18 seminarians ordained deacons from Pontifical North American College

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City seminarian Stephen Jones among those ordained by Archbishop Coakley

On Thursday, Sept. 28, 18 seminarians from the Pontifical North American College were ordained to the transitional diaconate during a celebration of the Eucharist by Archbishop Paul Coakley.

The Mass and ordinations took place at the Altar of the Chair of Saint Peter, in the Papal Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican. Among those ordained to the transitional diaconate was Stephen Jones, a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Other attendees from Oklahoma included Father Kelly Edwards, Father Jerome Krug, Father John Paul Lewis, Father Richard Stansberry along with participants in a pilgrimage sponsored by the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

Archbishop Coakley said in his homily to the deacon candidates that they would be serving in a church that has more in common today with the early apostolic period of the church than the period church that was known as the period of Christendom when church and society were interwoven. He went on to say...

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Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School names new president

Archbishop Paul Coakley announced Father Richard Stansberry as the inaugural president of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School under its new governance model on Sept. 29, 2023. The appointment is effective July 1, 2024.

"Father Stansberry is an avid supporter of Catholic education and has extensive experience working with archdiocesan Catholic schools in all of his pastoral assignments. He will be an excellent fit for Bishop McGuinness and an exceptional leader," Archbishop Coakley said.

The high school began a search for a president and a new principal with the retirement announcement of longtime president/principal David Morton. The archdiocese and school leaders will follow a split president-principal model that has been successful in Catholic secondary schools nationwide.

The school’s search committee will continue its search for a new principal.

Father Stansberry, who serves as rector of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City, has served as a member of the Bishop McGuinness School Advisory Council for 14 years. He served six years as a member of the Mount St. Mary Catholic High School board of trustees and was on the inaugural board of directors for Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School. In 2010, he was honored as a distinguished pastor by the National Catholic Education Association. He will continue as rector of the cathedral and Bishop John Carroll...

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Middle school students invited to Holy Fire OKC

Middle school students across the state of Oklahoma and beyond are invited to an exciting new middle school event. Holy Fire OKC, hosted by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the producers ofNCYC, the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, in partnership with Equipping the Saints, will include: performances by Catholic musicians DJ Staël and PJ Anderson, keynote talks by Noelle Garcia, a Catholic recording artist and speaker, opportunities to receive the sacrament of reconciliation...

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Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

Oct. 9-12 — Archdiocesan priest retreat, Wichita, Kan.
Oct. 12 — Archbishop's Blue Mass for First Responders, 6 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City
Oct. 14 — Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Mass and installation, 5 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, OKC
Oct. 15 — 100th Anniversary Mass and celebration, 10:30 a.m., St. Rose of Lima Church, Perry
Oct. 16 — Servant of God Mass and celebration, 10:30 a.m., St. Benedict, Midwest City
Oct. 16 — canonical establishment of Archdioceses of Las Vegas, 4 p.m., Most Holy Redeemer Church, Las Vegas, NV
Oct. 17 — Presbyteral Council meeting, 9-10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Oct. 17 — Archbishop’s Finance Council meeting, 9 a.m., Archbishop’s Office
Oct. 18 — School Mass and classrooms visits, 9:15 a.m., Rosary Catholic School, OKC
Oct. 18 — Mass and visit with students, 8 a.m., UCO Newman Center, Edmond
Oct. 19 — Senior Staff meeting, 10 a.m., CPC
Oct. 19 — Morrachaert Legacy Society Mass and lunch, 11:30 a.m., CPC
Oct. 20-23 — Eucharistic Order of the Holy Sepulchre Southwest Lenten Ministry, OKC

Consolation during the month of the Rosary

By Jed Zinkiewicz

The Rosary gives us an open doorway to life of prayer that doesn’t demand much of us. Regardless of our intentions, we are promised by Jesus, with the condition of repeating the Rosary often, that it will be a way of coming to know Him better.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley Recto

This month, October, is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, with the feast day of Our Lady of Rosary, October 7. Rosary is a prayer that always leads us to Christ, Father Wolf said.

Speaking about spiritual depth of the Rosary, Father Wolf said, “The Rosary addresses the totality of Mary’s life, it allows us to participate in her journey, hear her heartbreak during her life on earth and her glory in Heaven as a great promise for us to come.”

He continued to explain the need for the Rosary prayer, “The power of worldly distractions has captured us so thoroughly, we don’t even realize how much distracted we are. The Rosary is a great way to counter it.”

Father Goins counsels by stating, “In the world so noisy, unsettled, filled with unexpected events, the Rosary offers a sublime way to peace with the Divine. It calms your mind and soul and helps you to let go off all distractions of the day.”

A person prays the Rosary at the monthly Summit night of adoration at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Photo/Avry Holt.

Middle school students invited to Holy Fire OKC

The event will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 28 at the Rose State College Hubbell Hudgins Center in Midwest City. Cost is $45 per student. An optional Chick-fil-A lunch is available for purchase. Individual, group or student registrations may bring their own lunch.

Individual or group registrations are available. Advanced registration is required.

Jayce Palmier, director of youth, young adult and campus ministry for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, shared his vision for the middle school participants.

