



December 3, 2017  
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# THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

## Religious Retirement Collection

Since the National Religious Retirement Office was established in 1988, this annual appeal has collected over \$815 million, an average of more than \$27 million annually. For all who advance this initiative, we offer prayerful thanks.

Donors often speak of this campaign as a timely response to priests and religious who have ministered throughout their lives to others. While we understand the importance of supporting the national collection, we too must take care of our own priests who have served so faithfully in the Diocese of Baker. Over the past 29 years parishioners in our diocese have donated \$1,051,612 to this collection.

*Our diocesan and international priests have served the Church and they have done so for relatively little material reward. These dedicated priests deserve a just retirement for their committed years of service to the diocese.*

In 2016 we received \$98,201 for the Religious Retirement Collection and 10 percent was sent to the national office; the remainder stayed in our diocese.

As many of you already know, the Priest's pension plan is significantly underfunded. The Diocese of Baker also makes payments to the dioceses of our international priests based on years of service in our diocese. Because of our large unfunded pension liability and our out-standing retirement liability for our international priests, the diocese will again allocate the majority of this collection to the Priest's Retirement Program. This collection and our own Bishop's Annual Appeal are two of their major funding sources.

We will continue to support the religious sisters and brothers who have served in our diocese by remitting a portion of this collection to the national office. We urge you to continue to support this important and necessary collection. The annual collection for the Retirement Fund will be conducted in our diocese on the weekend of **December 9-10** to correspond with all other dioceses across the nation as we have typically done in years past.

Please pray for the success of the collection. We thank you for your generosity and support.



## Priestly Ordination Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries during December.

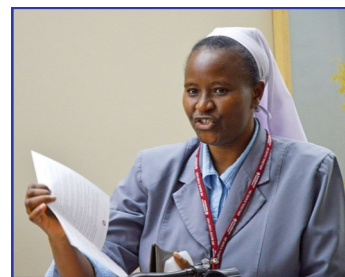
Rev. Eduardo Nebelung, Hermiston	Dec. 21, 1984
Rev. Dennis Strachota, Retired, Bend	Dec. 23, 1967
Rev. Thomas Philip, OSH, Lakeview	Dec. 28, 1998
Rev. Tomy Chowaran, Hood River	Dec. 29, 1999
Rev. Saji Thomas, CMI, La Grande	Dec. 31, 2005

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

## Sister Irene Njoki-Mwangi Named Mission Leader/Chaplain at Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Ontario

Born in Kenya, Africa, ninety miles from Nairobi, Sister Irene Njoki-Mwangi is the fifth child of eleven brothers and sisters. After Sister Irene graduated from high school, she made her first profession as a nun. In 2005 she made her final vows and decided to pursue a four-year college degree to become a nurse in Kenya.

Sister Irene, a Religious Sister of Mary of Kakamega from Kenya, Africa, arrived in the Diocese of Baker in 2010. She was assigned to the Ontario Hospital where she served for three years as a chaplain. During this time she went back to school to earn her RN licensure and has been volunteering as a nurse in the community when she is not at the hospital.



This past summer, Sister Irene accepted the role of Mission Leader/Chaplain for Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in Ontario. Sr. Irene brings many gifts as she joins her fellow senior leaders in ensuring the Mission continues to live and grow in Ontario. She started her new role on July 9th, serving patients and colleagues as a Chaplain.

Pictured above, Sister Irene leads the blessing at the newly renovated Maternity Ward in Ontario last September 2016.



# Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

## Advent: A Season of Hope

This is a revised version of a column that first appeared in 15 December 2013.

Advent is here. Once again 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.

If we are 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 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 Liam Cary

## Adviento: El tiempo de la Esperanza

Esta columna apareció por primera vez en la Crónica Diocesana del 15 de Diciembre de 2013

Ha venido el tiempo de Adviento y nos encontramos de nuevo en el tiempo de la esperanza. “¿Eres Tú ‘el que ha de venir?’ le preguntan los discípulos de Juan el Bautista a Jesús, “¿o buscaremos a otro?” La fe nos dice que Alguien ha de venir; La Esperanza nos mantiene alerta a Su llegada.

Para 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 tras día en el amor.

Cada Adviento somos testigos de la fe maravillosa 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: a mirar el rostro del Hijo único del Padre y sentir Su mirada sobre nosotros, a ver y ser visto por el Amor de Dios encarnado en el Hijo de María de Nazaret. Del punto de vista puramente humana era totalmente demasiado esperar que por causa de nosotros el gran y todopoderoso Dios se hiciera a sí mismo 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, la orilla de la vida eterna.

Esa esperanza nos lleva a la casa “al final de todos nuestros deseos,” dice Santo Tomás de Aquino. A medida que aprendemos de repetidas experiencias dolorosas, “en esta vida nadie puede cumplir su deseo, ni criatura alguna puede 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?

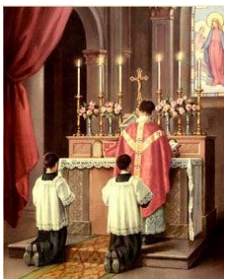
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## BISHOP CARY'S SCHEDULE

- Dec 4 6:30 PM Penance Service, Redmond
- Dec 6 6:30 PM Penance Service, Prineville
- Dec 9 5:30 PM Mass & Acolyte Installation, Klamath Falls, Sacred Heart
- Dec 10 9:00 AM Mass, Klamath Falls, St. Pius X
- Dec 10 10:15 AM Faith Forum, Klamath Falls, St. Pius X
- Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day  
5:00 AM Mass, Redmond  
6:00 PM Mass, Madras

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## THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS IN BEND



The Extraordinary Form (Latin) Mass is offered **every 2nd and 4th** Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church. All Masses are sung Masses.

