Families in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City now have another option to consider for the education and faith formation of their children.

Saint Mary Academy in Guthrie is now enrolling students in a home-school cooperative program for the 2023-24 school year. The program expands school choice by providing parents with the tools and training to serve as the primary educators of their children.

Father James Wickersham, pastor of Saint Mary Catholic Church in Guthrie, explained why the school is opening as a homeschool co-op model.

“We want to offer resources and provide support as we walk with parents on their homeschool journey,” Father Wickersham said.

The closure of Saint Mary Catholic School in 2020, coupled with an increasing interest from the growing homeschool community, prompted parishioners to approach Father Wickersham with the idea of equipping parents with the knowledge and resources to educate their children in the Catholic classical tradition. After three years of research, planning and development, the vision of Saint Mary Academy is coming to fruition.

Rachel Sandoval, one of the driving forces behind the inception of the co-op, calls it a beautiful middle ground.

“The mission of Saint Mary is to help equip parents to be the primary educators of their children,” she explained. “Many parents I’ve talked to feel called to homeschool but don’t know where to start and are intimidated by the thought of being the sole educator.”

Students will receive in-person instruction two days per week, Tuesday and Thursday, with the three remaining days dedicated to parent-led learning at home.

“This model is perfect for those wanting to take a homeschooling approach to their children’s education but want guidance, accountability and community to go along with it,” Sandoval said.

Education in the Catholic classical tradition follows a three-part process called the “trivium,” which emphasizes the areas of grammar, logic and rhetoric.

Headmaster Tomas Sandoval explained the trivium follows the natural human inclination to learn in stages.

“It starts with grammar, we first learn to speak and articulate thoughts,” he said. “Then around middle school age we move on to logic: asking why, looking for proof, making sense of the world around us.”

Rhetoric incorporates the ability to articulate thoughts and use logic into the next natural stage of human learning.

“It’s deep diving,” Sandoval said. “What is truth, what is good, why is it good and how do I explain this to others?”

Father Wickersham described Saint Mary Academy as a true community-led effort. Having parents as facilitators will allow the co-op to operate independently of the parish, as a self-sustaining entity. Every Tuesday will be “family day” which requires one parent from each family to contribute their time and talent to the co-op by teaching, cleaning, providing administrative support or other general assistance.

The full-day commitment once a week takes an all-hands-on-deck approach to serving students, as well as providing support to

continued on page 20

New Discipleship Conference prepares for inaugural event

A new bilingual conference in the archdiocese will be held this year at the Oklahoma City Convention Center. The new Discipleship Conference will be taking the place of the annual Catechetical Conference and the Sembradores de la Fe conference.

On Aug. 19, Father John Riccardo and Father Augustino Torres will be the keynote speakers of the inaugural conference.

Father Riccardo is a missionary, Executive Director of Acts XXIII and was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit in 1996. In 2019, after 23 years in parish ministry, he founded Acts XXIX to proclaim the gospel in an attractive and compelling way.

Father Torres is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal and is the president and co-founder of Corazon Puro and Latinos por la Vida, apostolates dedicated to awakening and accompanying leader in areas of great need.

Speakers leading breakout sessions will include Jim Beckman, Albert Faraj, Mary Guilfoyle, Matt Regitz, Luis Soto, Mary Ann Wiesinger Puig and Sheri Wohlfert.

There will also be vendors for attendees and accommodations at various downtown locations.

Tickets are $20 per person. To register, see the entire day’s schedule and get more information, visit OKDisciple.org, or text DC2023 to 84576.

continued on page 20
It is common for people to express their intense interests as something that is “passionate about.” Someone can be passionate about golf or food or the Oklahoma City Thunder or exercise. For each of these passions, there is something deep within us that moves us to action.

Precisely by means of his Cross he pressed by Jesus in the Gospel through the familiar expression of self-seeking pride. Our earthly sufferings become the splinters from the Tree of Life that are the occasion of our conversion of heart. Precisely by means of his Cross, “The Cross stands alone as the sign of the passionate love of God for us.”

