Saint John Paul II believed fathers were vital to the success of every family and laid out his “guide” for fathers in his encyclical “Familiaris Consortio.” He said, “Being a father isn’t always easy, but with God’s help, all things are possible.” Saint John Paul II laid out five principles in his encyclical: Love your wife and children, take an active role in the education of your children, don’t be an absent father, be a source of unity, not division and be a strong Christian witness.

The following dads were both “cradle Catholics” but with very different backgrounds and upbringings who illustrate living out Christian fatherhood.

Jesus Robles
Saint Mary of the Rosary Catholic Church, Ardmore
Deacon Juan Jimenez describes Jesus Robles as, “...a great guy, a great father, great grand-father and extremely hard working. He really works hard to make sure that his family is involved with the Church and the sacraments.”

Robles has been married to his wife, Irma, for 33 years and they have four children ranging from 18 to 32 years of age. They have been blessed when determining the best education environment for their children. Brett Farley, director of the Catholic Conference of Oklahoma, said the outcome of the long process was a positive one. “We are elated that the board agreed with our argument and application for the nation’s first religious charter school. Parents continue to demand more options for their kids, and we are committed to help provide them,” Farley said.

Fr. Peter Shults, O.S.B., was ordained into the priesthood on May 31 at St. Gregory’s Abbey. Photo Theresa Bragg.

The monks of Saint Gregory’s Abbey continue to celebrate the ordination of Father Peter (Matthew) Shults, O.S.B., to the priesthood on May 31 at St. Gregory’s Abbey. Photo Theresa Bragg.

Local fathers are examples of unconditional love

Father’s Day is June 18

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

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The enduring value of fatherhood

For his three sons, he made sure he gave them his love and attention so that they knew what it was to be unconditionally loved. Archi made his relationship with his family a top priority in his life and, in doing so, he worked to conform fatherhood to that of the Father. My own father very much values and I a wonderful experience of love and support. I remember once when I was very young, my dad took me by my brother and me to work with him. A co-worker looked at us and asked my father, “Do you really want your sons to learn this?” which of these things was the adopted one?” My dad looked at each of us and responded promptly, saying, “You know, I really don’t remember.” We were three sons, and we knew that he loved and cared deeply for us.

Fathers, I would like to encourage you to reflect specifically on how you labor for your children. You are perhaps thinking, “I work hard and night and day to make enough money to keep a roof over my family’s head and dinner on the table.”

While that is certainly important, you also have a duty to share faith with them and form good habits and a virtuous character, to challenge your children to grow, and to show them that you love them. You labor to protect them from harm and the evils of sin. Sometimes you labor to show them God’s mercy, correcting their faults or teaching them something new. In all this you are called to labor in charity: not complaining, not fighting, but with humility and the attitude of a servant. That is how we love our children, by imitating our Father in heaven and showing them His love for us.

Fatherhood is a difficult calling. Maybe you are like Archi Manning, loving for the love a father never showed. Remember we all have one Father in heaven. We all need to strive to be earthly fathers for our weaknesses and failures. We can learn from them God’s mercy, correcting their faults or teaching them something new. In all this you are called to labor in charity: not complaining, not fighting, but with humility and the attitude of a servant. That is how we love our children, by imitating our Father in heaven and showing them His love for us.

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Archbishop Cookley’s Calendar

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

June 18 – Confirmation, 1:30 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Guymon
June 19 – Graduation, 2 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Guymon
June 20 – Presidential Council, 8 a.m., Archdiocesan Pastoral Center
June 21 – Mass, 11 a.m., Saint Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
June 22 – Graduation, 2 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Guymon
June 22 – Catholic Church of Oklahoma annual board meeting, 3:30 p.m., CPC and virtual
June 23 – Sooner Staff meeting, 10 a.m., CPC
June 23 – Catholic Charities Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., a Catholic Charities Offices, OKC
June 23 – Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine Station meeting, 2 p.m., Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine
June 23 – Oklahoma Conference of Catholic Schools Accrediting Association annual meeting, 1 p.m., CPC
June 24 – Confirmation, 1:30 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Guymon
June 25 – Confirmation, 1:30 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Guymon

