



# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



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JUNE 2019

## Joys of My Vocation



Pictured above are the newly ordained transitional deacons for the Diocese of Victoria, with Bishop Brendan Cahill. Ordained by Bishop Cahill were (l-r) Deacon Dalton Ervin, Deacon James Dvorak, and Deacon Chase Goodman. (Photo courtesy of J.W. Harrison)

### By Sarita V. Richmond, Editor

In his Message for the 2019 World Day of Vocations, Pope Francis reflected on the reality that all men are made “bearers of a promise” and are asked to have the “courage to take a risk” with Jesus and for Jesus. The Holy Father emphasized that just as the Lord beckoned Simon and Andrew to leave their nets and follow him, he also asks the same of us. He encounters each of us personally and uniquely, and it is in the midst

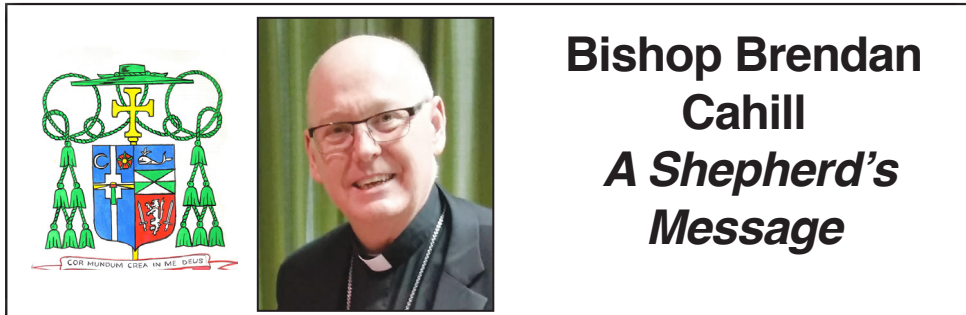
of this encounter with Christ that Pope Francis says we are granted “the promise of a joy capable of bringing fulfillment to our lives.”

Pope Francis also urged the young people to realize that following Jesus is always worth the risk. “Do not be deaf to the Lord’s call,” he urged. “If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. Do not yield to fear, which paralyzes us before the great heights to which the Lord points us.

The Diocese of Victoria currently has 12 men studying in the seminary. On May 25, Bishop Brendan Cahill ordained three of these seminarians, Dalton Ervin, Chase Goodman, and James Dvorak to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. Ordination to the diaconate is their last step before they will be ordained priests on May 30, 2020.

*See Joys of My Vocation, pg. 14*





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

### One Faith in Many Cultures

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Soon after I first received the news that I would become the bishop of the Diocese of Victoria a friend of mine shared with me – “You know, Father Brendan, the parish picnic in Dubina will be in July just after you’re ordained bishop...” I showed up at the Dubina picnic that year while they were having the auction under some beautiful oak trees. I stayed for a little while, had dinner and soon there was some music and dancing outside. A parishioner took the opportunity to show me the painted Church and shared with me some of the history and people of the

Catholic Church in that area. As I listened I heard a history of Czech Catholic culture brought to the United States years ago and still alive in changing times.

As the summer is about to begin we enter again into a season of parish picnics and festivals, times to thank God for blessings received and offer prayers for a hopeful future. I’ve been thinking about this season and the deeper meaning of these celebrations as expressions of culture and ways of handing on traditions and values in changing times. Cultural traditions give us the path to preserve what is essential and constantly

be open to renewal. In the opening section, the Catechism of the Catholic Church looks to the some of the earliest writings of the Church that speak about the many cultures that received the teaching of Jesus Christ and the Apostles in the first 150 years after the Resurrection of Christ and the Sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

“172 Through the centuries, in so many languages, cultures, peoples and nations, the Church has constantly confessed this one faith, received from the one Lord, transmitted by one Baptism, and grounded in the conviction that all people have only one God and Father (look at Eph. 4:4-6). St. Irenaeus of Lyons, a witness of this faith, declared:

