Sylvia, was able to fulfill her dream of becoming a nun. Saint Gregory turned his home into a monastery. This monastery, which he called

Saint Andrew's, did not follow only the Rule of Saint Benedict. As was the custom of the time, various rules were followed. Saint Gregory was very happy as a monk.

Pope Pelagius II became pope, made Saint Gregory a deacon and sent him to Constantinople to represent him at the imperial court. During this time, he wrote his famous commentary on the Book of Job, "The Moralia." The imperial court was not concerned with what happened in Rome or in Italy. They believed the local leaders should manage local affairs. The old capital of Rome was on its own. The pope eventually became responsible for the city. Six years later, Saint Gregory returned to Rome and his monastery, but a plague changed his life.

Saint Gregory and his fellow monks, along with the pope and his clergy, tried to help the people of Rome during the plague. Pope Pelagius II caught the plague and died on Feb. 8, 590. The people of Rome decided that Gregory should be the next pope, but he did not think he was worthy. However, the people and the city officials ultimately prevailed. He began at once as pope to help the people of Rome suffering from the plague and other problems that were created by the vacuum of the empire's neglect of the city and region.

Pope Gregory served the people by finding ways to feed them and protecting them from the invad-

ing Lombards threatening the city. The imperial officials were almost powerless or did not care to protect the city from them. Saint Gregory filled in the void and began what historians called the "monarchical medieval papacy." He took over responsibility of caring for the people and became fond of the title, "Servant of the Servants of God." He fulfilled his goal of protecting Rome and the region from the Lombards by arranging treaties and pacts.

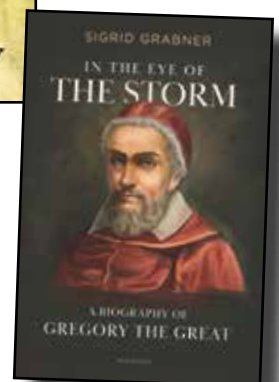
Saint Gregory's health was poor while he was pope. He had over done his asceticism as a monk and as a result damaged his health. He had gout and other illnesses. However, he would not let this hold him back in his service to the Church and Rome. He died on March 12, 604, having been pope for 14 years. He became one of the three popes with the title "the Great" after their names: Saint Leo the Great (440-461) and Saint Nicholas the Great (858-867).

Grabner illustrates the custom, attributed to Saint Gregory, of a priest saying Mass for a deceased person for 30 consecutive days, whereby it is believed that

the deceased would be released from purgatory at the end of the 30 days. He wrote a commentary on Job, gave many homilies and wrote books on the Italian saints which are called "The Dialogues." The most important of those biographies is in the second book, which is the first biography of Saint Benedict, the founder of Western monasticism.

This book does not have any maps or illustrations. A map could have helped to locate the various places mentioned in the book. The book does contain a chronology, an index of persons and a subject index. The book is very readable. It is a translation from the original German by Chase Fauchaux, which was originally published in 2009. General and academic readers will enjoy this fast-paced book. Saint Gregory the Great's feast day is Sept. 3. This book is highly recommended to those interested in Church history, Saint Gregory the Great, the history of Rome and Benedictine monasticism.

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





# Seven Catholic schools welcome new principals

By Courtney Rhone  
The Sooner Catholic



**Name:** Fred Martin  
**School:** Saint Joseph Catholic School, Enid

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

The new year is such a time of excitement: new books, new classes, new teachers and new classmates. It is the time when we see all the potential without yet experiencing the struggle and the strain. Pure, exuberant joy.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

I enjoyed English especially, and I discovered at the end of my studies a love for drama.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

My role is to help the faculty meet the goals of Vision 2030 and the needs and demands of parents and students. To do this well, I must listen to those groups and communicate clearly and efficiently to faculty. Then, we approach those problems as a community, as a family, in a spirit of "encounter, accompany, community and send." It may sound like I am throwing Vision 2030 at the problem as a platitude, but the plan is designed to hear others, embrace others in their need, to accompany them in community and launch them as they grow ready to augment that vision through their own discipleship. Thus begins the loving process.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

The primary goals this year are to grow enrollment by class population and by upward expansion. That process must be planned and nurtured. My personal goal is to develop a routine of self-management so that I can effectively accomplish all goals while supporting my whole community.



**Name:** Lou Ann Wood  
**School:** All Saints Catholic School, Norman

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

I am very excited to be an All Saints Eagle! This is an amazing school with fantastic teachers, parents and students. I look forward to building relationships with our All Saints families and learning about the rich history of All Saints Catholic School.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

My favorite subject was history. I was a history teacher and did my best to make learning fun! I even took a group of 5th grade students to National History Day in Washington, D.C.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

I am here to help! I want to make sure that students feel safe and loved. I will be working with our teachers to make sure that our academic instruction is top notch.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

I want to work with our staff and school advisory council to create a strategic plan for this year and set goals for the next five years.



**Name:** Wade Laffey  
**School:** Saint Mary Catholic School, Ponca City

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

The first day of school is the best day of the year! The quiet of the first few weeks of summer is nice initially, but by mid-July, the school building becomes quiet – absent of excitement and interaction. With the start of school, life returns, spirits soar and hope is renewed! With the start of school, I am especially reminded of the 24/7/365 nature of living the Catholic life that only a Catholic school environment can provide. God gives me the chance to learn and grow from my past mistakes at the start of each new school year.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

I loved them all – that is probably why I'm an educator today. I really liked being at school and being a part of the inner life of a school, and I still do. I came to really enjoy teaching chemistry and physics when I was a Catholic high school teacher.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

The ability to succeed already lies within each student and teacher. Sometimes that ability gets hidden by these walls that we put around ourselves, or that others attempt to place in our lives. I'd say that 90% of what I do is show up each day, be present and give my authentic self in service to the school, its students and its staff. My prayer is that my words, actions and efforts will fill the students and staff with self-confidence and the inner conviction that he or she is a beloved son or daughter of God and can be successful in every endeavor with God's help and grace.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

My goal is to be patient in learning all the ins and outs of what makes Saint Mary Catholic School the amazing institution that it has been for almost 122 years now. My goal is that each student and teacher will know that I care about them, that we're on a mission from God and that, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we can build up the Saint Mary Catholic School family as a truly amazing, unabashedly Catholic community.

## Who is your favorite saint and why?

My favorite saint is Saint Joseph. All God asked him to do was to protect and take care of the two most important people who ever lived: Jesus and Mary. He was called to be the head of the Holy Family, even though he was the least perfect member of that family. Easy, right? In my vocation as a Catholic school educator, God has given me a similar task in leading Saint Mary Catholic School. Despite my many failings, I am called to lead, protect and take care of the most important people in our school families' lives, their children, and to give my life in service to my school family. Moreover, Saint Joseph accomplished his tasks from God quietly, without fanfare and with faithful action. I hope to do the same at Saint Mary Catholic School!



**Name:** Helen Treacy  
**School:** Bishop John Carroll Catholic School, Oklahoma City

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

New and familiar faces excited to begin a new year of learning together.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

English and Language Arts. It is still a favorite today!

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

By being present to their needs and working alongside them to achieve their goals and the goals of the school community.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

Being a principal in a new area, my hope is to understand the dynamic of the community and begin to work together to make it continually flourish. Go Eagles!



**Name:** Laura Cain  
**School:** Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School, Oklahoma City

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

I love the excitement and energy of teachers and students at the start of a new year! I am working on learning students' names and getting to know each of them. As a principal in the archdiocese for the last eight years, I am familiar with the system of schools, but I look forward to leading in a high school setting alongside a tremendous group of educators and professionals in Catholic education.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

English was the subject I enjoyed the most.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

By building relationships with students and teachers, we can provide the instruction and support to meet individual needs. Establishing an environment of high standards and accountability and cultivating deep relationships with Jesus will position all of us for success!

