



THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

March 23, 2014

Volume 5, Number 6

Catholic Schools News:

St. Peter Catholic School, Ontario

Each school year the students of St. Peter Catholic School in Ontario participate in a Knowledge Fair.

This year the school studied a variety of topics in preparation for the Fair and made individual presentations on what they had learned.

- ◇ K4 studied the different Penguins in Antarctica,
- ◇ Kindergarten studied the creatures of the Rain Forest
- ◇ 1st/2nd grades studied the Solar System
- ◇ 3rd/4th grades studied the State Symbols of Oregon
- ◇ 5th/6th grades studied Greek Mythology

"We are so very proud of the way our students displayed their interpretation of each of their subjects. They proved to be very inventive in their creations," said Armida Hernandez, School Administrator.



Parish News: St. Augustine, Merrill

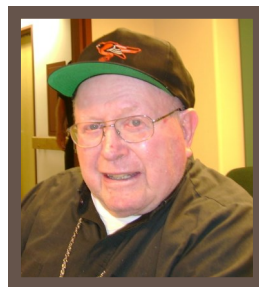
Thirteen youth from St. Augustine Parish received Confirmation on January 19th. The Confirmation class received sacramental preparation under the direction of Tricia Plass.



After Mass the parish celebrated with a potluck dinner and cake reception to welcome Bishop Cary and congratulate the newly confirmed. The reception was very well attended and was sponsored by many of the Parish organizations. Thank you to everyone for your support!

Priestly Ordination Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries in April.



Most Reverend Bishop Emeritus
Thomas Connolly
ordained to Priesthood
on April 08, 1947

Rev. Anil Kumar Marri,
La Grande, April 14, 2004

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

"Lord Jesus, we your people pray to You for our priests. You have given them to us for our needs. We pray for them in their needs...Let them see You face to face in the breaking of the Eucharistic Bread. Amen."

Thoughts Along The Way

—Bishop Cary

ICYC and Lent

The first weekend of March I had the good fortune to attend the annual Idaho Catholic Youth Conference in Boise. So did 180 young people from parishes throughout the Diocese of Baker—north, south, east, west, and center. We made up a very recognizable contingent of the 1600 youth who took over Bishop Kelly High School from Friday night to Sunday noon.

When so many young people come together to express and deepen their faith in Jesus Christ and channel it in new directions, they discover that being Catholic goes way beyond the borders of parish or diocese; the faith they live at home immediately connects them with those who believe as they do all over the country and all over the world. A taste for the Church *universal* now enters their religious experience—and an awakening sense of the part they are called to play in its mission.

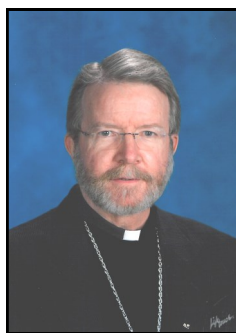
Conference organizers wisely scheduled several hours for confessions both Saturday afternoon and evening, and long were the lines of young people waiting to take advantage of the opportunity. Time and again as my young penitents went in peace, their sins forgiven, I marveled at the soul-searching sincerity with which they laid their sins before me and the unflinching honesty with which they opened their hearts in discussion.

These humbling confessional encounters with young people have been among the greatest joys of my priesthood. Their capacity for confession took me by surprise when I was first ordained, for as a teen I never confessed with such sensitivity and insight; it took me many years longer to catch up to the level of authenticity they've already attained. I've come to expect it from them, and they do not disappoint. Few things do more to strengthen my hope for the Church of the future.

As I write, the future of the Church is Lent: tomorrow is Ash Wednesday. By the time you read these words, the cross on your forehead will have faded and begun to work its way into your mind and heart. For Lent teaches us to “order our days aright,” as Scripture says.

The right order of the cross we are marked with has two dimensions. Nailed with Christ to the horizontal beam, we can't move our left arm to satisfy our desire for bread or water or comfort; nor can we move our right arm to put other people down. This “horizontal” mindfulness leads us to fast and perform works of mercy, to set in right order our relation to ourselves and our relations with others. Being nailed with Christ to the vertical beam of the cross makes us mindful that we can't walk wherever we will to find our way home to God; rather, we must follow the One who is the Way to the Father.

Unless we plant the vertical beam firmly in the ground of our lives, the horizontal beam lacks all foundation. Unless we live in right relation with God, unless



we're really on the way home to Him, we'll wander aimlessly, unable to relate to ourselves or others in the Truth that sets us free. That's why, this Lent, each of us is called to take our place in the worldwide line of penitents waiting to step into the mystery of reconciliation anew.

