

Msgr. David LeSieur from St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Rogers, Arkansas, presenting an original painting of a scissor-tailed flycatcher to Betsy McNeil. *Photo Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic.*

## New retreat center to serve Oklahoma Catholics

**By Avery Holt**  
*The Sooner Catholic*

Surrounded by nearly 300 acres of field and farm in Stillwater, the new Our Lady of Grace Catholic Retreat Center is set to open in May to serve Catholics who wish to get away from daily life and rekindle a deeper relationship with God.

Betsy McNeil, one of the retreat center staff members, explained that there are several retreat options for retreatants to choose from.

"We will be offering three-day,

**continued on page 8**

## Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School announces relocation

Cristo Rey OKC will be moving to the former Oakridge school building this summer to welcome the students for the 2023-2024 school year.

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School has announced a new location. The school is

moving to the former Oakridge school building located near Southeast 44th and Bryant. They are moving at the end of June and will be ready to welcome the Royals

there for the 2023-2024 school year.



CRISTO REY OKC  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

After a city-wide search for a location that would meet the dynamic and unique needs of the school, Cristo Rey OKC's Board of Directors and staff are confident that this new campus will do just that. The building is newly renovated and will provide a traditional school experience while accommodating a growing student population.

Additionally, students are excited for the opportunity the building's athletic facilities provide for multiple Royal sports.

Cristo Rey OKC spent its first five years on the OSU-OKC campus, but OSU-OKC's growth plans require them to take the building back over.

Oklahoma City Public

**continued on page 3**



A rendering of the new Catholic Charities Sanctuary Women's Development Center. *Photo provided.*

## Catholic Charities announces groundbreaking for new "Sanctuary" day shelter

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City announced a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Sanctuary Women's Development Center to be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 2, at the site location at 2133 S.W. 11 Street in Oklahoma City. The event is open to the public.

The event will begin with a commemoration and blessing of the

site by Archbishop Paul S. Coakley. Other speakers include Executive Director of Catholic Charities Patrick Raglow and Catholic Charities board member Mike Milligan. Campaign donors, prior Sanctuary clients and community dignitaries will be present for the ceremony.

Patrick Raglow expressed excitement and gratitude about the new day shelter.

"We have served women and children for 14 years in a building that has been falling apart. In that time, we've seen more than 1,000 women achieve stable housing. We are thrilled to build on that legacy with the Sanctuary Capital Campaign which will increase the ability to provide showers, laundry, connection,

**continued on page 20**



Put Out Into the Deep

Luke 5:4

## We remember

On April 19, 1995, the Wednesday following Easter, a bomb strategically placed in front of the Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City extinguished the lives of 168 people, many of them children in the building’s day care center. The bombing stunned the nation, especially when it was learned that the terror was domestic. At that time, it was our nation’s most deadly domestic terror attack.

The wounds of the bombing were haunting. For weeks, tireless men and women sifted through the ruins of the building in search of bodies. Funeral processions, some miles long, snaked through the city. The mangled remains of the building stood for weeks as a stark reminder of the immense power of violence. The world turned its attention to Oklahoma and wondered how the city would cope with the physical, emotional and spiritual devastation.

Many recall what happened next. A more compassionate and kinder city emerged from the wreckage. The unprecedented outpouring of love and sympathy reminded the world that hate should never have the final word. The Oklahoma Standard arose out of the ruins. Thousands lined up to donate blood; churches were packed with those wishing to pray; financial aid poured in to assist the victims and their families.

As we mark another anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing, we remember those whose lives were lost; the survivors who still carry the scars; those who gave selflessly to repair the breach in our hearts and all those affected that day.

To the surprise of many, Oklahoma City made the decision to reinvent itself after the bombing, becoming a better and stronger community. The people of Oklahoma City were put to the

cruelest of tests, but refused to allow their hearts to be defeated – or hatred to have the last word. There is no explanation for this but the grace of God.

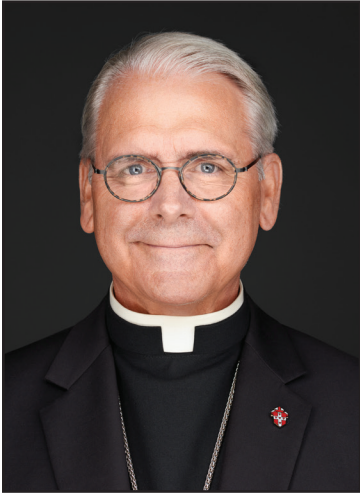
The bombing memorial is a somber but beautiful place, and I would urge you to make a visit this month to remember and to pray. Just across the street at Saint Joseph Old Cathedral (badly damaged in the bombing), there is a poignant statue of Jesus weeping over the sufferings of his people. The statue is a good place to pause and remember, perhaps to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This holy ground is a testament to God’s mercy in the face of violence and sin.

As we move through the Easter season, you will notice how often the Lord shows the disciples the wounds from his crucifixion. The scars in his hands, feet and side were proof that he had, in fact, suffered death, but had been raised to life by the Father.

To this day, we venerate the wounds of Jesus; they remind us of what he suffered to save us from the silence of eternal death.

Likewise, Oklahoma City has never forgotten its wounds that linger from the violent act on April 19. Instead, Oklahomans acknowledge the great loss we suffered and the path of life we chose, moving forward and upward, toward light. Our wounds unite us with Jesus.

May the souls of those lost in the bombing rest in eternal peace. May those who loved them and continue to mourn them find consolation and peace. We remember.



Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

## Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

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

✓ **To send photos**, event information or story ideas, e-mail communications@archokc.org.

✓ **We pray for** the Holy Spirit to guide Church leaders as they promote justice and healing for victims and survivors of abuse.

✓ **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. Located at 700 S.E. 89 in Oklahoma City. Learn more at rothershrine.org.

✓ **The success** of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine greatly depends on volunteers who are willing to contribute their time, skills, enthusiasm and passion to evangelize in a way similar to Bl. Stanley Rother’s Style. Volunteers are needed in a variety of capacities. Visit rothershrine.org/volunteer.



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Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

Loving God,  
your son, Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way. Help me to find my way in this world. Keep my heart open to following Jesus’ way of serving others in love. Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me through my family, my friends, and my parish community. Through the Holy Spirit, you call me to a particular way of life. If it is the way of a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then help me to walk it in joyful service to your people. With you, God, I know I can find my way. Amen.

## A heavenly chorus: Ponca City church installs new pipe organ in time for the Easter Vigil

By Everett Brazil, III  
The Sooner Catholic

The Easter Vigil is the highest Mass of the year. It’s when the Church celebrates the rising of Jesus Christ from the tomb. For parishioners at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City, and fellow parishioners at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Newkirk, it was an even more meaningful Mass, as it was the first Mass to feature a refurbished pipe organ, bringing beautiful sounds into the church for the first time in almost a year.

Brad Newcomb is the choir director and organist for the Saint Mary Catholic Church and remarked that it was a night he will always remember.

“Playing at the Easter Vigil was amazing,” Newcomb said. “When Father Carson (Krittenbrink) was blessing the organ, that was a moment I’ll never forget.”

After decades of praising God with the organ, it was time to upgrade the parish organ.

Saint Mary Catholic Church was constructed in the 1950s and used an electric organ for the first few decades, with the pipe organ having been installed in 1981.

“They had a Hammond organ for 26 years, and when it finally broke, they made the decision to get the pipe organ,” Newcomb

said, adding that the organ cost at the time was about \$35,000.

“A new organ is about \$2 million today,” Newcomb said.

The installment of a pipe organ was in keeping with Church teachings that the organ is the highest instrument to be used for worship.

“We wanted to be faithful to the teachings of the Church; we already had an organ, and it was

ing by themselves,” Newcomb said.

The final performance of the organ, at least in its former state, was Pentecost Sunday, June 25, 2022.

The choir had a summer break and reconvened in September. The church soon started a fundraising campaign, and an anonymous donor covered all the other expenses for the refurbishment.