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

As the new MSM principal, I hope to learn as much as I can about the culture and charisma of The Mount. I hope to celebrate the continued traditions of MSM, build upon the values of the Sisters of Mercy and help prepare the community to move from excellent to extraordinary!

## Who is your favorite saint and why?

Saint Catherine McAuley, of course! Her commitment to the poor and compassion for others impacted me as a young MSM student, and now inspires me as the leader of a Sisters of Mercy school.



**Name:** Janet Edgar  
**School:** Saint John Nepomuk Catholic School, Yukon

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

As a new principal from out of state, it is exciting to come in and observe all the things the school has in place. It lines up with our self-study for accreditation, so I will get to buckle down and learn all the wonderful things about the school and also the things we need to do better in the future.

## What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

I have always loved reading! I still love to de-stress with a great thriller novel.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

I feel like my job is to serve the teachers so that they can serve their students.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

I want to get to know all the students and their families and find ways that we can make our community stronger.

## Who is your favorite saint and why?

Saint Teresa of Calcutta is one of my favorite saints. There are saints walking among us every day, we just have to listen to the call of Jesus.



**Name:** Nicole De Longe  
**School:** Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Edmond

## What do you look forward to most at the start of a new school year?

The start of every new school year is a wonderful time of year. It is the commencement of rekindled friendships, new goals and growth opportunities for all – the culmination of hours of endless preparation from the school, parish and parents. I personally feed off seeing the students reenergized and listening to their hopes and aspirations for the upcoming year. As a leader, teacher and disciple of Christ, my fulfillment is derived from supporting and nurturing the students, faculty and staff's goals and ensuring that they are in alignment with the Church and top-tier educational standards.



What was your favorite subject in school growing up?  
As a child I always loved to read and learn new things. Naturally, reading became my favorite subject all throughout primary and secondary education. The love and desire to learn progressed into taking an elective in the 8th grade to become a teacher's aide. My love for reading quickly turned into the love of teaching – and that has never stopped.

## How will you help students and teachers succeed?

First and foremost, I believe very strongly in open and honest communication. Without honesty, forward progress is hard to achieve. Thankfully, our teachers and students are already succeeding and well equipped. My efforts will be to remove systematic obstacles so that they can reach even higher levels of success and achievement. My approach is to lead by example by displaying how to lead a Christ-centered life by leveraging our gifts and showing how to put these gifts to good use for God, our families and the community at large.

## What are some of your goals for the 2022-2023 school year?

While there are many goals for this school year, the overarching goal is to get acclimated with Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton Catholic School and Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church, with the end goal of becoming a bridge between the two thriving communities so that we may leverage all the synergies and operate as one.

## Who is your favorite saint and why?

All the Saints are truly amazing individuals and very fascinating studies. However, my favorite saint is Saint Catherine of Sienna. The way she lived her life, treated her family, her writings, how she gave away her food and clothing to the poor and her political involvement are all interesting. She had a mystical marriage to Jesus, the stigmata and was later declared a Doctor of the Church. She is my confirmation saint and I believe she has spiritually guided me to where I am today.



To learn more about Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, visit [archokc.org/schools](http://archokc.org/schools).

Courtney Rhone is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



# McGuinness Advanced Placement update 2021-2022

**2022 Results**  
In 2022, 278 Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School students took 567 exams in 22 subjects with 80% of students earned a passing score of 3 or higher. There were 108 McGuinness students who were named AP Scholars, the largest number of McGuinness students to ever receive the honor. Sixty-six seniors in the class of 2022 were named AP Scholars, the most of any graduating class at McGuinness.

**AP Advantages**  
The Advanced Placement program offers college-level courses for students while still in high school. Beyond providing students the

academic rigor and experience of a college-level class, these courses also offer the opportunity for students to earn college credit for qualifying scores on the end of the year AP exam. Taking AP exams gives students an advantage in college by allowing them to earn credit while in high school, allowing students open up time in their college schedules, graduate early and save money on their collegiate education.

In the class of 2022, 78% of graduates had taken an AP course while at McGuinness, while the national average is 39%.

**AP Scholar Information**  
With the AP Scholar Awards, College Board's Advanced Placement Program recognizes high

school students who have demonstrated outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on multiple AP Exams. The different award levels are described below:

**AP Scholar:** Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

**AP Scholar with Honor:** Granted to Students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams take, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

**AP Scholar with Distinction:** Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

<b>AP Scholar (39)</b>			
Destiny Adedayo '23 Classen Gracelyn Blevins '23 CSSE Emily Casebolt '22 BJCCS Eli Challis '22 Out of State Price Collier '23 Westminster Baxter Cornelius '22 CTK Lucia Corredor '23 Sequoyah Claire Duginski '22 CSSE John Eberle '23 CTK Kellen Fraile '23 Rosary Henry Gauthier '22 CTK Lauren Goodman '23 St. John Nepomuk Gabrielle Hamm '22 Homeschool Hailey Harrington '22 SEAS Emily Healy '23 Out of State Olivia La Forge '23 CTK Abigail Maupin '22 SEAS Madeline McLaughlin '22 CSSE Jenson McPherson '22 CTK Erin Baylee Melot '23 St. Philip Neri Charlotte Mounger '22 CSSE Natalie Nguyen '23 Out of state Tony Nguyen '22 BJCCS Abigail Pefferman '23 SEAS Griffin Plank '23 Independence John Meade Poarch '22 Westminster Atticus Richard '23 CTK	Alyssa Schmit '23 CTK Nicholas Schoeffler '23 Westminster Amy Schoelen '23 Classen Catherine Schultz '23 Rosary Vincent Shivers '23 CSSE Jinna Smail '23 SEAS Madelyn Smith '23 BJCCS Thomas Andrew Smith '22 CTK Vivian Vo '22 BJCCS Joseph Vy '23 BJCCS Natalie Waddell '23 Heritage Victoria Whitbeck '23 CSSE	Jacqueline Nguyen '22 Rosary Tara Nguyen '23 BJCCS Hannah Potter '22 Belle Isle Maria Raglow '23 SEAS Noah Rice '23 Westminster Kathleen Schomas '23 CTK Julio Suarez '22 CTK Marc Tawk '23 SEAS Haley Turman '22 Westminster Isabelle White '22 Rosary Kelly Willis '23 CTK	Emery Hammond '22 Belle Isle Kirby Johnson '22 Belle Isle Celine Keddissi '22 CSSE Caroline Lawton '23 CTK Alexander Leffel '22 Public School Cade Leonard '22 Rosary Sophia Lopez '22 SEAS Sally Lytle '22 CTK Riley McCoy '22 BJCCS Reese Mears '22 Oakdale Jason Nguyen '22 BJCCS Andrew Pham '23 St. Philip Neri Henry Regier '22 SEAS Charles Hutton Rhodes '23 Casady Curt Schwager '23 St. John Bosco Blayne Schwarz '23 CSSE Rory Sebastian '22 CTK Samuel Shadid '22 Westminster Kathryn Skarky '22 Westminster Aidan Smith '22 Summitt William Smith '22 CTK Daniel Soto '23 Out of state Skye Stewart '23 Westminster Julia Thomas '22 Rosary Cate Tollison '22 Rosary Brayden Tran '23 Classen Ann-Marie Weitzel '22 CTK Samuel Wilson '22 Deer Creek Daniel Zavala '22 Sacred Heart-OKC
<b>AP Scholar with Distinction (44)</b>			
	Romy Abu-Fadel '22 Cimarron Christopher Bayless '22 Out of state Hannah Bernstein '22 SEAS Lindsay Best '22 Westminster Jenna Carnine '22 Oakdale Paulina Covarrubias '22 CSSE John Dolan '23 CTK Katharine Elbow '22 Cimarron Anna Ford '22 Epic Gabriella Gasbarra '23 CTK Lilianna Gavula '22 CTK Encho Genchev '23 Westminster Mackenzie German '22 Westminster Emma Glaviano '22 SEAS Amelia Goodrich '22 CSSE		

## Catholic Schools Jobs Box

**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](http://steugeneschool.org/careers). Send resume, cover letter and archdiocese teacher application to Principal Molly Goldsworthy at [jobs@steugeneschool.org](mailto: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 and reading.

