



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"

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Dear Bishop Skylstad, thank you for your guidance, your wisdom,
and your devotion to the Diocese of Baker. We will miss you.



Farewell Reception for Bishop Skylstad

Saturday, May 19, 2012

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

John Paul II Conference Center at Powell Butte

REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP SKYLSTAD..... Hasta la Vista and Adios!

The words "Adios" and "Hasta La Vista" are familiar to all of us. Literally "Adios" means "To God"; and "Hasta La Visita", "Until the View". Both express a sense of departure or taking leave. In the first instance, God is always present to us wherever we are. In the second instance, basically the sense is until we see one another again. As I mentioned in my previous message for *The Chronicle*, this is another transition time in my life as our new bishop, Liam Cary, will be ordained on May 18 in St. Francis Church in Bend. My last service in the diocese will be the following day with the celebration of Confirmation on Saturday evening in St. Mary Parish in Hood River.

My reflection on these past fifteen months is one of profound gratitude and blessing. As I have visited and celebrated in parishes all over the diocese, I now have faces in my memory that connect with the names of parishes and towns. No longer will it just be a drive by Arlington on I-84 or hearing the names of Jordan Valley, Unity, Crane, Bly, or Merrill (and many others as well). There were such gracious hospitality and wonderful potlucks as I made the rounds for parish visits and Confirmation celebrations. Those now are part of my story and treasure to remember and to ponder.

One aspect of my visits to almost all of the parishes in the Diocese that truly has been inspiring to me is the vitality of the faith life of the people, even in our smallest and more remote parishes. The singing even of the responsorial psalm at Sunday Eucharist was impressive. The music group was obviously not just put together for my visit. Although resources are very limited in these situations, the faith and community are truly alive. For this too we must always be grateful to Catholic Extension Society that has been so helpful and generous in helping us with resources when such are so limited. The USCCB Home Missions Office has also been invaluable with their assistance.

As I take leave, I must also express a profound sense of gratitude and appreciation to our staff at the Diocesan Pastoral Office in Bend. They are a very dedicated, competent, and hard working group whose service during my time here was invaluable to me and whose sense of commitment to the Church in Eastern Oregon is a great gift to the whole diocese.

As we look to the future, there will continue to be the usual challenges for us as Church, but there is also so much potential to be realized as your new bishop, presbyterate, deacons, and laity continue under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to journey and grow as a faith community in Eastern Oregon. You will be in my prayers and please remember me too. May God bless you always.

And so, Adios and Hasta La Vista. It is not a goodbye.

The Most Reverend William S. Skylstad
Apostolic Administrator



REFLEXIONES DEL OBISPO SKYLSTAD..... ¡Hasta la vista y ¡Adiós!

Las palabras "Adiós" y "Hasta la vista" son familiares para todos nosotros. Literalmente, "Adiós" significa "a Dios", y "Hasta La Visita", "Hasta que nos volvamos a ver". Ambos expresan un sentido de partida o despedida. En el primer caso, Dios está siempre presente con nosotros dondequiera que estemos. En el segundo caso, básicamente el sentido es hasta que nos veamos uno al otro de nuevo. Como mencioné en mi mensaje anterior de La Crónica, este es otro tiempo de transición en mi vida como nuestro nuevo obispo, Guillermo Cary, será ordenado el 18 de mayo en la Iglesia de San Francisco en Bend. Mi último servicio en la diócesis será el día siguiente con la celebración de la Confirmación el sábado por la noche en la Parroquia de Santa María, de Hood River.

Mi reflexión sobre estos últimos quince meses, es de una profunda gratitud y bendición. Pues he visitado y celebra en las parroquias de toda la diócesis, ahora tengo en mi memoria las caras que se conectan con los nombres de las parroquias y pueblos. Ya no sólo será pasar por Arlington en el I-84 o escuchar los nombres de Jordan Valley, Unity, Crane, Bly, o Merrill (y otros también). Hubo tanta hospitalidad y convivios maravillosos al visitar las parroquias y celebrar las confirmación. Todo esto ahora es parte de mi historia y mi tesoro para recordar y meditar.

