

Go Make Disciples



2024 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis



Permanent Diaconate information meeting

Men who are interested in the archdiocesan Permanent Diaconate Program are invited to attend an upcoming information meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Wives of interested men are also encouraged to attend the information meeting.

To learn more, visit archokc.org/permanent-diaconate.

By **Jad Ziolkowska**
The Sooner Catholic

The 10th National Eucharistic Congress is scheduled for July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis, Ind. It will serve as the launch for the fourth, and final, stage of the Eucharistic Revival initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Congress is intended to be a capstone moment, explained Father Zak Boazman, the coordinator of the Eucharistic Revival for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

“Every movement needs a moment. The congress will be a culmination of the diocesan and parish revival stage, but at the same time, it will launch the Church into a new era of deepening Eucharistic faith,” Father Boazman said.

Describing the goal of the congress, he said,

“We want to be set on fire with zeal and love for the Eucharist so that we can bring the message of God’s love back to our parishes, communities, and peripheries of our environments.”

More than 100,000 participants are expected from across the U.S., while thousands are anticipated to journey to the congress on four routes in a cross-country walking pilgrimage.

“As the archdiocese, we hope to have at least 250 representatives from our parishes at the congress,” Father Boazman said.

One of the parishes planning to send a large group of representatives to Indianapolis is Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond.

“With the state of our world today, we need to gather together with other Catholics to grow our faith and love for the Eucharistic Christ. We believe that the participants will

experience and bring back holy zeal, a deeper belief in the Eucharist, and



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

INFORMATION SESSION

DEC. 2 | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

10 a.m. - Holy Hour | 11 a.m. - Info. Session | Noon - Lunch

CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTER | FREE LUNCH

Come and learn about the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress happening July 16-21, 2024 in Indianapolis, IN.

Contact Tracy Kinealy at tkinealy@archokc.org for questions.

Register at archokc.org/nec2024



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Put Out Into the Deep

Luke 5:4

Christ our King

Robert Hugh Benson was the son of the Archbishop of Canterbury who converted to the Catholic faith and became a priest. He also was a prolific writer of fiction. In Father Benson’s novel, “The Lord of the World,” a fictional pope is facing a world turned against its Christian heritage and all Christian values. The novel was written in 1895 but was set 100 years in the future in a stormy dystopian England of 1995. In the story, the world has moved against the papacy and all Christian forms of expression, severely limiting everyone’s right to believe and practice their faith.

In response, the pope gives all Church property in Italy to the state in exchange for a small territory around the Vatican that becomes part of the papal household. In this way he can guarantee a measure of independence from the obtrusive government and create some breathing room for his initiatives to renew the Church.

Along with having his own territory, he asks every Catholic noble family in the world to move to Rome to live their faith in solidarity with him and his clergy. In the story, the pope becomes king with his nobility at his side.

With his sovereignty in place, the faithful there have a pathway forward. They are knit together by the royal blood running through their veins. They also are one in their identity and service to their sovereign. Because they are together, they can show the whole world what it is to be faithful, with the pope as their head and their royal identity flowing from him. Read the novel and find the stunning conclusion. You’ll be intrigued by it!

Though quite foreign to 21st century American sensibilities, the notion of a Catholic nobility was still active in the imaginations of many Europeans in 1895. For hundreds of years Catholics in Europe and elsewhere were schooled to imagine there should be a class of people dedicated to serve their Catholic sovereign and express their faithfulness through him.

This coherence of identity and loyalty seemed a tantalizing possibility and a promising way to renew the troubled Church. In the mind of the novelist, this fictional call to nobility resonated in his readers’ imagination.

What would be more inviting than an entire city fully integrating Catholic belief and practice in every way? For Father Benson’s readers, it made sense that such energy might still be present in the cinders of European faith.

This hunger for integrity is still alive among us as we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. This liturgical feast was established by Pius XI in 1925, not so long after Father Benson wrote his novel.

Virtually every noble family had already disappeared from public life by then. But despite the absence of royalty, Pope Pius wanted to direct the attention of all believers to the kingly supremacy of Christ in all aspects of life. The pope wanted everyone to know that Jesus is the true sovereign.

Whether we bow to a king or not, we celebrate Christ as the summit of belief and the purpose of all we do in both the sacred and the secular realms.

Pope Pius proclaimed that there is no separate space, no carving off a portion of life, in which the promise of Christ is absent. We celebrate Christ, the king of all things, and we his people strive to serve Him in all things. We seek that kind of integrity in our lives and our service to Christ our King.

In the secularized and complicated world in which we live, we are expected to do the opposite. Secular society expects us to structure our lives so that religion becomes an isolated compartment. Our faith is supposed to occupy this private space and it is expressly forbidden in all other places. No hint of belief is to be found in the rest of life, certainly not in public life.

In the controversies of our day, faith is ruled out of bounds. In fact, we believers are presumed to belong on the sidelines; we are supposed to remain silent concerning the teachings of Christ because religious belief is not to influence anything else.

The Feast of Christ the King is the reminder that we Catholics refuse to allow the world to be taken from us. Our faithful practice calls us to submit the entire content of our lives to the gift of Christ’s truth and love. Just as the blood of nobility runs through every part of an aristocrat’s life, our faithfulness to Jesus is to flow through our lives.

There is no place where the promise of Jesus’ mercy and the temperance of God’s justice is not to be present. We are promised the gift of new life to extend this gift into every dimension of our lives and every corner of our world. Christ the King is king over everything.

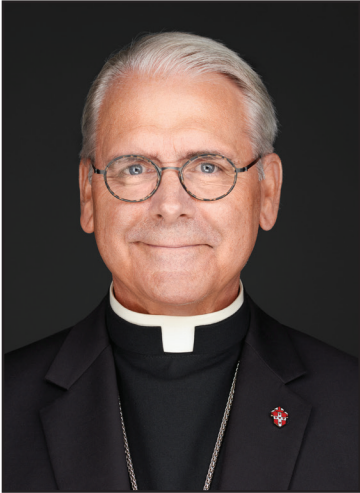
In November 1927, in Mexico City, Father Augustine Miguel Pro was executed because he embraced the vision of the pope’s proclamation of Christ as King of all. Father Pro heroically continued to practice his Catholic faith and carry on his priestly ministry even after the government outlawed the practice of religion.

Because of his resistance, he was arrested and convicted of opposing the government decrees. He was condemned to death. As the soldiers leveled their rifles and awaited the command to fire, he shouted out: “Long live Christ the King.” He died with the sentiment of the pope and the conviction of the Gospel on his lips.

His life was a demonstration that there should be no place where the power of the Gospel does not reach. From the desire of a nation to practice its faith on its knees, to the last breath of a condemned man at his execution, Christ is King.

Blessed Miguel Pro’s death was not fiction and the drama that produced it was not the plot of a novel. The drama continues in our day. We can expect resistance and even persecution for living our faith with integrity. Our invitation is to allow Christ to reign over every dimension of life.

Christ is to be King in our lives. Viva Cristo Rey!



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.

✔ **For our families.** May we always have Christ at the center of our hearts and homes. We pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

✔ **Become a seminarian pen-pal.** Our seminarians are away from home for months at a time during their formation. While at seminary, they would like to hear from people back home in Oklahoma! To become a Seminarian Pen Pal, go online to archokc.org/penpal to find their addresses and write a note.

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



@archokc



Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City



Fr. Andrew Gerard MacAulay
Nov. 30, 1928 - Nov. 6, 2023



Fr. Andrew Gerard MacAulay

Father Andrew Gerard MacAulay, a longtime beloved priest for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, died peacefully on Nov. 6, 2023, at Saint Ann Assisted Living Center in Oklahoma City. He was 94.

A vigil service was held on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. in the Saint Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, Nov. 10, at 10 a.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City.

Father MacAulay was born Nov. 30, 1928, in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, to Frank MacAulay and Marguerite MacPhee MacAulay. He had eight brothers – Eugene, Joseph, Peter, Bernard, Stephen and Kenneth (both also priests), Francis and Charles – and two sisters – Mary and Pauline.

