



# THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

## NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

December 15, 2013

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*Here is your God, ...he comes to save you.*

*Isaiah 35:4*



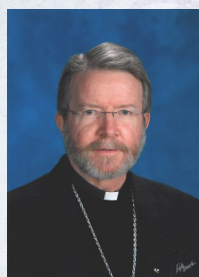
*May you share the joy of His mother as the Son of the Father comes to dwell among us anew.*

Bishop Liam Cary,  
Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Connolly  
and the Diocesan Staff

*Compartamos la alegría de su madre al venir el hijo del Padre, a habitar entre nosotros nuevamente.*

Los obispos, Don Liam Cary,  
Don Tomas Connolly,  
y el personal de la diócesis.

### THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY — Bishop Cary



hope keeps watch for his arrival.

Having completed our observance of the Year of Faith, we find ourselves in the midst of the Season of Hope. "Are you 'he who is to come,'" John the Baptist's disciples ask Jesus, "or do we look for another?" Faith tells us that Someone is coming; hope keeps watch for his arrival.

To live out our faith in love our heart must beat with hope. Faith without hope is like a ship stuck at sea. The maps aboard the ship of faith (the Scriptures, the Catechism) serve no purpose unless the winds of hope catch its sails and move it onward across the waters to the goal of life's journey. Against the fierce counter winds of an unbelieving world it takes strong faith to sustain the hope that is within us and live it out in love day by day.

Each Advent we witness anew the world-changing faith of the Virgin who bore our Hope in her womb toward the first Christmas. Throughout her pregnancy Mary knew that the One who is to come was with her, as close as He could be. Like any mother, she longed to see His face; but He dwelt invisibly within, and she had to live in hope until Hope came to birth. Her husband Joseph shared her hope, and so do we: to look upon the face of the Father's only Son and to feel his gaze upon us, to see and be seen by the Love of God Incarnate in the Son of Mary of Nazareth. It was altogether too much to hope that for our sake the great and all-powerful God would make Himself every bit as small and defenseless as we were when we first drew breath. Yet that is precisely the hope which Advent proposes to us, because it is the Hope of the Church.

If Advent were taken out of our lives, what would we have to hope for, to whom would we go

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to hope in? “Hope springs eternal in the human heart,” it is true; but earthbound hope does not spring far enough; it cannot ferry us over the horizon of death. To make that passage we need a hope that comes to us from the other shore, the shore of eternal life.

That hope leads us home to “the end of all our desires,” St. Thomas Aquinas teaches. As we learn from repeated, painful experience, “in this life no one can fulfill his longing, nor can any creature satisfy man’s desire. Only God satisfies.

... That is why man can rest in nothing but God.”

But resting in God—our last best hope—will not cut us off from one another. To the contrary, St. Thomas teaches, “eternal life consists of the joyous community of all the blessed, since everyone will share all that is good with all the blessed. Everyone will love everyone else as himself, and therefore will rejoice in another’s good as in his own. So it follows that the happiness and joy of each grows in proportion to the joy of all.”

This is the hope Advent invites us to make our own. To whom shall we go for a greater?

### **PENSAMIENTOS DEL CAMINO — Obispo Cary**

Completado nuestra celebración del Año de la Fe, nos encontramos en el tiempo de la esperanza. “¿Eres Tú ‘el que ha de venir?’”, “le preguntan los discípulos de Juan el Bautista a Jesús,” “¿o esperaremos a otro?” La fe nos dice que alguien ha de venir; La Esperanza nos mantiene alerta a su llegada.

Al vivir nuestra fe en amor nuestro corazón debe latir con esperanza. La fe sin esperanza es como un barco atrapado en el mar. Los mapas a bordo del barco de la fe (las Escrituras, el Catecismo) no sirven de nada si los vientos de la esperanza no despliegan sus velas y lo mueven a través de las aguas hacia la meta de la vida. Contra los vientos feroces de un mundo incrédulo se necesita una fe fuerte para sostener la esperanza que hay en nosotros y vivirla día a día en el amor.

