



THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

Published every two weeks for the sake of the unity of the Diocese and the
"greater good of souls"

November 20, 2011

Volume 2, Number 24

PARISH NEWS: Holy Family, Burns



Holy Family parishioners participated in the annual Life Chain on Sunday, October 2, 2011. More than 60 people gathered on Broadway Ave., which runs through downtown Burns, for an hour of silent prayer for the protection of life in the womb. There were a lot of children holding signs this year, which is always great to see.

PARISH NEWS: St. Bridget, Nyssa



The Most Reverend William Skylstad was at St. Bridget Church in Nyssa for a pastoral visit on Oct 9, 2011. The Bishop celebrated both the English and the Spanish Masses. Father Daniel Ochiabuto, pastor of St. Bridget, concelebrated with him.

PARISH NEWS: St. Patrick, Lakeview



At noon on October 15, 2011, a small but persistently prayerful group met on the church steps in Lakeview to take part in a Public Square Rosary Rally. Through our Lady's intercessions they prayed for peace in the world and a return to Christian values.

PARISH NEWS: St. Edward the Martyr, Sisters, and The Family Access Network (F.A.N.)

St. Edward the Martyr parish in Sisters may be relatively small in numbers, but that only belies the size of its heart, soul and generosity. When Sisters F.A.N. Advocate and St. Edward parishioner Theresa Slavkovsky was asked how St. Edward could best help the efforts of F.A.N., she responded with, "Paper!" She meant paper in the form of dollars for the F.A.N. Emergency Fund and paper in the form of bathroom tissue.

The parish responded by a fundraising effort for Sisters Family Access Network entitled, "Please, Pass the Paper!" The mission of F.A.N. is to ensure all children in the Sisters School District have access to basic-need services. It is the only comprehensive social service program for the Sisters community.



With the encouragement of its Pastor, Fr. Jude Onogbosele, and participation by St. Edward parishioners, young and old, \$1,458 was raised for F.A.N.'s Emergency Fund, and great quantities of bathroom tissue were donated. In Matthew 25:37 we hear, "...Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?" St. Edward parishioners have taken this to heart, demonstrating a practical example of our Catholic social tradition by assisting numerous families in our Sisters community. These gifts were given in love and accepted with gratitude and thanksgiving.

DIOCESAN NEWS: The Teaching Mass

The Teaching Mass for parishes is now available at the Diocesan website www.dioceseofbaker.org. If you do not have access to the internet you may call the Chancery at (541) 388-4004 and request a complete set to be mailed to you. We pray that, as we introduce The New Translation of the Roman Missal, these Teaching Masses will provide a greater appreciation and understanding of the Mass and will be beneficial to your parish.

REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP SKYLSTAD...THANKSGIVING

Our national holiday of Thanksgiving has become one of our most popular national holidays. As a nation, we know we have so much for which to be grateful. We have been blessed in so many ways. Thanksgiving Day has also become a day when extended families get together, perhaps even more so than at Christmas. There is heavy national travel on the Thanksgiving weekend.

From our standpoint as Catholics, we have the great sacrament of Eucharist. The root meaning of Eucharist is to give thanks. No one can say that God has not richly blessed us beyond measure.

We come to Eucharist to give thanks to God, and we do so by gathering in our churches as a community of faith. We do so not because we have a perfect community of faith or individually we are perfect people. None of us fits into that category. We do so because we embrace our God in love and thanks. We embrace one another in our humanity on our mutual journey of faith. We embrace the crosses of life in gratitude and appreciation because we can witness to the presence of Jesus who bore his own cross for the love and salvation of all of us, of all of humanity.

So at Thanksgiving time, we have the rich opportunity to embrace in gratitude our families, our Church, our communities, our nation and our world. Giving thanks enriches our lives and assists us in not taking for granted our many blessings. Giving thanks increases our sensitivity to the presence of God in our lives. In many of our communities, special sensitivity is demonstrated towards those who are in need or perhaps a good Thanksgiving meal. That increased sensitivity is wonderful, but may it also be a leaven that touches our lives and lifestyle year round.