He graduated from Souris High School in Prince Edward Island and earned a bachelor’s degree at Saint Dunstan’s College in Charlottetown. He earned a master’s degree in theology at Saint Thomas Seminary in Denver and was ordained a priest on May 23, 1959, in Charlottetown to serve in the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

He was assigned to Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City until 1966.

He also served at Christ the King Catholic Church in Oklahoma City; Saint Peter Catholic Church in Woodward; Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church in Midwest City; Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City; Our Lady

of Victory Catholic Church in Purcell and the mission of Saint John the Baptist in Lexington; Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton; and

well-loved, respected and often referred to as a priest other priests should emulate.

In 2015, Father MacAulay received the Rother Faithful Shepherd Award from Archbishop Coakley and fellow priests. The award is given every three years in the spring to a priest in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City who exemplifies Blessed Stanley Rother and his commitment to the priesthood and his people. It is an initiative of the Priests’ Council.

Father MacAulay made a profound impression on many of his parishioners with one referring to him in an article of the Sooner Catholic as a “good priest leading the souls in his care toward heavenly pasture.” He is remembered for his goodness, holiness and kindness.

Until the final years of his life, Father MacAulay continued to serve the archdiocese and fellow priests, celebrating Mass at several parishes and at Saint

Ann Retirement Center, and briefly serving as administrator of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Marguerite MacAulay, and siblings Mary, Eugene, Joseph, Peter, Pauline, Bernard, Father Stephen (Diocese of Tulsa), Father Kenneth (Scarboro Foreign Missions), Francis and Charles. He is survived by his many nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Seminarian Fund at archokc.org/seminarianfund.

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

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

- Nov. 19** – Native American Mass, 3 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine
- Nov. 21** – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
- Nov. 21** – Archdiocesan Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
- Nov. 22** – Thanksgiving Mass and luncheon with residents, 10:15 a.m., St. Ann Skilled Nursing and Therapy, OKC
- Nov. 26** – Mass and celebration for Fr. Gregory Nguyen’s 25th Anniversary, 11 a.m., St. Andrew Dung-Lac Catholic Church, OKC
- Nov. 28** – On-Air for Oklahoma Catholic Radio “Oklahoma Days” Radiothon, 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.
- Nov. 28** – Presbyteral Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., CPC
- Nov. 28** – Annual Catholic Appeal luncheon for priests, 11 a.m., Cattlemen’s Steakhouse
- Nov. 29** – School Mass for All Saints Catholic School, 8:15 a.m., St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Norman
- Nov. 30** – Senior Staff meeting, 10 a.m., CPC
- Nov. 30** – Catholic Charities Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Charities offices, OKC
- Dec. 1** – CPC closed for Staff Advent Day of Reflection, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Dec. 2** – Eucharistic Congress Information session, 11:15 a.m., CPC
- Dec. 3** – Advent Lessons and Carols, 5 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC



**Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley**

Archbishop of Oklahoma City
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A vigil service for Fr. Andrew Gerard MacAulay was held on Nov. 9 in the Saint Francis de Sales Chapel in Oklahoma City. Photos Chris Porter/ Sooner Catholic.

From the Archives ...

A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist

With the passing of Father Gerard MacAulay on Nov. 6, an era of Oklahoma Church history officially concluded. He was the last connection to the Prince Edward Island priests who came to serve in Oklahoma –initially due to the influence of Bishop Francis Kelley, himself a native of the Canadian province.

Father MacAulay was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on Nov. 30, 1928. One of 11 children, two of his brothers also answered the call to serve as priests. Stephen was ordained in 1951 for the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Several young men from the province had gone before him to Oklahoma, due to the great respect and esteem they held for their countryman – Bishop Kelley. Father MacAulay always quipped that it was expected that he would follow in Stephen’s footsteps and come to Oklahoma. He had other ideas. In an interview from 2019 he stated: “Everyone thought I was going to become a priest when I graduated from college. I decided I needed to live a normal life and work. So, I went to work in a bank for five years and that experience would aid in my future priesthood as I understood a little better what my parishioners went through to make ends meet and the challenges they faced.” He was ordained 1959.

Gracious and even tempered, Jerry (as he was known by his brother priests) was a highly effective pastor who genuinely cared for the people he served. Exceptionally bright, he never lost his humility and his typically Canadian self-deprecating wit. He was associate pastor in many parishes but is probably best remembered for his tenure as pastor of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City.

Due to his many talents and gifts, he was asked to be a part of numerous boards and committees. A true champion of social justice issues, he was active in the work of Catholic Charities for many years. As a Defender of the Bond in the Tri-

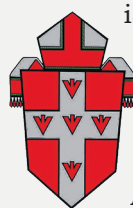
bunal, his insight into the human condition was treasured by the judges. A champion of Catholic education, he was a board member for Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School. His discernment skills were utilized on the Seminar-ian Board helping to decide which applicants for the seminary should be accepted.

A hard worker, his constant “full speed ahead” approach would come to a screeching halt after suffering a massive heart attack. He decided that an earlier than anticipated retirement might be in the not-so-distant future. He moved to Florida with two of his brothers and enjoyed a more relaxed lifestyle. A true Canadian, his love of hockey was revitalized with his transfer of allegiance from his childhood team, the Toronto Maple Leafs, to the Tampa Bay Lightning. He was also always proud of a nephew that played in the Montreal Canadians organization.

He eventually returned to Oklahoma to live the rest of his days helping in any way possible, including filling in at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche as administrator at age 89. This remarkably holy and good man lived a long and fruitful life and truly understood his role as one of service. As Father Bill Pruett so accurately stated in the funeral homily, “Father McAuley was a priest’s priest.” No higher praise can be given.



Fr. Gerard MacAulay



ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES

U.S. Bishops vote for USCCB secretary and committee chairmen at Fall Plenary Assembly

BALTIMORE – At their annual Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore the week of Nov. 13, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) elected a conference secretary and chairmen for six standing committees. The conference secretary also serves as the chairman of the Committee on Priorities and Plans.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City was elected as Conference secretary and chairman of the Committee on Priorities and Plans in a 187 to 55 vote over Archbishop Alexander K. Sample of Portland in Oregon. Archbishop Coakley is currently serving as conference secretary, completing the term left vacant last November when Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the

Military Services, USA was elected conference president. With this election, his term as conference secretary runs through November 2027.

The remaining six will serve for one year as chairmen-elect before beginning a three-year term at the conclusion of the bishops’ 2024 Fall General Assembly. The bishops elected as chairmen-elect are:

Bishop David M. O’Connell of Trenton, as chairman-elect

of the Committee on Catholic Education in a 144 to 101 vote over Bishop James D. Conley of Lincoln.

Bishop William D. Byrne, Diocese of Springfield in Massachusetts, as chairman-elect of the Committee on Communications in a 142 to 103 vote over Archbishop Christopher J. Coyne, coadjutor of Hartford.

Bishop Robert J. Brennan of Brooklyn, as chairman-elect of the Commit-

tee on Cultural Diversity in the Church in a 126 to 116 vote over Bishop Earl K. Fernandes of Columbus.

Bishop James Massa, auxiliary bishop of Brooklyn, as chairman-elect of the Committee on Doctrine in a 125 to 118 vote over Bishop John F. Doerfler of Marquette.

Bishop Daniel H. Mueggenborg of Reno, as chairman-elect of the Committee on National Collections in a 146 to 97 vote over Bishop W. Shawn McKnight of Jefferson City.

Bishop Daniel E. Thomas of Toledo, as chairman-elect of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities in a 161 to 84 vote over Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco.



Middle school students from throughout the state gathered on Oct. 28 for Holy Fire OKC. Speakers included PJ Anderson, Noelle Garcia, Fr. Zachary Boazman, Joe Melendrez and DJ Stael. Holy Fire helps young people feel seen, welcomed and invited into a life-changing commitment to Christ. Photos Dana Attocknie/ Sooner Catholic.

