



The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

VOL. 32, NO. 4

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AUGUST 2018

Harvey Lingers One Year Later

By Sarita Villafranca Richmond, Editor

When we hear the words *Hurricane Harvey*, many thoughts come to mind ... devastation, loss, disaster, the unknown, uncertainty, change, disappointment, sadness, and despair. So many people lost roofs, trees, and precious personal items, which can never be replaced. Power lines were strewn across lawns and streets, while thousands survived without electricity for up to two weeks, and dealt with a city-wide mandatory water boil.

Friday, August 25, 2017, changed lives forever in Victoria and surrounding areas, as Hurricane Harvey tore through South Texas. Harvey's eye came ashore through Rockport with sustained winds of 130 MPH. Unlike other hurricanes that usually keep moving after they make landfall, Harvey remained stalled over Texas. It slowly zigzagged its way up the Texas coast dropping as many as 42 inches of rain, causing rivers, creeks, and areas that had never flooded to flood.

The damage from Harvey was widespread. In Victoria, 130 MPH gusts tore



A work crew is pictured repairing the damaged roof of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory from Hurricane Harvey.

trees from their roots and peeled roofs off homes, businesses, schools, churches, and other buildings. During the next two weeks, the crippled city worked together to pick up the pieces. Citizens cheered as "linemen" came driving into town from all over the country to restore power. Those who were spared damage to their own homes went out and served their brothers and sisters by helping in any way they could.

The Diocese of Victoria (DOV) suffered an estimated \$9-12 million in damage. More than 50 claims were filed with the insurance company for parishes, mission churches, and schools throughout the DOV. The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory was greatly affected, as many parts of the roof blew away and wind-driven rain streaked the mural walls causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage to the church.

Those in Wharton County thought they had "dodged the bullet" only to be hit five days later with a wall of water, as the Colorado River overflowed its banks filling homes with as many as ten feet of water. Individuals who lived through Hurricane Harvey experienced their own struggles and have stories to share of how they weathered the storm; not only during, but after.

Below are a few personal stories from throughout the Diocese of Victoria.



~ Ruby Ruiz

Ruby, a parishioner of Holy Family Catholic Church, in Victoria, decided to stay at home with her daughter, son-in-law, 1-month-old grandbaby and "hunker down" instead of evacuating Victoria. Her home lost power early, and

she prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet all night long while she heard the roaring wind and loud thuds of tree limbs and other debris hit her home. She said, "Why did it have to come at night? It was a humbling experience to feel so afraid all night long, and to have no electricity for 11 days."



~ Dr. Daniel Cano

Dr. Cano is an Internal Medicine Hospitalist at Citizens Medical Center. He stayed at the hospital for more than a week after Hurricane Harvey made landfall. Due to a loss of running water and no air conditioning, Citizens had to make the difficult decision to transfer 134 patients to hospitals in the San Antonio area

See *Harvey Lingers*, pg. 20



Bishop Brendan Cahill *A Shepherd's Message*

Greetings from Ghana

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of my favorite childhood memories involves thinking about the trips we used to take for summer vacations. My parents would get us kids ready and we would go for a road trip. I remember we usually would visit and stay with my grandparents in Brooklyn, New York. Sometimes we would go to other places like Florida or California or Galveston or South Padre Island. One of the observations one of my brothers made recently is that wherever it was it always was close to salt-water!

I just thought of that yesterday as I'm on a summer vacation further away. Yesterday I was sitting in a restaurant on the Atlantic Ocean - in Cape Coast, Ghana, Africa! Last

year Archbishop Matthias Nketsiah was visiting Victoria and the five priests from his diocese who now serve in our diocese. He invited me to come visit him in Ghana sometime - little did he know that I would take him up on the offer so soon. I want to share with you some thoughts from my experience here in Ghana the past couple of days, and think this is almost like my postcard from summer vacation for my brothers and sisters in Victoria.

Last month I wrote about looking for the similarities instead of the differences in situations. Specifically I thought about the Catholic Rural Life and the V Encuentro Movement, which at first glance may seem like very different realities. After reflecting

on them, some of the similarities became apparent to me - both are very Catholic, desiring to live our faith fully in our society, looking for connections and good ideas on how to celebrate the fullness of our Catholic faith and proclaim it in our society.

Yesterday morning I celebrated morning Mass at the Catholic Chapel of the University of Cape Coast. While the celebration of the Mass reflected African culture with beautiful, vibrant music and dance, at the same time the Mass was the same Mass as celebrated in every culture and language in the world. Let me give you a few of the similarities that I noticed. Before Mass, there was a group leading the Rosary in English and Fante. The readings were proclaimed clearly and boldly by well-prepared lectors. At the consecration as I elevated the precious Body and Blood for a moment several people prayed out loud 'My Lord and My God'. As people came to receive the Eucharist they came with devotion for the Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament. For all those who fully participate in the Mass this

celebration is one of great joy and peace.

Looking back that is one of the great joys of travel and vacation for me. I was able to be the only American in a thoroughly African Church, and even though my dancing is poor at best I could offer it all in praise of God in the sacrifice of the Mass. As I prayed in that Mass I prayed especially for all of you in the Diocese of Victoria - my heart belongs to you and I pray for you regularly. I also want to thank the priests who have come from Ghana to serve us in Victoria - you enrich us by your commitment and your culture each day.

May God bless you and your families. Again, I want to particularly thank each of you who have committed to pray the Rosary for the gift of peace in the world and for the family, I believe we can maintain our confidence in the power of this prayer - more than we ever know! Let's keep each other in prayer.

+Brendan



Obispo Brendan Cahill *Mensaje del Pastor*

Saludos desde Ghana

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

Uno de mis recuerdos favoritos de la infancia consiste en pensar en los viajes en que íbamos durante las vacaciones de verano. Mis padres preparaban a nosotros niños e íbamos en viaje por carretera. Recuerdo que generalmente visitaríamos y nos quedábamos con mis abuelos en Brooklyn, New York. A veces íbamos a otros lugares como Florida o California o Galveston o South Padre Island. ¡Una de las observaciones que uno de mis hermanos hizo recientemente es que siempre estuvo cerca del agua salada!

Pensé en eso ayer porque estoy de vacaciones de verano mucho más lejos. Ayer estaba sentado en un restaurante en el Océano Atlántico, en Cape Coast, Ghana, África. El año pasado, el Arzobispo Matthias Nketsiah estaba visitando a Victoria y los cinco sacerdotes de su diócesis que ahora sirven en nuestra diócesis. Me invitó

a visitarlo en Ghana en el futuro; no sabía muy bien que lo aceptaría tan pronto. Quiero compartir con ustedes algunas reflexiones de mi experiencia aquí en Ghana los últimos días, y creo que esto es casi como mi postal de vacaciones de verano para mis hermanos y hermanas en Victoria.

El mes pasado escribí sobre buscar las similitudes en lugar de las diferencias en situaciones. Específicamente, pensé en la Vida Rural Católica y el Movimiento del V Encuentro, que a primera vista pueden parecer realidades muy diferentes. Después de reflexionar sobre ellos, me aparecieron algunas similitudes: ambos somos muy católicos, deseando vivir nuestra fe plenamente en nuestra sociedad, buscando conexiones y buenas ideas sobre cómo celebrar la plenitud de nuestra fe católica y proclamarla en nuestra sociedad.

Ayer por la mañana celebré la misa de la mañana en la Capilla Católica de la

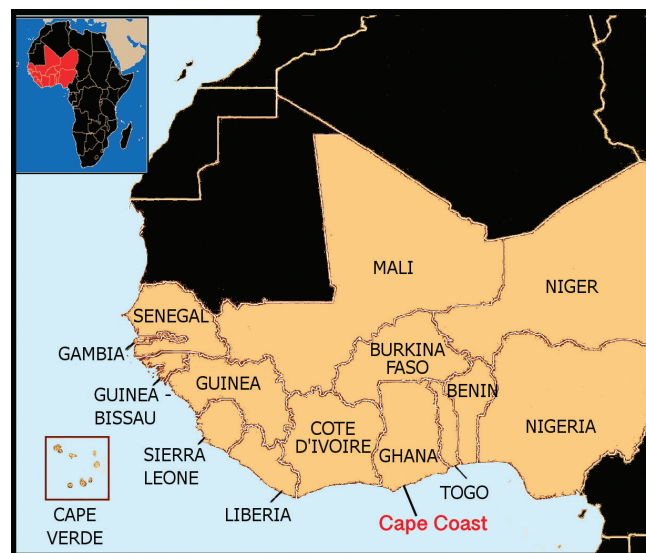
Universidad de Cape Coast. Mientras que la celebración de la Misa reflejó la cultura Africana con música y baile hermosos y vibrantes, al mismo tiempo, la Misa fue la misma Misa celebrada en todas las culturas y todos los idiomas del mundo. Déjame darte algunas de las similitudes que noté. Antes de la misa había un grupo que rezaba el rosario en inglés y Fante. Las lecturas fueron proclamadas con claridad y audacia por lectores bien preparados. En la consagración mientras yo elevaba el precioso Cuerpo y Sangre por un momento, varias personas rezaron en voz alta "Mi Señor y Dios mío". Cuando la gente vino a recibir la Eucaristía, vinieron con devoción por la presencia real de Cristo en el sacramento. Para todos aquellos que participan plenamente en la Misa, esta celebración es de gran alegría y paz.

Mirando hacia atrás, esa es una de las grandes alegrías de los viajes y las vacaciones para mí. Pude ser el único Es-

tadounidense en una Iglesia completamente Africana, y aunque mi baile es pobre en el mejor de los casos, podía ofrecerlo todo en alabanza a Dios en el sacrificio de la misa. Mientras rezaba en esa misa, recé especialmente por todos de usted en la Diócesis de Victoria: mi corazón le pertenece y rezo por usted regularmente. También quiero agradecer a los sacerdotes que han venido de Ghana para servirnos en Victoria; nos enriquecen con su compromiso y su cultura cada día.

Que Dios te bendiga a ti y a tus familias. Una vez más, quiero agradecer especialmente a cada uno de ustedes que se han comprometido a rezar el Rosario por el don de la paz en el mundo y para la familia. Creo que podemos mantener nuestra confianza en el poder de esta oración, ¡más de lo que nunca pensamos! Mantengamos el uno al otro en oración.

