



# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



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JUNE 2018

## Mariner's Cross: A Symbol of Hope

By Sarita Villafranca Richmond, Editor

The mariner's cross, which is hung in the newly renovated confessionals of Our Lady of the Gulf (OLG) Catholic Church, in Port Lavaca is a traditional symbol of hope. This crucifix is in the shape of an anchor. It is unique because it was constructed from repurposed wood, from the original pews of

the church, by Mr. Arturo Martinez, a retired carpenter and parishioner of OLG. Around 2011 Father Ty Bazar, pastor of OLG at the time, started a capital campaign to raise money to renovate the aging church. When Father Tommy Chen became the pastor in August of 2013 he continued the campaign to make the renovations a reality.

Before renovations, the original struc-

ture, which has been the place of worship for more than sixty years, was in dire need of improvements. It had a leaking roof without insulation, the air conditioner was an old cooling system with parts that were obsolete, the carpet was stained and musty, the pews were cracking and splitting, the sound system was failing and had only one speaker, and the worst was the ONE outdoor

toilet to serve everyone! Demolition and construction began in November of 2016 and the renovations were blessed by Bishop Brendan Cahill on February 8, 2018.

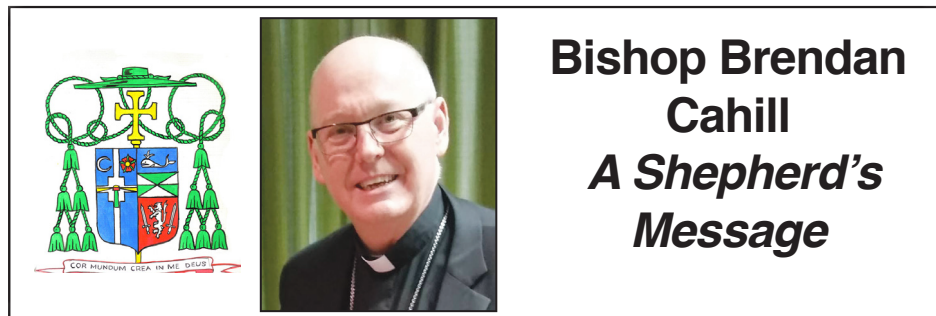
Father Tommy described the renovations as bringing new life to the Church. He shared, "It has brought new excitement

*See Mariner's Cross, pg. 15*



Mr. Arturo Martinez demonstrates how he sands the wood to remove old lacquer and paint, from the old church pews. Finished mariner's cross is pictured top left.





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

### Peace on Earth

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every year the Archbishop of the Military Services, Tim Broglio, celebrates a Memorial Mass for all of our Military Personnel. This year I had the opportunity to con-celebrate this Mass at the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. It was especially significant for me since my Great Uncle, Msgr. Patrick Fay was a Military Chaplain who served in World War II. During his homily this year, Archbishop Broglio mentioned that he had just returned from the annual International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes ([warriorstolourdes.com](http://warriorstolourdes.com)). He told us that the theme for this year's pilgrimage was "Peace on Earth" and reminded us that one way to honor our military is to keep praying and advocating for peace in

the world.

We consistently pray for peace in the world, for the end of specific conflicts and for the safety of our Military Personnel. Especially trusting in the power of the Eucharist and the Rosary this prayer has real effects. As I'm writing this letter I'm praying for peace in the Middle East, a hopeful resolution to the talks with North Korea, and for the safety of our soldiers overseas. I can remember a Church where I regularly celebrated Mass and we prayed for a young man who was being deployed to the Middle East. I remember praying in thanksgiving when he returned home safely. We should never under-estimate the power of our consistent prayer.

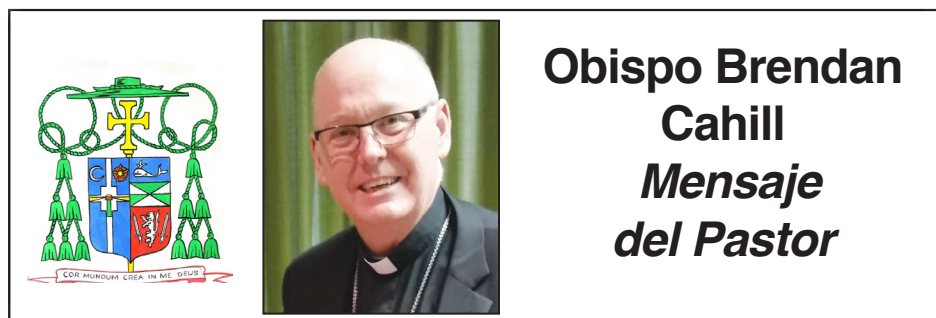
We also realize that not everyone returns

home, or returns home healthy and healed. As a community we remain committed to honor our Veterans. The time around Memorial Day weekend in the Crossroads is especially uplifting as men and women do so much to bring honor and healing to our Veterans. Fields of honor, fishing trips, hospitality, and barbecues take on such a deeper meaning when offered in love and respect for those who have served. As we honor those who served in conflicts, we commit ourselves to advocate for peaceful solutions to disagreements among nations.

The Catechism (#2302-2317) calls the "Safeguarding of Peace" one of our responsibilities in fulfillment of the Fifth Commandment – "Thou Shalt Not Kill". The other two responsibilities are the Respect for Human Life from Conception to Natural Death and Respect for the Dignity of Persons. Quoting St. Augustine, # 2304 states that more than merely the absence of war, "Peace is 'the tranquility of order'".

May you and your families know the tranquility that comes from knowing the personal love of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Let us keep each other in prayer throughout this summer, with confidence as always in the power of the Eucharist and the Rosary,

+Brendan



## Obispo Brendan Cahill *Mensaje del Pastor*

### Paz en la Tierra

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

Cada año, el Arzobispo de los Servicios Militares, Tim Broglio, celebra una misa en memoria de todo nuestro personal militar. Este año tuve la oportunidad de con-celebrar esta misa en el Santuario Nacional en Washington, DC Fue especialmente significativo para mí ya que mi tío abuelo, Mons. Patrick Fay fue capellán militar que sirvió en la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Durante su homilía el Arzobispo Broglio este año mencionó que acababa de regresar de la Peregrinación Militar Internacional anual a Lourdes ([warriorstolourdes.com](http://warriorstolourdes.com)). Nos dijo que el tema de la peregrinación de este año fue "Paz en la tierra" y ha recordado que una manera de honrar a nuestros militares es que seguir orando y abogando por la paz en el mundo.

Estamos constantemente orando por la paz en el mundo, para el fin de los conflictos

específicos y por la seguridad de nuestro personal militar. Especialmente confiando en el poder de la Eucaristía y el rosario esta oración tiene efectos reales. Mientras escribo esta carta estoy orando por la paz en el Medio Oriente, una resolución de esperanza a las conversaciones con Corea del Norte, y por la seguridad de nuestros soldados en el extranjero. Recuerdo una iglesia donde regularmente celebraba la misa y rezabamos por un joven que estaba siendo desplegado en el Medio Oriente. Recuerdo la oración de gracias, cuando regresó a casa con seguridad. Nunca debemos subestimar el poder de la oración constante.

También nos damos cuenta de que no todo el mundo vuelve a casa, o vuelve a casa sano y curado. Como comunidad seguimos comprometidos a honrar a nuestros veteranos. El tiempo de alrededor de fin

de semana largo en el cruce de caminos es especialmente alentador que los hombres y las mujeres lo hacen mucho para traer el honor y la sanación a nuestros veteranos. Los Campos de Honor, excursiones de pesca, la hospitalidad y asados adquieren un significado tan profundo cuando se les ofrece en el amor y el respeto a los que han servido. Al honrar a aquellos que sirvieron en los conflictos nos comprometemos a abogar por la solución pacífica de los desacuerdos entre las naciones.

El Catecismo (# 2302-2317) llama la "salvaguardia de la paz" una de nuestras responsabilidades en cumplimiento del quinto mandamiento - "No matarás". Las otras dos son las responsabilidades del respeto de la vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural y el respeto a la dignidad de las personas. Citando a San Agustín, # 2304 indica que más que simplemente la ausencia de guerra, "la paz es la tranquilidad del orden".