With choir loft closed due to construction, the church brought in an alternative organ, lovingly dubbed “Tiny Tim.” Other updates to the choir included robes for the choir members,

the organ couldn’t keep up,” Newcomb said.

Organ problems were quickly dealt with by workers.

“We have 24 ranks of pipes, five of which are new, and 13 ranks of digital voices,” Newcomb said. “The case is the original case from 1981, but all of the chests that are inside are brand new.”

There is also new intricate woodwork highlighting the pipes from behind. Other things stayed the same and have been retained for the choir.

“The horizontal trumpet en chame is original, they just cleaned it up,” Newcomb said.

The performance for Easter was reportedly an amazing experience for those who sang in the choir.

Elizabeth Odom is a member of the Saint Mary Catholic Church choir and performed that Sunday morning.

“It was amazing to be able to unveil it at Easter morning,” Odom said. “It was so much better with the pipe organ.”

They aren’t alone with a love of the almost new organ, as many parishioners have also voiced their own love of the refurbished instrument.

“There are a lot of people who have said they loved it, and that it sounded more full



Fr. Carson Krittenbrink blessed a refurbished pipe organ St. Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City. Photos Everett Brazil, III/ Sooner Catholic.



Brad Newcomb, choir director and organist for St. Mary Catholic Church in Ponca City.

and the members sitting at the front, with their backs turned to church attendees.

“We sat up front by the church chancel and weren’t able to do all the anthems we wanted because

than it ever did.” Newcomb said. “There is no experience quite like unveiling an organ in the biggest liturgy of the year.”

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

continued from page 1

Schools Superintendent Sean McDaniel and the district signed a lease agreeing to allow the Oakridge building to be Cristo Rey OKC’s new home.

Cristo Rey Board Chairman Carl Martincich said, “The Cristo Rey community is excited about our new home! This new location is the next stage of our progress and development in serving the Oklahoma City community and providing an innovative education that uniquely prepares students for college. We provide an affordable, private, faith-based education while students gain real-life and valuable work experiences with our network of over 75 corporate work study partners.”

Cristo Rey OKC is eager to welcome the current and prospective students to this new location. A web page with frequently asked questions will be continually updated as this process unfolds: [cristoreyokc.org/royal-relocation](http://cristoreyokc.org/royal-relocation).

Cristo Rey OKC is now enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year. Interested students and families can go to [cristoreyokc.org/admissions](http://cristoreyokc.org/admissions) for more information. Companies and donors can visit [cristoreyokc.org/work-study](http://cristoreyokc.org/work-study) to learn more about how to support the students of Cristo Rey OKC.

Founded in 2018, Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School educates young people

of limited economic means to become men and women of faith, knowledge, service, and purpose. A member of the national Cristo Rey Network of 38 schools, Cristo Rey OKC combines rigorous academics with real-world work experience, seeking to prepare students for success in college and life.

As part of Cristo Rey’s unique Corporate Work Study Program, students work one day a week in professional settings, helping to subsidize their tuition. Cristo Rey OKC delivers a powerful and innovative approach to equip students with knowledge, character, and skills to transform their lives.





**Most Reverend  
Paul S. Coakley**  
Archbishop of Oklahoma City  
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Volume 45, Number 7

Sooner Catholic Newspaper  
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**sooneratholic.org**

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

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

The newspaper is not responsible  
for unsolicited material.  
Copyright © 2023 Sooner Catholic

Subscription rate: \$35 per year  
for all who are not members of the  
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Periodical postage paid at  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address  
changes to the Sooner Catholic,  
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City,  
OK 73123.



*The Sooner Catholic  
is supported through the  
Annual Catholic Appeal and Sooner  
Catholic Communications Appeal.*

## “Make Straight the Way”

*hosted by Dcn. Larry Sousa*

*Conversations with people who are making  
a difference in Oklahoma.*

**May 2 and 3:** George Johnson, author,  
teacher, former director of communica-  
tions and public relations for an Oklahoma  
state agency and parishioner of Corpus  
Christi Catholic Church, Oklahoma City.

**May 9 and 10:** Kelly Deaver, former dis-  
trict president of the St. Vincent De Paul  
Society and parishioner of St. Mark the  
Evangelist Catholic Church, Norman.

**May 16 and 17:** Richard Geiger, sacris-  
tan, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Norman.

**May 23 and 24:** Sr. Veronica Higgins,  
CST, Center of Family Love, Okarche.

**May 30 and 31:** Dcn. Terry Givens,  
Saint Eugene Catholic Church, Oklahoma  
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“Make Straight the Way” broadcasts on  
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## From the Archives ...

*A photo series from George Rigazzi, archdiocesan archivist*

**B**y 1947, with the return of  
veterans and the subse-  
quent growth of families,  
Bishop McGuinness addressed  
the need for a new parish north of  
Northwest 50th Street. With the  
purchase of the vacant lot on the  
corner of Elmhurst and Dorset  
Drive, Oklahoma City's Christ the  
King parish was born.

To begin the process, The Ca-  
thedral of Our Lady of Perpetual  
Help's assistant pastor, Father  
Charles Buswell, was tapped to be  
the first pastor. Young and capable,  
Buswell's energy and love of the peo-  
ple he served came to the fore from  
the outset.

As was the custom, the school was  
constructed first in the fall of 1949,  
and the first Mass was celebrated in the chap-  
el, which would serve as the worship space. By  
1951, the chapel was too small, and another  
was built with the old chapel becoming the caf-  
eteria. In that same year, four new classrooms  
were added, and by 1960, almost 500 children  
were enrolled in a neighborhood that was be-  
coming increasingly affluent.

Of course, the plan was to construct a new  
and larger church. In 1959, Monsignor Buswell  
was appointed as the bishop of Pueblo, Colora-  
do, and the task of building the new edifice fell  
to Father Charles Conley – the new pastor. On  
Sept. 16, 1962, the current church was dedi-  
cated by Bishop Reed. A unique baldacchino  
in the shape of a crown was conceived by  
Oklahoma priest and artist, Father Jack  
Walch. The stained-glass windows  
were designed and produced in Alta-



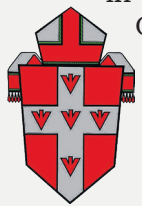
Monsignor Buswell and Sr. Mary Paul on the playground, 1952.

dena, California, with imported German glass.

The 95-foot tower contains three bells dedi-  
cated to three bishops: Francis (Kelley), Eugene  
(McGuinness) and Victor (Reed).

After Father Conley, Father Ernest Flusche  
served as pastor from 1969 to 1978. His suc-  
cessor, Father Clement Pribil was responsible  
for overseeing the construction of the new fam-  
ily center. Tragically, Father Pribil succumbed  
to brain cancer at a young age. A useful gath-  
ering space was added in the atrium style in  
2001.

The school is still one of the educational  
gems of the Church in Oklahoma City, boasting  
more than 500 students. The church remains  
vital and continues to grow boasting a magnif-  
icent choir and stirring liturgy. Bishop Buswell  
would not recognize his pride and joy, but  
would no doubt be pleased to see the plant that  
he shepherded in its infancy.



ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHIVES



## Day of Reflection, Day of Silence at the Abbey: The Priestly Prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper

**By Jad Ziolkowska**  
*The Sooner Catholic*

On April 1, Right Reverend Lawrence Sta-  
syszen, O.S.B., Abbot of Saint Gregory's Abbey  
in Shawnee led “A Day of Silence” as part of the  
Eucharistic Revival initiative at Saint Gregory's  
Abbey. The theme of the day was meant as a  
preparation for the celebration of the Paschal  
Mystery and Easter.

The retreat focused on the final discourses  
and instructions Jesus gave to his disciples to  
carry on his mission of love as he instituted the  
Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, “I give you a  
new commandment, that you love one another.  
Just as I have loved you, you also should love  
one another,” (John 13:34).

Abbot Lawrence alternated brief reflections  
with time for individual meditation on the John  
14-17. Question and answer sessions allowed  
the participants to appreciate the deeper spiri-  
tual meaning of the events in the Upper Room.