Oklahoma bishops: Planned Catholic school students to provide new options for underserved students

Every child in Oklahoma deserves to thrive in an educational environment that best suits their unique learning needs and who are willing to commit themselves to religious life. We pray to the Lord, hear our Lord, hear our

Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City

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Oklahoma bishops: Planned Catholic school students to provide new options for underserved students

Every child in Oklahoma deserves to thrive in an educational environment that best suits their learning style and who are willing to commit themselves to religious life. We pray to the Lord, our Father in heaven. We all need to strive to forgive failures. We can learn to see in them God the Father, understanding that I’m unworthy of the love He has for me and regardless of their religious traditions you were called to share in the vocation of fatherhood. May all men who have taken on the role of fathers for their families have a much-needed opportunity for thousands of Oklahoma children who find traditional school difficult to understand what it means to forgive failures. We can learn to see in them God the Father, understanding that I’m unworthy of the love He has for me and regardless of their religious traditions.

Starting any school is costly, which often leaves fewer options for underserved families, especially outside of the metropolitan areas of Oklahoma City and Tulsa. A virtual school especially outside of the metropolitan areas of Oklahoma City and Tulsa. A virtual school

We are excited to present this historic opportunity to all children in Oklahoma for an transformative educational experiences.

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Finding more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and diocesan news and events, only on soonerccatholic.org.

For vocations to religious life, may God call forth individuals who are willing to commit themselves to religious life. We pray to the Lord, our Father in heaven. We all need to strive to forgive failures. We can learn to see in them God the Father, understanding that I’m unworthy of the love He has for me.

Archbishop Paul S. Cookley

Every child in Oklahoma deserves to thrive in an educational environment that best suits their unique learning needs and who are willing to commit themselves to religious life. We pray to the Lord, hear our Lord, hear our
**From the Archives …**

A photo series from George Riquage, archdiocesan archivist

In the book “Diary of a Frontier Bishop” by Father James White, he notes the stops made by Bishop Meredith to the small town of Syria. Arriving at Aline, since it was the closest railroad stop, on Oct. 20, 1920, to meet with this small community the bishop noted, “Finds the whole congregation of the little church for the Blessing of the church. The blessing and them shaking of hands with those good Syrians, and all feel very happy.”

About half of the town of Syria was of Middle Eastern descent, most likely from what is now known as Lebanon. Most Christians from the region are either Catholic or Orthodox, and at the time of visit there were about 12 families. The church was constructed thanks to a gift from the Catholic Church Extension Society and a generous local donor, Father Vander Grinten, who later founded Saint Francis Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, was the pastor from his church in Gobey. For ten years the mission was effective and maintaining. Trouble began to arise when a series of micro-epidemics caused another unnecessary strife. Most issues occurred when Mennonites, the successor Francis Kelley made it known that he was unsatisfied with the current structure in the community (most likely Mennonite Catholic and comfortable with the Byzantine liturgy of the Orthodox churches) did not appreciate having a line drawn in the sand and promptly joined the Orthodox church in town. This course of action signaled the end of the Catholic presence in Syria. It closed in 1931.

The church was dismantled and sold to nearby Carmen which helped to enlarge the existing structure in current Meth-odist church. Church history is riddled with failures in understanding cultures that may be different from our own. The people of Syria sought a priest who understood them and celebrated a liturgy that was not Latin but in common with Rome. Unfortunately, due to improper procedure this small church vanished with the intransigence of both parties to blame.