“The Holy Fire is an opportunity for middle school students to experience the universal Church by engaging in liturgy, leading the rosary, and praying the rosary to accomplish the patriarchs in the rosary to accomplish the patriarchs.”

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Archduchess of Oklahoma City

Lord God, in your wisdom and love you did create the mystery of the universe.
Send your Spirit upon us so that we may discern, understand, and appreciate the wonders of your creation.

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Archduchess of Oklahoma City

Staël-Hubert de Lustrac

Alumnae of Oklahoma City

Archduchess of Oklahoma City

Are you seeing any issues with the text?
Supporters of Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School recently gathered to celebrate a new school year—a new campus. A Bishop Celebration was held Sept. 7 at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.

Co-Chairs Cole and Melanie Marshall were joined by Archbishop Coakley and Cristo Rey OKC chaplain Father Zach Bozeman. After a blessing by Archbishop Coakley, the night commenced with inspirational stories describing the impact Cristo Rey OKC has made on its students. Following the presentation, guests enjoyed food, cocktails and dancing to the music of local band, Take Cover.

The event highlighted the impact of Cristo Rey OKC’s corporate work study program and the opportunities it provides to students and the community. By training students to enter the workforce after graduating from college with work experience and hard skills, the program is producing qualified employees that benefit the workforce in Oklahoma.

“Hearing the first-hand accounts from current and former Cristo Rey OKC students was moving,” Cole Marshall said. “It was certainly something to be celebrated, and it was just as amazing to see the strong robustness of attendance from so many community partners and supporters to celebrate their successes.”

Former Cristo Rey OKC Royals Fatima Morales and Jonathan Ramos attended the celebration as proud alumni, sharing their testimonies about their experience at Cristo Rey OKC. Morales, now a freshman at the University of Oklahoma, employed cursing to Cristo Rey Catholic Classic through the corporate work study program at Crossings while she attends college to study philosophy and a B.A. in public and nonprofit administration in 2025, before attending the College of Law at the University of Oklahoma. Morales and Ramos’ stories are two examples of the impact Cristo Rey OKC has made on students, families and the landscape of education.

“The opportunity for these students to get that kind of exposure and on-the-job training in something that is absolutely everything you see at the high school level,” Cole Marshall said.

As its sixteenth year in the workforce, the impact of Cristo Rey OKC’s program is reaching further than its students, explained Managing Editor Most Reverend Bish-
Parish festival benefits school teachers, staff members

By Everett Brazil, III
The Sooner Catholic

A festive spirit descended upon Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City Saturday, Sept. 30. What normally would have been a parking lot filled with parishioners’ cars in attendance at the Vigil Mass was instead a parking lot filled with endless tables and chairs and plenty of food, games and activities as the church celebrated Fall Fest, an annual event to celebrate Saint Mary Catholic School and raise funds that are poured back into the classrooms to improve the educational experience.

Families left Mass that evening for games, food and other activities. The Ponca City High School FFA provided their mobile petting zoo as the festival sprawled into surrounding streets and parking lots.

A big draw was an online silent auction, with items donated as part of the fundraising. Even school classes donated items they gathered or created themselves. Several hundred parishioners and community supporters from all over Kay County came together for the Fall Fest and Saint Mary Catholic School.

The event is organized by the school’s Parent-Teacher Committee (PTC). Gary Carver is the president of the committee and explained why the Fall Fest is important.

“The Fall Fest is to raise money for the PTC to put on events at the school for the kids, like a movie night downtown, a back-to-school picnic at the neighborhood AMBUCS swimming pool, and a drive fundraiser,” Carver said.

Other events they promote include a back-to-school picnic at the neighboring AMBUCS swimming pool, and a movie night downtown.

“We rent out the Poncan Theater, and use it to do a movie night,” Carver said.

The schools also host teacher appreciation events, Catholic Schools Week and an end of the school year celebration in May. For the school, it is a chance to bring out support from the parish and show its importance in the community.

“All not only is it a fundraiser, it is a fun tradition for people in the parish to not only support the school, but in a friendly environment,” Carver said. “It also helps with anything the teachers need with – school supplies for the classroom.”

Steichen added that she had been given new materials she has been using in her classroom, which included computers and books.

“All of the funds raised from the Fall Fest, the PTC uses to improve our school campus, such as our outdoor playground equipment for the kids to use on the playground,” Steichen said. “It also helps with anything the teachers need with – school supplies for the classroom.”

Steichen added that she had been given new materials she has been using in her classroom.

The feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Sept. 14 was celebrated in a special way at the National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague. After the Mass and Holy Hour, the parishes engaged in enhancing the Shrine landscaping, especially the cross-shaped flower bed near the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague.

Red roses were planted to beautify the cross and emphasize its relevance as a sign of Christian faith and a powerful witness of Christ. Parishioners vividly discussed the example of Saint Therese of Lisieux in French Carmelites nun who made it a regular habit to stew rose petals at the cross of her monastery as an expression of love for the crucified Christ and in surrender to him in all actions and activities of the day.