Abbot Lawrence explained the importance of  
the Priestly Prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper.  
In this prayer Jesus intercedes for the apostles  
and all Christians as the fulfillment and perfec-  
tion of Levitical priesthood and the Law given  
to Moses on Mount Sinai.

“All baptized have a share in this priestly  
function of Jesus' sacrifice, in his offering of  
thanksgiving, intercession and communicating  
God's graces to the world,” he emphasized.

“Jesus' sufferings were in complete obedience  
to the Father,” Abbot Lawrence said. “Jesus  
lived perfectly to teach us how to be perfectly  
human. He embraced all that it means to be  
human and offered it to God as a thanksgiving  
sacrifice.”

He also said that Jesus' Priestly Prayer in the  
Upper Room leads people to better understand  
his self-emptying on the Cross – his complete  
gift of love which people celebrate at each Holy  
Eucharist.

The participants were enthused about the op-

portunity to attend this silent retreat filled with  
meditations on the Holy Scripture and spiritu-  
ally nurturing reflections by Abbot Lawrence.

Janine Luevano from Saint Charles Borromeo  
Catholic Church in Oklahoma City said with  
great appreciation, “In our Hispanic culture we  
have retreats with lots of music and prayer. We  
don't have a quiet time. This Day of Reflection  
is completely different; it is very special and  
beautiful.”

She went on to say, “I have been searching  
for peace for a long  
time, and I  
have found  
it here to-  
day.”

Reflect-  
ing on the  
meaning  
of the Last  
Supper and  
the institu-  
tion of the  
Eucharist,  
Luevano  
shared her  
personal  
experience  
about the  
Blessed  
Sacrament,  
“God is al-

ways there to welcome us with open arms, even  
if at times we don't know how to speak to him.  
It's enough to repeat his name: Jesus, Jesus ...  
he will give you the peace you need.”

Similarly, Jon Reiff from Saint John the Bap-  
tist Catholic Church in Edmond expressed his  
gratitude for the event.

“The Day of Silence was spiritually beautiful  
... and in a beautiful place ... very well orga-  
nized,” Reiff said.

He highlighted the importance of the Holy  
Eucharist and adoration as the integral parts

of the retreat program, “The Holy Eucharist is  
our inspiration – the Lord communicates with  
us directly ... During adoration the Holy Spirit  
was very present throughout this sacred event.  
I encourage other people to come. I am a new  
Catholic and I'm very delighted about this great  
opportunity today for prayer and guidance on  
the Bible.”

Summarizing the Day of Silence, Abbot Law-  
rence encouraged the participants to allow the  
Holy Spirit to bring them to yet a higher level of  
communion with God.

“Our relation-  
ship with Jesus  
shall be con-  
stantly unfold-  
ing and grow-  
ing. Maybe we  
knew Jesus one  
way when we  
were young, we  
understood how  
he worked in us  
and through us  
then. Don't cling  
to that. Allow  
him to continue  
to grow in your  
life with the help  
of the Holy Spirit  
as he speaks to

you through the Holy Scripture,” Abbot Law-  
rence said.

Emphasizing the power of love flowing from  
the Eucharist and the Easter Mystery of the  
Cross and Resurrection, he closed the Day of  
Reflection by saying, “Pray to the Holy Spirit.  
We need the gifts of the Holy Spirit to under-  
stand better and to grow more deeply in the  
great love that the Father has for us through  
Jesus the Son.”

*Jad Ziolkowska is a freelance writer for the  
Sooner Catholic.*



Rt. Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B., led “A Day of Silence” on April  
1 as part of the Eucharistic Revival initiative at St. Gregory's Abbey.  
*Photos Jad Ziolkowska/Sooner Catholic.*





# “How much does your priest mean to you?”

*Priest Appreciation Week is May 1 – 6*

In 2021, Archbishop Coakley instituted the first Priest Appreciation Week in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. During this week, which will start on Good Shepherd Sunday each year, parishioners and families are encouraged to do something to thank their priests from writing a thank you note to spending time in adoration.

## Father Bala Raju Pudota

“We love Father Bala.”

*Terre Butler  
Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Perry*

## Father Bala Raju Pudota

“Father Bala is always doing so much for his parish to continue to improve it and make it better, as well as attending many events that his parishioners participate in outside of church. His charismatic, bright, fun personality makes him easily likable, and we are so lucky to have him in Perry!”

*Lerin Lynch  
Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Perry*

## Father Stephen Bird Father Zak Boazman

“We are blessed to have two amazing priests, Father Stephen Bird and Father Zak Boazman. Through the years we’ve been blessed with many other amazing associate pastors, including Father Prabhakar Kalivela, Father Kevin Ratterman and Father Ben Lwin. Each of these priests has challenged us to be better Catholics in all aspects of our lives. They inspire and encourage us to learn more about our church’s history, explore the mysteries of the faith more deeply, and spend more time in prayer and adoration. In short, they’ve changed our lives and our family for the better. We are better spouses to each other and better parents to our children. While we’ve only lived in Oklahoma for about six years, the extensive changes we’ve experienced spiritually far exceed that short time period. I look forward to every homily and presentation by our priests. I seek out conversations with them, and look forward to confession with them, because I know each encounter is a blessing and full of God’s grace. With priests like these, I am excited about the present and the future of our archdiocese!”

*Melanie Turner Corbett  
Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church, Oklahoma City*

## Father Oby Zunmas

“Today, I want to pay tribute to this dear priest. Thank you for every detail. Thank you for being with us in the community of Madill. For all your effort and dedication in our community we always remember you. Thank you for opening the doors to lead the group of altar boys. Today it has been five years since that day and I know that you are not here in our community, but always present in our hearts. My best wishes Father Oby. You are a great example; you are a great priest.”

*The Quintana Family  
Holy Cross Catholic Church, Madill*



## Father Don Wolf Father Rusty Hewes Father Brannon Lepak

“We appreciate everything the priests do for the parishioners, visitors to the shrine and all the students at Sacred Heart Catholic School. Thank you!”

*The Attocknie family  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church at the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine*

## Father Bill Pruett

“Father Pruett has been very instrumental to our family and myself in building a greater spiritual connection with God. Firstly, he guided me in the right direction to begin my RCIA classes in order to convert to Catholicism. My husband and I were married by Father Pruett at Saint James in January 2021. In 2021, during one of his many beautiful Easter vigil Masses he celebrated, I received the sacrament of Confirmation. Father Pruett has also baptized all three of our children at Saint James. His homilies at Sunday 8:30 a.m. Masses not only nourish and fulfill our trust in the Lord, but keep my family and myself wanting to continue our growth of faith in God.”

*Hillary Hernandez  
Saint James the Greater Catholic Church, Oklahoma City*



## Father Brian Buettner

“We’re so thankful for Father Brian!”

*The Duke Family  
Saint Thomas More Catholic Church, Norman*

## Father William Novak Father Linh Bui

“I have two priests who are as different as night and day. Between them they give me balance. One is a very humble gentle soul, and the other is an outgoing get it done soul. The love they have for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is an inspiration for me to live my life for God and do his will.”

*Jackie Konarik  
Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Oklahoma City*

## Father Rick Stansberry

“We appreciate how Father Stansberry is a skillful ‘master of ceremonies,’ guiding all of the people involved in all the liturgical and practical ‘moving parts’ of the Mass. It makes him a great choice for helping the bishop as cathedral rector.”

*Sarah and Peter Epps  
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City*

## Father Ray Ackerman Father Alex Kroll

“Love our priests!! Have felt closer to our priests here, especially Father Ray Ackerman and Father Alex Kroll, than I have with most any other priests I’ve known. May God continue to bless you all in your devotion to his children.”

*Lori Newland  
Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church, Oklahoma City*



## All priests

“Thank you, Lord, for our priests.”

*Issa Salvador Zea Perez*





Erika Fraire

Erika Fraire is part of the support staff for the Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis. She provides administrative support for the offices of marriage and family life and Hispanic ministry, as well as communication support for other departments.

