



The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

VOL. 31, NO. 2

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JUNE 2017

I Will Lift Up the Cup of Salvation and Call on the Name of the Lord.

Psalms 116:13



Photos provided by J.W. Harrison

Congratulations to the Newest Priests of the Diocese of Victoria

Father Stephen Paul Vacek

My name is Father Stephen Vacek. My parents Thomas P. and Donna Vacek are members of Holy Cross Catholic Church in East Bernard, Texas. I was born in Baytown and grew up in Liberty and Dayton, with my older brother Jonathan and my younger brother Christopher. In my freshman year



of high school, my family moved to East Bernard and purchased the family store, Vacek's Hardware, Inc. I graduated in 2004, exactly 30 years after my father from the same school. My vocation began in the 2nd grade, when I was inspired by a Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) priest. He was the parochial vicar at the parish my family attended in Liberty, Texas. I wanted to be like him, a man of God, who was also a father figure. Yet, as a teenager, I fought against my vocation and eventually decided to join the Knights of the Holy Eucharist, a religious community in

See Father Stephen, pg. 10

Father Jacob Aaron Mendoza

My name is Father Jacob Mendoza. I was born and raised in Fresno, California where my parents Ralph and Monica Mendoza still live. I have one sibling, a sister named Michelle Bravo. She has 2 children and is expecting a 3rd. I attended Edison High School and then I went to Franciscan University of



Steubenville for college, where I graduated with a degree in mathematics. It was at Steubenville that I met Father Jacob Koether and Father Scott Hill who are now priests for the Diocese of Victoria. While we were in college together, and through them I met Father Dan Morales. I felt called to the priesthood from childhood and slowly pursued it over time. When the call became a desire to discern the priesthood I got in contact with Father Dan again, and decided I would like to join the Diocese of Victoria. He invited me to come visit and the rest is history!

I began seminary at St. Joseph Semi-

See Father Jacob, pg. 11



Bishop Brendan Cahill A Shepherd's Message

Stay with Us, Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On Sunday May 13, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI opened the meeting of the Conference of Latin American bishops in Aparecida, Brazil. Our current Pope Francis was one of the leaders of the Latin American Bishops listening that day. Pope Benedict concluded with a prayer based on the Gospel story of the road to Emmaus:

“Stay with us, for it is towards evening, and the day is now far spent” (Lk 24:29).

Stay with us, Lord, keep us company, even though we have not always recognized you. Stay with us, because all around us the shadows are deepening, and you are the Light; discouragement is eating its way into our hearts: make them burn with the certainty of Easter.

We are tired of the journey, but you comfort us in the breaking of bread, so that we are able to proclaim to our brothers and sisters that you have truly risen and have entrusted us with the mission of being witnesses of your resurrection.

Stay with us, Lord, when mists of doubt, weariness or difficulty rise up around our Catholic faith; you are Truth itself, you are the one who reveals the Father to us. Enlighten our minds with your word, and help us to experience the beauty of believing in you.

Remain in our families, enlighten them in their doubts, sustain them in their difficulties, console them in their sufferings and in their daily labors, when around them shadows build up which threaten their unity and their

natural identity.

You are Life itself: remain in our homes, so that they may continue to be nests where human life is generously born, where life is welcomed, loved and respected from conception to natural death.

Remain, Lord, with those in our societies who are most vulnerable; remain with the poor and the lowly, with indigenous peoples and Afro-Americans, who have not always found space and support to express the richness of their culture and the wisdom of their identity.

Remain, Lord, with our children and with our young people, who are the hope and the treasure of our Continent, protect them from so many snares that attack their innocence and their legitimate hopes.

O Good Shepherd, remain with our elderly and with our sick. Strengthen them all in faith, so that they may be your disciples and missionaries!

In the weeks that followed this speech and prayer the Latin American bishops worked on a document that focused on the joy of being missionary disciples. They would teach that no matter the challenges we face, the love of Christ is stronger and moves us on. At the end of their meeting the Latin American bishops approved a

powerful teaching document, and concluded with the same prayer mentioned above. Our current Pope Francis was a key editor of the teaching of Aparecida. When I think about that historical event it displays the beautiful continuity of our Catholic tradition – from one generation to another passing on the truth and the beauty of knowing the risen Jesus.

The sense of the joy of missionary discipleship is guiding now a process in the Church called the “V Encuentro” – “Fifth Encounter”. The previous four Encuentros have been opportunities for the Hispanic/Latino Catholic community in the United States to gather and reflect on the experience of their Catholicism here. As this fifth Encuentro is developing it seems to me that this may become an opportunity for evangelization and renewal for our whole Church. For more detailed information on this you can go to: <https://vencuentro.org>.

I ask for your prayers for this V Encuentro process, and for our brothers and sisters who have accepted to be leaders. In the month of June these leaders will be teach-

See Stay with Us, Lord, pg. 7

sociedades son más vulnerables; quédate con los pobres y humildes, con los indígenas y afroamericanos, que no siempre han encontrado espacios y apoyo para expresar la riqueza de su cultura y la sabiduría de su identidad. Quédate, Señor, con nuestros niños y con nuestros jóvenes, que son la esperanza y la riqueza de nuestro Continente, protégelos de tantas insidias que atentan contra su inocencia y contra sus legítimas esperanzas. ¡Oh buen Pastor, quédate con nuestros ancianos y con nuestros enfermos. ¡Fortalece a todos en su fe para que sean tus discípulos y misioneros!

En las semanas que siguieron de este discurso y oración los obispos latinoamericanos trabajaron en un documento que se centró en en la alegría de ser discípulos misioneros. Ellos enseñarían que sin importar los desafíos que nos enfrentan, el amor de Cristo es más fuerte y nos hace seguir adelante. Al final de su reunión los obispos latinoamericanos aprobaron un documento de enseñanza de gran alcance, y concluyeron con la misma oración que se ha mencionado anteriormente. Nuestro Papa Francisco era un editor clave de la enseñanza de Aparecida. Cuando pienso en ese evento histórico que muestra la bella continuidad de nuestra tradición católica - de una generación a la otra pasando de la verdad y la belleza de conocer a Jesús resucitado.

El sentido de la alegría del discipulado misionero está guiando ahora un proceso en la Iglesia llamada el “V Encuentro” -

“Quinto Encuentro”. Los cuatro Encuentros anteriores han sido oportunidades para la comunidad hispana/latina católica en los Estados Unidos a reunirse y reflexionar sobre la experiencia de su catolicismo en este país. Como este quinto encuentro se está desarrollando me parece que esto puede convertirse en una oportunidad para la evangelización y de renovación para toda la Iglesia. Para obtener información sobre el V Encuentro se puede ir a: <https://vencuentro.org>.

Les pido sus oraciones por el proceso de V Encuentro, y para nuestros hermanos y hermanas que han aceptado ser líderes. En el mes de junio estos líderes van a enseñar el proceso del V Encuentro a un pequeño grupo de delegados parroquiales. Habrá entrenamientos en El Campo, Hallettsville y Victoria. Después de esto esperamos que sean capaces de formar grupos más grandes en las parroquias de la diócesis, reflexionando y renovando la experiencia católica en nuestra comunidad hispana / latina.

Una vez más, quiero agradecer especialmente a cada uno de ustedes que se ha comprometido a rezar el Rosario por el don de la paz en el mundo y para la familia. Como San Juan Pablo II nos invita a orar con fidelidad, creo que podemos mantener nuestra confianza en la eficacia de esta oración - más de lo que nosotros sabemos! Que Dios los bendiga y a sus familias, vamos a mantenernos en la oración.

+ Brendan




Bishop Brendan's Schedule

June		22	3:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer for Sanctification of Priests
4	9:00 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist Church, Koerth	25	10:00 a.m. Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul, Plum
	4:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass at Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Shiner	26	Noon Mass with Missionary Catechists, Victoria
11-17	USCCB Spring General Meeting, Indianapolis	29-30	Leadership Roundtable Conference, Orlando
18	10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Patrick's, Bloomington	July	
19-20	Catholic Rural Life Board meeting, Minneapolis	1-4	Convocation of Catholic Leaders, Orlando
21	2:30 p.m. Finance Board Meeting, Chancery	6-9	National Black Catholic Congress Conference, Orlando
	4:00 p.m. Building Board Meeting, Chancery		

Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria who were ordained during the month of June:

Rev. George Henninger	06/08/1985	Retired
Rev. Matthew H. Huehlefeld	06/01/1996	St. Joseph, Yoakum
Rev. Michael J. Lyons	06/08/1996	Sts. Peter and Paul, Frelsburg
Rev. Robert E. Knippenberg	06/10/2000	Holy Family, Wharton
Rev. Roger R. Hawes	06/02/2001	Holy Cross, Yorktown
Rev. Ty J. Bazar	06/01/2002	St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg
Rev. David W. Berger	06/03/2006	St. Michael, Cuero
Rev. Michael J. Rother	06/09/2007	St. Philip, El Campo
Rev. Gabriel D. Espinosa	06/16/2007	Our Lady of Sorrows, Victoria
Rev. Tommy Chen	06/21/2008	Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca
Rev. Kristopher L. Fuchs	06/06/2015	The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria
Rev. Scott J. Hill	06/06/2015	Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca
Rev. Jacob A. Koether	06/06/2015	St. Joseph, Yoakum
Rev. Francis T. Nguyen III	06/06/2015	St. Anthony of Padua, Palacios
Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill	06/29/2015	Bishop, Diocese of Victoria
Rev. Peter Oscar Kofi-Amo	06/04/2016	St. Michael, Cuero
Rev. Max A. Landman	06/04/2016	Sacred Heart, Hallettsville

“Please continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood.”




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DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF THE PRECEDING MONTH
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Official Announcements

Effective July 1, 2017

Reverend Jacob Mendoza is assigned as parochial vicar of St. Michael Catholic Church and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Cuero, Texas, and the missions of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Meyersville, Texas and Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in Westhoff, Texas.