Archbishop Coakley celebrated the Mass for Medical Professionals on Oct. 28 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. The guest speaker was Dr. Patrick Yeung, who spoke about natural family planning and fertility. *Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.*



Sr. BJ's Pantry

Reverse Advent Calendar

How does it work?
Each day add an item to a box for the homeless at Sr. BJ's Pantry.
Drop off will be Dec. 31st from 8-10 am at the Pantry.

Dec. 1- Box of Cereal	Dec. 14- Spaghetti Sauce
Dec. 2- Peanut Butter	Dec. 15- Progresso Soup
Dec. 3- Instant Potatoes	Dec. 16- Paper Towels
Dec. 4- Macaroni and Cheese	Dec. 17- Jif Peanut Butter To Go
Dec. 5- Canned Chicken	Dec. 18- Jelly
Dec. 6- SPAM	Dec. 19-Ziplock Bags (Sandwich size)
Dec. 7- Canned Tuna	Dec. 20- Lunch Size Chips
Dec. 8- Pudding Cups	Dec. 21- Powdered Milk (Small size)
Dec. 9- Pork & Beans	Dec. 22-Granola Bars
Dec. 10- Peanut Butter Crackers	Dec. 23- Box of Crackers
Dec. 11- Package of Toilet Paper	Dec. 24- Fruit Cups
Dec. 12- Package of Beans	
Dec. 13- Pasta	

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

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819 NW 4th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73106 ~ srbjpantry.org

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Fr. Christopher Tran blessed graves on Nov. 2, All Souls Day, at the Catholic cemetery in Prague. *Photos Jad Ziolkowska/Sooner Catholic.*

All Souls Day at the National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague

By Jad Ziolkowska
The Sooner Catholic

On Nov. 2, All Souls Day, parishioners of the National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague held a special prayer service to commemorate the souls of the faithful departed.

The day began with a Mass and holy hour, Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet for the souls of the deceased parishioners, members and pilgrims to the shrine.

In his homily, Father Christopher Tran stated, "As we commemorate the faithful departed today, let us see it as an opportunity to grow in trust in the Lord, recalling that our hope for the resurrection from the dead comes through the mystery of Christ who experienced death himself in order that we all might have new and eternal life in him."

Father Tran cited the Lord's promise, as recorded by Saint John the Evangelist, "This is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day." (John 6:40)

Emphasizing the tremendous

spiritual merits of the Holy Eucharist for the salvation of souls and an opportunity for the members of the pilgrim Church on earth to gain indulgences for souls in purgatory, Father Tran recalled the words of Saint Monica, which she pronounced on her deathbed, echo and represent the pleas of all souls in purgatory, "Please remember me every time you celebrate Mass."

Following the prayers in the church, Father Tran and the parishioners relocated to Prague's Catholic cemetery to bless the graves and pray.

The Catholic cemetery in Prague is located where the first Catholic church in town was built in 1899. The original stone altar, a metal cross with the statues of Mary and Saint John, as well as the bell tower, have remained intact for the past 114 years.

The town of Prague was officially founded in 1902 by Czech immigrants who settled there. Many Czech settlers are buried in the cemetery, as well as three missionary priests, and nearly 70 Army, Airforce and Marine veterans, with the oldest (original to this day) graves dated back to 1903. The three missionary priests include



Fr. Tran with volunteers (parishioners and visitors) at the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague.

the Rev. Emil Jerome Gerlich (d. 1969) (First native priest of Oklahoma, born in Indian Territory); the Rev. Jerome G. Talloen (d. 2001) (Belgian priest ordained in Aalst, Belgium) and the Very Rev. Eric J. Beevers (d. 1975).

The shrine also undertook an effort to commemorate the faithful departed by planting trees on the church grounds. Through the generous support of the parishioners and benefactors of the shrine, 33 trees have been planted, adding to the renewal and beautification the shrine.

Genevieve King, a parishioner who helped with these activities, said, "We are doing it for our deceased and loved ones."

Father Tran encouraged the parishioners and volunteers to meditate on the rapid passing of life and death.

He reminded all that the purpose of life on earth is to inherit eternal life by faithfully putting Christ's teachings into action, regardless of the many daily sufferings and challenges.

"Suffering serves the purpose of purifying us like fire purifies gold," Father Tran said.

Father Tran concluded by reiterating the guidelines Jesus gave his followers to inherit a happy eternal life—the Beatitudes and works of mercy.

Jad Ziolkowska is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



The Archdiocesan Eucharistic Procession on Oct. 29 at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine included adoration, a prayer service with Archbishop Coakley and benediction. The outdoor eucharistic procession was cancelled due to weather. *Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.*



Bishop Andrew Cozzens speaks at Assembly of Catholic Professionals luncheon



Bishop Andrew Cozzens at the Assembly of Catholic Professionals luncheon on Nov. 2 in Oklahoma City. *Photo Avery Holt.*

Bishop Andrew Cozzens, who is leading the three-year National Eucharistic Revival, provided an overview of the effort during remarks at the November gathering of the Assembly of Catholic Professionals.

Cozzens, from the Diocese of Crookston, Minn., is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis. The pinnacle of the revival will be the 10th National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21 in Indianapolis, which is expected to draw tens of thousands of Catholics.

"As I have said many times and will continue to say, with the Eucharistic Revival we are trying to start a fire, not a pro-

gram," Cozzens said. The revival "is not the answer to all our problems, but it is something good and the Holy Spirit is using it to strengthen our faith."

He said the revival is about two things: encountering Christ alive and mission.

Essential elements of the encounter, Cozzens said, are realizing that Jesus is God, realizing we are sinners, understanding we are infinitely loved and knowing we are invited to follow him in a new life.

"I hope you can see that our teaching on the presence of Jesus in the eucharist and the presence of his sacrifice is one of the key ways to facilitate this encounter," Cozzens said.

The Eucharistic Revival, he

said, is about providing opportunities to encounter Christ so Catholics can then "be healed, converted, formed and sent on mission. ... We are trying to help the Church make the missionary conversion she needs to make."

The luncheon on Nov. 2 was the final one of 2023. The Assembly of Catholic Professionals seeks to build a network of Catholic leaders in an atmosphere of fellowship and faith. The group meets quarterly at the Petroleum Club for networking, lunch and talks by guest speakers.

For information about joining, visit cfook.org/acp or call (405) 709-2745.

Parishioners at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Oklahoma City celebrated their All Saints Day Mass and Halloween kid's party on Nov. 1. *Photos Fran Kozakowski.*



Parishioners at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Oklahoma City held their annual carnival in October. *Photos Fran Kozakowski.*



JULY 17-21, 2024
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress
Revival's in the Air

Will YOU be there?



You Don't Want to Miss This Moment

We know what happens when two or more are gathered in the Lord's name—but what happens with 80,000?! Join us in Indianapolis as we ask him to revive our love of the Eucharist, breathing his life into our dry bones. Then, we will be sent back to our communities to invite others to know Jesus. Our nation and our world will never be the same.

 VISIT ARCHOKC.ORG/NEC2024

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a stronger conviction of the need for greater reverence for the Eucharist within the Church of Christ," Stephanie Stovall, the adult ministry coordinator at the parish, said.

Encouraging the faithful to be part of this unique and unprecedented movement, Father Boazman said, "It seems apparent that the Lord has provided many graces, opportunities, and resources to the Church in the U.S. since the beginning of the Eucharistic Revival initiative. He wants to transform us, shower us with spiritual gifts and inflame us with love for the Eucharist. Therefore, we want to be a part of it and say, 'Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.'"

Reflecting on spiritual benefits from participating in the congress,

Father Boazman said, "Remember the World Youth Day in 1993 when Pope John Paul II came to Denver. So many people's lives were changed, even to this day, people are still speaking about how transformative that event was. I have hope that the 2024 Eucharistic Revival Congress will bear similar fruits... and that it will be an event that people remember many years after."