The observance of Passiontide is not merely about going to Church on Palm Sunday to pick up our palms and read in the New Testament how the Lord and his greatest devotee, Saint Joseph, are the co-founders of Life on Earth. For the Church is the Mystical Body of Christ. Our earthly sufferings are the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings are the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly sufferings is the equivalent of the self-seeking pride of our earthly suffering
The impact of the Sisters of Mercy on the community in Oklahoma is profound. Having arrived at Sacred Heart in Kansas on July 9, 1884, four courageous sisters began to carve out their niche on the expansive, and sometimes unforgiving, plains.

The sisters came as educators and brought the faith to countless children through teaching and reading the Bible.

When the location of the land was announced, many scratched their heads, as it was located in the farthest northwest reaches of the city on Memorial road. In 1974, it was surrounded by pastures and seemingly endless, empty land.

As the community grew, the Sisters of Mercy continued their work in education, medicine, and ministry. They adjusted to circumstances, sometimes unforgiving, plains.

The Sisters of Mercy in Oklahoma, except for the previously mentioned sisters, the Church did for us,” Guevara said.

Finally, Guevara, who is single, has simple advice for young people and families. “They will give them what Christ did for us,” Guevara said.
Jayce Palmer is the director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry. He has worked at the chancery for three and a half years. He provides direction and vision for the various programs, efforts, resources, training and formation for all phases of evangelization and discipleship of young people in the archdiocese. He enjoys disc golf, playing in the Catholic Young Adult sports league and spending time with family. Go to archokc.org/cysevents and follow Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Young Adults’ Campus on Facebook to check out the upcoming events the Catholic Young Adults are hosting this year.

Annual Mass honors the hard work of youth in scouting

By Everett Brazil, Ill
The Sooner Catholic

Sooner Catholic

The Catholic Church has long held relationships with scouting organizations, as many parishes host their own respective troops to foster community, education and a nurturing spirit in their young members. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City celebrated those connections on Sunday, March 12, with a special Mass in recognition of all that scouting programs do for area youth. The Mass was celebrated at 4 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. Scouting programs recognized included Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, American Heritage Girls and Trail Life. Camp Fire was also recognized, but did not have any awards to present.

Mass was celebrated by Father Kelly Edwards, pastor of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford, and chaplain of the Catholic Student Center of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Father Kelly is also an Eagle Scout and chaplain of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the archdiocese.

“It was good to participate in something from the other side, to see the process and give them something I also received,” Father Edwards said. “I’m learning as we go along because it is my first year to be part of the Liturgy as the chaplain.”

Chad Goodman and his wife, Janie, are scouting volunteers within the archdiocese, and were participants in the Mass. Approximately 65 scouts and their families participated.

“Duty to God is one of the key fundamentals of all of the scouting programs,” Chad said, adding that the Catholic Church has promoted scouting going back a century, to the 1920s. Recipients of nine awards were recognized at the Mass, including Boy Scouts of America. Wyatt Robinson was awarded the Footsteps of American Saints – Mother Marianne Cope Award; Charles Brown, Charlotte Bryan, Mark Bryson, IV; Joshua Feodor and Wyatt Robinson were presented with the Light of Christ award; Charles Brown and Connor Yamamoto were presented with the Parvuli Dei award; and Pearson Brown, Daniel Myers, Kaitlyn Patton, Lauren Patton, William Patton, Jacobs Rojo and Jamie Tejeda were presented with the Ad Altare Dei award.

Fr. Dan Wolf celebrated the first school Mass at the St. Stanley Rother Shrine on Friday, March 10. Students from all grade levels at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City participated in the liturgy. After Mass, Fr. Wolf gave the students, teachers and some family members a tour of the shrine and museum. Photo Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

Fr. Kelly Edwards celebrated Mass honoring scouts on March 12 in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. For more information about scouting, visit archokc.org/scouting. Photos Fran Keukowski/Sooner Catholic.