Reverend Stephen Vacek is assigned as parochial vicar of St. Mary Catholic Church in Victoria, Texas and part-time chaplain at Saint Joseph Catholic High School in Victoria, Texas.

Reverend Peter Oscar Kofi-Amo is relieved of his assignment as parochial vicar of St. Michael Catholic Church and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Cuero, Texas, and the missions of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Meyersville, Texas and Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in Westhoff, Texas and is assigned as parochial vicar of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church in El Campo, Texas.

Reverend Jasper Liggio is relieved of his assignment as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Victoria, Texas, and the mission of Capilla de la Santísima Trinidad, and is appointed as pastor of St. Michael Catholic Church and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Cuero, Texas, and the missions of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Meyersville, Texas and Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in Westhoff, Texas.

Please remember in prayer the priests who served in the Diocese of Victoria and died during the month of June:

Rev. Msgr. James C. Brunner
06/04/2010
Rev. Luke Mennella O.Ss.T.
06/23/2008
Rev. William Halata
06/11/2000
Rev. Msgr. A.J. Morkovsky
06/11/1990
Rev. Sean Donohue
06/03/1989
Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Schmidt
06/26/1989

DSA update

2017 Diocesan Services Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$ 1,994,298.00
Parish Pledge Totals: \$ 687,836.00
Parish Contribution Totals: \$ 573,446.00
Number of Parish Families Participating: 2,576

JOB OPENING

The Diocese of Victoria has an opening for a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO is an ecclesiastical office mandated by the Code of Canon Law and responsible for the overall financial management of the diocese in consultation with the bishop or his designee. The applicant must be a currently licensed CPA. For job posting and application process please visit: <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/current-job-postings>. Application deadline is June 30, 2017.

Quédese Con Nosotros, Señor

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

El domingo 13 de mayo de 2007, el Papa Benedicto XVI inauguró la reunión de la Conferencia Episcopal Latinoamericana en Aparecida, Brasil. Nuestro Papa Francisco fue uno de los líderes de los obispos latinoamericanos que escucharon ese día. El Papa Benedicto XVI concluyó con una oración basada en la historia evangélica del camino de Emaús:

“Quédate con nosotros, porque atardece y el día ya ha declinado” (Lc 24, 29). Quédate con nosotros, Señor, acompáñanos aunque no siempre hayamos sabido reconocer. Quédate con nosotros, porque en torno a nosotros se van haciendo más densas las sombras, y tú eres la Luz; en nuestros corazones se insinúa la desesperanza, y tú los haces arder con la certeza de la Pascua. Estamos cansados del camino, pero tú nos confortas en la fracción del pan para anun-

ciar a nuestros hermanos que en verdad tú has resucitado y que nos has dado la misión de ser testigos de tu resurrección. Quédate con nosotros, Señor, cuando en torno a nuestra fe católica surgen las nieblas de la duda, del cansancio o de la dificultad: tú, que eres la Verdad misma como revelador del Padre, ilumina nuestras mentes con tu Palabra; ayúdanos a sentir la belleza de creer en ti. Quédate en nuestras familias, ilumínelas en sus dudas, sostenerlos en sus dificultades, consolarlos en sus sufrimientos y en la fatiga de cada día, cuando en torno a ellas se acumulan sombras que amenazan su unidad y su naturaleza. Tú que eres la Vida, quédate en nuestros hogares, para que sigan siendo nidos donde nazca la vida humana abundante y generosamente, donde se acoja, se ame, se respete la vida desde su concepción hasta su término natural. Quédate, Señor, con aquellos que en nuestras



All Alumni Reunion Sacred Heart Catholic School, Hallettsville Saturday ~ July 15

All Sacred Heart Catholic School Alumni (Classes 1948-2017) and/or former students are invited to the Alumni Reunion to be held on Saturday, July 15, 2017, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Hallettsville. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. followed by a Memorial Mass for Deceased Alumni at 4:00 p.m., Social (5:00 p.m.) Dinner (6:30 p.m.), Dance (8:00-11:00 p.m.)

Admission will be \$20 per person and pre-registration material will be mailed to all Alumni or may be picked up at the school or rectory.

For more information, please contact David Smolik at (361) 798-4492 or email davidasmolik@gmail.com.



Seminary Endowment Fund

Seminary Endowment Fund (formerly known as Seminary Burses) is a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is \$15,000. The **interest from this amount** is applied yearly to the education of seminarians. The burses are in memory of or in honor of an individual priest or lay person, living or deceased. Publication of the burses will appear periodically when new contributions are received.
Donation Categories: **Lector** - \$.01 - \$99.99; **Acolyte** - \$100 - \$499.99; **Candidate** - \$500 - \$1,499.99; **Transitional Deacon** - \$1,500 - \$2,499.99; **Priest** - \$2,500 >.

May 30, 2017

• Cora Wostarek Seminary Burse Acolyte

In memory of Justin V. Wostarek by
Mike and Lisa Moeller
In memory of Charley J. Moeller by
Mike and Lisa Moeller

• Henry A. Schoenfeld Seminary Burse Lector

In memory of Evelyn Luchak by
Bernice Schoenfeld

• Rev. Msgr. Arnold Anders Seminary Burse Acolyte

In honor of Rev. Msgr. Arnold Anders' 67th priestly ordination anniversary by
Ed and Betty Rotter

• Rev. Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin Seminary Burse

Following entries from May 2017 Lighthouse were incorrectly listed under a different Burse

Lector
In memory of Rev. Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin by:
Deacon Mike and Bonnie Vieira
Mrs. M. A. Bernhard

John and Melody Vecera
Jeff and Denise Dickinson
Brandon and Marie Immenhauser
Tom and Barbara Wilcox

Acolyte
In memory of Rev. Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin by:
Mrs. A.R. "Dick" Wearden and James Wearden
Deacon John and Eileen McCourt

• Rev. Wayne Flagg and Rev. Philip Brune Seminary Burse Lector

In honor of Rev. Philip Brune's 3rd priestly ordination anniversary by
Lambert and Carol Brune

• Josephat R. Janak Seminary Burse #2 Lector

In honor of Rev. Gary Janak's 29th ordination anniversary to the priesthood May 14, 1988 by
Deacon Frank and Jo Ann Fikac

• Rev. Dan Morales Seminary Burse in Honor of his Work for Vocations Lector

In memory of Rev. Dan Morales by
Paz and Andrea Morales

Education of Seminarian Fund

The Education of Seminarian Fund is a fund in which **all of the monies** donated to this fund, as well as the earnings, are available to cover the cost of educating seminarians. The proceeds of the special collection on Holy Thursday are deposited into the Education of Seminarian Fund. Publication of this fund will appear when new contributions are received.

Donation categories: **Lector** - \$.01 - \$99.99; **Acolyte** - \$100 - \$499.99; **Candidate** - \$500 - \$1,499.99; **Transitional Deacon** - \$1,500 - \$2,499.99; **Priest** - \$2,500 >.

Lector

Diana Sue Starnes
In Memory of Rev. Raphael Baidoo
Betty & Kirwin, Micki & Gerard Kosler
In Honor of Raymond & Helen Janak
60th Wedding Anniversary
James & Rose Koenig
In Memory of Emilie Kusak

Acolyte

Grace Rigamonti
In Memory of Msgr. Eustace Hermes

Candidate

Knights of Columbus Council #2500

Transitional Deacon

Anonymous

To contribute to the Education of Seminarian Fund, send contributions to:

Diocese Of Victoria
Education of Seminarian Fund
P. O. Box 4070
Victoria, TX 77903

• Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Seminary Burse #7 Lector

In memory of Marvin Filip by:
Leo and Joyce Janda
Willie E. Barborak
Patricia Berger
In memory of Aubrey Shanks by
Willie Barborak
In memory of Charlie Deem by:
Jerome and Georgia Pavliska
Raymond Henke
In memory of Helen Shimek by
Richard and Wilma Schaefer
Donation by Gilbert and Mary Urbish
Donation by Soila Sanchez

Acolyte

In honor of Rev. Msgr. John Peters on Pastor's Appreciation Day by Sacred Heart School teachers, staff and students

• Rev. Michael Rother Seminary Burse Lector

In memory of Robert Ottis by
Bernard and Madeline Rother

• CDA #1374 Queen of Peace Seminary Burse Lector

In memory of Adela A. Vinklarek by:
M/M Ivan Faldyn
M/M Melvin Pavlicek
Barbara Hrnair
Patsy Miller
Edna Krenak
Catherine Drapela
Rick and Brenda Masek
Johnnie F. Marek
Andrew and Marjorie Swoboda

Acolyte

In memory of Ludwig and Adela Vinklarek by Kim Janda Warzecha

To contribute to an existing Seminary Endowment Fund send contributions with the appropriate fund designation to:

Diocese Of Victoria
Seminary Endowment Fund
P. O. Box 4070
Victoria, TX 77903

"Quo Vadis" Vocations Camp for Boys

Discerning your call from God is not easy. It takes time. Time in prayer, in discussion with others, and in spiritual reflection.

The annual "Quo Vadis" Vocations Camp for Boys will be July 2-5 at Cooper's Farm in Ledbetter, Texas. This year's theme will be "Basic Training: going back to the basics of our Catholic Faith." Young men who are going into the 9th grade through 21 years of age are welcome to attend. Please begin inviting young men to save the date to attend this Camp. Priests and seminarians of the

Diocese of Victoria will staff this retreat. The cost to attend the retreat is \$75; this includes food and lodging. A \$25 non-refundable deposit is due June 23.

For a registration form visit <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/vocations>. It is located in document section or you can contact your church office.

For questions call Father Tommy Chen, vocation director at (361) 552-6140 or email at olg@olgulf.org. You can also contact Father Kristopher Fuchs, associate vocations director at (361) 575-4141.