Que usted y sus familias conozcan la tranquilidad que proviene de conocer el amor personal de Dios y la presencia del Espíritu Santo. Mantengamos el uno al otro en oración durante todo este verano, con confianza como siempre en el poder de la Eucaristía y el rosario,

+ Brendan







## Bishop Cahill's Schedule

### June

**1** Padua Place June Jamboree honoring Msgr. Arnold Anders, Msgr. Alois Goertz, and Rev. Simon Brzozowski, MSF, Helotes

**2** Mass with Carmelite Sisters, Sts. Peter and Paul, Meyersville

10:00 a.m. Fr. Greg Korenek's Anniversary celebration at Holy Cross, Bay City

**3** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Patrick's, Bloomington

**4** Noon Mass with Missionary Catechists

**6** 2:30 p.m. Finance Board Meeting

4:00 p.m. Building Board Meeting

**7** 3:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer for Sanctification of Priests at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria

**10** Unity Explosion Mass for African American Ministry in Region X, San Antonio

**11-15** USCCB Spring General Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

**16** Mass with Carmelite Sisters, Sts. Peter and Paul, Meyersville

**17** 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon Mass at Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca

**18-21** Preaching Academy at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

**23** Yearly Solemn Mass in gratitude for Josemaria Escriva at the Co-Cathedral, Houston

**25-29** Vacation

**30** Mass with Carmelite Sisters, Sts. Peter and Paul, Meyersville

### July

**1** 11:30 a.m. Opening Mass for Vocation Camp at St. Michael, Weimar

**7** Priestly Ordination, Scalabrinians at St. Leo the Great, Houston

**8** 2:00 p.m. Mass and Jubilee celebration for IWBS Sisters at Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria

## Knights of St. Gregory Support Bishop's Charities

The Knights of St. Gregory invite you to share an evening with Bishop Brendan Cahill at the Bishop's Annual Charity Banquet held at Victoria Country Club. This year the event will take place Thursday, July 12. The social will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit Bishop Cahill's special charities. Tickets are \$100 per person with seating limited to 250. Seating will be according to reservations sent in.

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



**CLERGY ATTENDING PREACHING ACADEMY**—The Diocese of Victoria is honored to have a group of its priests participating in the Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Notre Dame Preaching Academy for the next year. Father Michael Connors, C.S.C., Director, and Dr. Karla Bellinger, Associate Director, joined the Diocese of Victoria participants at the Chancery, for their first session in May. Participating from the Diocese of Victoria are Very Reverend Samuel Appiasi; Reverend Kristopher Fuchs; Bishop Brendan Cahill; Very Reverend Gary Janak; Reverend Jacob Mendoza; Reverend Jacob Koether. They will be spending an intensive year focusing on becoming more effective Sunday liturgical preachers. In his apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis has refocused the Church on the vital role of the homily in the evangelization of the modern world. It is a great act of love for a preacher to offer a homily that touches the hearts and meets the needs of his people. (EG 154-156)

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

Rev. Ty J. Bazar	06/01/2002	St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg
Rev. Matthew H. Huehlefeld	06/01/1996	St. Joseph, Yoakum
Rev. Roger R. Hawes	06/02/2001	Holy Cross, Yorktown
Rev. Peter Oscar Kofi-Amo	06/04/2016	St. Philip the Apostle, El Campo
Rev. Max A. Landman	06/04/2016	Sacred Heart, Hallettsville
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
Rev. Michael J. Lyons	06/08/1996	Sts. Peter and Paul, Frelsburg
Rev. George Henninger	06/08/1985	Retired
Rev. Michael J. Rother	06/09/2007	St. Philip the Apostle, El Campo
Rev. Robert E. Knippenberg	06/10/2000	Holy Family, Wharton
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
Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill	06/29/2015	Bishop, Diocese of Victoria
Rev. Mathew Kessler	06/29/1991	Holy Cross, East Bernard

*Heavenly Father,*

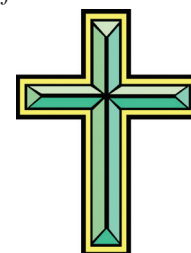
*In these trying times when the spirit of the age threatens Christian values, give our bishop holiness of life and wisdom to direct and guide our diocesan family so that we may grow in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

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

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

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, Amen.*



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

**Periodical postage paid at Victoria, TX• POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903

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## 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 >.**

May 18 2018

• **Rev. Msgr. Edward C. Bartsch**  
**Seminary Burse #2**

*Acolyte*

Special intention from  
Allan and Cynthia Stryk

• **Josephat R. Janak Seminary Burse #2**

*Lector*

In honor of the Very Rev. Gary Janak's  
30th Ordination Anniversary to the  
Priesthood by Mrs. JoAnn Fikac and  
Family

In honor of the Very Rev. Gary Janak's  
30th Ordination Anniversary to the  
Priesthood by M/M Jim Hill and  
Family

• **Rev. Timothy Kosler Seminary Burse**

*Lector*

In memory of Rita Brossmann by  
Henrietta Veselka

• **Rev. Msgr. Lawrence J. Matula**  
**Seminary Burse**

*Priest*

In honor of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence J.  
Matula by his family, friends, and  
church of St. Robert Bellarmine in  
gratitude for his life and service

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

*Lector*

In memory of Joe, Banna and Chris Jares  
by Michael and Janice Jares

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

## Happy Birthday to Our Seminarians

**Philippe Dubourdieu** will be entering  
College III this fall at St.  
Joseph Seminary College  
in Louisiana. Philippe  
hometown is Bay City. His  
birthday is June 2. Write  
to Philippe at: Diocese of  
Victoria, P. O. Box 4070,  
Victoria, TX 77904.



**Tran Dinh** will be in Theology III this fall  
at Holy Apostles Seminary  
in Connecticut. Tran's  
home town is Palacios.  
His birthday is June 10.  
Write to Tran at: Holy  
Family Church, 704 Mal-  
lette Dr., Victoria, TX  
77904.



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

Matthew 4:18-22

**Lector**  
Paz & Andrea Morales  
*in Memory of Father Dan Morales*

Micheal & Kelly Korenek  
*in Honor of Father Greg Korenek's  
25th Anniversary to the Priesthood*

**Acolyte**  
Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
Court St. Ann #369 (2 times)  
Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
Court of St. Paul #1604

Christian Mothers Society  
*in Honor of Father Greg Korenek's  
25th Anniversary to the Priesthood*

Jean Payne  
*in Honor of Father Gary Janak's  
30th Anniversary to the Priesthood*

## Diocese of Victoria Receives \$2.5M Grant from Catholic Charities USA

The Catholic Diocese of Victoria in Texas (DOV) was awarded a long-term disaster recovery grant of \$2.5 million by Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA), from funds received through the second collection offered by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). CCUSA is the official domestic disaster relief and response organization of the Catholic Church. The funds will be used to meet the local community's ongoing recovery needs following Hurricane Harvey.

Hurricane Harvey dumped an estimated 27 trillion gallons of water in Texas and Louisiana. This event resulted in loss of life and property. An estimated 738,000 people requested assistance from FEMA. Damage totals included: more than 200,000 homes were damaged; over 12,000 homes were completely destroyed; nearly 500,000 vehicles were ruined beyond repair and hundreds of business structures were compromised. Nine months later thousands of families are still in need of assistance.

The DOV is committed to assisting survivors and remains engaged in the long-term community recovery effort. Chief Financial Officer of The Catholic Diocese of Victoria in Texas, Tony Martinez has

been working with Catholic Charities from the beginning of the recovery efforts. He shares, "The Diocese of Victoria understands that without assistance, survivors can sink into a spiral of non-recovery, especially vulnerable populations. We need to walk with them throughout the recovery journey. Additionally, we have embraced the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Disaster Relief Services' House in a Box® (HIB) program, whereby renters and home owners alike are provided new furniture and home furnishings at the appropriate stage of the survivor's recovery process. Families are reviewed and referred through a Disaster Case Management process that ensures that there is no duplication of benefits."

## Pilgrimage to Celebrate Anniversary of Czech Statehood, Feast Day of St. Wenceslas

AUSTIN—The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC has announced that the Czech people will be celebrating 100 years of independence and sovereignty in 2018. They mark this centennial as a time of struggle for freedom as well as the time of the establishment of a thriving democracy. It is a special time for Czechs all over the world. Czech Americans are proud to feel their roots in their homeland and know the collaboration of the United States with the Czech Republic will continue into the future.



To honor this relationship, Journeys of Faith with Ceci presents a Czech Heritage Pilgrimage to Prague which is endorsed by the Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas (the K.J.Z.T) and the Catholic Union of Texas (the K.J.T.) Bishop Patrick Zurek, Bishop of the Diocese of Amarillo, will be the Spiritual Director and will be accompanied by Father Bob Knippenberg, State Chaplain of the K.J.T., and Lori Janak as group leader. Tour dates are September 22-30, 2018. For cost information see ad on page 6. For more information contact Ceci Triska at (979) 543-8575; ceci.triska@gmail.com or Select International Tours at (800) 842-4842; susan@select-intl.com; or visit their website at www.selectinternationaltours.com.

**Candidate**  
Robert & Kathryn Kennedy  
**Transitional Deacon**  
~  
**Priest**  
Robert & Kathryn Kennedy

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



*Pray for Priestly and  
Religious Vocations!*





## In Memory of ... Sister Callista Mares, IWBS

Sister Callista Mares, IWBS, 100, passed away May 5, 2018. She was born February 4, 1918, in Cistern, Texas to the late Cyril Joe and Augusta Lena (Otahal) Mares. She was the second of seven children – two girls and five boys.