A true spirit of Thanksgiving is demonstrated in action with and for one another. Last week, Mary Ann Davis, Fr. Weckerle and I drove over to Maryville to visit our Bishop Thomas Connolly. He is now in significant dementia, but we continue to show him love and appreciation as our Bishop Emeritus and our friend. He has also done a lot for me personally; I have known him since 1973 when we made a Marriage Encounter together. He has been a close friend and my spiritual director for decades.

As we approach this Thanksgiving, I would like to remind you of a particular way of giving thanks to God and our beloved Diocese of Baker by supporting generously our annual appeal. Besides the various ministries in the Diocese which I have already mentioned to you previously, we support, for instance, the care of Bishop Connolly in his approaching winter of life. Your support in this regard is a visible expression of gratitude for so many blessings you and I have received.

To all of you and your families, I wish you a very blessed and joyful Thanksgiving Day. Thank all of you for your graciousness and prayers for me personally.

REFLEXIONES DEL OBISPO SKYLSTAD... DÍA DE ACCIÓN

DE GRACIAS Nuestra fiesta nacional de Acción de Gracias se ha convertido en una de nuestras fiestas nacionales más populares. Como nación, sabemos que tenemos mucho de que estar agradecidos. Hemos sido bendecidos de muchas maneras. Día de Acción de Gracias se ha convertido en un día en que las familias extensas se juntan, tal vez incluso más que en la Navidad. El tráfico es pesado en el fin de semana.

Desde nuestro punto de vista, como católicos, tenemos el gran sacramento de la Eucaristía. El significado de la Eucaristía es acción de gracias. Nadie puede decir que Dios no nos ha bendecido abundantemente.

Nosotros venimos a la Eucaristía para dar gracias a Dios, y lo hacemos reuniéndonos en nuestras iglesias como una comunidad de fe. No lo hacemos porque tenemos una perfecta comunidad de fe o individualmente somos perfecto. Ninguno de nosotros encaja en esa categoría. Lo hacemos porque nos unimos a nuestro Dios en amor y agradecimiento. Nos unimos unos a otros en nuestro camino común de fe. Abrazamos las cruces de la vida en gratitud y reconocimiento, testificando la presencia de Jesús, que llevaba su propia cruz por el amor y la salvación de nosotros, de toda la humanidad.

El día de Acción de Gracias, tenemos la oportunidad de unir con gratitud a nuestras familias, nuestra Iglesia, nuestras comunidades, nuestra nación y nuestro mundo. El dar gracias enriquece nuestras vidas y nos ayuda a no dar por merecido tantas bendiciones. Dando gracias aumenta nuestra sensibilidad a la presencia de Dios en nuestras vidas. En muchas comunidades, se hay una especial sensibilidad hacia los necesitados, tal vez con una buena comida de Thanksgiving. Esto Aumenta la sensibilidad y es maravilloso, pero también puede ser un fermento que afecta a nuestras vidas y del todo el año .

Un verdadero espíritu de Acción de Gracias se demuestra en la acción de unos con otros. La semana pasada, Mary Ann Davis, el padre. Weckerle y yo fuimos a Maryville a visitar a nuestro obispo Thomas Connolly. El está en una significativa demencia, pero continuamos mostrándole amor y aprecio como nuestro obispo emérito y amigo. El ha hecho mucho por mí personalmente. Lo conozco desde 1973, cuando participamos en un Encuentro Matrimonial juntos. Ha sido mi gran amigo y mi director espiritual durante décadas.

Este día de Acción de Gracias, quisiera recordarles una forma particular de dar gracias a Dios y a nuestra querida diócesis de Baker, apoyando generosamente nuestra apelación anual. Además de los diversos ministerios diocesanos que ya les he mencionado anteriormente, por ejemplo, esta el cuidado del obispo Connolly en su proximidad al invierno de la vida. Su apoyo en este sentido es una expresión visible de agradecimiento por tantas bendiciones que tú y yo hemos recibido.

A todos ustedes y sus familias, les deseo un bendito y feliz Día de Acción de Gracias. Gracias a todos ustedes por su amabilidad y sus oraciones por mí personalmente.

PRIESTLY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY:

Congratulations to Rev. Rogatian Urassa at Sacred Heart in Klamath Falls. Father Urassa was ordained to priesthood on November 20, 1983.