Happy Birthday to Our Seminarians



Philippe Dubourdieu will be in College II this coming Fall. His birthday is June 2. Write to Philippe at: Holy Cross Church, 2001 Katy Ave., Bay City, TX 77414.



Tran Dinh will be in Theology II this coming Fall. His birthday is June 10. Write to Tran at: St. Anthony of Padua, P O Box 900, Palacios, TX 77465.

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:18-22

Where Will the Diocese of Victoria Seminarians Be Serving This Summer?

Diocesan Missionary Program



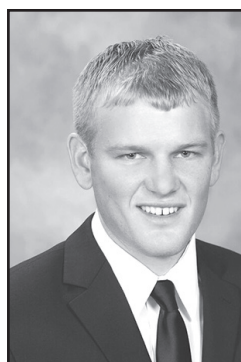
Aaron Padilla
Diocesan Missionary Program



Jordan Morgan
Diocesan Missionary Program



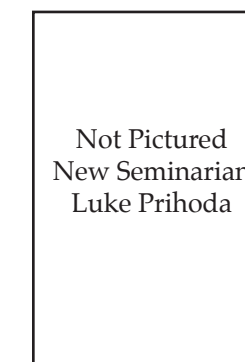
Philippe Dubourdieu
Diocesan Missionary Program



Adam Shimek
Diocesan Missionary Program



Nick Aparicio
Diocesan Missionary Program



Luke Prihoda
Diocesan Missionary Program

Diocesan Missionary Program Schedule:

June 4-9, Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Shiner - Nick, Adam, Aaron, Jordan, Philippe and Luke
June 11-16, Holy Family, Victoria - Nick, Adam and Luke
June 11-16, Camp David, Victoria - Jordan, Aaron and Philippe
June 18-23, Holy Family, Wharton - Jordan and Philippe
June 18-23, Sacred Heart, Hallettsville - Nick, Adam and Aaron
June 24-July 2, Rocky Mountain High Retreat - Jordan and Aaron
June 25-30, Vocation Camp Prep, Port Lavaca - Nick, Adam, Luke and Philippe
July 2-5, Vocation Camp - All Seminarians
July 9-14, Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca - Adam, Aaron, Luke and Jordan
July 12-14, Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca - Philippe and Nick
July 16-21, The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
July 23-28, Guatemala Trip

Parish Ministry

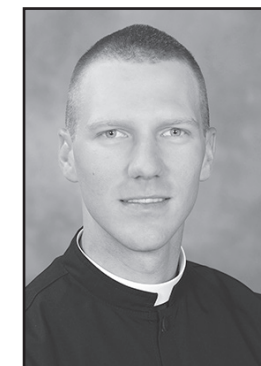


Tran Dinh
Holy Cross
Yorktown

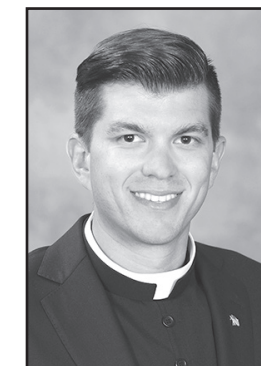


Ryan Kapavik
St. Philip
El Campo

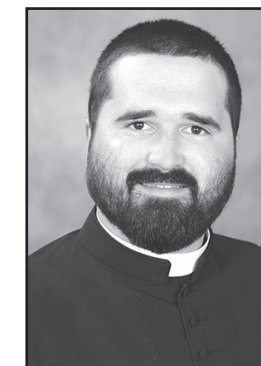
Clinical Pastoral Education ~ Various Hospitals in Texas



James Dvorak

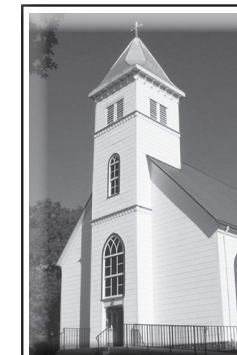


Dalton Ervin



Chase Goodman

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an obligatory training for most seminarians before they are ordained. This training teaches future priests how to minister to patients in hospitals. It teaches them how to show compassion, how to listen and empower the patients. CPE provides opportunities for them to reflect on their role as a minister in relationship to others in sickness, crisis, and spiritual concerns about death. Seminarians will come to understand how to relate to those who come from different religious and faith backgrounds.



Celebrating 129 Years

Annual 4th of July

PICNIC
at

St. John Parish

7026 FM 957 • 6 miles SW Schulenburg

Additional
Parking
Available

Tuesday, July 4th



Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Flag Raising Ceremonies at 10:00 a.m.
All Veterans Are Encouraged to Attend

Dinner at 10:30 a.m.

Stew, Fried Chicken and All the Trimmings
Adults • \$10 — Children • \$5 Take Home Plates • \$10

Auction at 12:30 p.m.

Drinks, Snow Cones, Hamburgers and more ~ Country Store, Bingo, Cakewalk, Ball Throw, Ring Toss, Lil Diggers Sandbox, and more Entertainment

Free Dance Under the Pavilion

Music Begins at 10:30 a.m. ~ The Shiner Hobo Band
The Dujka Brothers • Red Ravens • Texas Dream
Raffle Drawing • 8:00 p.m. — Fireworks Show • 9:00 p.m.

Everybody Welcome - Fun For All - Young and Old!
Visit Our 129 Year Old Church

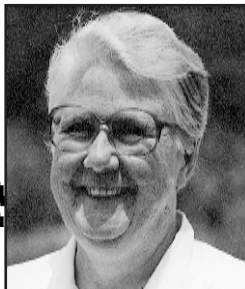
Give Away 2017 ~ Kawasaki Mule w/trailer; 4-\$250 gift cards ~
Tickets will be available on the picnic day or call Robert Mendel at
(979) 743-9516 or Ann McBride at 979-561-6261 for tickets now.

Check Out our Website: www.stjohnpicnic.com
Like our Facebook page - St. John 4th of July Picnic



SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



Lesson From A Garden

In the early mornings before our community prayers or on weekends when we have a later Mass, I like to go outdoors for a little inspiration time to get in touch with nature and the physical world. The moon's, when it is viewable, and the barely visible stars' luminance are fading. The various

birds seem to be competing with one another or wooing hesitant mates through song. The dew-covered plants seem to be vying with one another in luxuriance and color. All nature seems to be in praise mode as it welcomes the silently creep-

ing dawn. It seems natural for one to comprehend that God is in charge and all nature is responding according to its created purpose to glorify God, each species in its own way.

In this peaceful setting, I am reminded of a quote from Julian of Norwich, a medieval English mystic, who wrote "All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well." What a wonderful thought to carry into the busyness of the day ahead!

Now, not all actions of nature serve as models for imitation; some are examples

of activity that are counter-Christian and therefore to be avoided. One of my favorite early-morning sounds is the soft chirping of the hummingbirds which come to get their breakfast from the flowers and feeders. Now our larger feeder can accommodate 10 of them at a time. However, one of

them monopolizes the feeder and chases the other hummingbirds away. I don't know how it gets any nutrition because it spends all its time guarding the feeders. Meanwhile, all the other hummers have to forage at the flowers to get their breakfast.

Then I wonder, am I like that greedy creature - spending time and energy guarding my ideas, my way of doing things, or my things instead of sharing with those who need them? Unlike the hummingbirds, as human beings made in the image and likeness of God, we have the God-given mandate, "Love one another as I love you." We know that includes sharing and thinking of others. Therefore, let us join nature in its praise of the God of creation as we follow God's admonition to us humans to love.

Confirmandi Spend Time Reflecting on Their Relationship with God

Christella Alvarez from the Office of Catechetical Ministry, and Sister Digna Vela, IWBS, teamed up to present two retreats for students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation from Immaculate Conception Church in Goliad, Holy Family and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Wharton, and St. Joseph in Boling.

The theme for both retreats was *Deepening Our Relationship with God: Prayer*. The students and their sponsors explored various activities, which can sometimes hinder our relationship with God, such as our fast-paced lives and social media. They were introduced to various ways Catholics pray: the public prayer of the Church, that is, the Eucharistic Liturgy and the Liturgy of the Hours, private vocal prayer such as rosaries, novenas, prayer cards, etc. as well as praying with Scripture and nature using their own words, and talking with God from their hearts.

After viewing and discussing a YouTube video *Creation Calls* by Brian Doerksen, the students went outside to experience the beauty of nature and to pray and reflect on that experience. Several students at both

retreats were willing to share their prayers and/or reflections with the entire group. Some of those reflections follow:

• "Dear Lord, thank you for this lovely day; birds with beautiful songs, wind that moves the branches of even the mightiest oaks, but most of all thank you for the time you give me to reconnect with nature and you. Amen."

• "Heavenly Father, we just thank you for the breeze to keep us cool, we thank you for the roses to show us the beauty of your creation; we thank you for the music of the birds and them flying through the air to show us how free we are to love and serve you. Amen."

• "Oh my God, what a beautiful world you have created. I look around and see all of the beautiful things you have made. With all the distractions in this world, we often forget to look around and take in everything and appreciate you, my God. Please help us take a break from our work and appreciate instead. Amen."



AWARD WINNING— Congratulations to Our Lady of Sorrows Ballet Folklorico, Victoria, under the direction of Janie Rubio, Father Gabriel Espinosa and Father Jasper Liggio. The group Bailes De Mi Tierra is pictured in Round Rock. Avyana Osegueda, front row, received 1st place on her solo dance at the competition.

Catholic School Teachers Honored by KC's

Holy Family, Victoria, Knights of Columbus Council #9088 hosted a dinner on May 16, honoring and appreciating the Catholic teachers from St. Joseph High School, Nazareth Academy, and Our Lady of Victory. Over 150 people attended the event.