Sister Callista completed elementary grades at St. Wencelaus School in Cistern and high school at Nazareth Academy in Victoria. She became a Sister of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in San Antonio on December 18, 1937, and made first profession of vows on December 19, 1938. She received her BA degree with a major in history and a minor in philosophy from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

After celebrating her 100th birthday in February, she was preparing to celebrate her 80th jubilee as a Sister. She enjoyed her years of teaching primary, elementary and junior high students at Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville, Nazareth Academy, Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio, Ammannsville, Sealy, Falls City Public School, and St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner.

When Sister Callista retired from full-time classroom duty in 1985, she remained active with assisting in the infirmary, serving as sacristan, and participating in household duties at Incarnate Word Convent. During some of these years she also visited nursing homes in the area. She made items for the Arts and Crafts sales with her crocheting and needlepoint and loved to put jigsaw puzzles together. Her last years were spent in the apostolate of prayer and suffering.

She is preceded in death by her parents and brothers, William (Bill), Charles, Felix, John, and George.

She is survived by her sister, Catherine (Mares) Camp and many nieces, nephews, grand, great-grand, and great-great-grand nieces and nephews, former students and friends.

On the evening prior to funeral services, visitation, scriptural rosary, a wake service

with evening praise, and sharing of memories was held at the convent.

A funeral Mass was held at the convent with Father Phi Nguyen, Chaplain, as the main celebrant. Burial followed at Catholic Cemetery No. 3.

Pallbearers were Joe Mares, John C. Mares, Richard Thompson, Glenn Machicek, Clay Ohrt, Jason Mares, Dale Mares, and Josh Mares.

Memorials may be made to Incarnate Word Convent, Hospice of South Texas, or donor's choice.



**SOCIETY DONATES TO RELIGIOUS PROGRAM**—Catholic Union of Texas -KJT Society #13 donated a check for \$600 to the confirmation class and CCD program at St. Joseph Church in Yoakum. Pictured are candidates for the 2019 confirmation class with KJT Representative, Anthony Harper, and Father Matthew Huehlefeld, pastor.



**SPRING FESTIVAL TIME**—Father Samuel Appiasi, pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Bloomington is getting parishioners and friends of the parish to bid on the item up for auction at their annual Spring Festival. Father Samuel was excited to be back in his own parish hall following the damages left behind from Hurricane Harvey.

## Marriage Preparation Course to be Offered

To Love As God Loves is a marriage preparation program for couples 40 and over, couples seeking convalidation, couples seeking a second marriage, and beyond.

Because Christian marriage is a sacrament, the Catholic Church wants couples to be well-prepared. Marriage preparation assists the couple in developing a better understanding of the

sacrament, evaluate and deepen their readiness to live married life, and gain insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple.

This is an interactive preparation facilitated by priests, deacons, and couples who are deeply committed to the Sacrament of Marriage. The next Marriage Preparation Program will be held at Holy Family Parish Activity Center in Victoria, on September 23, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The cost of the program will be \$125 and includes all materials needed. For more information including online registration and or a registration form, can be found on the Diocese of Victoria website [www.victoriadiocese.org/to-love-as-god-loves](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/to-love-as-god-loves).



## Pregnant? Need Help?

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**1-866-627-9243**

**[www.victoriagabrielproject.org](http://www.victoriagabrielproject.org)**

## DSA update

### 2018 Diocesan Services Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$ 2,054,129.00  
Parish Pledge Totals: \$ 617,304.64  
Parish Contribution Totals: \$ 500,488.64  
Number of Parish Families Participating: 2,218

Updated May 22, 2018



**CHANCERY WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER**—Ms. Ruby Ruiz has joined the Diocese of Victoria as the Administrative Assistant for the Office of Transportation. Ms. Ruiz has over 24 years of experience working in non-profit with her most recent position of manager for the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. She has two married daughters and three grandchildren. She shared, "I am excited to join the Diocese of Victoria and have the 2nd phase of my career also be a part of God's work. I am looking forward to working with everyone at the diocese." She is a parishioner of Holy Family Church, Victoria and has been active in music ministry for 23 years.

## Heavenly Helpers



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*There are three things  
that last  
Faith, Hope, and Love  
but the Greatest is  
Love*

1 Corinthians 13:13





## SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



### The Influence of a Dad

“My dad can do anything.” is the admiring sentiment of many a young child. Dads are strong; they are intelligent; and they love their children. Yes, Dads are special people; they not only protect and provide for their families, but they are the leaders and serve as spiritual guides in their families. Along with their children’s mothers, fathers provide a physical and spiritual loving, nourishing environment in which children can thrive. Children can witness the interaction between a man and woman who are bonded by their love for one another and for their children. Children benefit from the love, example, and discipline of two persons who complement and balance one another. Dads, your example and time spent with your sons is so important in teaching them how to grow up into men of character and integrity. Boys need the love, example, and bondedness of an older male to help them ease into the intricacies of society. Girls need interaction with a father figure in order to facilitate their learning to relate with males in the future, especially in their own marriages. They often use their own fathers as a standard by which they evaluate their future spouses.

Dads, your families love you and need

you. You are the ones whose example can help prepare your children for success. Your gentleness can teach them to be loving and compassionate; your strength can teach them courage and perseverance while your reverence can orient them toward a faith-filled life of love and service in preparation for their final destiny.

Finally, I want to remind fathers that they have a very visible patron saint in Saint Joseph, who serves as a model of a loving husband and a nurturing parent. In fact, in many countries, St. Joseph’s Feast Day on March 19 is considered the day to honor Christian fathers.

Fathers, and “proxy” fathers: grandfathers, uncles, older brothers or cousins, Big Brothers — we all love you and we thank you. Happy Father’s Day!

*Happy  
Father's  
Day*



(above) Donna Moeller, regent for Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Ann #369 is pictured with first place winners in the high school division of the education contest (left-right) Emily R., photography; Hailey F., essay; and Pranav J., poetry.



Donna Moeller, regent for Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Ann #369 is pictured with the junior high education contest winners (front row left-right) Luke O., Sarah Y., Quinn R., Heidi T., Mackenzie S.; (back row) Luis R., Hayden L., Grant C., Paula S., and Abigail D.



**STARTING NEW BEGINNINGS**—Graduating seniors from St. Joseph Parish in Yoakum are pictured after Mass. God’s blessings on all of these graduates as they begin the next step in their journey!



**VICTORIA GABRIEL PROJECT MOVING FORWARD**—This year Victoria Gabriel Project will celebrate 16 years helping mothers in a crisis pregnancy, as well as her unborn child. In May, Sheri Danze, from Austin was a guest speaker at the Victoria Gabriel Project Board of Directors meeting. Sheri has always been a part of the pro-life movement. She has many accomplishments in her life, one of which is board member and co-founder of St. John Paul II Life Center in Austin. Sheri shared her experience, wisdom, and knowledge with the group, as the Victoria Gabriel Project journeys towards opening a Maternity Home in Victoria. Pictured (left to right front row) Donald Jirkovsky, treasurer; James Dodson, vice president; Stefani Spears, board member; (standing left to right) Glenn Villafranca, board member; Pat Kromka, board member; Wayne Smith, Dewitt County board member; Sister Amata Hollas, IWBS, board member; Elena Torres, board member; Madeline Dodson, board member; Fred Williams, board president; Sheri Danze; Barbara McCain Williams, board member. Not pictured is Sherry Wilson, secretary; Toni Schaar, board member; and Jo Ann Ybarbo, board member.

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*St. Philip, El Campo*



*St. Joseph High School, Victoria*



*Sacred Heart, Hallettsville (above)*

*St. Joseph, Yoakum (left)*





**KC'S HONOR DECEASED VETERANS**—In Honor of all Veterans buried at St. Michael Cemetery in Weimar, Knights of Columbus Insurance Field Agent, Larry Kana donated a new flag for Memorial Day.

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Catechists were appreciated last year with the First Annual Catechist Rally. This year they will be honored for their dedication on July 14, 2018 at the Cathedral Center, in Victoria.

## 2nd Annual Catechist Rally Coming to the Cathedral Center

“We are Catechists, Witnessing for Jesus: Living as Missionary Disciples” is the theme for the 2018 Catechist Rally which will be held on Saturday, July 14, at 3:00 p.m., at the Cathedral Center, next to the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria.

The first Catechist Rally was held last year when Bishop Brendan Cahill and the Office of Catechetical Ministry decided to show appreciation for the 1000+ Catechists of the Diocese of Victoria. The majority of these Catechists volunteer their time to evangelize and catechize the children, youth and adults in their different parishes. These Catechists were treated to dinner and a special Catechist t-shirt. They also received gifts that included a tote bag for their catechetical materials and a book on

catechetical ministry. There was great joy as they conversed, mingled, shared ideas, and enjoyed the camaraderie surrounding their ministry as Catechists. Bishop Cahill spoke words of encouragement to them while enthusiastically and joyously interacting with those who participated.