Outside of the chancery, she enjoys scrapbooking, spending time with friends and family, traveling to new places, attending and organizing retreats and raising farm animals.



The chapel and retreat center building were blessed and dedicated by Bishop David Konderla with a Mass on April 14, and had priests and deacons from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa, the Diocese of Little Rock and the Diocese of Wichita in attendance. *Photos Avery Holt/Sooner Catholic.*

continued from page 1

five-day, eight-day and 30-day silent, directed retreats," McNeil said. "Individual private retreats, either with or without a spiritual director are available as well."

The facilities of the center include a small, intimate chapel with a large wall of windows that overlook the sprawling grounds of the center, as well as the ponds on the property. There are seven guest suites with queen beds, private bathrooms and porches. There are also common areas like a living room, a dining area and outdoor patios with tables and chairs.

The chapel and retreat center building were blessed and dedicated by Bishop David Konderla with a Mass on April 14, and had priests and deacons from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa, the Diocese of Little Rock and the Diocese of Wichita in attendance.

Included in future building plans are walking trails throughout the property, a small hermitage and the renovation of several guest houses, which will allow for an even more quiet retreat experience.

More information about booking space at the center and the retreats to be offered will be available in the coming weeks, with the center set to open May 1. The center can be found on Facebook by searching "Our Lady of Grace Catholic Retreat Center," or on their website at [ourladyofgracecatholicretreatcenter.com](http://ourladyofgracecatholicretreatcenter.com).



[ourladyofgracecatholicretreatcenter.com](http://ourladyofgracecatholicretreatcenter.com)

## Chrism Mass



Archbishop Coakley celebrated the Chrism Mass April 4 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. *Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.*







The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City. Photo Quoc T. Mai.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine, Oklahoma City. Photo Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic.



St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, Moore. Photo provided.



Bl. Sacrament Catholic Church, Lawton. Photo provided.



St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church, Yukon. Photo provided.



The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City. Photo Quoc T. Mai.



St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Norman. Photo provided.



St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Norman. Photo Dave Long.



St. Mary Catholic Church, Clinton. Photo provided.



St. Monica Catholic Church, Edmond. Photo Cesar Vallejo.



St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School, Oklahoma City. Photo provided.



St. Mary Catholic Church, Ponca City. Photo Everett Brazil, III/Sooner Catholic.



Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Chickasha. Photo provided.



St. Damien of Molokai Catholic Church, Edmond. Photo provided.



St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Oklahoma City. Photo provided.





Parishioners held a live Stations of the Cross on April 7 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine. *Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.*



# The Eucharist and Blessed Carlo Acutis

*Parish discussion at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church*

**By Jad Ziolkowska**  
*The Sooner Catholic*

**O**n March 26, Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church in Norman hosted a Sunday discussion about the Eucharist and Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Acutis was an amateur Italian programmer who died of leukemia at the age of 15 leaving behind a beautiful legacy of archived Eucharistic miracles around the world.

Father Nabil Mouannas, pastor, celebrated the Holy Eucharist asking for intercession of Blessed Carlo for the youth of the parish and all young people around the world.

He was assisted at Mass celebration by Deacon Paul Albert from Saint Joseph Old Cathedral in Oklahoma City.

Speaking to the parishioners and guests, Father Nabil said, "Both Blessed Carlo Acutis and Saint Sharbel Makhoul - the great saint in our Maronite Catholic tradition - had a profound devotion to the Eucharist. I encourage all of you to listen to the voice of truth from a young saint and the old mystical saint at the same time, so that their intercession can help save our civilization and the world."

After Mass, an opening talk was given by Jad Ziolkowska, Ph.D., from the National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague. She presented how science can be used to understand better and learn more about the Eucharistic miracles (godisperfectlove.com/Saints.html).

Group discussions of adult and young parishioners followed in a lively spirit of learning and exchanging information about the Eucharistic miracles and the inspiring young saint of the day.

Since his early childhood, Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) had a very strong devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, attending the Holy Eucharist and receiving Holy Communion daily. He used to share with others, "Jesus is my friend,

and the Eucharist is the gate to heaven." His body was found intact after exhumation. He was beatified on Oct. 10, 2020, in the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, in Assisi, Italy by Cardinal Agostino Vallini (on behalf of Pope Francis).

Carlos' great heritage to the Catholic Church is his website with 108 Eucharistic miracles from 19 countries around the world which were formally approved by the Catholic Church as supernatural phenomena. Using the Internet - a technology just on the rise at the time of this birth, he was able to utilize it wisely and in a prudent way to share Jesus and the Eucharist with others.

Blessed Carlo's deep understanding of the Eucharist was igniting others, including his family, to come closer to the

Christ, we become holy."

During their engaged discussions the parishioners expressed their esteem for Blessed Carlo and his remarkable example of love and devotion to the Eucharist.

"Carlo had a special gift from God. He was so close to the Eucharist," said Jeanne Roegiers. Her friend Sandy Vincent seconded and said, "I imagine he will be inspiring to so many young people, but his example resonates with older Catholics as well."

Bill Faris, a parishioner of many years at Our Lady of Lebanon, highlighted the works of the Holy Spirit in the life of Blessed Carlo.

"The Holy Spirit used Carlo as an instrument to touch hearts of many Catholics with a sincere message of love for the Eucharist. His witness moves each one of us in a very individual and personal way,

so that we too can become powerful witnesses of Christ and his miracles in the world."

Several young people in the group enthusiastically expressed their appreciation for Blessed Carlo proclaiming Christ through his life and work.

"I would like to be like Carlo. Everything he has done is so inspiring," Matteo Tawk said. "I come to serve as the altar server for this purpose, to deepen

my relationship with the Lord."

Concluding the discussion Father Nabil emphasized, "I invite everyone in my parish and around the world to a frequent visitation of Jesus in the tabernacle. In the Blessed Sacrament we can find the only true

source of love, grace, power, pardon, peace and joy."

*Jad Ziolkowska is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.*



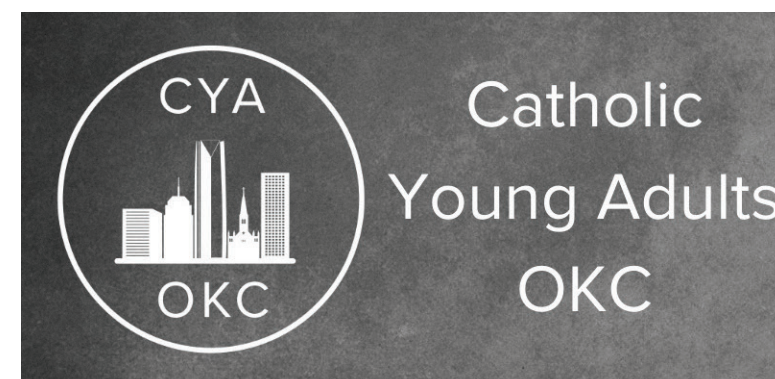
*Bl. Carlo Acutis*

Parishioners at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church hosted a discussion about the Eucharist and Bl. Carlo Acutis on March 26 in Norman. *Photos Jad Ziolkowska/Sooner Catholic and provided.*

Church.

"The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on earth we will have a foretaste of heaven," Carlo said.