+ Brendan





Bishop Cahill's Schedule

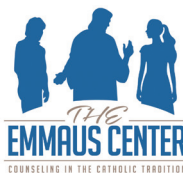
August

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3-4 | Nazareth Fishing Tournament | 25 | Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville
9:00 a.m. Lunch and Learn at Our Lady of Victory School, Victoria |
| 5 | 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Wenceslaus Church, Holman | | 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Michael, Cuero |
| 6 | Mass for Sr. Rosario's renewal of vows, IWBS Convent, Victoria | 26 | 5:00 p.m. Mass at La Bahia, Goliad |
| | Noon Mass with Missionary Catechists, Victoria | 28 | 6:30 a.m. Relevant Radio Morning Show |
| 7 | 6:00 p.m. Serra Mass and dinner at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria | 31 | 8:10 a.m. Mass at Sts. Cyril and Methodius School, Shiner |
| 8 | 1:30 p.m. Pension Board Meeting, Chancery | | |
| 10 | 8:00 a.m. Opening prayer - Catholic School Seminar, Cathedral Center, Victoria | | |
| | 5:30 p.m. Installation of Deacon candidates as Lectors at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria | | |
| 11 | Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville | | |
| 12 | 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist Church, Ammannsville | | |
| 13 | 2:30 p.m. Interfaith Meeting, Victoria | | |
| 14-17 | NAMMA (North American Maritime Ministry Association) Conference 2018, Baltimore | | |
| 18 | Beaumont Convocation - Evangelization on the Peripheries | | |
| 19-23 | AOS Regional Chaplains' Meeting, Vancouver, Canada | | |

September

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville |
| 2 | 8:00 a.m. & noon Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Wharton |
| 5 | Presbyteral Council Meeting, Chancery |
| 6 | 4:30 p.m. Supper with IWBS infirmary Sisters, Victoria |
| 8 | Mass for Carmelites, Meyersville |

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.



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DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF THE PRECEDING MONTH

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Lighthouse Readers,

Thank you so much to those who submitted surveys either online or by mail. I appreciate the compliments, new ideas, and suggestions. Some suggestions that we may incorporate in the future include: Stories about the lives of saints and martyrs, ministry stories, highlighting lives of priests and sisters, deaneries, Catholic universities, and stories about Grand Knights in the diocese. We are researching new ways to distribute the *Lighthouse* in addition to print and are considering sending it through a free email subscription. Don't worry! We will continue printing a paper, as almost 100% of readers prefer the newspaper format.

We will be adding a new section to the paper called "Ask a Father..." There were

many suggestions to explain parts of the Mass, vestments, teachings, and doctrines of the Catholic Church, etc. that can all be answered through this column. Bishop Cahill will approve answers to the questions before they are published

Lastly, there have been multiple inquiries to why we are publishing photos with a first name and initial of the last name. Due to Safe Environment regulations, pictures submitted of minors to be published in the *Lighthouse* or online will be published with first name and last initial. Parishes and schools may download the Social Media Release form that is now available for diocesan use in the Appendix of the Communications & Social Media Policy.

Sincerely,
Editor

Holy Day of Obligation Wednesday, August 15

Please be sure to attend Mass on Wednesday, August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Chancery Offices of the Diocese of Victoria will be closed.



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

Rev. Antonio Perez 08/18/90 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Wharton

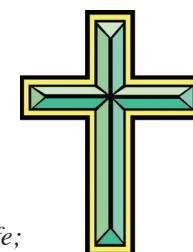
*Lord, I know you love me and have great plans for me.
But sometimes I am overwhelmed by the thought of my future.
Show me how to walk forward one day at a time.*

*May I take heart while I search openly for what it is you want me to do with my life.
Inspire in me wisdom and understanding to see your vision for my life and respond with openness to whatever you call me to be. Show me your way Lord!*

Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria, who died during the month of August:

Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say	8/04/2015
Rev. Charles Kram	8/13/2000
Rev. James Kelly	8/20/1986
Rev. Joseph Hamala	8/21/1992
Rev. Alphonse Padalecki	8/24/1992

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)*





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 >.

July 18, 2018

• **Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily Seminary Burse #2**

(Correction: The following entries were not included in the July Lighthouse.)

Acolyte

In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily's Birthday by Kenneth and Mary Jane Berger

In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily's Birthday by Jesse and Nancy Lednicki

• **CDA Court of St. Ann #369 Seminary Burse #2**

Lector

In memory of Dorothy Svrcsek by CDA Court St Ann #369

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

Lector

In honor of Rev. Philip Brune's 4th anniversary ordination to the Priesthood by Lambert and Carol Brune

In honor of Helen Hargis by John and Kathy Hargis

In honor of Dorothy Buhler by John and Kathy Hargis

• **Rev. Scott Hill Seminary Burse**

Candidate

Donation in honor of Rev. Scott Hill by Knights of Columbus St. Roch Council #10249, Mentz

• **Rev. Daniel P. Kahlich Seminary Burse**

Lector

In honor of Rev. Daniel Kahlich's birthday on June 30th by Verlène Kuntschik

• **Rev. Timothy Kosler Seminary Burse**

Lector

In memory of David Dieringer by Henrietta Veselka

Acolyte

In honor of James and Rose Parma's 55th wedding anniversary on January 27, 2018 by the family

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

Lector

In memory of Leroy Etzler by Willie Barborak

In memory of Rita Brossmann by Willie Barborak

Acolyte

In honor of James and Rose Parma's 55th wedding anniversary on January 27, 2018 by the family

• **Henry A. Schoenfeld Seminary Burse**

Lector

In memory of William Barta by Bernice Schoenfeld

Acolyte

In memory of Henry Schoenfeld on his birthday by Bernice Schoenfeld

• **Rev. Jerome J. Stryk Seminary Burse #2**

Lector

In memory of Dolores Stryk by: Daniel Stryk Edwin and Julie Stryk

Acolyte

In memory of Dolores Stryk by Andrew and Pauline Stryk

• **St. John the Baptist Church, St. John In Memory of Rev. Brian Crookes Seminary Burse #2**

Lector

In memory of Rita Brossmann by Lillian Besetzny

In memory of Kenneth Kowalski by Joe Kowalski

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

Luke Prihoda will be in Theology I this coming Fall at St. Mary's Seminary, Houston. His birthday is August 10. Write to Luke at: St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024.



Nick Apparicio will be in Theology II this coming Fall at St. Mary's Seminary, Houston. His birthday is August 13. Write to Nick at: St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024.



Dalton Ervin will be in Theology III this coming Fall at Josephinum Seminary in Ohio. His birthday is August 25. Write to Dalton at: Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 North High St., Columbus, OH 43235.



Caleb Krischke will be in College II this coming Fall at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving. His birthday is August 30. Write to Caleb at: Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Dr., Irving, TX 75062.



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

Matthew 4:18-22

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

KJT Society #34
in Honor of Fr. Greg Korenek's
ordination anniversary

Claudia Schoener
in Memory of Cliff Lau

Jeffery and Valerie Barton
in Memory of Pete Aparicio

Richard and Jeanie Bures
in Memory of Pete Aparicio

Acolyte

~

Candidate

Seadrift Seafood Processing, Inc.
in Honor of Fr. Tommy Chen's
ordination anniversary

Kolek Family Reunion
in Memory of IMO Rev. Charles Kolek,
John & Marie Kolek

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

DSA update

2018 Diocesan Services Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$ 2,054,129.00
Parish Pledge Totals: \$ 705,386.99
Parish Contribution Totals: \$ 607,972.99
Number of Parish Families Participating: 2,470
Updated July 23, 2018





ANNUAL CATECHIST RALLY WELL ATTENDED—The second annual Catechist Rally was held July 14 at the Cathedral Center, in Victoria. Pictured above are the catechists of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Bishop Brendan Cahill, and Father Gary Janak, rector of the cathedral.



DISCERNING TO SERVE GOD—The 12th Annual Quo Vadis Vocation Camp, was held from July 1-4, in Ledbetter, Texas. A large group of young men attended. We continue to keep all those discerning God's call in our prayers. For information about vocations to the priesthood in the Diocese of Victoria, contact Father Tommy Chen, Director of Vocations at (361) 552-6140.



PATRIOTIC ROSARY RALLY—The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) from Yorktown organized a Patriotic Rosary Rally held Saturday, June 30, in Yorktown. More than 60 people participated. DJ Val (Val Mungia) played patriotic music for the rosary. The opening prayer was led by Father Frank Lenz and the decades of the rosary were led by CDA and Knights of Columbus members: Patti Farley, Joseph Jendrzey, Lorene Migura, Mike Yeretsky, and Angie Stepanski. Rosaries, handmade by two of the members, the Patriotic Rosary book, some prayer cards, and an auto-magnet were passed out.



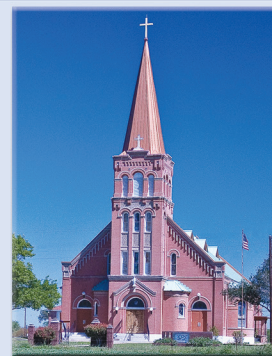
BISHOP'S CHARITIES SUPPORTED—The Knights of St. Gregory and guests celebrated a beautiful evening at the Bishop's Annual Charity Banquet on July 12, 2018, at the Victoria Country Club. The funds raised are given to Bishop Brendan Cahill to use for charities of his choice. This year a check in the amount of \$12,500 was given to him. Pictured are John Stevenson, Knights of St. Gregory president, and Bishop Cahill.

VISITING GHANA—Bishop Brendan Cahill took a trip to Ghana, Africa from July 19-28. He is pictured with a group of Ghanaian Sisters.



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HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH FESTIVAL

September 9, 2018

Yorktown Community Hall
Community Hall Road – Yorktown, TX

MASS AT 9:30 AM
Father Roger Hawes, Pastor

DINNER STARTS AT 10:30 AM
Barbeque Beef Shoulder Clod &
Homemade Sausage with trimmings
Adult & To-Go Plates - \$10/plate
Children under 12 - \$5/plate

ENTERTAINMENT STARTS 10:30 AM
DJ Val Mungia

LIVE AUCTION at 1:00 PM
In the Air-Conditioned Dining Hall

THINGS TO DO
Country Store, Cake Walk, Bounce House,
Raffle, KC Calf Raffle, And More!



SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



Care – Respect for Life and the Earth

Why do we care? Why did international divers risk their lives in the arduous undertaking of rescuing a dozen young men and their coach from a potential watery grave in a cave in Thailand? Why do first responders dash into hazardous situations to save lives? Why do parents anguish about their children who are seriously ill, hurt, in danger, or alone in unfamiliar surroundings? I think that all people of good will respect life and try to protect life and the quality of life. The golden rule of doing unto others as you would have them do to you is a standard underlying all human relationships, even that of those who do not share our faith. This common understanding promotes respect for life and the quality of life of one another.