Ordination anniversaries in December are:

Rev. Dennis Strachota, Bend December 23, 1967
Rev. Eduardo Nebelung, Boardman December 21, 1984
Rev. Rob Irwin December 8, 1995

The ordination date of Rev. Daniel Ochiabuto, Nyssa, was stated incorrectly in a prior issue. The correct date is July 28, 2007. We apologize for the mistake.

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our Priests and Bishops. Please keep them in your prayers.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS-PENDLETON: Over the past five years the Catholic Daughters Court - Pendleton has coordinated a fund raiser during the Pendleton Roundup. This year the Court asked and received help from other women of St. Mary's Parish and St. Andrew's Mission. In the past we have donated to KHSS Catholic Radio from Walla Walla and also purchased Benediction Vestments for Camp Connolly, the Baker Youth Camp. This year the proceeds will be divided equally between KHSS, Camp Connolly Capital Campaign and Breast Cancer Care Specialties associated with St. Anthony Hospital. The women have fun working in the booth and it is a special joy to know that our time is earning funds to give to a charity.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING AVAILABLE IN THE DIOCESE:

St. Pius X Church in Klamath Falls is pleased to announce a new option in Natural Family Planning available to the people of our diocese, the Creighton Model Fertility Care System. Through the sponsorship of St. Pius X we now have a licensed practitioner teaching, both locally and long-distance, women and couples respect for human life, human dignity and the integrity of marriage. Those interested in learning more can contact Jennifer Snoozy at St. Pius X at fertilitycare@piusxkf.com.

In addition, Gustavo and Eva Ruiz are offering classes in the Billings model of Natural Family Planning either in English or Spanish throughout the Diocese. Gustavo can be reached at the Pastoral offices at (541) 388-4004 or gart@dioceseofbaker.org.

Both of these models are similar in the method of Natural Family Planning.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD: Did involvement in an abortion change you? Convinced yourself that you have dealt with your abortions? Have you been looking at the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat bulletin ad for years and wondering if it is right for you? Forgiveness and mercy await you. You are invited to start your healing journey at the upcoming retreat in Medford March 9-11, 2012. Participation is strictly confidential. Contact Project Rachel at 1-800-249-8074 or E-mail: ProjectRachel@catholiccharitiesoregon.org. National website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

APPEAL—2011 UPDATE AS OF NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Parish	Goal	Received	% of Goal
Baker City	\$16,553	\$2,925	18%
Halfway	\$1,182	\$0	0%
Bend	\$78,826	\$3,205	4%
Boardman	\$5,715	\$540	9%
Burns	\$8,868	\$565	6%
Crane	\$1,064	\$0	0%
Drewsey	\$729	\$0	0%
Juntura	\$828	\$0	0%
Chiloquin	\$4,020	\$250	6%
Bly	\$851	\$0	0%
Condon	\$3,547	\$0	0%
Fossil	\$788	\$600	76%
Arlington	\$1,143	\$0	0%
Dufur	\$7,504	\$200	3%
Maupin	\$1,577	\$650	41%
Enterprise	\$5,794	\$1,825	31%
Wallowa	\$887	\$200	23%
Heppner	\$5,439	\$2,150	40%
Ione	\$1,892	\$450	24%
Hermiston	\$28,567	\$3,675	13%
Hood River	\$19,864	\$3,208	16%
John Day	\$5,715	\$850	15%
Monument	\$158	\$0	0%
Longcreek (Dale)	\$236	\$35	15%
Jordan Valley	\$2,010	\$1,700	85%
Arock	\$394	\$150	38%
Kfalls-Sacred Heart	\$35,078	\$745	2%
Kfalls-St. Pius X	\$32,279	\$8,900	28%
La Grande	\$17,184	\$1,260	7%
Elgin	\$2,601	\$100	4%
North Powder	\$1,064	\$0	0%
Union	\$2,010	\$250	12%
Lakeview	\$6,385	\$2,125	33%
Adel	\$335	\$320	96%
Paisley	\$1,182	\$750	63%
Plush	\$335	\$300	90%
La Pine	\$7,094	\$565	8%
Christmas Valley	\$765	\$0	0%
Gilchrist	\$1,143	\$0	0%
Sunriver	\$11,430	\$1,260	11%
Madras	\$13,795	\$625	5%
Warm Springs	\$2,089	\$25	1%
Merrill	\$4,808	\$890	19%
Bonanza	\$1,297	\$700	54%
Milton-Freewater	\$6,897	\$25	0%
Nyssa	\$5,360	\$200	4%
Ontario	\$20,101	\$795	4%
Pendleton	\$21,992	\$2,645	12%
Pilot Rock	\$3,547	\$930	26%
Prineville	\$11,036	\$1,225	11%
Redmond	\$30,742	\$4,640	15%
Saint Andrew's	\$4,335	\$0	0%
Athena	\$1,577	\$410	26%
Sisters	\$13,164	\$1,000	8%
The Dalles	\$27,983	\$200	1%
Vale	\$4,690	\$350	7%
Unity	\$552	\$200	36%
Wasco	\$2,365	\$250	11%
Grass Valley	\$634	\$400	63%
Diocese Total	\$500,000	\$55,263	11%