Bachelor's degree with Oklahoma state teaching certification is desired. Send a resume and cover letter to Principal Alice Newman at [anewman@holyltrinityok.org](mailto:anewman@holyltrinityok.org).

**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 4-8. Applicants must have knowledge of music (band) instruction. Send resume and cover letter to either Amy Feighny, [afeighny@ckschool.com](mailto:afeighny@ckschool.com), Todd Gungoll, [mr.gungoll@scbokc.org](mailto:mr.gungoll@scbokc.org) or Denise Heard, [denise.heard@sjnok.org](mailto:denise.heard@sjnok.org). Download application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**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](http://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](http://cristoreyokc.org/careers).

## The Catholic Difference

# Christian solidarity vs. barbarism

CRACOW – Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees have passed through this ancient cultural capital of Poland since Vladimir Putin's poorly equipped, miserably led and brutish army invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24 on the spurious pretext that a "Nazi"-led Ukraine posed an existential threat to Russia's security. The bloodlands of eastern Europe, between here and the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine, are no stranger to totalitarian cruelty and its effects. Between 1932, the beginning of Stalin's terror-famine, the Ukrainian Holodomor, and 1945, the end of World War II, this was the most dangerous part of the world; a blood-soaked killing field in which perhaps 20 million men, women and children died violent deaths.

Barbaric warfare inevitably causes a massive stream of refugees fleeing the slaughter, and the barbaric Russian warfare of 2022 is no exception. What is different —and what is heartening, in this season of discouragement over the state of world affairs and the Catholic Church's response to it — is how the millions of Ukrainian refugees who fled Putin's war have been treated. That difference was brought home to me, graphically, in a conversation I had with a distinguished Polish particle astrophysicist.

Professor Leszek Roszkowski had come to Cracow from Warsaw to discuss a future conference of the Society of Catholic Scientists to be held here next year. Inevitably, however, our conversation turned to the war in Ukraine and Poland's response to it. In the course of that discussion, Professor Roszkowski mentioned that he'd recently been visited by a colleague from an Asian country. The two scientists spoke of the massive refugee tide that had washed through Poland since February — and then Professor Roszkowski's guest asked,

"Where are the camps?" In his experience, and that of much of the world, you get refugees, you warehouse them in refugee camps.

The Polish astrophysicist explained that there were no such camps. Poles had taken hundreds of thousands of refugees into their homes, after they had passed through transit centers on the Polish-Ukrainian border and been welcomed in refugee service-centers. Polish homes, not camps or stockades, were where Ukrainian refugees found themselves throughout Poland in 2022.

Polish Catholicism has many problems these days. The episcopate, or at least the most vocal bishops, are too closely aligned with a single political party. Moreover, the Polish bishops seem to have learned little from other episcopates about the imperative of transparency in restoring the Church's credibility and meeting the assault of an aggressive media when issues of clerical sexual abuse arise. Too few Polish clergy, and laity, for that matter, understand that Poland today is mission territory, because Polish cultural and national identity no longer transmit Catholicism as they once did, and within living memory. Seminaries remain to be thoroughly reformed so that they are institutions preparing evangelists, not members of a clerical trade union.

All that being said, the massive and virtually unanimous Polish response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis strongly suggests that a Christian culture shaped by more than a millennium of history is still alive in Poland. So, Professor Roszkowski proposed, are the instincts born from memories of Polish resistance under the Nazis and communists. Those memory-driven instincts have been transmitted by the parents and grandparents of younger Polish adults today: there is a crisis and people are under mor-

tal threat; you help, period; there is no utilitarian calculus involved.

This instinct for solidarity is one marker of a living Christian culture. It stands in sharpest contrast to the wickedness and barbarity displayed by Russian state policy in occupied Ukraine, which involves the kidnapping of well over a million people, including some 260,000 children, and their mass deportation to Russia, which often means Siberia. Families are deliberately separated and orphanages are ransacked so that the orphans can be offered for adoption in Russia. Those who resist this inhuman coercion are often tortured and executed.

So much for Putin's Russia as the Great Defender of Christian Civilization.

The warmth and generosity of Poland's response to Ukrainian refugees also demonstrates the power of Christian reconciliation to create networks of solidarity. There is not a lot of happy history between Poland and Ukraine, and some of the worst of that history took place during World War II. No one is talking about that now, however. As Saint John Paul II would have put it, "historical memory" has been "cleansed" and mutual reconciliation has been the result.

Which is another reason why, amidst Europe's most severe refugee crisis since 1945, there are no refugee camps in Poland, but rather refugees welcomed, sheltered and nurtured in Polish homes.



**George Weigel**  
*Ethics and Public Policy Center*

## Apply now for the Rev. Msgr. Larry J. Droll Scholarship

SAN ANTONIO— The Rev. Msgr. Larry J. Droll Scholarship, worth \$2,000, will be awarded to two Catholic lay men or women pursuing graduate degrees in theology or religious studies and in need of tuition assistance. This scholarship is geared towards those who have already obtained their bachelor's degree and are either enrolled or want to enroll in a Catholic graduate school.

"Today many dedicated Catholics, who are not ordained clergy or women religious, serve parishes as Parish Coordinators or Administrators, as Pastoral Associates, Directors of Religious Education, Youth Ministers, Liturgists, and many other roles," said Msgr. Droll. "This scholarship can help provide the funds to earn an advanced educational degree in theology or religious studies that is often required for these positions."

Students must be enrolled, in-person or remote, in an accredited graduate program at a Catholic University in the United States. Scholarships are paid only to the university for tuition and other needs. The applicant must also be a practicing Roman Catholic who resides in a state in which Catholic Life Insurance is licensed to operate. These states include Texas, Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

The deadline to apply is Oct. 7. Applications are available at [cliu.com](http://cliu.com), [branch@cliu.com](mailto:branch@cliu.com) or (210) 828-9921, Ext. 141 (1-800-262-2548).

*Founded in 1901, Catholic Life Insurance offers life insurance, IRAs, and annuities to individuals and businesses in Texas, Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico and Oklahoma.*

IN MEMORY OF THOSE LOST TO SUICIDE  
Those who have experienced the loss of someone to suicide are invited to celebrate their loved one's life at . . .

A MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1901 NW 18TH ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106

Officiant: Rev. William L. Novak, V.G., Pastor

Those who wish to pray for and offer support to families and friends are welcome to attend.

A reception will follow in Parish Hall

For more information, please contact us at [secretary@stfrancisokc.com](mailto:secretary@stfrancisokc.com)

LIVE STREAM AVAILABLE: [@stfrancisOKC](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisOKC)

**ST. FRANCIS**  
OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Catholic Young Adults OKC

Join the movement  
Find your community  
 @archokc\_ya\_Campus  
 @archokcYACampus  
 @archokc.org/ya  
 text "CYAOKC" to 84576

Monthly Events!



## Jobs Box

To see more job openings, go online to [archokc.org/jobs-box](http://archokc.org/jobs-box).