We Catholics, along with many other people of faith, believe in the dignity of human life and that each person who ever lived or is living today was made in the image of God. Therefore, we care for each human being and want what is best for him or her. This includes their quality of life. We know that there are many threats to the sanctity of life in our own country: euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, lack of respect, or even hatred, for those who are “different”, or those who don’t

meet our standards. We could go on and on about abuses regarding the quality of life. As I write this, I can’t get out of my mind the anguish of the immigrant families who were separated at our southern border and still are not reunited. Look around you and see what you can do to improve the quality of life for someone who may be suffering.

People are not the only creatures that need our care. I was shocked to see an underwater picture of a plastic bag in the deepest trench in the Pacific Ocean. I’ve read many ways that we as society are destroying life and the quality of life on earth: marine life dying from ingesting plastic, ocean water containing microscopic plastic pellets, rivers and the air contaminated by pollution, and a large Texas-sized underwater island of trash swirling between the western US coast and Hawaii, . . . No wonder Pope Francis wrote the Encyclical Letter “*Laudato si’*” – *The Care of our Common Home*” on the environment and sustainable development. We can care by voting wisely, using resources carefully, avoiding the use of non-biodegradable materials when possible, and recycling what we can. By caring for the earth we are also caring about the quality of life for earth’s occupants on our common home.



Pictured left to right at their Jubilee celebration are Sister Liliane Janda, Sister Valerie Janecka, Sister Alberta Novosad, and Sister Mary Beth Cernoch.

IWBS Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

On Sunday, July 8, four Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament celebrated Jubilees (Anniversaries of their First Profession of Vows) at Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria, with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Brendan Cahill. A reception followed. Praise be the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, now and forever!

75 Years Sister Alberta Novosad

Sister M. Alberta Novosad, daughter of the late Paul and Mary Novosad, is the fifth of eleven children. She began her early education at St. John School in Fayetteville and continued at St. Jerome School in Plum, Texas. She graduated from high school at Nazareth Academy in Victoria and began her Novitiate with the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in 1941. After her profession on July 28, 1943, she studied at Victoria College in preparation for her teaching ministry and continued at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, obtaining a degree in English. Later, she studied at St. Mary’s University, also in San Antonio, obtaining a master’s degree in Counseling. To further her education for administrative duties, she obtained a master’s in Administration from the University of Houston-Victoria.

She was assigned to teach at various schools staffed by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament which included Sacred Heart School in Floresville, Nazareth Academy, Sacred Heart School in La Grange, and St. Joseph High School, Victoria as principal (the first woman principal of the all-boys’ high school at the time). She

also served as principal at Mary Immaculate School in Dallas, Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and Queen of Peace in Houston. In the early days to supplement the low teaching salaries of the Sisters, she taught piano lessons before and after school hours at many of the schools.

After retiring from teaching, she continued to serve at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Houston until 2008. She retired to Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria, where she devoted her time to research and has written *Texas Footprints In The Sand Of Time*, a history of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament coming to Texas and *Lives Of Dedication And Service*, short biographies of the Sisters from 1866-1939.

Sister continues to serve by working in the library, enjoying her hobbies of making rosaries and crocheting.

50 Years Sister M. Valerie Janecka

Sister M. Valerie Janecka, daughter of the late Albert and Mary Ann (Potthast) Janecka, was born in Columbus, Texas, and is the eldest of 14 children. Sister was baptized, received First Communion, and was confirmed at St. Michael Church in Weimar and completed her elementary education at St. Michael School.

She entered Incarnate Word Convent on August 25, 1963. Sister Valerie graduated from Nazareth Academy in Victoria in 1967. A couple of months later (August 5),

See *IWBS Sisters Celebrate*, pg. 7

Journeys of Faith with Ceci **Coming 2019!**

- **January 2-13** ~ Musical Pilgrimage to Italy with Catholic Singer/Songwriter Anna Nuzzo and Fr. Dan Cambra ~ 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 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 ValLimar 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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ceci.triska@gmail.com • www.selectinternationaltours.com
You can follow Journeys of Faith with Ceci on Facebook!



IWBS Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

Continued from pg. 6

she entered the Novitiate at Incarnate Word Convent. She professed her first vows on August 6, 1968 and made final vows on August 5, 1973.

Sister Valerie received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in English along with an elementary teaching certificate in 1974. In 1977, Sister was awarded an endorsement in special Education with a concentration in Mental Retardation.

Sister Valerie completed work toward an advanced degree in 1999, whereby she received a Masters degree in Education and Curriculum with Certification to practice as an Educational Diagnostician. In 2003, Sister became certified to serve those who are diagnosed as having a Serious Emotional Disturbance or Autism.

During her 50 years as a professed member of the Congregation, Sister has ministered at Sacred Heart School in La Grange, St. Leo School and St. John School in San Antonio, Mary Immaculate School in Dallas, Our Lady of Victory School and Nazareth Academy in Victoria. Sister also served as the Director of Nazareth Academy Day Care Center in Victoria. Sister Valerie has ministered as the Congregational Vocation Director and the Assistant Vocation Director for the Diocese of Victoria. Other places of ministry have included Corpus Christi State School where Sister served in the position of quality assurance. While employed with the Victoria Independent School District, Sister connected with eight different campuses ranging from preschool programs for children with disabilities to high school level students. Currently, Sister Valerie is ministering as Receptionist/Secretary at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Victoria.

Some of Sister's favorite activities include visiting with family and friends, reading and listening to a variety of music.

50 Years

Sister Mary Beth Cernoch

Sister Mary Beth Cernoch was born in Shiner, Texas, and grew up in Weimar, Texas. Her parents were the late Zigmund and Georgia Cernoch. She attended St. Michael Catholic School through the 8th grade. Influenced and invited by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament who taught her, she entered Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria on August 25, 1963, where she continued her education graduating from Nazareth Academy High School, Jourdan School of Nursing and Incarnate Word College (University of the

Incarnate Word) attaining a Bachelor of Science in Medical Record Administration (Health Information Management).

In her years of ministry, she has served in the Archdioceses of San Antonio, Houston/Galveston, and the dioceses of Corpus Christi, and Victoria. Her ministries have included nursing, allied healthcare, CPE, RCIA, Faith Formation, Early Childhood, and mentoring opportunities. She currently free-lances and volunteers with programs for the poor and underserved.

Sister Mary Beth is grateful for the blessings and the many opportunities to do God's work and spread the good news of salvation for all. The opportunities allowed and supported by her community of Sisters to participate in the Incarnate Word reunions both nationally and internationally have been a valued experience for her over the years as she joins with the Incarnate Word Sisters and Associates throughout the world in spreading the charism of Foundress, Venerable Jeanne Chézard de Matel, who founded the Order 393 years ago. Praised be the Incarnate Word in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

25 Years

Sister Liliane Janda

Sister Liliane Janda, daughter of Ted and Ann (Kalina) Janda, was born in La Grange, Texas, and is the third oldest of seven children. She is from Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Hostyn, and she attended St. Rose School in Schulenburg. Those instrumental to her pursuing a religious vocation were Father William Halata, due to his love of working with youth and her family's faith. She professed first vows with the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in Victoria, Texas on July 23, 1994, and final vows on December 28, 1999. She received her BS in Social and Behavioral Sciences from the University of Houston in Victoria.

She has been involved in the library ministry since her first mission at St. Joseph School in Yoakum. After Nazareth Academy Library in Victoria was set up for electronic checkout, she continued library ministry at St. Ludmila and St. Paul Schools in Shiner. She then ministered at St. Patrick School in Dallas and attained a Masters in Library Science from UNT in Denton, Texas.

Currently, Sister Liliane is a librarian at Nazareth Academy and 4th-grade religion teacher. She participates in the healing prayer ministry with the Incarnate Word Convent Prayer Group and is one of Father Phi Nguyen's Prayer Team Members.

92nd ANNUAL

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

CUERO, TEXAS

JAMAICA

2018

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2, 2018

Parish Hall Grounds 207 Graham - Cuero

TAMALE SALE

\$12.00
dozen

AFTERNOON AUCTION

1:00 P.M. Inside A/C Parish Hall

FREE MUSIC & STREET DANCING

12:00 Noon - 11:30 p.m.
Featuring **Los Amigos ASG • D.J. Tony**
• Grupo Tejano 361 • D J Val • Grupo Bueno

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

9 A.M.
Contact: Russell Ortiz - 361-935-3208

CAR SHOW

8 A.M.
Contact Ken Lopez (361)799-9717
Marcus Escobedo (361)237-5616

\$ RAFFLE PRIZE \$

DRAWING TO BE HELD
SUN. SEPT. 2, 2018 @ 7:30 P.M.

BBQ DINNER

\$10.00 with Trimmings
DINE IN OR PLATES TO GO
11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Come and Enjoy the Cuero High School Mariachi Band from 12 noon until 12:30 while you enjoy your BBQ Dinner

GAMES:

★ **Cake Walk** ★ **Train Ride**
★ **Surprise Pkg.**
Play Bingo .25 Cents
From 4 til 7 p.m. per game
INSIDE-Air Conditioned Hall
- PRIZES -

Soft Drinks & Refreshments Available

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018

GOLF TOURNAMENT

8 A.M.
Contact Ken Lopez (361)799-9717
Marcus Escobedo (361)237-5616

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

starts @ 4:00 p.m.

WASHER TOURNAMENT

1 P.M.

• ID REQUIRED FOR ALCOHOL SALES •
Bring Lawn Chairs / Fun For The Whole Family! - Strictly No Ice Chests Permitted

CONTACT NUMBERS:

RAFFLE TICKETS: MARY VILLARREAL -- 361-648-8616

BBQ TICKETS: CINDY & RICKY VARELA -- 275-1179

TAMALES: DAVID & ROSE ANN VARELA --361-655-3610

HORSESHOE TOSS: RUDY LIENDO -- 361-433-7109

GOLF TOURNAMENT: KEN LOPEZ -- 361-799-9717
MARCUS ESCOBEDO -- 361-237-5616

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT: RUSSELL ORTIZ -- 361-935-3208
ZEKE YBARRA -- 361-218-2277

WASHER TOSS: RICKY VARELA -- 361-275-1179

AUCTION: GLORIA & KENNY LOPEZ -- 361-799-9717
-- 361-799-9472

CAKES FOR CAKEWALK: RODGER MACIAS -- 361-894-4159

FRIENDS: JANIE MARTINEZ -- 361-489-5047



YOUTH ENJOY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—Children and chaperones of the Immaculate Conception Church, in Goliad, held Vacation Bible School June 18-22, 2018. This year's theme was "SHIPWRECKED."