At his young age he was able to appreciate that there is only one path to holiness, as he expressed, "By standing before the Eucharistic



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# Jobs Box

**Cook - OKC**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an experienced cook to assist with daily meal preparation at the Catholic Pastoral Center. This full-time position will allow a flexible work schedule that will include some evenings and week-ends. Must have a minimum of two years’ experience in food preparation and service. Catering experience is preferred. Customer service experience a plus. High school diploma a must. A background check and safe environment training required. Send cover letter and resume to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

**Associate director of planned giving - OKC**

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

**Director of marriage, family life - OKC**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a Marriage and Family Life Ministry director to provide overall leadership, vision and direction. Coordinate programs to support the pastoral care of married couples and families; collaborate with the curia, priests and community organizations. Must have a good understanding of discipleship and evangelization and be able to assist parishes in deepening their understanding through consultation, formation and training. A degree in theology, philosophy, marriage and family life, catechesis, or related field is required, master’s degree preferred, plus five to seven years of experience in a leadership capacity. Diocesan-level experience is preferred but not required. Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

**BMCHS president – OKC**

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School is seeking a president. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Advanced degree in an education or business-related field with a full understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing Catholic education. Excellent oral and written communications skills and ability to effectively interact with parents, students, teachers and administrators. Excellent presentation skills when addressing faculty, staff, parents and the community. Send letter of interest that aligns experiences and

skill sets with the current needs of BMCHS as understood; Statement of Catholic educational philosophy; resume with all appropriate dates included. Send as separate pdf documents to Aimee Viana at [aviana@partnersinmission.com](mailto:aviana@partnersinmission.com).

**Gift shop associate – Shrine**

The Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine is seeking a gift shop associate (full-time and part-time position available). Duties include, but are not limited to, customer service, sales, inventory and stocking. Provide customer service by interacting with customers, explaining merchandise, answering questions, and assisting with purchase decisions as well as cleaning, restocking the gift shop and front desk area. Knowledge of POS software, cash and credit transaction processing, and inventory procedures is required. Must be an active practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. Bilingual in Spanish a plus. Send resume and cover letter to [humanresources@archokc.org](mailto:humanresources@archokc.org).

**Campus minister - Weatherford**

St. Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford is seeking a full-time campus minister for Southwest-ern Oklahoma State University to coordinate a campus vision of discipleship for young people that emphasizes mentoring. Recruiting, training and multiplying spiritual leaders will be the focus. Must be fully practicing Catholic in good standing and passionate about Jesus, the Catholic faith and forming disciples. A bachelor’s degree in theology, religious education or related field is required. Previous experience in ministry and leading discipleship is preferred. Send resume to [kelly.edwards@archokc.org](mailto:kelly.edwards@archokc.org).

**Teachers – Okarche**

Holy Trinity Catholic School in Okarche is accepting applications for elementary teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. Must hold at least a bachelor’s degree in the desired content area or an education-related field, Oklahoma teaching certification and recent teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Principal Alice Newman at [anewman@holylotrinityok.org](mailto:anewman@holylotrinityok.org). Download the teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Van driver - OKC**

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking a part-time van driver to transport students to and from work on assigned routes daily. Drivers also can drive for special school functions as requested. Some qualifications include a valid driver’s license; ability to pass background check and a clean DMV record (five years); ability and willingness to work a split-shift; experience and/or willingness to work with youth ages 14-18. Send a resume and a brief statement of

interest to [CWSP@CristoReyOKC.org](mailto:CWSP@CristoReyOKC.org).

**Teachers - OKC**

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking an English, math and theology teacher. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited university; teaching credential/certificate/license required; two years of teaching experience including creating curriculum aligned to standards; bilingual speaking and writing preferred; advanced Microsoft skills. Visit [cristoreyokc.org/careers](http://cristoreyokc.org/careers) to apply.

**Substitute teachers**

Mount St. Mary Catholic High School is hiring substitute teachers for the remaining 2022-2023 school year and the 2023-2024 school year. Safe and Sacred training and approval required. Hours are based on applicant’s availability. Send a letter of interest to Brooke Basler, administrative assistant, at [bbasler@mountstmary.org](mailto:bbasler@mountstmary.org).

**Teachers - OKC**

Mount St. Mary Catholic High School is accepting resumes for teaching positions for the 2023-2024 school year. Must hold at least a bachelor’s degree in the desired content area or an education-related field, Oklahoma teaching certification and recent teaching experience. Send cover letter and resume to Principal Laura Cain at [lcain@mountstmary.org](mailto:lcain@mountstmary.org). Applicants will be contacted as teaching positions become available.

**Teachers - OKC**

Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City is accepting applications for elementary teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. Must have a bachelor’s degree in education, an Oklahoma teacher certification and be able to support the mission of Sacred Heart Catholic School. Send resume and a copy of teaching certificate to Principal Tera Albert at [principal@sacredheartokc.org](mailto:principal@sacredheartokc.org). Download the teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Elementary teacher - OKC**

Rosary Catholic School is accepting applications for an elementary teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Must have a bachelor’s degree in education and an Oklahoma teacher certification. Send resume and a copy of the teaching certificate to Christy Harris, principal, at [principal@rosaryschool.com](mailto:principal@rosaryschool.com). Download the teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Elementary teachers – El Reno**

Sacred Heart Catholic School in El Reno is accepting applications for elementary teachers for the 2023-24 school year. Must hold at least a bachelor’s degree in the desired content area or an education-related field, Oklahoma

teaching certification and recent teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Shannon Statton, Sacred Heart Catholic School, 210 South Evans Ave. El Reno, OK 73036, or [principal@sacredheartelreno.com](mailto:principal@sacredheartelreno.com). Download the teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Teachers – Edmond**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School in Edmond is seeking a music teacher, first-grade teacher, a middle school science teacher and a middle school math teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Send resume and cover letter to Principal Nicole De Longe at [ndelonge@seasok.org](mailto:ndelonge@seasok.org).

**Teachers - MWC**

St. Philip Neri Catholic School in Midwest City is seeking early childhood and elementary teachers. Applicants must hold state certification. Teaching experience is preferred. Send resume to Principal Brenda Tener at [btener@spnok.org](mailto:btener@spnok.org).

**Teachers - OKC**

Christ the King Catholic School is seeking early childhood and elementary teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. Bachelor’s degree in early childhood and/or elementary education along with a state teaching certificate is required. Send resume and cover letter to Amy Feighny, Christ the King Catholic School, 1905 Elmhurst Ave., OKC 73120 or [afeighny@ckschool.com](mailto:afeighny@ckschool.com). Download teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Computer teacher - OKC**

Christ the King Catholic School is seeking a computer teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Bachelor’s degree in computer science is recommended and previous experience in an academic setting is preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Amy Feighny, Christ the King Catholic School, 1905 Elmhurst Ave., OKC 73120 or [afeighny@ckschool.com](mailto:afeighny@ckschool.com). Download teacher application packet at [archokc.org/careers](http://archokc.org/careers).

**Bilingual attorney – OKC**

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a bilingual attorney to assess individuals’ eligibility for immigration relief and represent individuals before USCIS and the immigration court. Must be 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 Christy Knotts at [cknotts@ccaokc.org](mailto:cknotts@ccaokc.org).

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

## The Catholic Difference

# “Pacem in Terris” after 60 years

On April 11, 1963, John XXIII issued the encyclical “Pacem in Terris,” a powerful call for a world in which there were neither victims nor executioners that cemented the pontiff’s reputation as “Good Pope John.” With the world having teetered on the brink of nuclear war during the October 1962 Cuban missile crisis, a papal appeal for “peace on earth” was well received everywhere, including the Soviet Union — although the view in some Vatican quarters that the masters of the Kremlin took the encyclical’s message to heart was rather naive.

What, then, did “Pacem in Terris” teach? And how does its analysis of world affairs look, six decades later?

John XXIII taught that the world had entered a new historical moment, characterized by the widespread conviction that “all men are equal by reason of their natural dignity.” That conviction implied that the classic Catholic social doctrine principle of the common good had a global, not only national, dimension — which in turn meant that “peace on earth” had to be pursued through the establishment of a “world-wide public authority.” That global authority ought to make the protection and promotion of human rights — which Pope John defined expansively — its fundamental objective.

As for communist states, they, too, ought to be enfolded within the global political community, for communist movements, whatever their “false philosophical teachings,” might nonetheless “contain elements that are positive and deserving of approval.” Finally, “Pacem in Terris” taught that the arms race was a snare and a delusion; universal disarmament was a moral imperative demanded by right reason, for, “in an age such as ours, which prides itself on its atomic energy, it is contrary to reason to hold that war is now a suitable way to restore

rights which have been violated.”