Catechists will again be acknowledged and shown appreciation for their dedication



to catechetical ministry, at the 2nd Annual Catechist Rally. As the Catechists arrive they will receive a t-shirt with the theme of this year's

rally, as well as a tote bag for their materials. There will be time for “table talk” as they visit different stations, where they can learn about various teaching tools and information for their ministry. Visiting these tables will give them an opportunity to win a door prize. There will also be a time for “becoming we”, visiting and sharing with each other, as well as an “icebreaker” with prizes.

After fellowship time, they will be treated to a dinner. Bishop Brendan will be the guest speaker, providing insights that encourage and motivate. The Liturgy of the Eucharist at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory will conclude the 2nd Annual Catechist Rally. The Catechists will be commissioned by Bishop Brendan, the chief Catechist of the diocese, to go out witnessing as missionary disciples of Jesus, in their daily lives.

A committee of seven along with the Office of Catechetical Ministry staff are working enthusiastically to make this event a memorable event for all the Catechists of the Diocese of Victoria.

### The Emmaus Center



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

Grief groups have begun to meet. The Hallettsville group meets Mondays at 10:00 a.m. and the Victoria group meets Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Call the office to register.

The Emmaus Center is interested in starting support groups for caregivers of individuals with dementia or Alzheimer's. Please call if interested in attending.

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





*A Great Teacher ~Takes  
A Hand, Opens a Mind,  
and Touches a Heart*



**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER OBSERVED**—The 5th grade students of St. Michael School in Cuero led the rosary with a balloon rosary. They prayed for the students and their families at St. Michael School as well as all of the children across the nation. Students from PreK 3 through 5th grade participated.



**TEA TIME FOR MOM**—Kindergarten students at St. Michael School in Weimar hosted a Mother's Day tea party on Monday, May 7, 2018. In addition to tea and cookies, students shared artwork they made for their moms.



**STJ FACULTY AND STAFF RECEIVE AWARDS**—Congratulations to the St. Joseph High School, Victoria, faculty and staff who were recognized for retirement and years of service. Those honored were Kort Angerstein (Class of 1971), special thanks for teaching this year when needed; Michael Boyle, 45 years of service; Patty Zapalac, 5 years of service; Sister Clare Underbrink, IWBS, 10 years of service; Deborah Machicek, 25 years of service; Ted Wise, retirement; and Terese Arnecke (Class of 1992), 5 years of service. Also retiring, but not pictured is Valerie McDaniel. Thanks to each of you for all of your work on behalf of the students at St. Joseph High School.



**KNIGHTS SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION**—On Thursday, May 10, 2018, members of the Schulenburg Knights of Columbus presented a check in the amount of \$5,350 to Rosanne Gallia, principal of St. Rose School in Schulenburg. Each fiscal year the Schulenburg Knights of Columbus budget a portion of each of their fundraisers as part of a yearly \$10,000 donation to St. Rose School. Shown in the check presentation to Rosanne, are KC members (left to right) Leonard Korenek, Paul Zapalac; Gene Berger, Ken Berger, KC Council #2902 Grand Knight; and James Brossmann.

## Young Artist wins Spot in Texas Coast Children's Art Contest

AUSTIN - Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the winners of the 2018 Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest.

Sixth grader Mia M. from Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria was selected runner-up. Mia will have her art featured in the 2019 Adopt-A-Beach calendar.

This year there were 2,480 entries submitted statewide.

The annual competition encourages schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas coast and express what they have learned through their art. Open to grades K-6 across Texas, the contest motivates thousands of young artists each year.

To learn more about the Adopt-A-Beach program, visit [TexasAdoptABeach.org](http://TexasAdoptABeach.org) or call 1-877-TX COAST.

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## Meet a Deacon (a TCL series)

**Deacon Luan Van Tran**

### Our God is an Awesome God

My name is Luan Van Tran, and I am a Deacon at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Bay City, and the Vietnamese community in Palacios, Texas. My wife, Thao, and I have lived in Bay City for the past 41 years, but the story of how we ended up here wouldn't have been possible without our awesome God by our side.

#### EARLY LIFE

I was born at home in 1947 in North Vietnam. I am the seventh child out of nine. My father was in the military, and my mother grew vegetables to sell at the local market. We lived a very simple life until government conflicts divided our country.

In 1954, Vietnam was divided into two sides. The

North was under Communist rule, and the South was a Democratic Republic. I was 7 years old at the time, and my family was living in North Vietnam. My father was a soldier fighting for the South against the Communist, and he received orders to move to the South with his company. After a few months of being apart, my mom decided it was time to reunite with my father. We left



*Deacon Luan Van Tran and his wife Thao*

nion, I became an altar server. I later became a choir director at our church.

Meanwhile, the war in Vietnam was escalating. The North Vietnamese Communist sent more troops to the South. They shot rockets into the marketplaces, schools, hospitals, and churches. So many innocent people were killed. My father was discharged from the military in 1967, and a year later, I volunteered to join the Artillery branch of the Vietnamese Military. By then, the Vietnamese Communists were everywhere. Many U.S. soldiers came to Vietnam to help reinforce the South Vietnamese government. It took a few months to drive them out of the cities.

In 1969, I married my wife, Thao. I was able to come home once a month for two days. It was hard to be away from my family, and I had no idea when or how the war would end. I faced many situations that could've ended in death. My faith and family kept me strong during all these difficult years.

#### LEAVING OUR COUNTRY

On April 30, 1975, the Communist took over South Vietnam. We were afraid of what life would be like for us under Communist rule. We knew we wouldn't have the freedom to practice our Catholic faith, so we decided to flee the country. Once again, we were leaving everything we had to begin a new life elsewhere.

Our journey to leave Vietnam was difficult and disorganized. My wife, three young children, and my mom (my father passed in 1974) didn't know where to go or how to leave. We prayed that we would find a safe way out. My friend from high school helped us get on an old ship. Mechanics were rushing to work on the boat as people were crowding to get on.

Within a few hours, the ship was ready to depart and crammed with more than 3,000 people. It took six long days to get to Subic Bay in the Philippines. There wasn't enough food for everyone, so we were hungry for most of those days. When we arrived at Subic Bay, the American soldiers greeted us and gave us each a box of C Rations to eat. As soon as we finished eating, we boarded a cargo ship to the island of Guam.

We traveled seven days on the ship to reach Guam. We stayed in Guam for three weeks where medical checks and paperwork were completed. At this time, we knew we were safe and on our way to freedom, to America. We were happy that we would be living in the best country in the world, but also so sad to leave our home country.

#### JOURNEY TO AMERICA

In June of 1975, we boarded a plane and landed in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

We stayed in a refugee camp for two and a half months before moving to Jersey City, New Jersey, where we lived for nearly two years. I worked as a glass cutter to support my family.

In search of warmer weather, we moved to Bay City, Texas in January 1977. I thank God that I was able to find work at STP Nuclear Operating Company within two weeks of our arrival. We enrolled our children in school and found a church to attend. I spent several years going to night school after work to learn English. Even though life in a new country was not easy, we were grateful to be together, and we were safe.

#### SERVING GOD AND THE COMMUNITY

We found our church home at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Bay City. I am very grateful to Father Shannon for encouraging me to join the Diaconate Program. On August 15, 1987, I was a part of the first class of Deacons to be ordained in the Diocese of Victoria.

Today, I serve at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Bay City. I teach youth and adult Confirmation classes, CCD to non-Catholics, Marriage Preparation classes, and I am a spiritual director for the Legion of Mary groups. I am also an Advisor for the Board of Directors of The Vietnamese Deacons Association and one of the board members for The Federation of Vietnamese Catholics.

*See Our God is an Awesome God, pg. 12*



*Deacon Luan Van Tran is pictured with his son, Father Timothy Viet Thang Tran, CRM.*

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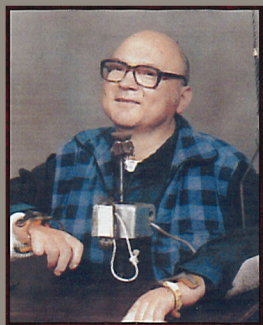
everything behind to escape North Vietnam in the middle of the night.

We had to start life over when we moved to the South. We arrived with nothing and had very little assistance from the government. Before my siblings and I could enroll in school, we had to obtain birth certificates. Since we were all born at home, we didn't have official documents. My father filled in the paperwork for my whole family, but he couldn't remember our birthdays! He filled in that I was born on August 13, 1950, which made me three years younger than my actual age. To this day, my paperwork has an incorrect date for my birth.

#### THE WAR

The war officially began in 1955. We tried to live as normal of a life as we could. My parents were devout Catholics, especially my mom. Every day, she would attend Mass in the morning and be back at church at noon and in the evenings to pray. My siblings and I were also involved in the church. After I received my First Commu-





1929-2000

*Father  
Charles Kram  
Korner*

## Quadriplegic Priest, if Sainted, Would Become First in U.S.

Originally published in the *Victoria Advocate* April 13, 2018.

By Jennifer Preyss-Mathlouthi  
jlpreyss@vicad.com

It's been 18 years since the Rev. Charles Kram died, yet the legacy of his heroic life committed to God and the Catholic Church as a quadriplegic priest continues.