YOUTH EXPERIENCE GOD'S PEACE—The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry sponsors the Rocky Mountain High Retreat each summer, in the heart of the San Juan Mountains, in Southern Colorado. More than thirty youth and young adults attended from the Diocese of Victoria this year. They experienced the wonder and grandeur of the great outdoors and spent time reflecting on important issues of life, faith, family, and friends. Pictured is a group of young adults from the community of Cuero at the retreat.



**Save the Date for
Youth Spectacular
October 7**

St. John Bosco's Fall Festival

Sunday, September 2, 2018

Trinity Family Center

5508 FM 616 ~ Vanderbilt, Texas



Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM

BBQ Pork Steak and Sausage Plates

10.00 with all the Trimmings

DRIVE THRU OR DINE IN

Serving 11:00 AM — 1:30 PM

Silent Auction, Cake Walk, Country Store,
Beer Garden, Drink Concession, Door Prizes,
and Games for Kids!



LIVE AUCTION BEGINS AT 12:30 PM

Raffle Winners Announced throughout the Afternoon

Columbian Squires® Looking for New Members

The Columbian Squires is the official youth organization sponsored by the Knights of Columbus for young Catholic boys ages 10-18 years. Being a member of the Squires enables you to better serve your parish, help those in need, grow your faith and have fun helping with various youth group activities and service projects.

Why join the Squires? The Squires is designed to teach your child to lead, to understand their Catholic religion, to have a strong commitment to the Church, and to be ready, willing and capable of patterning their lives after Christ.



A Squires circle is run by and for the boys, under the guidance of several Knights, who serve as counselors and are all Safe Environment compliant. Squires are to be leaders. They are given the opportunity to lead, by running their own meetings, investing their own members, setting their circle's agenda and implementing their program of activities.

Membership is open to all parishes in the Diocese of Victoria.

For more information contact: Donald Shellenbarger at (361) 649-9556 or email: kcsquiresvictoria@gmail.com

Indian Open Golf Classic Benefits Sacred Heart Catholic School Teachers

Saturday, September 1 Tee Time: 9:30 a.m.
Hallettsville Municipal Golf Course

3-person scramble @ \$60 per person / Silent Auction: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



For more information contact:
Hallettsville Golf Association at (361) 798-9908 or
Kevin Chance at (512) 743-1580





EAST BERNARD CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF ST. ISIDORE—Each year on the Feast of Saint Isidore, the patron saint of farmers, East Bernard farming families gather to honor the saint and ask his blessing upon the land, seeds they plant, the equipment they use, and for favorable weather to produce a bountiful harvest. The statue of Saint Isidore, located inside the church, was surrounded with plants from the field, bags of seed, garden tools, and other agricultural related items. At the end of Mass, Father Ruppert led the people in the final prayers of the Novena to Saint Isidore and asked God's blessing upon all farmers, the land they till, and the crops they grow. The congregation then moved outside for the blessing of tractors and equipment too large for inside the church.



CDA OFFICERS INSTALLED—New officers for Court, Our Lady Queen of the Clergy #1990 in Wharton were recently installed. Officers for 2018 to 2020 are Carmen Longoria, DD #29; Delores Kocian, Financial Secretary; Dorothy Viktorin, Vice-Regent; Eleonor Schunka, Regent; Gloria Garza, Recording Secretary; Denise Abbott, Treasurer. Officers were installed on June 18, 2018, at a regular meeting. Regular meetings will resume September 18, at 7:00 p.m. at the KC Hall. All members and new members are invited and welcomed.



KC OFFICERS INSTALLED IN GOLIAD—Knights of Columbus Council #7512, Immaculate Conception Church, Goliad, 2018-2019 installed officer. Pictured (back row left to right) Daryl Lau (Chancellor), Bill Schaeffer (Stand-in for James Bluntzer (2 Yr. Trustee), Brian Yanta (Financial Secretary), Very Reverend Charles E. Otsiwah VF. (Chaplain/Pastor), Jerome Dornak (Recorder), Michael Berger (Treasurer), Corey Edwards (Outer Guard), Dwayne Machicek (3 Yr. Trustee), (front row left to right) Jeremy Martin (District Deputy/Installing Officer), William Janecek (Inner Guard), Adam Lumbrezer (Warden), Christian Rickman (1 Yr. Trustee), John Zarbock (Grand Knight), Englebert Bammert (Advocate), Anthony Kouba (Lecturer), Tony Saenz (Deputy Grand Knight).

St. Mary • High Hill Parish Picnic


Spectacular
Fireworks
Show
at 10 p.m.




1860-2018
Our 158th Year

Queen of the
Painted Churches

Sunday, September 2

Flag Raising Ceremony at 9:30 a.m. • Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Cakewalk 11:00 a.m. • Country Store • Duck Pond • Ring Toss • Train Ride
Washer Pitching at 1:00 p.m. • Nachos • Hamburgers • Souvenir Booth
Sausage Stand (High Hill Sausage) • Bingo (Lic.#3-00-0620320-9) 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Sweepstakes (Over 50 Prizes) Drawing at 9:00 p.m.

Music During the Day by

Texas Sound Czech and Mark Halata/Texavia
Free Dance at Night by **Texas Dream**

Chicken & Stew Dinner

11:00 a.m. to ?

(German Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Green Beans)

Adults - \$10 /Children \$5

~ Drive-thru adult take home plates ONLY ~ Entrance from FM 2672 north-bound only~

Auction 1:00 p.m.



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www.victoriagabrielproject.org

St. Aloysius in Westhoff

 **Drawing & Breakfast**

Served by KC's #13010
after 8:00 a.m. Mass

September 2

Benefit Building Fund

For tickets call:
Mark or Betty at 361•243•6005
Alice at 713•927•5491



Guest Columnist

Holding the Scriptures Hostage



By Father Mathew Kessler

Recently U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions applied a verse from Romans 13 to justify separating children from parents at the U.S. border. He informed his listeners that St. Paul told the early Christians to obey the laws set out by the government because doing so ensured good order. Soon after, Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders chimed in saying "it is very biblical to enforce the law."

We shouldn't be surprised that the Bible was invoked to justify the family-separation practice. The administration was getting a shellacking from many quarters and looked heartless. Sessions and Sanders' use of scripture is disturbing for two reasons.

First, taking a text out of context is foolish and naive. Paul was trying to help Jews reintegrate into Roman society after a long absence. There were some negotiables: pay taxes. There were also some non-negotiables: don't offer sacrifices to Roman gods. Serious scripture scholars and conscientious Christians avoid Mr. Sessions' proof-texting.

Second, we use the Scriptures to interpret the Scriptures. The Bible tells us

that mercy, forgiveness, communion, and justice are core values, and when lived authentically reflect a well-ordered soul. When we bend the Bible to our will and biases, we miss the mark.

The Hebrew Scriptures formed St. Paul long before he wrote to the Romans. Exodus recounts the foundational experience of the Jewish people in their rescue from slavery in Egypt. God heard their cries for relief and acted. God's care for the poor and weak cannot be ignored or questioned as a central biblical theme. Furthermore, God's chosen people were charged with caring for the widows, orphans, and the strangers among them in the book of Deuteronomy. No person was, is, or ever will be a stranger to God.

Jesus Christ, God incarnate, teaches us that crossing borders is one of the ultimate acts of communion needed at this moment in the United States. He not only crossed geographical borders but cultural, linguistic, and religious borders. God's mercy and compassion were not to be withheld to the voiceless and abandoned who have only God to depend on. Christian morality needs law but is primarily accountable to the Kingdom of God and its values.

With their erroneous mindsets, AG Sessions and Ms. Sanders hold the Christian faithful hostage to a way of using scripture that conveniently forgets that faith critiques society and culture. Their approach foment a religious ideology that serves a government's needs while diminishing the Gospel's efficacy.

The one border that remains consistently difficult to cross, as Jesus knew, was the human heart. Dealing with the immigrant and stranger among us leaves us with a choice: welcome them as gifts and work together, or see them as burdens who will take what we have. No single policy or law can effect transformative political change without a corresponding personal conversion. Until that day the disorder of our souls will add to the disorder and chaos in our society regarding immigration matters.

Mathew Kessler is a priest in the Diocese of Victoria, Texas. His multi-cultural ministry has included parishes, mission preaching. For nearly 15 years he was a Spanish editor and later CEO/Publisher at Liguori Publications. He is currently parochial vicar at Holy Cross in East Bernard, Texas.



KJT AND KJZT JOIN HANDS—KJZT No. 101 and KJT of Victoria participated jointly in Join Hands Day. The two groups hosted Bingo, served angel food cake, and punch to the residents of Twin Pines. Participating in the event, front row, from left to right are Donald Dusek, William S., Wendy Hrnair, Evelyn Dierlam, Lillian Berger, Rosie Olsovsky, Irene Brosch, and Carolyn Nevlud; back row, Joe and Rose Pustka. Join Hands Day is about uniting the older generation with the younger generation in a day of volunteering.

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Parish CHURCH PICNIC CISTERN, TEXAS

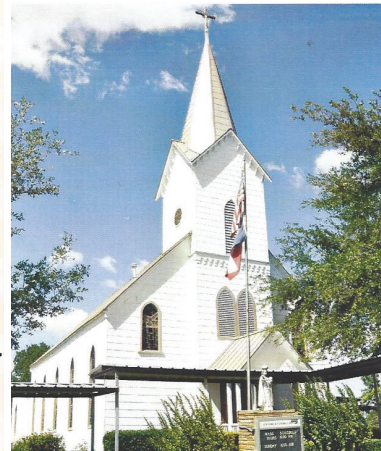
**COUNTRY
STORE**

CAKE SPIN

GAMES

**AIR
CONDITIONED
BINGO!**
12 NOON - 4 P.M.

MAGIC SHOW
3:00 P.M.



LIVE MUSIC

Incredible Music Makers
11:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

KARAOKE

Vic Rodriguez
3:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

**BALLOON
ARTIST**

Bobby Cordell
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

WATER SLIDE

All Ages
11:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Sunday, August 26, 2018 (4th Sunday in August)

*Under the SHADY pavilion at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
in Cistern — off Hwy 95 between Smithville & Flatonia*

HOLY MASS: Sunday — 10:00 A.M.