173 “Indeed, the Church, though scattered throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, having received the faith from the apostles and their disciples. . . guards [this preaching and faith] with care, as dwelling in but a single house, and similarly believes as if having but one soul and a single heart, and preaches, teaches and hands on this faith with a unanimous voice, as if possessing only one mouth.” (Against Heresies 1, 10)

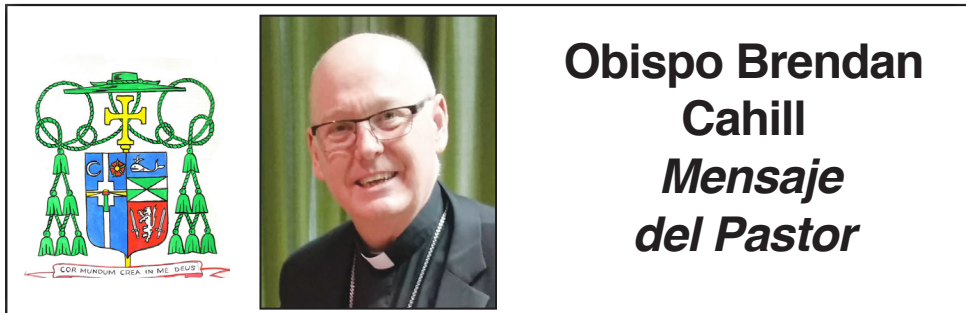
174 “For though languages differ

throughout the world, the content of the Tradition is one and the same, the Churches established in Germany have no other faith or Tradition, nor do those of the Iberians, nor those of the Celts, nor those of the East, of Egypt, of Libya, nor those established at the centre of the world. . .” (Against Heresies 1, 10). The Church’s message “is true and solid, in which one and the same way of salvation appears throughout the whole world.” (Against Heresies 5, 20)

175 “We guard with care the faith that we have received from the Church, for without ceasing, under the action of God’s Spirit, this deposit of great price, as if in an excellent vessel, is constantly being renewed and causes the very vessel that contains it to be renewed.” (Against Heresies 3, 24)

May the Lord bless you and your families in this summer season with His peace and mercy. Once again I ask that as St. John Paul II encouraged us to pray the Rosary with confidence, we pray with and for one another that we may be faithful to the beautiful truth handed on to us from previous generations.

+Brendan



## Obispo Brendan Cahill *Mensaje del Pastor*

### Una Fe en Muchas Culturas

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

Poco después de recibir por primera vez la noticia de que me convertiría en el obispo de la Diócesis de Victoria, un amigo mío compartió conmigo: “Sabes, Padre Brendan, el picnic de la parroquia en Dubina será en julio, justo después de que seas ordenado como obispo ...” Me presenté en el picnic de Dubina ese año mientras tenían la subasta bajo algunos robles hermosos. Me quedé un rato, cené y luego hubo música y bailando afuera. Un feligrés aprovechó la oportunidad para mostrarme la Iglesia pintada y compartió conmigo algo de la historia y la gente de la Iglesia Católica en esa área. Mientras escuchaba, escuché una historia de la cultura Católica Checa traída a los Estados Unidos hace años y todavía vivo en tiempos cambiantes.

Como el verano está a punto de comenzar, entramos nuevamente en una temporada de picnics y festivales parroquiales, momentos para agradecer a Dios por las bendiciones recibidas y ofrecer oraciones por un futuro esperanzador. He estado pensando en esta temporada y en el significado más profundo

de estas celebraciones como expresiones de la cultura y formas de transmitir tradiciones y valores en los tiempos cambiantes. Las tradiciones culturales nos dan el camino para preservar lo esencial y estar constantemente abiertos a la renovación. En la sección de apertura, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica mira algunos de los primeros escritos de la Iglesia que hablan de las muchas culturas que recibieron la enseñanza de Jesucristo y los Apóstoles en los primeros 150 años después de la resurrección de Cristo y la Envío del Espíritu Santo a Pentecostés.