### Executive assistant – OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time executive assistant to provide administrative support for the chancellor, chief financial officer, director of human resources, and moderator of the curia/vicar general. The executive assistant will maintain databases and coordinate documents and other requirements for clergy, religious and lay; maintain calendars, schedule meetings, distribute agendas and transcribe minutes; track expenses and payments and maintain office supply inventory. Must be highly organized with the ability to prioritize and anticipate needs; must have excellent computer skills in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, with exceptional attention to detail and accuracy; must have the ability to communicate in a professional manner with clergy, staff and the general public in a multicultural environment; must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church who is fluent in English and Spanish; at least three years office experience is required. Send cover letter and resume to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### 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](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### Administrative assistant - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an administrative assistant to provide support for the department of evangelization and discipleship at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The assistant will coordinate schedules, facilitate communication and registration for departmental events, submit invoices and credit statements and perform other administrative duties, including answering calls and maintaining office supplies. Previous office experience and proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint is required. Must also be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### Director of Communications – Shrine

The Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine is

seeking a director of communications to oversee all aspects of communication, media relations and promotion of the shrine. Minimum three to five years of experience in public relations, journalism or marketing; bachelor's degree in a related field and must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Bilingual in English and Spanish is desired, but not required. To learn more, visit [rothershrine.org](http://rothershrine.org). Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### Gift shop manager - Shrine

The Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a gift shop manager to be responsible for all operations of the gift shop, including purchasing and maintaining a complete inventory of items that reflect the Catholic faith and promote Bl. Stanley Rother. The manager will be responsible for tracking purchases and accurately accounting payments received. 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 that demonstrates the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the above-described responsibilities. Must have a desire to evangelize and to promote devotion to Bl. Stanley Rother. Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### Volunteer coordinator - Shrine

The Bl. 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 volunteerism and community building and demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with diverse populations. Leadership experience with volunteer groups within the Catholic Church is preferred. Fluency in Spanish is a plus. Must have a desire to evangelize and to promote devotion to Bl. Stanley Rother. Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

### Marketing, volunteer coordinator - OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a marketing and volunteer coordinator to assist with social media and website postings; provide effective and timely coordination of all volunteer activities; help produce and distribute internal and external collateral and fortify the structure of the volunteer program and enhance the culture of volunteer-

ism throughout Catholic Charities. High school diploma and at least two years of experience directly related to the responsibilities specified; Bachelor's degree preferred; valid Oklahoma driver's license and clean driving record, fluency in written and spoken English and fluency in Spanish preferred. Send cover letter and resume to Carly Akard at [cakard@ccaokc.org](mailto:cakard@ccaokc.org).

### Paralegal – OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a paralegal to provide quality legal services to low-income individuals through assessing their eligibility for family-based immigration benefits under the INA and related statutes, rules and regulations and, if such benefits are available, prepare the necessary forms, pleadings and related documents for review and approval by either a Catholic Charities attorney or accredited representative. Fluency in reading, writing and speaking of Spanish. One to two years of experience in assessing and providing family-based immigration benefits under the INA and related statutes, rules and regulations. Send cover letter and resume to Christy Knotts at [cknotts@ccaokc.org](mailto:cknotts@ccaokc.org).

### Refugee job developer – OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a temporary refugee job developer to develop and maintain partnerships with employers to identify employment opportunities; provide job readiness training; assist with applications, interviews and placement activities and conduct follow-up actions. Services are conducted in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. High school diploma and at least two years of experience directly related to the responsibilities specified; bachelor's degree in business or marketing with experience in job development or employment services preferred. Valid Oklahoma driver's license and clean driving record; fluency in written and spoken English; fluency in Spanish, Burmese, Swahili or other language that is representative of a refugee population currently being served by the program is preferred. Send cover letter and resume to Remi Peythieu at [rpeythieu@ccaokc.org](mailto:rpeythieu@ccaokc.org).

### Children's formation coordinator – Edmond

St. Monica Catholic Church in Edmond is seeking a full-time coordinator of children's formation (K-Grade 5), to work under the supervision of the director of evangelization and oversee the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, baptism preparation, first confession preparation, first Holy Communion preparation and children who are entering the Church through RCIC. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing and passionate about Jesus, the Catholic faith and forming disciples. Some

evenings and weekends required. Bachelor's degree required; theology or ministry degree is a plus. Strong skills in organization, planning and execution of events, technology and social media required. At least five years of previous parish-based work experience preferred. Must undergo safe environment training and background check. Send resume to Fr. Hamilton at [fr.shamilton@gmail.com](mailto:fr.shamilton@gmail.com) no later than Sept. 12. For more information call (405) 359-2700.

### Behavior interventionist - OKC

The Good Shepherd Catholic School and Clinic is seeking a part-time behavior interventionist to work with students with autism, or other challenging behaviors, at three locations. High school diploma (or equivalent) required, bachelor's degree (or pursuing) in psychology, social work, education or related field preferred. One year experience in ABA, childcare or related occupation. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills and a willingness to learn behavioral concepts and tablet-based software for data collection. E-mail resume to [gscs@goodshepherdcs.org](mailto:gscs@goodshepherdcs.org).

### Internship – Norman

The Peace and Justice Group at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Norman is accepting applications for the 2022-23 Care of Creation internship. A \$500 stipend is available toward one internship and can be concurrent with school courses and is often eligible for course credit. Service hours also available. Apply by Sept. 15 at [forms.gle/h6Q3xrh9dnF4MHRP7](https://forms.gle/h6Q3xrh9dnF4MHRP7). Contact Olivia Biddick at (405) 226-6387 or [olivia.biddick@gmail.com](mailto:olivia.biddick@gmail.com).

### Organist - Kingfisher

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Kingfisher is seeking an organist for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Contact (405) 375-4581 or [secretary@stspeterandpaul.org](mailto:secretary@stspeterandpaul.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](mailto:pau.titus@gmail.com).

### Music director, organist - OKC

St. James the Greater Catholic Church in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time music director and organist. Responsible for four weekend Masses, the parish choir and school Masses. A 100-stop digital pipe organ was recently installed. Visit [stjames-catholic.org](http://stjames-catholic.org). Send cover letter, resume and three references to Fr. Bill Pruett at [pastor@stjamesokc.com](mailto:pastor@stjamesokc.com).

### By Owen Canfield

At the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, they are happy to see more people making gifts to the Church from their Individual Retirement Accounts. This tool makes giving easy and it provides an attractive tax benefit.

Because deposits into traditional IRAs are made pre-tax, withdrawals must be claimed as taxable income. However, the government allows those age 70 1/2 or older to make gifts tax-free from their IRA to any qualified 501(c)3 charity.

These are called Qualified Charitable Distributions, or QCDs. They are especially useful once a person reaches 72; the age when the government sets required minimum distribution amounts from IRAs.

An advantage of a QCD is that donors can give up to \$100,000 annually from their IRA and pay no income tax on the distributions.

David and Marlene Rosbach, parishioners at Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, are advocates of QCDs.

Through the years, the couple frequently used appreciated stock to make charitable gifts. However, as David said, giving from their IRA when they turned 72 "was just kind of a no-brainer because

it's a lot simpler."

Once they are notified of the amount of their required minimum distribution, the Rosbachs tell their broker where they wish their gifts to go, and in what amounts. The broker takes it from there.

David said the tax advantage is nice, but it isn't the primary reason for making gifts from his IRA.

"For me, it simplifies tax filing," he said. "By planning my gifts, I'm reducing taxable income rather than taking the income and worrying about how much of my gifts are deductible."

Whether it's giving to the parish offertory, supporting the Annual Catholic Appeal or giving in other ways, the potential uses for people to use QCDs are extensive.

One QCD user said he had known about this tool for some time, but only started using it last year.

"I finally decided it was time to get it done," he said. "It worked out fine and I intend to do it again this year and however much longer I'm around."

For information about QCDs, call Owen Canfield at (405) 709-2897 or e-mail [ocanfield@cfook.org](mailto:ocanfield@cfook.org).

Owen Canfield is associate director of gift planning at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

## Gifts from IRA pay off

# Give Through Your IRA

If you are 70 1/2 or older and own a traditional IRA, you can use it to help Catholic churches, schools or ministries across the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

With a Qualified Charitable Distribution, IRA owners can direct gifts annually to charity without that amount counting as taxable income.

This tool is especially helpful for those 72 and older, who must take a Required Minimum Distribution from their IRA each year.

To learn more about making a Qualified Charitable Distribution to the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma for the benefit of your favorite ministry, visit [www.cfook.org/qcd](http://www.cfook.org/qcd) or contact Owen Canfield at the foundation, 405-721-4115 [ocanfield@cfook.org](mailto:ocanfield@cfook.org).