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The Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School graduation was held on May 16 in the BMCHS auditorium in Oklahoma City. The valedictorian is Jack Dolan. The salutatorians are Curt Schwager and Blayne Schwarz. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

The Cristo Rey OKC Catholic High School graduation was held on May 21 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. The valedictorian is Jorge Del Angel. The salutatorian is Michelle Frias. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

The Mount St. Mary Catholic High School graduation was held on May 23 at Oklahoma City Community College in Oklahoma City. The valedictorian is Thomas Dean. The salutatorian is Isabel Grace Neuhalfen. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

Congratulations!
Spanish teacher - OKC
Mount St. Mary Catholic High School is seeking a middle school math and science teacher 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 Laura Cain at lcain@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 preferred. Send cover letter and resume to Principal Laura Cain at lcain@mountstmary.org.

Teachers - Edmond
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School in Edmond is seeking a first-grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Position open immediately. Send resume and cover letter to Principal Nicole De Long at ndelong@setonok.org.

Teachers - MCC
St. Philip Neri Catholic School in Midwest City is seeking an early childhood and elementary teacher. Applicants must hold state certification. Teaching experience is preferred. Send resume to Principal Brenda Tener at btenner@spoken.org.

Teachers - OKC
Christ the King Catholic School is seeking an early childhood pre-K4 teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Bachelor’s degree in early childhood education and/or elementary education along with a state teaching certificate is required. Send resume and cover letter to AmyFeighn@christthe kingschool.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

PreK teacher - OKC
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking an early childhood pre-K teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Bachelor’s degree in early childhood education and/or elementary education along with a state teaching certificate is required. Send resume and cover letter to Alicia Vangura, St. James Catholic School, 1224 S W 41, Oklahoma City, OK 73109 or avangura@stjamescatholic.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Math, science teacher - OKC
St. John Nepomuk Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking a math/science middle school teacher 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 is required. Send resume and cover letter to Alicia Vangura, St. James Catholic School, 1224 S W 41, Oklahoma City, OK 73109 or avangura@stjamescatholic.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Elementary teachers – EL Reno
Sacred Heart Catholic School in El Reno is accepting applications for elementary teachers and a math/science upper elementary school teacher for the 2023-24 academic 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 Laura Cain at lcain@mountstmary.org.

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 along with a state teaching certificate is required. Send resume and cover letter to Freda Young, St. John Nepomuk Catholic School, 1905 Elmhurst Ave., OKC 73120 or fyoung@ckschool.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Third grade teacher - Yukon
St. John Nepomuk Catholic School in Yukon is seeking a middle school English teacher. Must hold a bachelor’s degree in education or related subject area. Oklahoma teaching certification and teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Principal, St. John Nepomuk Catholic School, 600 S. Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 or principal@spoken.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Librarian - Yukon
St. John Nepomuk Catholic School in Yukon is seeking a part-time librarian (10-15 hours per week). Must hold a bachelor’s degree in library science, media resources or related subject area. Oklahoma teaching certification and teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Principal, St. John Nepomuk Catholic School, 600 S. Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 or principal@spoken.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Fourth grade teacher - Okarche
Holy Trinity Catholic School in Okarche is seeking a Catholic fourth-grade teacher. Must hold a bachelor’s degree in education or education-related area. Oklahoma teaching certification and teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School, 600 S. Garth Brooks Blvd., Okarche, OK 73062 or arhoa@holytrinityok.org. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

Teachers - Enid
St. Joseph Catholic School in Enid is seeking a second grade teacher and pre-kindergarten teacher for the 2023-24 academic year. Must hold a bachelor’s degree in education or related subject area. Oklahoma teaching certification and teaching experience preferred. Send resume and cover letter to Principal, St. Joseph Catholic School, 1100 E. Owen K. Wangen Blvd., Enid, OK 73701. Download the teacher application packet at archokc.org/careers.

To see more job openings, go online to archokc.org/jobs-boss.
El valor perdurable de la paternidad

Archib Manning, mariscal de campo del Salón de la Fama de la Fama, conoce el valor de la paternidad. Padre de tres hijos —dos de ellos mariscales de campo de la NFL— comprende el valor de la paternidad por lo que le ocurrió a su propio padre, Buddy.

Un verano, mientras estudiaba en la Universidad de Mississippi, el mariscal de campo estrella llegó a su casa y encontró a su padre, Buddy, muerto en la recámara de sus padres.

