



# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

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November 2018



*During the Month of November  
Let us Remember to Pray  
for our Dearly Departed Loved Ones*



## Editor's Note

All Saints' Day, celebrated by Catholics around the world on November 1, is a Holy Day dedicated to the saints of the Church. All Souls' Day, observed on November 2, is a day dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. All around the world people honor and remember those who have gone before them. Some of these celebrations include: Gaijatra in Nepal, the Bon Festival in Japan, Pitru Paksha a Hindu

tradition, Qingming in China, Pchum Ben in Cambodia, el Dia de los Muertos by Latino cultures and many others.

During the month of November, I find myself reflecting on my own loved ones who have gone before me. I decided to visit a few of the older cemeteries in Victoria and I was fascinated at the thought that 100-200 hundred years before my time there laid people who had walked the same streets, who had raised families and had life-long careers. As

I walked I recognized old family names and even saw the grave of Mother Saint Claire Valentine, Foundress and First Superior of the Order of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in America.

I began to ponder what life is really about. Do I live each day to the fullest? Do I have gratitude for even the simplest of things? Am I using my God-given gifts?

These questions led me to have a discussion with Father Mat Kessler, parochial

vicar of Holy Cross, East Bernard. He explained his thoughts on afterlife by saying, "The spiritual union between living and deceased is real for us, since the deceased do live with Christ in a new state. They might be beyond what our normal senses perceive but faith tells us that they live."

His reflection below beautifully depicts and digs into how we "might examine our lives" not only this November, but daily as we strive to live a virtuous life.

## The Gift That is November

**By Father Mathew Kessler, C.Ss.R.**

The human condition, just what is it? Is it emotion? Yes, and more. Is it struggles? Yes, and more. Is it joy? Yes, and more. In the Bible we see firsthand how much humanity needs saving as the human in condition is on display. Cain kills Able because he's jealous. King David was smitten by Bathsheba and killed and manipulated to have her. Jeremiah was so angry that people weren't paying attention to God he creates a scene by smashing a clay jar in front of the leaders. We have our own take on the human condition. Having settled into careers with families we awaken one day with a feeling of, "Uh, how did I get here?"

The human condition emerges between the past and future. It's being a good person who can be a better person. And while life and thinking about life can create some confusion it is knowable. Even more we

can appreciate its lessons and beauty as the years unfold.

We have the advantage of examining life with the faith that God embraced our humanity. Examining it thoroughly is essential to formulate convincing answers to the questions and dreams that emerge over the years. As the poet Cristian Wiman writes in My Bright Abyss, "for faith in God is, in the deepest sense, faith in life..." God, the answer to our deepest longings and questions, is there all along.

Unfortunately, we have traded "the examined life" for "the good life". It's traveling without experiencing travail. We Botox our way through the decades keeping lumps and wrinkles at bay believing beauty is only found in the young and virile. Driven by a consumer mentality we gauge our worth on the size of a waistline, or a large bank account. Status, perfection, and security are

pursued with little attention to the underlying motives driving us. We are comfortable but still impoverished and incomplete. Absent deep meaningful connections, we cling to false gods, appearances.

We're not the first ones to struggle with this, and Jesus' words about people who lived for appearances are cautionary. "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves." (Matthew 7:15) Impulses and corrupt desires compete with God's vision for human life. The path to the authentic life, Jesus proposed, was less a path of memorizing established laws and regulations and more a path of transformation. Get the actions right and the right beliefs will follow, and so Jesus chose to be for and with the

*See The Gift, pg. 16*



## Bishop Brendan Cahill *A Shepherd's Message*

### Words That Help Us

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I've been visiting schools and CCD Programs this year I've had the opportunity to listen to our students talk about their prayer lives and share with them some of the ways that help me pray. One of the ways that helps me is to use prayer cards that have beautiful words on them that help me focus my prayer. Recently some students were amazed when I showed them a prayer card that I've had in my prayer book since 1985 – they responded like I had an ancient artifact in my prayer book! I

this month of November I realize that many of my prayer cards come from funerals and as I pray I remember many loved ones who have passed on. The prayers are both a consolation for me as I mourn the loss of a loved one and an effective way of helping my loved one complete the journey of eternal life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church #1032 affirms the ancient Christian tradition of remembering and praying for the dead, quoting St. John Chrysostom (he died in 407)

*Let us help and commemorate them. If*

*Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice, why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them.*

As prayer cards have helped me in prayers for the eternal life of loved ones, some of the prayers have helped me in different situations of life. As I'm writing this letter we are preparing for an election and voting has already begun. In the midst of the tension of an election season I found a prayer a few years ago that I want to share with you for this year (see prayer below). After the election there are similar prayers that you can find to help us pray for our nation and our elected leaders.

At the end of the day in each of the prayers we acknowledge God as the Lord of all things and entrust our hearts to complete His will for ourselves and for the whole world.

Once again I ask that we remain committed to pray especially 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

### A Prayer for our Nation as we Prepare to Elect our Leaders

O God, we acknowledge you today as Lord,  
Not only of individuals, but of nations and governments.

We thank you for the privilege  
Of being able to organize ourselves politically  
And of knowing that political loyalty  
Does not have to mean disloyalty to you.

We thank you for your law,  
Which our Founding Fathers acknowledged  
And recognized as higher than any human law.

We thank you for the opportunity that this election year puts before us,  
To exercise our solemn duty not only to vote,  
But to influence countless others to vote,  
And to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened.  
Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation,  
Their response to you requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world  
But rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken them that the same hands lifted up to you in prayer  
Are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth;  
That the same eyes that read your Word  
Are the eyes that read the names on the ballot,  
And that they do not cease to be Christians  
When they enter the voting booth.

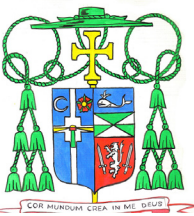
Awaken your people to a commitment to justice  
To the sanctity of marriage and the family,  
To the dignity of each individual human life,  
And to the truth that human rights begin when human lives begin,  
And not one moment later.

Lord, we rejoice today  
That we are citizens of your kingdom.

May that make us all the more committed  
To being faithful citizens on earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Rev. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life  
ElectionPrayer.com*



## Obispo Brendan Cahill *Mensaje del Pastor*

### Palabras que nos Ayudan

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

Este año, mientras visitaba las escuelas y los programas CCD, tuve la oportunidad de escuchar a nuestros alumnos hablar sobre sus vidas de oración y compartir con ellos algunas de las formas que me ayudan a orar. Una de las formas en que me ayuda es usar tarjetas de oración con hermosas palabras que me ayuden a enfocar mi oración. Recientemente, algunos estudiantes se sorprendieron cuando les mostré una tarjeta de oración que tenía en mi libro de oraciones desde 1985: ¡respondieron como si tuviera un artefacto antiguo en mi libro de oraciones! En este mes de noviembre, me doy cuenta de que muchas de mis tarjetas de oración provienen de funerales y, mientras oro, recuerdo a muchos seres queridos que han fallecido. Las oraciones son un consuelo para mí cuando lamento la pérdida de un ser querido y una manera eficaz de ayudar a mi ser querido a completar el viaje de la vida eterna.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica #1032 afirma la antigua tradición cristiana de recordar y orar por los muertos, citando a San Juan Crisóstomo (murió en 407) *Llevémoslo socorro y hagamos su conmemoración. Si los hijos de Job fueron purificados por el sacrifi-*

*cio de su padre, ¿por qué habríamos de dudar de que nuestras ofrendas por los muertos les lleven un cierto consuelo? No dudemos, pues, en socorrer a los que han partido y en ofrecer nuestras plegarias por ellos.*

Como las tarjetas de oración me han ayudado en las oraciones por la vida eterna de mis seres queridos, algunas de las oraciones me han ayudado en diferentes situaciones de la vida. Mientras escribo esta carta, nos estamos preparando para una elección y la votación ya ha comenzado. En medio de la tensión de una temporada electoral, hace unos años encontré una oración que quiero compartir con ustedes para este año. Se encuentra en inglés a la derecha y se encuentra en español en ElectionPrayer.com.

Una vez más, les pido que sigamos comprometidos a rezar, especialmente el Rosario por el don de la paz en el mundo y por la familia. Cuando San Juan Pablo II nos invitó a rezar esto con fidelidad, creo que podemos mantener nuestra confianza en el poder de esta oración, ¡más de lo que nunca sabemos! Que Dios te bendiga a ti y a tus familias, mantengámonos unos a otros en oración.