## ANNIVERSARY MASS

ARCHBISHOP COAKLEY INVITES MARRIED COUPLES WHO ARE CELEBRATING MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES (25, 40, 50+) IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 TO PARTICIPATE.

**Oct. 16, 2022 - 3 p.m.**

THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP  
3214 N. LAKE AVE., OKLAHOMA CITY

Registration deadline is OCT. 12. Couples are asked to register by calling the Office of Marriage and Family Life, (405) 709-2709 or you can e-mail [Lcarrasco@archokc.org](mailto:Lcarrasco@archokc.org). THERE WILL NOT BE CERTIFICATES HANDED OUT AT MASS FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT REGISTER.

**Go Make Disciples**  
**MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

**TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™**  
CONFERENCE SERIES

**JOHN PAUL II**  
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

I am pleased to welcome the first Together in Holiness conference to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. I encourage married and engaged couples throughout the Archdiocese to join me for this conference and receive the grace, encouragement, and guidance to help form your households into fruitful domestic churches. My desire is for all the faithful of our archdiocese to cooperate with the grace we all received in Baptism and Confirmation and become missionary disciples in this local church. In order to do this we need holy marriages and families. This conference will be a great opportunity for couples to grow in holiness as they spend intentional time with the Lord and one another.

**Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley**

**WHERE SPOUSES DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR FAMILY**

**OCTOBER 29, 2022 | 8:00 AM - 2:45 PM**  
**CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**NICHOLS HILLS, OK**

**PRESENTED BY**  
**OKLAHOMA CITY**

**CELEBRANTS & SPEAKERS**

**Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley**

**Deacon Phil and Betty Sedona**

**Roland Miller, STD**

**Alexander and Sarah Schimpf**

**Haley Stewart**

**A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CONFERENCE THAT INSPIRES SPOUSES AND EMPOWERS PARENTS**

**WHAT TO EXPECT**  
Together in Holiness provides an opportunity for quality time with your spouse and includes dynamic and inspiring presentations from national speakers, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, on-site childcare, and more!

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**  
Catholic married and engaged couples throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and beyond who desire to grow together in holiness and learn to form their children in the Catholic Faith.

**VENUE**  
Christ the King Catholic Church  
8005 Dorset Dr. | Nichols Hills, OK 73120

**REGISTRATION**  
Early Bird Couple **\$54** | Early Bird Individual **\$35**  
Early Bird discount available through September 5  
Couple **\$64** | Individual **\$40**  
On-site Childcare **\$5**/child  
Full and partial scholarships are available, please inquire

For more information, contact Conference Coordinator **Amanda Abi-Samra** at [amanda@fortifeandfamily.org](mailto:amanda@fortifeandfamily.org) or 832-779-1070.

**CLICK TO REGISTER**

Together in Holiness™ is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation

**TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG**



*Lánzate a lo más Profundo*  
Luke 5:4

## La pena de muerte es un tema vital

*Esta columna se publicó originalmente en 2019. Como esta edición de Sooner Catholic se publica el 4 de septiembre, estará nuevamente en peregrinación en el Camino de Santiago con el obispo Wall y el obispo Conley. Vamos por el camino francés esta vez desde Burgos (España) hasta O Cebreiro. Por favor oren por nosotros y a su vez nosotros estaremos orando por ustedes.*

Cada año tenemos la oportunidad de renovar nuestro compromiso profético de promover la dignidad humana y la santidad de cada vida desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. La dignidad humana es un don que recibimos de nuestro Creador que nos crea a su imagen y semejanza. Aunque podemos dañar esa dignidad por nuestra pecaminosidad, no podemos desarraigarla ni destruirla por completo. No es algo que ganamos o podemos perder. No nos lo concede un gobierno, sino es creado por Dios en nosotros. Él solo es el Señor de la vida.

Es un buen momento para enfocarse en una parte importante de la enseñanza moral profética de nuestra Iglesia sobre la santidad de la vida que a menudo pasamos por alto o cuestionamos. Me refiero a la pena de muerte.

En los últimos años, hemos sido testigos de un desarrollo auténtico de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre el uso de la pena de muerte. En 1999, San Juan Pablo II pidió el fin de la pena de muerte, que describió como “cruel e innecesaria”. En 2011, el Papa Benedicto XVI dijo: “Los líderes de la sociedad deben hacer todo lo posible para eliminar la pena de muerte”. En 2018, el Papa Francisco revisó el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica para que de aquí en adelante se lea: “Por tanto la Iglesia enseña, a la luz del Evangelio, que «la pena de muerte es inadmisibles, porque atenta contra la inviolabilidad y la dignidad de la persona», y se compromete con determi-

nación a su abolición en todo el mundo. (CIC, 2267).

Mientras la Iglesia está llegando a una apreciación más clara de la incongruencia entre la pena de muerte y nuestra convicción fundamental sobre la dignidad humana y la santidad de cada vida humana, otros factores también están llevando a una creciente comprensión en la sociedad de que ha llegado el momento de eliminar la pena de muerte.

Seamos claros, reconocemos el daño causado a las víctimas del delito y a la sociedad en general debido a los atroces actos de violencia. Nosotros respaldamos y promovemos la justicia. Debemos apoyar y ayudar a las víctimas del crimen. Sin embargo, podemos proteger a la sociedad y castigar el crimen sin recurrir a la pena de muerte.

El uso de la pena de muerte solo contribuye al continuo recrudecimiento y vulgarización de la sociedad y a la espiral de violencia. Tomar otra vida en última instancia no trae cierre y paz a aquellos que han perdido a un ser querido a través de un crimen violento. La justicia es necesaria, pero no es suficiente. Como William Shakespeare escribió: “La misericordia modera la justicia”. La misericordia perfecciona la justicia, sana y trae cierre. Este es el mensaje de la Cruz y la Resurrección.

Durante muchos años, hemos tolerado la pena de muerte en base a nuestra creencia de que fue un elemento disuasorio del crimen. Los hechos no lo confirman. De hecho, el 88 por ciento de los criminólogos no aceptan esta afirmación. Las áreas del país con las tasas de ejecución más altas también tienen las tasas de criminalidad más altas. Por el contrario, aquellas áreas del país con las tasas de ejecución más bajas también tienen las tasas de criminalidad más bajas.

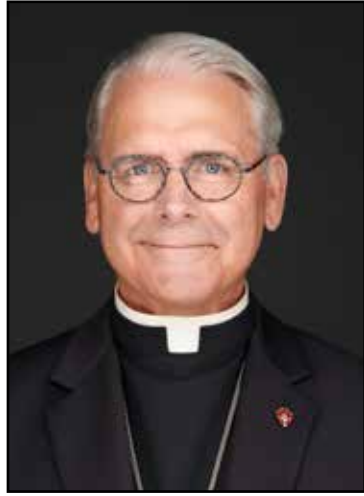
Hay muchos otros factores que debemos considerar. Si bien el ejecutar a una persona es un final, nuestro sistema no es

infalible. Hasta la fecha, han habido 166 exoneraciones de condenados a muerte. Estos a menudo se han basado en pruebas de ADN que no estaban disponibles en el momento del juicio. Un perfil de los reclusos condenados a muerte y los ejecutados muestra que son desproporcionadamente pobres, personas de color y personas que sufren discapacidades intelectuales o enfermedades mentales. Al contrario de lo que muchos creen, es mucho más costoso ejecutar a un criminal que sentenciar a esa persona a cadena perpetua sin libertad condicional.

Durante muchos años, la corriente de la opinión pública se ha alejado del apoyo a la pena de muerte. El número de ejecuciones ha disminuido drásticamente desde 1999 y un número creciente de estados lo están eliminando por completo. Sin duda, es motivo de preocupación que el gobierno federal haya decidido recientemente comenzar nuevamente las ejecuciones por delitos federales, algo que no ha ocurrido desde 1993.