For all that John XXIII’s grand vision inspired hope that the world could find its way beyond the knife’s-edge stalemate of the Cold War, the lacunae in the encyclical that friendly critics pointed out after it was issued — its lack of attention to the realities of power in world politics, its misreading of the intrinsic linkage between Marxist ideas and totalitarian politics, its seeming indifference to the enduring effects of original sin in the political sphere — were, in the retrospect of 60 years, deficiencies indeed.

The Cold War ended, not because “trust” (another key theme in the encyclical) had been established between imperfect democracies and pluperfect tyrannies; it ended thanks to what William Imboden (in “The Peacemaker: Ronald Reagan, The Cold War, and the World on the Brink”) describes as the strategy of “negotiated surrender” devised by the United States and supported by its western allies. And while an arms race did, in the 1980s, intensify the dangers of nuclear war at several moments, it also broke the capacity (and will) of the Soviet Union to continue the competition.

As for the encyclical’s proposal for the development of a “universal public authority” capable of addressing issues of global import, the incapacities and corruptions displayed by the United Nations since “Pacem in Terris” was issued, not least in the defense of basic human rights, have raised serious questions about both the feasibility (even desirability) of any such enterprise.

John XXIII’s welcome stress on human rights as an important issue in international public life was validated by the revolution of conscience — the human rights revolution — that his third successor, John Paul II, ignited in east central Europe in 1979: a revolution that

was another key factor in the nonviolent collapse of European communism.

But neither the Church nor world politics has been well-served by the tendency in “Pacem in Terris” to label as a “human right” virtually every political, social and economic desirable; a tendency that has subsequently become an irresistible temptation for the Holy See in its address to world politics.

In his commentary on the encyclical, the great Jesuit theologian John Courtney Murray argued that John XXIII’s notion of the ideal political community — what Murray described as “the free man under a limited government” — was drawn from Thomas Aquinas. Yet if “Pacem in Terris” drew part of its inspiration from the Angelic Doctor, where in the encyclical did one find echoes of Augustine, that other great master of classic Catholic political theory? Was the pope, some asked, sufficiently aware of the expansiveness of human political folly, and the dangers of tyranny embedded in utopian visions of human perfectibility, as Augustine surely was?

An inspiring and noble vision, an inadequate analysis of the obstacles to that vision’s realization: that seems a reasonable judgment on “Pacem in Terris” at its 60th anniversary.

*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*

## Book review: “Shreveport Martyrs of 1873: The Surest Path to Heaven”

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

When I first saw the title of this book, “Shreveport Martyrs of 1873: The surest path to heaven,” I thought to myself that I don’t remember that there were any martyrs in Shreveport, Louisiana. As I examined the book, I discovered that it is a history of what five Catholic priests did during the yellow fever epidemic that hit Shreveport in 1873.

These five missionary priests were from France serving in the Diocese of Natchitoches, Louisiana at Shreveport at various times during this epidemic. The diocese was under the Frenchman Bishop Auguste Marie Martin.

Father Peter B. Mangum and his colleagues tell the story of these five priests and how they ministered to their flock even if they caught the fever themselves which they all eventually did. They did not pull back to safety to save themselves but stayed and offered up their lives in service

to the sick. A quarter of the city died from yellow fever which was nicknamed Yellow Jack. Others outside Shreveport came to help the people like medical personnel and other volunteers.

The priests came to help with what they could do, but mainly on the spiritual level. During this time two French Benedictine monks from the Abbey of Pierre-qui-Vire were also there ministering and working with the Daughters of the Cross in that area, Father Isidore Robot, future first Prefect Apostolic of Indian Territory, and Brother Dominic Lambert. Brother Dominic caught the yellow fever but survived. They are not mentioned in the book for some reason, maybe because they did not serve and die in the Shreveport parish. The Daughters of the Cross operated Saint Vincent Academy, one of two Catholic schools in Shreveport. Some sisters died from yellow fever. When I learned about this book, I thought for sure these monks would be mentioned in the book, but they are not. This does not take away anything from the

heroic acts of the five priests that died as martyrs of charity.

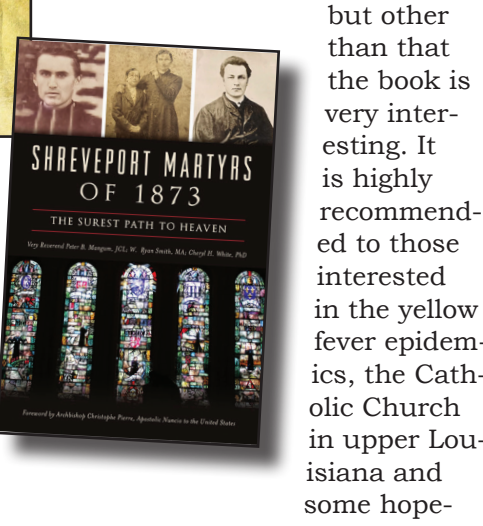
Bishop Francis Malone, the bishop of Shreveport, on Dec. 8, 2020, began the process of canonization for the Servants of God: Father Isidore Quermairs, Father Jean Pierre, Father Jean Marie Biler, Father Louis Gergaud and Father Francois Le Vezouet. This book is part of this process.

What are martyrs of charity and who has been canonized using this category? Martyrs of charity are those Catholic faithful who have given their lives selflessly for their fellow man – like these five priests did. It means they did not die by being killed by someone else, like Saint Maximilian Kolbe. Most people think of martyrs in this way, like Saint Lawrence or Blessed Stanley Rother. Some martyrs of charity are Saint Damien of Molokai and

### Book Review

Saint Aloysius Gonzaga.

There are several black and white illustrations, a map and bibliographical references in this book. The depiction of what happened can at times be graphic,



but other than that the book is very interesting. It is highly recommended to those interested in the yellow fever epidemics, the Catholic Church in upper Louisiana and some hopeful

fully one day future saints. Another book connected with this one is by the same authors entitled: “Shreveport Martyr: Father Louis Gergaude: in his own words.”

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



Lánzate a lo más Profundo  
Luke 5:4

## Recordamos

El 19 de abril de 1995, el miércoles después de la Pascua, una bomba estratégicamente colocada al frente del edificio federal Murrah en el centro de Oklahoma City, apagó las vidas de 168 personas, muchos de ellos niños que se encontraban en la guardería del edificio. La bomba alarmó a la nación, especialmente cuando nos enteramos de que se trataba de un caso de terrorismo doméstico. Se trataba del ataque de terrorismo doméstico más terrible en la historia de nuestra nación.

Las heridas que el bombardeo nos dejó eran irreparables. Por semanas, hombres y mujeres hurgaban entre los escombros en busca de cuerpos con vida. Las procesiones de los funerales, algunas de ellas de millas de largo, se multiplicaban por toda la ciudad. El montón de ruinas del edificio sirvieron como claro recordatorio del poder inmenso de la violencia. El mundo entero puso sus ojos en Oklahoma y se preguntaba cómo podría esta ciudad superar la devastación física, emocional y espiritual que había vivido.

Muchos recuerdan lo que pasó después. Una ciudad más compasiva y generosa emergió de la destrucción. Una expresión sin precedentes de amor y simpatía le recordó al mundo que el odio nunca debe tener la última palabra. De las ruinas nació el "Oklahoma Standard". Miles hicieron filas

para donar sangre; las iglesias se llenaron con personas deseosas de orar; la ayuda financiera se hizo presente para apoyar a las víctimas y sus familias.

Al conmemorar otro aniversario del bombardeo en Oklahoma City, recordamos las vidas que se perdieron; a los sobrevivientes que aun llevan consigo las cicatrices; a los que se dedicaron generosamente a sanar nuestros corazones y a todos aquellos que fueron afectados en aquel día.

Para sorpresa de muchos, la Ciudad de Oklahoma City tomó la decisión de reinventarse después del bombardeo, de convertirse en una comunidad mejor y más fuerte. A la gente de Oklahoma City se le puso una prueba muy cruel, pero no permitió que sus corazones se dieran por vencidos, o que el odio tuviera la última palabra. La única explicación para esto es la gracia de Dios.