Dinner: 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (*eat-in, plates-to-go, walk up, or drive thru*)

Fried chicken and V&V Sausage

Adult & Plates-To-Go: \$10.00

Children Plates: \$5.00

Auction: 1:00 P.M. - Homemade items, crafts, livestock & more

Hamburgers in the afternoon.

Trail Ride: 8:00 A.M. - Leaving Muldoon Public Park

Contact: Saxon Beck 979-249-6850

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! COME AND ENJOY THE DAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 361-865-3568

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Love of God and Neighbor

The following is a homily written by Father Kram from the Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B.

It is said that love makes the world go 'round, that love conquers all, that love is a many splendored thing. If all these things are true of merely natural love, then how much more must they be true of the supernatural love that Jesus taught.

In Greek there are three main words for love- Eros, meaning sensual love, Philia, love among friends, and Agape, the new, special, different Christian love that Jesus brought into the world.

It is easy to love one's friends. In fact, it can be advantageous. I once heard a selfish man say, "What are friends for if you can't use them?"

Christian love, Agape impels us to say, "What are friends for if we can't do something for them?" We let them use us. We wish them well.

We rejoice in their prosperity, we grieve

in their adversity, we respect their life, their good name, their property. We share their burdens and tolerate their shortcomings. Christian love goes so far as to bring us to love even our enemies.

Christian love is not an affectionate sentiment like, "Good luck, brother," but it helps others to be well and to do well.

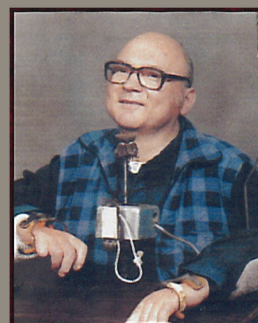
And why are these things so?

Because we are made in God's image and likeness, and we are his adopted children, and we are redeemed by the blood of Jesus.

If God holds us so dear, and Jesus made such a sacrifice for us, then we must be worth a great deal, and our neighbor must be worth loving and sacrificing for.

In learning to show our love for others, our best teacher is the Lord Jesus himself, for he went so far as to give his life for us and taught us to love one another as he has loved us.

On the love of God and of the neighbor, the whole law and the prophets are based.



1929-2000

*Father
Charles Kram
Korner*

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for teaching us so well, the essence
of what you expect of us.
Help us to practice ever better, the law of love.
Grant that the love others see in us may attract many
others to join in following you.

Amen.

About Father Charles Kram

*An excerpt from Our Sunday Visitor
November 30, 1975*

There was the happy-sad day when Father Charles Kram's classmates were ordained. A mixture of happiness for them and sadness that he was not among them. It was the class of 1953 at Assumption Seminary; they were the first to be graduated from the new seminary.

Father Kram kept close to some of his old classmates. During the long 22-year wait he thought often of what his life might have been. But he kept himself busy at the ham radio. He talked with ham radio operators in 160 different countries and to a Brother Ed at the Vatican.

Pray for his Sainthood

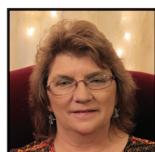
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NATIONAL CDA EDUCATION WINNER—Lisa D., an eighth-grader at Nazareth Academy, Victoria, competed in the National Education Contest sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Holy Family #2665. She placed first in the state competition in the category of Computer Art, Division II. JoAnn Bleier, court regent, (right) presented the award to Lisa, along with Sr. Mary Jean Bludau, eighth-grade teacher.



31st Annual Catholic Conference Saturday, October 20, 2018

**“Missionary Disciples: Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ”
The Joy of the Gospel**

NEW Location: Cathedral Center, Victoria

In 2017 an initiative of the Bishops' Working Group on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person, assembled Catholic leaders for a strategic conversation, under the leadership of the bishops, on forming missionary disciples to animate the Church and engage the culture. From this gathering, Bishop Brendan Cahill and several people in the diocese decided to offer an opportunity for the faithful in the diocese to also hear and learn more about how to engage others to invite them to consider becoming active in the Church.

In The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis states, “I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord.”

At the 31st Annual Catholic Conference, Bishop Cahill will lead a panel discussion: *Reaching out to the Peripheries*. The panelists: Hermes Silva is currently helping the marginalized through Prison Ministry; Sr. Rebecca Janacek, IWBS, is currently involved with Promise Point Ministry, which helps the homeless, and Rhonda Cummins helps fishermen/shrimpers and people of the sea. Each will share their experiences of going out to the peripheries through their work and the ministries in which they are involved.

Father Bruce Nieli, C.S.P. will offer the afternoon keynote: *“Thinking Eucharistically: Isolation versus Encounter.”* Father

Nieli will also offer a workshop, *Evangelizing American Culture* and another in Spanish, *Evangelizando la Cultura de los Estados Unidos*. Father Eliecer Patino Hurtado will provide a Spanish workshop: *La Alegria, Camino Para Evangelización*. Another workshop: *Living on the Periphery – Understanding Marginalization and Generational Poverty*, will be presented by Sr. Rebecca. The mission of the Church is to “evangelize”, which is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ into every human situation. Today, research shows that fewer are interested in receiving or participating in the sacraments for themselves or their children. There is evidence of people feeling alone or isolated from others, and generational poverty is on the rise.

Conference participants will also have the opportunity to hear presenters speak on the much-needed conversation on how to engage young adults and invite them to consider getting involved in the life of the Church and on the importance of listening, accepting, and interacting with persons from different cultures, experiences, backgrounds, etc.

Participants of the conference will be renewed and empowered, with Jesus' command to go out and proclaim the Gospel to every person. In the Gospels, Jesus clearly calls us to help one another. He reminds us that we are all sisters and brothers and that together, we can set the world on fire with hope, peace, and joy because of God's presence among us. The journey as missionary disciples of Jesus is an invitation to go deeper and move toward “new paths for the Church's journey” of evangelization.

All adult Catholics are invited to attend this annual diocesan event. More information will be available on the diocesan website: www.victoriadiocese.org, Church bulletins, and by calling the Office of Catechetical Ministry at (361) 573-0828.



Bishop Brendan Cahill



Father Bruce Nieli, C.S.P.

Sacred Heart Parish Fall 2018 Picnic Sunday, September 2, 2018 Hallettsville

At the K.C. Hall in Hallettsville, Texas

DINNER: SERVING FROM 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Drive thru Plates-to-Go: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Dining in the KC Hall

Country Fried Chicken, Stew, Homemade Cornbread Dressing with all the trimmings!

Adults: \$10 Children (10 & under) \$5

Short Memorial at 1:00 p.m. given by Rev. Msgr. John Peters

Inside the air-conditioned KC Hall

Cake Walk

Country Store

Religious Articles Booth

Bingo (Noon to 6:00 p.m.)



Washer Pitching Tournament Begins at 5:00 p.m.

Delicious Hamburgers, French Fries, Nachos, Popcorn, Fannel Cakes, Snow Cones, Lemonade & Sodawater All Afternoon!!

AUCTION SALE AT 1:00 PM

Cattle, Quilts, Antiques, Homemade Canned Goods, Noodles, Vegetables, Outdoor Furniture & more



2018 POLARIS RANGER RAFFLE

w/12 ft. Load Trail Landscape Trailer

--ACTION & ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PAVILION--

CHURCH PICNIC RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM PARISHIONERS & AT PICNIC

There are 26 Cash Certificate Prizes to be given away at 10:00 p.m. (Total Value of the 26 Certificates-\$7,350).



Music on the Main Pavilion

J & S Playboys - 11:00 am-1:00 pm

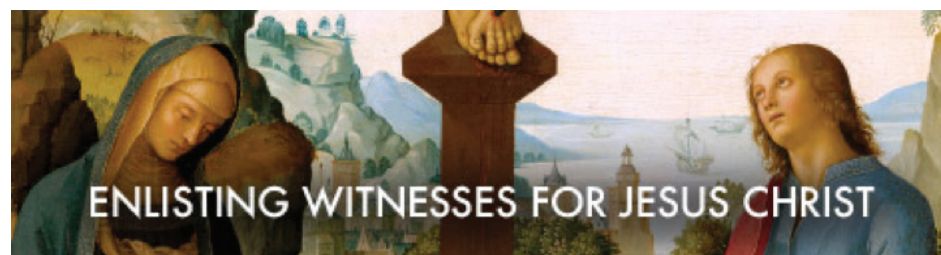
Free Dance on the Polka Pavilion/Biergarten

Dujka Brothers & The Czecholites

1:00 pm-7:00 pm



EVERYBODY WELCOME! FUN FOR ALL AGES!





Letter to the Editor

Dear Lighthouse Readers,

A Note of Thankfulness and Appreciation!

As an introduction, I would like to say that I have lived in Illinois, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio before moving to Texas in 1993. These moves were the result of my time in the military and later civilian work transfers; but all were wonderful experiences in faith. I am a cradle Catholic and have been active in my parishes wherever I lived; but with that said I would like to share the following words of encouragement. As a youngster, I attended 12 years of Catholic schooling taught by Brothers of Holy Cross and Sisters of Mercy. Over the years I have attended many retreats, some have been week-long events, some weekend retreats and several only day retreats; however, until now I have never attended a ½ day silent retreat.

There is a hidden jewel in our diocese and that is the resource that many of us locally probably are not aware of, or just put aside without thinking of what it offers. The resources that I am referring to comes in two formats, Pastoral Institute managed via the Diocese of Victoria's Chancery under the leadership of Christella Alvarez and Amor Meus under the leadership of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in Victoria from their Convent on NE Water Street in Victoria.

My wife and I have benefited from years of Pastoral Institute courses and just this past month decided to participate in a ½ day silent retreat, "Roll Away the

Stone." The retreats are offered at the convent and usually will include Mass, time for meditation, confession is usually available and there is always "Spiritual Direction" available. The location and grounds of the convent are beautiful and serene allowing for quiet time in nature for meditation and prayer. The gardens are populated with a variety of flowering plants and shrubs that seem to draw a mix of butterflies and hummingbirds. During the two meditation periods, I chose to sit in the breezeway and read scriptures, enjoy nature, a cool breeze, and my time alone with Our Lord. I know that many of us will say I don't have time for several day retreats and endless classes; but I offer the following to all, the PI courses are usually 2 hours lasting 4 weeks in length and offered at various locations via video conferencing and the retreats can be as short as 6 hours on a Saturday.

I suggest that you do yourself a favor and check out the offerings at the Pastoral Institute and Amor Meus. Pastoral Institute will help you better understand your faith during these troubling times and Amor Meus will provide the opportunity to spend more time to grow spiritual awareness and Christ's presence in our lives.