During his homily, Father Christopher Tran, pastor of the Shrine, explained the practical meaning of witnessing to the cross.

“Our church has a special role to play, because of its mission as the national shrine but also because of its location directly at the State Highway 99/ US-377. Many people are driving by, many pilgrims visit us with us every day. The cross at our Shrine, visible to all, unites us in Christ and brings everyone to the love of Christ regardless of who we are, where we come from and where we are going,” Father Tran said.

He continued, “We are called to be witnesses of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross ... and we do it on this feast day by highlighting that the cross is the sign and reassurance of Christian salvation.

Father Tran went on to explain how the cross transforms and unites Christians around the Resurrection.

“Without the dark day on Calvary on Good Friday, there would be no light on Easter Sunday. The same regards the Church ... despite many persecutions over the past 2,000 years, the Holy Spirit has always been powerfully working within the Church of Christ,” Father Tran said.

Father Tran also discussed how making the sign of the cross is a constant reminder that being Christ’s disciple means to be like Christ, to live for Christ, carry everyday crosses and courageously bear persecutions.

“The cross is very powerful. Christ’s Incarnation unites us with him, the pain of his suffering makes our suffering bearable. The cross is a powerful symbol of love. We can find something familiar to us in Christ’s suffering. All of believers. There is no division in the nation, Death and Resurrection are combined in and encompassed by the cross. Without the cross, there would be no hope of salvation for us,” Father Tran said. He cited Saint Paul to stress that only those who are humble can recognize the power of the cross, “Jesus demand signs and Greeks search for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles ...” (1 Corinthians 1:23-24).

Mary and Richard Pirkowski, pilgrims from Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mesa, Arizona, expressed their appreciation for the efforts of renewing the Shrine grounds and highlighting the meaning of the cross.

“The Holy Cross helps us to better understand crosses in our lives and enables us to unite them with Jesus and his suffering. The beauty of roses draws attention to Jesus and Mary sharing in his sufferings on the cross,” Richard said.

Mary added, “Sometimes it is hard to understand our sufferings, but when, with God’s grace, we truly get to understand them, suffering of love for Christ can be sweet. Roses carry this sweetness as well. Oftentimes we bring flowers to people who suffer, and these roses seem to express our love for Christ’s suffering on the cross.”

After sharing her personal story, Mary continued, “We love visiting the Shrine. The prayer atmosphere here is spiritually enriching and we have experienced miracles from the Infant Jesus of Prague in our lives.”

Father Tran concluded by saying: “With our simple and humble parish activity today, we want to show people how to exalt the cross. We want to uplift people’s faith, the pilgrims and the faithful here in Prague, including those who have fallen away from the Church, we invite them back to our community of believers. There is no division in the cross of Christ, but there is true unity for all.”

He thanked the parishioners for their time and dedication to this church, “God’s glory is manifested on the cross. We need to bring it to people by adoring and exalting the cross we see right before us.”

Jad Ziolkowska is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Oklahoma City families embrace the Domestic Church experience

Over Labor Day weekend, seven families from across the Diocese of Oklahoma City were part of a group of more than 20 families who traveled from as far away as Shreveport, La., who gathered at Providence Star Ranch, a retreat center in the Diocese of Kansas City, for a three-day family retreat.

The groups came together as members of Domestic Church, a movement for sacramentally married Catholic couples founded in Poland in the early 1970s by Venerable Fr. Franciszek Blachnicki, with the guidance and support of his friend and Bishop, Karol Wojtyla, the future St. John Paul II. Domestic Church gives couples lifelong formation in personal, marital and family spirituality.

For Annie Lynch, a long-time member of Domestic Church from Moore, this was her third retreat along with her husband and children.

“The Domestic Church movement has been transformative for our marriage spirituality, my personal relationship with Christ, and our family growth. This was our third family retreat, and it is always so encouraging to walk alongside others on this same journey and step outside of the normal day-to-day-to-a-place where I can more easily block out the noise that often prevents me from truly listening to what God is speaking to me,” Lynch said.

Domestic Church couples and families strive to practice the “Seven Commitments” to grow in their relationship with God and one another. The commitments are basic principles of spiritual growth in the Catholic tradition specific to the vocation of marriage. The commitments consist of daily prayer and reading of scripture, couple prayer, family prayer, couple dialogue and an annual retreat. For the Staudt family from Guthrie, this was their first family retreat since joining Domestic Church in 2022.

“I saw and I loved the opportunity to spend time with so many families who are seeking union with God and one another,” Angela Staudt said. This DC retreat also offered an unexpected blessing in allowing our older children the chance to serve the community by caring for younger children in the nursery and children’s programs. We didn’t have babysitters anymore and the gift of snuggling little ones and playing with toddlers was a blessing to all of us!”

The weekend featured daily Mass celebrated by local priests as well as confession, adoration, morning prayer and daily conferences in which couples received formation to grow in unity, to pass on their faith to their children and to navigate faithful Catholic living in a world increasingly hostile to faith.

“As young parents navigating how to build Catholic faith culture in our family, Domestic Church has truly been a gift,” said Jillian Chapman from Oklahoma City, who attended with her husband Brian and their 1-year-old son. “In an age of increasing isolation and loneliness, Domestic Church is a powerful nudge to the disconnection that young families like mine struggle with.