Father Andrew Szymakowski will hear confessions after Mass upon request.

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December 10	2nd Sunday of Advent
December 24	No Scheduled EF Mass
January 14	2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 28	Septuagesima Sunday

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If you would like to be added to a Mass schedule notification email list, please send your request to [johncdriscoll1068@gmail.com](mailto:johncdriscoll1068@gmail.com) and if you are interested in being an Altar Server or singing in the schola, please contact Stephanie Swee at [swee0574@gmail.com](mailto:swee0574@gmail.com).

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## ADVENT, COME LORD JESUS!

### The Meaning of the Advent Wreath

In Christian symbolism, the wheel or wreath stands for eternity. Its use is especially fitting during Advent, the season of the anticipation of the coming of our Lord. Children love the beauty of the simple traditional ceremony. Lighting candles in an Advent Wreath is a simple way to start a tradition of family worship in the home.



### The First Week (Dec 3-9)

Each night the first purple candle is lit by the youngest child of the household and is left burning during the evening family meal.

**Suggested prayer:** O God, we remember our Savior, your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Just as the flame of this candle warms and brightens our world today, allow Christ's love and blessings to guide our path. Allow us to feel the warmth of His love in our hearts and to see the light of His Word in our minds. We pray that as we await His coming, Christ's life will shine a light into our darkened world giving us strength in our faith and filling our lives with joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The Second Week (Dec 10-16)

The eldest child lights the first and second purple candle; both candles burn during the evening family meal as before.

**Suggested prayer:** Soon our Savior will be with us. Lord help us gain inner peace as we await Christ's birth. Strengthen our faith, love, and commitment, so as not to be swayed by temptations or false promises. We pray we may fully experience the peace of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. To be continued in next issue.

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## Tips for Year-End Charitable Giving

- + All sorts of assets make good year-end gifts to benefit the Catholic Church. This includes cash, shares of stock or mutual funds, mineral interests (oil, gas, coal, etc.) and bonus/royalty payments. These assets can be given outright and most may also be used to fund a planned gift.
- + If you want your gift to be structured in the form of a planned gift for increased tax or income benefits, arrangements can be made after December 31. However, the asset you are giving **MUST** be received by the Diocese, your parish, or The Legacy of Faith Foundation by December 31st for a 2017 deduction.
- + Any gift you make through the Foundation may be given as a memorial to a loved one or a gift in honor of someone living.



### The Legacy of Faith

Catholic Community  
Foundation of Oregon

Call 541.388.4004

Create a Legacy, through the  
Catholic Community Foundation of Oregon  
It's Simple. It's Sustaining. It's Stewardship.



## Schoenstatt in Hermiston

The Schoenstatt community and other parishioners joined in a celebration on October 18th for the blessing of a newly constructed Marian Wayside Shrine on Our Lady of Angels' parish grounds in Hermiston.

Pastor Fr. Daniel Maxwell, Deacon Jesus Esparza, and the Knights of Columbus led a Eucharistic procession from the altar to the shrine where the Cross and a stand with the Mother Thrice Admirable picture of grace was blessed. Fr. Maxwell also blessed the 28 Schoenstatt missionaries who continue to circulate Pilgrim Mother Shrines to families.

Fr. Joseph Kentenich, founder of Schoenstatt said: "Take this picture of the Blessed Mother and give it a place of honor in your home. Then your home will become a little shrine in which the picture of grace will mediate many graces, create a holy family atmosphere,

and form holy family members." There are hundreds of these Pilgrim Mother Shrines blessed and sent from Waukesha, Wisconsin's Shrine circulating in some 50 towns throughout Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Testimonies to inner healing and strengthening of faith are multiple.

Schoenstatt in the Northwest sponsors yearly Schoenstatt Girls Youth camps, Schoenstatt Mothers groups, couple groups, and workshops with the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary and the Schoenstatt Fathers.

For more information contact:

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Sister Isabel: [srisabel@schrsmary](mailto:srisabel@schrsmary)

Fr. Francisco Rojas: [father.francisco@gmail.com](mailto:father.francisco@gmail.com)

Visit us on Facebook: [Pacific Northwest Schoenstatt Community](https://www.facebook.com/PacificNorthwestSchoenstattCommunity).



## The Catholic Daughters Court #2041 supports Grandma's House



Irene Richardson from Court #2041 presented Grandma's House in Bend with 100% of their annual Grandma's House Bake Sale proceeds. Manager, Woody Medeiros, accepted the check for \$1,050 with overwhelming gratitude. This Catholic Daughters special project receives tremendous support from St. Francis parishioners with numerous donations of baked items and gifts of money. Catholic Daughters also presented "Grandma's House" with staples for their particular needs (i.e. baby paraphernalia, paper products (all kinds) etc.)

Grandma's House of Central Oregon is a faith-based, non-denominational, nonprofit home, and outreach ministry, providing safe, nurturing, and stable shelter to homeless and/or abused, pregnant, (whether choosing adoption or parenting), and parenting teens mothers between the ages of 12 to 19 years old and their babies.

They are presently the only facility East of the Cascades meeting the needs of this high-risk population.



The Catholic Daughters of America Court #2041 of Bend/Redmond are making efforts to help them when they can. If you would also like to help, please contact Woody Medeiros at Grandma's House: (541) 383-3515 or email Woody at [grandma@bendcable.com](mailto:grandma@bendcable.com). Mailing address: Grandma's House of Central Oregon, Inc., P.O. Box 6372, Bend, OR 97708