172 Desde siglos, a través de muchas lenguas, culturas, pueblos y naciones, la Iglesia no cesa de confesar su única fe, recibida de un solo Señor, transmitida por un solo bautismo, enraizada en la convicción de que todos los hombres no tienen más que un solo Dios y Padre (cf. Ef 4,4-6). San Ireneo de Lyon, testigo de esta fe, declara:

173 “La Iglesia, diseminada por el mundo entero hasta los confines de la tierra, recibió de los Apóstoles y de sus discípulos la fe [...] guarda diligentemente la predicación [...] y

la fe recibida, habitando como en una única casa; y su fe es igual en todas partes, como si tuviera una sola alma y un solo corazón, y cuanto predica, enseña y transmite, lo hace al unísono, como si tuviera una sola boca” (Adversus haereses, 1, 10,1-2).

174 “Porque, aunque las lenguas difieren a través del mundo, el contenido de la Tradición es uno e idéntico. Y ni las Iglesias establecidas en Germania tienen otro fe u otra Tradición, ni las que están entre los iberos, ni las que están entre los celtas, ni las de Oriente, de Egipto, de Libia, ni las que están establecidas en el centro el mundo...” (Ibíd.). “El mensaje de la Iglesia es, pues, verídico y sólido, ya que en ella aparece un solo camino de salvación a través del mundo entero” (Ibíd. 5,20,1).

175 “Esta fe que hemos recibido de la Iglesia, la guardamos con cuidado, porque sin cesar, bajo la acción del Espíritu de Dios, como un contenido de gran valor encerrado en un vaso excelente, rejuvenece y hace rejuvenecer el vaso mismo que la contiene” (Ibíd., 3,24,1).

Que el Señor los bendiga a usted y a sus familias en esta temporada de verano con Su paz y misericordia. Una vez más, les pido que, mientras San Juan Pablo II nos animó a rezar el rosario con confianza, oramos unos con otros que seamos fieles a la hermosa verdad que nos han transmitido generaciones anteriores.

+ Brendan







## Bishop Cahill's Schedule

- June**
- 1** Mass for the Carmelites, Meyersville  
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Robert Bellarmine, El Campo
- 2** 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Mass at Sacred Heart, Hallettsville  
3:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass/Centennial celebration, Sweet Home
- 3-6** Catholic Rural Life Board Meeting at University of St. Thomas, Minnesota
- 8** Mass for the Carmelites, Meyersville  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Peter, Blessing
- 9** 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Joseph's, Moulton
- 10-15** USCCB Summer Conference, Baltimore, MD
- 16** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Bloomington
- 17** Noon Mass for Missionary Catechists
- 18** 6:30 a.m. Relevant Radio Morning Air Show
- 19** 2:30 p.m. Finance Board Meeting, Chancery  
4:00 p.m. Building Board Meeting, Chancery
- 21** Noon lunch with IWBS Sisters
- 22** Mass for the Carmelites, Meyersville
- 23-27** Preaching Academy Conference, Notre Dame, IN
- 28** World Day of Prayer for Sanctification of Priests, Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
- 29** Mass for the Carmelites, Meyersville  
4:30 p.m. Annual Conference of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Saint Clement's Monastery, Houston

- 30** 11:00 a.m. Opening Mass for Vocation Camp at St. Mary, Hallettsville
- July**
- 5** Noon Mass for Missionary Catechists
- 6** IWBS Jubilee Celebrations, Incarnate Word Convent

## Bishop Fellhauer's Confirmation Schedule

- June**
- 9** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass at St. John Bosco's Church, Vanderbilt

## Employment Opportunities

*The Diocese of Victoria has the following employment opportunities available. For detailed job descriptions and qualification requirements visit [www.victoriadiocese.org/current-job-postings](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/current-job-postings).*

### • Director of Clinical Services of the Emmaus Center

The application deadline is Monday, June 24, 2019.

