



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"

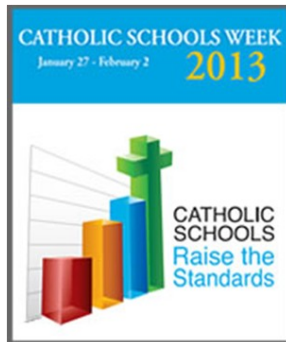
January 27, 2013

Volume 4, Number 2

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS:

"Catholic Schools Raise the Standards" is the theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013, the annual celebration of the high quality, faith based education the nation's Catholic schools provide. The observance is scheduled for January 27 to February 2, 2013.

The 2013 theme highlights the recent launch of a new initiative, the *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools*, to ensure consistent high standards at Catholic schools across the country. The logo designed for the week illustrates a chart of steady growth culminating in the highest achievement of all, a cross representing the faith that underscores all Catholic education.



PARISH NEWS: St. Helen, Pilot Rock

On Sunday, December 9th St. Helen Church celebrated their 50th anniversary as a parish in Pilot Rock. Bishop Liam Cary and Father Bailey Clemens concelebrated Mass followed by a reception of cake and punch in the church hall.

The initial dedication took place on July 15, 1962, with Father Lavin of Pendleton conducting Mass, assisted by 21 other priests. Bishop Francis P. Leipzig, Bishop of the Diocese of Baker from 1950-1971, delivered the dedication address.

In 1910, when the Irish Franciscan Capuchins took possession of Hermiston, Pilot Rock was assigned to the Hermiston Parish. Mass was celebrated in private homes. The first mission church, built with the help of the Catholic Church Extension Society, was dedicated in honor of St. Agnes in 1930. It wasn't until September of 1959 that the church was canonically erected as a parish and the name changed to St. Helen.

For the history of all our Parishes and Mission Churches, contact your parish or the Diocesan Office for the centennial book *The Catholic Church of Eastern Oregon* by Loretta Pastva, SND. This book provides the reader with pictures and information about the Diocese of Baker from 1903-2003.



PARISH NEWS: St. Francis de Sales, Baker City

Bishop Cary celebrated his first Christmas at the Baker City Cathedral. He celebrated all the Masses, including Mass at St. Therese mission church in Halfway. Father Cassar and Bishop Cary drove back to Baker City in a fierce snowstorm, but made it safely home. Bishop Cary described his visit as one of the most joyous Christmases he has ever experienced.



PRIESTLY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY:

Congratulations to Reverend Thomas Scanlan of Bend. Father Scanlan was ordained to priesthood on February 2, 1957.

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

PARISH NEWS: Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls



Sacred Heart Church presents

MARDI GRAS

Saturday, February 9, 2013

11 am - 3 pm

All are welcome to this Mardi Gras Carnival, featuring Mardi Gras style food, a bouncy house, as well as traditional carnival games including a cake walk, fishing booth, face painting, ring toss, and much more. Call Katie or Sarah at the Parish Office (541) 884-4566.

Thoughts Along the Way from Bishop Cary

Forty years ago this month the Supreme Court handed down the Roe v. Wade decision and threw open the floodgates to abortion on demand. On this sad anniversary we do well to recall Blessed John Paul II's great encyclical, The Gospel of Life. Its Good News is threefold, the pope says. First of all, it is the Gospel of Human Dignity - the Good News that every human being is made "in the image and likeness of God." Secondly, it is the Gospel of God's Love for every one of the human creatures made in His image. Thirdly, it is the Gospel of Life, because it comes from and leads back to the Giver of Life. In short, the Gospel of Life is the Good News of human dignity loved into life. To live this Gospel, the pope tells us, "we must care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible." And He has made us responsible for the child in the womb.

Not in the judgment of the Supreme Court in 1973. Roe v. Wade has proved to be an anti-Gospel - the worst of bad news for the "self-evident truths" proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence: "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." An "unalienable" right is one that no one can take away, but that is just what the Justices did in Roe v. Wade: they alienated from the equal protection of the law those least able to protect themselves, the unborn.

Bypassing democratic deliberation by the American people, the Court unilaterally legalized abortion overnight and enshrined "choice" as the value that now trumps all others. The choice Roe endorsed is the choice to use lethal force without having to give a public reason - to take a life without having to justify why you did. The Court would never extend such an extraordinary concession to death in traffic collisions, in robberies, or in spousal abuse. In such cases whoever causes death will be called to account for it; the taker of life will be required to give an explanation that is subject to the judgment of the community.