Uno de los aspectos de mis visitas a casi todas las parroquias de la Diócesis que realmente ha sido inspirador para mí es la vitalidad de la vida de fe de las personas, incluso en nuestras parroquias más pequeñas y más remotas. Aun el canto, del salmo responsorial en la Eucaristía del domingo fue impresionante. El grupo de música, obviamente, no sólo fue organizado por mi visita. Aunque los recursos son muy limitados en estas situaciones, la fe y de la comunidad están realmente viva. Por esto también debemos estar siempre agradecidos a la Sociedad de Catholic Extension Society, que ha sido tan servicial y generosa para ayudarnos con los recursos, cuando estos son muy limitados. La USCCB Home Misiones Office también ha sido invaluable con su ayuda.

Al despedirme, debo también expresar un profundo sentimiento de gratitud y reconocimiento a nuestro personal en la Oficina Pastoral Diocesano en Bend. Son un grupo muy dedicado, competente y trabajador cuyo servicio durante mi estancia aquí fue muy valioso; el compromiso que sienten para con la Iglesia en el este de Oregón es un gran regalo para toda la diócesis.

Al mirar hacia el futuro, seguirán existiendo los desafíos habituales para nosotros como Iglesia, pero también hay mucho potencial para tomarse en cuenta como su nuevo obispo, presbíteros, diáconos y laicos que siguen bajo la guía del Espíritu Santo al caminar y crecer como una comunidad de fe en el este de Oregón. Ustedes estarán en mis oraciones y por favor, acuérdense de mí también. Que Dios los bendiga siempre. Por eso, Adios y Hasta La Vista. No es una despedida.

Excelentísimo Sr. Obispo Don Guillermo S. Skylstad
Administrador Apostólico

DIOCESAN CAMP SCHEDULES:

It is time to get serious about registering for the summer camps at the Powell Butte Retreat Center. Visit the diocesan website at www.dioceseofbaker.org to find information on this summer's camps as well as our past camps (including videos). Print out the Registration forms and reserve your place at your favorite camp!



2012 Baba yetu uliye Mbinguni amina!

Summer of the Savior's Safari

**Celebrating Unity in the Midst of Our Diversity
One Spirit / One Church Uniting Us All In His Body**

High School Camp: Entering 9 - 12 Grade June 19-24

School is finished for the year and now it is time to relax and have some good fun. So we play and pray with the Lord, while growing in old friendships and growing with new friendships that frequently last a lifetime.

Family Camp: For All Ages !! June 30-July 3

Planned for families by families, these camps are a Christ centered opportunity to grow together in the Catholic faith. There are times to pray and play as a family.

Leadership Camp: Grade 11, 12 & freshman college July 16-20

At this camp we train youth to be strong Catholic Christian Leaders in their lives, their families, and their parishes. They are taught how to lead ice breakers, small group sharing, meal prayers, make up skits and cheers, teach and pass on the faith, plus have a really good time.

Middle School Camp: Entering 6 - 8 grade July 20-24

There is a fire burning in the hearts of those in Middle School that is fanned into flame at this camp. The Camp facility truly provides a beautiful and holy place for the participants - we are always humbled by the graces that it brings with each Camp.

Upper Elementary Camp: Entering 4 - 6 Grade July 31-August 3

Through the eyes of these children we come to see the many things that we have to be thankful for. For example: for many of the youth this is their first experience being away from home overnight on their own. It is amazing how much more they come to appreciate their parents and even their siblings through this separation. That is until they start having a lot of fun.

Teen Camp: Between the Ages of 13 - 17 August 5-9

For those youth who were so upset that for some reason they were not able to go to High School Camp or Middle School Camp, here was another chance for teenagers! This camp even included those teenagers in college. Plus, anyone was invited to come even if they had already attended a camp this summer.

Campamento Familiar: Todos son bienvenidos-valquier edad Agosto 17-19

Planeados por familias para familias, estos campamentos están centrados en Cristo y son una oportunidad para crecer juntos en la fe católica. Hay momentos para rezar y jugar en familia.

A MOTHER'S STORY:

Mother's Day is next Sunday, May 13th. Unfortunately, we won't have a Mother's Day issue this year, but we are so very fortunate to be able to share this letter that we received from a young mother who lives in Bend and whose four children attend St. Francis School.

"December 16th, the last day of school before winter break, was supposed to be the beginning of a wonderful two week relaxing Christmas break spent with my husband, four young children, family and friends. Instead, one phone call at work from the radiologist changed that as he said the dreaded words no woman wants to hear but knows are coming, "You have breast cancer." As the Martina McBride song lyrics indicate, "I burst into tears after the doctor confirmed my fear. Cancer doesn't discriminate or care if you're just 38, with three kids who need you in their lives," and in my case just 35 with four beautiful children, Kenson, Kiernan, Shea, and Evens ages 10, 8, 6 and 6.