By Everett Brazil, Ill

The Sooner Catholic

The Catholic Church has long held relationships with scouting organizations, as many parishes host their own respective troops to foster community, education and a nurturing spirit in their young members. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City celebrated those connections on Sunday, March 12, with a special Mass in recognition of all that scouting programs do for area youth. The Mass was celebrated at 4 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. Scouting programs recognized included Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, American Heritage Girls and Trail Life. Camp Fire was also recognized, but did not have any awards to present.

Mass was celebrated by Father Kelly Edwards, pastor of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford, and chaplain of the Catholic Student Center of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Father Kelly is also an Eagle Scout and chaplain of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the archdiocese.

“It was good to participate in something from the other side, to see the process and give them something I also received,” Father Edwards said. “I’m learning as we go along because it is my first year to be part of the Liturgy as the chaplain.”

Chad Goodman and his wife, Janie, are scouting volunteers within the archdiocese, and were participants in the Mass. Approximately 65 scouts and their families participated.

“Duty to God is one of the key fundamentals of all of the scouting programs,” Chad said, adding that the Catholic Church has promoted scouting going back a century, to the 1920s. Recipients of nine awards were recognized at the Mass, including Boy Scouts of America. Wyatt Robinson was awarded the Footsteps of American Saints – Mother Marianne Cope Award; Charles Brown, Charlotte Bryan, Mark Bryson, IV; Joshua Feodor and Wyatt Robinson were presented with the Light of Christ award; Charles Brown and Connor Yamamoto were presented with the Parvuli Dei award; and Pearson Brown, Daniel Myers, Kaitlyn Patton, Lauren Patton, William Patton, Jacobs Rojo and Jamie Tejeda were presented with the Ad Altare Dei award.

Fr. Dan Wolf celebrated the first school Mass at the St. Stanley Rother Shrine on Friday, March 10. Students from all grade levels at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City participated in the liturgy. After Mass, Fr. Wolf gave the students, teachers and some family members a tour of the shrine and museum. Photo Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

Fr. Kelly Edwards celebrated Mass honoring scouts on March 12 in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. For more information about scouting, visit archokc.org/scouting. Photos Fran Keukowski/Sooner Catholic.
Law update provides excellent giving opportunity

By Peter L. de Keratry

As part of the 2023 Secure Act 2.0, Congress gave individuals ages 70 and a half years and older a fantastic opportunity to create lifelong income via a Charitable Gift Annuity. Individuals may give up to $50,000 in a Qualified Charitable Distribution from their IRAs to create the annuity. Up to $100,000 may be given by couples who combine their qualified distribution to create a two-life annuity.

As a reminder, a Qualified Charitable Distribution is a gift made by someone 70 and a half years and older from a traditional IRA to a qualified 501(c)(3) charity such as the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. The QCD may satisfy all or part of the Required Minimum Distributions mandated for those 73 years old or older. The new legislation allows you to use a QCD to create a Charitable Gift Annuity. While still counting toward the Required Minimum Distribution, the QCD-funded Charitable Gift Annuity will provide you income for life. Rather than being taxed on the required distribution, you can still avoid income tax on those transfers. All gift annuity payments will be taxed as ordinary income.

After your lifetime, any annuity residuals will be transferred to the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Endowment for future support for parishes and other ministries in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. For example: A 75-year-old makes a $50,000 Qualified Charitable Distribution from her IRA to create a Charitable Gift Annuity at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. No withdrawal penalty or income tax is assessed, and no charitable deduction applies. She could expect a 6.6% payout rate for the rest of her life. The annual income of $3,300 is subject to ordinary income tax. For more information, or to receive a personal illustration, visit cfook.org or call the Catholic Foundation at (405) 721-4115. Peter L. de Keratry is the executive director of the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

The limit on the new QCD-created Charitable Gift Annuity is $50,000 per person and is available in one tax year only. The amount counts toward the $100,000 annual limit for Qualified Charitable Distributions, and toward your Required Minimum Distributions for those 73 years old or older. There is no charitable gift income tax deduction for QCDs, but you still avoid income tax on those transfers. All gift annuity payments will be taxed as ordinary income.