Pensamientos Del Camino

—Obispo Cary

ICYC y cuaresma

El primer fin de semana del mes de marzo tuve la suerte de asistir a la Conferencia Anual de la Juventud Católica de Idaho en Boise. Así lo hicieron 180 jóvenes de parroquias de la Diócesis de Baker-norte, sur, este, oeste y centro. Hicimos un contingente muy reconocible de los 1600 Jóvenes que se hicieron presentes en la High School Obispo Kelly de la noche del viernes al mediodía del domingo.

Cuando tantos jóvenes se reúnen para expresar y profundizar su fe en Jesucristo y canalizarla hacia nuevas direcciones, descubren que ser católico va mucho más allá de las fronteras de la parroquia o de la diócesis, la fe que viven en casa inmediatamente los conecta con los que creen como creen en todo el país y en todo el mundo. El saborear la Iglesia universal entra en su experiencia religiosa y despierta el papel que están llamados a desempeñar en su misión.

Los organizadores de la Conferencia sabiamente programaron varias horas de confesiones, el sábado en la tarde y en la noche, y largas eran las colas de jóvenes que esperan para aprovechar esa oportunidad. Una y otra vez mientras mis jóvenes penitentes iban en paz, perdonados sus pecados, me maravillé de la sinceridad con que expusieron sus pecados antes mí y la inmutable honestidad con la que abrieron sus corazones en la discusión.

Estos humildes encuentros confesionales con los jóvenes han sido una de las mayores alegrías de mi sacerdocio. Su capacidad para la confesión me sorprendió de recién ordenado, porque como adolescente nunca me confesé con tanta sensibilidad y acierto, sino que me llevó muchos años para encontrar el nivel de autenticidad que ellos ya han alcanzado. He llegado a esperarlo de ellos, y no me han decepcionado. Hay pocas cosas más para fortalecer mi esperanza por la Iglesia del futuro.

Al escribir, en el futuro de la Iglesia está la Cuaresma: mañana es miércoles de ceniza. Al leer usted estas palabras, la cruz en su frente se ha desvanecido y ha comenzado a entrar en su mente y corazón. Pues la Cuaresma nos enseña a “ordenar bien nuestros días”, como lo dice la Escritura.

El orden correcto de la cruz con la que hemos sido marcados tiene dos dimensiones. Clavados con Cristo a la viga horizontal, no podemos mover nuestro brazo izquierdo para satisfacer nuestro deseo de pan, ni agua ni comodidad, ni podemos mover el brazo derecho para sobajar a otras personas. Esta mentalidad “horizontal”

nos lleva a ayunar y a realizar obras de misericordia, para ordenar correctamente nuestra relación con nosotros mismos y con los demás. Al estar clavado con Cristo a la viga vertical de la cruz nos hace conscientes de que no podemos ir a donde queramos para encontrar el camino de nuestro regreso a Dios, sino que debemos seguir a Aquel que es el Camino al Padre.

A menos que plantemos firmemente la viga vertical en el suelo de nuestra vida, la viga horizontal carecera de apoyo. A no ser que vivamos en una relación correcta con Dios, a menos que estemos realmente en el camino de regreso a Él, vagaremos sin rumbo, incapaces de relacionarnos con nosotros mismos o con otros en la Verdad que nos hace libres. Por eso, en esta Cuaresma, cada uno de nosotros está llamado a ocupar un lugar en la línea mundial de penitentes que esperan para entrar en el misterio de la reconciliación de nuevo.

Parish News: St. Francis of Assisi, Bend

Doug Schwarz, April 21, 1959 - Feb. 12, 2014



Doug Schwarz, a long-time and beloved parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, died peacefully at home on February 12, 2014, after a two year battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Janet; his sons, Benjamin (24), Samuel (22), Peter (19), Joseph (16) and Levi (14); his daughter, Martha (12); his daughter-in-law, Jonna; his mother, Marian; his father, Harold, his sister, Cathy; his brothers, Mike and Steve.

Doug, together with his wife and children, had been an integral part of the parish family of St Francis. This was witnessed by the estimated 800 people who gathered to show their respect and love at his funeral Mass on Saturday, February 15th. He was a quiet man of God who worked in the parish in many positions of service, his favorite being his weekly men's prayer group. He was also a worthy and faithful servant of the Knights of Columbus Council 1872.

Doug was an avid fly-fisherman and enjoyed the Central Oregon wilderness and activities with Janet and the kids. As an Eagle Scout himself, Doug provided years of service and leadership, guiding and mentoring many boys and young men in the Crater Lake Council of Boy Scouts of America. Four of his sons have achieved the Eagle Scout rank, and of these, Samuel and Peter, following in the philanthropic traditions of the Schwarz family, have dedicated hours of Eagle Scout project work at the Diocesan Retreat Center.

The St Francis parish family will surely miss the presence of Doug Schwarz, but we can safely say that his legacy will live on in the many lives that he touched.