I am so thankful to our diocese and the Sisters of Incarnate Word and the Blessed Sacrament for making these resources available and pray they will continue to be available for our community in the future. We need to take advantage of these wonderful gifts that are so graciously made available.

Your Brother in Christ,
Bill Wilkes

Sunday Readings from August 5 - September 9

August 5 ~ Eighteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15
Psalms 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
John 6:24-35

August 12 ~ Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Ephesians 4:30—5:2
John 6:41-51

August 19 ~ Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 26 ~ Twenty-first Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2A, 15-17, 18B
Psalms 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

September 2 ~ Twenty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
Psalms 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5
James 1:17-18, 21B-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 9 ~ Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35:4-7A
Psalms 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

For daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, visit

www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

Brought to you by: Catholic Communications Campaign



Once a Troubled Teen, Young Man Found Hope in Faith and Now is Teacher

AUDUBON, Pa. (CNS) — When he arrived at St. Gabriel's Hall in Audubon nine years ago, Quamiir Trice was in handcuffs. Arrested for dealing crack, the 15-year-old had been sent to a residential treatment program for at-risk youth offered by St. Gabriel's, part of the Philadelphia Archdiocese's Catholic Social Services. On June 27, Trice returned to St. Gabriel's — this time, as a

Pennsylvania state certified educator, fresh from his fourth-grade classroom and ready to teach mathematics at summer school. "They took the handcuffs off as soon as my feet hit the ground here," Trice said, recalling his first moments at St. Gabriel's as a troubled teenager. "Everything here was so green and beautiful and peaceful. It definitely made me feel like I was in a good place." During his time at the Middle States accredited school, Trice earned his GED while displaying a gift for mathematics. Through intensive counseling sessions, he learned to manage his emotions and to make more constructive life choices. Trice is passionate about cultivating math skills in his students, especially since urban youth are underrepresented in scientific disciplines. He relishes the clarity of mathematics, which hones students' analytical skills while building confidence, and he weaves life lessons into his lectures.



HOUSTON NATIVE APPOINTED CO-ADJUTOR — Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Oscar Cantu of Las Cruces, N.M., pictured in a 2013 photo at the Vatican, to be coadjutor bishop of San Jose, California. The appointment was announced July 11 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States. (CNS photo/J. D. McNamara, courtesy Diocese of Las Cruces)

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.

Heavenly Helpers



Christian Store

(979) 543-2850
1603 N Mechanic
El Campo, TX 77437

M-F 9:30 - 5:30 Sat. 9:30 - 3:00

**First Communion, Confirmation,
Bibles, Books, Rosaries, Medals,
Statues, Baptism & Wedding Items
Inspirational Gifts**



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
GOSPEL – JOHN 6:51–58

A **reading** from the **holy Gospel** according to **John**: Jesus said to the **crowds**: / “I am the **living** bread that came down from **heaven**; / whoever eats **this** bread will **live** forever; / and the **bread** that I will **give** / is my **flesh** for the life of the **world**.” ¶ The **Jews** quarreled **among** themselves, **saying**, / “How can this **man** give us his flesh to eat?” / **Jesus** said to them, / “**Amen**, amen, I say to **you**, / **unless** you eat the flesh of the **Son of Man** and drink his **blood**, / you do not have **life** within you. / **Whoever** eats my flesh **and** drinks my blood / has **eternal** life, / and I will **raise** him on the **last** day. / For my flesh is true **food**, / and my blood is **true** drink. / Whoever **eats** my flesh and drinks my blood / **remains** in me and I in **him**. / **Just** as the living **Father** sent me / and I have life **because** of the Father, / so **also** the one **who** feeds on me / will **have** life because of me. / This is the bread **that** came **down** from heaven. / **Unlike** your **ancestors** who ate and still **died**, / whoever eats this bread will live **forever**.”

D Y R E V E O H W E V I G P H I M
N M F E N E V A E H L D E I D H W
A A O F L E S H D D V L I V I N G
L N O J G N I D A E R B A W G D C
A C D E F S D H B R T S U J G Y M
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E R F B P F S Q A C U Z O T A H T
Z S N R R X O R V R R N T S X J D
Z A H E E F N E E S A O L H P S O
L D O A M A O V Z A S I W I I E O
I L J D A T F E M R L E S D K S L
F I P B I H M R Z J J S L E S E B
E V V R N E A O T R U E O N B X L
Y E E L S R N F U X N W O D U S K

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone number: _____
Parish: _____
Age, if 18 or under: _____

Although the above material is copyrighted and copying of it is prohibited by law, the author does offer use of the material for educational purposes under an Educators Program. If you are interested in using this puzzle or book for educational use or for more information, contact Elie’s Spiritual Treasures at (361) 894-7274, elies_spiritual_treasures@yahoo.com or visit www.searching-for-jesus.com.

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

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



Parishioners and participants of Holy Cross Church, in Bay City, brought baby items from July 1-8, for the new Spiritual Adoption Program. Pictured is a table of items collected, that were donated the local Gabriel Project and the Women’s Pregnancy Center.

Holy Cross Announces Spiritual Adoption Program

BAY CITY—Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, Holy Cross parish, in Bay City, announces a Spiritual Adoption Program for young and old alike.

Not all babies make it to birth. More than 3,000 babies lose their lives to abortion each day. These are the babies you are being asked to “adopt” simply by praying for him or her each day. It is suggested

that you name the child for whom you will be praying, which will remind you that, although you may never meet the child in this life, you truly are praying for a specific child who needs your prayers.

Another Spiritual Adoption Program will begin the weekend of September 17-24. Prayer pledge cards will be collected during Mass on Sunday, September 24.



ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP—Janice Tiemann (left), Regent for Holy Cross Catholic Daughters Court #1598 of Yorktown and Mike Yeretsky, Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus #2480 of Yorktown, presented a scholarship donation to Jennifer Saenz (center), principal of St. Michael School, Cuero.



Harvey Lingers One Year Later

Continued from pg. 20



~ Cathy Garcia

Cathy, a Disaster Case Manager Supervisor from Disaster Services Corporation Society of St. Vincent De Paul USA, was among those who responded to the area right after Hurricane Harvey. Cathy gave great insight to what happened regarding first response to the hurricane and continued efforts. She explained that a disaster in our area was new to everyone because we had not suffered a major disaster since Hurricane Carla came ashore near Port O'Connor in 1961. Cathy said, "Because it was new to us, everyone went out to be missionary disciples on their own, which is great; because in numbers, you are stronger and the duplication of benefits can be more closely monitored."

Amidst the destruction, there was hope. Strangers were helping one another. Bishop Cahill shared, "People loved, shared, and took care of each other when things were difficult." This was certainly witnessed as donations, supplies, and help poured in from all over Texas, the United States, and the world. Countless hours were tirelessly spent cutting trees, cleaning flooded homes, distributing supplies, and cooking meals during the days that followed the disaster Hurricane Harvey had caused. The response was overwhelming.

A long-term recovery plan is being developed for Victoria County so that any future disasters can be addressed as a community. Victoria County, Calhoun County, and Wharton County Long-Term Recovery Groups have been formed following the hurricane. Tony Martinez, CFO of the Diocese of Victoria has been involved with these efforts. Tony explained, "Recovery is a larger task, as it involves the humanitarian aspect as well as the infrastructure aspect." Long-term recovery is very important especially for the more vulnerable populations. Cathy explained that in her position as a Case Manager she sees the working poor, the poor, and the elderly suffering the most. She shared, "Many are still living in moldy conditions because the landlord is still struggling or won't put money into fixing. It is a different perspective. We need to walk with people as they recover."

In May of 2018, Catholic Charities USA awarded the Diocese of Victoria a 2-year grant in the amount of \$2.5 million, for long-term disaster recovery efforts. The grant was awarded from funds received through the national second collection, offered by the United States Catholic Conference of

Bishops (USCCB). Over 90% of the grant will be used for humanitarian relief of Harvey survivors primarily for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Disaster Relief Services' House in a Box® Program (HIB). The HIB Program provides 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 to qualify for the HIB program. Qualifications are based on disaster-related unmet needs from Harvey.

Almost one year later, when working in the impacted areas, Cathy Garcia so poignantly tells her clients, "We can never get back to where we were, but we can assist you to a new normal." The best came out in people after Hurricane Harvey, as mere strangers reached out physically, emotionally, prayerfully, and financially. Millions have been donated from across the nation in the past year to assist in recovery efforts. What a beautiful source of strength and belief in others, for the people of South Texas! Let us pray, support, and love one another as we continue to rebuild and recover.



For long-term recovery assistance call the First United Methodist Church at (979) 578-2701 and ask to speak with a St. Vincent de Paul Society Disaster Case Manager

For counseling support call the Emmaus Center at (361) 212 -0830

St. Mary's in Nada Festival & Homecoming Sunday, September 2



Barbecue Beef & Sausage Dinner • Served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

*Adults \$10 and Children under 12 \$5 (includes tea and dessert)
Plates-to-go available. Drive-thru line open 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

**Country Store, Plant & Cakewalk, Linen Basket Drawing
BINGO INSIDE the HALL 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

AUCTION at 1:00 p.m.

**Free Dance 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Music by The Rusty Steins**

**Refreshments All Day & Evening
BBQ Sandwiches,
Sausage in a Boat, & Nachos sold
in the afternoon until 8:00 p.m.**

**Kid's Games & Entertainment
Bounce Houses & Train Rides**





Texas Catholic 'Respite' Center Serves as Symbol of American Compassion

By Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

MCALLEN, Texas (CNS) — It's been featured in fundraisers at the Vatican and on news shows. This summer, it's been visited by Kerry Kennedy, Robert and Ethel Kennedy's daughter, and TV celebrity Gayle King.

The U.S. bishops recently made it the first stop on a high-profile visit to the border.

But the real celebrities who walk through its doors are the poor, unkempt, tired, thirsty, hungry women, children and men who run to it shortly after being released by immigration authorities — a modern Statue of Liberty come to life.

Its official name is the Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley's Humanitarian Respite Center. From the outside, the humble cream-colored building with Mission-revival style touches, calls little attention to passers-by. But inside its walls, volunteers give a warm welcome, including unexpected smiles and applause, along with clothes and warm food, to recent arrivals to the U.S. as they walk through its doors.

It was Sister Norma Pimentel, a member of the Missionaries of Jesus and executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, whose idea it was to create this place to "welcome the stranger"

and who came in the form of a migrant to the border town of McAllen.

She often posts pictures on Twitter of babies and moms, teens and fathers and other children who walk through the center's doors. She calls them "miracles." She tells their stories. One was about a woman who fled Guatemala after her 16-year-old son was kidnapped and killed by gangs. She photographed the woman with her remaining son as they passed through the center.