The name ‘Domestic Church’ comes from a passage in the Catechism of the Catholic Church that beautifully states, ‘In our own time, in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centers of life, as living, radiant faith. For this reason the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family the Ecclesia Domestica (Domestic Church).”

The first English-speaking Domestic Church retreat in the United States was held in Lake Charles, La., in 2011. There were 13 couples on that first retreat, which was facilitated by a priest and a couple from Poland. Since then, Domestic Church has grown to more than 500 couples in 15 dioceses in the United States. To learn more about Domestic Church, visit domesticchurch在美国.org or e-mail nko@domesticchurchfamilies.com.

The Sooner Catholic

October World Mission Sunday

Students say they are more prepared for life's challenges as a result of the Domestic Church experience.

“Once you put God first in your life, you can make better decisions,” said Sarah Lau, University of Oklahoma.

“I think the FOCUS program is doing amazing things.”

Sarah Lau, University of Oklahoma

Student missionaries help make disciples on campus

By Everett Brazil, III
The Sooner Catholic

The campus Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) programs has representatives on college campuses across the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, and across the country, to help students maintain and grow their faith in God, especially if they may have drifted away. The University of Oklahoma’s (OU) FOCUS program is different and works with Catholic college students in their walks with God. They also take student missions to help work for students elsewhere, as they seek to keep God as the focus of their lives.

Sarah Lau is one of those students who is assisting with the FOCUS program. A senior, she expects to graduate May 2024, and also works for the university parish, Saint Thomas More Catholic Church.

“The first week of the school year, there are a number of activities for the freshmen to see how many are involved,” Lau said. “We also help with Sunday Supper, a meal served to the community. Sunday Supper is a free meal we provide for our parishioners after the 5 p.m. Mass,” Lau said. That particular Mass is performed by student priests.

“Students run the Mass-lector, ushering, they do everything,” Lau said. “It is candle-lit, and real-life brings our students in.

The students working at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church, and many of the students they minister to, work closely with the FOCUS program to reach out to the Catholic community on the OU campus.

“We work closely with FOCUS. They have resources for college students to have Bible studies, get involved with their campus, more involved in a relationship with God,” Lau said. “It centers students around learning about God, as opposed to shallow friendships.”

Lau herself is involved in student development on the OU campus.

“i lead a Bible study in FOCUS,” Lau said. “Students involved with the student center at OU likely means being in a bible study.

Lau sees the FOCUS program doing great things at the university in its work with the students on campus.

“The FOCUS program is doing amazing things. A lot of the students leading the students are students first, but also want to help,” Lau said. “It gives students a reason to be here, and leads in accordance with the Catholic faith and Catholic Church, I think it is doing awesome things.

She is also seeing it change her life as well, all while improving students’ faith through FOCUS.

“I think it is helping me see that everything good comes from God,” Lau said. “It has made my life a lot happier.”

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

The Hidden legacies of African American sisters

By Courtney Rhone
The Sooner Catholic

Historian and author Shannon Dee Williams, Ph.D., was the 2023 True Family Lecture series speaker. She explored the country’s history of Black sisters and nuns. Williams is an associate professor of History at the University of Dayton.

“The Catholic Church on the Global Stage.”

She discussed the invisibility of Black nuns and recovering the stories of Black American Catholic nuns. She said she was inspired to do this work after being appointed by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. The tentative title for her lecture is “The Catholic Church on the Global Stage.”

By Courtney Rhone is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

The (Colonel) Magdalen (2022-2023)
Rooted in Christ: The impact of college campus ministries on young adults

By Eliana Tedrow
The Sooner Catholic

Oklahoma college campus ministries strive to assist students navigate a mixture of academic pressure, peer influence and personal discovery. Rooted in Christ’s love, these ministries offer a supportive community, acceptance and lifelong friendships.

For many students like Macy Lewallen, a junior majoring in psychology at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO), the presence of a campus ministry like the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) has been a transformative force.

“The biggest thing is that it teaches me what prayer looks like and how to maintain it with a busy schedule. And what virtuous friendships look like and how they can be maintained after college,” Lewallen said.

Lewallen emphasized the importance of daily Mass, prayer, adoration and community gatherings like “Stunday Supper,” where students come together to share a meal and build spiritual bonds. Through these experiences, Lewallen discovered not only the significance of prayer but also the profound importance of investing in college students.

“By putting yourself out there and being involved with a good campus ministry, you will make good friendships, good relationships and meaningful community. This welcoming atmosphere allows students to embrace their faith and connect with others who share their beliefs,” Father Kelly Edwards, pastor at Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford and director of Catholic Student Ministries at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, explained.

“Father Kelly has witnessed the transformation that occurs when students enter college. It’s a period where they can be authentically themselves, free from the confines of high school’s common social pressures. College offers the opportunity for them to explore and deepen their faith.”

Father Kroll emphasized the importance of providing a space for authenticity, good relationships and meaningful community. This welcoming atmosphere allows students to make sure the Lord has a say, and young people are encountering him.