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma offers you immediate financial benefits and whole-carded free service to the poor of the poor. The LMC movement grew quickly, and it spread to several countries in Europe; North, Central and South America, and its statutes have been translated into more than 15 languages.

With the growth and development of the LMC movement, the Lay Missionaries of Charity began meeting in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 2007, with the blessing of Archbishop Eusebius Beltran. The purpose of the lay person is to be recognized the Magisterium of the Church, and respect and obey its ministers. "I want people to know that being contrary to Church teaching, we are fully in line with the Church," Toni Harrelson said. "The purpose of the lay person is to be like Jesus, "set apart" from the materialistic thinking of society. This is achieved by consecrating themselves and their families to God and following the example of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The Lay Missionaries of Charity serve in Oklahoma.

We are led by Jesus, Mary and our Dear St. Teresa of Calcutta. It conveys our primary spirituality as Lay Missionaries of Charity," Toni Harrelson said.

A charitable gift annuity through the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma offers you immediate financial benefits and whole-hearted free service to the poorest of the poor. The LMC movement grew quickly, and it spread to several countries in Europe; North, Central and South America, and its statutes have been translated into more than 15 languages.

With the growth and development of the LMC movement, the Lay Missionaries of Charity began meeting in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 2007, with the blessing of Archbishop Eusebius Beltran. The Lay Missionaries of Charity fully recognize the Magisterium of the Church, and respect and obey its ministers. "I want people to know that being contrary to Church teaching, we are fully in line with the Church," Toni Harrelson said. The purpose of the lay person is to be like Jesus, "set apart" from the materialistic thinking of society. This is achieved by consecrating themselves and their families to God and following the example of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The Lay Missionaries of Charity serve in Oklahoma.

We are led by Jesus, Mary and our Dear St. Teresa of Calcutta. It conveys our primary spirituality as Lay Missionaries of Charity," Toni Harrelson said.

A charitable gift annuity through the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma offers you immediate financial benefits and whole-hearted free service to the poorest of the poor. The LMC movement grew quickly, and it spread to several countries in Europe; North, Central and South America, and its statutes have been translated into more than 15 languages.

With the growth and development of the LMC movement, the Lay Missionaries of Charity began meeting in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 2007, with the blessing of Archbishop Eusebius Beltran. The Lay Missionaries of Charity fully recognize the Magisterium of the Church, and respect and obey its ministers. "I want people to know that being contrary to Church teaching, we are fully in line with the Church," Toni Harrelson said. The purpose of the lay person is to be like Jesus, "set apart" from the materialistic thinking of society. This is achieved by consecrating themselves and their families to God and following the example of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The Lay Missionaries of Charity serve in Oklahoma.

We are led by Jesus, Mary and our Dear St. Teresa of Calcutta. It conveys our primary spirituality as Lay Missionaries of Charity," Toni Harrelson said.
Every Sunday, Father Joseph Jacobi sits on the steps of the altar during Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang holding a small wicker basket labeled “children’s collection.” The children of the parish bring coins and small bills, happily placing them in the basket.

“When I started the Children’s Collection at our Sunday Masses in November 2021, I envisioned our young people not only sharing their material treasure to feed other hungry children in our world but also physically putting into practice this work of mercy,” said Father Jacobi, pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

The parish’s children’s collection has amassed more than $14,000 since its inception, enough to fund a significant outreach project. Partnering with Cross Catholic Outreach, the parish set out to pack 40,000 meals; life-saving food that would be distributed to people in need worldwide.

On Saturday, Feb. 18, hundreds of parishioners and community members of all ages packed their Family Life Center to begin the hours-long process of sorting, organizing and carrying completed packages of “vitafood,” specially formulated meal packs designed to meet the needs of malnourished people around the world.

“It gave me great joy to see over 200 people, ranging in age from 84 to little children, helping pack over 40,000 meals to be distributed to people in need worldwide,” Father Jacobi said. “Everyone working together and enjoying each other’s company was a powerful sign of the Holy Spirit at work, uniting us as the Body of Christ despite language, cultural or age differences.”