"The fact is that they are human persons, they are people, they need attention, they need care," Sister Norma, as she's popularly known, said in a July 1 interview with Catholic News Service.

In 2014, Sister Norma set out to provide some of that care, as she saw an influx of immigrants arriving in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, in the Brownsville Diocese. With local volunteers, she began a makeshift operation to help the migrants obtain clothes and food. Out of a property that belonged to the local Sacred Heart Church, they began clothing and feeding the newcomers.

Her mission now has a more permanent home on Beaumont Avenue in McAllen, where migrants, many seeking asylum, have access to a shower after a harrowing trip, a clean change of clothes, a quick medical look, if they need it, a warm meal

and a snack for the road.

On the trip by a group of U.S. bishops in early July, Sister Norma said she wanted the prelates to talk with the families, to see them and hear their stories so they

lives of their children."

"They know that if they stay (in their home countries), their life is in danger and their child may be kidnapped, or taken by a gang," she said. "Their stories are so similar



Sister Norma Pimentel, speaks to an audience July 1 as she shows a delegation of U.S. bishops a respite center for new immigrant arrivals in McAllen, Texas. Pictured from left, are Bishop Joseph C. Bambera of Scranton, Pennsylvania, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, and Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Brennan of Rockville Centre, New York. (CNS photo/Chaz Muth)

could talk about them to others and speak on their behalf. Though there's a sense of antagonism toward immigrants around the country, she's eager to showcase at the respite center a side of the U.S. that the newscasts and TV stories often leave out and that immigrants may not be aware of.

"They (the immigrants who pass through) go in gratitude of the fact that we, here in the United States, are people that have a heart, that care and that are able to participate by serving them, by bringing them soup, by hearing their story, by showing them they matter," she said.

Some, like volunteer Lisa Foley, of Reno, Nevada, who was at the center July 1, cared enough to spend her summer vacation days with them.

"I came here to help. I can't sit and watch it on the news any longer," said Foley, a social worker by profession, showing in her hand shoelaces and rubber bands she was handing the women who had them taken away while being processed by immigration authorities. "It's the least I can do."

Through the center, Sister Norma also wants others to see migrants as children and mothers, fathers and brothers, many of them fleeing danger. The mothers and fathers who pass through "all tell you that, in one way or another, they're fleeing, they fear for the

and they all flee because they are frightened for their lives."

The center's mission of compassion has been noticed at the highest levels of the church. On the occasion of his elevation to cardinal, Chicago Archbishop Blase J. Cupich, through his role as chancellor of Catholic Extension, organized a benefit dinner in 2016 at the Vatican that raised \$100,000 and donated it to the respite center.

The flow of migrants, which ebbs and sometimes overflows, has sent Sister Norma on a mission to find more space, and funds, to continue the work of helping migrants. Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley has set up a GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/humanitarian-respite-center for those who want to help.

Sister Norma hopes the center will continue to be a place where the poor and hungry will find more than just material help, but will continue to provide newcomers an initial dose of compassion that exists in the United States and that many of the migrants who have passed through have experienced.

"They're hopeful and they have faith in their God that here in the United States, there will be people who understand and will help them make sure they're safe," she said.

St. Joseph Catholic Church -Inez

145th
Annual Church Picnic



Sunday, September 9, 2018

at Inez Community Center

Fried Chicken, Brisket, Sausage
& All the Trimmings



All Plates \$10.00, Plates to Go at 10:30 a.m.
Serving Begins at 11:00 a.m.



Auction at 1:00 p.m.



and More!!

The Raffle Drawing will have Gift Cards Galore!!!!

Prizes include over \$5,900 in gift cards



Come Out and Join the Fun!!!!!!



Obispos de Texas se Unen a Evento Apoyando a Inmigrantes

Por Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — En un momento en el país, en cual inmigrantes están bajo ataque de varias formas, la Diócesis de El Paso, Texas, y representantes de otras diócesis en Texas y Nuevo México se han unido a varios a otros grupos de fe, mostrando apoyo y solidaridad con inmigrantes en sus comunidades.

“Sé una luz en los tiempos de la oscuridad”, dijo el obispo de El Paso Mark J. Seitz en un video en YouTube publicado el 18 de julio anunciando una procesión interreligiosa en El Paso el 20 de julio, a la que se unirán líderes de fe de la iglesia presbiteriana, unitaria, luteranos, musulmanes, Bahá’ís e indígenas Tigua. Una vigilia después de la procesión contará con testimonios de familias separadas.

El siguiente día, la diócesis presentará las enseñanzas de la iglesia sobre la inmigración, pero comenzará con una Misa celebrada por los obispos asistentes e incluirá un discurso de un representante del Vaticano, un drama de justicia social por parte de los jóvenes de la diócesis, así como sugerencias y ejemplos para ofrecer hospitalidad al migrante.

El padre Robert Stark, de la Sección

de Migrantes y Refugiados del Dicasterio Vaticano para la Promoción del Desarrollo Humano Integral, dará la presentación principal. Otros obispos católicos de diócesis cercanas tienen planes de asistir, incluso el obispo Edward J. Burns y el obispo auxiliar Greg Kelly, de Dallas, así como al obispo Oscar Cantú y el obispo jubilado Ricardo Ramírez de Las Cruces, Nuevo México.

“Estoy seguro que han escuchado en las noticias sobre el dolor, la violación de los derechos humanos y el sufrimiento de nuestros hermanos y hermanas migrantes en nuestras comunidades fronterizas”, dijo el obispo Seitz en el video, rodado en inglés y en español. “Estoy haciendo un llamado a todas nuestras parroquias, feligreses y clérigos para que pongan su fe en acción”.

Dice el Papa, Un Buen Cristiano Comparte el Evangelio

Por Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — Todos los cristianos están llamados a ser misioneros, más preocupados por compartir el Evangelio que por ganar dinero o hasta conversos, dijo el papa Francisco.

“Un bautizado que no siente la necesidad de anunciar el Evangelio, de anunciar a Jesús, no es un buen cristiano”, dijo el papa el 15 de julio antes de recitar la oración del Ángelus con unas 15,000 personas reunidas en la Plaza de San Pedro.

El papa Francisco comentaba sobre la lectura del día del Evangelio, la cual contaba sobre cómo Jesús envió a los discípulos de dos en dos a predicar y sanar en su nombre.

“Es una especie de práctica de lo que estarán llamados a hacer después de la resurrección del Señor con el poder del Espíritu Santo”, explicó el papa.

Él dijo que solo hablando del nombre de Jesús “los apóstoles no tenían nada propio que anunciar, ni habilidades para demostrar, sino que hablan y actúan en cuanto enviados, en cuanto mensajeros de Jesús”.

“Este episodio evangélico también nos concierne, y no solo a los sacerdotes, sino a todos los bautizados llamados a testimoniar en los diversos ambientes de sus vidas el Evangelio de Cristo”, dijo el papa.



Anita Areli Ramirez Mejia, una solicitante de asilo de Honduras, abraza a su hijo de 6 años, Jenri, el 13 de julio en el refugio La Posada Providencia en San Benito, Texas. La madre y el hijo se reunieron después de un tiempo de estar separados cerca de la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos. (Foto CNS-Loren Elliott, Reuters)



El papa Francisco ha nombrado al obispo Oscar Cantú de Las Cruces, Nuevo México (mostrado en esta foto de 2012 en el Vaticano) como obispo coadjutor de San José, California. El nombramiento fue anunciado el 11 de julio en Washington por el arzobispo Christophe Pierre, nuncio apostólico ante Estados Unidos. (Foto CNS-Paul Haring)



*Nazareth Academy
Catholic School*

2018 Fall Festival

Sunday, October 7

Victoria Community Center · Doors open at 11:00 AM

*Traditional Turkey & Dressing
Dinner*



With all the trimmings
\$10.00 per plate

Serving inside from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM or until it's gone!
Plates-To-Go begin at 10:30 AM

Raffle Tickets \$5 each or 6 for \$25
Can be purchased at the door/Drawing at 2:00 PM

Silent Auction 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Live Auction: Preview begins at 11:00 AM
Bidding begins at 1:00 PM

Games · Cake Walk · Country Store · And More





UNITY EXPLOSION HELD—The 2018 Unity Explosion was held June 6-10 in San Antonio. It was sponsored by Region X of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and hosted by the Archdiocese of San Antonio and the Black Catholic Apostolate. Pictured are Dr. John Quarry and Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller in a selfie after Mass at St. Joseph Church.



~ August 13 ~

Holy Cross, Bay City; St. Anthony, Columbus; St. Michael, Cuero; Sacred Heart, Hallettsville; Nazareth Academy, Victoria; Our Lady of Victory, Victoria; St. Joseph, Yoakum

~ August 14 ~

St. Philip, El Campo; Shiner Catholic Schools; St. Joseph High School, Victoria; St. Michael, Weimar

~ August 15 ~

Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca and St. Rose, Schulenburg

**Diocese of Victoria
Catholic School
Start Dates
2018-19**

We pray for our students, teachers, and administrators for a safe school year.



97th Annual SHINER CATHOLIC CHURCH FALL PICNIC Sunday, September 2, 2018

**KC Park – 102 S. Ave. G –
Shiner, TX**

**MUZIKA - MUSIK
FREE MUSIC & DANCING
Inside A/C Hall**



**11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Accordion Music
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Shiner Hobo Band
4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Red Ravens**

.....
**MUSIC OUTSIDE BEER STAND
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Steve Curd
(American Idol Contestant)
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Classic Top Hits by Vic and Beav
.....
MUSIC OUTSIDE BINGO STAND PAVILION
6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Los Kolaches**

Masses:
Saturday – 5:00 p.m. Polka Mass
Sunday – 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.

**--- DINNER ---
10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Dine in A/C Dining Room
Plate includes THREE MEATS
Country Sausage • Shiner Picnic Stew
• Kettle Fried Chicken • Trimmings

Drive thru “Plates to Go” from
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
or until all sold out at
**KASPAR PAVILION
GREEN-DICKSON PARK
ALL PLATES \$10.00****

COUNTRY STORE
Canned Goods
Kolaches • Pigs-in-Blanket
Served from 8 a.m. until ...

**BIG COUNTRY
AUCTION
Begins at 12 Noon
Cattle Auction: 2:30 p.m.**

**Bingo in A/C Dining Room
Grocery Wheel – 5:00 p.m.
ARTS & CRAFTS
Booth Spaces: \$65
Call (361) 648-7434**

**DANCE
9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
THE EMOTIONS
Admission: \$10 - FREE for ages 21 and over**

DRAWING FOR PRIZES AT 10 p.m.