Father Alex has witnessed the transformation that occurs when students enter college. It’s a period where they can be authentically themselves, free from the confines of high school’s common social pressures. College offers the opportunity for them to explore and deepen their faith.

“Father Kroll emphasized the importance of providing a space for authenticity, good relationships and meaningful community. This welcoming atmosphere allows students to embrace their faith and connect with others who share their beliefs,” Father Kelly Edwards, pastor at Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford and director of Catholic Student Ministries at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, explained.

“All of our events are, first and foremost, fun,” Pham said. “Community and friendships are a priority for us. If you’re not in the same place in your faith but want good friendships with people who will make you better, and if you’re looking for fun things to do without succumbing to the cultural pitfalls of college life, then being involved with a good campus ministry is your place too.”

As campus ministers and missionaries, they recognize the significance of these formative years. Alex Sanchez, director of marriage and family life in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma, reflected on the dramatic shift that occurs when students transition from high school to college.

“In high school, you’re in a fishbowl,” Sanchez said. “You can’t do anything without everyone noticing. It’s not normal to be faithful in high school, yet, in college, there’s an openness to authenticity and goodness. When the Gospel is preached, or there is someone who has real compassion or real care, or real interest in their life, in college, the person is so much more ready to receive.”

College campus ministries provide a safe space for students to address the challenges of college life while nurturing a deep and authentic relationship with God.

As Sydney Brown, a freshman at the University of Oklahoma, aptly put it, “When you surround yourself with like-minded people who also want to serve God in their day-to-day life, only the best outcomes are possible.”

Eliana Tedrow is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Responding to a missionary call through Vagabond Missions

By Jolene Schonchin
The Sooner Catholic

Two young people who recently graduated from the University of Oklahoma will spend the next several years as missionaries with Vagabond Missions, an inner-city youth ministry organization. They are responding to a missionary call with an organization that serves young people in Oklahoma City and other parts of the country.

“The Campus Ministry at OU was very encouraging as I discerned joining Vagabond as a missionary,” Emma Shields said, one of two missionaries. “Participating in Bible studies and serving other students helped me discover my love for God and my passion for mission, which led me to Vagabond.”

While at OU, Shields built a great support system for students at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church and the FOCUS missionaries at OU. Specifically, two FOCUS missionaries that she was close with, Bailey and Clarisa, inspired her to consider becoming a missionary.

“Shields read scripture to help guide her decision, but credits God’s grace in helping her overcome them,” Shields said.

“One of the biggest obstacles we face is that the teens we work with often hesitate to engage with us and are not always willing to listen. We overcome this by earning the right to be heard and building trust with the teens while ministering to them,” Shields said.

According to the Vagabond Mission website, the missionaries have served more than 5,000 teens in Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and North Carolina. The organization has also guided more than 200 teens to convert to Catholicism. Vagabond Missions also offers retreats and other events for teens to help them understand the Gospel and allow for more discussion between missionaries and teens.

For more information about Vagabond Missions, visit vagabondmissions.com.

Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Administrative support - OKC
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an administrative assistant to provide administrative and clerical support to the office of young adults and campus ministry and the Ill. Staney Rother Institute. Will maintain the calendar of events for Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp, updating and confirming registration status; working with accounts payable personnel, county and federal agencies, timely invoicing and payments, and coordinating and distributing marketing and communication materials. Must have at least three years of office experience, experience with proficiency with computers and Microsoft Office programs, and a clean driving record. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archoke.org.

Associate director of planned giving - OKC
The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma is seeking an associate director of planned giving to work collaboratively with the executive director on marketing, solicitation and administration of the planned giving program. Build and steward the CFO’s Mererich Legacy Society and Planned Giving Advisory Council. Requires a flexible demeanor, calm under pressure, and poised with excellent written and oral communication skills in a fast-paced office. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archoke.org.

Director of communications - Oklahome
The BI. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a full-time communications director to oversee all aspects of communication and promotion of the shrine, including public, print, social, media, The Church’s office of evangelization and knowledge of and devotion to BI. Stanley Rother. Must have a bachelor’s degree in communications or related field, at least three years of public relations, journalism and/or marketing experience, and be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Fluency in English and Spanish preferred. A background check and safe environment training will be required. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archoke.org.

Accounting assistant - Shrine
The BI. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a part-time accounting assistant to provide administrative and clerical support associated with financial operations, but not limited to processing cash receipts, deposits and entering data in accounting system. Some weekend hours may be required. Must be a Catholic in good standing, have knowledge of accounting and/or bookkeeping, be fluent in Spanish a plus. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archoke.org.

Executive assistant - Shrine
The BI. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking an executive assistant to provide administrative and clerical support to the executive director and general assistant to the shrine offices, including support with meetings, events and activities preparation and mailing board member packets and agendas, planning and executing, recording and acknowledgment of donations and gifts and write correspondence with prospective contributors and current donors. Ongoing duties include answering phones, greeting visitors, opening and distributing mail. At least three years of office experience required. Advanced knowledge of computers and Microsoft Office software strongly recommended. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archoke.org.