To learn more and sign up to journey with Archbishop Coakley and other faithful to the congress, visit archokc.org/nec2024.

Additional information about the Eucharistic Revival Congress and the cross-country pilgrimage to Indianapolis can be found at eucharisticcongress.org.

Jad Ziolkowska is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Archdiocesan pilgrimage information session

An information session about the archdiocesan pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress is 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. There will be a Holy Hour at 10 a.m. prior to the meeting and after lunch will be served at Noon. Contact Tracy Kinealy at tkinealy@archokc.org. The pilgrimage is July 16-21 in Indianapolis, Ind. Register at archokc.org/nec2024.

Catholic Charities helps families with Christmas gift giving

By Courtney Rhone
The Sooner Catholic

A Very Giving Christmas is a gift distribution program for low-income families from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The program takes different approaches based on the community and the familial need.

Theresa Flannery, senior director of social services, explained how the process works for families in the OKC-metro area.

"In Oklahoma City, families who are receiving services through one of our social service programs are identified and referred to the program. Depending on the number of requests received in-house, we open applications to the community. Our typical budget is approximately \$100 per child and last year we were able to serve 160 children in Oklahoma City-based programs. To avoid community duplication in the metro, we work closely with the Salvation Army and refer families who qualify for the Angel Tree program," Flannery said.

Flannery went on to explain that depending on community outreach and interest, the Oklahoma City program has provided coats for all family members. In addition, church sponsors frequently provide support to the family beyond gifts for the children.

"This varies year-to-year. For example, in 2022, The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Christ the King Catholic Church parishes sponsored multiple families. In addition, several individuals from the community sponsored families. The Knights of Columbus have been amazing in providing coats for families in previous years. Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Knights of Columbus assists annually with

providing toys for the children," Flannery said.

The Catholic Charities offices in Lawton and Enid provide Christmas gifts for families in need who reside in Catholic Charities sponsored low-income family housing. Last year, the Lawton office served 21 children and the Enid office served 141 family members.

This year, there have been 17 requests for bikes and helmets. Those who would like to donate a bike and helmet can Carmen Luevano at cluevano@ccaokc.org or (405) 523-3000, Ext. 125. The deadline to donate a bike and helmet is Dec. 1.

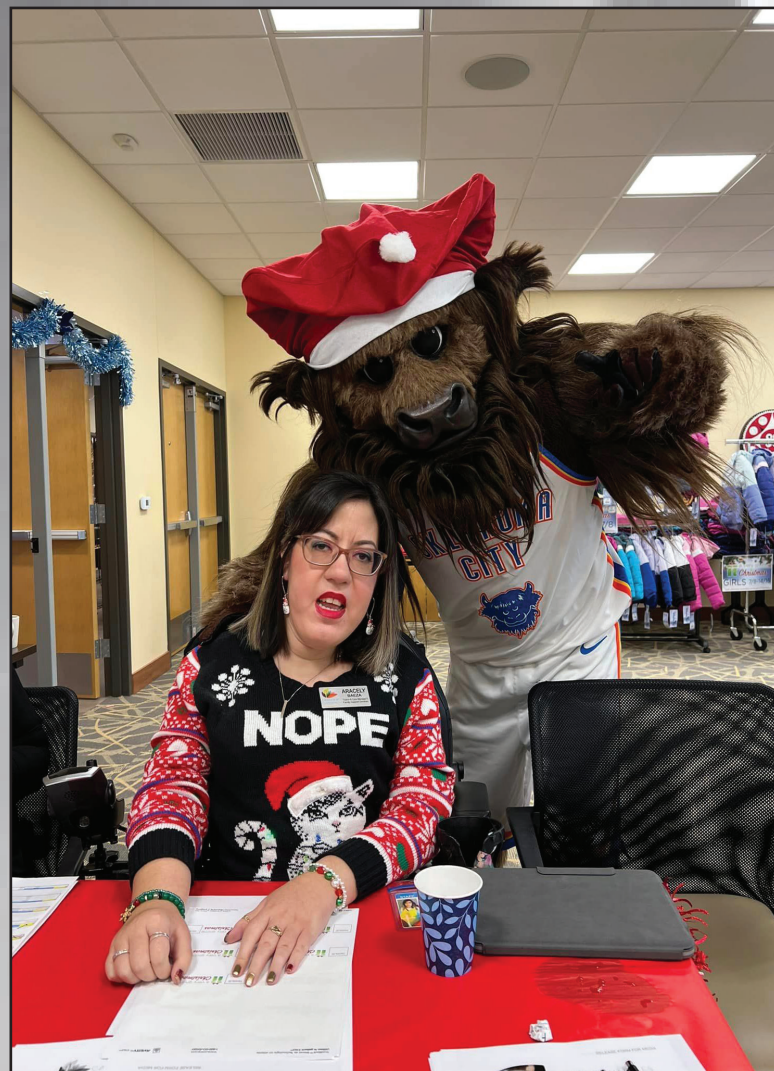
Other needed donation items include gift cards for holiday meals, hats, gloves and other winter clothing items. Rolls of wrapping paper and scotch tape are also needed. Donation items can be dropped off at Catholic Charities, 1232 N. Classen Blvd. in Oklahoma City by Dec. 7. Donated items do not have to be wrapped.

Currently, Catholic Charities has received requests to serve approximately 175 children.

Flannery said they are thankful for the sponsors who have volunteered to assist families in giving gifts to their children.

Those interested in assisting families in Lawton or Woodward can contact Carmen Luevano at cluevano@ccaokc.org or (405) 523-300, Ext. 125. To assist families in Enid, contact the Enid office at enid@ccaokc.org or call Stacy Kurtz at (580) 237-7352.

Courtney Rhone is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.



The 2022 A Very Giving Christmas event featured Aracely Baeza and Rumble, the Thunder mascot. Photo provided.

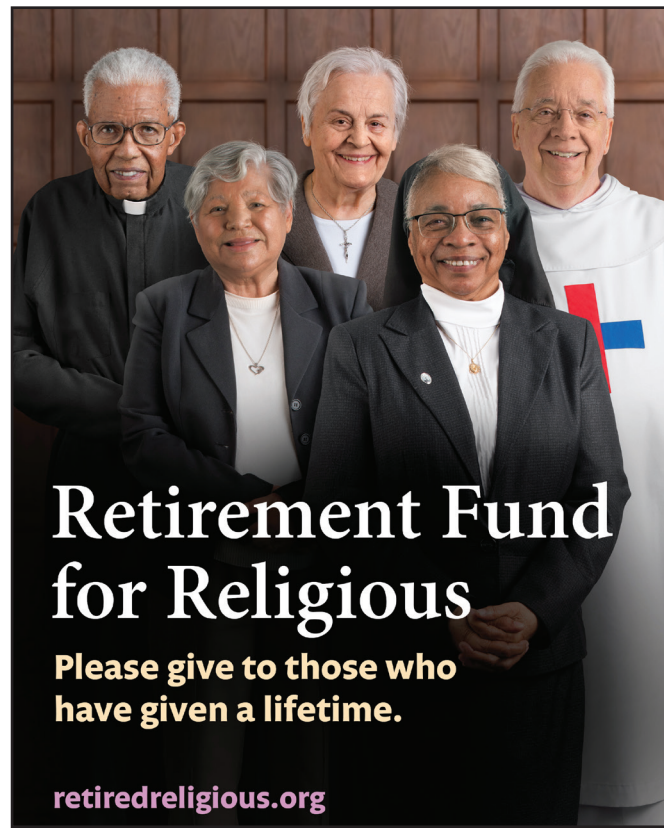


 a very giving
Christmas
Catholic Charities • Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

■ Donation items can be dropped off at Catholic Charities, 1232 N. Classen Blvd. in Oklahoma City by Dec. 7. Donated items do not have to be wrapped.

■ The deadline to donate a bike and helmet is Dec. 1.

National Religious Retirement Office announces annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

retiredreligious.org

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) is announcing the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection, scheduled in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City on Dec. 16 and 17.

