Two days and eight hours after Therese Hohenberger and Marilyn Freund climbed into a sedan in Atlantic, Iowa, (halfway between Omaha and Des Moines) they were standing among the 1,000 faithful waiting outside to get a seat to the dedication Mass of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City.

Beginning at 5 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 17, the first pilgrims arrived to claim a spot in a line that grew throughout the morning to reach the west end of the plaza back to Tepeyac Hill along Shields Boulevard and curving north. People traveled from across Oklahoma, the United States and from Guatemala where Blessed Stanley Rother served in a mission before being martyred during a violent civil war in 1981. His heart is still enshrined there.

While the shrine church filled with guests, those who waited outside for a seat appreciated the warm sunshine in 30-degree temperatures. Many expressed excitement and joy at being present for an historic event for the Catholic Church in the United States.

“He’s the first American-born martyr, a blessed. It’s a beautiful occasion,” Hohenberger said. “We saw Pope John Paul II in ’79 in Des Moines, so this is kind of the same, but a little bit warmer today.”

“We’re blessed to see this,” Freund added. “How often do you get to see a priest who will be a saint?”

Archbishop Coakley celebrated Mass for the Dedication of a Church and an Altar on Friday, Feb. 17 at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City. The shrine, museum and gift shop are located at 700 SE 89 St. in Oklahoma City.

For Mass times, visit rothershrine.org/visit. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

continued on page 10
We have begun our Lenten journey to- 
ward Easter. Since it’s a spiritual journey – a journey of faith – the destination is not a physical one. We won’t notice a change in geography or location when we arrive, but the journey is no less real. If we per- serve in the journey, we will move from an old way of relating to God to a renewed one.

This journey of Lent often is depicted as a journey into the desert, reminiscent of the 40 years Moses and the Israelites spent in the desert when they had been delivered from their slavery in Egypt. This desert imago is also evident in the Gospel of the first Sunday of Lent, which recounts how Jesus was led into the desert by the Holy Spirit. There, he was tempted by the Evil One for 40 days. He gave evidence of his divine, sinless nature by remaining steadfast and dependent on the love of his heavenly Father.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us, “By the solem 40 days of Lent, the Church unites itself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert” (CCC 540).

The journey of Lent is a time of prayer and almsgiving, but also a time of penance – a word that sometimes can carry negative or harsh connotations. Penance simply means a continual and personal act of repentance which, in the life of early Christians, took on the form of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In the desert, we are painfully aware of our sinfulness and dependence on God. Lent is a time for us to journey into the desert where we will experience the same acute awareness of our own vulnerability and dependence upon the ‘Jesus’ love. We make this journey with Jesus, accompanied by members of the Church, following in the foot- steps of the many centuries of Chris- tians who have gone before us. In our desire for holiness, we sometimes approach Lent as a time of self-reliance and not of growing dependence. We can treat Lent as a spiritual powerlessness con- text where we try to abuse God, ourselves and others just how capable we are. Like Jesus, we will be tempted in the desert, and this attitude can be a temptation that will be an obstacle to our spiritual growth. So, how should we approach Lent?

Start with the traditional threefold bib- lical discipline of prayer, fasting and alms- giving. If you are seeking some direction as you begin your Lenten journey, ask yourself: what is my greatest obstacle to receiving and depending upon God’s love? Is it a particular sin? Then, fast from that! Lent is a journey that moves us beyond obstacles that keep us ensnared in habits, relationships or things that are not of God. We can begin our Lenten journey by asking God – in faith – to remove this obstacle. We also can ask God to show us what other practices of prayer, penance and almsgiving will lead us beyond our self-reliance and into deeper dependence on his love.

With these directions in mind, remember to pack lightly. Sometimes less is more. We don’t need to overload ourselves to prove a point. With God’s fatherly care and direction, we can identify, pray, act, and then to seek to move beyond whatever hinders our progress.

The goal of Lent should not be a greater con- fidence in ourselves, but a greater con- fidence in God. During these holy days of Lent, it is my prayer that Jesus gives each of you the grace to move beyond the obstacles that keep you from fully enjoying his love. I will pray for you, and please pray for me.

