



The DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

News of the Diocese of Baker

March 3, 2024 • Vol. 15, No. 5

Thoughts Along the Way School of Mercy

*This column first appeared in the
4 February 2019 Diocesan Chronicle*

“There is a time for everything under the sun,” Scripture says—a time to give and a time to receive, a time to be merciful to others and a time to seek mercy for ourselves. For every charitable interaction is two-sided: a giver hands over the bread of compassion to a receiver who feeds on it. From one day to the next both roles in this decisive drama are yours and mine to play, so we need to learn to tell time: when to give mercy and when to receive it.

Mercy meets misery, and misery is two-sided as well. There is no mistaking the toll it takes on a contorted body in a sick bed or on an unsheltered sleeper in the street. But this *outer* corporeal side of misery all too often veils an *inner* spiritual side as well: a mind abandoned by peace, a soul shattered by loss, a heart broken by betrayal.

This miserable state of ours is precisely what Divine Mercy comes to touch and transform in Jesus Christ. His saving Gospel provokes us to recognize human misery for what it is, from the inside out. The more honestly I acknowledge my own misery from within, the more clearly I will see how much I need mercy from without—from the God Who saves me, from His children who console me.

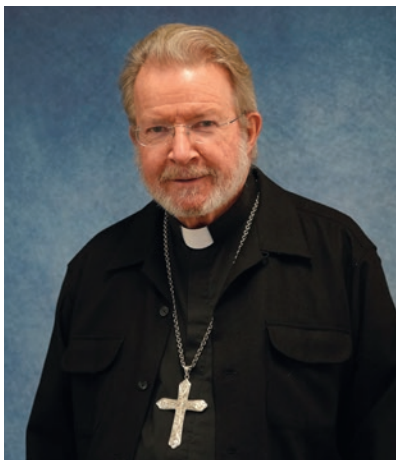
We will more convincingly impart mercy to the miserable if we have first discovered what surprising things can happen when we bring our misery to the merciful. One day years before I became a priest, my pastor treated me with great compassion in the confessional. As I stepped out, I said to myself, “It would be worth paying whatever it costs to be able to give just one other person the peace of soul that has just been given to me.” I’ve never forgotten that moment—and the desire it gave birth to.

continued on page 2 >>

Pensamientos del Camino Escuela de Misericordia

*Esta columna apareció por primera vez
en la Crónica Diocesana del 4 de Febrero de 2019*

“Hay un tiempo para cada cosa bajo el cielo”, dice la Escritura—un tiempo para dar y un tiempo para recibir, un tiempo para ser misericordioso y un tiempo para buscar misericordia. Porque cada interacción benéfica tiene dos lados: el dador entrega el pan de compasión a un receptor que se alimenta de ella. Ambos papeles en este drama decisivo, son los suyos y los míos para jugar. Por lo tanto necesitamos aprender a decir la hora: cuando dar misericordia y cuando recibirla.



Bishop/Obispo Liam Cary

La misericordia se encuentra con la miseria, y la miseria también tiene dos lados. No es difícil reconocerla en los cuerpos contorsionados de un enfermo en el lecho o de un durmiente en la calle. Pero este lado corporal *externo* de la miseria con demasiada frecuencia oculta un lado espiritual *interior* también: una mente abandonada por la paz, un alma destrozada por la pérdida, un corazón roto por la traición.

Este estado miserable nuestro es precisamente lo que la Divina Misericordia viene a tocar y transformar en Jesucristo. Su Evangelio salvador nos provoca reconocer la miseria humana por lo que es, de adentro hacia afuera. Lo más honestamente que yo reconozca mi propia miseria desde adentro, lo más claro que podré ver lo mucho que necesito la misericordia desde afuera—del Dios Que me salva, de Sus hijos que me consuelan.

Impartiremos la misericordia más efectivamente a los miserables si primero descubrimos las cosas sorprendentes que pueden suceder cuando traemos nuestra miseria a los misericordiosos. Un día, años antes de hacerme sacerdote, mi párroco me trató con gran compasión en el confesionario. Al salir, me dije a mi mismo, “Valdría la

continúa en la página 2 >>

School of Mercy, *continued*

“It begins with your family / and soon it comes ‘round to your soul,” the poet Leonard Cohen sings. The family is our first and best school of mercy because it is there that we learn the earliest and longest-lasting lessons of how mercy works. At home growing up, in the normal course of an ordinary day, we saw the hungry fed, the naked clothed, the lonely comforted, the sinner admonished, the ignorant instructed, the sick cared for, the offender forgiven. Without the works of mercy, which of our families would make it through a week? We don’t usually think in such terms, of course, because, growing up, the fed and clothed and comforted were none other than our brothers, our sisters, and ourselves. We have been on the receiving end of mercy since our mother first drew us to her breast.

