The Diocesan Chronicle

News of the Diocese of Baker

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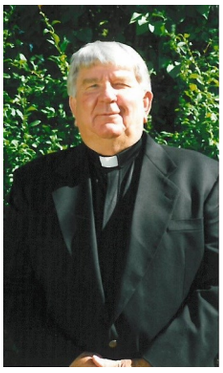
In Memoriam: Reverend Leo Weckerle



Reverend Leo Weckerle passed away March 23, 2015.

Father Weckerle was born June 28, 1931, in Berwyn, Illinois. He was ordained a priest on June 10, 1958, at The Pontifical College Josephinum by Most Reverend Amleto Cicognani for the Diocese of Baker. During his years of service to our Diocese, Fr. Weckerle served in Ontario, La Grande, Baker City, Enterprise, Madras, and Redmond. He received his JCL degree in Canon Law from the Catholic University in Washington DC in June 1961.

In addition to his service to our parishes in the above mentioned cities Fr. Weckerle also served the Diocese in many capacities including Vice Chancellor, Chancellor, Vice Officialis, Chaplain for St. Elizabeth Hospital, Vocation Board, Board of Arbitration, Director of Ecumenism, Senate of Priests, Personnel Board, Officialis of Curia, Defender/Advocate of Bond of Marriage, Consultor for the Diocese and Judge of the Tribunal of Baker.

Most recently he had devoted his time to watching over the care of Bishop Thomas Connolly, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Baker, traveling to Portland regularly to visit him personally.

Vigil Service with Rosary was held Tuesday, March 31, at 6 p.m. at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Redmond. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, April 1, at 10 a.m., also at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Fr. Weckerle will be laid to rest at Deschutes Memorial Gardens in Bend.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Thomas Catholic Church Building Fund, 1720 NW 19th St., Redmond, OR 97756.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Priestly Ordination Anniversaries:

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries during the month of May:

Rev. Raymond Hopp, Retired	May 01, 1965
Rev. Mike Fitzpatrick, S.J., St. Andrew's Mission	May 14, 1977
Rev. Louis H. Albrecht, Retired	May 14, 1986
Rev. Nonatus Lakra, John Day	May 17, 1991
Most Rev. Liam Cary, ordained as Bishop on	May 18, 2012
Rev. Ron Warren, Retired	May 19, 1962
Rev. Andrew Szymakowski, J.C.L., Bend	May 22, 2004
Rev. Daniel Maxwell, Hermiston	May 22, 2009
Rev. Charles Dreisbach, Retired	May 23, 1959
Rev. Bailey Clemens, on sabbatical	May 23, 1998
Deacon Robert Walling, Bend	May 25, 1985
Rev. Alfred Fisher, Retired	May 26, 1956
Deacon Jesus Esparza, Hermiston	May 27, 2000
Deacon Irineo Ledezma, The Dalles	May 27, 2000
Deacon Daniel Martinez, Pendleton	May 27, 2000
Deacon David Raj, Hood River	May 27, 2000
Deacon Omar Torres, Pendleton	May 27, 2000
Deacon Joe Garlitz, Elgin	May 31, 1987
Rev. Andrew Colvin, Silverdale, WA	May 31, 2002

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

The Traditional Latin Mass in Bend

The schedule for the Extraordinary Form (Latin) Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church, by direction from Bishop Cary, has been expanded so that it is now every other Sunday. This necessitates revising the previously published schedule. We apologize for any inconvenience this schedule revision may cause.

The schedule for EF Masses in Bend will change to the following for the months of April and May.

Easter Sunday	Low Mass at 6 p.m.
Sunday, April 19	Sung Mass at 1 p.m.
Sunday, May 3	Low Mass at 1 p.m.
Sunday, May 17	Sung Mass at 1 p.m.
Sunday, May 31	Low Mass at 1 p.m.