+ Brendan





## Bishop Cahill's Schedule

### November

- 3** 6:00 p.m. University of St. Thomas William J Flynn Center for Irish Studies Annual Irish Gala, Houston
- 4** 10:00 a.m. Mass for Missionary Catechists 75th anniversary of being in the United States, Our Lady of Lourdes, Victoria
- 5** 5:00 p.m. Liturgical Commission, Chancery
- 6** 10:00 a.m. Kenedy Memorial Foundation Board Meeting, Corpus Christi
- 6-7** Catholic Rural Board Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota
- 8** 10:00 a.m. Presbyteral Council, Chancery  
1:30 p.m. Pension Board Meeting, Chancery
- 9** 8:05 a.m. School Mass and Visit, Sacred Heart, Hallettsville
- 10-16** USCCB General Meeting
- 17** Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville  
7:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass St. Leo's, Houston
- 18** 1:00 p.m. Diocesan Encuentro Event, Edna  
7:00 p.m. Closing Mass of the Bicentennial Year – Society of the Sacred Heart, St. Cecilia Church, Houston
- 20** 6:30 a.m. Relevant Radio Morning Show  
4:30 p.m. Supper with IWBS Healthcare Sisters, Victoria

- 21-23** Chancery Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- 24** Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville
- 25** 9:00 a.m. Mass Christ the King, Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria
- 26** 9:00 a.m. Advent Retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center, Victoria  
6:00 p.m. Mass for Spanish Prayer Group, St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg
- 28** 9:30 a.m. Preaching Academy Meeting, Victoria
- 29** 6:00 p.m. Knights of St. Gregory Christmas Party, Colony Creek Country Club, Victoria
- 30** 6:00 p.m. Convocation Meeting, Victoria

### December

- 1** Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville  
2:00 p.m. 51st Annual Presidio la Bahia Awards Program, Our Lady of Loreto Chapel, Goliad
- 2** 8:30 a.m. CCD Visit and Mass at St. John Bosco, Vanderbilt
- 4-5** Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops - Education Department Meeting
- 7** Noon Serra Club Meeting, Colony Creek Country Club, Victoria
- 8** Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville  
10:00 a.m. Mass for Immaculate Conception, The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria  
5:00 p.m. Bishop's Dinner, Spiritual Renewal Center, Victoria

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In the October issue (The Catholic Lighthouse) the article about the 105 year old Benedictine nun celebrating her birthday brought so many memories. Sister Helen Lange is my aunt, and she has three generations of nieces and nephews living in the Diocese of Victoria (total of 20). Sister Helen has a great sense of humor and loves games of chance, having taught many of the youngsters in the family how to play poker. I could go on for days about her, but just wanted to say thank you for running the article.

Carol Sutton

St. Patrick's Parish, Bloomington

*Story reprinted from the October 2018 issue of The Catholic Lighthouse:*

### Benedictine sister turning 105 said longevity secret is love people, God

ST. LEO, Fla. (CNS) — Benedictine Sister Helen Lange, who turns 105 Sept. 28, is described as someone who leaves an

endearing mark on all those she encounters. For 44 years, she taught school in Texas, Louisiana and Florida and she talks about these years with great joy and amazing recall. A story in the *Tampa Bay Times* when she turned 100 said that Sister Helen, trained in elementary and music education, was part of the group known as the Texas Five who taught in Catholic schools across Florida. She also served as school principal for several years. When she was growing up, she wanted to study piano or pursue a career in nursing, but her parents couldn't afford it. Becoming a sister offered her a chance to pursue higher education and a career. Her key to working with students, she told the newspaper, was simple: "You've got to trust the kids and teach them to trust you."

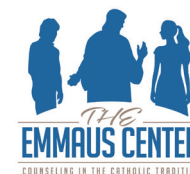


*Sister Helen Lange, seen in an undated photo, leaves an "endearing mark on all those she encounters," says her order. She joined the community in 1930. (CNS photo/courtesy Benedictine Sisters of Florida)*

## How to Support DSA

The Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA) is committed to fund administration offices and programs that help bring the light of Christ to each of the priorities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the Crossroads. Evangelization, Marriage and Family, and Human Life and Dignity are a few that Bishop Cahill has chosen to focus on. To support the DSA contact Rene Garcia at (361) 573-0828.

## The Emmaus Center



The Emmaus Center provides individual, marital, and family counseling services from a Catholic perspective.

For more information or to schedule an appointment please call (361) 212-0830.

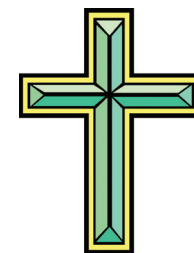
Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria.

### Prayer from St. Augustine

*Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.  
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.  
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit that I love but what is holy.  
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is Holy.  
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.*

*Please remember in prayer the priests who served in the Diocese of Victoria, who died during the month of November:*

Rev. Msgr. Benton Thurmond	11/07/2009
Rev. Godfrey F. Kuratko	11/18/1983
Rev. John Kollannur	11/19/2017
Rev. Peter Higgins	11/20/2012
Rev. Msgr. Anthony Matula	11/26/1994
Rev. Gregory O'Connor	11/26/1986
Rev. Raphael Baidoo, O.Ss.T.	11/30/2016



*"May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace"*



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**DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF THE PRECEDING MONTH**

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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

Paz and Andrea Morales  
*in Memory of Fr. Dan Morales*

Acolyte

Laurence & Carol Bludau  
*in Memory of Virginia Pustka*

Candidate

Transitional Deacon

Priest

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

Official Appointments

Bishop Brendan Cahill is pleased to announce that after consulting with the Personnel Board he has made the following priestly appointments. May God bless them and those they will serve.

These appointments will be effective November 26, 2018.



Rev. Gabriel Espinosa  
Pastor  
Our Lady of Guadalupe,  
Bay City



Rev. Jacob Koether  
Pastor  
Our Lady of Sorrows and  
Capilla de la Santísima Trinidad,  
Victoria



Rev. Dominic Antwi-Boasiako  
Pastor  
St. John the Baptist, Koerth  
Queen of Peace, Sweet Home



Rev. Stephen Vacek  
Administrator Pro-Tem  
St. Mary, Victoria



Rev. Felix Twumasi  
Parochial Vicar  
Holy Family, Wharton  
St. Joseph, Boling

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 layperson, 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 >.

October 19, 2018

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

*Lector*  
In loving memory of Irene Flagg by  
Carolyn and Bill Schuette  
Carol and Lambert Brune  
In loving memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence  
Matula by Lambert and Carol Brune

*Acolyte*  
In loving memory of Irene Flagg by  
K of C Msgr. Gury Council Member  
#5157

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

*Lector*  
In memory of Mary Jane Roe by Leo and  
Joyce Janda

• **Our Lady of Victory Altar Society Seminary Burse**

*Lector*  
In memory of Lena Garcia Spath by Grace  
E. Rigamonti

• **Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Seminary Burse #8**

*Lector*  
In memory of Alfred Chovanetz by Willie  
Barborak  
In memory of Charles Jansky by Rev.  
Msgr. John C. Peters  
In memory of Magdalene Steffek by  
Richard and Wilma Schaefer  
In memory of Charles Jansky by Deacon  
Joey and Mary Targac

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

2018 National Vocation Awareness Week,  
November 4-10

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to ordained ministry and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and

support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations.

Observance of Vocation Awareness Week began in 1976 when the U.S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for the celebration. It was later moved to Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January. In 2014, after extensive consultation, the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations moved the observance of National Vocation Awareness Week to November to engage Catholic schools and colleges more effectively in this effort.



Happy Birthday to Our Seminarians



**Ryan Kapavik** is in Theology I this year at St. Mary's Seminary, in Houston. His birthday is November 14. Write to Ryan at: St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77024.



**Aaron Padilla** is in Pre-Theology II this year at St. Mary's Seminary, in Houston. His birthday is November 15. Write to Aaron at: St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77024.



**John A. Le** is in Theology I this year at St. Mary's Seminary, in Houston. His birthday is November 28. Write to John at: St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77024.

*“Follow me and I will  
make you fishers of men.”*

Matthew 4:18-22



**The Chancery will  
be closed for the  
Thanksgiving Holidays,  
starting November 21 at  
noon - November 23.**



**Holy Day of Obligation  
Saturday, December 8  
Immaculate Conception**





## WGTEN Supports Gabriel Project

Women Growing Together Express Network (WGTEN), an affiliate of the American Business Women's Association recently hosted Barbara McCain Williams, of the Victoria Gabriel Project. She did a presentation for them and WGTEN announced that the Gabriel Project will be their "Goodwill Project" for the year 2018-2019. They will be raising money, collecting mother-baby items, and promoting awareness about mothers in a crisis pregnancy and their unborn child.