In 2022, parishioners contributed \$101,105.10 to the collection. From this collection, the Benedictine Fathers received a total of \$15,678.74 in financial support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious.

John Knutsen, director of the NRRO, looks forward to this year's collection, stating, "We are privileged to support those who have dedicated their lives to

tireless service, and we are immensely grateful for the continuing generosity of U.S. Catholic donors to this vital cause."

Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests—collectively known as women and men religious—have selflessly served for decades without significant financial compensation. However, due to escalating health-care costs, numerous U.S. religious communities face a substantial gap between their elderly members' needs and the financial resources available for their care. Many religious orders currently experience insufficient retirement savings.

The 2022 appeal demonstrated Catholics' tremendous generosity by raising \$27.6 million. These funds from the Retirement Fund for Religious collection provided financial assistance for retirement needs for 297 U.S. religious communities.

To address the deficit in retirement funding among U.S. religious orders, the Catholic bishops of the United States initiated the Retirement Fund for Religious collection in 1988.

For more information, visit retiredreligious.org, or contact Robin Cabral, campaign director, at (508) 685-8899 or robincabral@retiredreligious.org.



The deceased monks of St. Gregory's Abbey were commemorated at Mass on Nov. 8 and during the annual cemetery visit. *Photos Theresa Bragg.*

BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE

Advent Open House

DECEMBER 14, 2023
5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

with special authors

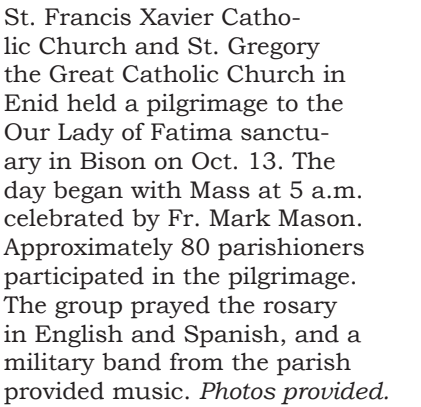
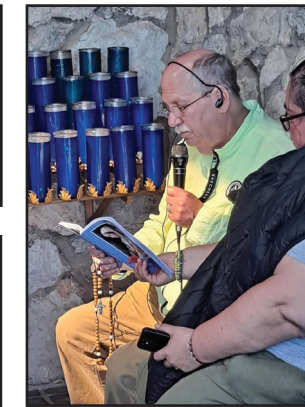
Susan Rother Bond

María Ruiz Scaperlanda

Book signing and refreshments in the Blessed Stanley Rother gift shop



St. Mary Catholic Church in Clinton hosted their annual community salad dinner for women on Oct. 2. Guest speaker, Larann Wilson, Ph. D., spoke about women and the empowerment to be found in their roles as women. Vanessa Barco sang two Spanish songs. Every year since the 1960s, different churches throughout the community have a salad dinner at different parishes for the women of those parishes. More than 112 women from different faith backgrounds attended. *Photos provided.*



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church in Enid held a pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Fatima sanctuary in Bison on Oct. 13. The day began with Mass at 5 a.m. celebrated by Fr. Mark Mason. Approximately 80 parishioners participated in the pilgrimage. The group prayed the rosary in English and Spanish, and a military band from the parish provided music. *Photos provided.*

A pet blessing with Fr. Ray Ackerman was held on Oct. 8 at Bl. Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton. *Photos Jolene Schonchin/Sooner Catholic.*



Parishioners from Bl. Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton held a Rosary Service on Oct. 14 in honor of the last apparition of the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. *Photo provided.*

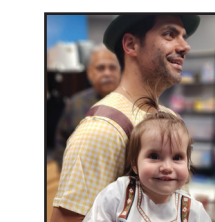


Children in grades K-12 at St. Helen Catholic Church in Frederick dressed up for Halloween. *Photo provided.*

On All Saints Day Fernando Hernandez from St. James Catholic School in Oklahoma City dressed as St. Michael. *Photo provided.*



A parishioner from St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Midwest City dressed as Bl. Stanley Rother on All Saints Day. *Photo provided.*



Oktoberfest was held at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church last month. *Photos provided.*



Jobs Box

Mail room/administrative support - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a part-time mail room/administrative support person to be responsible for processing and distributing incoming and outgoing mail, including collecting daily mail from the post office each morning and distributing to appropriate departments, processing outgoing mail with correct postage and delivering to the post office on a daily basis. Other job duties include maintaining an organized inventory of office supplies and submitting orders when needed, as well as providing assistance to other departments with general administrative tasks. Must have at least one year of office/administrative experience and a valid Oklahoma driver's license. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

Office manager - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an office manager who will provide executive level administrative support to the Secretariat for Clergy and Consecrated Life. This position is self-directed, operates under minimal supervision and independently manages the daily aspects of the office, including budget, annual events and seminarian application processes, as well as meetings and appointments for the vicar for priests, vocations director and director of the permanent diaconate. Seasonal and recurring work requirements include organizing and coordinating annual clergy events. The office manager will also provide support to clergy, seminarians, prospective seminarians, deacon candidates, parishes and archdiocesan offices. Assist with website design and maintenance, social media, and practical application of technology, strong planning and organizational skills. At least three years of office experience, including experience in event planning, as well as demonstrate proficiency with computers and Microsoft Office programs. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

Director of communications - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a director of communications to represent the archdiocese, archbishop and chancery to the media by crafting communications, social media, public relations and marketing strategies. Supervise communications support staff, oversee the budget and will be responsible for arranging interviews, organizing news conferences, responding to media inquiries and credentialing press for major events. The director also will serve as editor of the diocesan Sooner Catholic newspaper. Must have a bachelor's degree in communications or related field, at least five years of public rela-

tions, journalism and/or marketing experience, and be a practicing Catholic in good standing. A background check and safe environment training will be required. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

Administrative support - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an administrative support person to provide administrative and clerical support for the offices of youth, young adult and campus ministry and the Bl. Stanley Rother Institute. Responsibilities will include maintaining the calendar of events for Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp, including updating and confirming registration status; working directly with accounts payable files and ensuring proper and timely invoicing and payments and coordinating and distributing marketing and communication needs. Must have at least three years of office experience and demonstrate proficiency with computers and Microsoft Office programs. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.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 Oklahoma or of another state(s), which license must be maintained in good standing at all times or accreditation 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 in providing family-based immigration legal services under the INA and related statutes, rules and regulations. No less than three years of experience in supervision, management or coordination of professional and/or clerical staff involved in the providing of legal services under the INA and related statutes, rules and regulations. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org

Bilingual attorney – OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a bilingual attorney to be responsible for assessing individuals' eligibility for immigration relief and representing individuals before USCIS and the immigration court. Must be a member in good standing of the bar of any state. (Oklahoma State Bar preferred); fluent in the reading, writing and speaking of Spanish; One to two years of immigration law experience preferred, but willing to train the right candidate. Send cover letter and resume to Monica Palmer at mpalmer@ccaokc.org.

Financial grant compliance officer – OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a financial grant compliance officer to manage grants administration operations, grantee contract requirements and performance; draft grant and other contracts; maintain grant records; monitor and report on grant strategy budgets; and ensure compliance with organizational and federal/state rules and regulations. Must have a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business administration, economics, or other suitable field of study is required; three plus years' experience in accounting, financial reporting, accounts payable, payroll, accounts receivable; experience with grant administration preferred; non-profit experience preferred; excellent knowledge of data analysis and forecasting methods. Proficient in Microsoft Office and other computer applications. Send cover letter and resume to Dcn. Dave Ashton at dashton@ccaokc.org.

Residential support specialist - OKC

Willow Pregnancy Support is seeking an evening and/or weekend residential support specialist to assure the well-being and safety of residents ensuring compliance with the rules and regulations and home functions with minimum interruptions and in optimum condition. This is an overnight position with staff accommodations. High School Diploma; must pass OSBI background check; valid driver's license with good driving record for insurability and must agree to random drug testing. Send cover letter and resume to Melissa Clark at mclark@willowpregnancy.org.