Cada Adviento somos testigos del nuevo cambio del mundo por la fe de la Virgen que llevaba nuestra esperanza en su vientre hacia la primera Navidad. A lo largo de su embarazo María sabía que Aquel que ha de venir estaba con ella, lo más cerca que podía estar. Como cualquier madre, ella ansiaba ver su rostro, pero Él se mantenía de manera invisible en su interior, y ella tuvo que vivir en la esperanza hasta que la esperanza nació. Su marido José compartió su esperanza, y nosotros también: al mirar el rostro del Hijo único del Padre y sentir su mirada sobre nosotros, para ver y ser visto por el Amor de Dios encarnado en el Hijo de María de Nazaret. Todo era demasiada esperanza que por amor a nosotros el gran y todopoderoso Dios quiso darse a sí mismo cada pedacito tan pequeño e indefenso como nosotros al nacer. Sin embargo, eso es precisamente la esperanza que el Adviento nos propone, porque es la esperanza de la Iglesia.

Si nos quitaran el Adviento de nuestras vidas, ¿cuál sería nuestra esperanza, en quién pondríamos nuestra esperanza? “La esperanza es eterna en el corazón humano”, es cierto, pero la esperanza terrenal no es suficiente, para transportarnos al otro lado del horizonte de la muerte. Para dar ese paso necesitamos una esperanza que viene de la otra orilla, de la orilla de la vida eterna.

Esa esperanza nos lleva a casa “al final de todos nuestros deseos,” Las enseñanzas de Santo Tomás de Aquino dicen. A medida que aprendemos de repetidas, experiencias dolorosas, “en esta vida nadie puede cumplir su deseo, ni criatura alguna satisfacer el deseo del hombre. Sólo Dios satisface.

... Es por eso que el hombre no puede descansar nada más que en Dios”.

Pero descansando en Dios-nuestra última y mejor esperanza-no nos separa de los demás. Por el contrario, enseña Santo Tomás, “la vida eterna consiste en la comunidad alegre de todos los bienaventurados, porque todo el mundo va a compartir todo lo que es bueno con todos los bienaventurados. Cada uno amará a todos los demás como a sí mismo, y por lo tanto se regocijará en el bien de los otros como en el suyo propio. Por lo tanto, se deduce que la felicidad y la alegría de cada uno crece en proporción a la alegría de todos.”

Esta es la esperanza de Adviento que nos invita a hacerla nuestra. ¿A quién iremos por una mayor?

### **DIOCESAN NEWS:**

Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Connolly

On November 21st, Father Leo Weckerle travelled with Mary Ann Davis to spend the day with our beloved Bishop Connolly. They reported that he enjoyed visiting and having lunch with them.

During the Advent and Christmas seasons, we send Bishop Connolly our prayers and best wishes for all God’s blessings now and for the coming new year.



Fr. Weckerle anoints Bishop Connolly during his visit.

## THE DIOCESE OF BAKER AND MOTHER MARY'S DAUGHTERS:

Annual Christmas  
Family Celebration

Please join us for the annual Christmas Family Celebration to be held Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2014, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Diocesan Retreat Center beginning with Eucharistic Holy Hour and the Christmas Scriptural Reading by Fr. Julian Cassar in St. Mary's Chapel.

Festivities to include:

- ♦ Christmas Around the World slide presentation by Fr. Cassar,
- ♦ Christmas Carols
- ♦ Musical *The Twelve Days of Christmas* with family interaction
- ♦ Trimming of the Tree
- ♦ Ethnic dancing
- ♦ Music provided by *LeRoy and Friends*.

Please bring a favorite finger food, festive cookies, beverage to share. Cost is \$5 per person/\$10 per family.