The celebrant will be Father Andrew Szymakowski. Father will hear confessions after Mass or by appointment. For information or to check Mass times, please contact Stephanie Swee at swee0574@gmail.com or (541-923-0574). The Mass times are also on the diocesan website: http://dioceseofbaker.org/index.html and The Society of St. Gregory the Great website: website http://www.ssgg.org

Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

The Ministry of Child Protection

The Church in the United States observes April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and it is a fitting time to give you an annual update on our efforts to keep children safe in the Diocese of Baker. Elsewhere in this issue Barry Metzentine, diocesan Coordinator of Child Protection, describes how our program works and reviews its progress in 2014.

Last year, for my part, I met regularly with the other nine members of the Diocesan Review Board to receive Barry's reports on developments in our program's implementation and to review incidents of reported child abuse on the part of anyone who works for or volunteers for the Diocese or any of our parishes.

This year I will view these matters from a wider perspective as a new member of the Bishops' Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People. Composed of 16 bishops and 10 consultants from all around the country, the Committee holds four meetings a year, two of them jointly with the National Review Board of lay Catholic experts (which gives its own report each year to all the bishops assembled in Baltimore.) We are charged with ensuring national implementation of and faithful adherence to the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* which the American bishops adopted in 2002.

In creating the new Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, Pope Francis looked to the efforts of the Church in the United States as a model for effective child protection programs in the Church throughout the world. Members of the Commission come from Africa, Asia, South America, and Oceania. To their important task they bring varied and well-tested competencies. One of them, Sister Kayula Lesa from Zambia, has extensive experience working with refugees and victims of human trafficking. Another, Peter Saunders of London, established the (English) National Association for People Abused in Childhood. All of them share the Holy Father's conviction "that everything possible must be done to rid the Church of the scourge of the sexual abuse of minors and to open pathways of reconciliation and healing for those who were abused."

It is said that the best offense is a good defense. Our best defense against sexual abuse is an ever-widening awareness of how it happens. For sexual predators take great pains to keep their dark purposes hidden from view. Masters of deception, they disguise their intentions in order to circumvent the precautions of parents and parish and gain access to the vulnerable. So the prospect of public exposure is a powerful deterrent to those who would prey upon the innocence of the unsuspecting young. Widespread parish (and community) vigilance creates an environment unfriendly to abusers, and precisely such vigilance is what our Child Protection Program is designed to promote.

Pensamientos Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

El Ministerio de la Protección de los Niños

La Iglesia en los Estados Unidos observa Abril como el Mes de la Prevención del Abuso de Niños y es un tiempo apropiado para proporcionarles una actualización anual de nuestros esfuerzos de mantener seguros a nuestros niños en la Diócesis de Baker. En otra parte de esta edición Barry Metzentine, Coordinador diocesano de la Protección de los Niños, describe cómo funciona nuestro programa y revisa su progreso en el 2014.

El año pasado, por mi parte, me reuní con regularidad con los otros nueve miembros de la Junta de Revisión Diocesana para recibir los reportes de Barry sobre el progreso en la implementación de nuestro programa y para revisar los casos de abuso a niños reportados por cualquier persona que trabaja o es voluntario para la Diócesis o en cualquiera de nuestras parroquias.

Este año voy a revisar estas cuestiones desde una perspectiva más amplia, como nuevo miembro de la Comisión Episcopal para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes. Compuesto de 16 obispos y 10 consultores de todo el país, el Comité se reúne cuatro veces al año, dos de ellas en conjunto con la Junta Nacional de Revisión de expertos Católicos laicos (la cual da su propio informe cada año a todos los obispos reunidos en Baltimore). Estamos encargados de asegurar la implementación nacional y la adhesión fiel a la *Carta para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes* la cual adoptaron los obispos Americanos en el 2002.