El edificio memorial del bombardeo es un lugar sombrío, pero también hermoso, y les recomiendo que hagan una visita este mes, para recordar y para orar. Solo cruzando la calle, en la parroquia de San José Antigua Catedral (que fue terriblemente dañada por la bomba), se encuentra una emotiva estatua de Jesús llorando por los sufrimientos de su pueblo. Esta estatua es un buen lugar para detenerse y recordar, y quizá para orar la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia. Ese lugar sagrado es un testamento de la

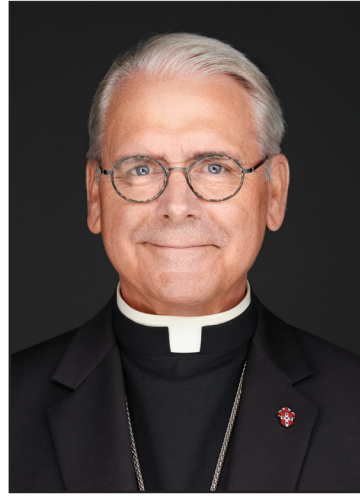
misericordia de Dios en medio de la violencia y el pecado.

Al tiempo que avanzamos en el tiempo de Pascua, se darán cuenta que el Señor le enseña a sus discípulos muchas veces las heridas de su crucifixión. Las cicatrices de sus manos, sus pies y su costado eran prueba de que había, de hecho, sufrido la muerte, pero que había sido resucitado por el Padre.

Hoy en día, aun veneramos las heridas de Jesús; que nos recuerdan lo que él sufrió para salvarnos del silencio de la muerte eterna.

De la misma manera, Oklahoma City no ha olvidado las heridas que aun lleva consigo después de los violentos actos del 19 de abril. Por el contrario, los "oklahemenses" reconocemos las muchas pérdidas que sufrimos y el camino de vida que hemos elegido, yendo hacia arriba y hacia adelante, hacia la luz. Nuestras heridas nos unen a Jesús.

Que las almas de todos los que murieron en el bombardeo descansen en paz eternamente. Y que aquellos que los amaron y aun los siguen llorando encuentren la paz y el consuelo. Recordamos.



Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

## Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School anuncia su reubicación

Cristo Rey OKC se mudará al antiguo edificio de la escuela Oakridge este verano para recibir a los estudiantes del año escolar 2023-2024.

Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School ha anunciado una nueva ubicación. La escuela se mudará al antiguo edificio escolar de Oakridge ubicado cerca de la calle sureste 44 y Bryant. Se mudarán a fines de junio y estarán listos para recibir a los Royals allí para el año escolar 2023-2024.

Después de una búsqueda en toda la ciudad de una ubicación que satisficiera las necesidades dinámicas y únicas de la escuela, la Junta Directiva y el personal de Cristo Rey OKC confían en que este nuevo campus hará exactamente eso. El edificio ha sido recientemente renovado y brindará una experiencia escolar tradicional al mismo tiempo que acomodará a una población estudiantil en crecimiento. Además, los estudiantes están emocionados por la oportunidad que brindan las instalaciones deportivas del edificio para sus múltiples deportes.

Cristo Rey OKC pasó sus primeros cinco años en el campus de OSU-OKC, pero los planes de crecimiento de OSU-OKC les obligan a recuperar el edificio.

El superintendente de las Escuelas Públicas de Oklahoma City, Sean McDaniel, y el distrito firmaron un contrato de arrendamiento acordando permitir que el

edificio Oakridge sea el nuevo hogar de Cristo Rey OKC.

El presidente de la junta de Cristo Rey, Carl Martincich, dijo: "La comunidad de Cristo Rey está entusiasmada con nuestro nuevo hogar. Esta nueva ubicación es la próxima etapa de nuestro progreso y desarrollo para servir a la comunidad de Oklahoma City y brindar una educación innovadora que prepare de manera única a los estudiantes para la universidad. Brindamos una educación asequible, privada y basada en la fe, mientras que los estudiantes adquieren experiencias laborales valiosas y de la vida real con nuestra red de más de 75 socios corporativos de estudio y trabajo".

Cristo Rey OKC está ansioso por dar la bienvenida a los estudiantes actuales y futuros a esta nueva ubicación. Una página web con preguntas frecuentes se actualizará continuamente a medida que se desarrolle este proceso: [cristoreyokc.org/royal-relocation](http://cristoreyokc.org/royal-relocation).

Cristo Rey OKC ya está inscribiendo

para el año escolar 2023-2024. Los estudiantes y las familias interesados pueden visitar [cristoreyokc.org/admissions](http://cristoreyokc.org/admissions) para obtener más información. Las empresas y los donantes pueden visitar [cristoreyokc.org/work-study](http://cristoreyokc.org/work-study) para obtener más información sobre cómo apoyar a los estudiantes de Cristo Rey OKC.



CRISTO REY OKC  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Fundada en 1918, Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School educa a jóvenes de escasos recursos económicos para que se conviertan en hombres y mujeres de fe, conocimiento, servicio y propósito. Como miembro de la Red Nacional Cristo Rey

de 38 escuelas, Cristo Rey OKC combina académicos rigurosos con experiencia laboral del mundo real, buscando preparar a los estudiantes para el éxito en la universidad y en la vida.

Como parte del Programa de Estudio de Trabajo Corporativo único de Cristo Rey, los estudiantes trabajan un día a la semana en entornos profesionales, lo que ayuda a subsidiar su matrícula. Cristo Rey OKC ofrece un enfoque poderoso e innovador para equipar a los estudiantes con el conocimiento, el carácter y las habilidades para transformar sus vidas.

INSCRÍBASE

TALLER BÍBLICO  
**EVANGELIO DE SAN JUAN**  
CON LUIS SOTO

19 de mayo / 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
20 de mayo / 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Costo: \$10 incluye desayuno y comida  
Centro Pastoral Católico

[archokc.org/talleres-biblicos](http://archokc.org/talleres-biblicos)

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN COMUNÍQUESE CON  
ERIKA FRAIRE AL (405) 438-0294 o CONNIE DIAZ (405) 728-3561

Joven,  
a ti es dirigida esta invitación

El Ministerio Juvenil "Servidores de la Liturgia" de St. James te invita a formar parte de nuestras clases de formación litúrgica los lunes, en el salón grande de la parroquia

COMENZANDO EL 3 DE ABRIL

Horario: 7pm - 9pm  
Edad: 13 - 18 años,  
Trae tu biblia, catecismo, y libreta para apuntes

Para más información, contacta a  
Mario Ramirez al (405) 761-8159

Timoteo 4:12  
Que nadie menosprecie tu juventud. Procura, en cambio, ser para los creyentes modelo en la palabra, en el comportamiento, en la caridad, en la fe, en la pureza.

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**(800) 522-3511**

Coordinadora Arquidiocesana de asistencia a víctimas:  
**(405) 720-9878**

Todos los adultos de Oklahoma tienen la obligación de informar; es obligatorio informar incluso de la sospecha de maltrato; la denuncia debe hacerse inmediatamente; si un niño está en peligro inmediato, llame al 9-1-1.

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Semana de Agradecimiento al Sacerdote  
1-6 de mayo de 2023

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

Para enviar fotos, información sobre eventos o ideas para artículos, envíe un correo electrónico a [communications@archokc.org](mailto:communications@archokc.org).



## Briefs

### Archdiocesan Discipleship Conference

The Discipleship Conference is Aug. 19 at the Oklahoma City Convention Center, 100 Mick Corbett Dr. in Oklahoma City. Cost: \$20 pp. The annual Catechetical Conference and Sembradores de la Fe have been combined and are now the Discipleship Conference. Text DC2023 to 84576 for updates or visit OKDisciple.org

### 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 to the project, e-mail info@oknativeschoolsproject.org. For more information, visit archokc.org/oknativeschoolsproject

### Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp

Registration is open for summer camp 2023 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp in Wellston. Visit campolog.org to see the schedules and to register.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration takes 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.