Sé que en Oklahoma las personas generalmente están firmemente a favor de proteger a los no nacidos inocentes de la violencia del aborto. Es más difícil para muchos entender y aceptar con igual convicción las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre la inadmisibilidad de la pena de muerte. Pero, hay consistencia en nuestra posición basada en la dignidad inviolable de cada persona.

Animo a todos a estudiar y orar sobre este tema. Los interesados en aprender más encontrarán valiosos recursos a través de la Red de movilización católica. Estos están disponibles en [catholicismobilizing.org/es/inicio](http://catholicismobilizing.org/es/inicio).



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

## Semana de dedicación del Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother reprogramada para febrero

*Bendición y dedicación del Cerro Tepeyac 12 de diciembre*

OKLAHOMA CITY – El Arzobispo Paul Coakley anunció el lunes la reprogramación de la Misa y de la dedicación del Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother para el viernes 17 de febrero, para garantizar que todos los elementos que no sean de construcción estén listos y que el personal necesario esté en su lugar para que el santuario abra inmediatamente después de la dedicación.

La bendición del Cerro Tepeyac de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y San Juan Diego, ubicado en la esquina noroeste del campus del santuario, se celebrará el 12 de diciembre de 2022, en el día de la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

“Estoy agradecido de que The Boldt Company y los contratistas estén cumpliendo con los plazos establecidos para este otoño, lo que nos da suficiente tiempo para garantizar que el santuario, el museo y el centro de peregrinación estén abiertos al público el día de la dedicación”, dijo el Arzobispo Coakley. “Este es un proyecto único en la vida y queremos que esté listo para servir adecuadamente a nuestra comunidad católica, especialmente a nuestra creciente población hispana, y para dar la bienvenida a los peregrinos de todo el mundo el día 1. ¡Valdrá la pena la espera!”

La dedicación de la iglesia del santuario en un inicio estaba programada para el 4 de noviembre.

Todas las festividades como Misas y la vigilia con el ataúd del Beato Stanley en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro que originalmente estaban programadas para la semana anterior a la dedicación se trasladarán a la semana del 12 de febrero. Más detalles de los eventos estarán disponibles en las redes sociales, en el periódico Sooner Catholic y en los boletines parroquiales.

Las primeras Misas en el campus del santuario de la Iglesia Católica del Sagrado Corazón serán el fin de semana del 18 al 19 de febrero. Las Misas de fin de semana continuarán en el Sagrado Corazón hasta que el Santuario esté abierto, pero solo

se ofrecerán Misas diarias en la ubicación de Shartel del Histórico Sagrado Corazón después del 19 de febrero.

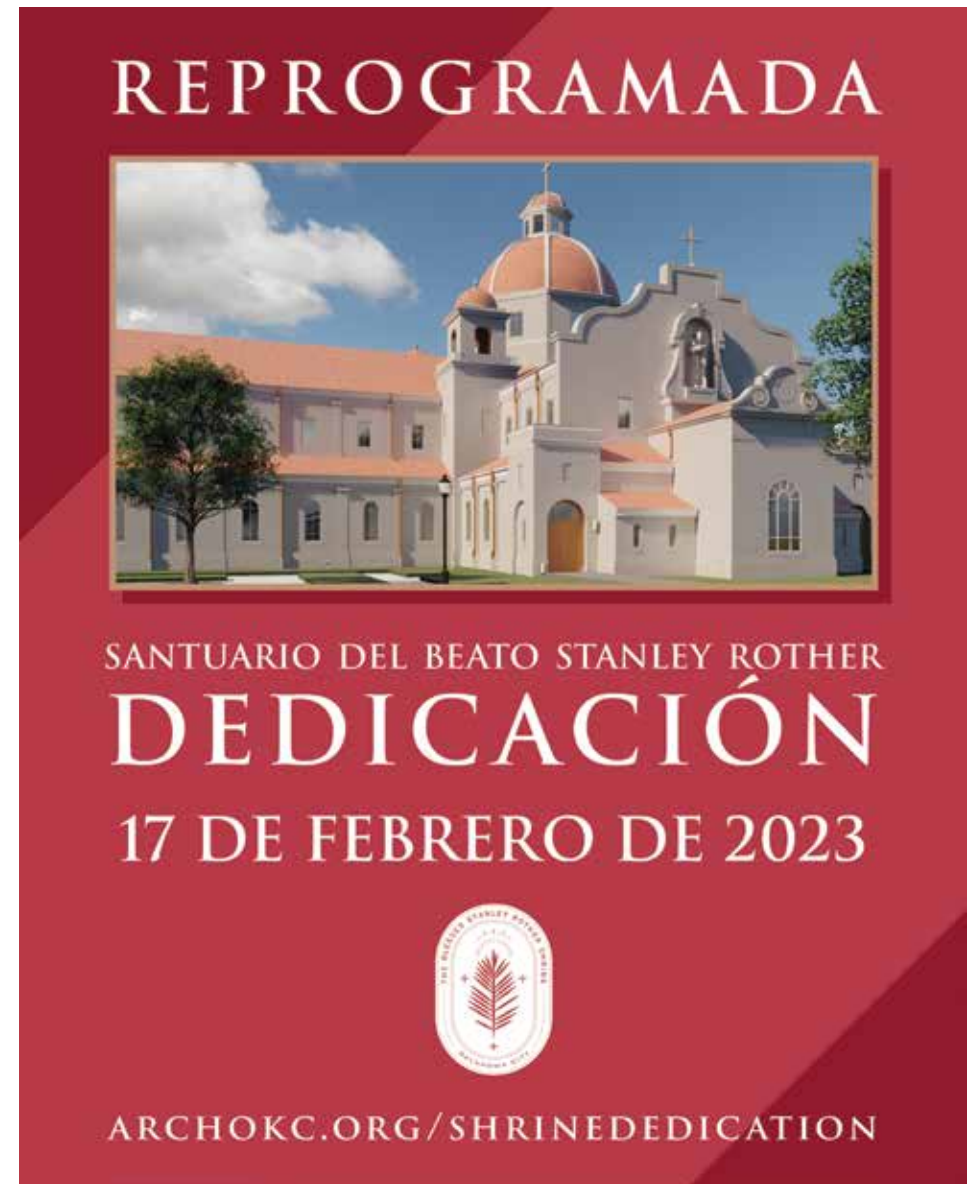
El rector del Santuario, el Padre Don Wolf, dijo que sus feligreses se están preparando para mudarse a la nueva ubicación y están emocionados de comenzar a celebrar la Misa en el nuevo Santuario.

“Se hizo evidente que necesitábamos más tiempo una vez que se completó la construcción para tener listos el santuario, el museo y las oficinas parroquiales. Este será un magnífico lugar de peregrinaje para generaciones de personas que vendrán a honrar al Beato Stanley y glorificar a Dios”, dijo el Padre Wolf. “Tomarse unos meses más para que esto quede perfecto es lo correcto”.

El santuario lleva el nombre del Beato Stanley Rother, un granjero de Okarche que en 1963 se convirtió en sacerdote de lo que entonces era la Diócesis de Oklahoma City y Tulsa y sirvió como misionero en Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala. En 1981, el Padre Rother fue asesinado en su rectoría durante una violenta guerra civil. Los perpetradores nunca han sido capturados. En 2016, el Papa Francisco lo declaró mártir de la fe, el primer mártir católico reconocido de los Estados Unidos. Fue beatificado en 2017 en Oklahoma City.

El santuario, el centro de peregrinación y los terrenos de \$50 millones son el elemento distintivo de la primera y principal campaña de la arquidiócesis: Una Iglesia, Muchos Discípulos. El sitio eventualmente incluirá la iglesia de 2,000 asientos, una capilla donde se sepultará al Beato Stanley, un edificio educativo, un espacio para eventos y varias áreas designadas para santuarios y devoción. El sitio se desarrollará con el tiempo.