### • Director of Communications

The application deadline is Friday, June 28, 2019.

### • Director of Family Evangelization

The application deadline is Friday, June 28, 2019.

Submit application to Melissa Salinas, Director of Human Resources by:

- Email: [msalinas@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:msalinas@victoriadiocese.org); OR
- Mail: P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903
- In-Person: 1505 E. Mesquite Lane, Victoria, TX 77901
- For Questions Call: (361) 827-7177

## Official Announcement

Bishop Cahill has appointed Hermes Silva as liaison for criminal justice ministry in the Diocese of Victoria.



# Happy Father's Day

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;  
may they find courage and perseverance to balance work,  
family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers around the world whose children  
are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion  
walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and  
guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who are no  
longer with us but who live forever in our memory  
and nourish us with their love.

Amen



June 16

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Lighthouse Readers,

It is with a very full heart that I write to inform you that I am resigning my position as Director of Communications and Editor of *The Catholic Lighthouse*. I have accepted a Spanish teaching position at St. Joseph High School, in Victoria, for the 2019-2020 school year. I will be taking my love of the Spanish language and culture, and beginning a new journey, as of July 2019.

On November 1, 2015, I became the first Director of Communications for the Diocese of Victoria and the new Editor of *The Catholic Lighthouse*. It has been an absolute pleasure serving as the editor of *The Catholic Lighthouse* for 41 issues! Thank you to each person who has been a faithful

reader of the *Lighthouse*!

In 3 years and 7 months I have met so many wonderful people throughout the diocese, visited parishes I didn't know existed before, and learned so much about communicating our Catholic faith. I have been blessed to work closely and collaborate with Bishop Cahill, Father Gary, the priests and deacons, seminarians, parish and schools, my colleagues at the chancery and so many others throughout the diocese!

God bless each one of you. I will cherish this experience from the bottom of my heart and keep you in my prayers.

Sarita Villafranca Richmond



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

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Education of Seminarian Fund

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

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

Lector

Elaine & Marvin Welch  
Andrew & Laurie Janak  
*in Memory of Leona Labay*

Leo & Joyce Janda  
*in Memory of Jerome Pavliska,  
Leona Labay, Donnie Siegel*

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

Bumgardner, Morrison & Co.  
*in Memory of Virginia Etzler*

Mildred Elam  
*in Memory of Msgr. Edward  
Bartsch's Ordination*

Acolyte

Dorothy A. Cunningham  
*in Memory of Msgr. Casey Jarzombek*

Knights of Columbus #1329  
*in Memory of Jim Vacek & Kevin Arnold*

Jesse & Nancy Lednický  
*in Honor of Msgr. John C. Bily 61st  
Anniversary of the Priesthood and of his  
86th birthday*

CDA St. Michael's Court #347  
Clarence & Ruth Metzger  
CDA Court of St. Paul #1604

Franklin & Rita Addicks  
*in Memory of Dixon Atchetee, Lenhart  
Swoboda, Joe & Alvin Wanjura, Marion  
Henneke, William & Annie Henneke, Steve  
Henneke, William Weishuhn Family, Frank  
& Emma Schoellmann; in thanksgiving for  
Fr. Wayne Flagg, Ervin & Cathy Buchta*

Candidate

St. Mary's High Hill Altar Society

Transitional Deacon

Victor & Gail Dvorak  
*in Memory of Fr. Dan Morales  
in Honor of Deacon Ordination of James  
Dvorak, Dalton Ervin, Chase Goodman*

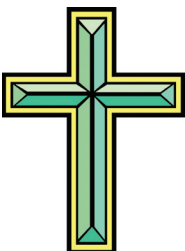
Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria who were ordained during the month of June:

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

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

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

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



Seminary Endowment Fund

Seminary Endowment Fund (formerly known as Seminary Burses) is a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is \$15,000. The **interest from this amount** is applied yearly to the education of seminarians. The burses are in memory of or in honor of an individual priest or layperson, living or deceased. Publication of the burses will appear periodically when new contributions are received.