Director of Immigration Legal Services - OKC
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a director of immigration legal services to establish and provide effective management and oversight for all operational and strategic services and programs. Juris doctorate degree admitted to and licensed by the state bar of the Oklahoma or of another state(s), which license (or licenses) be maintained in good standing at all times or accredited as a Department of Justice representative for no less than five years in good standing at all times. A minimum of five years of experience as providing family-based immigration legal services under the I&KA and related statutes, rules and regulations. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org.

Bilingual volunteer - OKC
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a bilingual volunteer to be responsible for providing immigration relief for individuals representing themselves before USCIS and/or immigration court. Must be a member in good standing and a Catholic (Oklahoma State Bar preferred); fluent in English, Spanish and speaking of Lishitupu; One to two years of experience preferred, but will train to the right candidate. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org.

Human resources generalist - OKC
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a human resources generalist to provide assistance with and facilitate the human resource processes at all business locations. Serve as the agency FO group coordinator and help with tasks in the administration department. Bachelor’s degree in human resources, business or related field. Experience may be substituted for degree; three years of experience in human resources; and experience with Microsoft Office. Send cover letter and resume to Dave Ashton at dshon@dshon@archoka.org.

Refugee case manager - OKC
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma Office is seeking a refugee case manager to be a primary contact for individuals and families newly arrived through the Refugee Reintegration Program. Must be able to become self-sufficient in their new communities by providing basic needs and core group of services, as well as determining eligibility for state-funded programs. High school diploma; at least two years of experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities specified; bachelor’s degree in a related social service field is preferred; multi-lingual, bi-lingual preferred (Vietnamese, Burmese, Khmer, Spanish, Polish, Dutch, etc.); ability to drive and possess a valid Oklahoma Driver’s license and vehicle insurance. Send cover letter and resume to Alondra McGown amcgraw@ccaokc.org.

Nursery teacher - OKC
Christ the King Catholic Church is seeking a part-time Mother’s Day Out teacher who will be an enthusiastic, loving and compassionate childcare provider for the nursery and Mother’s Day Out program. Must be able to work with crafts, story time, games, lunch and nap. Hours are Monday/Wednesday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. along with one evening or morning shift per week, one Saturday evening and one Sunday per month. Must be Catholic the age of 16 and complete the archdiocesan child abuse prevention training. Contact Margaret Ballas at margaritaball@hotmail.com or (405) 242-4521.

Music director – Del City
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Del City is seeking a choir director/pianist position for a part-time job (Oklahoma State Bar preferred); fluent in English, Spanish and knowledge of Lishitupu; One to two years of experience preferred, but will train to the right candidate. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org.

Music director – Del City
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Del City is seeking a choir director/pianist position for a part-time job (Oklahoma State Bar preferred); fluent in English, Spanish and knowledge of Lishitupu; One to two years of experience preferred, but will train to the right candidate. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org.

Sister director of Immigration Legal Services - Del City
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma Office is seeking a Sister director of Immigration Legal Services to provide legal assistance and related services under the INA and related statutes, rules and regulations. A minimum of five years of experience in providing immigration-related services; bachelor’s degree in a related field or equivalent; three years of experience in supervision, management or less than three years of experience in supervision, management or less than three years in providing immigration-related services; working with accounts payable personnel, county and federal agencies, timely invoicing and payments, and coordinating and distributing marketing and communication materials. Must have at least three years of experience in immigration-related services. Send cover letter, resume and contact information to Director Tera Albert at principal@jesusinoklahoma.org or call (605) 634-5673. During working hours of the teacher application packet at principal@jesusinoklahoma.org or call (605) 634-5673.

Science teacher - OKC
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church is seeking a middle school science teacher. Send resume and cover letter to Principal Todd Gun- nel at mmpoon@jesusinoklahoma.org.

Cafeteria worker - OKC
Bishop McGuinness Catholic School has a part-time position available in the cafeteria. Hours are 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Laura Scott at (405) 842-6965.

Coordinator of youth ministry – Edmond
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond is seeking a full-time coordinator of youth ministry to establish a robust post-confirmation middle school youth ministry in the parish and school and involving the youth faith group communities in the high school youth ministry program. Will form young people in their Catholic identity through peer relationships, reciprocal exchange and equip parents as the primary witness to the faith. Must be an experienced and engaging public speaker, have excellent organizational and leadership skills; ability to speak with young people, conduct retreats; adequate to recruit, form and shepherd adult and youth leaders. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university is required. Degree in theology, religious edu- cation or related field is preferred. Send cover letter and resume to ademino@stjohnsok.org.

After care workers - Edmond
First grade students at St. Mary Catholic School in Ponca City joined school children from the community in entering arts and crafts in the Kay County Fair. See photo at left.

Science teacher - OKC
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Del City is seeking a part-time science teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Send cover letter to Principal Todd Gun- nel at mmpoon@jesusinoklahoma.org or call (605) 634-5673. During working hours of the teacher application packet at principal@jesusinoklahoma.org or call (605) 634-5673.

First grade students at St. Mary Catholic School in Ponca City joined school children from the community in entering arts and crafts in the Kay County Fair. See photo at left.