“Esta increíble iglesia servirá como un faro para cualquiera que pase, visite o adore aquí. En esta iglesia, nos esforzamos por mostrar a Cristo, exaltar a Cristo y manifestar a Cristo a su pueblo. La dedicación será un evento



emocionante para los fieles católicos y para la gente de Oklahoma”, dijo Leif Arvidson, director ejecutivo del santuario.

Junto con la iglesia de estilo colonial español, que será la iglesia católica más grande de Oklahoma, los elementos adicionales en el sitio del santuario serán una colina Tepeyac, un museo y centro de peregrinación. El cerro Tepeyac, cerca de la Ciudad de México, es donde Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe se apareció a San Juan Diego en 1531. Las estatuas de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y San Juan Diego se colocarán en la cima del cerro. El centro de peregrinación y el museo darán la bienvenida a miles de visitantes cada año a una experiencia que los llevará a través de la vida, el testimonio y el martirio del Beato Stanley.

La iglesia será la anfitriona de muchos eventos diocesanos importantes y ayudará a acomodar a la creciente población hispana cuyas parroquias están significativamente superpobladas.

El arquitecto de diseño del proyecto es Franck & Lohsen Architects ubicado en Washington D.C.

Cuentan con el apoyo de la firma de arquitectura local ADG. El contratista general es The Boldt Company en Oklahoma City con Cooper Project Advisors como representante del propietario.

Para obtener más detalles y actualizaciones sobre los eventos de dedicación, visite [archokc.org/shrinededication](http://archokc.org/shrinededication). Para obtener más información sobre el Santuario Beato Stanley Rother, visite [rothershrine.org](http://rothershrine.org).

*Las actualizaciones del Santuario*



Aunque la dedicación del Beato El Santuario Stanley Rother ha sido reprogramada para febrero de 2023, la construcción continúa progresando. La bendición del Cerro Tepeyac y las estatuas de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y San Juan Diego se celebrará en la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en diciembre.

Tan pronto como concluya la construcción, el personal comenzará a mudarse y se preparará para el funcionamiento general del santuario y la bienvenida de miles de peregrinos de todo el mundo a este sitio, que será un faro de fe para todos.

También está en marcha la construcción del zócalo. Un zócalo es una plaza o plaza pública. En la Ciudad de México, el zócalo es un lugar para grandes eventos públicos, como los que se espera que se celebren en el santuario. El zócalo frente a la iglesia del santuario incluirá una gran fuente.

Para obtener más información, visite [rothershrine.org](http://rothershrine.org).



Photo Avery Holt.



## Briefs

### Shrine Tepeyac Hill dedication Dec. 12

Join Archbishop Coakley, priests of the archdiocese and guests for the dedication of Tepeyac Hill at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on Monday, Dec. 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Oklahoma City. The dedication and procession are open to the public and will include blessing of the statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego atop the hill. Find more information at [archokc.org/shrinededication](http://archokc.org/shrinededication).

### Rother shrine dedication Feb. 17

Join Archbishop Coakley, priests of the archdiocese, bishops and guests for the dedication of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on Friday, Feb. 17, in Oklahoma City. The dedication will be the centerpiece of a week-long celebration and is open to the public. Seating will be limited and available on a first-come first-serve basis. Find more information at [archokc.org/shrinededication](http://archokc.org/shrinededication).

### Catholic-Lutheran prayer service for Ukraine

St. Eugene Catholic Church in The Village will host an ecumenical prayer service for Ukraine 7 p.m. on Sept. 26. The service will join area Lutherans and Catholics in charity and intercessory prayer. Fr. Jim Goins and Rev. Joseph Summerville will both lead the prayer service and Rev. Summerville will deliver a brief reflection. A collection for Ukrainian refugees will be taken and the proceeds will be sent to Lutheran World Relief and Catholic Relief Services. All are invited to attend.

### 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 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](mailto:info@oknativeschoolsproject.org). Learn more at [archokc.org/oknativeschoolsproject](http://archokc.org/oknativeschoolsproject).

### Visitation

The Secular Order of the Discalced Carmelites of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus Community of Oklahoma will be having visitations of their orders during October, November and December. Anyone inspired by the spirituality of St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross can contact Letty Silva, O.C.D.S., formation director, at (405) 706-4817 or Susan Staudt, O.C.D.S., president, at (405) 473-6328.

### Blaze

Blaze, a Walking with Purpose ministry for tween/teen girls, begins Sept. 7 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The 20 weekly lessons are for girls in grades 6-9 who have already received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Register with Faith Reilly at [freilly@cathedralokc.org](mailto:freilly@cathedralokc.org), (405) 523-3057 or [cathedralokc.org/youth/education-consent-form](http://cathedralokc.org/youth/education-consent-form). Visit [walkingwithpurpose.com/blaze](http://walkingwithpurpose.com/blaze).

### Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass to honor the memory of the 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. in 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.

### 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 at 6 p.m. on Sept. 15 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 N.W. 18 St. in Oklahoma City. The Mass is in remembrance of those lost to suicide. Everyone is welcome.

### Bingo

The Knights of Columbus Family Bingo is 6:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at St. James the Greater Catholic Church, 4210 S. McKinley in Oklahoma City. All games \$10. Door prizes. Food available for purchase, served at 5:45 p.m. All players receive a raffle ticket for a LG 50-inch LED TV to be given away in October. September birth-days recognized.

### Granny's Attic

The annual "Granny's Attic" rummage sale is 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sept. 30 and 8 a.m. - Noon, Oct. 1 at St. Benedict Catholic Church, 632 N. Kickapoo Ave. in Shawnee.

### School fun run

The annual Christ the King Catholic School fun run begins at 8 a.m. Oct. 1. Visit [runsignup.com/ckrun](http://runsignup.com/ckrun) for details of each race and to register. For sponsorship details, visit [runsignup.com/ckrun/donate](http://runsignup.com/ckrun/donate).

### 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.



## Are you listening?

By Sally Crowe Nash

Creative efforts such as live and silent auctions, galas with speakers and competition-themed events are a few of the ways that people are persuaded to support various nonprofits and develop loyalties to their causes. For example, when I first began donating to Oklahoma Catholic Radio, I contributed on a monthly basis. What I longed to do was make a gift during the radiothon that actually moved the needle in achieving the radiothon goal. When working with other donors to reach a goal you experience excitement, satisfaction and a sense of camaraderie that is missing from routine, monthly giving.

There is an avenue of support that provides some of the best of both worlds – the goal achievement and satisfaction of working with others and the planned, monthly giving that sustains the ministry into the future: the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

I had heard of the CFO before, afterall, the foundation has been featured in the Sooner Catholic numerous times. It was not, however, until an old friend of mine, Owen Canfield, assumed the position of associate director of planned giving at the foundation that I actually came to understand how innovative and impactful the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma was, not only for Oklahoma Catholic Radio, but for the entire Catholic community.

Owen can enthusiastically expounded on the revitalizing effects the foundation is generating in different corners of the archdiocese. One that particularly inspires him is the Saint John Vianney Endowment.

"It helps cover the sizable costs faced by families of the men discerning the call to the priesthood," Canfield said. The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma is cultivating many other ministries and educational endeavors in service of evangelization. Oklahoma Catholic Radio

is one of the ministries benefiting from their efforts.

"Two years ago, a benefactor made a gift via the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma to create the Oklahoma Catholic Radio Endowment. The larger this endowment grows over time through additional gifts and investment returns, the more good it will do for OKCR," Canfield explained. "The wonderful thing about endowments is that they are forever."

For those whose financial knowledge needs a refresher, annual distributions comprised of the interest accrued from the balance of the endowment are made to the ministries, schools, organizations or beneficiaries of the endowment. One way the annual distribution has been employed by Oklahoma Catholic Radio is to fund the "challenge grant" for matching gifts during the radiothons. As the endowment grows, so does the annual distribution. That expands Oklahoma Catholic Radio's ability to provide more than basic support to Catholic community engagement efforts and involvement in the form of more local programming and other projects.