O God, feast of all holiness, make us each walk worthily in our vocation, through the intercession of your Saints, on whom you bestowed a great variety of graces on earth. Having granted your Church a life of your priests and martyrs, Bl. Stanley Rother, grant that by his intercession this humble flock may reach the heavenly sheepfold that you have prepared. Grant that your Church may proclaim him a saint living in your presence and interesting for us. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

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

Lent: A journey into our Father’s love

By Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

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

Feb. 26 – Bote of Election, 3 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, Oklahoma City

March 7 – March 7th: On retreat

March 8 – School Mass, 9:15 a.m., Rosary Catholic School, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, OKC

March 9 – Confirmation, 6 p.m., St. Mary Catholic Church, Ardmore

March 9 – St. Ann Retriment Center Board meeting, 6 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, OKC

March 9 – Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Building Committee meeting, 2 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine

March 9 – Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Board meeting, 3 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine

March 9 – Confirmation, 6:30 p.m., St. Monica Catholic Church, Edmond

Arkansasrectory

Oklahomans celebrate first post-Roe v. Wade Rose Day

n Wednesday, Feb. 8, hundreds of pro-life supporters convened at the Oklahoma State Capitol to celebrate the annual Rose Day rally. The day had a cele- bratory feel, as it marked the first Rose Day since H.B. 4327 banned abortion in Oklaho- ma. It was also the first rally since the Su- preme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in the landmark Dobbs case, which sent abortion decisions back into the hands of individual states.

The day began with the tradition of partici- pants offering a rose to their respective law- makers, including the Governor and Lieu- tenant Governor. In the past, this symbolic gesture was meant to encourage them to con- tinue fighting to end abortion. This year, some participants said the rose was their way of thanking those who helped outlaw abortion.

In the rotunda, Mount Saint Mary High School freshmen dressed roses intended for their respective legislators.

“I’m here to stand up for Catholic values and to show our lawmakers that we’re behind their decision and we support them,” student Emma Floyd said.

Ashley Bratcher, the lead actress of the 2019 movie, “Unplanned,” that highlighted the life of Abby Johnson, former clinic director of Planned Parenthood who turned pro-life activist, was this year’s keynote speaker.

Kristie Alexander, director of adoption ser- vices for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, said the day was “a time for everyone who is pro-life to come together and let [people] know how important this issue is to them and the State of Oklahoma.”

Alexander stressed that Catholic Charities continues to serve all people, including moth- ers and fathers looking for help and hope. We have many services from adoption, crisis pregnancy, case management, immigration, housing, help with utilities, and rent, to name a few. We are not just here to provide support for the baby, but for the family before and after placement or services,” she said.

Archbishop Paul Coakley gave the rally’s invocation and spoke about the potential pit- falls of complacency after the landmark Dobbs decision.

“I think Rose Day continues to be important because it is a real danger we could be lulled into the sense that why things is well with the Dobbs decision, and yet the struggle for life continues. To protect the lives of the unborn and all lives from conception to natural death, it is important that we continue to bring this issue before the general population and be advocates for the dignity of every life. We are here because of many people who have gone before us that struggle without losing heart, becoming discouraged, putting their trust in the Lord but also by their advocacy and their active participation in the voting process,” she said.

Lawmakers called Rose Day one of the great- est days of the legislative session.

“Wondering if we would anyone at this year’s Rose Day, policymakers told the audi- ence they were glad to see everyone in atten-dance – continuing to fight for the dignity of life.”

This is a beautiful day where we can cele- brate in Oklahoma that we ended abortion. It took all the people in this room working together, showing up year after year. We have fought an excruciating fight for miles and miles to go,” said Gentner Drummond, Okla- homa Attorney General.

Eliana Tedrow is a free- lance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
A wonderful retreat for sacramentally married couples to begin or deepen their spiritual journey together as a couple.

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Big year for tax credit scholarship program

Donors across the archdiocese gave almost $2 million to the Tax Credit Scholarship program in 2022 – a record sum that will allow even more children to access a Catholic education in the school year.

In all, more than 450 individuals and businesses made gifts to the TCS program, which benefits students attending the three high schools and 16 grade schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The 2022 total was up from the more than $1.5 million raised the previous year. Based on the average scholarship award for 2022-23, about 600 needs-based scholarships are expected to be awarded for the coming year.

“The tremendous growth in the Tax Credit Scholarship program is a testament to the support we have received from donors who see the impact of a Catholic education on the lives of our students,” said Laura Schuler, director of Catholic education for the archdiocese.