Barbara announced that the Gabriel Project is taking God's journey in seeing the possibility of opening a Maternity Home in the future in Victoria which will serve moms and babies in Victoria, the surrounding counties, and perhaps anywhere in the State of Texas. Where there is a mother in a crisis pregnancy, they offer hope, healing, and help.

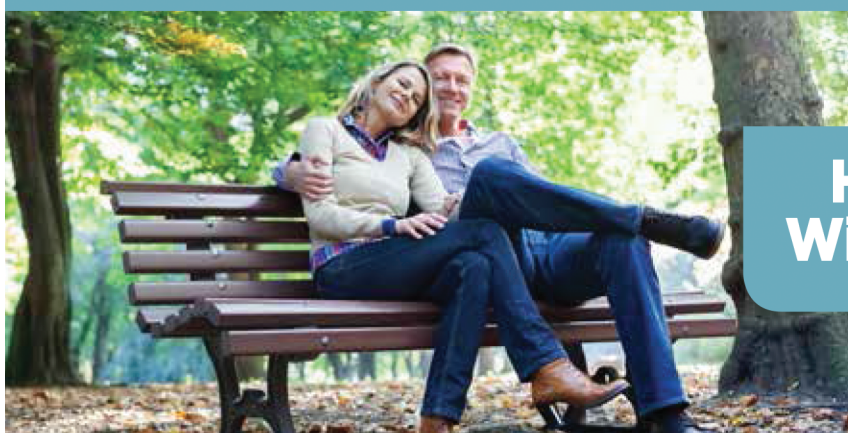
## Respect Life Month Celebrated in October



Respect Life Month is observed annually in October. This year's theme was "Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent." A group of 120 students and representatives from the Diocese of Victoria went to Houston October 4, to pray in front of Planned Parenthood. Bishop Cahill joined them in peaceful prayer. Mark Zepeda (top right), a parishioner of Holy Family, Victoria stood with others for the Annual Life Chain on Navarro Street to pray for an end to abortion.



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\*You may use your same doctors as long as they accept Medicare. \*\*Your certificate cannot be canceled. It will be renewed as long as the premiums are paid on time and the information on your application does not contain a material misrepresentation.





## SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



### Keeping Young Catholics in the Church

We often read that the Church is making special efforts to reach out to the young Catholics in order that the Church can be more welcoming to them. We probably know some young people who were born after 1980 who have left the Catholic Faith or who still call themselves Catholics but no longer practice their faith. Some of these young people who do not accept the teachings of the Catholic Church call themselves “nones” indicating that they have no affiliation with any faith tradition; however, some of them are quite spiritual and believe in something (or someone) greater than themselves and pray in times of need. Others have joined other “Christian churches” because of the influence of spouses or friends.

Some of us wonder how wide-spread this exodus from the Catholic Church really is. Well, according to several national surveys, only two-thirds of the young people who had been raised Catholic remain Catholic. Also, two national surveys conducted by CARA (The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate) which is a highly respected research center give us some idea of why some of our young Catholics are leaving the flock. Nearly half of those surveyed said “that they had stopped believing in what the Catholic Church teaches” and “that they did not like the Catholic Church’s rules and judgmental approach”. They said that they felt unwelcome, or judged by the Church members. Some left because of misconceptions about

the relationship of faith and science, however as we know “Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 159). Church scandals as well as a feeling of a lack of community also played a role in the abandonment of the Church of their childhood, by many self-proclaimed ex-Catholics.

What can we do? How about inviting young parishioners into Church activities and ministries? How about accepting their music or unusual (to us) ways of expressing their devotion as long as the music or expressions of worship are liturgically sound? How about enthusiastically exhibiting actions of support for the Church? How about joyfully living our faith as a witness to others—especially the young? Let us be “stars” that indicate the route for youth to follow; Pope Benedict said it so well:

*Life is like a voyage on the sea of history, often dark and stormy, a voyage in which we watch for the stars that indicate the route. The true stars of our life are the people who have lived good lives. They are lights of hope. Certainly, Jesus Christ is the true light, the sun that has risen above all the shadows of history. But to reach him we also need lights close by—people who shine with his light and so guide us along our way. —Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi, 49.*



**ADULTS CONFIRMED**—The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory held an Adult Confirmation Mass for eight adult candidates from the Victoria Deanery on September 18, 2018. Bishop Brendan Cahill was the Celebrant, with Rev. Kristopher Fuchs as Master of Ceremonies. Pictured are the candidates with their sponsors, catechist Chris Kallus, and Bishop Cahill.



**TEXAS LEADERS MEET**—A group from the Diocese of Victoria met with the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops and diocesan delegations from all around Texas October 1, to discuss several public policy issues affecting the Church, especially those anticipated for the upcoming 86th Session of the Texas Legislature in 2019. Catholic Advocacy Day 2019 will take place at the Capitol of Texas on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

**Stocks ■ Bonds ■ CDs**  
**Mutual Funds ■ IRAs**



**Kenneth J. French, Sr.**

1501 E Mockingbird,  
Ste 102  
Victoria, TX 77901

**Edward Jones**

(361) 576-0178

kenny.french@edwardjones.com

### Sweepstakes Program Helps Catholic Schools Raise Funds

SAN ANTONIO — Catholic Life Insurance will help 61 Texas Catholic Schools raise funds during the 12th annual “Catholic Schools Sweepstakes.”

Holy Cross School in Bay City, Nazareth Academy School in Victoria, Our Lady of the Gulf School in Port Lavaca, Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria, Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville, Shiner Catholic School in Shiner, St. Anthony School in Columbus, St. Joseph School in Yoakum, St. Michael School in Weimar, St. Michael’s Catholic School in

Cuero, St. Rose of Lima School in Schulenburg are schools in the Diocese of Victoria that are participating this year.

Students sell \$5 raffle tickets as part of the Sweepstakes. Ticket purchasers will vie for the Grand Prize, which is the choice of a 2019 Ford F-150 Truck, a 2019 Ford Fusion Sedan or a \$20,000 Pre-Paid VISA Credit Card. Each participating school is also guaranteed to have a winner of a \$1,000 Pre-Paid VISA Credit Card. It is possible to win both the \$1,000 VISA card and the Grand Prize.

“As the school year begins many schools have immediate financial needs. All monies raised through this program go directly and immediately to the school,” said Catholic Life Insurance President J. Michael Belz. “This is our way of helping Catholic schools and giving back to our faith-based community. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish thus far for Catholic education.”

The Catholic Life Insurance Sweepstakes,

*See Sweepstakes Program, pg. 7*





Wendy Eggert, Director • Shannon Thomas, Associate Director  
ym@victoriadiocese.org • (361) 573-0828  
[www.victoriadiocese.org/youth-young-adult-ministry](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/youth-young-adult-ministry)

## Upcoming Events

### ~ Campus Ministry: Events at Victoria College

Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet - Every Tuesday at 1:15 p.m. on the Student Center Patio  
Mass & Lunch - November 13 at 12:15 p.m. in the Student Center  
Confession - December 5 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Student Center



~ **March for Life 2019** Save the Date! The Diocese of Victoria plans to take a group again this year to the March for Life in Washington, DC, January 16-19. Details coming soon!

## Even Church-going Young People Need to Know Jesus, Archbishop says

By Anne Condodina  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—While young Catholics know God's name, many of them have not encountered Jesus as their Lord and savior, said Polish Archbishop Grzegorz Rys of Lodz.

"It is not their fault, it is our fault surely: the God they know is just a name, a word, a catechetical definition, an abstract -- but not a person -- living and important enough to ask him questions!" Archbishop Rys told the Synod of Bishops Oct. 16.

The archbishop focused his speech on the importance of "kerygma," the Greek term for the initial proclamation of salvation in Christ and call to conversion.

"It is fundamental," Archbishop Rys said. "It is the reason for our existence as the church."

At a retreat last Lent in his diocese, he said, he realized that young people do not experience "kerygma" or fully understand the importance of a personal relationship with the Lord. The telltale sign, he said, came when the 7,000 young people, aged 16 to 19, were asked what question they would like to ask God.

"More than 2,000 of them responded: 'I have no question for God!'" the archbishop said.

"We know it is not that they have no important questions; but they do not address them to God or to us," he said.

The diocese also asked 19-year-olds about the most important values in their life; 4,000 of them responded, placing family, health and friendship at the top of their lists in that order.