Director of advancement - OKC

Mount St. Mary Catholic High School is seeking a dedicated and experienced director of advancement to lead and drive the school's fundraising, donor engagement and campaign efforts. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in fundraising, donor relationship management, and campaign execution. The director will play a crucial role in advancing the school's mission by cultivating meaningful relationships, securing funding and fostering a culture of philanthropy within the school community. While this position will have an office at Mount St. Mary, applicants should anticipate significant time outside the office attending events and meeting with donors. This position reports directly to the school president. Send cover letter and resume to Brooke Basler, executive assistant, at bbasler@mountstmary.org.

Third-grade teacher - OKC

Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City has an immediate opening for a third-grade teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Sacred

Heart OKC offers faith and virtue-centered classrooms. Teaching experience is required. A bachelor's degree in education and Oklahoma teacher certification are preferred but not required. The school can work with teacher through the certification process. Must be able to support the mission of Sacred Heart Catholic School. Send resume and a copy of the teaching certificate to Principal Tera Albert at principal@sacredheartokc.org or call (405) 634-5673. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Science teacher - OKC

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School is seeking a middle school science teacher. Send resume and cover letter to Principal Todd Gungoll at mr.gungoll@scbokc.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. Mondays and Tuesdays. Contact Laura Scott at (405) 842-6656.

Music director – Del City

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Del City is seeking a choir director/pianist for three weekend Masses, funerals and Holy Days. Working knowledge of the Catholic Mass and "Breaking Bread" collection is helpful. Must enjoy working with small, diverse groups of singers (one group per Mass), select music for each Mass and have a vision for Easter and Christmas celebrations. Salary negotiable. Contact the parish office during the morning hours at (405) 677 4873 or by e-mail at stpaulch@coxinet.net.

Nursery teacher - OKC

Christ the King Catholic Church is seeking a part-time Mothers' Day Out teacher. Must assist the lead teachers with crafts, story time, games, lunch and naps. 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 over the age of 16 and complete the archdiocesan Safe Environment program once hired. Contact Margaret Ballas at margaret@ckokc.org or (405) 242-4521.

After care workers - Edmond

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School is seeking after-school care teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. Must work effectively with students in after-school activities, assist with behavior management and serve as role models. No degree is required; high school students are encouraged to apply. Contact Janine Hunt at jhunt@seasokc.org.

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

The Catholic Difference

The grave sin of Jew-hatred

Shortly after the 2014 Russian annexation of Crimea, I noted in this column and elsewhere that the entire episode – including the fouling of the public space by the aggressor's genocidal threats and endless disinformation – suggested something of what the 1930s must have been like. A brazen dictator with a talent for rabble-rousing bewitches his own people and paralyzes the political will of those who might be able to deter him. Well-meaning, and not-so-well-meaning, souls make excuses for the aggressor, while his slick propagandists tell lie after lie about his intentions and the purported wickedness of those in the aggressor's cross-hairs. "It couldn't happen again," too many say; "the world learned its lesson in the Great War."

Of course, it did happen again. And the world bled more profusely because of the myopia of those who could not see what was right in front of them.

More recently, a critic of my views on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the imperative of American support for that beleaguered country bemoaned my use of the tired "World War II analogy." To which I replied, it's only "tired" if it's wrong. Which it manifestly wasn't in the period before and after the Russian invasion of February 2022. And it isn't now.

For the Nazi "Anschluss" of Austria, the Munich cave-in of Britain and France, and the subsequent destruction of Czechoslovakia – all crucial moments in the run-up to World War II – coincided with the "Kristallnacht" of November 9-10, 1938: the violent assault on Jewish homes, synagogues, and properties during the "Night of Broken Glass" that presaged the exterminationist antisemitism of the Holocaust. On that night of horrors, the cry "Kill

the Jews!" rang out across Germany. Now, the same cry is being heard across Europe and the United States, amplified by "Gas the Jews!" in Sydney, Australia.

About all of which, some lessons from the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" may help concentrate minds that need concentrating.

"Sin is an act contrary to reason. It wounds man's nature and injures human solidarity," [1872].

"The root of all sins lies in man's heart. The kinds and gravity of sins are determined principally by their objects," [1873].

"To choose deliberately – that is, both knowing it and willing it – something gravely contrary to the divine law and to the ultimate end of man is to commit a mortal sin. This destroys in us the charity without which eternal beatitude is impossible. Unrepented, it brings eternal death," [1874].

If divine law and human reason condemn hatred of anyone who is "other," simply because of who he or she is, then even more so do they condemn the irrational and too-often lethal hatred of the People to whom God first made his promises – promises, the Second Vatican Council taught, of which God has never repented (see "Nostra Aetate" 4). Jew-hatred that leads to cries of "Kill the Jews!" and "Gas the Jews!" is as clear an example of a deliberate choice "that destroys in us the charity without which eternal beatitude is possible" as one can imagine. It is loathsome. It is a gangrenous wound eating away at everything from higher education to politics. It cannot be tolerated, and those who advocate such barbarities should not be tolerated, either.

For Christians to engage in any form of antisemitism is to add further blows to the smit-

ten back of Christ, tied to the Pillar of Flagellation. It is to press more thorns upon his bleeding brow. It is to pound more nails into his hands and feet. It is to thrust another spear into his side. For he was and is, eternally, the Son of David as well as the Son of God and to scorn his kinsmen is to scorn him.

There is no excuse – none – for the wave of Jew-hatred that has washed across the Western world like an acid bath. Antisemitism is usually a sign of social and cultural rot, and this latest outbreak of an ancient social disease is no exception. Western culture and society are being rotted out from within; is it any wonder that some of the worst of the recent Jew-baiting has taken place on elite campuses, where nihilism, cynicism, and soul-withering secularism reign supreme? (Any parent planning to spend a half-million dollars to send a son or daughter to an Ivy League university or some other intellectual cesspool really should think again.)

The hour is late. The threats are growing. Wake up. And take a first step toward sanity by standing in solidarity with those whom John Paul II called our "elder brothers" in faith.

George Weigel's column 'The Catholic Difference' is syndicated by the Denver Catholic, the official publication of the Archdiocese of Denver.



George Weigel
Ethics and Public Policy Center

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Lánzate a lo más Profundo

Luke 5:4

Cristo nuestro Rey

Robert Hugh Benson era un hijo del arzobispo de Canterbury que se convirtió a la fe católica y se hizo sacerdote. Era también un prolífico autor de libros de ciencia ficción. En su novela “El señor del mundo”, describe a un papa ficticio que tiene que enfrentar a un mundo que está en contra de la herencia y los valores cristianos. La novela fue escrita en 1895, pero se sitúa 100 años después, en la sufrida y complicada Europa de 1995. En la historia, el mundo se ha puesto en contra del papado y de toda expresión cristiana, limitando severamente la capacidad de las personas de creer y practicar su fe.

En respuesta ante esta situación, el papa regala todas las propiedades de la Iglesia al gobierno italiano y se queda solo con un pequeño terreno alrededor del Vaticano que se convierte ahora en la casa de papa. Al hacerlo, buscaba garantizar un poco de independencia del gobierno que quería controlarlo y tener un poco de respiro para lanzar iniciativas para renovar la Iglesia.

Además de mantener un territorio propio, el papa les pide a todas las familias católicas nobles del mundo, que se muden a Roma para vivir su fe en solidaridad con el papa y el clero. En la historia, el papa se convierte en el rey con su cortejo de nobles a su lado.

Asegurando su soberanía, los fieles tenían entonces un camino para salir adelante. Estaban unidos por la sangre real que corría por sus venas. Estaban también unidos en su identidad y servicio a su soberano. Dado que están juntos, pueden mostrarle al mundo lo que significa ser fieles, con el papa como su rey y su identidad real fluyendo de él. Lean la novela y encontrarán una conclusión asombrosa. ¡Los intriga!