“TCS is possibly life changing for the families and students who would otherwise not be able to afford a Catholic school education,” said Donors to the TCS program receive annual state income tax credits up to $1,000 for individuals, $2,000 for couples filing jointly or $100,000 for qualified businesses. An increase in corporate gifts helped push the 2022 total to the highest level in the program’s 11-year history.

“We hope to see gifts of all levels continue to grow in 2023 and beyond,” said Peter de Korty, executive director of the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. “Corporate gifts in particular have the potential to greatly expand the TCS program and transform students’ lives.”

Gifts to TCS may be made online at tcsok.org/give or by calling (405) 709-2700.

Owen Canfield has been named director of the Tax Credit Scholarship program. He succeeds Sharla Smith, who resigned in January to pursue another opportunity.

Canfield has been the associate director for gift planning at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma since April 2021. As TCS director, he will lead fundraising and communication efforts across the archdiocese and assist the TCS board of directors with its work.

“I am a huge believer in the TCS program and look forward to growing it,” Canfield said. “It does so much good for so many low-income families by making a Catholic school education attainable.”

He and his wife, Lori, are longtime members of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. Their four children attended Saint Eugene Catholic School and Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School.

“Our children benefited greatly from their Catholic school education,” Canfield said. “I want more children to have the same opportunity, and TCS allows that to happen.”

Joe Mauldin, president of the TCS board, said he was excited about the announcement.

“Owen will be a great fit,” Mauldin said. “We both share a passion for Catholic school education and the TCS program, and we will work well together.”

Canfield joined the Catholic Foundation in April 2021 after a long career in journalism, including with The Oklahoman and The Associated Press. He can be reached at (405) 709-2700 or ocanfield@tcsok.org.

Canfield named TCS director

St. Joseph Catholic Church celebrates 20 years of perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

“One cannot know the Lord without the habit of adoring, of adoring in silence” - Pope Francis, 2016

Saint Joseph Catholic Church celebrated the 20th anniversary of perpetual Eucharistic Adoration, on Feb. 4, after the vigil mass, Father Joseph Irwin, the coordinators, adorers and parishioners joined in a reception to remember the main purpose of the encounter with God and celebrate the gift of the Adoration.

“We are truly blessed at Saint Joseph parish to have perpetual Adoration. For 20 years now, we have had people daily, all day, in prayer with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. It has been a true blessing and great act of love to have perpetual Adoration for so many years,” Father Irwin said during the celebration.

Deacon Larry Souza, Matt Biddick and Rita Ille, took the time to express their gratitude and blessing for all years adoring Jesus.

“Perpetual Adoration is a gift to Saint Joseph Catholic Church and the entire community of Norman,” Rita Ille, adorer and president of the women’s club, said. “Our hours of adoring are strange to some, but with our retired status, no young children at home and living only a few blocks from the chapel, we simply love the peacefulness and beauty of the night.”

Ille explained, “I want to have a personal relationship with our good and gracious God. Talking to him in silence, in a whisper or regular voice ... I am on the altar, listening to me. I treasure this time with him.”

Her husband, Terry Ille added, “Prayer is a conversation with God. Prayer is intensified Adoration “gives us the opportunity to unite ourselves with him, transcending our different nationalities and remembering that we are one in him to praise, adore and thank him at any time of the day and night.”

“Perpetual Adoration at Saint Joseph provides the entire Norman community with divine protection, necessary strength, unique care, infinite peace and reminds us that God walks with us every second of our lives and in every circumstance,” Pio said. “Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration gives me life, physical and spiritual hope, as well as the infinite grace of conversing face to face with my beloved father.”

Finally, Father Irwin expressed gratitude “to all who have made the commitment over the years to be present at Adoration, we are truly grateful. Thank you to our coordinators of Adoration. Thank you to our people who started Adoration 20 years ago. Thank you to all who commit to one hour of Adoration each week.”

Every time you pray with Jesus in Adoration, we say to God, I trust in you, Jesus. I love you. May we have 20 more years of adoring Je- sus at Saint Joseph parish,” Father Irwin said.

Bella Gutierrez is the communication coordina- tor at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Norman.
Mount St. Mary Catholic High School gala raises record amount

On Saturday, Feb. 11, Mount St. Mary Catholic High School hosted the Magic at The Mount Gala at The Omni in Downtown Oklahoma City. For 21 years, the Magic at The Mount Gala has been the school’s signature event, bringing together community partners, Mount families and alumni, along with school leadership, to raise money in support of the students and mission of this 119-year-old Oklahoma City landmark.