Se había suicidado.

Devastado por esta experiencia, Archib casi deja el fútbol. Si se hubiera retirado, no habría sido mejor jugador del año, no habría tenido una carrera profesional de 10 años en el fútbol americano y probablemente sus dos hijos, Peyton y Eli, no se hubieran convertido en mariscales de campo estrella.

Aún más importante para Archib Manning fue utilizar su experiencia para ayudarse a comprender que la paternidad significaba dejar que lo propio padre fue incapaz de darle: un cimiento para una vida con sentido y con un propósito.

El domingue 18 de junio celebramos el Día del Padre en agradecimiento al valor de la paternidad. Esta festividad se celebró por primera vez en los Estados Unidos a principios del siglo XIX. El papás, me gustaría exhortarlos para que se sientan como Archie Manning, añorando el amor que un padre nunca les mostró. Recuerden que todos tenemos un Padre en el Cielo. Todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a ver en ellos a Dios Padre por su ejemplo y el don de nuestros padres terrerales y de nuestros padres espirituales. Que todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a ver en ellos a Dios Padre por su ejemplo y el don de nuestros padres espirituales. Que todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a ver en ellos a Dios Padre por su ejemplo y el don de nuestros padres espirituales. Que todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a ver en ellos a Dios Padre por su ejemplo y el don de nuestros padres espirituales. Que todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a ver en ellos a Dios Padre por su ejemplo y el don de nuestros padres espirituales. Que todos debemos procurar perdonar a nuestros padres terrenales por sus debilidades y defectos. Podemos aprender a...
Read Archbishop Coyle’s new Pastoral Letter

Archdiocesan Discipleship Conference
June 10-12 in Oklahoma City. All games Bingo register for in-person or online. david@gospeloflifedisciples.org to participate. Online registration closes June 6. Monastic Encounter Weekend St. Gregory’s Abbey invites single Catholic men ages 18-45 for a monastic encounter weekend June 23-25 at 1000 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Participants will share in the liturgical life, prayer, Divine Liturgy, common work, communal life of the abbey and live as a monk. Contact Bishop Mark, O.S.B. at (405) 878-5456, vocations@monksok.org or visit monksok.org/vocations.

Day Retreat The Rev. Fr. David R. Fetherston, pastor of St. Eugene Catholic Church will present "The Parables of Jesus Christ" at a Day Retreat on Saturday, June 3rd at 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on July 8 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7510 Northeast Expressway in Oklahoma City. Open to all Catholics. Cost is $30 and includes breakfast rolls, coffee and drinks, lunch, and afternoon snacks. Contact Michael Zink at (405) 314-4120; Michael-the-jj@msn.com, or directed by Knights of Columbus 10822.

Day of Reflection Eucharistic Revival and Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary as presented by Fr. Peter Shultz, O.S.B. at 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. July 29 at St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1000 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Attendants must pre-register by a mailing retse@monksok.org or call (405) 878-5656. Cost $30 pre-paid or $35 at the door. Lunch included.

In the book “Finding Freedom in Christ: Healing Life’s Hurts,” author Matthew Breuninger provides an explanation of Christian psychotherapy and the principles of psychology throughout the book and really likes for people from all walks of life who are hurt and heal themselves into freedom and living out their faith in a new way.

Breuninger, associate professor of psychology at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, and founder of Wellspring Counseling and Bioherence, does a wonderful job of blending in real-life examples, stories from his own experience, and principles of psychology throughout the book and really likes for people from all walks of life who are hurt and heal themselves into freedom and living out their faith in a new way.

The first six chapters of this book prepare us for the hard work of recognizing and confronting our wounds. We are reminded that we all suffer wounds, that God wants to help us heal so that we can love for the good (St.) John Paul II – "freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in loving the right to do what we ought." – and by "grafting ourselves with the vine of Christ (John 15:5) we allow his power and grace to flow through us as the fruit of our very lives." The core of the book is to delve into our own wounds and create new habits that can lead to a closer relationship with Christ. The book Review
The focus chapters 7-10 is on Brueninger’s “Six Step Model for Healing” and the virtues of humility, faith, courage, hope, justice and charity. Working through the steps requires strict attention (sacrifice of time and pride) it involves abandonment of self-possessedness and we may use to avoid wounds and create new habits that can lead to a closer relationship with Christ. However, the hard work done here points us to the conversion we may need for using our own beating heart and body. “The good that is to be accomplished by our human freedom is to learn more about ourselves and God, and to learn in a deeper way to see our own needs in his gifts to us.”

John H. Deolenz is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

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

June
18 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time.
18 Father’s Day
19 Feast of St. Romuald.
19 Junetenth.
20 Serra Club meeting, 11 a.m., Catholic Charities, 1232 S. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City. Visit serraoakc.org.
20 Suicide grief support group, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 3001 N.W. 18, Oklahoma City.
21 Feast of St. Aloysius Gonzaga.
21 Feast of St. Paulinus of Nola.
22 Feast of St. John Fisher and Thomas More.
22 Religious Freedom Work begins.
22 Bingo, 6:30 p.m., St. James Catholic Church, 4201 S. McKinley in Oklahoma City. All games $10. Food reasonably priced. All proceeds benefit the Catholic Charities, 1232 S. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City.
25 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
27 Feast of St. Cyril of Alexandria.
28 Feast of St. Irenaeus.
29 Feast of St. Peter and Paul, Oklahoma City.
30 Feast of The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church.
July
22 Feast of St. Junipero Serra.
23 Lay Missionsaries of Charity provides an explanation through prayer and the charism of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 694-1291.
23 Suicide grief support group, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 3001 N.W. 18, Oklahoma City.
23 Monastic Encounter Weekend, St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1000 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee. Visit monksok.org/vocations.
23 The Knights of Columbus bingo and a Day Retreat, 6:30 p.m., St. James Catholic Church, 4201 S. McKinley in Oklahoma City. All games $10. Food reasonably priced. All proceeds benefit the Catholic Charities, 1232 S. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City.
23 The Sooner Catholic.
24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist.
24 Pray the Rosary for Life, 9:30 a.m. Our Lady of Lassean Catholic Church, 500 Alameda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 240-1041; potatois.lang@gmail.com.

Sooner Catholic
June 18, 2023

Archbishop Coyle invites married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 40, 50) in 2023 to participate.

Sooner Catholic
June 18, 2023

For over 140 years, Knights of Columbus has helped generations of Catholic families find financial stability and security.
Sooner Catholic
20 June 18, 2023

Reds, Whites & Brews returns with new beer, wine, venue

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will host the 14th annual Reds, Whites & Brews on Thursday, July 13, at The Joinery, 121 E. Sheridan in Oklahoma City. This annual event directly supports the Sanctuary Women’s Development Centers in Oklahoma City and in Norman.

“We are excited to move the event to The Joinery this year,” said Elizabeth McAllister, special events manager. “Attendance has expanded and so has our need for space. We will be just a mile east of where we held it last year, completely indoors and in a fantastic space.”

Tickets are $100 and include dinner, a variety of craft beer and wine, music, games and indoor golf bays. A raffle will take place during the evening with prizes including trips and gift cards.

Racheal Singley, director of Sanctuary Women’s Development Center in Oklahoma City, said the fundraising event is essential to funding operations.

“We are providing crucial resources to our clients such as showers, a laundry facility, hygiene needs, utility assistance, transformative case management and so much more,” Singley said. “If we moved 45 women into permanent housing last year, what would it look like if we had double the support?”

Sanctuary is a service of Catholic Charities located in Oklahoma City and in Norman. The centers provide assistance for homeless and at-risk women and their children. Case management, counseling and other resources help women move from homelessness and poverty to permanent homes and employment.

For more information on sponsorships or to purchase individual tickets, visit redswhitesbrews.com.

To learn more about Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, visit ccaokc.org or call (405) 523-3000.