“It begins with your family / and soon it comes ‘round to your soul.” Marriage and mercy go together inseparably in God’s saving design for our happiness. A man and a woman widen the embrace of their one-flesh union to include the children God gives them to be schooled in compassion, so they can apply lessons of mercy learned in family life to social and civic life as well. For our redemption hinges on the spread of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy from the heart of the family to the darkest corners of an uncomprehending world.

.....

Escuela de Misericordia, *continúa*

pena pagar cuanto costara para poder darle a una sola persona la paz del alma que acaba de ser dada a mi”. Nunca he olvidado ese momento—y el deseo al que dio a luz.

“Comienza con tu familia / y pronto se regresa de vuelta a tu alma”, canta el poeta Leonard Cohen. La familia es nuestra primera y mejor escuela de misericordia porque es allí que aprendemos las lecciones mas tempranas y mas duraderas de cómo trabaja la misericordia. Creciendo en casa, en el curso normal de un día ordinario, vimos que se le daba de comer al hambriento, vestimenta al desnudo, consuelo al afligido, cuidado al enfermo, perdón al transgresor. Sin las obras de misericordia, ¿cuales de nuestras familias habrían superado la semana? Usualmente no pensamos en esos términos, por supuesto, porque, creciendo, los alimentados y vestidos y consolados no eran otros que nuestros hermanos, nuestras hermanas, y nosotros mismos. Hemos estado al lado del receptor de la misericordia ya que nuestra madre nos llamó por primera vez a su pecho.

“Comienza con tu familia / y pronto se regresa de vuelta a tu alma”. El matrimonio y la misericordia van juntos inseparablemente en el diseño salvador de Dios para nuestra felicidad. Un hombre y una mujer extienden el abrazo de su unión de una sola carne para incluir a los hijos que Dios les da para ser educados en la compasión, para que puedan aplicar las lecciones aprendidas de la misericordia en la vida familiar a la vida social y cívica también. Porque nuestra redención depende de la difusión de las obras corporales y espirituales de misericordia desde el corazón de la familia hacia los rincones más oscuros de un mundo desconociente.



St. Francis Students Inducted into National Junior Honor Society

*Submitted by Julie M. Manion,
Principal and Head of the Administrative Team*

On January 31, 2024, Bishop Cary led the inaugural National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School in Bend, welcoming 12 students into this esteemed organization. While maintaining a grade point average of 3.5 or above is a crucial criterion for Honor Society membership, it is just one facet. Students are also required to actively engage in community service, demonstrate leadership skills, exhibit good citizenship, and embody virtuous character.

The ceremony took place following a student Mass, presided by Bishop Cary, as part of the National Catholic Schools Week celebrations. After the Concluding Rites, the inductees were called to the steps of the altar for a special blessing. Then, turning to the assembly they recited the NJHS pledge to maintain high standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character, before signing the official chapter registry. Bishop Cary congratulated the inductees and lauded the school's first representation in this prestigious organization.

Contraception: *Why Not?*

When I was in my early 20's, I went to a wild party. Everyone was playing a drinking game where we had to answer one question. The question put to me was: "What invention of the past 100 years would you uninvent if you had the power to do so?" Without thinking I blurted out, "Contraception!" and the air suddenly sucked out of the room. What?!? Hasn't contraception meant freedom to women everywhere for decades? Contraception is what a responsible woman does to plan her family, right? At that time in my life, I would never have had the courage to say something this outrageous, so I am convinced that it was the Holy Spirit speaking through me. Since that time, I have learned more about contraception and how it works in the body, the mind, and the soul.

If we break down the etymology of the word "contraception" it literally means "against the beginning of life." Contraception hurts women: it hurts their bodies and their ability to bond with their husbands.

Contraception damages the environment.

Contraception distorts our belief in children existing as a gift, into the view of children existing as a burden. In addition, nearly all contraception, apart from barrier methods, can also act as an abortifacient.