“It’s a wonderful blessing not only to the people that we feed with these food packets but also to the people who have come to work together to do so,” Father Jacobi said, “and getting to know others and a sense of a wider community to which they belong.”

Erik Kvås, development officer for Cross Catholic Outreach, the parish set out to pack 40,000 meals, life-saving food that would be distributed to people in need worldwide.

“This was not a problem,” Kvås said. “The entire room was filled with volunteers packing, translating, cleaning, hosting, filling bins and hospitality. Every person that helped did so with a smile and a joyful heart. I truly witnessed seeing the hands and feet of Jesus in action that morning.”

When Kvås and her team left that day, more than 41,000 meals had been packed and prepared to distribute to families in need all over the world.

Martha Torres, coordinator of Children’s Evangelization, organized the day of service.

“The vitality of our parish, community and the presence of the Holy Spirit were in tune and joyful that day. God called his people, they responded to his call, and he laid out a plan to care for their needs as they cared for others,” Torres said.

Elijah Coleman, age 14, worked alongside a friend for the day.

“It was great! I liked that so many of us came together. It felt good to know this would be helping people.”

His sister, Elisa, age 9, said the morning was much work, “but it was worth it because I like helping people.”

Less than three hours after the day began, Jorge Morales, parishioner and volunteer translator, took the mic.

“It is my honor to let you know we didn’t meet our goal. We exceeded it!” he exclaimed, which was met with loud cheers and applause.

“Every single Sunday, this money has been coming from your families into that little basket. Imagine how many families we have fed today. Imagine how many families can say thank you because of this today. You are a blessing. You came in today and gave some of your time with a goal in mind and not only met it but exceeded it. We are a body of Christ. We are a community,” said Morales.

For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach visit their website at CrossCatholic.org.

Eliana Tedrow is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
The annual Oklahoma City St. Patrick’s Day parade was held March 11 in Historic Stockyards City. The grand marshals were former Gov. Frank and Cathy Keating. After the parade an Irish celebration was hosted by the Oklahoma Irish Heritage Society. Photos Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic.

High school students from throughout the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City spent their spring break, March 13-17, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp at the first “Awaken” retreat. Photos Jackson Howell.

The movie, “Santiago: The Camino Within,” will be in select theaters on March 28.

The movie follows pilgrims along the Camino de Santiago, sharing their stories, the transformation of their souls and the radiance that will be revealed at the conclusion of their journeys.

This deeply contemplative film projects in color and sound an epic journey of the heart and soul changing lives forever.

The film will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, at the following local theaters:

• Cinemark Tinseltown and XD, 6001 North M.L.K. Blvd., Oklahoma City.
• Regal Warren Moore & IMAX, 1000 South Telephone Rd., Oklahoma City.
• AMC Quail Springs 24, 2501 W. Memorial, Oklahoma City.

Visit fathomevents.com for more information or to buy tickets.
**Director of marriage, family life**  
**OKC**  
The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a principal. Must be a practicing Catholic and have a good understanding of dis- creete with the curia, priests and religious. Must have at least a bachelor’s degree in education related field, Oklahoma principal certification or related field is required, master’s or related field is preferred, must have at least five years of experience in a leadership position, strong interpersonal skills, ability to interact with parents, students, and staff, excellent people skills, experience in human resource management, a flexible work schedule that will accommodate the school’s technology vision for the future, a personal and professional conduct that comprise that vision. Mount Catholic is a Catholic school in Midwest City and is seeking a princi- pal. Must be practicing Catholic in good standing. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing.
Lánzate a lo más Profundo, por S.R.
¿Cuál es tu pasión?

Es muy común que, para referirse a las cosas sobre las cuales se tiene un interés intenso, las personas digan que son “sus pasiones”. Aunque en el pensamiento moderno, mucha gente puede parecer extremadamente fuera de propósito. Sin embargo, la pasión que nos mueve a una actividad depende tanto del propiamente activo en sí, como de la persona que actúa en él. Una persona con alguna pasión es en realidad pasiva, y es la pasión la que actúa en él. La palabra misma implica estar “fuera de control”. Una persona con alguna pasión es interviene en la naturaleza de la pasión. La pasión puede ser un fuerte que nos mueve a la acción. El amor apasionado de Dios por el mundo, el amor apasionado del golf, la comida, el equipo de basquetbol de Oklahoma o el ejercicio en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro.