Guest speaker for the evening was Thomas Maj, principal of St. Joseph High School, Victoria. Mr. Maj thanked the Knights of Columbus for hosting the dinner. He also thanked the Catholic school teachers for their dedication to providing constants in teaching moral behavior and wanting stu-

dents to know what it means to be good. Mr. Maj shared that Catholic schools are more important today than ever before. He also acknowledged that teachers today have to meet many challenges, and turn them into opportunities towards building values in this very fast world that we live in. He further stated that Catholic theology integrates with all other subjects in life. Theology mixes modern knowledge and faith, and helps us to understand the world. In closing, Mr. Maj said that we are grateful to all the Catholic teachers for their contributions to Catholic education.



Wendy Eggert, Director • Ryan Leos, Associate Director
ym@victoriadiocese.org • (361) 573-0828 • www.victoriadiocese.org

Calendar of Events

June 12-16 – Camp David, Spiritual Renewal Center
June 24-July 2 – Rocky Mountain High, Colorado

Bishop Cahill Makes V Encuentro Announcement

On May 24, 2017, Bishop Brendan Cahill appointed Sister Miriam Perez, MCSH as a Co-Chair of V Encuentro. She will help Deacon Joe Duplan lead the 11 delegates to represent the diocese as part of a Region X team of V Encuentro. The delegates are: Mary Lou Duplan, Cesar Hernandez, Arturo & Carolina Lara, Deacon Ed Molina, Dr. Gloria Gonzalez, Maria Nunez, Margaret Pruitt, Brunhilda Ortiz, Sr. Rosario Resendez, IWBS and Michelle Chavez.

Diocesan delegates are in the process of teaching the Encuentro process to a small group of parish appointed delegates. They will then begin the implementation and formation of the program in our diocese by training larger parish teams.

We want to thank the parishes who have already responded so positively to our work with V Encuentro.

Stay with Us, Lord

Continued from pg. 2


ing the Encuentro process to a small group of parish-appointed delegates. There will be trainings in El Campo, Hallettsville and Victoria. After this we hope we will be able to form larger groups in parishes throughout the diocese, reflecting on and renewing the experience of Catholicism in our Hispanic/Latino community.

Once again, I want to particularly thank each of you who has committed to pray the Rosary for the gift of peace in the world and for the family. As St. John Paul II invited us to pray this faithfully, I believe we can maintain our confidence in the power of this prayer – more than we ever know! May God bless you and your families, let's keep each other in prayer.

+Brendan



CONTEST WINNER SHARES PRIZE WINNINGS—Grand Knight Rob Kolacny, Council #3262, Holy Family, Wharton, is pictured with Kenzi Gibson, fourth grader and winner of the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Kenzi was recognized for her charitable act by donating her winnings to a local family that lost their home and possessions due to a fire over the Christmas Season.



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Vacation Bible Schools in the Diocese

• **Holy Cross Church, Yorktown ~ June 12-16 ~ 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**
Parade around the Our Father will be at 1214 Zorn Road in the Activity Center; for more information call the office at (361) 564-2893.

• **Holy Family Church, Wharton ~ June 19-23 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**
Discovery Mission VBS for grades entering K-5th; Youth C.R.E.W. for 6th-12th Volunteer Opportunities for adults; call the office at (979) 532-3593 for more information.

• **Holy Cross Church, East Bernard ~ June 26-29 ~ 9:00-11:45 a.m.**
Pre-K thru 5th grade ~ donation of \$5.00 per child or \$10.00 per family would be greatly appreciated ~ questions call Bonnie at (979) 533-2205 or Jaclyn (832) 477- 5519.

• **St. Anthony Church, Palacios ~ July 10-14 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**
\$10 donation per family to help defray the cost of supplies, materials, etc. Registration forms at the church office or back table of the church or call the church at (361) 972-2446.

• **Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn ~ July 17-21 ~ 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**
Hostyn Parish Hall - for more information call the office at (979) 247-4441.

• **St. Mary Church, Victoria ~ July 17-21 ~ 8:00 - 11:50 a.m.**
Where: Activity Center; For: PreK-4 to 5th grade; Cost: \$10/child; Contact: Marie Immenhauser at (361) 572-3863 for more information.

• **St. Michael Church, Cuero ~ July 25-27 ~ 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon**
Birthday Blast: A Celebration of Life at STM School Gym; this free VBS is for all who have completed PreK4-5th grade. Volunteers are also needed! Please contact the church office at (361) 275-3554 for more information.

Holy Family K of C Council #9088

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CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT FATIMA—On May 13 Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca, celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Thanks Father Tommy Chen, pastor, for sharing with the children about Our Lady of Fatima!



LEARNING ABOUT SCIENCE—Holy Cross Catholic School, Bay City, Science Fair was a hit! This was their first annual Science Fair. Students focused on the scientific method and journaling. They had 57 entries. Pictured is Curtis Goodman, a fourth grader. He placed first in the senior division, which is 3rd grade through 6th grade. Holy Cross was very proud of ALL the student projects!



ST. JOSEPH STUDENT RECEIVES AWARD—Liam P., a recent graduate of St. Joseph High School, Victoria, accepts a trophy from David Cockrum, UHV interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, left, and UHV President Vic Morgan. He received a Kindle Fire tablet after placing first in the UHV Mathematics & Robotics Awareness Day computer science test. Liam shared that computer science is an interesting way to use programming to develop logic. "I like how computers can be used as tools to test if your logic is correct," he said. Liam also shared, "Computers will do exactly what you tell them to do, so if the logic is sound, the program will work. Eventually, I want to earn my doctorate and research artificial intelligence." Not pictured, also from St. Joseph, Pranav J. demonstrated a robot that he built and programmed. To watch Pranav's robot demonstration go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jma-Fvf17T0&sns=em>.



OLV STUDENTS MEDAL AT PSIA STATE COMPETITION—Our Lady of Victory Catholic School, Victoria, recently competed at the 2017 Private Schools Interscholastic Academic (PSIA) State Meet held at Texas Christian University. Our Lady of Victory placed 8th in the Middle School Division with more than 220 schools participating in the competition. State Medal winners were front row (l to r): 7th grader Sarah Ybarra-3rd place Spelling, 5th grader Mia Mabray-3rd place Maps, Graphs & Charts, 7th grader Paula Swanson-2nd place Music Memory and 4th place On-Site Drawing, 6th grader Benjie Corpuz-3rd place Maps, Graphs & Charts, 6th grader Heidi Taylor-6th place Prose Interpretation; (back row): 8th graders Elaina Lee-3rd place Maps, Graphs & Charts and Reed Rivera-3rd place Art Memory. Not pictured earning Honorable Mentions were: 5th grader Kenna Klekar-7th place Listening Skills, 8th grader Andres Ramos-8th place Mathematics and 6th grader Luis Ramos-8th place Mathematics and Number Sense.



ACCELERATED READER—Fourth grader Will F. from St. Anthony School, Columbus, broke the school's AR point record with 723.6 points! Way to go!! Pictured with Will is John O'Leary, principal of St. Anthony.

*Prescription for boredom:
READ*



1.

May Crownings Throughout the Diocesan Schools and Parishes



2.



3.



8.



9.



4.



7.

1. St. Anthony, Columbus
2. Holy Cross, Bay City
3. Nazareth Academy, Victoria
4. Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca
5. St. Rose, Schulenburg
6. Our Lady of Victory, Victoria
7. St. Joseph, Yoakum
8. St. Joseph High School, Victoria
9. St. Michael, Cuero



6.

5.



Father Stephen Paul Vacek

Hanceville, Alabama. I intended to stay one year and instead remained a member for six years. During my time as a Knight, I spent one and a half years in Seminary at Holy Apostles in Cromwell, Connecticut. There, I recognized a confirmation of my calling to the priesthood. After my third semester in seminary, I returned to the order to discern a calling to the diocesan priesthood rather than the life of a farmer. On May 15, 2010, the Feast of St. Isidore the patron of farmers, I transferred to the Diocese of Victoria. Coming from a farming and ranching area, I felt this was a confirmation of my vocation. Since then, I have completed my undergrad-

uate in Philosophy at St. Joseph Abbey and College Seminary and I recently completed my graduate studies at St. Mary Seminary and School of Theology in Houston.

My favorite verse of scripture is Deuteronomy 6: 4-6 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart." When priests and deacons pray Saturday night prayer we pray these verses. We are reminded of our call from our ancestors in the faith to love God. This love with all our heart is not just on our

hearts, but begins in the heart.

My favorite book is Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien. This is because in the end the little guy who no one expected to be heroic wins against all odds.

My hobbies include reading, watching movies, hunting, and spending time with my family, especially my nephews and niece: Xavier, Wesley, and Lorelei Isabella.

My advice to anyone young or old considering a vocation to the priesthood would be the words of St. John Paul II. "Be not afraid!" If you think you may have a vocation or a calling to the priesthood, try it! Do not let yourself or others stop you from

checking out the priesthood.

To the people of the diocese, I want to thank you for being you. Having traveled many places, I can confidently say this diocese is a little piece of God's country. In part, I believe this is rooted in our deep Catholic faith and morals that have been passed on from our ancestors. Finally, thank you for your prayers, support, and encouragement of our priests, deacons, seminarians, and religious in the diocese. I would ask you to keep all those discerning a vocation in your prayers. May God bless and keep you! spánem Bohem!

My favorite scripture is Matthew 8:8, The centurion said in reply, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof;

only say the word and my servant will be healed." I like it because it calls to mind our human frailty and need for God's mercy.

My hobbies include traveling, tinkering with electronics, and writing.

The advice I would give young men considering a vocation to the priesthood: One must be open to God's call and willing to listen to what our Lord has to say in the silence of your hearts. A call to the priesthood is different than wanting to be a

priest. At first someone may not want to be a priest, but the grace and love of fulfilling our Lord's call will yield a great peace that is incredibly fulfilling.