In the Yoakum Community Hospital, where he once lived and served as hospital chaplain for two decades, a photo of Kram remains on the wall in his honor.

Serving as chaplain required helpers at times, but he wrote his homilies by himself. He typed them with a stick from his mouth.

He was unable to move the rest of his body after a severe bout of polio paralyzed him decades earlier. He still had his voice;

however, and he would continue to use it for the Lord.

"In all his suffering, he never complained or griped. When he needed help, he would ask politely and humbly," said Joe Machacek, an ordained deacon of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Shiner. "He led a very full and blessed life and inspired many in the way he lived."

About six years ago, Machacek and a small group of church members who knew of the dutiful and gentle spirit of Kram, and his desire to comfort those who suffered, decided Kram was worthy of sainthood.

The Father Kram Beatification Project was born, and a grass-roots effort to canonize Kram got the greenlight in the Victoria Diocese.

Three years ago, Kram's case was assigned by Bishop Brendan Cahill to the Rev. Bob Knippenberg, of Holy Family Catholic Church in Wharton, who now serves as postulator, a Catholic term for the one who guides the beatification through its proper process.

"I think he has a very good case, honestly. Father Kram exhibited all the hallmarks of heroic virtue," Knippenberg said, who spoke of the complexity of gathering paperwork, homilies, interviews and other essentials of Kram's life needed to advance the case. "He lived his life with such joy and attention toward the needs of others, and he did it with difficult physical challenges."

Only 11 saints with historical ties to the United States have been sainted. The most recent was Junipero Serra in 2015.

Many cases for canonization are put up each year in Catholic dioceses around the world, but few ever make it all the way through to the end. Even fewer were physically disabled.

"I think it would mean a lot to the handicapped community to see him canonized," Machacek said. "I think people would say, 'Look, he became a priest, the highest office in the church. If he can do that in a wheelchair, I can do anything.' I think a lot of people saw what he went through and realized they didn't have it so bad."

While it's rare for disabled priests to be

put up for canonization, it has occurred in the Catholic Church several times.

St. Giuseppe Cafasso, an Italian priest born in 1811, suffered from a deformed spine. And Blessed Herman the Cripple, who was not sainted, but elevated to "Blessed," a stop along the way to sainthood, was a German priest born with a cleft palate, cerebral palsy and spina bifida in 1020.

Others with physical disabilities have also been celebrated throughout history.

If Kram becomes a saint, he would be the first quadriplegic priest canonized in the U.S.

"I would think it would put the Victoria Diocese on the map, most definitely. Only a few have been ever sainted from the United States, and there's only one other case I know of with a disabled priest going through the process right now," Knippenberg said.

Before Kram's case can move forward, Cahill must determine if it's fit to move to a tribunal of theological experts, who will then determine if Kram's case meets the standard for canonization. They will review the paperwork, analyze submitted materials, and ensure Kram's life and teachings were in concordance with the Catholic Church's teachings.

From there, the bishop submits the case

*See Quadriplegic Priest, pg. 13*

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*Caleb Guajardo, one of the adults confirmed, is pictured with his grandmother and sponsor, Becky Guajardo.*



**ADULTS CONFIRMED AT CATHEDRAL**—Catholic adults from around the Victoria Deanery were prepared for the sacrament of confirmation, by Catechists from The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory (in English) and from Our Lady of Sorrows (in Spanish). The conferral of the sacrament of confirmation, by the Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, occurred on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, at the first bi-lingual Mass of adult confirmation for this deanery. Thanks to Deacon Edwardo Molina and Jenny Vincent for coordinating the program and Mass. Thanks to Catechists, Father Eliecer Patiño Hurtado, and Deacon Molina of Our Lady of Sorrows, and Chris Kallus, and Jenny Vincent of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory.



*Deacon Luan Van Tran with his family.*

## Our God is an Awesome God

*Continued from pg. 10*

### THANKFUL

I can't thank God enough for all the blessings he has given to me and my family. I have lived in America for 43 years now. So many people have helped us along the way. We eventually had three more children in America. We have been blessed with seven grandchildren as well. One of our sons is a religious priest, Father Timothy Viet Thang Tran, CRM. His order Congregation of the Mother of the Redeemer is based in Carthage, Missouri.

We are so grateful to have found a supportive and loving community at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and at the Vietnamese Community in Palacios. My wife and I attend Mass every day to thank God for the opportunity to come to America for a

better life.

### IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Sometimes I ask myself why did God choose me to become a Deacon? When the Diocese of Victoria accepted me into their Diaconate Program, I could barely speak, read, or write any English. But I knew God had a plan for me, and I placed my trust in Him and allowed Him to guide me on this path to serve Him and the community.

If you feel that God calls you to serve His Church and His people, don't be afraid. The journey is not always easy, but we have an awesome God, and He will be with you for every step of the way.

God bless you, and thank you for taking the time to read my story.

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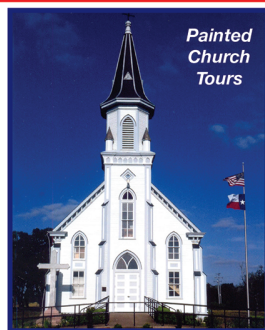
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**RECEIVING JESUS FOR THE FIRST TIME**—Students from St. Michael School and St. Michael Faith Formation Class celebrated their First Holy Communion on Sunday May 6, at St. Michael Church, with Father Wayne Flagg. Pictured with the class, back row (left to right) Patricia Briscoe, Mary Jane Berger, faith formation teachers; Father Flagg and Sandra Muras, St. Michael 2nd grade religion and sacramental preparation teacher.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**—The Very Reverend Charles Otsiwah is pictured with a group of children who received their First Holy Communion at Immaculate Conception Church, in Goliad.

**GIFT FROM GOD**—First Communicants from Sts. Peter and Paul, Frelsburg, James B., Emma K., Hunter K., and Alexis K. received the Body and the Blood of Jesus Christ on Holy Eucharist, Sunday, May 6. May this gift from God sustain and strengthen each of them as they walk their path to eternity.



## Quadriplegic Priest

*Continued from pg. 11*

to the U.S. Conference of Bishops, and if approved, the case moves to the Vatican in Rome.

If the Vatican accepts the case, Kram will officially be known as “Servant of God.” And after Kram’s first posthumous miracle is proven, he will become known as “Blessed” or “Venerable.”

To become “St. Charles Kram,” two posthumous miracles must be documented and signed off by Vatican officials.

At some point, Knippenberg said Kram’s body may even be exhumed to determine if he’s an “incorruptible.” When bodies are minimally decayed, or if there is a scent of flowers or roses upon opening the grave, the Catholic Church views this as another possible sign of sanctity.

“It can take a very long time to go through this process; sometimes it takes hundreds or thousands of years to become a saint,” Knippenberg said. “I probably

will not see Father Kram canonized in my lifetime, but someone else will have to step in and take over.”

Only two cases for canonization are being put forth in the Victoria Diocese currently. The other is for the foundress of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in Victoria, Venerable Jeanne Chezard de Matel, who was venerated by Pope John Paul II in 1992.

Both Knippenberg and Machacek said they have put out the word for those who are aware of any miracles connected to Kram to contact them for documentation.

And both hope in their lifetime, Kram and his good deeds are celebrated in the Catholic Church for centuries to come.

“As much as I’ve read about all the different saints, by far, Father Kram ranks at the top with any of them,” Machacek said. “I would hold him up there with any of them.”

## Sunday Readings from June 3 to July 8

*June 3 ~ The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ*

Exodus 24:3-8  
Psalms 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

*June 10 ~ Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Genesis 3:9-15  
Psalms 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

*June 17 ~ Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Ezekiel 17:22-24  
Psalms 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10  
Mark 4:26-34

*June 24 ~ Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*

Isaiah 49:1-6  
Psalms 139:1B-3, 13-14AB, 14C-15  
Acts 13:22-26  
Luke 1:57-66, 80

*July 1 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24  
Psalms 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13  
2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15  
Mark 5:21-43

*July 8 ~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Ezekiel 2:2-5  
Psalms 123:1-2, 2, 3-4  
2 Corinthians 12:7-10  
Mark 6:1-6

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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## With Confirmation Before Surgery, Woman Feels Love of Faith Community

ARLINGTON, Va. (CNS) — It felt like a small miracle when Father Stefan P. Starzynski came to Kelly Heaton’s bedside and anointed her two hours before her brain surgery. And it seemed unbelievable when her family learned one of her brain abscesses had disappeared. Kelly was blessed by speedy recovery and diligent doctors. But she feels the greatest gift is that she found the Catholic faith before her illness. “Had I not had the Catholic family, I don’t think I’d be here,” she said. “That was a true miracle.” The last MRI before she went

into surgery showed the smaller abscess had disappeared, and the doctor feared it had ruptured, or traveled into the ventricle. The surgeon successfully removed the larger abscess, and never found the smaller one. “We credit the Lord and Father Stefan for saving Kelly’s life,” her husband, Jim, told the *Arlington Catholic Herald*, newspaper of the Diocese of Arlington. In recovery, Kelly had to learn to walk and talk again. But she healed faster than expected, and today is at almost full strength. “We call her the Miracle Mama,” said Jim.