The event sold out, with nearly 400 guests in attendance. In addition, $283,010 was raised, making the event the largest grossing Gala ever. The evening’s signature sponsors were Leo ’68 and Paulette Kingston.

“The first Magic at The Mount Gala was held in 2002 in our school auditorium. We ate spaghetti off of paper plates and raised around $10,000. An entry ticket was $15 and we were really proud of what we pulled together,” said Tony Tyler, Mount St. Mary interim president. “It is amazing to see how much this event has evolved over the years. Now we are at the newest hotel in Downtown OKC, right in our school’s backyard. This event brings our community together to celebrate the mission and students of Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School.”

The evening featured a VIP cocktail hour with a live magician, a 73-item silent auction and a live auction that was centered around a dinner featuring Archbishop Paul Coakley and Father Jerome Krug, a 2011 Mount Saint Mary graduate. Other live auction items included a Spring Break stay at the legendary Blake Hotel in Chicago, an African Safari and an inclusive vacation package to Belize.

“The annual gala brings our community together to connect, celebrate and support our incredible school. This event would not be possible without the countless hours of work from so many staff members and volunteers who love The Mount. This event’s outstanding success mirrors what is happening inside the walls of Mount Saint Mary every day. Thank you to all who are helping to ensure the bright future of our beloved home, Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School,” said Mount St. Mary principal, Laura Cain, ’89.
Nearby stood Brian Stallard and other parishioners from Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Del City who contributed to the campaign to build the shrine, and the Hernandez family who watched construction of the shrine as they drove by on Interstate 35.

“I missed his beatification, and I was so upset, so this time I told my boss I’m taking off, I didn’t tell my boss I’m just excited, it makes my heart so happy. I am already tearing up and I forgot my Kleenex!” said Olivia Hernandez from Midwest City, who attended the dedication Mass. “I missed his beatification, and I was so upset, so this time I told my boss I’m taking off, I didn’t tell my boss I’m just excited, it makes my heart so happy. I am already tearing up and I forgot my Kleenex!” said Olivia Hernandez from Midwest City, who plans to attend the dedication Mass on Feb. 17.

“This monumental new place of worship in South OKC, the Pilgrim Center and Museum, which features permanent and rotating exhibits of Blessed Stanley Rother’s life and work, will be a pilgrimage for Catholics everywhere and a spiritual home for our residents, especially our city’s thriving Hispanic community,” Mayor Holt posted on social media.

As with all dedications of churches, the procession for the dedication Mass included more than 300 participants – 37 bishops, 147 priests, 93 deacons and 12 seminarians.

The procession for the dedication Mass included more than 300 participants – 37 bishops, 147 priests, 93 deacons and 12 seminarians. Photo Theresa Bragg/Sooner Catholic.

The bishops, priests and deacons filled the transepts of the church with Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran and faithful from across Oklahoma, the United States and from Guatemala attended the dedication Mass. Photo Steve Sisney/Sooner Catholic.

Blessed Stanley Rother better known to spread his cult was celebrated by Archbishop Paul Coakley and the Archbishop of Santiago de Guatemala, for the Guatemalan people of Oklahoma City and for those who traveled from Santiago Atitlan where Blessed Stanley was pastor of Saint James the Apostle Catholic Church.

Pilgrims will travel from near and far to visit this holy site to pray and to revere their lives to God,” said Leif Arvidson, executive director of the shrine. “We pray that, through the time they spend here learning and praying, they will come to know and to love Christ even more.”

Sr. Martha Rother, Bl. Stanley Rother’s sister, and Marti Rother, Bl. Stanley Rother’s sister-in-law, attended the shrine dedication Mass and other dedication week Masses and events. Photo Theresa Bragg/Sooner Catholic.

The process for the dedication Mass included more than 300 participants – 37 bishops, 147 priests, 93 deacons and 12 seminarians. Photo Theresa Bragg/Sooner Catholic.

The bishops, priests and deacons filled the transepts of the church with Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran and faithful from across Oklahoma, the United States and from Guatemala attended the dedication Mass. Photo Steve Sisney/Sooner Catholic.

At the end of Mass, most of the faithful remained to pray and to visit the chapel where Blessed Stanley is entombed. The chapel was dedicated on Feb. 13 with priests from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa.

Sister Raphael Marie with the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ from the Diocese of Amarillo was among those who stayed after Mass.

