

November 18, 2018
Volume 9 • Number 22

THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE



RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

Since the National Religious Retirement Office was established in 1988, this annual appeal has collected over \$844 million, an average of more than \$28 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 30 years parishioners in our diocese have donated \$1,168,480 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 2017, we received \$116,868.54 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 outstanding 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 8-9** 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.

CONVENT BLESSING IN BEND



On September 1st, Bishop Liam Cary blessed the new convent that will be the home to the Salesian Sisters, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, who have arrived from San Antonio, Texas, to teach

at Saint Francis School and encourage vocations in the diocese. The 3,200 square foot, 6-bedroom home was built by Hayden Homes, with the help of the parish community and other partners, just three months after breaking ground. It is located on a lot next to the church property.

Parishioners gathered in the driveway and front lawn for the reading of the Word of God by Pastor Jose Mudakodiyil, Prayers of Intercession, and a Blessing Prayer before Bishop Cary entered the home and sprinkled holy water in "every corner of every room."



A parish picnic, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, was held afterward. The parish held a house-warming and supplied the necessities of setting up the new convent with goods, linens and furnishings for the three Sisters who will be the first to occupy the home.



Parishioners enjoy a picnic on the lawn of St. Francis Church.



(photo of Sisters, left to right: Sr. Ngan Do, FMA, Sr. Ignacia Carrillo, FMA, Sr. Jeanette Palasota, FMA)



Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

Blessing the Sick

As we remember the dead in November, we inevitably recall what led up to their passing: illness of body and soul in all its dispiriting variety — chronic, disabling, demoralizing; swift, dismaying, overwhelming. The question comes to us that came to Thomas Merton: “What shall we answer when we come to be examined by pain?”

Throughout the Gospels the evangelists highlight our Redeemer’s preoccupation with the sufferings of the sick. Entering the synagogue to teach for the first time, He was met by the repulsive shrieking of “a man with an unclean spirit.” To the amazement of the onlookers, our Jesus promptly cast the demon out. He then proceeded to the sick bed of Peter’s mother-in-law, took her by the hand, and lifted her out of her fever. Such power continued to go forth from Him to the very last night of His life, when His touch healed the sword-struck ear of the high priest’s slave in the Garden of Gethsemani.

To His Church our Lord entrusted His power to heal. Through the hand of the priest in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick Jesus continues to touch those for whom the shadow of death takes the form of grave illness or old age. In the words of the *Catechism*, the sacrament of the sick “completes the holy anointings that mark the whole Christian life This last anointing fortifies the end of our earthly life like a solid rampart for the final struggles before entering the Father’s house.”

But not every illness is deadly. Long before death begins to hover in the background, we may be stricken with suffering that is not so much “final” as it is perpetual—the constant, crippling pain of arthritis; the merciless progression of Parkinson’s; the un-liftable weight of depression. In search of “courage to endure in a Christian manner” such intractable long-term suffering, those bowed down can turn to the Church, not for the Sacrament of the Sick, but for a powerful *sacramental*: the Rite of the *Blessing* of the Sick. Anointing has no place in this prayerful ritual, but it does include imposition of hands by the priest; and non-Catholics can come forward to have hands laid on them too. (The Rite of Blessing can also be done instead of Anointing for individuals as well.)

For years when I was pastor in Medford, I used to offer this service monthly. To make it accessible to working people, it was held at 5:30 in mid-week so

attendees could be home for dinner shortly after 6:00. Mass was never celebrated in conjunction with it.

It didn’t take long for this disarmingly simple yet deeply moving prayer to take root in our midst. Many people came every month; others, for as long as their malady persisted. As a priest, there were few activities I so enjoyed being part of.

At our Clergy Assembly this fall in Powell Butte I introduced the Rite of the Blessing of the Sick to the priests of the diocese and encouraged them to offer it in their parishes. I hope they will do so, and I hope many of you will let yourselves be touched by the peace I know it can bring.

Pensamientos Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

Bendición de los Enfermos

Al recordar a los difuntos en Noviembre, inevitablemente recordamos lo que llevó a su muerte: enfermedad del cuerpo y alma en toda su desalentadora variedad — crónica o repentina, incapacitante, desmoralizante, anonadante. Y la pregunta nos llega a nosotros que le llegó a Tomás Merton: “¿Qué responderemos cuando seamos examinados por el dolor?”