### Pilgrimage to Italy

Join Fr. William Banowsky on a Catholic Italy ordination pilgrimage Sept. 19-29. Cost: \$4,999 pp. The pilgrimage will culminate in attending the diaconate ordination of Stephen Jones, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and former middle school teacher at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School. Archbishop Coakley will be ordaining this class from the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Contact Christina Young at (405) 919-0785, cyoung@unitours.com.

### Pilgrimage to Rome and Malta

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma will host a pilgrimage to Rome and Malta Sept. 24-Oct. 3 led by Archbishop Coakley. Cost: \$5,700 pp, dbl occ or \$7,090 single occ. Visit cfook.org/2023pilgrimage.

### Pilgrimage to Canada

Water and Spirit: A Pilgrimage to Canada Oct. 11-18 led by Fr. Scott Boeckman and Fr. Rex Arnold. Contact Judi Wilkinson at j\_wilkinson@cox.net for more information.

### Healing Mass

Archbishop Coakley and Fr. Rick Stansberry will celebrate the

Sovereign Military Order of Malta Healing Mass at 10 a.m. April 29 and The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City. Prayers and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick for everyone with a serious illness.

### Day of Reflection

Day of Reflection, "Transformation in Christ" presented by Br. Damian Whalen, O.S.B. is 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. April 29 at St. Gregory's Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Attendees must pre-register by e-mailing retreats@monksok.org, via the link at monksok.org or call (405) 878-5656. Cost \$30 pre-paid or \$35 at the door. Lunch included.

### Saints & Superhero's

A day of prayer and reflection: Saints and Superhero's is 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. April 29 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Speakers are Fr. Don Wolf and Sr. Maria of the Trinity. Cost \$30, includes lunch and a panel discussion with Fr. Nabil Mouannes, Sr. Veronica Higgins, Dcn. Joe Vandervort and Rachel Singley, LCSW. Sponsored by the Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women. Contact Mary Ann Schmitt at (405) 650-9674 or sgmaschm@gmail.com to sign up, or online okcaccw.com/events.

### Runner's Mass

A runner's Mass for the OKC Memorial Marathon is at 5 a.m. April 30 at St. Joseph Old Cathedral, 307 NW 4 St. in Oklahoma City.

### Father and son retreat

A father and son retreat is May 4-6 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp. Cost: \$35 pp. Fathers and sons must attend together. Sons should be ages 10-21. Register at archokc.org/fathers.

### The Abbot's Table

St. Gregory's Abbey invites everyone to an evening of fine wines and foods on May 19 at The Petroleum Club in downtown Oklahoma City. The event will be hosted by Rt. Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B., the Abbot of St. Gregory's Abbey and Beth Nickel, proprietress of Far Niente, Nickel & Nickel, En Route, Dolce, Post & Beam and Bella Union Wineries in Napa Valley. Visit monksok.org.

### Golf tournament

St. James the Greater Catholic Church scramble golf tournament begins at 10 a.m. May 22 at Hidden Trails Golf and Country Club, 6501 S. Country Club Dr. in Oklahoma City. Cost \$160 pp. Each player must have clubs. Contact Joe Bagnaro at (405) 664-5523.

### Day of prayer, pilgrimage

Join the Gospel of Life Disciples on a pilgrimage to the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine in petition for holy



### Are you listening?

By Sally Crowe Nash

During April, EWTN is celebrating the 100th birthday of founder, Mother Angelica, specifically, Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration. EWTN beams into more than 200 million homes in 145 countries and territories.

When she began airing Catholic programming in 1981, Mother Angelica rented airtime for a modest four hours a day from the Christian Broadcast Network. Today, OKCR listeners and donors are the beneficiaries of EWTN's rich resources: a large Catholic website, radio services, television programming both live and recorded, affiliate stations, electronic and print news services, two global wire services and production and publishing businesses.

EWTN generously provides 80% of OKCR's programming without charge. The remainder is local programming, such as "Make Straight the Way" and "Living Catholic with Father Don Wolf."

Because Mother Angelica pioneered faithful, Catholic programming, OKCR does not face that same initial struggle. What OKCR and EWTN do share is the continual challenge to pay the bills.

In her book, "Little Book of Life Lessons and Everyday Spirituality," Mother Angelica revealed how she took one step at a time with God by her side. There was not a step-by-step plan, only her dependence on Divine Providence. When you look today at the scope and substance of EWTN, you understand what she means when she says, "... I placed no limits on God."

Her reliance on God was not

haphazard but born of a rigorous prayer life. Her order, after all, was contemplative, "... of Perpetual Adoration." In fact, spending time in prayer and adoration continues to be part of the EWTN culture. By seeking out God's will and depending upon him, rather than experts (and those who desired to take over the network), Mother recognized that "... the reality (EWTN) would become its own witness."

Seeking God's face and desiring to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ has been the guide for OKCR founders Jeff Finnell and Deacon Larry Sousa. Without listeners donating monthly and during radiothons, OKCR would no longer exist.

Donations especially from "the Keepers of the Airwaves" are obviously a key component in sustaining OKCR. Following the model of Mother Angelica, even more important is regular, consistent prayer of listeners. Our prayers allow the Holy Spirit to guide what gifts are offered, whether they be monetary or something else such as marketing or technical skills.

Listeners have been generous, offering to lend their voices for on-air production, but such offers demand a substantial time commitment, sponsorship and a production plan to be successful. In a chapter titled "Embracing Risk and Inspiration" from "Little Book of Life Lessons and Everyday Spirituality," Mother Angelica encourages giving creatively and sacrificially.

"It is true that when you tithe your time to God, He multiplies it (and your work) in ways you cannot imagine," she wrote.

With these words in mind, let us honor the memory of Mother Angelica with our prayers and contributions for OKCR, God holding our hands, one step at a time.

### Gift of Love Gala

The 10th annual Gift of Love Gala benefiting the Center of Family Love is 6 p.m. June 17 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. Visit cfinc.org/gala or (405) 263-4658, Ext. 1009.

See more briefs at archokc.org/briefs.

## 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 soonercatholic.org.

### April

23 Third Sunday of Easter.

24 Feast of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen.

25 Feast of St. Mark.

28 Feast of Peter Chanel.

28 Feast of St. Louis.

29 Feast of St. Catherine of Siena.

29 Day of Reflection, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., St. Gregory's Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee.

29 Saints & Superheroes, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center.

29 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.

29 Sovereign Military Order of Malta Healing Mass, 10 a.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave., Oklahoma City.

30 Fourth Sunday of Easter.

30 Good Shepherd Sunday.

30 World Day for Prayer for Vocations.

30 Runner's Mass for the OKC Memorial Marathon, 5 a.m., St. Joseph Old Cathedral, 307 NW 4 St., Oklahoma City.

### May

1 Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

1 Priest Appreciation Week begins.

2 Feast of St. Athanasius.

3 Feast of Sts. Philip and James.

4 Father and son retreat May 4-6, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Camp.

5 First Friday of the Month.

5 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.

6 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.

SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA

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## A 3D architectural rendering of a modern, brightly lit interior space, likely a children's play area or a community center. The room features a large, curved wall on the left with a mural of colorful flowers and a television displaying a colorful logo. There are blue plastic chairs and a small table with toys. The floor is made of light-colored wood. A glass partition separates this area from a larger hallway with a wooden floor and a person standing in the distance.



*I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.* JOHN 14:6

A photograph of three young children in a classroom setting. A girl in the center, wearing a pink and white striped shirt under denim overalls, has her right hand raised with fingers spread. To her left, a girl in a white shirt with a pink waistband has her right arm raised. To the right, a boy in a red and white checkered shirt has his right hand raised. They are all smiling and appear to be participating in a class activity. In the background, there are bookshelves filled with books and a window with green foliage outside.

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*Every adult in Oklahoma is a mandated reporter; Reporting even the suspicion of abuse is required; Reporting must be done immediately; If a child is in immediate danger call 9-1-1.*