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

May 21, 2019

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

*Lector*  
In memory of Jim Vacek by  
CDA Court St. Ann #369  
In memory of Roger Ruth by  
CDA Court St Ann #369

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

*Lector*  
In honor of James Michael Dvorak  
and Dalton Ryder Ervin Diaconate  
Ordination by Darry and Barbara Meyer  
In honor of Clarence and Linda Reuther's  
50th Wedding Anniversary by  
Darry and Barbara Meyer

*Candidate*  
In honor of Rev. Philip Brune's 5th  
Anniversary of Priestly Ordination by  
Darry and Barbara Meyer

• Rev. Kristopher L. Fuchs Seminary Burse

*Lector*  
In loving memory of Earlan George Dunn  
and Josie McLeod by  
Paul and Helen Flessner

*Acolyte*  
In honor of Rev. Kristopher Fuchs'  
birthday and 4th Anniversary of Priestly  
Ordination by Grandparents, Paul and  
Helen Flessner

• Chase Goodman Seminary Burse

*Acolyte*  
In honor of Chase Goodman by  
the entire Fulton Family

• Josephat R. Janak Seminary Burse #2

*Lector*  
In honor of Very Rev. Gary Janak's 31st  
Priestly Anniversary by Rose Marie  
Janak and Family

• Our Lady of Victory Altar Society Seminary Burse

*Lector*  
In memory of Anita "Ann" Betts by  
Grace E. Rigamonti

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

*Lector*  
Donation by Soila Sanchez  
In honor of Rev. Msgr. John Peters' 45th  
Anniversary of Priestly Ordination by  
Lucille Klekar  
In memory of Lawrence Grahmann by  
Pat Mladenka

*Acolyte*  
In memory of Vernon F. Matusek by  
Marilyn R. Matusek

• Rev. Timothy Kosler Seminary Burse

*Lector*  
In honor of Rev. Kirby Hlavaty's  
Ordination Anniversary on 5/29/1999  
and Rev. Ty Bazar's Ordination  
Anniversary on 6/01/2002 by  
Henrietta Veselka

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

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

Happy Birthday to Our Seminarians



**Philippe Dubourdieu** will be entering College IV in the fall at Holy Trinity Seminary, in Irving. This summer Philippe will be participating in the Diocesan Mission Program. Philippe's hometown is Bay City. His birthday is June 2. Write to Philippe at: Diocese of Victoria, PO Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903.



**Tran Dinh** is in his Pastoral year at St. Philip, in El Campo. Tran's hometown is Palacios. His birthday is June 10. Write to Tran at: St. Philip Church, 304 W Church St, El Campo, TX 77437.





## New Pastor Installed



On May 5, 2019, Father Kristopher Fuchs was installed as the new pastor of St. Mary Church, in Victoria. Bishop Brendan Cahill was present for the installation ceremony. He stated that Father Kristopher was probably the youngest priest ever to be pastor of St. Mary's. Also, present for the installation were Father Kristopher's parents and other family members. Since his ordination in 2015 he served as parochial vicar at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. Following Mass everyone was invited for lunch. (above) Father Kristopher is pictured taking his oath in front of parish personnel. (left) Father Kristopher speaks to the congregation and introduces his family.



**FAREWELL TO SISTER LAURA** — A school came to a close, the friends, faculty, and students said farewell to Sister Laura Toman, IWBS, who has spent over 50 years in education. Sister Laura was the principal of Our Lady of Victory (OLV), in Victoria for almost 10 years. Before OLV she served as principal at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Selma; Sacred Heart, Floresville; St. Michael Cuero; St. Patrick, Dallas; and St. Michael, Weimar.