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**August 3-5, 2018**  
Diocese of Victoria Spiritual Renewal Center



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XI Domingo Ordinario
Evangelio
Marcos 4, 26-34

Lectura del santo Evangelio según san Marcos: En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a la multitud: / "El Reino de Dios se parece a lo que sucede / cuando un hombre siembra la semilla en la tierra: / que pasan las noches y los días, / y sin que él sepa cómo, la semilla germina y crece; / y la tierra, por sí sola, va produciendo el fruto: / primero los tallos, luego las espigas y después los granos en las espigas. / Y cuando ya están maduros los granos, el hombre echa mano de la hoz, / pues ha llegado el tiempo de la cosecha". ¶ Les dijo también: "¿Con qué compararemos el Reino de Dios? / ¿Con qué parábola lo podremos representar? / Es como una semilla de mostaza que, cuando se siembra, es la más pequeña de las semillas; / pero una vez sembrada, crece y se convierte en el mayor de los arbustos / y echa ramas tan grandes, que los pájaros pueden anidar a su sombra". ¶ Y con otras muchas parábolas semejantes les estuvo exponiendo su mensaje, / de acuerdo con lo que ellos podían entender. / Y no les hablaba sino en parábolas; / pero a sus discípulos les explicaba todo en privado.

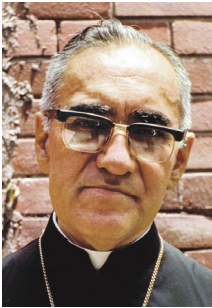
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El papa canonizará beatos Pablo VI, Óscar Romero en octubre en Roma

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — El papa Francisco declarará santos a los beatos Óscar Romero, Pablo VI y otros cuatro el 14 de octubre en el Vaticano durante la reunión del Sínodo de los Obispos, institución revivida por el beato Pablo.



Beato Óscar Romero

La fecha fue anunciada el 19 de mayo durante un "consistorio ordinario público", una reunión entre el papa, los cardenales y los promotores de las causas de los santos que formalmente termina el proceso de santidad. El cardenal Angelo Amato, prefecto de la Congregación para las Causas de los Santos, le pidió al papa durante el consistorio "inscribir en su debido tiempo entre los santos" seis candidatos a la canonización "para la gloria de Dios y el bien de toda la iglesia".

El cardenal le dijo al papa que cada uno de los candidatos dio "un testimonio convencido y coherente del Señor Jesús. Su ejemplo continúa iluminando la iglesia y el mundo de acuerdo con la perspectiva de la misericordia que su Santidad nunca cesa de indicar y proponer". El cardenal Amato dijo que durante la guerra civil de El Salvador, el arzobispo Romero, "indignado al ver la violencia contra los débiles y los asesinatos de sacerdotes y catequistas, sintió la necesidad de asumir una actitud de fortaleza. El 24 de marzo de 1980 fue asesinado mientras celebraba Misa".

Revisando los hechos de la vida del beato Pablo, el cardenal Amato destacó cómo el futuro papa "organizó la ayuda caritativa y la hospitalidad para los perseguidos, especialmente los judíos, cuando era un alto oficial en la Secretaría de Estado del Vaticano durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial". El papa Francisco entonces certificó que había solicitado la opinión de los cardenales, quienes estuvieron de acuerdo en que "estos mismos beatos deberían ser propuestos a toda la iglesia como ejemplos de vidas cristianas y de santidad". Los otros hombres y mujeres que serán canonizados incluyen: el padre Francesco Spinelli de Italia, fundador de las Hermanas Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento; el padre Vincenzo Romano, que trabajó con los pobres de Nápoles, Italia, hasta su muerte en 1831; Madre Catherine Kasper, la fundadora alemana de la congregación religiosa, las Siervas Pobres de Jesucristo; y Nazaria Ignacia March Mesa, la fundadora española de la Congregación de las Misioneras Cruzadas de la Iglesia.

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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.





## Mariner's Cross: A Symbol of Hope

*Continued from pg. 1*

to attending Mass, Adoration, prayer services, and celebrating the sacraments. For me, it is a true testimony that beauty can touch the person down to depths that other things can't reach." Many improvements were made to the church, some of which included beautiful indoor bathrooms, a choir loft and sound system, lighting, new pews, a new A/C, beautiful landscaping, and significant changes to the sanctuary itself. Matthew Schaefer, a current deacon candidate for the Diocese of Victoria made the podiums for the statues in the sanctuary, new sliding screens and shelves for the confessionals, and the elegant wooden cross over the altar.

Redesigning the sanctuary was a priority to Father Tommy. He wanted to highlight the sanctuary, as it is a symbol of heaven. Some of the things he chose to do were raise the floor up to the sanctuary three steps, to symbolize the Trice Holy God; put real marble on the flooring; embellish the canopy over the altar, called a "Baldachin"; relocate the tabernacle to its original place in the center, behind the altar and under the Baldachin; replace the main cross above the altar, while using the original corpus; and put an inscription on the arch over the altar.

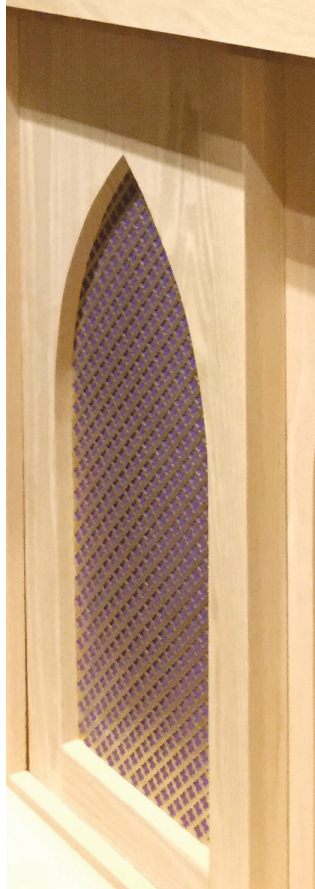
The inscription chosen for the arch reads: "Ave Stella Maris (Hail Star of the Sea) Felix Porta Caeli (Happy Gate of Heaven)." The title of Our Lady of the Gulf is not a traditional title of Our Lady; however, it is derived from her ancient title Star of the Sea. Both have a mariner theme. Father Tommy explained, "As the sailors would look to the North Star to guide them safely to port, as Catholics we look to Our Lady to guide us to her Son."

As church renovations of the church were being completed Father Tommy

was visiting with a parishioner, Elizabeth Chavana about the old pews that were being removed from the church. He knew that her father, Arturo Martinez, originally from San Luis Potosí was a retired carpenter. He had donated items he had made from wood to past festivals and asked if he could do another project. She went to her father and asked him, "Daddy, Father Tommy is wondering if you could make the old pews shorter and refinish them to sell at the next festival?" Her dad agreed to shorten the benches for the upcoming festival.

Mr. Martinez shared, "Hice dos bancas, cada una cuatro pies, y todavilla sobró madera." ("I made two benches, each four feet and there was still extra wood.") Then Father Tommy asked, "Can you make an anchor cross from the leftover wood?" He agreed and made one for him. Father Tommy loved it so much that he came back the following week wanting 12 more! Mr. Martinez laughed and said, "Preguntó si yo podía hacer una." ("He asked if I could make one.") He thought to himself, that sure is a lot, but he made them anyway. Father Tommy then had an idea to sell the crosses to raise extra money for the campaign. He said, "We started taking orders after Mass. I really didn't think we would have too many; then before I knew it we had 200 orders!"

Each crucifix is twelve inches tall with a beautiful five inch metal corpus of Jesus imported from Italy. The anchor is a traditional symbol of hope in the Church (Hebrews 6:19). A lot of work goes into making each cross, which is crafted by hand. First he cuts the shape of the anchor. He then uses a belt sander to sand each part of the wood, which removes the old lacquer and paint. Next he uses a "lima" (a file) to smooth the edges by hand.



*Confessional is pictured with new mariner's cross made from old pews and newly designed sliding screen.*



*The redesigned sanctuary of Our Lady of the Gulf features an inscription on the arch above the altar, that reads: "Ave Stella Maris (Hail Star of the Sea) Felix Porta Caeli (Happy Gate of Heaven)."*

After he files the edges he uses a router to cut the fancy edges of the anchor. Lastly, he paints the finished anchor with a stain and clear sealer. The process takes a total of four days to complete one cross. He describes the "cross making" process as tedious. He explained that the oak wood is difficult to work with, that it breaks easily especially at the edges due to the age of the wood. When this happens he has to glue it back, wait a day and then finish the process.