A través de los Evangelios, los evangelistas realzan la preocupación de nuestro Redentor con los sufrimientos de los enfermos. Entrando en la sinagoga para enseñar por primera vez, Él fue recibido por el repulsivo grito de “un hombre con un espíritu sucio”. Para asombro de los espectadores, nuestro Jesús echó rápidamente al demonio. Después se dirigió a la cama de la suegra de Pedro, la tomó de la mano, y le quitó la fiebre. Tal poder continuó saliendo de Él hasta la última noche de Su vida, cuando Su toque sanó la oreja herida del esclavo del sumo sacerdote en el Jardín de Getsemani.

A Su Iglesia nuestro Señor le confió Su poder de sanar. A través de la mano del sacerdote en el Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos, Jesús continúa tocando a aquellos quienes la sombra de la muerte toma la forma de enfermedad grave o de vejez. En las palabras del *Catecismo*, el sacramento de los enfermos “completa las sagradas unciones que marcan toda la vida Cristiana Esta última unción fortifica el final de nuestra vida terrenal como un baluarte sólido para las luchas finales antes de entrar a la casa del Padre”.

Pero no toda enfermedad es mortal. Mucho antes de que comience la muerte a flotar en el fondo, podemos ser golpeados con sufrimiento que no es tanto “final” como lo es perpetuo—el constante, paralizante dolor del artritis; la progresión despiadada del Parkinsons; el peso

abrumador de la depresión. En busca de valor para soportar en una manera Cristiana tal sufrimiento a largo plazo, tales afligidos pueden recurrir a la Iglesia, no por el Sacramento de los Enfermos, sino por un poderoso sacramental: el Rito de la Bendición de los Enfermos. La unción no tiene lugar en este ritual de oración, pero si incluye la imposición de las manos por el sacerdote; y los que no son Católicos también pueden pasar para recibir la imposición de manos. (Este mismo rito se puede hacer en lugar de la Unción para individuos también).

Por años, cuando yo era párroco en Medford, ofrecía este servicio mensualmente. Para hacerlo accesible a personas que trabajaban, se llevaba a cabo durante la semana a las 5:30 de la tarde para que los asistentes pudieran ir a casa para cenar poco después de las 6:00. La Misa nunca se celebró junto con el servicio.

Poco tiempo después de introducirla en Medford, esta profundamente conmovedora oración echó raíces en medio de nosotros. Muchas personas venían cada mes; otros, conforme su enfermedad persistiera. Como sacerdote, había pocas actividades de las que tanto disfrutaba siendo parte.

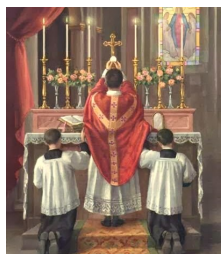
En nuestra Asamblea del Clero este otoño en Powell Butte, introduje el Rito de la Bendición de los Enfermos a los sacerdotes de la diócesis y los animé a ofrecerlo en sus parroquias. Espero que lo hagan, y espero que muchos de ustedes se dejen tocar por la paz que sé que puede traer.

BISHOP CARY'S SCHEDULE

Nov 18 9:00 a.m. Mass, John Day

Nov 18 12:30 p.m. Mass, Monument

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS IN BEND



The Extraordinary Form (Latin) Mass is now offered **every Sunday** at 1:00 p.m. at Saint Francis of Assisi Historic Church. A High Mass (Sung Mass) is offered on the **second and fourth Sundays**.

Confessions will be heard before Mass on the second and fourth Sundays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

The Schola has opening for singers. Male singers are encouraged to join. If you are interested and can spare some time every two weeks, please e-mail John Driscoll at johncdiscoll1068@gmail.com or Stephanie Swee at swee0574@gmail.com.

If you would like to be added to a Mass schedule notification email list, please send your request to John Driscoll.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"Have you done your QCD to fulfill all or part of your RMD because of the TCJA?"

No, I am not here from the IRS, but for those of you over 70 ½, you probably know what I mean by Required Minimum Distributions (RMD).

You might have even heard of Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) direct from your Individual Retirement Arrangement (IRA).

But are you aware of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 that increased Standard Deductions for:

- Married couples over age 65 to \$26,600
- Married couples under age 65 to \$24,000
- Single folks over age 65 to \$13,300
- and you Single youngsters to \$12,000!

Why all the alphabet soup? Call me or talk to your financial advisers, IRA custodians, or tax professionals to learn how you can spell TAX HAPPY come next April.