## Bishop David Fellhauer Invitational Golf Tournament Enjoyed by Many

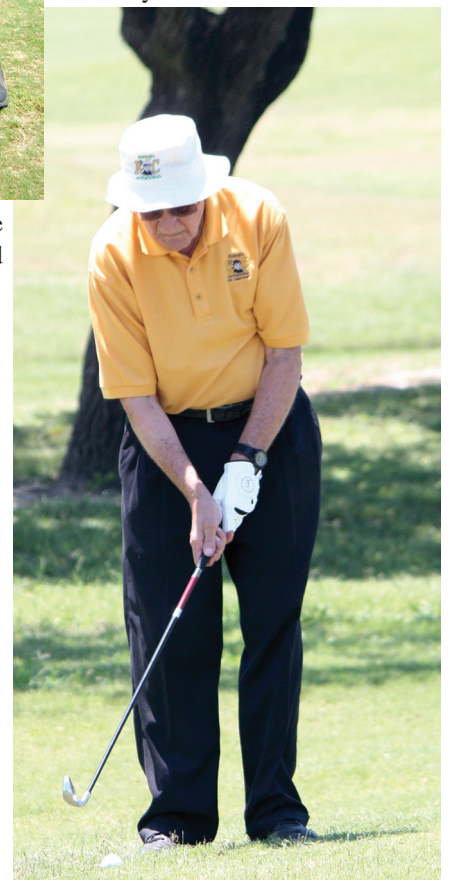


One of the golf teams included players: Bruce Poncik, Father Michael Rother, Riley Nabors, and Kevin Runge.

The Bishop David Fellhauer Invitational Golf Tournament, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council #9088 from Holy Family Church in Victoria, took place on April 26, 2019, at The Club at Colony Creek. This year 30 teams played in the tournament and raised over \$55,000. The funds from this tournament benefit the education of the seminarians of the Diocese of Victoria and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.



Pictured (left) is chairman, Ron Sitka and Monroe Rieger, last year's chairman. Pictured (above) are Ryan Kapalvik, Tim Michalski, John Le, and Joseph Blackburn.



Bishop David Fellhauer enjoys playing in the golf tournament each year.





**NAZARETH ACADEMY WINNERS**—Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Holy Family #2665 sponsored their annual Education Contest. Regent, Rosalie Phillips is pictured with the winners from Nazareth Academy at their regular meeting, that was held on April 23.



**PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY**—Principal Inez Kucera welcomed “the Principal for a Day” at Holy Cross School, in Bay City. The young principal worked hard taking care of the school and its students. She checked the calendar to see what was planned for her day, visited the teacher’s lounge for breakfast, and stopped by to pray with the Pre-K3 class.



## Local Students Honored for Exceptional Academic Success

EL CAMPO—St. Philip Catholic School is proud to announce that seventh-grade student Grace S. is among the students being honored by the Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) for their exceptional scores on the ACT or SAT. Grace qualified for State



Grace S.

Recognition, earning an award by scoring approximately at or above the national average of recent high school graduates on at least one part of the SAT or ACT.

The Duke University Talent Identification Program is a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving academically gifted and talented students. As a global leader in gifted education, Duke TIP works with students, their families, and educators to identify, recognize, challenge, engage, and support gifted youth in reaching their highest potential. Now in its thirty-ninth year, the 7th

Grade Talent Search identifies bright seventh graders who have scored at or above the 95th percentile on a grade-level standardized test. Candidates are invited to take the ACT or the SAT college entrance exams as seventh graders, which allows them greater insight into their academic abilities. In addition, they gain valuable benefits and have access to unique resources for gifted students. Duke TIP then hosts annual recognition ceremonies to honor the seventh graders who scored the highest on these ACT or SAT exams. For more information on the 7th Grade Talent Search, please visit [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu).