I offer my deepest gratitude to the people of the Diocese of Victoria for welcoming me to Texas and this diocese.

Ordained to the Order of the Priesthood on May 20, 2017

"You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedech."

Psalms 110:4

Father Jacob Aaron Mendoza

Continued from pg. 1





HOLY SPIRIT—Bishop Brendan Cahill with Very Reverend Charles E. Otsiwah and parishioners who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 6, 2017.

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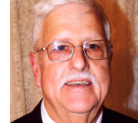
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JCDA SUPPORT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT—In appreciation for National Law Enforcement Week, Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA), Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, made "Law Enforcement Survival Bags" and distributed them to the local police department. Pictured are local law enforcement officers and local JCDA members (left-right): Chief Ronnie Leck, Officer Trey Hermann, JCDA members Sydney Hermann, Lexie Ulcak, Emma Herman, and Sgt. Lou Wolting.



ABUNDANT BLESSING—Father Philip Brune is pictured with Martha Shimek. Father Philip, parochial vicar of St. Robert, El Campo, blessed 150 gallons of water that were spread over the rice fields with a crop duster.

FARMERS REMEMBERING ST. ISIDORE—Holy Cross Catholic Church in East Bernard celebrated the Feast of St. Isidore the Farmer on Saturday, May 13. Father Don Ruppert, pastor, led the congregation in the novena prayers to St. Isidore. He then blessed bags of rice, cotton and grain plants, baskets of garden vegetables, small farm and garden tools, tractors and other large farm equipment. Pictured with Father Ruppert is Dennis Polak, some grandchildren and friends. The Polaks have been a lifelong cotton and grain farming family.



In Memory of ... Sister Theresa Marie Miller, IWBS



Sister Theresa Marie Miller, 90, passed away May 17, 2017. She was born January 19, 1927 in Navidad, Texas to the late Charles and Luda Terrell Miller. She was a Sister of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. Sister Theresa Marie attended the Navidad Public School, Edna High School, and graduated from Nazareth Academy. On June 6, 1943, she entered Nazareth Convent and made her first profession in 1945 and pronounced her final vows on August 28, 1948. She received a BA degree from Incarnate Word College (now University of the Incarnate Word) and did post graduate work at Our Lady of the Lake University. During her years of active ministry, Sister Theresa Marie ministered at Sacred Heart in La Grange, St. Mary in Nada, St. Joseph in Victoria, Sacred Heart in Hallettsville, Holy Cross in Dallas, and St. Michael in Cuero. She also served at Incarnate Word Convent as directress of novices from 1967 to 1976, as superior

general of the congregation from 1976 to 1982, and as member of the general council from 1982 to 1994. She served as faithful manager of the Incarnate Word Convent Gift Shop for 19 years and then assisted in household duties. Some of her favorite hobbies were reading and writing poetry, doing crossword puzzles, and playing cards. In 2007 Sister Theresa Marie moved to the IWC Healthcare Center and generously continued sharing her many gifts and in her later years she entered into her Apostolate of Prayer and Suffering.

She is survived by her sister, Loine White; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Joyce Amelia Pellegrino, Ida Mae Harrell; brothers, Alvin Aaron Miller, Isaac J. Miller

On Monday, May 22, 2017 the Mass of Christian Burial was held at Incarnate Word Convent with Bishop Brendan Cahill as the presider and Father Phi Nguyen as homilist. Burial followed at Catholic Cemetery No. 3. Members of the Knights of Columbus served as pallbearers. Former novices of Sister Theresa Marie served as honorary pallbearers. Memorials may be made to Incarnate Word Convent, Hospice of South Texas or donor's choice.

Cuero Prison Group Hosts Concert

CUERO—The Stevenson Unit Chapel Development Corporation will host a fundraising concert on Saturday, September 23, at the Cuero ISD Performing Arts Center. Produced by World Vision, the contemporary Christian music concert entitled the *Your Love Is Unbreakable Tour* features 2004 Gospel Music Association (GMA) Male Vocalist of the Year Jason Crabb, and eight-time GMA Dove Award Winner SELAH, a dynamic trio composed of Todd Smith, Alan Hall, and Amy Perry. The Cuero Performing Arts Center is a state-of-the-art venue located at Cuero High School. Tickets for the event

are available online at iTickets.com. Funds derived from the concert will be used by the corporation to draft conceptual drawings for the construction of a chapel and educational building at the Stevenson Prison Unit in Cuero and to employ a professional grant writer to target philanthropic donors for construction financing. World Vision International is an Evangelical Christian organization that promotes humanitarian aid and development, and provides for the emergency needs of missionaries. For more information about the proposed project, log on to the corporation's website www.chapelfund.org

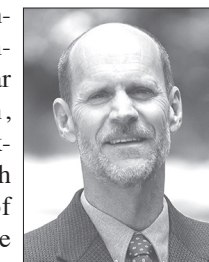


Mother after the Mass. The Marian Consecration service was conducted by Father Jacob Koether and retreat leader, Joyce Harper, Catholic Daughter, Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206.

MARIAN RETREAT— On Saturday, May 13, 2017, a special Mass was held to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima at St. Joseph, Yoakum. The Marian Consecration Group shown in the picture were parishioners from different parishes in the area. Those who participated in The 33 Hours of Marian Consecration Retreat consecrated themselves to the Blessed

Putting Faith Into Action: The Catholic Social Teaching

On Saturday, September 23, 2017 there will be a memorable, awe-inspiring 30th Annual Catholic Conference at Holy Family Church, 2011 Briar Lane, in Wharton, Texas. Various speakers will put us in touch with the realities of today and how these realities are related to our faith.



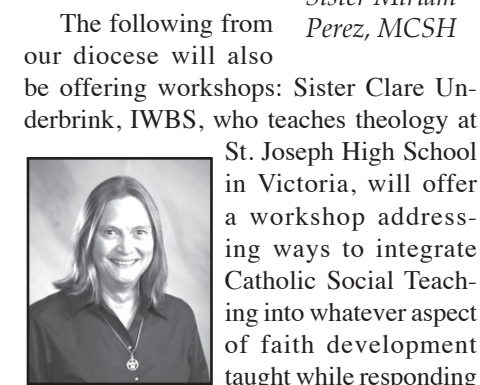
Jack Jezreel

Jack Jezreel, Founder of JustFaith Ministries, will lay out the blueprint for responding to Jesus' call to love God and neighbor



Bishop Brendan Cahill

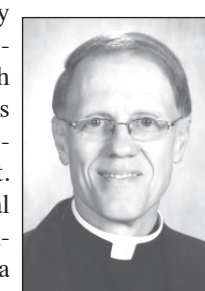
Sister Miriam Perez, MCSH will offer the keynote presentation: La Enseñanza Social Catolica. ¿Y Que Es Eso?, which will resonate Jezreel's keynote address.



Sister Clare Underbrink, IWBS

of Catholic faith. The Very Reverend Gary Janak, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory in Victoria, Texas will offer two workshops, which will highlight the second of the seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching, with

a particular interest in the manner in which the Church is called to nurture marriage and family life. The Very Reverend Greg Korenek, Holy Cross Church in Bay City will address some of the misconceptions of annulment. Debbie Vanelli, pastoral associate at Holy Family Church in Victoria will speak about the importance of advocacy through charity and systemic change for those who are less fortunate. In addition to



Very Reverend Greg Korenek

presenting the Spanish keynote, Sr. Miriam Perez, MCSH will also offer a workshop: Don y Tarea: Siguiendo las huellas de Jesus.

Various presentations will be about Jesus' respect for all human life, his call to us to opt for the poor, how we are to "welcome the stranger among us", reminding us of Matthew 25, "When did we see you...?". Conference participants will be able to choose workshops, which will discuss the historical development of Jesus' teachings and the Catholic Social Teachings and how they connect with our world today. There will also be workshops on the rosary, lecturing, being an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and Liturgical music.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist will follow at 4:30 pm with Bishop Brendan Cahill presiding. For further information call the Catechetical Office at (361) 573-0828.

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Deacon Charlie Novosad Journey

My journey started on November 3, 1946 at St. Joseph Hospital in downtown Houston, Texas. I grew up at 6021 Maxie St. and attended St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School.



After graduating from St. Theresa my mom and dad sent me to San Jacinto Vocational School in downtown Houston. My religious education stopped at 8th grade, for mom and dad did not send me to CCD. However, we would always go to church. At San Jacinto I took the business machine program. It was a tough year with business math being one of my required classes. With the Vietnam War going on and not able to keep grades up, I decided to join the United States Air Force in January 1967.

My first ever train ride was from Houston to San Antonio to Lackland Air Force Base where I received basic training. My second train ride was from Houston to Rantoul, Illinois where I was to train on a B-52. I learned some interesting things about the B-52 while training with them. One interesting point is that at high altitude and with large wings a fighter jet has one shot at the B-52 for the B-52, believe it or not, can out maneuver a fighter and the tail gunner takes care of the rest. While going through the training they talked about one of the new transport planes called the C-141 Star lifter. I thought to myself, "It looks like a good plane to learn on for getting into commercial aircraft."

As luck had it after training I was assigned to Norton Air Force Base San Bernardino, California, which is a base for C-141 aircraft. Norton was one of the bases where troops would come from and go to Vietnam. One of the neat jobs was when we needed to test the engines we would be towed to the blast fence area where we could test the engines. Ah the feel of power!

In November of 1970 I was informed that I was eligible for a December Christmas early release. I sent my pregnant wife and daughter home. Upon my discharge, my parakeet and I started the two-day journey home.

Once back in Texas I started looking for work. My uncle Sammy told me to check out the phone company. I put my applica-

Meet a Deacon (a TCL series)

tion in January of 1971 and I was hired in July of 1971 as a cable splicer in the towns of Pearland, Friendswood, and Manvel. In June of 1971 my son, Steven was born.