When I think about the future, I envision Oklahoma Catholic Radio having the equipment and the personnel capable of broadcasting live events throughout the archdiocese, from the annual Catholic grade school track meet to the dedication of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine.

The Keepers of the Airwaves, the monthly donors to Oklahoma Catholic Radio, provide for the upkeep of this ministry. With the advent of the Oklahoma Catholic Radio endowment at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, the likelihood of reaching more people in various age groups and demographics increases. I encourage you to continue to support Oklahoma Catholic Radio, but I also hope that you will acquaint yourselves further with all the ministries and projects that are part of the CFO. Our dollars going into the CFO today are realized in the Catholic community of tomorrow.

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](http://sjnok.org/news). RSVP deadline Oct. 15.

## 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 [sooneratholic.org](http://sooneratholic.org).

September	Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 1005 N.E. 15 St., Oklahoma City.	<b>16</b> Feast of Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian.	<b>17</b> Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague begins.
<b>4</b> Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.	<b>11</b> Annulment information session, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 900 S. Littler Ave., Edmond.	<b>17</b> Feast of St. Robert Bellarmine.	<b>17</b> 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 a.m., 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, (405) 694-1291.
<b>4</b> Meeting of the Third Order (Lay) Dominicans, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Monica Catholic Church, Edmond (St. Ambrose Building) in room 105. For any Catholic layperson drawn to religious life. Call John or Mary McClernon, (405) 313-6611, (405) 414-9407.	<b>11</b> Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, <a href="mailto:potato.lang@gmail.com">potato.lang@gmail.com</a> .	<b>17</b> Catechetical Conference, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, 801 N.W. 50, Oklahoma City.	
<b>4</b> Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, <a href="mailto:potato.lang@gmail.com">potato.lang@gmail.com</a> .	<b>12</b> Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary.	<b>17</b> The Oklahoma City Community of Secular Carmelites meeting, Little Flower Catholic Church, Oklahoma City. Anyone interested in deepening prayer life with community support, call Vicky Caudell, (405) 637-4611 or William Ginn, (405) 737-2024.	
<b>5</b> Labor Day. Catholic Pastoral Center closed.	<b>13</b> Feast of St. John Chrysostom.		
<b>8</b> The Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary.	<b>14</b> Feast of The Exaltation of The Holy Cross.		
<b>9</b> Feast of St. Peter Claver.	<b>14</b> Catholic War Veterans USA, the Oklahoma Memorial Post No. 168 meeting, 7 p.m., Sunnyslane Family Reception Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact (405) 760-3886, <a href="mailto:OklaPost168@cox.net">OklaPost168@cox.net</a> .		
<b>10</b> Memorial Mass to honor aborted children, 9 a.m., St. Gregory's Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee.	<b>15</b> Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.		
<b>11</b> Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.	<b>15</b> Mass of Remembrance for people lost to suicide, 6 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 N.W. 18 St., Oklahoma City.		
<b>11</b> Walking with the Holy Spirit revival, Sept. 11-13,			



*Ranked the #1  
Knights of Columbus  
Agency in the Order in  
2015, 2017, 2018,  
2019 and 2020.*

**Trey Welker**  
Assistant General Agent  
MDRT, SKC  
405-850-4092  
[trey.welker@kofc.org](mailto:trey.welker@kofc.org)  
Councils: 1038, 1537, 2974, 3220, 3309, 12669

**Chad McAuliff**  
MDRT, SKC  
918-284-0685  
[chad.mcauliff@kofc.org](mailto:chad.mcauliff@kofc.org)  
Councils: 7392, 1677, 4721, 6606, 11959, 9737, 6935

**Bobby Stevens**  
MDRT  
405-534-0397  
[bobby.stevens@kofc.org](mailto:bobby.stevens@kofc.org)  
Councils: 775, 1018, 3556, 4598, 5160, 5354, 9901, 12108, 16048, 16214

**Devon Soukup**  
MDRT, SKC  
405-505-6030  
[devon.soukup@kofc.org](mailto:devon.soukup@kofc.org)  
Councils: 767, 3101, 5440, 5759, 6478, 8633, 14744

**Jake Stone**  
405-923-3048  
[jake.stone@kofc.org](mailto:jake.stone@kofc.org)  
Councils: 1044, 3113, 1533, 9334, 10822, 13366

**Kevin Pierce**  
Regional Agency Executive Consultant  
General Agent  
SKC  
Office: 877-707-0752  
Cell: 405-514-7660  
[kevin.pierce@kofc.org](mailto:kevin.pierce@kofc.org)

**Lance Dufour**  
MDRT, SKC  
918-550-0886  
[lance.dufour@kofc.org](mailto:lance.dufour@kofc.org)  
Councils: 962, 1302, 3167, 4519, 4804, 7395, 8433, 11734, 14220, 14248, 14448, 15785, 17559

**Michael Dalby**  
405-638-1274  
[michael.dalby@kofc.org](mailto:michael.dalby@kofc.org)  
Councils: 965, 1287, 2604, 4889, 5168, 8523, 9900, 11648, 11909, 12819, 12382, 16367

**Mike Maggio**  
MDRT  
405-697-8820  
[michael.maggio@kofc.org](mailto:michael.maggio@kofc.org)  
Councils: 916, 949, 1053, 1903, 3336, 4026, 4042, 5266, 5396, 9333, 9583, 11135, 11237, 14106

**Max Yardley**  
MDRT  
405-570-2179  
[max.yardley@kofc.org](mailto:max.yardley@kofc.org)  
Councils: 4601, 6477, 8204, 12518, 12605

**This could be you!**  
Career opportunities  
available in the  
Tulsa area.

**LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES**

© Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Pierce Agency

For over 138 years, our insurance program has helped generations of Catholic families find stability and security.



continued from page 1

the day of the dedication,” Archbishop Coakley said. “This is a once in a lifetime project and we want it to be ready to properly serve our Catholic community, especially our growing Hispanic population, and to welcome pilgrims from around the world on Day 1. It will be worth the wait!”

The dedication of the shrine church originally was scheduled for Nov. 4. All festivities, Masses and the vigil with Blessed Stanley’s casket at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help that were originally scheduled the week before the dedication will move to the week of Feb. 12. More details of the events will be available on social media, in the Sooner Catholic newspaper and in parish bulletins.

The first Masses at the shrine campus for Sacred Heart Catholic Church will be the weekend of Feb. 18-19. Weekend Masses will continue at the Shartel location of Historic Sacred Heart until February and continuing after the shrine opens.

Shrine rector Father Don Wolf said his parishioners are preparing for their move to the new location and are excited to begin celebrating Mass in the new shrine.

“It became clear we needed more time once construction was completed to get the shrine, the museum and the parish offices ready to go. This will be a magnificent place of pilgrimage for generations of people who will come to honor Blessed Stanley and glorify God,” Father Wolf said. “Taking an extra few months to get this perfect is the right thing to do.”

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

The \$50 million shrine and pilgrim center and grounds is the signature element of the first-ever capital campaign for the archdio-

cese – One Church, Many Disciples. The site eventually will include the 2,000-seat church, a chapel where Blessed Stanley will be entombed, an education building, an event space and several areas designated for shrines and devotion. The site will be developed over time.

“This amazing church will serve as a beacon for anyone who passes by or visits or worships here. In this church, we endeavor to show Christ, to exalt Christ, and to manifest Christ to his people. The dedication will be an exciting event for the Catholic faithful and for the people of Oklahoma,” said Leif Arvidson, executive director of the shrine.

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

The church will host many large diocesan

# RESCHEDULED



## BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE DEDICATION FEBRUARY 17, 2023



[ARCHOKC.ORG/SHRINEDEDICATION](http://ARCHOKC.ORG/SHRINEDEDICATION)

events and will help accommodate the growing Hispanic population whose parishes are significantly overcrowded.

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

For more details and updates on dedication events, visit [archokc.org/shrinededication](http://archokc.org/shrinededication). For more information about the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine, visit [rothershrine.org](http://rothershrine.org).



Photo Avery Holt.