Faith came in 13th, he said. While 50 percent of them said they go to church at least several times a year, receive Communion and go to confession, only 20 percent said faith is where they seek the important values in their life.

The results are "the fruit of 12 years of catechesis without the experience of kerygma," said Archbishop Rys.

Yes, going to church is important, he said, but why and with what message?

At the synod "we have spoken so much about listening to young people, and it is surely the right thing to do," he said. But without the "kerygma" they cannot even begin to ask the important questions.

## Sweepstakes Program Helps Catholic Schools Raise Funds

*Continued from pg. 6*

started in 2007 and has helped Catholic schools raise a total of \$8 million, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the schools. San Antonio-based Catholic Life Insurance provides all the prizes, marketing material and printing. The schools can use the funds that were raised how they wish, including the purchase of computer equipment, textbooks, necessary school repairs, and tuition assistance.

To support Catholic education, please buy a ticket from one of the participating schools. To learn more about this fundraising program, please visit our website at [www.cliu.com](http://www.cliu.com) or contact the Catholic Life Insurance Communications Department at 1 (800) 262-2548 or send an email to [branch@cliu.com](mailto:branch@cliu.com).



(above) During the Youth Spectacular Retreat a Marian Procession was held followed by Mass celebrated by Bishop Brendan Cahill.



(left) Father Bob Knippenberg, pastor of Holy Family, Wharton, visits with a few retreatants.

## Youth Spectacular Retreat Brings Reverence Back

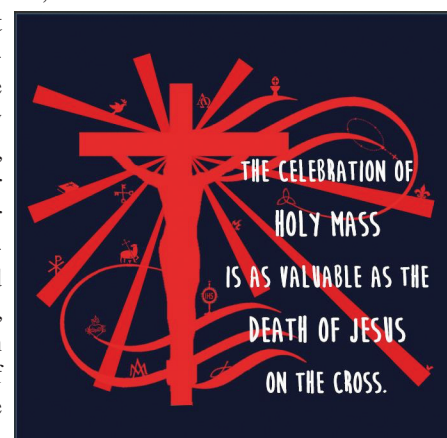
Over 300 people attended the 2018 Youth Spectacular: Bring Reverence Back. Junior high and high school youth from around the diocese gathered on Sunday, October 7, at the newly completed Cathedral Center at Our Lady of Victory in Victoria, Texas.

Youth learned about the meaning of reverence, the importance behind what we do, why modesty is important, and the beauty of our sacred spaces. Father Max Landman, parochial vicar of Sacred Heart in Hallettsville, gave an introduction to the importance of reverence to begin the day. Father Bob Knippenberg, pastor of Holy Family Church in Wharton, and Father Tommy Chen, pastor of Our Lady of the Gulf in Port Lavaca, were the two keynote speakers. Father Bob stated that "reverence is the attitude that our body portrays" during his session. His talk helped the group to

understand why what we do with our bodies is such an important part of reverence. Father Tommy welcomed youth into the sacred space of the cathedral for an engaging discussion about worship.

After a lunch cooked by the Knights of Columbus Council #1329, fun icebreakers, and the two engaging talks, the day concluded with a Marian procession and Mass celebrated by Bishop Brendan Cahill. Bishop Cahill encouraged the young people to be aware of the importance of their relationships and to begin praying for their future.

Members of the diocesan Youth Leadership Team helped to put on the event and portrayed the Mass in a way that brought many to tears. The event was a great success and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry looks forward to working with parishes to plan the next event!







The faculty and staff of St. Philip Catholic School are pleased to announce the students who have been invited to join the Duke University Talent Identification Program’s prestigious 7th Grade Talent Search. Pictured (left to right, front to back) are Grace S., Grace A., Slade S., Owen R., Sarah S., Emily G., and Kayden Z..

## Students Invited to Join Duke Program

EL CAMPO—Each year, the Duke University Talent Identification Program identifies a group of academically talented students in the United States based on their exceptional grade-level standardized test scores. Seventh grade students who have achieved a qualifying score at or above the 95th percentile on these recent standardized tests are eligible to participate. Participation includes the opportunity to take the SAT or ACT – yes, the tests designed for college-

bound high school students – as seventh graders. Score summaries and feedback are provided after the testing.

Other newsletters, educational resources, and a wide range of educational programs are also included to help academically talented students reach their full academic potential. Very few students qualify for the 7th Grade Talent Search, so it is an honor to be invited to participate. These students represent 30 percent of the St. Philip 7th grade class.



Bishop Brendan Cahill is pictured (top right) with students from Our Lady of Victory School and (right) from St. Anthony, Columbus. Each year he visits each Catholic School in the diocese, celebrating Mass and visiting classrooms.



During October students from Sacred Heart School, Hallettsville, (left) prayed the rosary for the Month of the Holy Rosary.

## Feast of St. Francis Celebrated Throughout Diocese with Pet Blessings

St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Animals, was born to wealth. Francis chose poverty and ministered to animals and the poor.



Believers say that God has performed many miracles through Saint Francis because of his great faith.





**FAITH THROUGH FOOD**—Catholic Charities of Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston hosted “Faith Full” — a spiritual and culinary experience with Father Leo Patalinghug, October 18, 2018, at the Astorian in Houston. Father Leo serves as founder and director of Plating Grace, an apostolate working to rebuild families and faith through food. Pictured with Father Leo (left to right) Patsy Krennek, Brenda Polak, Donna Cavness, Sarah Kramr, and Denise Tovar, all from Holy Cross, East Bernard.

## Missionary Discipleship Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ

The XXXI Annual Catholic Conference for the Diocese of Victoria was celebrated Saturday, October 20, 2018, at the Cathedral Center, in Victoria. There were many new features - mariachi music in the morning, a gospel band during lunch, and ministry booths instead of vendors, to name a few.

The morning keynote, *Reaching out to the Peripheries*, was offered by The Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria in Texas. He set before us a message of seeking out those on the margins of society. A panel discussion followed, with Hermes Silva, Sister Rebecca Janacek, IWBS, and Rhonda Cummins. Each panelist was asked to respond to three questions, which Bishop Cahill composed.

The first question: Was there a person who challenged or critiqued you or what you do and because of that you changed? Mr. Silva said that when he began to reflect on being asked to co-direct an ACTS retreat for those who were in prison, he had many reservations, then he heard Jesus say, “When I was in prison, you visited me.” He also stated that during the retreat he saw the face of Jesus in every person. The second question: “What practical advice would you give to someone about living life in evangelical poverty?” Ms. Cummins’ response to the second question was profound and deeply heartfelt. She said,

“Just be there...for the poor and lonely; to listen or to be the listener, there you will find God.” The last question: “What are some recommendations that you can give for us to evangelize in the diocese? Sister Janacek said, “Have a willingness to step out of your comfort zones and get involved in changing what needs to be changed. Be ready to be changed...be ready to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.”

The major address: *Thinking Eucharistically: Isolation versus Encounter* was by Father Bruce Nieli, C.S.P. He said that to see God in each other is “highly Eucharistic”; we are one body, when we break bread together, the whole globe comes together in Eucharist. A conference participant said, Father Nieli’s message expressed a challenge and a truth, it was thought provoking yet comforting.

Morning workshops focused on Evangelizing American culture by Father Nieli; the New Evangelization and how to bring into action our baptismal call to be missionary disciples by Lucia Baez Luzondo, and a presentation on the *Joy of the Gospel* in Spanish by Father Eliecer Patino. In the afternoon, conference attendees who attended Angie Pometto’s workshop, heard about the

See *Missionary Discipleship*, pg. 12



**KJZT SOCIETY HELPS ST. ROSE SCHOOL**—St. Anne’s KJZT Society #4, Praha, donated \$1,062.50 to St. Rose of Lima Catholic School, Schulenburg, on Friday, October 5, 2018. The donation was raised through a No Bake Sale held on September 1, and from matching funds received from the State KJZT office in Austin under their Fraternal Program. St. Rose of Lima School who recently purchased a new school bus can receive assistance through organizations like KJZT, who are committed to Catholic education. At the presentation were (left to right) Frances Kubenka, Vice-President; granddaughter Ever K., Jeannie Mican, representing St. Rose of Lima School; Georgia Cerny, President; Patricia Masek, Treasurer; and Nancy Jasek, Secretary.

*Presidio La Bahia Museum and Visitor Center*  
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## 2018 Christmas Rendezvous and Trade Fair

**GOLIAD**—On December 1 (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) and December 2 (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) period craftsmen, artisans and reenactors will gather on the grounds of Presidio La Bahia to bring history to life!