“I’ve never seen the dedication of a church and it was so moving, I was moved to tears, and also just Blessed Stanley Rother’s story and his love for the people. He’s a saint of the people, a saint for modern day. It’s so important to bring people into a personal relationship with Jesus and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and that’s what Blessed Stanley did, he brought people the love of Jesus. I’m so inspired by his story.”

The pilgrimage center and museum, which features personal belongings of Blessed Stanley and tells the story of the Oklahoma farm boy turned missionary priest and martyr, remained open.

The shrine church provides Mass daily in English and Spanish, and the first pilgrims arrived at the shrine at 9 a.m. the next morning from Nebraska. On Feb. 19, a special Mass was celebrated by Most Rev. Gonzalo Villa, Archbishop of Santiago de Guatemala, for the Guatemalan people of Oklahoma City and for those who traveled from Santiago Atitlan where Blessed Stanley was pastor of Saint James the Apostle Catholic Church.

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Diane Clay is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Sooner Catholic
February 26, 2023

"This is so incredible! If I had to describe it to a non-religious person, I’d tell them it’s like going to Disney World: He’s not a celebrity, he’s a regular person … I mean, this could be all of us! His choice to say ‘yes’ to the Lord and continue to walk with him … this could be all of us. The fact that we’re all coming together for this is really quite incredible.”

Nora Duggan
Lubbock, Texas

"We’re excited! This is such a historic event, and we’re glad we could bring our kids here.”

Kristi and Joseph Powell
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

"It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!”

Jing Rios
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

"Seeing thousands of people come together to support Blessed Stanley’s cause is absolutely beautiful. I mean, look at how one small town farm boy has united us, not just Catholic’s but people of all faiths.”

Laney Dale
Albuquerque, N.M.

"This is so big, especially for us here in Oklahoma. I’m so excited, just being here right now and having a chance to be inside. I’m just super excited and it’s a blessing to be a part of it.”

Alicia Rios
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

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The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City

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Nora Duggan
Lubbock, Texas

"I’m just excited. I was born and raised Catholic, and I think it’s very poignant and important that we’re here and it’s certainly a mark in history for our faith. Being Hispanic as well, the impact that this church is going to have is important for the community and I am excited to see how it’s going to grow and I am excited to be a part of its origin.”

Jennifer Nixon
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City

"We came in from Tulsa last night and stayed at a hotel. We were here as soon as they would let us in, and we’ve been waiting in line since. Oh, it’s so exciting! We were in Oklahoma City five years ago for the beatification and we decided we had to be here for this too!”

Tonya Marlow
Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church, Tulsa

"It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!”

Jing Rios
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

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Cindy Marhanka
Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Dallas

"I had never been to a church dedication, so seeing this in and of itself was so moving! Seeing the anointing of the altar and the lighting of the tabernacle candle were such spiritual and moving moments. The procession of so many priests, bishops, etc., and gathering of so many faithful … it brought tears to my eyes. Then, adding that it is a shrine to Blessed Stanley Rother added to the wonder of it all. It was a beautiful, moving, spiritual day that I will never forget!”

Jessica Jones
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"I had never been to a church dedication, so seeing this in and of itself was so moving! Seeing the anointing of the altar and the lighting of the tabernacle candle were such spiritual and moving moments. The procession of so many priests, bishops, etc., and gathering of so many faithful … it brought tears to my eyes. Then, adding that it is a shrine to Blessed Stanley Rother added to the wonder of it all. It was a beautiful, moving, spiritual day that I will never forget!”

Jessica Jones
Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church, Tulsa

Sooner Catholic
February 26, 2023

"This is so incredible! If I had to describe it to a non-religious person, I’d tell them it’s like going to Disney World: He’s not a celebrity, he’s a regular person … I mean, this could be all of us! His choice to say ‘yes’ to the Lord and continue to walk with him … this could be all of us. The fact that we’re all coming together for this is really quite incredible.”

Nora Duggan
Lubbock, Texas

"We’re excited! This is such a historic event, and we’re glad we could bring our kids here.”

Kristi and Joseph Powell
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

"It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!”

Jing Rios
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

"This is so big, especially for us here in Oklahoma. I’m so excited, just being here right now and having a chance to be inside. I’m just super excited and it’s a blessing to be a part of it.”