Roe exempted the decision to end life in the womb from public scrutiny. In so doing it cleared the way for the burden of this terrible choice to fall overwhelmingly on the women who make it. In the four decades since Roe women beyond counting have informed men of unforeseen pregnancy only to hear them say, "You can have me or you can have an abortion. The choice is yours." So it is. For the law of Roe absolves men of responsibility for the life they have begotten in the body of the woman.

Precisely here the Gospel of Life comes to our rescue. For it is the Gospel of New Life even where life has been lost or destroyed, "Father, forgive them," Jesus prays as he is nailed to the Cross. "Give them life anew, for they know not what they do." These words to the Father as his mission ends bring to completion his words to us as it begins: "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

In a famous passage in his encyclical Pope John Paul II applied these words directly to women who have had an

abortion. "The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You will come to understand that nothing is definitively lost and you will also be able to ask forgiveness from your child, who is now living in the Lord. With the friendly and expert help and advice of other people, and as a result of your own painful experience, you can be among the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life."

It has been my great privilege as a priest to see the truth of the Holy Father's words confirmed time and again in hearing the confessions of women who have had an abortion. One in particular is seared into my memory. She was in her late thirties, and strikingly beautiful. But as she began to confess, she wept away her beauty right before my eyes. Tears of grief poured down her face until only sorrow showed on its surface - sorrow that made no excuse whatsoever, sorrow that simply pleaded for the pardon Jesus promised on the Cross. As his mercy washed over her in the words of absolution, her countenance was utterly transformed once again. She looked as beautiful as she had when we began: "Your sins are forgiven," I said; "go in peace." And she did.

Recall the words of John Paul: "we must care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible." He has made us responsible to care for women tempted by terrible circumstances to have an abortion. He has made us responsible to care for women deeply wounded by the abortion they've had. He has made us responsible to show them that the Gospel of Life is always the Gospel of Hope.

Pensamientos del Camino por el Obispo Cary

Hace cuarenta años este mes, la Corte Suprema dictó la decisión Roe v. Wade y abrió las puertas a la petición al aborto. En este triste aniversario haremos bien en recordar la gran encíclica del Beato Juan Pablo II, El Evangelio de la Vida. Su Buena Nueva es triple, dice el Papa. En primer lugar, es el Evangelio de la dignidad humana - la buena nueva de que todo ser humano está hecho "a imagen y semejanza de Dios". En segundo lugar, es el Evangelio del amor de Dios por cada uno de los seres humanos hechos a su imagen. En tercer lugar, es el Evangelio de la Vida, porque viene de y regresa al Dador de la Vida. En pocas palabras, el Evangelio de la vida es la buena nueva de la dignidad humana que amamos en la vida. Para vivir este Evangelio, el Papa nos dice: "hay que cuidar a otros como personas confiadas por Dios a nuestra responsabilidad."

Y Él nos ha hecho responsables por el niño en el vientre materno.

Pero no de acuerdo al Tribunal Supremo que en 1973. En el caso Roe v. Wade ha demostrado ser un anti-Evangelio - la peor de las malas noticias para las “verdades evidentes”, proclamadas en la Declaración de Independencia: “que todos los hombres son creados iguales, que son dotados por su Creador con ciertos derechos individuales, que entre éstos están la vida, la libertad y el buscar la felicidad”, “individual” es un derecho que nadie puede quitar, pero eso es precisamente lo que hicieron los jueces en el caso Roe v. Wade: ellos negaron la protección de la ley a los no nacidos incapaces de protegerse a sí mismos.

Haciendo caso omiso de la deliberación democrática del pueblo norteamericano, el Tribunal legalizó el aborto sin restricción alguna de la noche a la mañana y lo convirtió en “opción” que es el valor que ahora prevalece sobre todos los demás. La opción Roe es la opción de usar fuerza letal sin tener que dar una razón al público para terminar con una vida sin tener que justificar por qué lo hicieron. La Corte nunca extendería esta concesión extraordinaria a la muerte en accidentes de tráfico, en robos, o en el abuso conyugal. En estos casos, cualquiera que cause la muerte, será llamado a dar cuenta de ello, el que quito la vida será obligado a dar una explicación la cual está sujeta al juicio de la comunidad.