My first marriage was not the best and ended in divorced in 1973.

In 1975, I met Lorraine, who was a widow with a 4-year-old son. I knew she would not marry me without an annulment, so I started the process. We married in 1977, and this July 3 we will be married in the Catholic Church for 40 years.

We settled in Spring, Texas, but soon saw the opportunity to move to the beautiful country in Columbus. At first Lorraine was against moving out west of Houston. She said, "I'm not living on a prairie!" So I brought her to Columbus, and showed her the Colorado River, some rolling hills and great big oak trees; but the feature that clinched the deal was the Catholic church. She was happy that it had an elementary school and gave me the "OK" to start looking for land. In March of 1979 we found 5 acres, and as I put in for a transfer, I thought to myself, 'growing up we would go visit grandpa and grandma who lived in Hallettsville by traveling the two lane Hwy 90 through Columbus, never thinking I would like to live here one day.'

In July of 1979 I received great news that the transfer came through so our family began plans to move to Columbus in time for our son to start school. My last day with my crew in Spring my boss came up to me and said, "Charlie you are the last person to leave Houston, after you leave no one will be able to bid or transfer to another job or position." God had a plan. What a blessing for me to be granted the transfer!

We found a cinder block rent house that we lived in until we started building our garage and made it livable enough while we built our dream home, a log house.

I let the phone company know that when I turned 55 and had 30 years with the company in 2001 that I wished to retire. Lorraine was still teaching at St. Anthony School, but she and I had plans to become RVers and travel, travel, travel.

Then, in the summer of 2001, I received a letter from Father Gabriel Maison who invited me to Moulton on August 11 for a meeting. As we were sitting with 14 other couples, Fr. Gabriel got up and announced that this was a formation process to see if you would like to become a deacon. On March of 2002 Fr. Gabriel ask me why I wanted to be a deacon. I said up to August 11 "deacon" was not in my vocabulary, and

Sunday Readings from June 11 - July 16

June 11 – The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
Exodus 34:4B-6, 8-9
Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

June 18 – Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ
Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14B-16A
Psalms 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
John 6:51-58

June 25 – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalms 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

For daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, visit
www.usccb.org/bible/readings.
Brought to you by: Catholic Communications Campaign



he signed me up along with Dennis Kutach, John McCourt, Leo Sharron and David Valdez. Every year we achieved different stages and at every stage I would ask the Lord, "Am I supposed to keep going even though I have attention deficit? These studies are not easy for me." Every time I would get a green light to proceed. July 21, 2006, we five gentlemen were ordained, each one of us eager to serve the Lord.

Now that I am a deacon, I realize how blessed I am to be called to come closer to the Lord, especially by serving at the altar. This includes several weekday Masses and especially our school Mass on Friday mornings, assisting father with two Sunday morning Masses, preaching on the fourth Sunday of every month at all three Masses, and leading three o'clock evening prayer, Divine Mercy chaplet and finish the hour with Adoration on the fourth Sunday.

I enjoy celebrating the sacraments with the people at weddings and funerals and baptisms. I will have the joyful opportunity next month when I will baptize my own grandchildren in my parish.

Besides serving at the altar I have serve in different ministries. I put together our very fine RCIA team. Father Augustine asked me to represent St. Anthony Parish at the local Ministerial Alliance, and I help with our youth group. I also help my wife with Vacation Bible School going on 15 years this month. I like to work with my hands, so that comes in handy with VBS along with fixing things around the church. While in formation, I chose to work with Habitat for Humanity, and continued that

July 2 – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16A
Psalms 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-1
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11
Matthew 10:37-42

July 9 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zechariah 9:9-10
Psalms 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14
Romans 8:9, 11-13
Matthew 11:25-30

July 16 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 1
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23

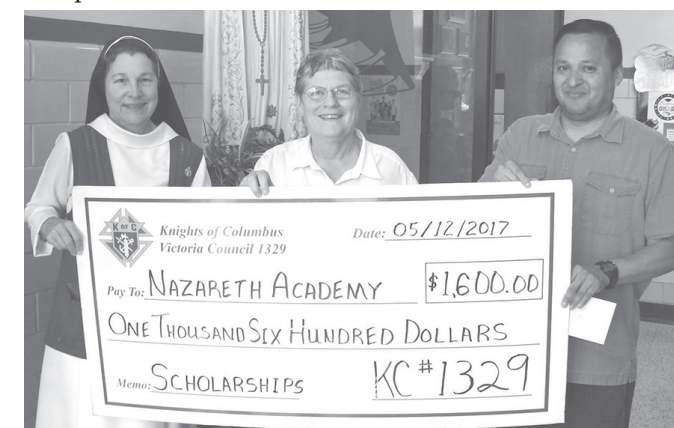
for 10 years as construction coordinator for Colorado County Habitat. My wife and I started Bible study classes, and for 8 years I pushed the ACTS movement until a parishioner took over this ministry, which laid the groundwork for other men and women to attend the retreats. God's Embrace Ministry became an important part of my spiritual journey, and I continue to recommend it to everyone who wants to move closer to God.

Some highlights from my deacon "journey" so far have been a guided trip to Ireland with fellow deacons John McCourt, Dennis Kutach and our wives. Deacon John put together a trip to his homeland that included an Irish wedding. We were then invited to go on a pilgrimage to Israel with Father Gabriel Maison. It was humbling to walk the steps of Jesus and to serve Mass at all the special places. Another unforgettable trip was to a bible seminar in North Carolina. On the way we stopped at EWTN, where we attended morning Mass, toured the building and went to Mother Angela's beautiful Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament. We were blessed while there, to have the opportunity to be on EWTN Live with Father Mitch Pacwa. We made quick friends with him, and I was able to arrange for him to meet a parishioner who invites him yearly to come to Columbus and hunt on his land. He in turn celebrates one of our Sunday Masses and then stays to share some of his great wisdom after Mass.

I believe I have said enough and I wish every ones journey be fruitful and joyful and may God bless you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Knights of Columbus Donate to Schools

The Knights of Columbus, Council #1329, Victoria, recently donated scholarships to the Catholic Schools in Victoria. The three Catholic Schools were Nazareth Academy Catholic School, Our Lady of Victory Catholic School and St. Joseph Catholic High School. The scholarships were awarded to students who are council members' children. Council #1329 held a Calendar Raffle where \$3,800.00 was awarded to winners drawn daily from April 18 through Memorial Day, May 29. The proceeds from the raffle, \$5,400.00, was donated as scholarships.



Nazareth Academy receiving the donation, l-r, Sister Ann Meletio, Nazareth Academy Business Manager, Sister Evelyn Korenek, Principal, Richard Gutierrez, KC Council #1329 Grand Knight.

Our Lady of Victory School, left, Sister Laura Toman, principal, receives money from Gary Rangnow, KC Council #1329 Raffle & Membership Chairman, and Richard Gutierrez, KC Council #1329 Grand Knight.



St. Joseph High School Business Manager Terese Arnecke, center, receives the check from left Gary Rangnow, KC Council #1329 Raffle & Membership Chairman, and right, Richard Gutierrez, KC Council #1329 Grand Knight.

NEW CDA MEMBER WELCOMED

Mary Margaret McQuillen, regent, (left) of The Catholic Daughters of The Americas, Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206, St. Joseph Church, Yoakum, administered the membership oath and welcomed new member, Carolyn Janak to their court at their April meeting. Also pictured, seated, Dorothy Zabransky, District Deputy. Congratulations to Carolyn Janak.



YOAKUM CDA HONOR FATIMA—On Saturday, May 13, 2017 a public Rosary to honor Our Lady of Fatima on the 100th Anniversary of her Apparition in Portugal was held at the Centennial Park in Yoakum, Texas. The banner behind the ladies reads: God's Marriage — One Man, One Woman. The ladies pictured are St. Joseph Catholic Church, Yoakum, Catholic Daughters of Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206. Front Row: Left to Right, Joyce Brewer, Mary McQuillen, Anita Schulte, Laurie Adamek, Alice Nunez, Dorothy Zabransky, Bea Welfl. Back Row: Left to Right, Carolyn Janak, Geraldine Jahn, Emma Raska, Lillie Vecere, Helen Janak, and Agnes Kuenstler.



HONORING OUR LADY OF FATIMA—On Saturday, May 13, 2017, the 100th Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory held a Consecration to Mary Prayer Service and outdoor Rosary Rally for anyone wishing to honor Our Lady of Fatima and pray for America. The Very Reverend Gary Janak gave a moving reflection on the importance of Our Lady's role to bring us closer to her Son, and then the group of about one hundred people moved to the Cathedral's steps to pray the rosary in public witness to the faith.

Journeys of Faith with Ceci

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November 8 - 17, 2017 \$3,295.00

Spiritual Director: Father Marty Goetz

See Nazareth, Mt. Tabor, Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem

~ Renew your Wedding Vows in Cana ~

~ Renew Baptismal Vows at the River Jordan ~

Experience the Gospel as it comes to life!

Christmas in Holy Land!

Join us for a very unique Holy Land Pilgrimage

November 28 - December 7, 2017 \$2,995.00

Spiritual Director: Father Peter Jankowski

Visit all the above mentioned places, plus you have the option of singing with the Sing for Him Choir at the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Bethlehem and in Nazareth with Anna Nuzzo, Christian



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You can follow Journeys of Faith with Ceci on Facebook!



EL PAPA, PRESIDENTE TRUMP HABLAN DE ESPERANZA POR LA PAZ —El papa Francisco y el presidente de Estados Unidos, Donald Trump, pasaron 30 minutos hablando en privado en la biblioteca del Palacio Apostólico el 24 de mayo y cuando la reunión terminó, el presidente le dijo al papa: “No olvidaré lo que usted dijo”. El papa Francisco le regaló a Trump un medallón dividido pero unido por un olivo, con su intérprete explicándole a Trump que es “un símbolo de paz”. Hablando en español el papa le dijo a Trump: “Le estoy regalando esto porque tengo la esperanza de que usted sea este olivo para traer la paz”. El presidente respondió: “Necesitamos la paz”.