To see more job openings, go on line to archoke.org/jobs-less.
El vino ocupa un lugar especial en el ideario de los discípulos de Jesús. Al igual que el vino ocupa un lugar en el ideario de los discípulos de Jesús, que asimismo debe ocupar un lugar especial en nuestra mente. Como dice la Constitución Dogmática de la Iglesia del Concilio Vaticano II, “Lumen Gentium” sustenta: “La Iglesia en los últimos, o al menos de Dios... Esta celestial Agricultor la plantó como viña escogida” (LG 6, CCC 4759). En efecto, la vida en un don especial de Dios, tan valioso como el vino.

Algunos de los más conocidos y significativos pasajes en la historia de la Iglesia fueron escritos en la viña. Imagínese cuánto más laborioso y complejo era el trabajo que conlleva la elaboración del vino. Imagínese cuánto más complicados y arduos son que realizan. Como arzobispo, doy gracias muchas manos que ofrecen su trabajo con agrado en las parroquias de nuestro archidiócesis que colaboran para dar buenos frutos en beneficio de nuestra iglesia local en el centro y oeste de Oklahoma. Imagínese cómo se multiplica esta labor de la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos, en el continente y alrededor de todo el mundo.

Como trabajadores en la viña, debemos ser un don, un regalo valioso y apreciado. Aunque sean trabajadores desalmados que traicionan a su padre, sufrirán con el fruto que plantaron. Aunque sea un don, Jesús señala el inevitable drama de la viña: trabajadores desalmados. Que la viña sea siempre tan apreciada como el vino que produce. Asofmos orgullosos de la viña que es nuestra Iglesia y pidamos al Señor un espíritu de dedicación, pasión y colaboración.

Misa de Aniversario
15 de octubre de 2023 - 3 p.m.
El Arzobispo Coakley invita a todas las parejas casadas a asistir a esta misa para celebrar su aniversario de matrimonio. Específicamente hontaremos los aniversarios de bodas (25, 40, 50+).

The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
5424 Lake Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Contacta a Lisa Camerato (405) 709-2709 o Erika Frane (405) 436-0294
me为首的集团的信徒在 ejecto de su pueblo y Jesús incluso promete que ese gran don estará con nosotros. ¿Cómo se vive y se trabaja fructíferamente en la viña? El primer paso es abrir los ojos para ver lo que está ocurriendo en su parroquia y en la arquidiócesis. Dedicar tiempo para leer el boletín de su parroquia y el Sooner Catholic le permitirá ver la amplitud de la labor en la viña. Desde los eventos en el Centro Pastoral Católico o en el Santuario levado Stanley Rother, hasta las iniciativas del Avance Eucarístico o la Radio Católica de Oklahoma, pasando por las celebraciones propias de las parroquias, comunidades e individuos. El leer el Sooner Catholic y el boletín de su parroquia local pueden inspirarlo para sentirse orgulloso de pertenecer a la Iglesia, la viña plantada en la casa del Señor.

Entonces, al leer lo que está sucediendo, puede que escuche la voz de Dios invitándolo a participar en una u otra parte de la labor. Nuestra colaboración en la viña es fundamental para edificar el Reino de Dios en lugar de destruirla con nuestras críticas y resentimientos.

Sintémonos orgullosos de la viña que es nuestra iglesia y pílsamos al Señor un espiritu dispuesto a entregarlo como un traidor. Que la viña sea siempre tan apreciada como el vino que produce.
Bibliography:

National Eucharistic Congress Join Archbishop Coakley and other members of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City at the National Eucharistic Congress on October 20-22, 2023 at the Smoothie Bowl, 65th & Expressway. Visit archokc.org/legacysociety.

Gold Discipleship Bible Study The Gold Discipleship Bible Study is every Monday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Great Hall of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 N. Kickapoo Ave. in Shawnee. Contact Fr. Simeon Spitz, O.S.B. at (405) 638-1274 or monksok.org or visit monksok.org.

Art of Dating The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City presents the Art of Dating, embodied by the teachings of St. John Paul II. Working professionals ages 21-35 can learn and experience the art of dating through conversation, etiquette and dance in this four-part series Oct. 12, 19 and Nov. 2 and 9. Registration for $100 includes dinner, drinks, entertainment, etc. Visit archokc.org/art-of-dating.

Anniversary Mass A Remembrance Mass for pregnant and postpartum loss is at 10 a.m. Oct. 14 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City. Email the names of children to be honored to carried4ever@gmail.com.

Symposium on Eucharistic Congress Join Archbishop Coakley at The Second Archdiocesan Eucharistic Symposium on Friday, Nov. 4 at Christ the King Catholic Church, 8005 Dorset Dr., Nicholas Hills. Contact (405) 747-5035; eqsaints.org.

Procession on Oct. 29 at the Bl. John Neumann Parish in Nichols Hills. For information, visit bljohnneumannparish.org. On the third Saturday of Ordinary Time, Bishop Meerschaert Legacy Society invites everyone to join them on a tour of the Bl. Stanely Rother Shrine at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 10. Participants will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Pigeon Tower. There will be free time at 11:30 a.m. to visit the shrine and have lunch in the mass. Lunch at a local restaurant will be provided. For information, contact Linda Tucker at (405) 569-4885.