En la creación de la nueva Comisión Pontificia para la Protección de Menores, el Papa Francisco miró los esfuerzos de la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos como un modelo de programas efectivos para la protección de los niños en la Iglesia para todo el mundo. Miembros de la Comisión vienen de África, Asia, Sur América, y Oceanía. Para esta importante tarea, ellos traen una variedad de competencias que ya han sido probadas. Un miembro, la Hermana Kayula Lesa de Zambia, tiene una amplia experiencia trabajando con refugiados y víctimas de la trata de personas (tráfico de humanos). Otro, Peter Saunders de Londres, estableció la Asociación (Inglesa) Nacional para las Personas Abusadas en la Niñez. Todos

ellos comparten la convicción del Santo Padre "que debe hacerse todo lo posible para librar a la Iglesia de la plaga del abuso sexual de menores y abrir caminos de reconciliación y sanación para aquellos que fueron abusados."

Se dice que el mejor ataque es una buena defensa. Nuestra mejor defensa contra el abuso sexual es un conocimiento cada vez más amplio de cómo sucede. Porque los depredadores sexuales hacen grandes esfuerzos para mantener sus oscuros propósitos ocultos a la vista. Son maestros del engaño, que disfrazan sus intenciones con el fin de eludir las precauciones de los papás y de la parroquia y tener acceso a los más vulnerables. Por lo tanto el prospecto de exposición pública es un poderoso elemento para discutir aquellos que acosan la inocencia de los jóvenes incautos. La vigilancia general de la parroquia (y la comunidad) crea un ambiente hostil a los abusadores, y precisamente esta vigilancia es lo que nuestro Programa de Protección de los Niños ha sido diseñado para promover.

In alliance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of Baker is committed to 100% compliance for all staff and volunteers working with our children and youth. Beginning with Bishop Cary's January 1, 2013 Pastoral Letter to Priests, School Principles and Directors of Religious Education, system and communication process improvements have been implemented to ensure an accurate accounting of our compliance with the USCCB's charter.

Over the past two years significant progress has been made towards achieving our 100% goal. However, further diligence is required as shown in our 2014 independent audit.

Ministry Year (July 1-June 30)	2013-2014
Criminal Background Checks	95%
Adult Safe-Environment Training	78%
Code of Conduct & Internet Policies	73%
Family & Youth Safe-Environment Training	67%

As stated by Bishop Cary in this issue *awareness* and *vigilance* are crucial to establishing a "powerful deterrent to those who would prey upon the innocence of the unsuspecting young."

To help ensure diocesan-wide awareness and vigilance, we encourage all parishioners (especially parents and catechists of children and youth) to be familiar with the Diocese of Baker Protection of God's Children Charter by reviewing our website. If it is unclear as to the status of the Protection of God's Children in your parish community, please ask your Pastor.

[1] Bishop Cary's letter and details for diocesan Protection of God's Children training and resources are **available in English and Spanish** online at: http://www.dioceseofbaker.org/protection_of_children.htm.

[2] Every diocese in the U.S. undergoes an annual audit by a third party national organization.

An important aspect of our success in keeping our children safe is knowing who to contact if we know (or suspect) that a child is a victim of abuse.

Contacts for Reporting Abuse

All allegations or incidents of sexual abuse by anyone (laity or clergy) to anyone under the age of 18 years of age should be reported immediately to the civil authorities: **911** or **Oregon Department of Human Services (1-855-503-7233)**. After reporting any abuse involving a minor to civil authorities, please contact our diocesan **Safe Environment Coordinator Barry Metzentine (541-388-4004)**.

For victim assistance services (e.g. counseling or medical services pertaining to abuse), please contact our Diocesan **Victim Assistance Coordinator, Angelina Montoya, MD (541-678-5652)**.

For allegations against a priest, deacon, seminarian, or adult lay staff of misconduct to an adult (18 years or older), please contact our **Vicar General, Very Rev. Richard O. Fischer, V.G (541-891-9015)**. If criminal behavior is involved (e.g. rape, attempted rape, assault, and stalking), immediately report it to the police **(911)** and then the Vicar General. If in doubt about whether a behavior is criminal, call the police.

If you wish to know more about the Diocese of Baker's Protection of Children policies, or have questions, please contact Barry Metzentine (541-388-4004).