## Supporting the New Evangelization through the Bishop's Annual Appeal

Our late pontiff, Blessed John Paul II described his vision for a "New Evangelization" as a new way to turn every encounter with another human being into an experience of Jesus Christ; something he said every baptized Christian is called to do. As it is for most Catholic dioceses across the globe, the New Evangelization is a pastoral priority for the Diocese of Baker, and we can support its efforts through the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

The New Evangelization, in part, aims to reach out to alienated Catholics who in many cases have embraced a secular way of thinking. Europe and North America are a special focus by the Church because these are the continents where a disproportionate share of fallen away Catholics are found. In the United States alone, there are now 22 million people who are characterized as "ex-Catholics." The decline in Mass attendance is also a concern of Catholic leaders. Seventy-five percent of people who call themselves Catholic in the United States don't attend Mass regularly.

Blessed John Paul II called for "new ardor, methods and expressions," for evangelizing, or rather, a renewed passion and new ways to share our faith with a secular society that has grown rather cold to the Gospel and has lost an appreciation for the Church's mission.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, is calling for a fundamental conversion through the New Evangelization that involves bishops, chancery staffs, clergy, religious, and most of all, the laity, who he is urging to become more fervent in their own Christian witness. He is also urging parish communities to bring more vitality to parish life and worship; to become more dynamic communities of faith; and more committed to sharing the Catholic faith outside the boundaries of the parish.

Bishop Liam Cary has made the New Evangelization a pastoral priority in the Diocese of Baker, and one diocesan pastoral initiative begins this weekend. Under the leadership of Barry Metzentine, director of the diocese's Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, a pilot program called *Come and See* is a creative attempt to allow the New Evangelization to find its way into parishes and take root. This campaign encourages active parishioners to personally invite either a fallen away Catholic, or a non-Catholic family member or friend to the parish for spiritual reflection and faith-sharing.

Our gifts to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, to be launched in the spring of 2014, will help fund this important pastoral priority for the diocese. The Bishop's Annual Appeal is a pledge program, which is an easy way to give and allows us to make a more generous and affordable gift. Pledging allows us to spread out our gift over several months.

The diocesan evangelization efforts to unfold in the coming months offer a way for everyone in the diocese to become involved. By supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we will be afforded a unique opportunity to strengthen the faith of practicing Catholics and reach out to those who have fallen away from our family of faith.

## PARISH NEWS: St. Patrick, Heppner



"Lady On The Rocks", a drama about alcoholism was presented at St. Patrick Parish Hall on Sunday November 24th at 5:00 p.m. The play was written by Elizabeth Blake,

and originally presented under the auspices of "Plays For Living" a division of Family Service Association of America, and commissioned by the National Council of Alcoholism. The cast included Anne Morter, Brian Kollman, Rylee Kollman, and Kane Sweeney. The drama was directed by Fr. Gerry Condon, and was followed by a discussion which was led by Bobby Harris, an alcoholic counselor. Coffee and punch were served following the discussion.

## BISHOP CARY'S SCHEDULE:

Dec 15 10:00 Mass, Bend—Install Acolytes  
Dec 15 Spanish Mass, Bend  
Dec 15 Reconciliation Service, Madras  
Dec 17-19 Cardinal George 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass, Chicago

## THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

This newsletter is published every two weeks to bring news and events of importance and interest to the people of God of the Diocese of Baker. Your news is important. Please keep those updates coming! Email your articles to Terri at [terri@dioceseofbaker.org](mailto:terri@dioceseofbaker.org).



**Combine** “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8



**With** “Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;” 1 Peter 3:15

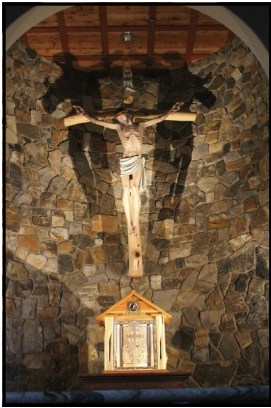
**And** “Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12



**And you'll get**

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20



## Or, in other words.... DAY OF THE SON 'TELL THE WORLD'



**P**—Praise  
**R**—Reflect  
**A**—Ask  
**Y**—Yield

**DAY OF THE SPIRIT**  
**MY WITNESS**  
**YOU'LL BE**



*‘I came that they may have life,  
and have it abundantly’*

— John 10:10