Entertaining Angels A workshop on Christian hospitality, “Entertaining Angels” is 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Nov. 11 at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 8857 SW Moore. Sheri Wohlfert will lead the workshop and provide resources for receiving others in the name of Jesus Christ. In homes and hostels. To learn more or register, visit archokc.org/angels.

Calendar

October 5
- Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- Remembrance Mass for pregnancy and infant loss at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 8005 Dorset Dr., Nicholas Hills.
- Suicide grief support group, 6 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, 1232 N. Classen Blvd., OKC.
- Feast of St. Luke.

October 8
- Feast of St. John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions.
- Bishop Meerschaert Legacy Society Mass and luncheon, 11 a.m. at Catholic Pastoral Center, 7301 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Contact (405) 638-1274; monatsok.org.
- Anna’s Hope for Adoption, 10 a.m. at St. Bronagh Catholic Church, 2331 N. Western, Edmond. Contact (405) 249-1041, patricia.langston@gmail.com.
- Remembrance Mass for pregnancy and infant loss, 10 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 N. Lake Ave., OKC.
- Feast of St. John Benedict, 900 N. Yukon Ave., OKC.
- 21st Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m., St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 900 N. Yukon Ave., OKC.
- Bishop Meerschaert Legacy Society Mass and luncheon, 11 a.m. at Catholic Pastoral Center, 7301 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Contact (405) 638-1274; monatsok.org.
- St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Parish Guild rummage sale, “Granny’s Attic,” is 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Oct. 6 and 8 a.m. – Noon Oct. 8 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 N. Kickapoo Ave. in Shawnee.
- Eucharistic Procession Join Archbishop Coakley at the second Archdiocesan Eucharistic Procession on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 2:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. Good works will be offered. October Monastic Encounter The Benedictine Abbey of St. Gregory’s Abbey invites single Catholic men ages 18-45 for a monastic encounter weekend Oct. 20-22 at 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary of the Visitation Monastery, 343 Smith Road in Great Bend, Kansas. For information, contact St. Simon and St. Jude Monastery at (815) 347-5035; simondpdbu.org or visit monskon.org/vocations.

Day of Reflection Join Archbishop Coakley at the Call to Action in the Gospel of St. Mark” presented by Fr. Thomas Macioce, O.P. at 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Oct. 14 at St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St. in Shawnee. Participants will share in the liturgical prayer, Ad vitam, Dominum, common work, communal life of the abbey and live as a monk. Contact Fr. Simon Macioce, O.P. at (405) 878-5456, vocation@swcok.org or visit monskon.org/vocations.

Ashes to Ashes All men 21 years of age and older are invited to join the Knights of Columbus 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Oct. 24 at 204 N. 19th Street, Oklahoma City, 1951 N.W. 18 St., for an evening of fellowship, music and expanding grounds to explore. Enjoy house cooking and a lawn with a patio overlooking a lake. Pre-registration required Contact (405) 747-5035, vocation@swcok.org or visit monskon.org/vocations.

Red Mass Archbishop Coakley invites everyone to the Red Mass for legal professionals Oct. 26 at 1:00 p.m. Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Oklahoma City. Guest speaker is Gov. Frank Keating. RSVP at archokc.org/redmass.

Bingo The Knights of Columbus fam- ily bingo event is 6:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 4281 S. McKinley in Oklahoma City is 6:30 p.m. Oct. 26. All games $10. Food and drinks will be served. Prizes will be awarded by a raffle ticket for a LG 55″ television. On October birthdays recognized.

Military Mass Archbishop Coakley invites everyone to the Mass for Military Professionals on Oct. 10 at 8 a.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City. Guest speaker is Fr. Patrick Young, who will speak on spiritual family, mission and fertility. RSVP at archokc.org/militarymass.

For over 140 years, Knights of Columbus has helped generations of Catholic families find financial stability and security.
say that the early apostolic church was a church of persecution and not privilege and even after the church was no longer being persecuted there were still those who experienced persecution and even martyrdom.

He gave the examples of Blessed Stanley Rother, who was martyred in Guatemala in 1981, and Blessed Michael McGivney a diocesan priest of the Diocese of Hartford, Connecticut, and the founder of the Knights of Columbus. He encouraged the deacon candidates to follow their example not seeking privilege but rather being prepared for sacrifice and persecution in serving Christ and his church. He exhorted them by saying, “Be not afraid, Christ goes before us.”

During the ordination, the new deacons promised to live a life of prayer, celibacy, and obedience to their diocesan bishops. The new deacons will have an additional year of theological studies and spiritual formation before being ordained to the priesthood in their home dioceses. They now join the eight members of their class who have already been ordained transitional deacons in the preceding months.

The Pontifical North American College serves as the American seminary in Rome. Founded in 1859 by Blessed Pope Pius IX, the College has formed more than 5,000 priests near the heart of the Church for service in dioceses around the United States, Canada and Australia.

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