Bishop Cary's Schedule

April 18	Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Exemplification, Powell Butte Retreat Center
April 18	St. Francis School Annual Dinner & Auction
April 21	Review Board Meeting
April 22	Finance Council Meeting Confirmation, St. Patrick, Madras
April 24	Knights of Columbus State Convention, Newport
April 25	Confirmation, Holy Trinity, Sunriver
April 26	Confirmation, Holy Redeemer, La Pine and Holy Family, Christmas Valley
April 29	Confirmation, St. Patrick, Madras
May 2	Meet at St. Pius X with those to be Confirmed at Sacred Heart & St. Pius X in Klamath Falls
May 2	Mass, St. Pius X, Klamath Falls
May 3	Confirmation, St. Pius X, Klamath Falls
May 3	Confirmation, Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls

Parish News: Blessed Sacrament, Ontario

Blessed Sacrament brought together over 170 people on the weekend of February 21 and 22 utilizing the diocesan **Come and See** campaign; a program designed to strengthen the faith of practicing Catholics and to bring back those who have fallen away from the Catholic Church.

After receiving six hours of onsite training, two parishioner core teams (English and Spanish) successfully led the parish-wide campaign.

> "It was an enjoyable time for all with food and fellowship, with a multimedia presentation and discussion afterward. Father Jose Mudakodiyil, Father Christie Tissera, Religious Education director Angelica Corona, the Knights of Columbus, Altar Society, the youth group and many other parishioners pitched in to help make the event a success."
>
> —Dan Beaubien, core team member

Concluding the one-time event, the core team extended an invitation to participate in a six-week series designed to foster dialogue, answer questions and welcome Catholics to return to the Church.

Blessed Sacrament is the 5th parish to utilize the **Come and See** campaign since its inaugural run at the St. Thomas parish in Redmond in 2013. The Bishop's Annual Appeal enables the diocese to develop programs such as **Come and See**. If you would like to learn how to bring this campaign to your parish community please talk to your pastor and then call Barry Metzentine at the dioceses chancery office (541-388-4004).

Seminarians Instituted as Lectors and Acolytes at Mount Angel Seminary

On Monday, February 9, in the Abbey Church at Mount Angel Seminary (MAS), the Most Reverend Armando X. Ochoa, Bishop of Fresno, celebrated the Ministries Mass, during which thirteen seminarians were instituted as lectors and eleven seminarians were instituted as acolytes.

From the Diocese of Baker, David Jones was instituted as a lector and Victor Mena Martínez was instituted as an acolyte.

The lay ministries of lector and acolyte are typically conferred upon those men pursuing holy orders. At MAS, a seminarian is instituted a lector during his first year of theological studies and an acolyte during his second year of theological studies. Bishop Ochoa thanked the seminarians for their generosity in offering themselves in service to the Lord, and said, "This symbol and very important ritual marks a moment of passage for you as you move forward in your discernment and preparation in Christian ministry."

In his homily, Bishop Ochoa encouraged those being instituted to deepen their relationship with Jesus, the Divine Word present in the tabernacle. To the lectors, he said: "When you speak the words of Sacred Scriptures, you must know that you are echoing the very Word of God. That Word that brings all things into existence. The word you proclaim has power." To the acolytes he said: "The Church calls you to be ordinary ministers of the Eucharistic presence of Christ. You are also called to teach true devotion to our Eucharistic Lord. You are called to handle that which is most sacred to us. You are called to bring the healing presence of Jesus to those who need him."

Mount Angel Seminary, established by the monks of Mount Angel Abbey, began forming men for the priesthood in 1889. MAS is now the oldest and largest seminary in the Western United States, and the only seminary in the West that offers both a college and a graduate school of theology.

Since its inception, MAS has educated and formed thousands of priests for service to the people of God in nearly 100 dioceses and religious communities across the country and around the world.

Bishop Ochoa with the new lectors and acolytes

Story by Phillip J. Shifflet; photo by Joseph Nguyen