Aun cuando esta idea de una sociedad católica noble suene distante para la sensibilidad americana del siglo XXI, era una idea todavía muy activa en la imaginación de muchos europeos de 1895. Por cientos de años los católicos de Europa, y muchos otros lugares, habían sido educados en la idea de que debía existir una clase de personas dedicadas al servicio de su soberano católico y debían expresar su fidelidad a través de él.

Esta coherencia entre identidad y realeza era una posibilidad tentadora y un camino prometedor para renovar la Iglesia en problemas. En

la mente del novelista, este llamado ficticio a la nobleza resonaría en la imaginación de sus lectores.

¿Qué podría ser más atractivo que una ciudad entera totalmente integrando su fe y prácticas católicas en todas las maneras posibles? Para los lectores del P. Benson, era totalmente coherente pensar que esa posibilidad aún estaba presente para la fe europea.

Esta hambre de integridad está aún muy viva entre nosotros al momento de celebrar la Solemnidad de Cristo Rey. La fiesta litúrgica fue establecida por el papa Pío XI en 1925, no mucho tiempo después de que el P. Benson escribiera su novela.

Virtualmente toda familia noble había desaparecido de la vida pública para ese entonces. Pero aun a pesar de la ausencia de realeza, el papa Pío quería poner la atención de todos los creyentes en la supremacía real de Cristo en todos los aspectos de nuestra vida. El papa quería que todos supiéramos que Jesús es el verdadero soberano.

Ya sea que inclinemos la cabeza a un rey o no, celebramos a Cristo como el culmen de la fe y el propósito de todo lo que hacemos, ya sea sagrado o secular.

El papa Pío proclamó que no existe un espacio separado, no hay una porción de nuestra vida en la que la promesa de Cristo no esté presente. Celebramos a Cristo, el rey de todas las cosas, y nosotros, su pueblo, buscamos servirle en todas las cosas. Buscamos esa integridad en nuestras vidas y nuestro servicio a Cristo nuestro Rey.

Sin embargo, en el mundo secularizado y complicado en el que vivimos se espera que hagamos lo opuesto. La sociedad secular espera que estructuremos nuestras vidas de tal manera que la religión se vuelva un compartimento aislado. Nuestra fe debe ocupar un espacio privado y se prohíbe su expresión en otros lugares. Ni una pizca de nuestra fe debe asomarse en el resto de nuestra vida, al menos no en la vida pública.

Se considera que la fe no tiene un lugar en las controversias de nuestro mundo. De hecho, se espera que los creyentes nos mantengamos al margen; que nos quedemos callados porque las enseñanzas de Cristo no deben influir en ningún otro aspecto de la vida social.

La Fiesta de Cristo Rey nos recuerda que

los católicos nos rehusamos a ser marginados del mundo. Nuestra práctica fiel nos llama a poner todo en nuestras vidas a los pies del don de la bondad y el amor de Cristo. Así como la sangre noble corre a través de cada parte de la vida de un aristócrata, nuestra fidelidad a Jesús corre a través de toda nuestra vida.

No existe un lugar en el que la promesa de la misericordia de Jesús y el temor a la justicia de Dios no esté presente. Se nos ha prometido el don de la vida nueva para que lo extendamos como regalo a cada dimensión de nuestras vidas y a cada rincón del mundo. Cristo Rey es el Rey de todo cuanto existe.

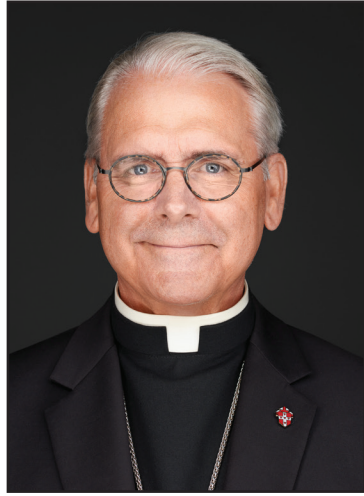
En noviembre de 1927, en la Ciudad de México, fue ejecutado el P. Miguel Agustín Pro precisamente por reconocer la visión de la proclamación del papa de que Cristo es Rey de todo. El padre Pro siguió practicando de manera heroica su fe católica y ejerciendo su ministerio sacerdotal aun a pesar de las prohibiciones del gobierno.

Por sus acciones de resistencia, fue arrestado y declarado culpable de oponerse a decretos gubernamentales. Fue condenado a muerte. Al momento que los soldados levantaban sus rifles y esperaban la orden de disparar, el padre Pro gritó: “Viva Cristo Rey”. Murió compartiendo el sentimiento del papa y con la convicción del evangelio en sus labios.

Su vida fue una prueba de que no existe un lugar en donde el poder del evangelio no alcance a llegar. Desde el deseo de una nación a practicar su fe de rodillas hasta el último suspiro de un hombre condenado a muerte, Cristo es Rey.

La muerte del Beato Miguel Pro no fue ciencia ficción y el drama que produjo no fue la trama de una novela. El drama continua hasta el día de hoy. Enfrentamos resistencia e incluso persecución por vivir nuestra fe con integridad. Nuestra invitación es a que permitamos que Cristo gobierne en cada dimensión de nuestra vida.

Cristo debe ser el Rey de nuestras vidas. ¡Viva Cristo Rey!



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Congreso Eucarístico Nacional 2024 en Indianápolis

By Jad Ziolkowska
The Sooner Catholic

El 10° Congreso Eucarístico Nacional se celebrará del 17 al 21 de julio de 2024 en Indianápolis, Indiana. Servirá como lanzamiento de la cuarta y última etapa de la iniciativa del Avivamiento Eucarístico de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos.

El Congreso pretende ser un momento culminante, explicó el padre Zak Boazman, coordinador del Avivamiento Eucarístico de la archidiócesis de Oklahoma City.

“Todo movimiento necesita un momento. El congreso será la culminación de la etapa de avivamiento diocesano y parroquial, pero al mismo tiempo lanzará a la Iglesia a una nueva era de profundización en la fe eucarística”, dijo el padre Boazman.

Al describir el objetivo del congreso, dijo: “Queremos encendernos de celo y amor por la Eucaristía para poder llevar el mensaje del amor de Dios a nuestras parroquias, comunidades y periferias de nuestros entornos.”

Se esperan más de 100,000 participantes de todo Estados Unidos, mientras que miles de personas viajarán al congreso por cuatro rutas en una peregrinación a pie a través del país.

“Como archidiócesis, esperamos tener al menos 250 representantes de nuestras parroquias en el congreso”, dijo el padre Boazman.

Una de las parroquias que tiene previsto enviar un gran grupo de feligreses a Indianápolis es la iglesia católica de San Juan Bautista de Edmond.

“Con el estado actual de nuestro mundo, necesitamos reunirnos con otros católicos para hacer crecer nuestra fe y nuestro amor

Stephanie Stovall, coordinadora del ministerio de adultos de la parroquia.

Animando a los fieles a formar parte de este movimiento único y sin precedentes, el Padre Boazman dijo: “Parece evidente que el Señor ha proporcionado muchas gracias, oportunidades

y recursos a la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos desde el comienzo de la iniciativa del Avivamiento Eucarístico. Él quiere transformarnos, colmarnos de dones espirituales e inflamarnos de amor por la Eucaristía. Por lo tanto, queremos participar y decir: “Aquí estoy Señor, vengo a hacer tu voluntad”.

Reflexionando sobre los beneficios espirituales de participar en el congreso, el padre Boazman dijo: “Recuerden la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud de 1993, cuando el Papa Juan Pablo II vino a Denver. Cambió la vida de tanta gente que, incluso hoy en día, la gente sigue hablando de lo transformador que fue aquel acontecimiento. Tengo la esperanza de que el Congreso del Avivamiento Eucarístico de 2024 dé frutos similares... y que sea un acontecimiento que la gente recuerde muchos años después”.

Para saber más e inscribirse para viajar con el arzobispo Coakley y otros fieles al congreso, visite archokc.org/nec2024.