Roe perdonó la decisión de acabar con una vida en el vientre sin tener que dar ninguna razón en público. Al hacerlo, abrió el camino al agravio de esta terrible opción que cae abrumadoramente en las mujeres que la toman. En las cuatro décadas desde Roe incontables mujeres han informado a hombres de embarazos no previstos sólo para oírlos decir: “si quieres que este contigo tienes que abortar. La opción es tuya.” Así es. Qué la ley Roe absuelve a los hombres de la responsabilidad por la vida que han engendrado en el cuerpo de la mujer.

Precisamente aquí el Evangelio de la vida viene a nuestro rescate. Porque es el Evangelio de la Nueva Vida, aun cuando la vida se ha perdido o destruido, “Padre, perdónalos,” Jesús ora estando clavado en la cruz. “Dales una nueva vida, porque no saben lo que hacen.” Estas palabras al Padre al terminar su misión, sus palabras para nosotros, termina lo que comenzó diciendo: “Conviértanse y crean en el Evangelio”.

En un famoso pasaje de la encíclica del Papa Juan Pablo II Él aplicó estas palabras directamente a las mujeres que han tenido un aborto. “La Iglesia está consciente de los muchos factores que pueden haber influido en su decisión, y no duda de que en muchos casos fue una decisión dolorosa e incluso dramática. La herida en su corazón aún no ha sanado. Es verdad que lo sucedido fue y sigue siendo profundamente injusto. Pero no se dejen vencer por el desánimo y no pierdan la esperanza. Antes bien, comprendan en su verdad lo ocurrido. Y si aún no lo han hecho, ábranse con humildad y confianza al arrepentimiento. El Padre de la misericordia está listo para ofrecerles su perdón y su paz en el sacramento de la

Reconciliación. Se darán cuenta de que no todo está perdido y también serán capaces de pedir perdón a su hijo que ahora vive en el Señor. Con la ayuda amistosa y asesoramiento de otras personas, y como resultado de su propia experiencia dolorosa, pueden ser unos de los defensores más elocuentes del derecho de todos a la vida.”

He tenido el gran privilegio como sacerdote, ver la verdad de las palabras del Santo Padre confirmándolo una y otra vez al escuchar las confesiones de las mujeres que han recurrido al aborto. Uno caso en particular quedo marcado para siempre en mi memoria. Ella tenía cerca de cuarenta años, y era sorprendentemente hermosa. Pero cuando empezó a confesarse, su llanto hacia desaparecer su-belleza ante mis ojos. Lágrimas de dolor derramó por su rostro hasta que sólo el dolor quedo en su cara, dolor que no era excusa alguna, dolor que simplemente imploraba el perdón que Jesús prometió en la Cruz. A medida que su misericordia llegaba a ella con las palabras de la absolución, su rostro se transformó por completo una vez más. Se veía tan hermosa como cuando empezamos: “Tus pecados te son perdonados”, le dije, “vete en paz”. Y así lo hizo.

Recordemos las palabras de Juan Pablo II: “hay que cuidar al otro como persona confiada por Dios a nuestra responsabilidad.” Él nos ha hecho responsables de atender a las mujeres tentadas por las circunstancias terribles de tener un aborto. Él nos ha hecho responsables de atender a las mujeres profundamente heridas por el aborto que han tenido. Él nos ha hecho responsables de mostrar que el Evangelio de la Vida es siempre el Evangelio de la esperanza.



FORWARD *in* FAITH

— DIOCESE of BAKER —

*“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another
as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”*

— 1 PETER 4:10

*Appeal gifts will be distributed in the areas of
Young Adult Ministry, Seminary Education,
Priest Retirement and the General Fund as most needed.*

TO DONATE ONLINE go to the Diocesan website
www.Dioceseofbaker.org

Second Chance for Forward in Faith Gift - IRA Charitable Rollover for 2012:

Did you know that an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution to charity for those of age 70 1/2 or older approved before February 1, 2013, counts retroactively for the 2012 tax year? Contact your Advisor or Legacy of Faith Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon for more information at (541) 388-4004.