Since time immemorial people have gathered together to trade ideas, news and the labor of their hands. Modern times have changed very little and once again, people will gather together at Presidio La Bahia to trade the crafts and wares they have made and collected in a 21st century adaptation of the ancient trade fair!

Take the day and visit Presidio La Bahia and browse the trade blankets and sutlers tents for unique Christmas gifts for that special person on your list!



Presidio LaBahia  
(Photo by Monica McMahon)

Dress for the weather as this event takes place out of doors. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3.50 for seniors, \$1 for children 6-11, under 6 are free.

For more information, call (361) 645-3752 or visit [www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org).

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## Making a Difference

### Observing the End of 'The War to End All Wars' – the Right Way



**By Tony Magliano**

On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month in 1918 an armistice was declared, effectively ending one of the worst conflicts in history – World War I.

On Nov. 11 the United States, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and several other nations will observe the 100th anniversary of that historic day when the warring nations of the world finally stopped all the killing, injuring and destruction which filled the years between 1914 and 1918.

On December 7, 1914, Pope Benedict XV pleaded with the warring parties to observe a Christmas truce. He asked, "that the guns may fall silent at least upon the night the angels sang." He was hoping that such a truce would lead to sincere peace negotiations (see: <https://bit.ly/2evHJsb>). Tragically, his plea was officially ignored. But on Christmas opposing soldiers along various spots on the Western Front inspiringly declared their own unofficial truce (see: <https://bit.ly/2vgYUsq>).

And a courageous Catholic American,

Ben Salmon, walking in the footsteps of the nonviolent Jesus, refused to kill. He was sentenced to death, which was later commuted to a lengthy prison sentence of hard labor (see: [www.bensalmon.org](http://www.bensalmon.org)) and <https://bit.ly/2pMexCD>).

World War I caused over 8 million military deaths. And the civilian death toll was even worse at approximately 13 million – largely due to starvation, exposure, disease, military encounters and massacres (see: <https://bit.ly/2QMM9vX>).

World War I – "the war to end all wars" – instead became a precursor to the even more horrible World War II – the worst war in human history – and scores of wars ever since. Honestly, for what?

And the veterans who survive wars, very often come home with serious physical, mental and spiritual wounds. Why do Christians allow our government to put them in harm's way? Shouldn't followers of the nonviolent Jesus demand an end to this sacrilege – the sacrilege of war and war preparation?

Adequately taking care of veterans' needs, like mental and physical health care and housing, is a moral imperative that demands much more funding.

But for the sake of helping create a culture which opposes war and war preparation, a culture which decries sending more young men and women into one senseless war after another, we

need to deemphasize the nationalistic fervor of flag waving and military parades associated with Veterans Day (similarly observed as Remembrance Day in the British Commonwealth), and instead recapture the prayerful and peaceful

meaning that was central to what this day was originally called: Armistice Day.

In a June 4, 1926, congressional resolution officially recognizing the end of World War I, Congress declared that the recurring anniversary of the day when hostilities ceased "should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations."

And 12 years later November 11, was designated a legal U.S. holiday to be known as "Armistice Day" dedicated to the cause of world peace.

But unfortunately, in 1954 President Dwight Eisenhower changed the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day which lent the annual observance to become more nationalist and militaristic, and far less centered on its original purpose to pray, give thanks, and perpetuate peace, good will and mutual understanding between nations.

On November 11, let's join the national movement led by Veterans for Peace to reclaim Armistice Day by saying no to more war, and demanding justice and peace at home and abroad (see: <https://bit.ly/2NCqbto>).

*Tony Magliano is an internationally syndicated social justice and peace columnist. He is available to speak at diocesan or parish gatherings. Tony can be reached at [tmag@zoominternet.net](mailto:tmag@zoominternet.net).*



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## Chastity Speaker Jason Evert to Speak in Shiner

SHINER—Jason Evert, M.A. will be coming to Shiner to present his Parenting for Purity and Love or Lust programs. Jason is the author of more than ten books, and has spoken on the topic of abstinence to more than one million people on six continents. Since 1999, he has lectured at hundreds of public and private high schools and colleges, including Harvard, Princeton, and the United States Air Force Academy. Jason is also a frequent guest on radio programs throughout the country, and his television appearances include Fox News, MSNBC, WGN, and the BBC.



The Love or Lust? Program is for 7th – 12th grade students. In this seminar, which has been delivered to more than one million teens on six continents, Jason Evert presents an uplifting case for practicing abstinence. By addressing the issues that

teens struggle with most, such as sexual pressure, pornography, modesty, and starting over, Jason offers encouragement for teens to maintain virtuous lifestyles or begin again if they've made mistakes in the past. Parents are welcome to also attend this program.

In the Parenting for Purity program, Jason offers communication techniques, resources, statistics, and a wealth of information to assist parents in their task as the primary sex educators of their children. This program is for parents only.

Programs will be held at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church. Parenting for Purity (Parent audience) will be on Monday, December 3, 6:00 p.m.; and Love or Lust? (Students in Grades 7-12) will be on Monday, December 3, 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, December 4, 8:30 a.m.

All are welcome. Contact Kim Ulcak at the Office of Youth Ministry in Shiner at (361) 594-3234 or [kulcak@sscmshiner.org](mailto:kulcak@sscmshiner.org), if you have any questions or you would like some flyers for your community.



**CDA COURT CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY**—Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Michael #347 of Cuero, celebrated 100 years of their founding on Sunday, September 22, 2018. The court was started on September 22, 1918, with 25 charter members. Ten current members are direct descendants of the original charter members. This achievement was celebrated with a Mass concelebrated by Bishop David Fellhauer, Father Jasper Liggio, and Father Jacob Mendoza. National, state, and local Catholic Daughters officers, and members were in attendance. A dinner was held following Mass where the history of the court was read along with court accomplishments. Special presentations were also given.

### About the Catholic Daughters of the Americas:

- The CDA was formed March 29, 1903.
- Today CDA has 66,000 dues-paying members in 1,150 courts (local chapters) in 45 states across the country and in Puerto Rico, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Kenya, and Peru.
- The CDA motto is "Unity and Charity."



## Being of Service

*This is a sermon written by Father Charles Kram for the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B*

The world is full of facilities and people dedicated to serving people.

There are service stations for our cars, hospitals, and clinics for our health, political institutions for public service and many more, and all of these require people willing to serve.

In the Church too, there are many opportunities to serve. Where Jesus is concerned, his own special purpose was to serve, and he emphasized and often spoke of serving others. "The Son of Man has not come to be served but to serve," he said.

When discussing Christian service we tend to think mostly of the things we do in church. Of course there are now many opportunities for the average Christian to take a direct part in Church work, such as distributing Communion, reading at Mass, teaching religion, and such things as that, but we usually overlook the fact that many of the ordinary things we do every day can be made into a fine way of Christian service to others.

Let's take some examples.

- Suppose you are a child and your mother is tired after supper. Surprise her by offering to clear the table and do the dishes. You could consider doing favors for family members as your special home ministry.
- Or in school, suppose a classmate is

failing in school. Studying with them and encouraging them can be a loving Christian service.

- If you are a teenager or young adult, how about helping others resist peer pressure. Take a firm stand for self discipline and so-called old fashioned values. After the taunting and teasing are over, you are the one they will come to and say, "I'm in trouble, please help me." Good example and moral support can go a mighty long way in serving others.

In the adult world there are as many ways to serve as there are people. Of course, there are endless opportunities around the family and the home, and this can be a full time job off the job, but there are also many fine opportunities on the job.

For example, a man who is a supervisor at a large company recently told me that where he works there are too many goof-offs who, once they get on the payroll, can't be counted on. On the job, resisting the pressure to loaf can be a fine workmen's ministry.

And at election time, encouraging others to vote and helping them get to the polls can be a patriotic and Christian thing to do. New opportunities present themselves every day.

As Jesus said, "Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all." We Christians serve others, not to achieve rank and recognition, but for the good of others. We serve with love and with a personal touch.

**Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to serve and to show us how to serve.**

**Help us to remain always faithful in serving you.**

**Grant that our example of service may inspire many others to do the same.**

**Amen.**





## El Salvador Celebrates its First Saint, Whose Legacy Continues

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (CNS) — Near the end of his homily at a Mass just prior to St. Oscar Romero's canonization, Jesuit Father Jose Maria Tojeira yelled to the crowd outside the Metropolitan Cathedral: "Viva Monsenor Romero!" (Long live Bishop Romero!) The overflow crowd lustily yelled back, "Que Viva!" (Long live!) "We're not venerating a body," Father Tojeira said, "rather someone who is alive, together with God and in the hearts of all Christians that want to continue with the reality of the Gospel." During the Oct. 14 at the Vatican — very early morning in El Salvador — Salvadorans gathered in the square outside the cathedral

to watch the ceremony on big screens; others watched in their parishes. St. Romero was shot dead while celebrating Mass March 24, 1980. His legacy of showing a preference for the poor and promoting peace lives on in his native El Salvador, where, even in death, he plays an outsized role in the country's public life and occupies a special place in its collective consciousness — for devotees and detractors alike. He becomes El Salvador's first saint. But his current role in the country transcends religion. He also has assumed the status of national hero, whose words — spoken in homilies — sound prophetic and seem apt almost four decades after his death.



Bishop Brendan Cahill visits with two ladies at the Annual Catholic Conference held October 20, 2018, at the Cathedral Center, in Victoria.

## Missionary Discipleship Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ

*Continued from pg. 9*

importance of making space for newcomers and welcoming young adults into relationship with Christ and the faith community. Sister Rebecca's presentation focused on taking a look at generational poverty, and how to minister to those living on the peripheries of society. Father Bruce's Spanish workshop was on evangelizing American culture.

Overall, comments by conference participants were very positive. Some remarks

included: it was a nice change of pace from past conferences and very engaging; very thought provoking; powerful; new perspective on becoming one; great ideas on how to engage, listen, and work with young adults; it was a nice mix of presenters; uplifting and a very encouraging message; presenters offered practical ways to live the message of love.

Bishop Cahill celebrated the closing Liturgy at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory.

## Sunday Readings from November 11 - December 9

*November 11 ~ Thirty-second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*  
1 Kings 17:10-16  
Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44

*November 18 ~ Thirty-third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*  
Daniel 12:1-3  
Psalms 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11  
Hebrews 10:11-14, 18  
Mark 13:24-32

*November 25 ~ The Solemnity of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*  
Daniel 7:13-14  
Psalms 93:1, 1-2, 5  
Revelation 1:5-8  
John 18:33B-37

*December 2 ~ First Sunday of Advent*  
Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalms 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14  
1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2  
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

*December 8 ~ Solemnity of the  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary*  
Genesis 3:9-15, 20  
Psalms 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4  
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12  
Luke 1:26-38

*December 9 ~ Second Sunday of Advent*  
Baruch 5:1-9  
Psalms PS 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6  
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11  
Luke 3:1-6

For daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, visit  
[www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings).

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### Coming 2019!

## Journeys of Faith with Ceci

- **January 2-13** ~ Musical Pilgrimage to Italy with Catholic Singer/Songwriter Anna Nuzzo and Fr. Joseph Lappe ~ Cost: \$3,895 ~ Includes 4 days in Rome, 2 days in Assisi/Siena, San Giovanni, Salerno, and Pompeii.
- **January 30-February 9** ~ Holy Land with DOV Diocesan Priest: Fr. Patrick Knippenberg ~ Cost: \$3,595 ~ Walk in the footsteps of Jesus and experience the Gospels as they come to life!
- **May 15-26** ~ Holy Land to Pray with all God's Gifts with Fr. Michael Sparrough, Betsey Beckman, and Valimar Jansen ~ Cost: \$3,995
- **September 18-28** ~ Pilgrimage to Poland and Czech Republic with Fr. Dan Cambra and Anna Nuzzo ~ Cost: \$3,795 ~ Visits to include Warsaw, Czestochowa, Auschwitz, Krakow, Salt Mines, Lagiewniki, Prague. This pilgrimage will feature praying and singing the Divine Mercy!



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## Diócesis católicas de Texas anuncian plan para divulgar nombres de clérigos con acusaciones verosímiles de abuso sexual a menores

*Las listas de clérigos cubrirán por lo menos de 1950 a 2018*



Las 15 diócesis católicas en Texas y el Ordinariato de la Catedral de San Pedro tomaron la decisión, el 30 de septiembre de 2018, de dar a conocer los nombres de los clérigos sobre quienes se ha presentado alguna denuncia verosímil de haber abusado sexualmente de un menor, remontándose al menos hasta 1950.

La decisión de los obispos se tomó en el contexto de su trabajo en curso para proteger del abuso sexual a los menores, así como de sus esfuerzos para promover la curación de las víctimas y el restablecimiento de la confianza en la Iglesia Católica.

“Esta acción responde al llamado de los fieles para que haya mayor responsabilidad

y transparencia”, dijo el cardenal Daniel DiNardo, Arzobispo de Galveston-Houston. “Cada obispo de nuestro estado ha hecho una declaración expresando su preocupación por todos los que han sido heridos y quiero expresar mi consternación personal ante las violaciones tan fundamentales a la confianza que han ocurrido. Estamos completamente comprometidos a erradicar el mal del abuso sexual en el Iglesia y a promover restablecimiento entre los fieles y los heridos por este crimen”.

Con 8.5 millones de católicos y 1,320 parroquias católicas en Texas, el esfuerzo por compilar una lista completa de clérigos que han sido acusados de forma verosímil de haber abusado sexualmente de un menor rep-

resenta un gran proyecto. Todas las diócesis publicarán sus listas antes del 31 de enero de 2019.

“Tomará algún tiempo para que los archivos sean revisados y después de este anuncio puede haber personas que se presenten con información nueva. Mis hermanos obispos en Texas y un servidor estamos de acuerdo en que la transparencia en este doloroso asunto del abuso sexual puede ayudar a sanar a los sobrevivientes y a transformar a nuestra Iglesia”, explicó el Arzobispo Gustavo García-Siller, MSPS, Arzobispo de San Antonio.

La divulgación de nombres de clérigos acusados de forma verosímil de haber abusado sexualmente de un menor de edad es parte de un esfuerzo continuo de las diócesis por

ofrecer un ambiente aún más seguro para los menores. Estas listas se actualizarán a medida que haya nueva información disponible. Cada obispo divulgará su propia declaración y lista. La declaración completa de los obispos de Texas incluye información sobre este trabajo y sigue a continuación:

La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Texas (TCCB por sus siglas en inglés) es la asociación de los obispos católicos de Texas. A través de la TCCB los obispos ofrecen una expresión moral y social en materia de políticas públicas, acreditan a las escuelas católicas del estado y mantienen archivos que reflejan el trabajo y la historia de la Iglesia Católica en Texas.



## Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops

### Previniendo el Abuso Sexual de Menores

Lamentamos profundamente que algunos líderes de la Iglesia en ocasiones hayan faltado a su responsabilidad de proteger a los menores. La Iglesia Católica en todo Estados Unidos ha trabajado para mejorar la protección, especialmente durante los últimos quince años. Seguiremos siendo vigilantes para proporcionar un entorno aún más seguro a cada menor que servimos.

La Iglesia Católica en Texas está comprometida con la prevención del abuso sexual de menores por parte de quienes ejercen el ministerio en la Iglesia, así como con la promoción del restablecimiento de los sobrevivientes de abuso. Cada diócesis cuenta con políticas integrales para responder a las quejas y para prevenir el abuso sexual de menores. Estas políticas y prácticas de seguridad son verificadas regularmente por una auditoría externa de cada diócesis.

#### PREVENCIÓN DE ABUSO

• Ambiente seguro: Todas las diócesis de Texas han implementado programas educativos integrales de “ambiente seguro” y han capacitado a muchos de los 8.5 mil-

lones de católicos en el estado (adultos, menores, empleados, clérigos y voluntarios) sobre cómo identificar, reportar y ayudar a prevenir el abuso. Todo sacerdote que busque desempeñar el ministerio en una diócesis debe

presentar un certificado escrito de idoneidad, proporcionado por su obispo o superior religioso, antes de poder ejercer esa función.

• Verificación de antecedentes: Las diócesis realizan evaluaciones de antecedentes de todos los obispos, sacerdotes, diáconos y religiosos, así como de personal diocesano, parroquial y escolar distinto que tenga contacto regular con menores. Desde 2002 se han completado regularmente las verificaciones de antecedentes penales de voluntarios, empleados y clérigos que participan en el ministerio en la Iglesia.

#### RESPUESTA A ALEGATOS DE ABUSO

• Reportar ante autoridades civiles: Todas las diócesis católicas de Texas tienen políticas

para informar a las autoridades civiles cuando sea que exista causa para creer que un menor ha sido víctima de abuso sexual.

• Destitución del ministerio: Las políticas diocesanas establecen que un obispo, sacerdote, diácono o religioso, sobre el que se haya presentado una acusación verosímil de haber abusado sexualmente de un menor, será cesado del ministerio.