El resultado del amor apasionado de Dios por nosotros es el don de su Hijo, no solo en su encarncación, sino especialmente en su crucifixión. “¿Cuál es tu pasión?” (Rom 5,32). El amor apasionado de Dios por el mundo es una pasión que nos mueve a hacer algo con un enfoque tan intenso que nuestras familias y amigos nos miran incrédulos y piensan: “¿qué pasa tanto tiempo haciendo eso?” La respuesta, por supuesto, se encuentra en la naturaleza misma de la pasión.

Algunas veces, una pasión nos mueve a actuar de una manera que puede parecer extremadamente fuera de propósito. Las pasiones, que van más allá de lo que la sociedad puede entender, nos son impuestas. ¿Para qué es nuestra pasión? ¿Cómo debemos responder a este amor apasionado de Dios?

La palabra misma implica estar “fuera de control”. Si una persona con alguna pasión es en realidad pasiva, y es la pasión la que actúa en él. Una persona con alguna pasión es en realidad pasiva, y es la pasión la que actúa en él. La palabra misma implica estar “fuera de control”. ¿Cómo debemos responder a este amor apasionado de Dios?

Estamos invitados a hacer nuestra la pasión de Cristo, uniendo nuestras pasiones y sufrimientos a los suyos. Observar las semanas de la pasión no consiste solo en ir a la iglesia el Domingo de Ramos, recoger nuestras palmas y caminar en la procesión. No se trata solo de ir a besar la cruz el Viernes Santo. Estos rituales lúdranos deberían motivarnos a reflexionar: ¿hacia quién o hacia qué soy apasionado como resultado de ver la pasión de Dios por mí?

Nuestras pasiones terrenales pueden convertirse en las palabras que dan la bienvenida al Rey de la Gloria, en voz de una expresión de gozo personal. Nuestros sufrimientos terrenales pueden convertirse en fuentes que brotan del Arbol de la Vida que afirma nuestra esperanza en la Resurrección. Creemos nuestra pasión a la pasión de Dios, nuestros sufrimientos a los sufrimientos de Cristo y, de esa manera, las palabras de San Juan Pablo II nos hablan de la necesidad de la cruz en su curta apresación sobre el tema: “El significado cristiano del sufrimiento humano” (San Juan Pablo II).

San Juan Pablo II nos habla de la necesidad de la cruz en su curta apresación sobre el tema: “El significado cristiano del sufrimiento humano” (San Juan Pablo II). Precisamente por medio de su cruz se debe tomar las raíces del mal, plantadas en la historia del hombre y en los síntomas humanos. Precisamente por medio de su cruz se debe cumplir la obra de la salvación. Esta obra, en el designio del amor eterno, tiene un carácter redentor.” (16)

La práctica tradicional de cultivar o velar las imágenes de Nuestro Señor durante las últimas semanas de Cuaresma, viene de Juan 12,36, “Dicho esto, se marchó Jesús y se ocultó de su vista”. Cuando llega el Viernes Santo, la imagen de la cruz se encuentra sola, como signo del amor apasionado de Dios por nosotros.

Reserva la Fecha

Sábado, el 19 de agosto
8:30-6:30
OKC Convention Center
Un día para equipar e inspirar al clero, líderes parroquiales y feligreses en su misión de compartir las Buenas Nuevas con un mundo que necesita escucharlas desesperadamente.

OKDISCIPLE.ORG

El equipo español de Encuentros Matrimoniales OKC organizó un evento para recaudar fondos, “Día del Matrimonio”, el 18 de febrero. Patrick, uno comía en el Centro Pastoral Católico seguido de juegos de pareja y baile. Fotos proporcionadas.