Supporting Catholic Education through the Bishop's Annual Appeal

As our diocesan leaders continue to seek new and compelling ways to support and promote the New Evangelization in the Diocese of Baker, they look to Catholic education as yet another avenue to present the Gospel anew within school and parish communities. It is altogether fitting then that we provide a measure of support for Catholic education through the upcoming Bishop's Annual Appeal.

Catholic education serves both our diocesan family of faith and our larger community by educating children, young people and adults, and showing them how to contribute, or "give back," as active and caring members of the communities in which they live. When we support our Catholic educators with continuing education, professional development opportunities, and spiritual formation we go a long toward spreading the Gospel message.

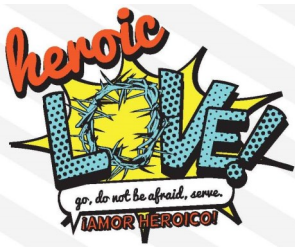
Our Catholic educators share a passion for helping young people discover and deepen their faith and strive for academic excellence. So it is important for teachers to receive the kind of continuing formation that will help them grow as catechetical leaders and foster a better understanding of how Catholic education addresses the development of the whole person through spiritual and academic formation based on the Gospel.

With adequate funding there are even opportunities to be more creative. One program the diocese wishes to cultivate is the PACE program. PACE (Pacific Alliance for Catholic Education), sponsored by the University of Portland, serves the needs of Catholic education by providing dedicated resident interns who are committed to service, professional development and a simple lifestyle in a supportive, spiritually nourishing community. "PACERs," as these interns are called, are welcome additions. As one school principal said, "They bring something into the classroom that is inspiring" - a reference to their up-to-date educational methods, a commitment to making a difference in children's lives, and a faith-based idealism.

The Diocese of Baker is firmly committed to promoting the New Evangelization through Catholic education, and the Bishop's Annual Appeal gives us a unique opportunity to support this integral part of our Church's mission.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

March 25-26	Seminarian evaluations at Mt. Angel Seminary
March 27	Meeting on Death Penalty Initiative
March 28	St. Thomas, Redmond: "Geography of Faith" for Hispanic Prayer Group 7:45-9:00 PM
April 4-5	Meeting with Archbishop Sample



Nearly 200 High School youth and adults from Baker City, Bend, Bonanza, Boardman, Burns, Heppner, Hermiston, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Lakeview, La Pine, Milton-Freewater, Nyssa, Ontario, Pendleton, Redmond, Union journeyed to Boise, Idaho, for the Idaho Catholic Youth Convention (ICYC). Joined by Bishop Cary and David O'Neill, our youth heard dynamic speakers, experienced praise and worship and came face to face with Jesus in a profound way with the 1,600 people gathered there.

This year's theme, "Heroic Love: Go. Do not be afraid. Serve." was taken from the homily of Pope Francis at the concluding Mass of World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro. Our youth were reminded of their call to proclaim the Gospel boldly and fearlessly, following the example of Christ - the model of Heroic Love.

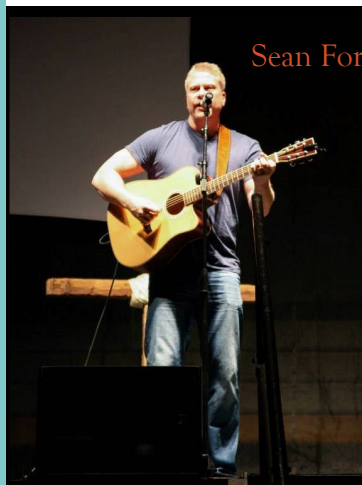
"When so many young people come together to express and deepen their faith in Jesus Christ...they discover that being Catholic goes way beyond the borders of parish or diocese," — Bishop Cary

"ICYC was an amazing experience. The emphasis on the Mass, the Eucharist, Reconciliation, Adoration and the Rosary all tied in with the phenomenal speakers. It's awesome to be Catholic!"

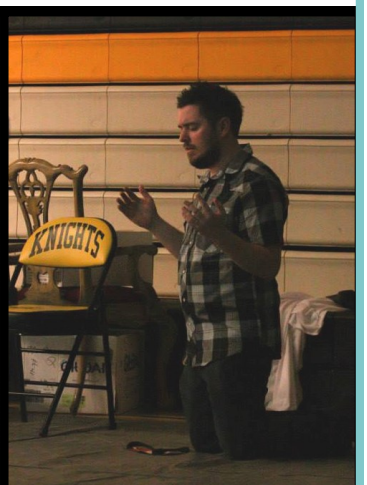
— Mary Holder, Klamath Falls

ICYC opened my eyes to so much I had been missing about God's love and how society is trying to lead us away from God. — Teen

ICYC will be held next year from March 6 - 8, 2015, at Bishop Kelly High School in Boise, Idaho. Save the Date!!



Sean Forrest



Mary Bielski



Fr. Joseph Espallat, II