#### RESTABLECIMIENTO DE LOS SOBREVIVIENTES

• Respuesta terapéutica y pastoral: Cada diócesis tiene un Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas que facilita la prestación de asesoramiento y otras formas de asistencia profesional, para ayudar a las personas que informan que fueron abusadas sexualmente siendo menores. Además, todas las víctimas de abuso sexual infantil por parte de un ministro de la Iglesia tienen la oportunidad de reunirse con el obispo para facilitar su curación.

#### PUBLICACIÓN DE NOMBRES

• Las diócesis publicarán listas locales: Las diócesis de Texas están revisando activamente los archivos de obispos, sacerdotes y diáconos. A más tardar el 31 de enero de 2019 cada obispo publicará una lista de clérigos acusados de abuso sexual de un menor en su diócesis que se remonte por lo menos hasta 1950.

• Cómo reportar: Visite <http://txcatholic.org/how-to-report> para obtener información sobre cómo denunciar abuso.







## Texas Catholic Dioceses Announce Plan to Release Names of Clergy Credibly Accused of Sexual Abuse of Minors

*Lists of Clergy will Cover at Least 1950 to 2018*



going back at least to 1950.

The bishops' decision was made in the context of their ongoing work to protect children from sexual abuse, and their efforts to promote healing and a restoration of trust in the Catholic Church.

"This is an action in response to the faith-

ful's call for greater accountability and transparency," said Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston. "Every bishop in our state has made a statement expressing his concern for all who have been hurt and I want to express my personal sorrow at such fundamental violations of trust that have happened. We are completely committed to eradicating the evil of sexual abuse in the church and promoting healing among the faithful and those injured by this crime."

With 8.5 million Catholics and 1,320 Catholic parishes in Texas, the endeavor to compile a comprehensive list of clergy who have been credibly accused of sexually abusing a minor represents a major project. All dioceses will publish their lists by Jan. 31,

2019.

"It will take some time for files to be reviewed, and there may be people who come forward with new information following this announcement. My brother bishops in Texas and I agree that transparency in this painful matter of sexual abuse can assist with healing for survivors and transformation for our Church," explained Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSPS, archbishop of San Antonio. Bishop Brendan J. Cahill, STD, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria also shared his care and concern for all families and survivors of abuse and said, "We hope releasing the names will contribute to healing and restore trust."

The release of names of clergy credibly

accused of sexually abusing a minor is part of an ongoing effort by the dioceses to provide an even safer environment for children. These lists will be updated as new information becomes available. Each bishop will be releasing his own statement and list. The full statement of the bishops of Texas includes information on this work, and follows.

**ABOUT THE TCCB:** The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops is the association of the Roman Catholic bishops of Texas. Through the TCCB, the bishops provide a moral and social public policy voice, accredit the state's Catholic schools, and maintain archives that reflect the work and the history of the Catholic Church in Texas.



## Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops

### Preventing the Sexual Abuse of Minors

We are deeply sorry that some Church leaders have, at times, failed in their responsibility to protect minors. The Catholic Church throughout the United States has worked to improve protection, especially over the last fifteen years. We will remain vigilant to provide an even safer environment for every child we serve.

The Catholic Church in Texas is committed to the prevention of sexual abuse of minors by those who are in ministry in the Church and to promote healing for survivors of abuse. Each diocese has comprehensive policies in place both to respond to complaints and to prevent the sexual abuse of minors. These safety policies and practices are regularly verified by an external audit of each diocese.

#### PREVENTION OF ABUSE

• **Safe Environment:** All Texas dioceses have implemented comprehensive "safe environment" education programs and have together trained many of the 8.5 million Catholics in the state -- adults, minors, employees, clergy, and volunteers -- on how to identify, report, and help prevent abuse.

Prior to his anticipated ministry, every priest seeking to minister in a diocese is to present a written attestation of suitability supplied by his bishop/religious superior.

• **Background Checks:** The dioceses conduct background evaluations for all bishops, priests, deacons, and religious, as well as other diocesan, parish, and school personnel who have regular contact with minors. Since 2002, criminal background checks have been completed regularly on volunteers, employees, and clergy who are involved in ministry in the Church.

#### RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

• **Reporting to Civil Authorities:** All of the Texas Catholic dioceses have policies to report to civil authorities whenever there is cause to believe that a minor has been sexually abused.

• **Removal from Ministry:** Diocesan policies provide that a bishop, priest, deacon, or religious who has been credibly accused of sexually abusing a minor will be removed from ministry.

#### HEALING OF SURVIVORS

• **Therapeutic and Pastoral Response:** Each diocese has a Victim Assistance Coordinator who facilitates the provision of counseling and other professional assistance to help those who report they were sexually abused as a minor. In addition, all victims of childhood sexual abuse by a minister of the Church have the opportunity to meet with the bishop in order to facilitate healing.

#### PUBLICATION OF NAMES

• **Dioceses to Publish Local Lists:** Texas dioceses are actively reviewing files of bishops, priests, and deacons. By January 31, 2019, each bishop will publish a list of clergy credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor in his diocese dating back to at least 1950.

• **How to Report:** Visit <http://txcatholic.org/how-to-report> for information on reporting abuse.



## 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](http://www.txabusehotline.org).

If the person is in immediate danger, call 911.

#### If Church Personnel Is Involved In Alleged Abuse:

**First:** Contact Civil Authorities, if individual is a minor  
**Second:** Contact one of the following

- Call Vicki L. Pyatt, LMSW, Pastoral Care and Outreach, at (361) 827-7186 or email: [pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org)
- 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"

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.







## Meals • Picnics and More

### November

**Port Lavaca**—Our Lady of the Gulf Altar Society turkey and dressing dinner catered by Werner's, Nov. 4 at St. Jude Hall. From 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Baked goods available.

**Victoria**—Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Festival Nov. 11 at the Victoria Community Center. Turkey dinner serving begins at 11:00 a.m. at \$10 p/p. Live auction starts at 12:30 p.m. with a silent auction from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. There will be games, country store, and lots of fun.

**Victoria**—Holy Family CDA #2665 Arts & Craft Show and Bake Sale Nov. 17 (8:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.) and Nov. 18 after all Masses in St. Peters Hall at Holy Family. Featuring a variety of home made crafts and gift items. A potato soup and chicken salad sandwich lunch served from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Victoria**—St. Mary Harvest Bazaar Nov. 17 at activity center (401 S. Liberty St.) from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Handcrafted holiday items, baked goods and more. A potato soup lunch for \$8 for dine-in or take out.

### December

**Victoria**—KJZT #101 and KJT #115 Christmas Party Dec. 2 at Our Lady of Victory Cafeteria starting at 2:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish, meat provided. The meal served at 4:30 p.m. RSVP by calling Irene at (361) 573-2669.

**Victoria**—Bishop's Dinner at the Spiritual Renewal Center, Dec. 8 at 5:00 p.m. For more information call (361) 572-0836.

**Boling**—St. Joseph Fall Festival, Nov. 11 at the Community Center (CR 162) serving a roast beef dinner for \$10 p/p (dine-in or drive-thru) by Ben's Chuck Wagon from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. There will be music, games, country store, cakewalk, and an auction (12:30 p.m.).

### Amor Meus

Contact: Sr. Emilie Eilers at (361) 575-7111  
e-mail: amormeus@yahoo.com  
website: www.amormeusspiritualitycenter.org  
IWBS Convent • 1101 NE Water St. • Victoria

**Taizé Prayer Service:** November 13, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Taizé Prayer is a meditative Christian experience of prayer that includes sung and chanted prayers, meditation, and periods of silence, reflection and liturgical readings. Amor Meus Prayer room.

**Solemn Advent Vespers:** December 2, 9, 16, and 23, from 5:00-5:45 p.m. Solemn Vespers is the Liturgical Evening Prayer of the Church. This prayer focuses on praying the psalms, giving thanks for the day and offering praise to God. Vespers closes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Spiritual Direction:** Amor Meus offers opportunities for guidance and discussion of one's spiritual journey with experienced spiritual directors. Call for an appointment.

**Private / Directed Overnight Retreats:** Renew, reflect and relax! Enjoy the peaceful accommodations at the Amor Meus Spirituality Center. Whether you prefer one day or a few days overnight, an individual retreat can be created to fit your needs. Call for more information or to arrange for a retreat.

## 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](http://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](http://www.couragerc.net).