But you must act before December 31st and for most IRA custodians, I hear the cut off is December 15th to request direct qualified charitable distributions from your IRA.

So don't delay until Gaudette Sunday, December 16, 2018 – make your Joyful weekend well before then.

Your Faithful and Educated Steward,

Mark French

Executive Director

The Legacy of Faith Catholic Community
Foundation of Oregon

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2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

Thank you to all who have already made a gift or pledge to the Appeal this year. Of the 13,200 registered families in the diocese, we have received gifts and pledges from 2,009 households to reach 88% of our goal – a 15% participation rate. Yet, we remain optimistic that more will participate before the end of the Appeal which will remain open until the end of April, 2019. 31 of our 59 parishes/missions have met and exceeded their goal with another 4 over 90%.

So, look for the In-Pew Appeal envelopes in your Church or make your gift/pledge online at the diocesan website. Every gift is important—no matter the size. We appreciate your generosity.

SACRED HEART, KLAMATH FALLS, INTRODUCES CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS



We are excited to announce that dynamic speaker, Karlo Broussard, from Catholic Answers, will be leading a weekend Advent Mission here at Sacred Heart in Klamath Falls! There will be a talk specific to general audiences: men, women, and even a talk for the youth! This will be an event that you do not want to miss.



Karlo Broussard, a native of Southern Louisiana, left a promising musical career to devote himself full-time to the work of Catholic apologetics. As a staff apologist and speaker for Catholic Answers, he travels the country giving talks on apologetics, the Bible, theology, and philosophy. Karlo holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in theology and is working on his master's in philosophy. He also worked for several years with nationally known author and philosopher Fr. Robert J. Spitzer at the Magis Center. Karlo is one of the most dynamic and gifted Catholic speakers on the circuit today, communicating with precision of thought, a genuine love for God, and an enthusiasm that inspires. You can view Karlo's online videos at KarloBroussard.com.

Here is the list of talks that will be given:

What Difference Does Jesus Make? (Everyone)

November 30th @ 6pm – Parish Hall

Karlo addresses the modern myths that constitute skepticism toward Jesus. For example, he responds to claims such as, "Jesus never really existed; he's just a myth," and "Jesus never claimed to be God; that was just an exaggerated claim of the early church." Karlo sets out to dispel such myths by providing the historical evidence for

Jesus' explicit and implicit claims to divinity and why it's reasonable to believe such claims.

The Four Levels of Manhood (Men)

December 1st @ 10am – Parish Hall

Based on Fr. Robert Spitzer's articulation of the four levels of happiness, Karlo explains how there are four levels of manhood. Karlo challenges men to not settle for the lower levels involving only sensory pleasure, material stuff, and ego-satisfaction, but to strive for the highest levels of sacrificial love in service of others and union with God.

Your Royal Highness A Biblical Defense of Mary's Queenship (Women)

December 1st @ 2pm – Parish Hall

Karlo gives biblical support for the Church's practice of honoring the Blessed Virgin as queen of heaven and earth. He explains in light of biblical theology how Mary is the Queen in Jesus' restored Davidic kingdom and as such is our intercessor.

Heaven: A Destiny Worth Living For (Everyone)

December 1st @ 6pm – Auditorium

Karlo dispels the boring cultural image of heaven as clouds with baby cherubs playing harps and explains Jesus' revelation of heaven as an experience of perfect love, joy, and excitement through fellowship with God and with every member of the Mystical Body of Christ.

God Still Matters (Youth)

December 3rd @ 12pm – Parish Hall

Karlo dispels the common myth that science is sufficient to explain the universe in the place of God. He further argues that God still matters for complete human happiness, moral obligation, and our very existence.

To register for any of these talks, please contact Paul Chutikorn at (541) 884-4566 or register via Sacred Heart's website: www.sacredheartkf.org.

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY CRUSADE IN MERRILL

Saint Augustine parishioners sponsored a Public Square Rosary Rally Crusade on October 13th at noon in Merrill at the community park.

Joining over 21,000 rallies across the nation in praying the Rosary, we commemorated the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima's 101st year Anniversary. The Rosary intentions were to beg forgiveness of our Nation's offenses against God and Our Lady.

We were joined by parishioners from St. Pius X and Sacred Heart, both from Klamath Falls, as well as visitors from Medford and other members of our community.

Next year we hope to gain more Rosary Rally Crusaders and we hope that all parishes will join us.

Submitted by Cynthia Cowan-Taylor