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, THE DALLES

Nestled up against the mighty Columbia, The Dalles can claim less than 20,000 people inside the city limits. It is, then, amazing that a non-profit store in this small Oregon town did \$1,000,000 worth of gross sales last year.



“We draw customers from all of the (Columbia) Gorge,” said Jackie Pennington, who manages both the thrift store and the ministry arm of the local St. Vincent de Paul conference. “We don’t have a lot of competition (in resold goods) and we give people good value.”

The store, which occupies about two-thirds of a city block in the downtown area, is stocked with abundant merchandise in a well-lit and attractive environment. The building also houses a small retail gift shop that offers live plants and collectible items at bargain prices. “People are looking for affordable gifts,” said Pennington, “and we have been very successful here since we opened last year.”

Other sources of income include a site on E-bay to sell collectibles, which brings in about \$500 a month, as well as metal recycling, which, Pennington said, nets \$1,500 to \$2,000 every couple of months.

St. Vincent de Paul also works with other agencies in the area to hold food drives and raise funds. Three times a year, said Pennington, the organization teams with the Salvation Army, once in November on a local radio station to solicit food donations, once at Christmas and again at the end of summer to hand out school supplies for needy families. Firefighter volunteers go out in December house-to-house for food donations and split that with St. Vincent.

The food bank is located in the basement of the thrift store, but there is a separate ministry office a few blocks away. There clients can come and sign up for what help they need, which can include utility, food and other emergency aid. Occasionally, the conference will provide a night in a local motel or gas money to travel to another destination. From June through the end of July St. Vincent offers migrant food boxes for those who come to work on area farms.

Every week the organization partners with a group called Bread and Blessing to offer a brunch at its ministry office cafeteria. Monday through Friday from 9-11 a.m., anyone who comes in is offered a hot meal. Another group, called Community Meals, serves dinner at the same site on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

A relatively new program, simply called the Warming Room, allows those who are homeless to come in out of the cold weather to sleep. Because, said Pennington, it is a temporary measure that simply provides cots and mattresses and limits the hours to 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., it is not necessary to comply with the complex regulations for full-time shelters.

“We have had up to a dozen people taking advantage of the opportunity to sleep in a warm place,” she said. >>

They intend to continue the program this year when winter arrives.

Unlike many conferences, which rely almost totally on volunteers, St. Vincent de Paul in The Dalles employs 33 people, who sometimes do more than one thing for the organization. A man at the donation door much of the year helps strip the metal for recycling, for example, Pennington said the conference is one of the larger employers in the area and their employees are devoted to the mission of the group – helping those in need.

Many of the board members, said Pennington, have connections with area churches and other non-profits in the area, which has allowed them to devise a formula that seems to be working beyond anyone’s expectations.

The address of the store is 505 W Ninth Street and it is open six days a week, Call (541) 298-7837 for more information. The ministry office is located at 315 W. Third Street and the phone number is (541) 296-9566. The food bank is open three days a week, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



St. Vincent de Paul's food bank in The Dalles offers five days of food per month to those in need.



A large clothing section is available in the store for the Columbia River corridor shoppers.