Although making the crosses has been time consuming and difficult, the pride in his work and knowing it is for the church has kept him going. Mr. Martinez has gracious-

ly made more than 60 crosses and there are so many orders, that he cannot keep up. With the high demand for the crosses David Ortiz and Michael Garza, parishioners of OLG, have stepped in to help by making crosses in their personal workshops. They are still seeking others who may want to help make anchor crucifixes. (Please contact the OLG Rectory if carpentry is your gift.)

The anchor crucifixes can be seen hanging throughout the parish, in the rectory, the confessionals and in Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic School. Many people wanted a part of the original OLG church and now they can purchase a special crucifix for \$200 made from the wood of the original pews, for their homes. The parish and Father Tommy wish to thank the many people who have shared their time and talents to see the church renovations to completion. Just as the mariner's cross symbolizes hope in Christ amid a turbulent world, Father Tommy hopes the newly renovated church will bring a deeper experience of God. He shared, "There is something unspoken that people encounter when they experience beauty. That beauty leads them to a deeper experience of the mystery of God. For me, it is a true testimony that beauty can touch the person down to depths that other things can't reach."







# Emmaus Center Roast and Toast Huge Success - Honoring Very Rev. Janak

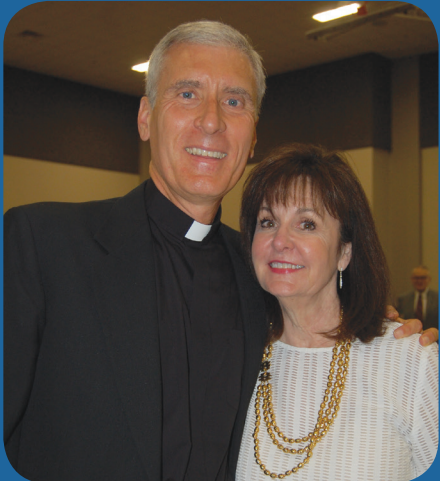
This year the 1st Annual Roast and Toast fundraiser, benefitting the Emmaus Center, was held on May 12 at the Cathedral Center. The night consisted of dinner, music, games and live and silent auctions. Those attending enjoyed hearing stories about Father Gary as he was “roasted,” by those who have known him for many years. His sister, Cindy, shared a story of when they were children. He would make her and her baby dolls listen to him say “mass”. She would get really bored watching him and had an idea-if the “baby” gets fussy I can escape to the cry room! This story and many others shared that night had the crowd roaring in laughter.

The Emmaus Center wishes to thank everyone who made this event successful. Over \$46,000 was raised to benefit the Emmaus Center. This will help begin future plans that include: hiring additional counselors and expanding to provide more counseling space and a dedicated Play Therapy Room.

Next year the honoree and person “roasted” will be Bishop Brendan Cahill. Mark your calendars for May 10, 2019!



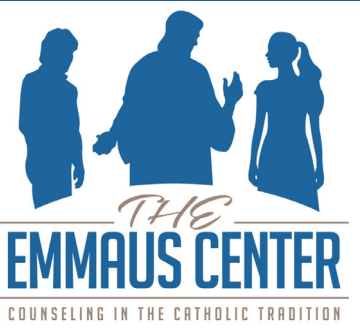
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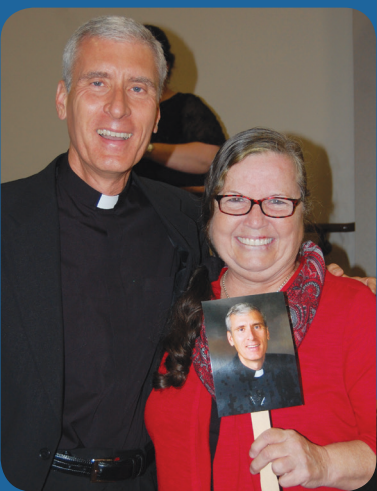
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*Wishing the  
Very Rev. Gary  
Janak a Happy 30th  
Anniversary to the  
priesthood!*

(Top right, clockwise)

1. Bishop Cahill roasting Father Gary. 2. Father Kirby roasting Father Gary. 3. Father Gary and Lisa, a former secretary, in the vocations office. 4. Bishop Cahill with Father Gary's sister, Cindy. 5. Father Gary's family and friends, including his mother (center) playing the paddle game. 6. Father Gary with his nephew Brandon. 7. Father Gary visiting with friends. 8. Janice Cox, from El Campo and the “Church Lady”, roasting Father Gary. 9. Father Gary enjoying the laughs. 10. Father Gary with the winner of the paddle game, Bertha McDowell.





**BE SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**—Bishop Emeritus David Fellhauer and Very Reverend Charles Otsiwah are pictured with the 2018 confirmation recipients from Immaculate Conception Church in Goliad.



**CHRISTMAS IN MAY**—It was Christmas in May as Mrs. Theresa Dent, principal of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic School (OLG), Port Lavaca, handed out bonus checks to all the well deserving teachers. Funding for the bonuses was raised at the annual OLG Gala held April 28. It was the most successful one ever, raising over \$33,000 for the Mariner educators. Teachers, like Mrs. Martell in 3rd grade, were elated to receive their bonuses as their students cheered them on!



**KNIGHTS SERVE AS HONOR GUARD**—The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Saint Michael Assembly #1527 of Flatonina, Schulenburg, and Weimar served as Honor Guard for the Most Rev. Brendan Cahill and Father Wayne Flagg, pastor of St. Michael Church, Weimar during the confirmation services at St. Michael. Also attending were, Knights of Saint Gregory - Victoria. Pictured (left to right-front row) Sir Knights Martin Luchak, Weimar, Larry “ Bear” Kana, Weimar, Kirby Farek, Flatonina, Charlie Herzik, Weimar, Bishop Cahill, Thomas Bargas, Schulenburg, James Zabransky, Weimar; back row (left-right) Sir Knight Delphin Bartek, Weimar; Knight of Saint Gregory George Wenzel, Victoria; Sir Knights Michael Klesel, Weimar, Timothy Leihardt, Weimar, Charles Munsch, Weimar; Knight of Saint Gregory Harvey Kocian, Victoria; and Sir Knight David Kahlich, Weimar.

## Bishop David Fellhauer Golf Tournament Enjoyed by Many

Friday, May 11, twenty-nine teams gathered to play the 21st Annual Bishop David Fellhauer Golf Tournament at The Club at Colony Creek in Victoria. This year the golf tournament raised over \$54,000 that will be used to support the Seminarians of the Diocese of Victoria and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Thank you to all the sponsors, players and Knights of Columbus Council #9088 who helped make this a successful event.







## Sister Pimentel, Immigrant Advocate, Receives Notre Dame's Laetare Medal

NOTRE DAME, Ind. (CNS) — Sister Norma Pimentel, M.J., executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley in Texas and a longtime advocate for immigrants and refugees, received the University of Notre Dame's 2018 Laetare Medal at the school's graduation ceremony May 20.

"Jesus said, 'When I was a stranger, you invited me in.' Sister Norma Pimentel has given her life to welcoming Christ in the immigrant and refugee," Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, Notre Dame president, said in announcing the award March 11.

The Laetare Medal is so named because its recipient is announced each year on Laetare Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

Sister Pimentel, a member of the Missionaries of Jesus, has overseen the charitable arm of the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas, since 2008, providing those in need in the Rio Grande Valley with emergency food and shelter, housing assistance, clinical counseling and pregnancy care.

She was instrumental in organizing local response to the 2014 surge of Central Americans seeking asylum in the United States, which also included helping to establish the Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, Texas, providing newly arrived immigrants with food, clothing, water and a place to rest.

In 2015, Pope Francis personally thanked Sister Pimentel for her work with immigrants in a virtual town hall meeting featured on ABC's "20/20." That same year she was named one of Our Sunday Visitor's 2015 Catholics of the Year and

won a nomination for "Texan of the Year."

Sister Pimentel said she was "truly honored" to be chosen for the award, noting that it "brings forth the cries of the suffering for the world to hear." She thanked the university for the recognition and for "being a voice for immigrants in our midst."

As a daughter of Mexican immigrants, Sister Pimentel frequently crossed the border back and forth from Brownsville to Matamoros, Mexico, to be with family on both sides of the border. She was born in Texas while her parents were awaiting response from U.S. authorities on their application for residency.

In her reflection on immigrants in the book "A Pope Francis Lexicon," Sister Pimentel wrote: "I am a U.S. citizen by



Sister Norma Pimentel

## Church is a Mother, Not a Bachelor, Pope Says at Morning Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Without its feminine dimension, the Catholic Church risks becoming an old boy's club and incapable of love, Pope Francis said.

The church must "remain female" and "have this attitude of a wife and mother" who nurtures her children, the pope said in his homily May 21 during a morning Mass commemorating the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church.

"When we forget this, it becomes a masculine church; without this dimension, it sadly becomes a church of old bachelors, who live in this isolation, incapable of love, incapable of fruitfulness," the pope said.

The feast, which was decreed by Pope

'chiripa' -- sheer chance," noting that she grew up in two countries, Mexico and the United States.

She received a bachelor of fine arts degree from Pan American University, a master's degree in theology from St. Mary's University and a master's degree in counseling psychology from Loyola University Chicago.