PARISH NEWS: St. Pius X, Klamath Falls

Religious Education students from St. Pius X Church in Klamath Falls, with a number of parents and parishioners, welcomed a special guest on Sunday, October 14th, Sr. Elaine Thaden, O.S.F. Sister is a member of the vocations team for the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia who have served in the Baker Diocese in hospitals, schools, parishes, and Diocesan programs for 125 years. She spoke with the students about "Vocation," God's three-fold call in their lives: His call to life, to life in Him, and to service to His people, whether through the sacrament of Marriage or as a Priest, Brother, Sister, Deacon, or as a single person in the world. Students and adults were able to ask questions, and they ranged from "How old are you?" and "How old were you when you first wanted to be a Sister?" to "Did your parents encourage vocations in your home?" and "I have two questions: Did you ever feel like God left you, and what has been the hardest thing about being a Sister?" (a 4th grader's question!) Needless to say, Sister's answers led to interesting discussions. As students left, all were given prayer cards and vocations resources. Children and adults went away from the visit with much to ponder.

Three weeks later, within St. Pius' Fall Ministry Fair, the Vocations Committee honored the winners of the Vocations Poster Contest. The contest was open to children from grades 1-12. Participants had three weeks to create a poster at home and submit it to the Committee. Then the parish's Golden Girls judged the posters. The Catholic Daughters and the Knights of Columbus donated the \$25.00 first place prizes, and parishioners Mr. and Mrs. Larry King donated \$5.00 Dairy Queen gift cards for second place winners. Winners in each grade group were: Grade 1-2 Aiden Balzotti, 1st, and Matt Elfbrandt, 2nd; Grade 3-4 Owen Baenen, 1st, and Kobe Deutscher, 2nd; Grade 5-6 Makenzie Elfbrandt, 1st, and Andrea Malakar, 2nd; Grade 7-8 Zach Holder, 1st, Kristen Scott, 2nd; Grade 9-12 Kelly Scott, 1st, and Patricia Malakar, 2nd. Honorable Mention was awarded to: Thea Baenen, Ella Bocchi, Caden Deutscher, Mark Elfbrandt, Karishma Malakar, and Annikah Tacchini.

The parish Vocations Committee has a number of other activities planned for the rest of this year to help strengthen a "culture of vocation" within our Parish and our Diocese.



Some of the First Place Winners of the Vocations Poster Contest

BISHOP CARY'S SCHEDULE:

Jan. 30	School Mass, St. Francis, Bend
Feb. 4-6	National Bioethics Meeting, Texas
Feb. 9	Year of Faith Teaching series, St. Mary, Pendleton
Feb. 10	Confirmation, St. Andrews Mission, Pendleton
Feb. 16	Rite of Election, Redmond for the Central Deanery
Feb. 18	Review Board Meeting
Feb. 20	Department Head Meeting
Feb. 22-23	Men's Conference in Pendleton
Mar. 6	NABRS Meeting-Beaverton
Mar. 9	RCIA Retreat – Powell Butte
Mar. 17	Chastity Presentation, St. Francis, Bend, new Church
Mar. 21	Chrism Mass – Baker City
Mar. 28-31	Holy Week and Easter, Cathedral in Baker City
Apr. 8-12	Priest Retreat - Powell Butte
Apr. 13	Year of Faith Teaching series, St. Peter, The Dalles
Apr. 13-14	Confirmation, St. Mary, Hood River
Apr. 20-21	Confirmation, Holy Family, Burns & Mission Churches
Apr. 24	Confirmation, Blessed Sacrament, Ontario
Apr. 25	Confirmation, St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Baker City
Apr. 27	Year of Faith Teaching series, Baker City
Apr. 27-28	Confirmation, St. Patrick, Vale & St. Joseph, Unity

PARISH NEWS: St. Thomas, Redmond



The Passion According to Saint Luke, a live one-man production performed by actor and director Leonardo

Defilippis, will be presented on Saturday, March 9th at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Redmond. A lasagna dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center, with the performance starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. This event is sponsored by the St. Thomas Adult Education and Youth Group.

Join us in celebrating the Year of Faith by attending this drama. It is a perfect Lenten opportunity which allows the power of the Word of God to penetrate the heart of each individual audience member.

Come experience the profound power of Christ's Passion in this moving professional drama presented by Saint Luke Productions. The program runs one hour and is open to all adults and youth ages 11 and up. Admission for the dinner and performance is \$10 per person. Tickets can be purchased after all St. Thomas Masses during February or at the parish office. Out-of-towners can contact the office for other arrangements. For additional information, please contact the St. Thomas Parish Office (541) 923-3390 or email at office@stthomasredmond.com or visit www.stthomasredmond.com. Learn more about the live drama by visiting www.ThePassionDrama.com.