The Catholic Church's teaching on contraception is one of her most misunderstood and ignored teachings, and her wisdom on Natural Family Planning (NFP) is one of her best kept secrets. The beautiful teaching on NFP

has changed my life, and now I want to spread the word and help other women on their family planning and health journeys. Modern NFP is not your grandmothers' rhythm method. Advances in science have allowed us to pinpoint, with great accuracy, the days of fertility when it is possible for a couple to achieve pregnancy, and the days of infertility when a couple can avoid pregnancy. NFP can also be used to monitor gynecologic health and help women partner with their doctors on their quest for healthy bodies. We now have many different evidence-based Fertility Awareness Methods (FAMs) to choose from. They each involve learning signs and symptoms we can objectively observe, and new technologies to help us chart. Give yourself and your marriage a gift this new year; learn the Catholic teaching on contraception, find an NFP class, and make a truly informed reproductive choice!

For more recommended resources, go to:

dioceseofbaker.org/marriage-family-life.org



Jennifer Snoozy is certified as a Creighton Model FertilityCare Practitioner and a FEMM educator. She was hired by the Pregnancy Hope Center in Klamath Falls in 2010 as the HOPE Team Coordinator for Prevention Education. Jennifer has a passion for teaching people about God's plan for love and life.

Together with her husband Shawn, she facilitates the marriage preparation program at St. Pius X Catholic Church. They are happily married with six children.

Bishop Liam Cary

*cordially invites you to the blessing of the oils
and the renewal of priestly promises at the*

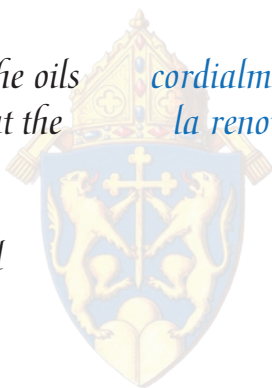
2024 Chrism Mass

March 21st, 11:00 a.m.

Saint Francis de Sales Cathedral

2235 First Street, Baker City

Reception to follow



El Senior Obispo Liam Cary

*cordialmente lo invita a la bendición de los aceites y
la renovación de las promesas sacerdotales en la*

Misa Crismal 2024

21 de Marzo, 11:00 a.m.

Saint Francis de Sales Cathedral

2235 First Street, Baker City

Seguida por una recepción

QUO VADIS:

Where Are You Going?

June 17-19, 2024

*Inviting all young men
currently in 8th-12th grade.*

Do you know where you are going with your life? Whether you are really thinking about the priesthood or haven't really thought about it at all, Quo Vadis is a retreat for High School young men who want to discern God's call in their lives.

The retreat will include Mass, Adoration, talks by **Bishop Liam Cary, Fr. Caleb Cunningham** and **Fr. Victor Mena**, some fun, and time to just hang out with priests.

It will be a good opportunity to grow in your spiritual life and learn more about discerning your life's vocation.



14427 Alfalfa Road
Powell Butte, OR 97753

¿A dónde vas?

Junio 17-19, 2024

*Invitando a todos los jóvenes que
actualmente cursan los grados del 8 al 12.*

¿Sabes hacia dónde vas con tu vida? Ya sea que realmente estés pensando en el sacerdocio o no lo hayas pensado en absoluto, Quo Vadis es un retiro para jóvenes de High School que quieren discernir el llamado de Dios en sus vidas.

El retiro incluirá Misa, Adoración, charlas del **Obispo Liam Cary, el Padre Caleb Cunningham** y el **Padre Víctor Mena**, algo de diversión y tiempo para convivir con los sacerdotes.

Será una buena oportunidad para crecer en tu vida espiritual y aprender más a discernir tu vocación de vida.

For more information:

541-388-4004

discipleship@dioceseofbaker.org

DioceseofBaker.org/vocations-office



Save the Date

*The International Pilgrim
Virgin of Fatima*

May 16-26, 2024
THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

*Schedule & Details
to follow in Parish Bulletins*



Spreading the Message of Fatima Today *Our Lady Travels the World*

The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima is recognized as the primary way in which the message of Fatima spread throughout the world and continues today.

Sculpted by Jose Thedim, the Michelangelo of Portugal, the statue has been traveling internationally since 1947.

On October 13, 1947, in the presence of 200,000 pilgrims at Fatima, the statue was blessed by the Bishop of Lieria-Fatima and commissioned to serve as the Pilgrim Virgin. That day, he prayed that Mary herself accompany the statue wherever it goes.

She was then flown to America, where she was crowned in Ottawa, Canada, and began a two-year tour of Canada and the United States.

Since then, she has traveled to over 100 countries, claiming her dominion, and carrying Fatima's blessings -- an urgent message to people worldwide.