- Hamburgers • Cake & Plant Wheels •
- Ring Toss • Ball Throw • Wheel of Fortune •
- Moon Walk • Games for Children •

Fun for the Whole Family!!!
For more information call: (361) 594-3836
Website: www.sscmshiner.org

Catholic Schools Look Ahead with Innovation but also Focus on Tradition

WASHINGTON (CNS) — If anyone could rest on their laurels, it's Catholic schools for all they have accomplished in their U.S. history, educating in the faith and teaching children of all backgrounds in cities and rural areas across the country.

Preserving Catholic School's Charism 'Has to be Intentional'

OLDENBURG, Ind. (CNS) — Although women religious — once synonymous with Catholic education — have been disappearing from U.S. classrooms in recent decades, many Catholic schools are taking extra steps to make sure that even as these sisters age or their numbers decrease, the charisms that infused the schools they founded will not be lost. This was the challenge faced by the Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg, Indiana. The school, founded by the Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg in 1852, came under laity supervision in 1994 and no longer has any women religious on staff. Yet their spirit still lives within the walls they established 166 years ago. “The Franciscan values have helped me to understand my role in this world,” said outgoing senior Rachel Stoll, one of the 200 plus students at the academy. She readily reeled off three of the values held dear to the Oldenburg Franciscans: care of creation, prayer and dignity of the human person. “One of the unique values that the religious men and women brought to their Catholic schools was a distinct charism in addition to their catechetical formation,” said John Schoenig, senior director of teacher formation and education policy for the University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education.

Acknowledging these past achievements alone might not be enough to propel these schools into the future, but it's an important first step because it recognizes the need to tap into — and promote and market — the spirit of the early Catholic schools and their founders and to adapt that creativity and innovation to today's world. “The future of Catholic education: It's bright. It's bright as long as our Catholic educators, our church, our leaders, have an open mind” and make sure what they do, how they teach and interact with young people is relevant, said Barbara McGraw Edmondson, chief leadership and program officer at the National Catholic Educational Association. She said it's also crucial for Catholic schools' future that educators and church leaders understand and not shy away from the culture young people live in today. “We need to step right in ? and show them the way to navigate a very complex world,” she added. Edmondson said school leaders want Catholic schools to be what Pope Francis has asked of the church: to be “disciple-making places.”

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EVENTS

The Catholic Lighthouse
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Meals • Picnics and More

August

Victoria—KJZT Society #101 Mass for living and deceased members Aug. 12, 7:30 a.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. Following Mass a breakfast will be served in the Cathedral Center (St. Gabriel Hall). RSVP by calling Irene at (361) 573-2669.

Weimar—St. Michael Harvest Feast Picnic, Aug. 12, begins with a Polka Mass at 10:30 a.m. with Father Wayne Flagg at the church. Following Mass at the Veterans Hall will be the picnic with food, games, and music by Lost Cause, Shiner Hobos, and Chris Rybak.

Praha—161st Prazska Pout/Praha Picnic Aug. 15. A 10:00 a.m. Mass with Bishop Cahill at St. Mary's Church. From 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. stew and fried chicken dinner served for \$10 each. Music 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. with Shiner Hobos, Mark Halata & Texavia, and Lost Cause. There will be a cakewalk, games, country store, bingo, and more. Auction at 1:00 p.m. Hamburgers available after 4:00 p.m.

Hillje—St. Andrew Summer Festival, Aug. 19 at the Parish Hall. A prime beef BBQ and sausage dinner at 11:00 a.m. with dine-in or plates-to-go available both at \$10 each. Indoor auction at 12:30 p.m. There will be a country store, bake sale, cakewalk and more along with some music.

Cistern—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Picnic, Aug. 26, serving fried chicken and V&V Sausage plates at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 10.

September

Hallettsville—Indian Open Golf Classic, see ad on pg. 8.

Cuero—Our Lady of Guadalupe Jamaica, Sept. 2, serving a BBQ dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 7.

Fayetteville—St. John Church Picnic, Sept. 2, Mass with Polka Music at 10:00 a.m. All-you-can-eat BBQ beef, pork, and sausage dinner beginning at 10:30 a.m. at St. John Recreation Hall. Auction at 1:30 p.m. Bingo, music, and other events throughout the day.

Hallettsville—Sacred Heart Parish Picnic, Sept. 2, serving fried chicken, stew, and dressing at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 12.

High Hill—St. Mary's Parish Picnic, Sept. 2, serving chicken and stew dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 9.

Nada—St. Mary's Parish Festival & Homecoming, Sept. 2, serving a BBQ beef and sausage dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 15.

Shiner—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Picnic, Sept. 2, serving fried chicken, stew, and sausage dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 18.

Vanderbilt—St. John Bosco Festival, Sept. 2, serving pork steak and sausage dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 8.

Inez—St. Joseph Church, Picnic, Sept. 9, serving fried chicken, brisket, and sausage dinner at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 16.

Yorktown—Holy Cross Festival, Sept. 9, serving BBQ shoulder clod and sausage at \$10 each. See ad on pg. 5.

Meyersville—Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Festival, Sept. 30, (11220 FM 237), serving a BBQ Beef Dinner with all the trimmings from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be a live auction, silent auction, country store, bingo, cake-walk, kids games and lots of fun for all.

Bay City—Holy Cross Fall Festival, Sept. 30, serving turkey and dressing dinner at \$10 each.

Ministries • Ongoing Activities

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

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

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

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; **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. 9.

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.: August 4 and September 1. All are invited to attend.

ACTS Retreats—For information, visit 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.

Tivoli—Our Lady of Guadalupe Church celebrates the

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

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

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 ld-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.

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.

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.

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

Retrouvaille—Retrouvaille, meaning rediscovery, is a marriage-healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult marriages. Contact John and Jennifer Vincent at jbvjov@sbcglobal.net or (361) 580-2770; call (800) 470-2230; or visit www.helpourmarriage.org or www.retrouvaille.org.

Pilgrimages

Holy Land Pilgrimage with Very Rev. Charles Otsi-wah, 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. Cost is \$3,599 – includes airfare, hotels, breakfast, and dinner.

For more pilgrimages see **Journeys of Faith with Ceci** on pg. 6.

**Submit
Calendar of Events to
lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org**



Harvey Lingers One Year Later

Continued from pg. 1

the next morning. Dr. Cano said, “My heart broke for the patients being transferred; they were already sick, many were alone, and frightened by the unknown.” In conversation with one of his patients, he learned that she still has a hole in the roof over her bedroom, that is covered with a blue tarp. Dr. Cano said, “It is incredible to me that people are still living in these situations.”



~Inez Kucera

Inez Kucera, principal of Holy Cross Catholic School, in Bay City, lives in Peach Creek Acres near Hungerford. Bay City Mayor, Mark Bricker and County Judge, Nate McDonald ordered a mandatory evacuation on Sunday, August 27th, because they were projecting 10 feet of water to inundate Bay City. Mrs. Kucera shared, “We did what we could to prepare the school, as we were expecting 10 feet of water in Bay City.”

Inez wasn’t thinking of her home in Wharton County. Tuesday, August 29, around 11:15 p.m., Inez was sitting with her husband and monitoring Facebook for information on Bay City. She noticed a 10:44 p.m. post from Wharton County. They had posted an urgent message that read: “URGENT MESSAGE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE ORCHARD OR PEACH CREEK ACRES: If you live in these areas, you should be leaving immediately and seeking shelter elsewhere..... Please call

your friends and neighbors as it is late....” They picked up pictures and things of value, thinking that at most 2-3 feet of water could come into their home. They then spent the next hour talking with neighbors, who most likely did not have Facebook, and would have no idea of the urgent warning. Despite the warnings, some did not leave.

Inez, her husband, and their daughter did leave that night around 12:30 a.m. She said, “We didn’t know where to go. Victoria

had no power. Houston and surrounding areas were flooding or soon to be flooded! I then knew what the meaning of “no room



Above is an aerial photo of the flooded Peach Creek Acres neighborhood where the Kucera’s live. Left, is the figure of the Holy Family found completely clean among the muck that covered the Kucera home.

at the inn,” must have felt like. We went to Louise and spent the night with my husband’s friend, Robbie. The next morning, Wednesday, August 30, my husband and Robbie flew over the house to assess the damage. When they returned, I asked him how bad it was still thinking 2-3 feet. He stood in the doorway and looked silently at me. He said, ‘more like eight feet.’ The world stopped.” A total of 10 feet of flood-water filled the Kucera home destroying

everything. The neighbors who stayed were rescued by boat from rooftops, out of attics and second story balconies.

The Kuceras finally got back into their house, to see what they could salvage, on



Due to the loss of electricity throughout the city ice was in high demand after the hurricane.

Saturday, September 2. She sadly described how everything was awful and smelled so bad. Inez said, “We finally got in our muck-covered home that had been sitting in water for 4 days. I made my way through the house and in the master bedroom, there on the floor



The windows of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory were opened following Hurricane Harvey, in effort to dry out the interior of the church.

sat a figure of the Holy Family, completely clean among the mess. I knew at that moment that everything would be ok. God

would provide for us. People from far and near showed up to help us, and a year later hopefully we will be going back home. We are going to be ok! You realize how many people care, and you end up with friends you didn’t know you had. The meaning of giving was taken to a whole new level.”

For the past year, the Kuceras have been living with family. They are hoping to move into their rebuilt home by the end of August 2018. Although this experience has been traumatic for her family, Inez is so grateful she saw the late night message warning them to get out. The outpouring of love from everyone and help from people they didn’t even know has been overwhelming.



~Dr. John Quarry

Dr. Quarry, Superintendent of Catholic Schools shared, “It feels unending; the recovery is taking a long time. Here we are back in hurricane season, and some people are still not in their homes. Some people are barely recovering and are afraid, as they wonder will we be hit again and could we possibly recover again?” He described the day he found out that Inez Kucera’s home had flooded with ten feet of water. He explained, “To have a face involved of those (majorly) affected made it more personal. Some lives, like hers, were changed forever.”



~Aaron Padilla

Aaron, a seminarian with the diocese found himself “stuck” at school in Louisiana. He shared, “I felt helpless. I wanted to be in Victoria helping my family cut trees and clean up after the hurricane, but it was dangerous for us to leave.”

For more on Harvey Lingers One Year Later see pg. 15

“We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.”

– Philippians 4:13