Alicia Rios
Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Norman

"This is so incredible! If I had to describe it to a non-religious person, I’d tell them it’s like going to Disney World: He’s not a celebrity, he’s a regular person … I mean, this could be all of us! His choice to say ‘yes’ to the Lord and continue to walk with him … this could be all of us. The fact that we’re all coming together for this is really quite incredible.”

Nora Duggan
Lubbock, Texas

"I work in oil and gas and my company drilled a well right outside Okarche, and I started hearing a lot about Blessed Stanley Rother. After learning more and more about him, I just knew I had to come to this!”

Cindy Marhanka
Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Dallas

"I had never been to a church dedication, so seeing this in and of itself was so moving! Seeing the anointing of the altar and the lighting of the tabernacle candle were such spiritual and moving moments. The procession of so many priests, bishops, etc., and gathering of so many faithful … it brought tears to my eyes. Then, adding that it is a shrine to Blessed Stanley Rother added to the wonder of it all. It was a beautiful, moving, spiritual day that I will never forget!”

Jessica Jones
Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church, Tulsa


Bl. Stanley Rother was taken to his final resting place inside the altar at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Chapel on Feb. 13. Photos Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic.


Cook - OMK
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an experienced cook to assist with daily meal preparation at the Sooner Catholic. This full-time position will allow a balance of work, school and family commitments. Those interested may include evenings and weekends. Must have a minimum of two years experience in food service, catering, or related profession. Catering experience and food service experience a plus. High school diploma a must. A background check and safe environment training will be provided. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

OLOG summer camp staff
Summer camp counselors needed. We are seeking full-time and part-time positions. Applications are available in the office or online at www.archokc.org. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

Director of marriage, family life - OKC
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a director for the Office of Marriage and Family Life. This position provides leadership, vision and direction including programming, training, resources and consultation to archdiocesan families and couples. Coordinate events, volunteer opportunities and develop curricula for married and single couples to encourage and support healthy marriage and family life. The director is to perform this role in a team-oriented manner to assist with daily meal preparation at the Sooner Catholic. This full-time position will allow a balance of work, school and family commitments. Those interested may include evenings and weekends. Must have a minimum of two years experience in food service, catering, or related profession. Catering experience and food service experience a plus. High school diploma a must. A background check and safe environment training will be provided. Send cover letter and resume to humanresources@archokc.org.

Front desk receptionist - Shrine
The Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux is seeking a full-time front desk receptionist to provide quality customer service and hospitality to all who come to shrine pilgrimages. Responsibilities include greeting and directing guests, answering questions, processing admission tickets, and handling donations. Must include previous customer service experience and knowledge of quality guest service. High school diploma or equivalent required. Send cover letter and resume to desk@shrineofsttherese.org.

Director of annual giving - OMK
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a director of an annual giving director to give oversight and to provide overall the annual appeal, planning and implementation of all donation raising giving societies. These tasks include: quality prospect management and stewardship as well as programs to develop new donors, mailing lists, printing, follow-up and targeted donor interaction. The director should target 20-25% of total annual base gifts of $1,000 to $25,000 to provide a pipeline. Provide research of donors and execute targeted asks with respect to annual and planned giving. Bachelor’s degree in public relations, communications,-Traxson@aaintorenreircenter.com. (355) 721-0474, Ext. 206.

Sr. Mary Claver Young
Sr. Mary Claver Young died on Feb. 14. She was born in Hammond, La. on May 23, 1936, the third of eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Young and Theresa Benyoux Young, in Hammond, La. Sister Mary Claver Young, in New Orleans. She received her high school education at St. John’s Academy in Hammond, but in 1954 she entered into the Sisters of the Holy Cross and received her bachelor’s degree in education. She spent her life in education and teaching. Master’s degree in educational administration. Sr. Mary Claver Young died on Feb. 14 at the age of 72. She was born on Feb. 14, 1954, in Hammond, La. She entered into the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 2000 and received her master’s degree in education and teaching. Sr. Mary Claver Young died on Feb. 14 at the age of 72. She was born on Feb. 14, 1954, in Hammond, La. She entered into the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 2000 and received her master’s degree in education and teaching. Sr. Mary Claver Young died on Feb. 14 at the age of 72. 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Cuaresma: Un camino hacia el amor del Padre