El primer Retiro Femenino de Emaús en español tuvo lugar los días 18 y 19 de febrero en el Campo Católico Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Participantes de Tulsa fueron a apoyar el retiro por primera vez, para la comunidad de la Iglesia Católica St. James the Greater, con el apoyo y consejo del P. Scott Bordenac, vicario de esa parroquia. Fotos proporcionadas.

Fotos proporcionadas.

El Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley
March 26
Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Lenten Missions, 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.
March 27-29, St. Eugene Catholic Church, 2400 W. Hefner Rd. in Oklahoma City. Cost: $35 pp. Fathers and sons must register by April 30. For information, contact Fr. Simon Spitz, O.S.B. at (405) 878-5456, visit monksok.org or visit monksok.org/vocations.

Are you listening?
By Sally Crowe Nash

After my mother died in 2019, my father lived alone. He lived out of state, so weekly vis- its were not possible. Instead, I called him most weekdays. It was an important connection for both of us. He died one morning at 8:30 a.m., as that was my dad’s time to pray the rosary with EWTN.

Our Father faith honors the mystery as one of the most efficacious prayers for spiritual development. The rosary itself was not prayed by Jesus, or anyone in sacred scripture, nor was it prayed by the disciples as a part of apostolic tradition, but it does find its roots in the Bible.

Part of this practice came from monastic early as the ninth century, who recited all 150 psalms daily. They kept track by placing a pebble in a container or as they prayed each psalm. At the time, most people could not read, so those who wanted to initiate the monks, would pray the Lord’s Prayer 50 times.

There were other adaptations, too. A piece legend spread that 12th-century pope Calixtus II had Guzman had been given the rosary by Mary as a powerful prayer to stop heresy, specifically Albigensianism, which re- jected Christ’s incarnation, and promoted many activities the Church forbade. The 17th-century preaching and writings of Saint Louis Catherine de Monfort recommended people renew their baptismal promises and inspired many more to convert through praying the rosary.

This rosary today contains prayers found in scripture, the Fatima prayer and Holy Hail Mary’s, as well as those found in Christian tradition, like the Apostles Creed, the Glo- ry Be and the Fatima prayer.

The rosary is structured in sets of 150 m. Each decade is comprised of 10 decades, headed by the Glory Be and Fatima prayer and Hail Mary prayer. For each decade, there is an associated mystery which reveals an event in the history of Christ. As we pray the Hail Mary’s and focus on each mystery, we are drawn into the mediative power of the rosary, deepening our understanding of

Saint Louis-Marie de Monfort’s proclamation of “Through Mary to Jesus.”

These reflective qualities are an important part of the rosary prayer of the rosary which recalls an event from the Bible.

In my opinion, the rosary as one of the most powerful ways, Oklahoma City.

The Discipleship Conference will be comprised of 2–3-mile intervals, then carpool to Allen. The walk will begin at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City.

To see more briefs, go online to archokc.org/shorts.
parents – particularly those who are new to homeschooling. “This helps forge a bond between the parents as well,” Father Wickersham said. “The idea is to create a community.”

The autonomous nature of this framework makes Catholic education more accessible for families who might otherwise be unable to afford the cost of tuition. “One of my requirements in opening the co-op was that it must be more accessible to our parish families, especially the larger ones,” Father Wickersham said. “And it can not rely on the parish for subsidies.”

Although Saint Mary Academy is affiliated with Saint Mary Catholic Church, it will operate independently of the parish and the archdiocese.

Lara Schuler, archdiocesan director of Catholic education, explained the role of the archdiocese is to offer resources and support. “We are here to support parents as the first educators of their children in whatever way they choose,” Schuler said. “We want to assist parents with the faith formation and education of their children, however they best see fit.”

In-person instruction will take place in the building that formerly housed the parish school.

Father Wickersham explained that although the closure of the parish school several years ago was a disappointment for many families, it ultimately resulted in an opportunity to expand school choice options and allow parents more involvement in their children’s education. “If you leave room for God to work, he does some pretty good stuff!” Father Wickersham said.

For more information about Saint Mary Academy in Guthrie, visit smaguthrie.org.

Sally Linhart is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.