Like the song, my loving and supportive husband, Ryan never left my side along with my family including my Mom, a fifteen year breast cancer survivor, and Dad; close friends including Banni Bunting; work colleagues at HDESD; the Bend Swim Club; Doctor Higgins and Dr. Gallagher and, the entire St. Francis School Community. Although there are many people I need to thank personally, this is intended to thank our school community who rallied around not only me and my husband, but more importantly around my children and "loved us through it."

Like many in Bend, our extended family lives out of town. Like so many here, our friends become our family. In our case, many of our close friends attend school with our children at St. Francis. Therefore, my husband's first calls included several families at St. Francis. With my husbands' plea for support and guidance, word quickly spread around St. Francis School to staff and parents. We received several surgeon references from St. Francis families within hours; one of them, Dr. Higgins, called me personally the very next day, Saturday. The information given by Dr. Higgins alleviated stress and gave us some peace.

Also, with four children in mind, my husband and I needed time to digest the new reality in our lives and plan how to minimize the emotional pain of cancer placed on our children. Therefore, several St. Francis families quickly volunteered to take our children overnight so my husband and I had time to formulate a plan on how to tell our children. Over the next two weeks, families of St. Francis watched our children daily as we met with doctors and started making plans and decisions for my treatment. During this time, unbeknownst to me, the St. Francis community started their mission of supporting us through this difficult time and, again like McBride's lyrics, St. Francis promised we would "never be alone" and "took our hands" during our unplanned journey.

Continued on page 4

A MOTHER'S STORY continued:

The day before my surgery, January 4th, I drove to St. Francis to pick up my children from school. To my surprise, as I was driving into the school parking lot a gigantic homemade pink sign caught my eye. Again, I burst into tears as I read, "Wear pink tomorrow to support Kelly Peters" with breast cancer symbols decorated on it. However, the tears streaming from my face contrasted drastically from the tears shed from the phone call I received weeks earlier from the radiologist.

These were tears of joy, peace, and love for the school; our extended family. The huge smile on my children's faces as they raced to the car to tell me that the whole school is wearing pink and ribbons for me eliminated any anxiety over the surgery. My children also came in the car carrying hundreds of sincere and beautifully crafted handmade cards from the students of St. Francis to me. I knew my children would feel love and be supported the next day at school when I was in surgery.

The support continued to pour in from my St. Francis family. Prayer chains were started. Lunches were made for my children every day and are still being made during my recovery time. Homemade dinners are made for my family almost every night and have continued. Play dates and sleepovers were coordinated for my children. Christmas Carolers, organized by a St. Francis teacher, even showed up at a Christmas Eve gathering to spread some cheer to my family. Without a doubt, St. Francis turned "lemons into lemonade" for my children. During the last five weeks, smiles and laughter quickly replaced my children's fear and tears.

How do you say thank you to a whole school including the priests, head teacher, teachers, staff, parents and the students? Words are not enough, but I will try. Thank you St. Francis for "loving us through it." What could have been one of the most difficult times of our lives turned out instead to reveal many hidden blessings. My husband and I are overwhelmed by the love, support and generosity bestowed upon us graciously by our extended family, St. Francis School. Also, a special thanks to the head teacher, Mrs. Roberts, who models daily for our children what truly matters: compassion and love for others.

As for me, and again like McBride's Lyrics indicates, "I made it through the surgery fine and they caught it just in time." Just like my mother and many others, I am a breast cancer survivor with a new outlook on life. I see clearly, more than ever, what truly matters in life; friends and family, which to me now are one in the same. Thank you again, St. Francis, from the bottom of my heart.

Love, Kelly Peters



"The truth will set you free."

John 8:32

It is with praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God
that we announce the

Episcopal Ordination and Installation

of

THE MOST REVEREND
LIAM CARY

as the

Seventh Bishop

of

The Diocese of Baker

To be conferred by

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny
Metropolitan Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
Principal Consecrator

The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa
Bishop of Santa Rosa

and

The Most Reverend William S. Skylstad
Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Spokane
Co-Consecrators

in the presence of

The Most Reverend Carlo Maria Viganò
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

Friday, the eighteenth of May
two thousand and twelve
at two o'clock in the afternoon

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
2450 NE 27th Street
Bend, Oregon