Hemos comenzado nuestro camino de Cuaresma hacia la Pasión. Es un camino espiritual, un camino de fe, pero el destino no es un destino físico. No veamos un camino en la geografía o el lugar cuando lleguemos, pero el camino es totalmente real. Si perseveramos en el camino, nos moveremos de una nueva vejez a relacionarnos con Dios a una nueva. Este camino de Cuaresma es una vida, un camino que nos lleva más allá de los obstáculos que mantenemos atrapados en hábitos, relaciones y cosas que no son Dios. Podemos comenzar nuestro camino de cuarenta días con Dios, en fe, y confiando en que el Bautismo de Jesús en el Jordán no fue un hecho histórico tal como lo entendemos. Jesús fue tentado por el maligno durante 40 días, en los cuales Jesús pasó en evidencia su naturaleza divina y sin pecado, al mantenerse fieles y unidos a su padre celestial. El objetivo de la Cuaresma no debería ser un extremo o una prueba de fortaleza, sino un camino de un nuevo punto de referencia de nuestras convicciones. En esta reflexión, me gustaría invitarlos a que participen de esta invitación, y que participen de esta invitación, y que compartamos el mismo. Hemos comenzado nuestro camino hacia la nueva vida espiritual, un camino de fe, pero el destino no es un destino físico. Pide, pide con confianza, pide con fe, con amor a Dios.
Strengths, Gifts and Resources

11:30 a.m. Mass, from Noon to 4 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration will take place every Thursday after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. Call (405) 721-8944, extension 1195, or (405) 547-8131, for more information.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa and St. Gregory’s Abbey have launched a new University Ministry called “Malan Crafts at the Rother Store.” The store, located at 7100 MacArthur St., Shawnee, offers prayer cards, books and Guatemalan crafts at the Rother Store online at rethonline.com.

A Domestic Church Married Couples Retreat is March 17-19 in Oklahoma City. Contact Matt and Nicole Hughes at (405) 361-2359 or domesticchurchfamilies.com. Register: domesticchurchfamilies.com.

Human trafficking is a practice that violates the basic rights of human beings. It affects people of all ages, genders, and nationalities. We must be aware of this issue and take actions to prevent it. It is a matter of justice and dignity.

The Oklahoma School for the Blind is a residential school for students who are blind or have low vision. The school provides education, independent living skills, and vocational training to help students achieve their goals.

There are many opportunities to volunteer and make a positive impact in your community. Whether it’s through organizations like Catholic Charities or faith-based groups, your time and talents can make a difference. Reach out to local groups and ask how you can contribute.

You can find more information about the events and opportunities mentioned in this newsletter at soonercatholic.org. Stay connected and let’s work together to make Oklahoma Catholic the leading voice for faith, family, and community in Oklahoma.

Are you looking to

By Sally Crease Nash

Our parishes and schools are natural go-to places for volunteering. As a Domestic Church member, you are an important part of the community and your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Are you looking to volunteer in the community? There are many opportunities to make a positive impact. Whether it’s through organizations like Catholic Charities or faith-based groups, your time and talents can make a difference. Reach out to local groups and ask how you can contribute.

Sunnylane Family Reception

This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar, go to soonercatholic.org.

February 26, 2023

Sooner Catholic

Calcutta. Meeting on the first Saturday of the month at St. Ann for Holy Mary at 9:30 a.m.; adoration and the Rosary. On the third Saturday of the month at the beginning of Mass is the Holy Eucharists’ confer- ence room. Contact Fr. John Herrera at (405) 341-2199, (405) 694-1291.

Feast of St. Francis of Rome.

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.

Pray the Rosary for Life, 9:30 a.m., St. Monica Catholic Church, Ed- mond (St. Ambrose building room No. 105), for any Cath- olic in your prayer intention through private, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, is March 23. All even- t attendees must pre-register by e-mailing emfgp.org.

The Retreat is a spiritual retreat for grieving parents and caregivers in single Catholic men ages 18-45 who are interested in exploring life as a Franciscan monk. It will cover topics such as prayer, contemplation, and spiritual direction.

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Archbishop Coakley and Fr. Don Wolf celebrated one of the first Masses in Spanish on Feb. 19 at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine. Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic.

Archbishop Gonzalo de Villa y Vásquez, Metropolitan Archbishop of Santiago de Guatemala, celebrated Mass on Feb. 19 at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine. The local Guatemalan community honored the beloved missionary to their country, Padre Aplas, whose heart was left with his people in Guatemala. Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic.

Parishioners from Historic Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Holy Angels Catholic Church attended their first Masses during the weekend of Feb. 18-19. Photos Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic.