



THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER
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"greater good of souls"

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TENTH ANNUAL LUNCHEON: The Central Oregon Deanery Secretaries held their Tenth Annual Luncheon Thursday, December 9, 2010, at the Powell Butte Retreat Center. There were about 21 Secretaries, DRE's, Youth Ministers and support staff from the parishes including the ladies from the Chancery.

We had a great time getting to know each other and meeting new staff members. We were served a delicious lunch of lasagna, salad, garlic bread and cookies.



After our luncheon we had our Christmas ornament exchange. We all sat in two rows across from each other and Terri Isom read the story of Lefty and Crossy. Each time the word "left" or "Lefty" was read, we would pass the gift to the left. If the word "right" was read, we would pass the gift we were holding to our right. If the word "cross" or "Crossy" was read, we would pass the gift across. While Terri was reading, it was most amusing trying to keep up, which resulted in laughter from us all. At the end of the story we each opened our ornaments and shared our joy with each other.

And then it was over, we all hugged each other and said our good-byes with the hope and joy of knowing that we will see each other again next year at our Annual Christmas Luncheon. - Patti Rausch



RETREAT CENTER ADVENT EVENT: The Second Annual Schoenstatt Advent Family Celebration held on December 16 was once again an evening of great joy and sharing. The message of the Divine Maternity of Mary with the protection of Her Loving Husband, Joseph, and the coming of their Son, was beautifully delivered throughout an evening of praise, music and family fun.

The first hour of the evening began in St. Mary's Chapel with Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour which included the lighting of the Advent Wreath, an Advent Scriptural Reading by Bishop Vasa, the bi-lingual Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, and Benediction.

The group then moved to the John Paul II Conference Center for Traditional Advent music, ethnic dancing, a family craft activity, and dinner provided by Mazatlan Mexican Restaurant in Redmond. The gathering offered an ideal setting to teach children and remind adults about the true meaning of Advent.



Entertainment was provided by St. Thomas, Redmond parishioners, LeRoy and Judy Newport, and Holy Trinity, LaPine parishioner, Nick Wavers, and the St. Thomas Church Hispanic Community Dancers.

Come join us again for the Annual Schoenstatt Christmas Gathering from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, January 8, 2011. Finger foods will be appreciated. Beverages provided.



MIND AND HEART OF BISHOP VASA: The New Year has begun and, while it is necessary to live in the present moment, it is also good to plan and anticipate. One of the Traditions of the Church, which generally receives little attention, is that of the Epiphany Proclamation. While a day like Christmas is fixed in our minds (and on the calendar) as always falling on December 25th, many of the important feasts of the Church year move, based upon the date that Easter is set. Easter changes each year depending upon the "Paschal Full Moon". It can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25.

In ancient times before calendars were common, most people did not know the dates for the upcoming Liturgical Year. On Epiphany Sunday, the upcoming dates were "proclaimed" after the gospel in this way:

Dear brothers and sisters,
the glory of the Lord has shone upon us,
and shall ever be manifest among us,
until the day of his return.

Through the rhythms of times and seasons
let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination ~
the Easter Triduum of the Lord:
his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial,
and his rising celebrated between

The evening of the twenty-first day of April and

The evening of the twenty-third day of April.

The twenty-fourth day of April is Easter Sunday.

Each Easter ~ as on each Sunday ~ the Holy Church
makes present the great and saving deed
by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent,
will occur on the ninth day of March.

The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on
the second day of June.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter,
will be celebrated on the twelfth day of June.

And, this year the First Sunday of Advent will be
on the twenty-seventh day of November.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the Passover of
Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God,
in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever
and ever. Amen.

This kind of proclamation helps us to put the entire New Year in its proper ecclesial context. The mysteries of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection punctuate every moment of the year and we are called to live, as much as possible, within the rhythm of these Sacred Mysteries. We have begun the Liturgical Year with Advent and Christmas and, having been introduced to Him who is the Christ, we now stand on the threshold of that which is yet to come.

NOTICIAS HISPANAS: En Navidad contemplamos el gran misterio de Dios, que se hace hombre en el seno de la Virgen María. Nace en Belén *para compartir nuestra frágil condición humana*. Viene a habitar entre nosotros y trae la salvación al mundo entero. Su misión será reunir a los hombres y a los pueblos en la única familia de los hijos de Dios. Podemos decir que en el misterio de la Navidad podemos contemplar un "salto de calidad" en la historia de la salvación. Al hombre, que con el pecado se había alejado del Creador, se le ofrece ahora en Cristo el don de una comunión nueva y más plena con él. Así se vuelve a encender en su corazón la esperanza, mientras que se abren de nuevo para la humanidad las puertas del paraíso. Qué la Navidad recién celebrada, constituya para todos una ocasión propicia para vivir con profundidad el valor y el significado del gran acontecimiento del nacimiento de Jesús.

La Sagrada Familia. El evangelio de san Mateo (2, 13-23) se refiere a la amenaza que sufrió la Sagrada Familia casi inmediatamente después del nacimiento de Jesús. La violencia que pone en peligro su vida afecta también a muchas otras familias provocando la muerte de los santos inocentes, cuya memoria celebramos el pasado 28 de diciembre. Recordando esa terrible prueba vivida por el Hijo de Dios y sus contemporáneos, la Iglesia se siente invitada a orar por todas las familias amenazadas desde dentro o desde fuera. Dios confía su Hijo a María, y ambos a José. Es preciso orar con insistencia por todas las madres y todos los padres, para que sean fieles a su vocación y sean dignos de la confianza que Dios deposita en ellos al encomendarles el cuidado de sus hijos. Es la familia el lugar donde madura la vocación. Podemos ver este aspecto en la respuesta que dio Jesús a María y a José, que lo buscaban angustiados mientras él se encontraba con los doctores en el templo de Jerusalén: "¿No sabían que debo ocuparme de las cosas de mi Padre?" (Lc 2, 49). Destacar el gran valor que tiene ese proyecto en la vida de cada joven; precisamente durante el tiempo de su juventud, como Jesús, a sus doce años, estaba completamente entregado a las cosas del Padre, así cada uno está llamado preguntarse: ¿Cuáles son esas "cosas del Padre", de las que debo ocuparme durante toda la vida?

El 1º de enero celebramos a la Bienaventurada Virgen María, Madre de Dios, contemplación del gran misterio de la Encarnación: "El Vero se hizo carne" (Jn 1, 14), el Cedo nos Dice: "Por nosotros, los hombres, y por nuestra salvación bajó del cielo y, por obra del Espíritu Santo, se encarnó en el seno de la Virgen María y se hizo hombre".

La fiesta de la Epifanía, que celebraremos el 2 de enero, nos recuerda que el Hijo de Dios, nacido en Belén, es reconocido y adorado por los Magos llegados desde el Oriente, *representantes cualificados de toda la humanidad*. Así, desde el inicio, se proyecta hacia todos los pueblos del mundo el alegre mensaje de la salvación.

APPEAL—2010 PARISH GOALS AS OF DECEMBER 17, 2010

| Parish | Goal | Received | % of Goal | Parish | Goal | Received | % of Goal |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Baker City | \$16,666 | \$4,260 | 26% | Lakeview | \$6,587 | \$5,275 | 80% |
| Halfway | \$1,190 | \$60 | 5% | Adel | \$337 | \$0 | 0% |
| Bend | \$79,361 | \$17,612 | 22% | Paisley | \$1,270 | \$1,900 | 150% |
| Boardman | \$5,754 | \$5,035 | 88% | Plush | \$357 | \$450 | 126% |
| Burns | \$8,928 | \$2,845 | 32% | La Pine | \$7,143 | \$1,475 | 21% |
| Crane | \$1,008 | \$320 | 32% | Christmas Valley | \$694 | \$0 | 0% |
| Drewsey | \$734 | \$300 | 41% | Gilchrist | \$1,151 | \$245 | 21% |
| Juntura | \$833 | \$75 | 9% | Sunriver | \$11,507 | \$2,770 | 24% |
| Chiloquin | \$4,047 | \$1,540 | 38% | Madras | \$13,888 | \$2,650 | 19% |
| Bly | \$873 | \$525 | 60% | Warm Springs | \$2,103 | \$250 | 12% |
| Condon | \$3,444 | \$325 | 9% | Merrill | \$4,841 | \$2,715 | 56% |
| Fossil | \$833 | \$1,300 | 156% | Bonanza | \$1,349 | \$1,150 | 85% |
| Arlington | \$992 | \$320 | 32% | Milton-Freewater | \$6,944 | \$785 | 11% |
| Dufur | \$2,301 | \$335 | 15% | Athena | \$1,587 | \$603 | 38% |
| Maupin | \$1,587 | \$1,010 | 64% | Nyssa | \$5,793 | \$740 | 13% |
| Enterprise | \$5,833 | \$3,790 | 65% | Ontario | \$20,237 | \$1,498 | 7% |
| Wallowa | \$833 | \$0 | 0% | Pendleton | \$22,142 | \$8,629 | 39% |
| Heppner | \$5,476 | \$3,250 | 59% | Pilot Rock | \$3,968 | \$3,050 | 77% |
| Ione | \$1,905 | \$1,385 | 73% | Prineville | \$11,111 | \$5,033 | 45% |
| Hermiston | \$28,761 | \$5,685 | 20% | Redmond | \$30,951 | \$5,600 | 18% |
| Hood River | \$19,999 | \$2,663 | 13% | Saint Andrew's | \$3,968 | \$1,000 | 25% |
| John Day | \$5,555 | \$1,488 | 27% | Sisters | \$13,015 | \$3,936 | 30% |
| Monument | \$159 | \$59 | 37% | The Dalles | \$28,173 | \$1,370 | 5% |
| Longcreek (Dale) | \$238 | \$225 | 95% | Vale | \$4,722 | \$4,525 | 96% |
| Jordan Valley | \$2,024 | \$1,950 | 96% | Unity | \$556 | \$475 | 85% |
| Arock | \$397 | \$165 | 42% | Wasco | \$1,746 | \$710 | 41% |
| Klamath Falls - Sacred Heart | \$37,935 | \$7,595 | 20% | Grass Valley | \$679 | \$730 | 108% |
| Klamath Falls - St. Pius X | \$32,498 | \$16,431 | 51% | Rounding/ Outside of Diocese | \$2 | \$8,150 | n/a |
| La Grande | \$17,301 | \$3,146 | 18% | Diocese Total | \$500,000 | \$151,558 | 30% |
| Elgin | \$2,619 | \$550 | 21% | To Diocese | | \$145,277 | |
| North Powder | \$1,071 | \$500 | 47% | To Retirement | | \$5,040 | |
| Union | \$2,024 | \$1,100 | 54% | Refund to Parish | | \$1,241 | |



The Legacy of Faith Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon is one of the Diocesan resources that can assist in ensuring the long term financial health of parishes, schools, and agencies in the Diocese through endowments and planned gifts. The Foundation began with about \$500,000 in 2007, has grown to over \$2.7 million and has a number of permanent endowments that will benefit parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations in perpetuity.

When you give through the Legacy of Faith Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon, we take great care to assure that your wishes and instructions are carried out as you desire. We manage your gifts prudently and make sure they are distributed when and where you choose. We ensure that the charitable organizations you support follow their stated goals in the years ahead. In other words, we act as caretakers of both your donated assets and your interests. Through the Foundation you can be assured that your gift is invested wisely and will benefit our Church for many generations to come.

Beginning in 2011 the Foundation is setting aside

\$5,000 annually for the support of Parish and School related functions. These functions are not limited to, but may include Parish Festivals, Christmas Bazaars, Parish School Fundraisers, or other similar Parish related functions. The Foundation will review each request and determine an appropriate level of funding. The following guidelines will apply with respect to Foundation grants:

- Grants cannot exceed \$1,000 to any Parish organization.
- Grants are intended for Parish wide functions.
- Grants may not be awarded to a Parish organization for consecutive years.
- Once the \$5,000 annual budget has been expended, there will be no additional grants for that year.
- Grant requests should be made to the Legacy of Faith Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon, PO Box 5999, Bend, OR 97708.

If you have questions about the Legacy of Faith Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon, contact John Schiemer, at jschiemer@dioceseofbaker.org or call the Chancery at (541) 388-4004.

PARISH NEWS: St. Francis de Sales Cathedral - To emphasize the role of the saints in our lives, and also to counter-act the strange costumes children wear during Halloween, Father Julian, pastor of the Cathedral in Baker City presented 17 saints to parishioners with 17 children dressing up as each saint or blessed. He narrated a brief biography of each, while the children, with the help of their teachers and parents, presented themselves in a fitting outfit that sometimes made them look like the real thing. Among the saints were recently canonized saints Mary McKillop, Andre Bessette, Damien of Molokai and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.



Although this story was submitted in November for All Saints Day, the children also appear to be ready to tell the story of Advent and the birth of our Lord, Jesus.

PARISH NEWS: Holy Redeemer youth and families warmed the hearts of those at the Prairie House Retirement Home in La Pine during their Annual Christmas Caroling Wednesday afternoon, December 8, 2010.



The children re-enacted the Nativity while the story of the Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-4) was read by Youth Minister, Sally Sutton. Nick Wavers provided the music and led the carolers in joyful music.

PARISH NEWS: Baker City - During the months of October, November and December the St Francis De Sales Family Life Group sponsored a huge billboard in Baker City, affirming the gift of life, and stating that life itself is a beautiful choice.



The billboard is visible to thousands of drivers going by each day. The Baker City Knights of Columbus are also sponsoring a "Keep Christ in Christmas" billboard during the Advent and Christmas season.

RETREAT CENTER NEWS: Roe vs. Wade Mass for Life will be offered at 9:00 A.M., January 22, 2011, at St. Mary Chapel. The Celebrant will be The Most Reverend Robert Vasa. A Memorial Rosary will be said immediately following Mass. January 22 marks the 38th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the U.S. Supreme Court decision that overrode state laws to legalize abortions on demand in the United States. (Light refreshments will be served.)

SAINTS AND FEASTS: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was a woman of firsts. Although St. Frances Cabrini was the first American citizen canonized, Elizabeth Seton was the first native-born American to receive that honor, which occurred in 1977. She also founded the first Catholic school for girls and the first non-contemplative order of religious sisters in the country.

Born August 28, 1774, Elizabeth was raised in an Episcopalian family in New York City. She married at the age of 19 and bore five children. Traveling to Italy to seek help for her husband's last illness, she stayed with a Catholic family. Two years later, Elizabeth converted to Catholicism. After meeting a French Sulpician priest, she started a Catholic school for girls in Maryland and went on to found The Sisters of Charity, who cared for poor children. Mother Seton is the patroness of Catholic schools.

CLERGY NEWS: Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversary during January:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Rev. Robert VanSickler, retired | January 6, 1993 |
| Rev. Jose Thomas Mudakodiyil | January 28, 2002 |
| Most Reverend Bishop Robert Vasa, consecrated Bishop of Baker | January 26, 2000 |

Please keep them in your prayers.