25 de Junio 2017
XII Domingo Ordinario Evangelio
Mateo 10, 26-33

Lectura del santo **Evangelio** según san **Mateo**: En aquel tiempo, **Jesús** dijo a **sus** apóstoles: “No **teman** a los hombres. No hay **nada** oculto que no **llegue** a descubrirse; no **hay** nada **secreto** que no llegue a **saberse**. Lo que les digo de **noche**, repítanlo en pleno **día**, y lo que les **digo** al oído, pregónenlo **desde** las azoteas. ¶ No tengan **miedo** a los que matan el **cuerpo**, pero no **pueden** matar el **alma**. Teman, más **bien**, a quien puede **arrojar** al lugar de **castigo** el alma y el cuerpo. ¶ ¿No es **verdad** que se **venden** dos pajarillos **por** una moneda? **Sin** embargo, ni **uno** solo de **ellos** cae por **tierra** si no lo permite el **Padre**. En cuanto a **ustedes**, hasta los **cabellos** de su cabeza **están** contados. Por lo **tanto**, no tengan miedo, **porque** ustedes valen **mucho**, más que **todos** los pájaros del **mundo**. ¶ A **quien** me reconozca **delante** de los hombres, yo **también** lo reconoceré **ante** mi Padre, que **está** en los cielos; **pero** al que me **niegue** delante de los **hombres**, yo también lo **negaré** ante mi Padre, **que** **está** en los cielos”.

E C Y V D E S D E O T N E D E U P
U B I D N A S N N E P A T O D O S
Q E I E B O X C I E A R N B I E N
R G D E L R D Y A E I T E T Y V S
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Phone number: _____
Parish: _____
Age, if 18 or under: _____

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There will be a drawing from those who send the above entry form with crossword puzzle to The Catholic Lighthouse, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 for a chance to win an Elie's Spiritual Treasures Bible Word Search book.

We will be publishing a puzzle quarterly in English and Spanish.

National Day of Prayer and Remembrance For Mariners and People of The Sea

NOTE: Bishop Brendan J. Cahill will succeed Bishop J. Kevin Boland of Savannah, Georgia, who will retire in June as bishop promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea, which he has served since February 2008. Bishop Cahill will begin July 1.

WASHINGTON—The National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea was celebrated May 22. The day is observed in conjunction with National Maritime Day in the United States of America, which has been celebrated since 1933, to honor those who serve as merchant mariners and to recognize the benefits of the maritime industry.

Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop emeritus of Savannah, Georgia and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) promoter, encouraged dioceses to mark the national day by remembering the men and women of the sea in homilies and by including special petitions during Mass.

When Mass was celebrated on May 22, the text for the Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea, was encouraged.

“In a special way, let us remember those who have lost their lives at sea and those in dangerous situations,” Bishop Boland said.

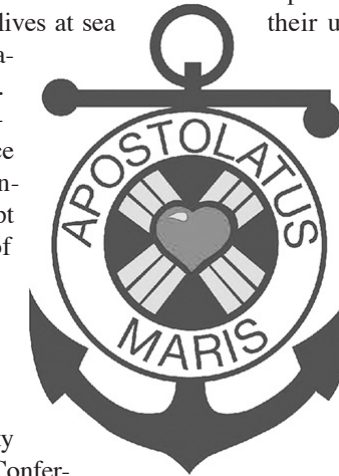
Bishop Boland celebrated a Mass in observance of Maritime Day on Sunday, May 20, in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. The Mass is sponsored by the AOS national office and the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Last year, in his Angelus message on Sea Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI remembered the

people of the sea and the hardships they and their families face.

“I address a special thought to the chaplains and volunteers who are doing their utmost for the pastoral care of seafarers, including fishers and their families,” the pope said. “I also assure the seafarers, who are unfortunately held hostage through acts of piracy, of my prayers. I hope they will be treated with respect and humanity, and I pray for their relatives, that they may be strong in faith and not to lose the hope of being reunited with their loved ones soon.”

Ninety percent of the world's goods are transported by sea and the waterways. There are approximately 1.2 million seafarers worldwide in 10,000 commercial



ships and maritime vessels.

AOS is a worldwide Catholic maritime ministry for the spiritual and practical assistance to seafarers, fishermen, their families and all those who work and travel by sea and the waterways. In the USA, AOS chaplains, associates and volunteers carry on this ministry in 58 maritime ports encompassing 48 dioceses.

There are a great number of people who participate in and benefit from this ministry. On the occasion of the National Day of Remembrance, individuals and chaplaincies have shared personal accounts of the impact and reach of this ministry through the USCCB- AOS site: <http://www.usccb.org/aos>. The stories are available at: www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/pastoral-care-of-migrants-refugees-and-travelers/apostleship-of-the-sea/aos-news-and-events.cfm.

Archdiocese reaffirms church fully cooperated with 1969 murder probe

By Christopher Gunty
Catholic News Service

BALTIMORE (CNS) -- As Netflix prepared to release a seven-part documentary about the unsolved 1969 murder of a Baltimore nun, officials of the Archdiocese of Baltimore reaffirmed that the church did not attempt to interfere in the investigation of the death of Sister Catherine Cesnik.

Sister Cathy, as she was known, had been a popular teacher at Archbishop Keough High School in the 1960s. She was on a year's leave of absence from her order, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, to teach in the Baltimore public school system when she was reported missing after she left her apartment Nov. 7, 1969, and never returned, the Catholic Review reported Jan. 9, 1970.

Related to the investigation into her murder are allegations that she was aware of alleged sexual abuse by a priest at Archbishop Keough High School, where Sister Cathy had taught. That priest, Father A. Joseph Maskell, was not a suspect during the original investigation of the murder in 1969-1970.

Debating May 19, the Netflix documentary series, titled “The Keepers,” focuses on allegations of sexual abuse in the 1960s and ‘70s at Archbishop Keough High by Maskell and of a relationship between that abuse and Sister Cathy's death. As of press time, neither

the Catholic Review nor the Archdiocese of Baltimore had been provided with an advance copy of the series, although advance copies were provided to other media outlets.

Maskell, who died in 2001, was permanently removed from ministry in 1994 by Cardinal William H. Keeler, then archbishop of Baltimore.

The first allegation received by the archdiocese regarding sexual abuse by Maskell was received in 1992, about 20 years after the abuse had occurred, according to Sean Caine, executive director of communications for the archdiocese.

In 1992, Maskell was sent for psychological evaluation and treatment. He denied the allegation, underwent months of evaluation and treatment,

and was returned to ministry in 1993 after the archdiocese was unable to corroborate the allegation of sexual abuse through its own investigation and conversations with attorneys representing the individual who initially came forward, according to Caine.

He said the archdiocese continued to seek information about Maskell and when additional individuals came forward in 1994 to accuse him, he was permanently prohibited from public ministry. “The archdiocese subsequently made additional reports and has cooperated with civil authorities,” Caine said.

The archdiocese has no record of any

report, verbal or written, by Sister Cathy.

“They removed Father Maskell (from ministry) and they offered counseling to victims,” recalled Mary Kay Finan, who was a member of the archdiocesan review board at the time.

“The archdiocese always has and continues to cooperate with the police in their investigations,” said Finan, professor emeritus of Frostburg State University, with a special interest in childhood education.

Similar policies were developed in many dioceses around the country at that time, and were implemented nationwide in 2002 after the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the “Charter for Protection of Children and Young People.”

One of the things Archbishop William E. Lori did in his first week in Baltimore was to meet with victims, Burkhardt said.

The archbishop has met with numerous survivors of abuse, including Maskell victims, Burkhardt said.

Archbishop Lori said he had not heard about Maskell's case or Sister Cathy's murder before being appointed 16th archbishop of Baltimore in 2012, but he learned soon after. “I have been briefed on this situation numerous times. I'm confident the church, the Archdiocese of Baltimore, responded quite appropriately in removing Father Maskell and also in cooperating with the authorities to try to get to the bottom of this.”

In 1994, when the first allegation that linked Maskell to Sister Cathy's murder surfaced, the archdiocese and Metro Crime Stoppers offered a \$6,000 reward leading to the arrest and conviction of her killer. “The archdiocese cooperated fully with authori-

ties investigating her murder and continue to offer full support for efforts to solve her murder,” Caine said.

Archbishop Lori said, “Part of the conversation that I have with survivors always includes an apology. And you might say, ‘What kind of an apology is it if you were somewhere else?’

“I represent the church -- there's a sense in which I represent the history of the church and the response of the church whether at the time it was inadequate or deeply flawed,” he continued. “At least I can give voice to that. ... I truly empathize and am sorry for the pain they (survivors) are currently going through.”

He said he tries to remember that for the victim in front of him, the event is not in the past but something they deal with every day.



Child and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Reporting Procedures

If you witness, suspect, or know of child and/or vulnerable adult abuse, **you must file a report within 48 hours** by contacting the Civil Authorities: Department of Family and Protective Services at 1-800-252-5400 or www.txabusehotline.org. If the person is in immediate danger, call 911.

If Church Personnel Is Involved In Alleged Abuse:
Step One: Contact Civil Authorities, if individual is a minor.
Step Two: Contact one of the following:

- Call Bishop or Chancellor of the Diocese of Victoria at (361) 573-0828.
Written Allegations Should Be Sent To: Office of the Bishop, P. O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903, Mark as “Personal and Confidential”
- Call Vicki L. Pyatt, LMSW, Pastoral Care and Outreach, at (361) 827-7186 or email: pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org

We will also help you bring your concerns to Church officials outside the diocese if the abuse occurred elsewhere and you now reside in the Diocese of Victoria.
For further assistance please contact Vicki L. Pyatt.