Para más información sobre el Congreso del Avivamiento Eucarístico y la peregrinación a Indianápolis, visite eucharisticcongress.org.

Jad Ziolkowska es escritora independiente para Sooner Catholic.

Briefs

Native American Mass

Archbishop Coakley will celebrate a Native American Mass at 3 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, 700 S.E. 89 St. in Oklahoma City. At 2:30 p.m. the Prayer in the Four Directions will be prayed with the public along with hand drumming and songs sung in Caddo. After Mass, the Comanche Nation Youth Dancers will perform. Everyone is invited.

Permanent Diaconate information meeting

Men who are interested in the archdiocesan Permanent Diaconate Program are invited to attend an upcoming information meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Wives of interested men are also encouraged to attend the information meeting. Visit: archokc.org/permanent-diaconate.

Archdiocesan pilgrimage information session

An information session about the archdiocesan pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress is 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Prior to the meeting is Holy Hour at 10 a.m. and after the meeting lunch will be served at Noon. Contact Tracy Kinealy at tkinealy@archokc.org. The pilgrimage is July 16-21 in Indianapolis, Ind. Register at archokc.org/nec2024.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Advent Lessons and Carols, an evening of choral music, Scripture and reflection, will be held at 5 p.m. on Dec. 3 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City.

Middle school retreat

A middle school retreat, "Be Not Afraid!" will be held Dec. 8-10 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp. campolog.org/be-not-afraid.

School bus route

Holy Trinity Catholic School in Okarche has a bus route with stops at the Catholic Pastoral Center and Colony Pointe on the Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Contact jenkins@holytrinityok.org or call (580) 471-8140 for more information.

Magic at The Mount Gala

The Mount St. Mary Catholic High School Magic at The Mount Gala is Feb. 10. For more information, visit mountstmary.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will be held Feb. 2-4, 2024, at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. For more information or to register, contact Bryan and Karen Berland at bkberland@gmail.com or (405) 850-4274. Visit wwme.org.

berland@gmail.com or (405) 850-4274. Visit wwme.org.

National Eucharistic Congress

Join Archbishop Coakley and other members of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City at the National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis, Ind. Visit archokc.org/nec2024.

Danube River Cruise

Join Fr. Rick Stansberry and Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio on a Danube River Cruise pilgrimage Oct. 20-30, 2024, that includes Munich, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest, plus an optional extension to Krakow. Visit selectinternationaltours.com. Contact (800) 842-4842; jane@select-intl.com.

Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa and St. Gregory's Abbey have launched the Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project to better understand the history and experiences of Native students in Oklahoma Catholic boarding schools from 1880 to 1965. To contribute documents, photographs or an oral history to the project, e-mail info@oknativeschoolsproject.org. Learn more at archokc.org/oknative-schoolsproject.

Read Archbishop Coakley's new pastoral letter

Archbishop Coakley's new pastoral letter, "On the Unity of the Body and Soul: Accompanying Those Experiencing Gender Dysphoria," is available for reading at archokc.org/pastoral-letters.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will take place every Thursday after the 11:30 a.m. Mass, from Noon to 3:50 p.m. in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway. The period of adoration will conclude with benediction.

Rother shrine, museum and gift shop

The Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, museum and gift shop are open to the public every day. The shrine is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum and gift shop are open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Learn about the life of Bl. Stanley, attend daily Mass, experience the beauty of the church and purchase devotional items and memorabilia in the gift shop. Located at 700 S.E. 89 in Oklahoma City. Learn more at rothershrine.org.

Shrine volunteers

The success of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine greatly depends on volunteers who are willing to contribute their time, skills and enthusiasm. Volunteers are needed in a variety of capacities. Visit rothershrine.org/volunteer.



Are you listening?

By Sally Crowe Nash

One afternoon when I was in college, I found myself in a discussion with a born-again, evangelical Christian. I was decidedly not in a persuasive position. This fellow aimed the now-familiar challenges to my Catholic faith that many Protestants grow up hearing: Catholics are not real Christians because they don't know Jesus from the Bible; Catholics pray to and worship saints; Catholics believe they will be saved not by faith but by works. The most shocking to me was this statement: Christ died once, on the cross for all, but Catholics sacrifice him over and over again in the Mass.

Despite thinking that I knew my faith both in my practice and in the Catechism, I was unable to express a coherent and persuasive response. I was intimidated and troubled to hear a Christian, whom I had assumed believed in Jesus as I did, direct memorized scripture passages at me to point out that the Catholic Church was in error. There did not seem to be any opportunity for me to invite him to learn how much more the Catholic faith could grow his relationship with Jesus. In my heart, I knew his accusations were wrong, but I was not equipped to answer the misconceptions. I did not understand how different Protestants such as Martin Luther, John Calvin or even John Nelson Darby (proponent of the rapture theory) shaped theologies of Christianity that veered from what has been passed down to us from the apostles and the early Church fathers.

What a difference Catholic radio has made for me in the ensuing years! Programs such as "Called to Communion" and "Catholic Answers Live" treat fellow Christians and their questions with love and respect,

so there is not an antagonistic approach. What I love is the different personalities from the quirky Jimmy Akins, the Eucharist-focused Joe Heschmeyer to the scholarly David Anders, Ph.D., who each offer a unique window into embracing the fullness of the Catholic Church. A caller simply asking, "Where in the Bible is the claim that the Bible is the sole authority for following Jesus Christ in his Church," reveals a common Protestant assumption that leads to many misconceptions. It can also spur someone to investigate Catholicism and grow in faith beyond a mere literal reading of the Bible. Listening to the apologists and the callers, I have expanded my own relationship with God. Catholic radio helps me to God's creation of man, his intentions for us and our response; faith within the realm of reason and logic and faith within the context of human history. This fuels my appreciation for Catholicism.

Tuning our car radios to Oklahoma Catholic Radio as we run errands or travel is the way many listeners participate in the OKCR "community." Often, listeners have become friends through a shared love of the truth that is broadcast over the air. The program "Make Straight the Way" has been instrumental in my realization that I can say, like Saint Paul, that I am "... surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses ..."

Although I loved my faith when I was younger, I lacked the tools and resources I have now to express the beauty and meaning my faith gives to my life. I am cognizant that misunderstandings and questions about Catholicism occur often when someone has not been exposed to its truth explained in detail and charity. Whatever challenges or questions I encounter today, I know where to go to get the clarification and answers for sharing the Good News: my radio.

Change Your Station. Change Your Life.



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.

November

19 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

19 Native American Mass, 3 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, 700 S.E. 89 St., Oklahoma City. Prayer in the Four Directions, 2:30 p.m.

21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

21 Serra Club of Oklahoma City meeting, 11 a.m., Catholic Charities, 1232 N. Classen Blvd, Oklahoma City. Visit serraokc.org.

21 Suicide grief support group, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 N.W. 18, Oklahoma City.

22 Feast of St. Cecilia.

23 Feast of Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro.

23 Feast of St. Clement I, Pope.

23 Feast of St. Columban.

23 Thanksgiving Day – Catholic Pastoral Center closed.

24 Feast of St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions.

24 Catholic Pastoral Center closed.

25 Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria.

25 Pray the Rosary for Life, 9:30 a.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com.

26 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

27 Twenty-Fourth or Last Week in Ordinary Time.

28 Oklahoma Catholic Radio Radiothon, Nov. 28-29. Visit okcr.org.

December

1 Catholic Pastoral Center staff Advent Day of Reflection (CPC Closed).

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

2 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.

2 Pray the Rosary for Life, 9:30 a.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Alameda

St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com.

2 Archdiocesan pilgrimage information session, 10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Visit archokc.org/nec2024.

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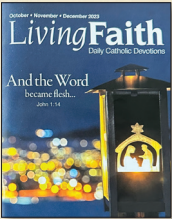
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The Together in Holiness Marriage Conference was held Nov. 4 at Christ the King Catholic Church in Nichols Hills. The conference was presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. *Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.*



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