She has said that some of her most formative and pivotal experiences took place shortly after she professed final vows and Border Patrol agents were bringing immigrant families to the convent, often late at night.

Sister Pimentel said Sister Juliana Garcia, her religious superior at the time, "would immediately prepare a room to welcome the family when they arrived. The mother and her children would become part of our community family for about a week or so, and I quickly learned the importance of living out our faith by how we welcome and protect those who need us."

Francis in March, is celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost.

According to the decree, the pope approved the Marian feast day after "having attentively considered how greatly the promotion of this devotion might encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety."

In his homily, the pope reflected on the need for the church to maintain its feminine nature as wife and mother, like Mary.

Without this dimension, "the church loses its true identity and becomes a charitable organization or a soccer team or something, but not the church," he said.

Like a mother, the church also goes "along the path of tenderness" and knows how to convey wisdom through the language of "caresses, of silence, of the gaze that knows compassion," the pope said.

All Christians in some way are called to "go along the same path," being someone who is "gentle, tender, smiling, full of love," Pope Francis said.

Established at Notre Dame in 1883, the Laetare Medal has been awarded annually at Notre Dame to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

Past recipients of the award have included President John F. Kennedy, Dorothy Day, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Civil War Gen. William Rosecrans, labor activist Msgr. George G. Higgins, jazz composer Dave Brubeck and Jesuit Father Greg Boyle, founder and executive director of Homeboy Industries.

## Pope Will Create 14 New Cardinals

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis announced he would make 14 new cardinals June 29, giving the red cardinal's hat to the papal almoner, the Iraq-based patriarch of the Chaldean Catholic Church and the archbishop of Karachi, Pakistan, among others.

Announcing his choices May 20, the pope said that coming from 11 nations, the new cardinals "express the universality of the church, which continues to proclaim the merciful love of God to all people of the earth."

Pope Francis' list included three men over the age of 80 "who have distinguished themselves for their service to the church."

When the pope made the announcement, the College of Cardinals had 213 members, 115 of whom were under the age of 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

Under Pope Francis, the idea that some church posts and large archdioceses always are led by a cardinal is fading, but is not altogether gone.

With the new nominations, the number of cardinal-electors — those under 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave — will exceed by five the limit of 120 set by Pope Paul VI. But previous popes also set the limit aside without formally changing the limit.

The new cardinals hail from: Iraq, Spain, Italy, Poland, Pakistan, Portugal, Peru, Madagascar, Japan, Mexico and Bolivia.

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Kenneth J. French, Sr.

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kenny.french@edwardjones.com

**The Chancery  
will be closed  
Wednesday, July 4**



**The Chancery will  
resume normal hours  
Thursday, July 5  
at 8:30 a.m.**

## Lighthouse Survey

**TELL US WHAT  
YOU THINK**

Just a reminder, we are conducting a survey to better serve you. We appreciate your time to answer the survey questions, if you have not done so already. You may cut it out of the May issue of the Lighthouse and mail it to PO Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 or take the online survey at <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/survey>. Your answers will remain confidential. Thank you, The Office of Communications





## Meals • Picnics and More

### June

**East Bernard**—Annual Czech Kolache Klobase Festival June 9, 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 for purchase beginning 11:00 a.m. Hamburgers and sausage sandwiches available in the afternoon. For more information, go to [www.kkfest.com](http://www.kkfest.com) or call (979) 335-7907.

**Bay City**—Our Lady of Guadalupe BBQ and live auction, June 10, at the parish gym. A beef brisket dinner served from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at \$10 p/p. Dine-in, carry out, or drive-thru available. Auction begins at 11:30 a.m.

**Port Lavaca**—Catholic Daughters Court #2267 of Our Lady of the Gulf Annual Games Party on June 10. From 1:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Jude's Hall. For more information and/or table reservations, please call Margaret (361) 552-3233; Doris (361) 987-2387, or Georgia (361) 552-6844.

**St. Mary**—St. Mary's Picnic June 10, 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 10, at the KC Hall. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner at \$10 p/p. Games, cakewalk, country store, bingo, auction (12:30 p.m.) and music by Czechaholics and Mark Halata & Texavia from noon-8:00 p.m.

**Ammansville**—St. John the Baptist (FM 1383) Fathers Day Picnic June 17. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner served. Entertainment throughout the day.

**Plum**—Sts. Peter and Paul Plum Feast, June 24, 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. There will be a free dance from 6:00-9:30 p.m. with music by Johnnie Holub Polka Band.

### July

**Dubina**—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Feast July 1, Mass at 8:45 a.m. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner begins at 11:00 a.m.

**St. John**—St. John Parish Picnic, Wednesday, July 4, with Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by a flag raising ceremony. A stew and fried-chicken dinner at 10:30 a.m. for \$10 p/p dine-in or take-out available. There will be music, auction, games, food, and fireworks. See ad on pg. 8.

**Moravia**—Ascension Parish Picnic July 15 with a stew and fried-chicken dinner at \$10 p/p with dine-in or drive-thru plates-to-go available. Auction, bingo, cakewalk, games, water slip-n-slide, country store, and music by Mark Halata & Texavia and the Moravians.

**Victoria**—Knights of St. Gregory annual Bishop's Charity Banquet, Thursday, July 12 at Victoria Country Club. Beginning with a social at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner. Proceeds benefit Bishop Cahill's special charity. Tickets are \$100 p/p (limited to 250). Reservations can be mailed to Knights of St. Gregory, P. O. Box 5725, Victoria, TX 77903. See article pg. 3.

## 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).

**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. Appointments may be made by calling (361) 212-0830. See ad on pg. 8.

**Engaged Encounter—2018 Dates: September 21-23, and 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 Barbara at (361) 649-1612 or

[barbaramccain85@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaramccain85@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. 5.

**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.

**i.d.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 [id-916victoria@gmail.com](mailto:id-916victoria@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 CREIGHTON 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 Flatonía. 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). See ad on pg. 13.

## Conferences • Masses • Retreats

**Port Lavaca**—The Traditional Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite) will be offered at Our Lady of the Gulf by Fr. Tommy Chen on the following dates at 9:00 a.m.: July 7, August 4, and September 1. All are invited to attend.

**El Campo**—St. Philip the Apostle Church is hosting a Healing the Whole Person retreat, led by the John Paul II Healing Center, on July 12-14. Learn more, and register for this amazing retreat at <http://jp2ihealingcenter.org>. Early registration closes on July 2. For local questions you may contact Pat Hoelscher at [pat623@icloud.com](mailto:pat623@icloud.com).

**ACTS Retreats**—For information, visit [www.actsmissions.org](http://www.actsmissions.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).

**Tivoli**—Our Lady of Guadalupe Church celebrates the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament the 1st Friday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Mass begins at 7:00 p.m. at 501B William St. with Father Paulson Panakal. For more information, call (361) 237-3634.

### Amor Meus

Contact: Sr. Emilie Eilers at (361) 575-7111

e-mail: [amormeus@yahoo.com](mailto:amormeus@yahoo.com)

website: [www.amormeuusspiritualitycenter.org](http://www.amormeuusspiritualitycenter.org)

IWBS Convent • 1101 NE Water St. • Victoria

**On-going opportunities**: Guidance and discussion on one's spiritual journey are available with experienced spiritual directors. Call for appointment.

## Do you have a favorite recipe?

The Altar Society of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory has begun work on creating a cookbook entitled, *Cooking With Our Lady*. Recipes are still needed! Please submit 3-5 of your favorite recipes. (Not all recipes may be used.) A form may be picked up in the foyer of the Cathedral or you may email them to [carolynkoop@gmail.com](mailto:carolynkoop@gmail.com) or [sgmunoz1@gmail.com](mailto:sgmunoz1@gmail.com). Proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks will be earmarked for the *Cathedral Restoration Fund*. There is a lot of work to be done inside the Cathedral now that the new roof has been completed. All recipes are due by Friday, June 15, 2018.





*Congratulations to the Diocese of Victoria Catholic High Schools' 2018 Top Graduates!*



Logan R.  
Valedictorian  
Parents: David and Mary  
Texas A&M University



Jordan P.  
Salutatorian  
Parents: Ned and Vicki  
University of Alabama



Kelsey E.  
Historian  
Parents: Doug and Helen  
Texas Christian University



Andrew W.  
Valedictorian  
Parents: Ralph and Leah  
University of Texas



Elyssa W.  
Salutatorian  
Parents: Ralph and Leah  
University of Texas



Darby J.  
Historian  
Parents: Ron and Beth  
Texas A&M University



Grace R.  
Valedictorian  
Parents: Martin and Carol  
Baylor University



Mallorie L.  
Co-Salutatorian  
Parents: Chris and Priscilla  
Texas A&M University



Kristen O.  
Co-Salutatorian  
Parents: David and Carol  
Texas Lutheran



Kaitlyn N.  
Historian  
Parents: Brian and Amber  
Stephen F. Austin