RETRouvaille
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

August 4-6, 2017
Diocese of Victoria Spiritual Renewal Center

FOR MARRIED COUPLES WHO ARE:

- Anxious about their marriage relationship
- Alone or distant from their spouse
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- Without the time or desire to communicate
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For confidential inquires call: (800) 470-2230 or visit our web site at HelpOurMarriage.com

2017 TOURS & CRUISES

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June 9-15

Cruise to Honduras
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Paris to Prague River Cruise
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July 27 - August 7, 2018
Danube River Cruise
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Meals • Picnics and more

June

East Bernard—Annual Czech Kolache Klobase Festival, June 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Riverside Hall sponsored by KJT Society No. 40. Admission is \$8 p/p and children 12 and under free. Entertainment indoors and under pavilion with water fan cooled comfort. Sausage/bbq chicken plate lunches available beginning 11:00 a.m. Hamburgers and sausage sandwiches available in the afternoon. Arts/crafts and family fun. For more info, go to www.kkfest.com or call (979) 335-7907.

Bay City—Our Lady of Guadalupe BBQ and live auction, June 11, at the parish gym. A beef brisket dinner served from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at \$8 p/p. Auction begins at 11:30 a.m.

Port Lavaca—Games party June 11, at St. Jude Hall, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the CDA Court Our Lady of the Gulf #2267. For reservations call (361) 552-3233.

St. Mary—St. Mary's Picnic June 11, at the parish hall (1648 FM 340 just outside of Hallettsville). Mass will be celebrated at 9:15 a.m. A stew and sausage dinner begins at 10:30 a.m., \$10 p/p. Auction, bingo, cake and plant walk, country store, children's games and more. Live music from 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Schulenburg—St. Rose of Lima Annual Parish Picnic June 11, at the KC Hall. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m., \$9 p/p. Games, music and more throughout the day with Mark Halata & Texavia (12:00-4:00 p.m.) and Czechaholics (4:00-8:00 p.m.).

Ammansville—St. John the Baptist (FM 1383) Fathers Day Picnic June 18. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner served. Entertainment throughout the day.

Plum—Sts. Peter and Paul Plum Feast, June 25, serving sausage and fried-chicken from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., auction at 1:30 p.m., music during the day by Ken Brothers. A free dance from 7:00-10:00 p.m. with music by the Incredible Music Makers.

July

Dubina—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Feast July 2, Mass at 8:45 a.m. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner begins at 11:00 a.m.

St. John—St. John Parish Picnic, Tuesday, July 4, with Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by a stew and fried-chicken dinner at 10:30 a.m. Auction at 12:30 p.m. See ad on pg. 5.

Moravia—Ascension Parish Picnic July 16 with a stew and fried-chicken dinner.

Victoria—Knights of St. Gregory annual Bishop's Charity Banquet, Thursday, July 20 at Victoria Country Club. Beginning with a social at 6:30 followed by dinner. Proceeds benefit Bishop Cahill's special charity. Tickets are \$100 p/p. Reservations can be mailed to Knights of St. Gregory, P. O. Box 5725, Victoria, TX 77903.

August

Port O'Connor—KC's #9088 and Nazareth Academy Fishing Tournament, Aug. 4-5. See ad on pg. 7.

Yoakum—St. Joseph Parish Picnic, Aug. 6

Frelsburg—Sts. Peter and Paul Country Festival, Aug. 6

Praha—St. Mary's 161st Prazska Pout/Praha Picnic, Aug. 15

Hillje—St. Andrew Summer Festival Aug. 20 at the parish hall. A prime beef bbq, sausage dinner will begin at 11:00 a.m., \$10 p/p. Country store, auction, music, and games.

Ministries • Ongoing Activities

Catholic Family Services—To find Catholic organizations which focus on family, visit the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at www.nacflm.org.

Courage—Ministers to persons with same-sex attractions and their loved ones. The ministry also has an outreach, Encourage, which ministers to relatives, spouses, and friends of persons with same-sex attractions. It is a Roman Catholic Apostolate endorsed by the Pontifical Council for the Family. For more information, visit www.couragerc.net.

Emmaus Center—Offers individual, couple, family, adolescent and children's counseling as well as specialized support groups for men, women and those afflicted by grief. Spiritual direction is also available on request. The Emmaus Center is located at 1908 N. Laurent St., Suite #140 (behind the VA Clinic). Appointments may be made by calling (361) 212-0830.

Engaged Encounter—2017 dates: Sept. 22-24, Nov. 17-19 registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 ext. 2230 or visit www.victoriadiocese.org.

Gabriel Project—Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy— an alternative to abortion. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 101 W. Convent. Light supper included. For angel workshop/training dates, contact Barbara at (361) 649-1612 or barbaramccain85@yahoo.com. Holy Family, Wharton, meetings are the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.; Sts. Peter and Paul, Meyersville, meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. For more information, call (979) 532-3593, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Grief Ministry—An on-going Grief Group meets at Holy Family Church, Victoria in the Conference Room, 7:00 p.m., on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Every adult, who has experienced the death of a loved one, may attend (after three months has passed). Please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572 before attending.

id.9:16 Ministry—For adults in their 20s-30s, single or married. Is held at Holy Family in Victoria every first Thursday of the month. Starts with the 6:00 p.m. daily Mass, dinner, a talk live streamed from the headquarters in Michigan followed by fellowship. Child Care is available to those who RSVP. It is open to all young adults of the diocese. For

more information or to RSVP for events email id916victoria@gmail.com.

Incarnate Word Prayer Group—Praise and worship on Mondays 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water Street. For more information, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at (361) 575-7111 or amormeus@yahoo.com.

Mothers of Grace—A new mothers' group at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. They meet every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Early Childhood Center. For more information contact Jennifer Ruiz at jenniferschobey.ruiz@yahoo.com.

Natural Family Planning—NFP is the only church-approved form of family planning. To learn about the NFP class schedules in the Victoria area, contact David and Annie Coffey at victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com. For the CREIGTON MODEL Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro TECHNOLOGY™ contact Susanne Koch in Wharton at (505) 710-0903 or susannekoch614@gmail.com.

Raphael's Refuge—RR's mission is to build and maintain a memorial in honor of babies, born and unborn. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in Flatonia. Peer counseling and spiritual direction are available for those suffering a loss of a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, or abortion. For more information, contact Midge Elam at (361) 865-3021, (361) 258-1514, or visit www.raphaelsrefuge.org.

Retrouvaille—Retrouvaille, meaning rediscovery, is a marriage-healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult marriages. Contact John and Jennifer Vincent at jbvjov@sbcglobal.net or (361) 580-2770; call (800) 470-2230; or visit www.helpourmarriage.org or www.retrouvaille.org. Retreat on Aug. 4-6 at the Spritual Renewal Center. See ad on pg. 16 for more information.



The Knights of St. Gregory

invite you to share an evening

with Bishop Brendan Cahill

at the

Bishop's Annual Charity Banquet

Victoria Country Club

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Social 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Dinner 7:15 p.m.

Proceeds benefit

Bishop Cahill's Special Charity

Tickets \$100 per person. (Seating limited to 250)

Seating according to return of Response Cards

Reservations can be mailed to
Knights of St. Gregory, P. O. Box 5725, Victoria, TX 77903



TIME PRESERVED—Our Lady of the Gulf School (OLG), Port Lavaca buried a time capsule. Bishop Brendan Cahill blessed the capsule before it was buried. Bishop Cahill also visited OLG classrooms and celebrated May Crowning with the students.



KJZT SUPPORTS HIGHER EDUCATION—St. Agnes KJZT Catholic Fraternal #111, Edna, presented KJZT scholarships to five Edna High School seniors in the amount of \$300 each. The scholarships were presented by President Doris Andel and Vice president Mary Sheblak on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, in the Edna High School auditorium. Pictured from left to right receiving the scholarships are Pauline Negrete, Kelsey Sparks, Alexis Miller, McKayla Marthiljohni and not pictured was Jacob Balizan.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

¡Feliz Día de Padres!

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Congratulations to the Diocese of Victoria Catholic High Schools' 2017 Top Graduates!

*Sacred Heart
Catholic School*

Hallettsville, Texas - Diocese of Victoria



Abigail Ross
Valedictorian

Parents: Jack & Kelly Ross
University of Dallas



Amee Rivers
Salutatorian

Parents: Randal & Angela Rivers
Texas A&M University, College Station



Wyatt Fogle
Historian

Parents: Troy & Laura Fogle
Baylor University



Brooke Lindee Reaves
Valedictorian

Parents: Susanna & Derel Reaves
University of Texas, Austin



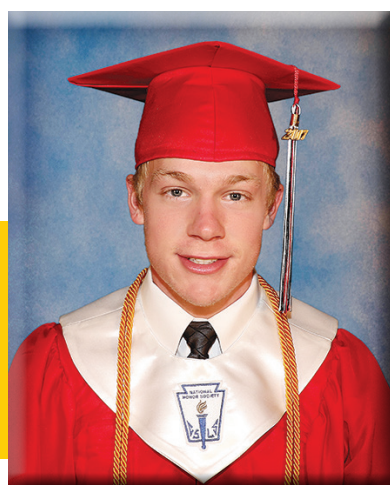
Sarah Sabbagh
Salutatorian

Parents: Dr. Mohammed Sabbagh &
Dr. Razan Rifai
Cornell University



Benjamin Joseph Boyle
Historian

Parents: Gretchen & Michael Boyle
St. Mary's University



Alex James Hull
Valedictorian

Parents: Patrick & Amy Hull
University of Texas, Austin



Haley Beth Clampit
Salutatorian

Parents: Rusty & Melissa Clampit
Texas A&M University, College Station



Audrey Green
Historian

Parents: Carla & Adam Green
Southern Methodist University