**Crisis Pregnancy Center of Victoria**—An organization staffed by volunteers that offers help to girls and women who find themselves in a difficult situation due to an unplanned pregnancy. Office located at 1501 E. Red River, is open 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. A free pregnancy test is offered and medical referrals are made for prenatal care. They are a sister organization to the Gabriel Project. New volunteers are welcome. For more information call (361) 575-6171.

**Emmaus Center**—Offers individual, couple, family, adolescent and children's counseling as well as specialized support groups. Spiritual direction is also available on request. Appointments may be made by calling (361) 212-0830. For more information see pg. 3.

**Engaged Encounter—2018 Dates: November 16-18**, registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 or visit [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org).

**Gabriel Project**—Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy- an alternative to abortion. **Victoria:** Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 101 W. Convent. Light supper included. For angel workshop/training dates, contact Lisa Kainer (361) 676-3264 or [lisa\\_heysquierdo@yahoo.com](mailto:lisa_heysquierdo@yahoo.com); **Meyersville:** Sts. Peter and Paul, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (during the school year) at 11220 FM 237 (77974), the coordinators for DeWitt Chapter are Wayne and Margie Smith (361) 564-3742; **Lavaca County:** Meets 6:00 p.m. (during the school year), contact Julie Kubena Lavaca County Coordinator at (361) 798-3579 for dates and location. See ad on pg. 12.

**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. Adults who have experienced the death of a loved one, may attend (after three months have passed). Please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572 before attending.

## Conferences • Masses • Retreats

**ACTS Retreats**—Anyone needing any information regarding ACTS Retreats in the diocese should email [dovactschapter@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:dovactschapter@victoriadiocese.org).

**Victoria**—Our Lady of Lourdes holds Healing Mass and Prayer the 1st Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at 105 N. William St. with Father Phi Nguyen, chaplain of IWBS Convent. For more information, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at [iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com](mailto:iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com).

**id.9:16 Ministry**—For adults in their 20s-30s, single or married. 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. Childcare 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](mailto: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](mailto:amormeus@yahoo.com).

**Mothers of Grace**—A new mothers' group at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. For more information contact Jennifer Ruiz at [jenniferschobey.ruiz@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferschobey.ruiz@yahoo.com).

**Natural Family Planning**—NFP is the only church-approved form of family planning. For the CREIGTON MODEL Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro TECHNOLOGY™ contact Susanne Koch in Wharton at (505) 710-0903 or [susannekoch614@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:jbvjov@sbcglobal.net) or (361) 580-2770; call (800) 470-2230; or visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) or [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

### Pilgrimages

**Holy Land Pilgrimage** with Very Rev. Charles Otsiwah, pastor of Immaculate Conception, Goliad. Walk the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ on April 29– May 9, 2019. Some locations visiting are Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, the Room of the Last Supper, Bethlehem, Old City of Jerusalem, Holy Hour in Gethsemane – Dead Sea, walk the Way of the Cross, Nazareth, Cana, Acre, Caesarea, Jaffa, and Tel Aviv. For a full itinerary, please contact Dora Silva at (361) 550-0103 or [Dsilva4415@gmail.com](mailto:Dsilva4415@gmail.com). Cost is \$3,599 – includes airfare, hotels, breakfast, and dinner.

**Pilgrimage to Poland, Czech Republic, and Germany** for 10 days (August 22-31, 2020) including tickets to the 2020 once a decade Oberammergau Passion Play. Bishop Brendan Cahill will be the spiritual director. Reservations and deposit must be made by December 2018 by contacting Susan DeBartol at (888)843-7373 or [susan@littleflowerpilgrimages.com](mailto:susan@littleflowerpilgrimages.com). For information call (361) 549-9147.

**Pilgrimage to EWTN and Our Lady of Angels Monastery** (Alabama) with Father Stephen Vacek December 26-29, 2018. The day starts with a Spiritual Talk, a tour of the Shrine with a visit to the John Paul II Eucharistic Center. The cost is \$875 which includes airfare, hotels and daily meals in Alabama. For a full itinerary, contact Dora Silva at [dsilva4415@gmail.com](mailto:dsilva4415@gmail.com) or (361) 550-0103.

For more pilgrimages see **Journeys of Faith with Ceci** on pg. 12.

Submit  
Calendar of Events to  
[lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org)





## The Gift That is November

*Continued from pg. 1*

vulnerable. That's how he measured his life.

Jesus was not content to just sit with the poor and weak and share their condition. He actively confronted attitudes and beliefs and even structures (laws and rituals) that kept people weak and poor. His denunciations of wealth were not against money itself, but the false security and isolation that it gave the owner. His chastisement of the vendors in the temple touched on how widows were left out of temple worship because they were charged exorbitant prices for the doves needed to sacrifice. The record is clear that unhappiness and division result when we sell our souls for a quick buck or passing fame. What standard do we use to measure ourselves?

In November's Sunday Mass texts we will hear the last encounters of Jesus in Jerusalem. He will point out the generosity of the poor woman who gives from her heart.

The fig tree will serve as a sign of the passing seasons and arrival of the end times. And Jesus will spar with Pilate about whether he is a king or not and the source of his authority. While these readings describe a future judgement, they are as much a critique about how ambition, power, and ignorance are a dangerous combination when unchecked. So how might we examine our lives? Our faith tradition invites us to an examined life using virtues.

Ask people what values are important to live by, and you expect to see respect, honesty, and empathy, along with many more. Yet, the first major misstep of many people is naming the values they think are important while overlooking the values that drive their day-to-day lives. If I'm suspicious and untrusting at work, then I'm probably suspicious and untrusting in my relationships. Jesus could not help but unmask the

motives of religious leaders who claimed to act and speak on God's behalf. He said they were actors (hypocrites) seeming to be one way and acting another. When others do that we scratch our heads and wonder what's really going on.

Virtues don't operate independently of the human person. Nor do they come in one size, for the exercise of a virtue can be deficient or excessive. For example, the virtue of courage is standing up to external forces. However, courage can be excessive, appearing brash and offensive. Or it can be deficient, appearing timid in the face of challenges. To avoid these extremes we practice humility, another virtue, and examine ourselves honestly and welcome constructive criticism. The Catholic life is the virtuous life, not perfect life. And practice makes perfect only if the practice is the right practice.

So, let us console ourselves with a perennial teaching of Jesus: God does not give up on us, and so we should not give up on ourselves or each other. Yes, the Christian vocation is hard and unpleasant. Imperfection is part and parcel of all parts of life. Yet just as one chapter does not make a book, one event does not define a human life.

We can learn from our mistakes. We can overcome destructive impulses. We can confess our sins and be forgiven. But none of this happens unless we stop, take time and examine our lives. May we use our Novembers well.



As el Día de los Muertos approached November 2, Spanish II students from St. Joseph High School, Victoria, were given an assignment to create retablo artwork.

What is a retablo? The literal translation for 'retablo' is 'behind the altar.' Originally it referred to paintings placed behind the altar of churches in the early Middle Ages. During the 12th and 13th centuries, however, the term was generalized to refer to any painted work associated with an altar or a sacred image. This genre of folk art, deeply rooted in Spanish history, represents the heart and soul of traditional religious beliefs in 17th, 18th, and 19th century Mexican culture. Retablos began as paintings on canvas. They then shifted the medium to tin, although as seen in the artwork by the St. Joseph students, almost any surface may be used to prepare an offering, including wood, cardboard, paper, and even plastic.

## Interesting Facts About the Victoria Area Cemeteries

### Why do the early headstones face east?

This early tradition is based on the sun rising in the east which reminds us of the resurrection of Jesus.

### How many Catholic Cemeteries are in the Diocese of Victoria?

54

### How many Catholic Cemeteries are in Victoria?

There are five Catholic cemeteries in Victoria. They are Catholic Cemetery 1, 2, 3, 4, and Resurrection Cemetery.

### Who manages the cemeteries?

Gary Rangnow has managed the five in Victoria for more than 15 years. Someone in each parish takes care of the parish cemeteries.

### Are there any specific rules or characteristics of a cemetery?

Regulations are different at each cemetery.

### What is the DOV Cemetery Online Database?

This database, which covers many cemeteries through the Diocese of Victoria, gives public information including the name, date of death, location of grave, maps, and other information.

If your parish cemetery is not on the database consult with your parish priest and he can contact the cemetery office for more details.

To search the database go to:  
<http://www.vccms.org>



Grave site of Mother Saint Claire Valentine, Foundress and First Superior of the Order of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in America (Catholic Cemetery #2 in Victoria).

*Eternal rest grant  
unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual  
light shine upon  
them. May they  
rest in peace.  
Amen.*