In addition to Grace S., St. Philip Catholic School is proud to announce that seventh-grade students Grace A., Emily G., Owen R., Slade S., Sarah S., and Kayden Z. were also part of the Duke TIP program this year. They too scored at or above the 95th percentile on their grade-level standardized test scores and took either the SAT or ACT this school year in order to more accurately gauge their academic abilities and potential. They will also receive a variety of support services and gain access to research and other information about using their academic abilities more effectively. Congratulations to each of these students!



**8TH GRADERS RECEIVE BISHOP'S AWARD**—Congratulations to the one hundred forty-nine 8th grade students throughout the Diocese of Victoria who completed the criteria to receive the Bishop's Award. They received the prestigious Bishop's Award on April 25, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. These students earned this award by learning 10 prayers by memory, scoring at least an 85% on the Diocesan Test of Christian Doctrine, completing at least 15 hours of service and fulfilling other criteria. In his homily Bishop Cahill mentioned one of Pope Francis' letters that challenges us to live the gospel. He told the congregation and the students receiving the awards, “Dare to be different. Testify everyday to the beautiful in your life. You have hopefully come to realize that under everything God has created, is beauty. The people in your life are the most beautiful.” To see the photo album go to [www.victoriadiocese.org/photoalbums/2019-bishops-awards](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/photoalbums/2019-bishops-awards).



### Heavenly Helpers



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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**





## Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

### Summer Camps

**Camp David** is a fun-filled retreat offered for junior high age students entering sixth or finishing eighth grade. For more information and registration forms, go to [www.victoriadiocese.org/camp-david](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/camp-david).

**Rocky Mountain High** will take place July 13 - July 21, 2019. Registration is now OPEN. For more information, visit [www.victoriadiocese.org/rocky-mountain-high-retreat](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/rocky-mountain-high-retreat).



**COME HOLY SPIRIT**—Students from St. Joseph, in Yoakum were confirmed Saturday, May 4, 2019. Bishop Brendan Cahill celebrated the Mass. May they be blessed with the grace of the Holy Spirit everyday!



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**—Pictured above is the First Communion class of Our Lady of Lourdes, in Victoria. (Photo courtesy of Texas Coastal Photography)



**RECEIVING JESUS FOR THE FIRST TIME**—Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.” Congratulations to the 2nd graders who received their First Holy Communion from Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, in Shiner, by Father Bryan Heyer, pastor. (Photo by Smile Time)

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**ST. PHILIP STUDENTS GREET WARRIORS**—The 8th grade students from St. Philip the Apostle, in El Campo, travelled to Praseks to greet the Wounded Warriors on May 17. They returned sharing comments of what a humbling experience it was to participate in the event. More than 400 wounded combat veterans enjoyed a meal at Praseks Smokehouse, in Hillje.



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## Family Rosary Announces Winners “Try Prayer! It Works!” Contest *Two Winners from Hallettsville*

Thirty-eight students named first-place winners, two from Sacred Heart Catholic School, Hallettsville 6th graders, Caleb B. and Kaycee S. placed first in the poetry category.

EASTON, Mass.—Family Rosary announces the winners of the 21st annual “Try Prayer! It Works!” Contest, which encourages students to express their faith through art, poetry and prose.

The Try Prayer! It Works! Contest focuses on family faith enrichment in the home. The goal is to bring the Church’s teachings to life around the dinner table with discussion prompts, reflection questions, prayer ideas and creativity.

Each year, children and teens from Catholic schools, parishes and other Catholic organizations across the globe utilize their creative skills to illustrate a different faith-based theme. Students from Kindergarten through 12th grade creatively depicted in various forms how their families are united through prayer and faith.

This year’s theme, Mary, Mother of the Church, helped families explore how Mary isn’t only the Mother of Jesus, but also Mother to us all. Our Blessed Mother’s important role in the Church flows from her deep connection with her Son and from there into every home.

The Bible shows how Mary is a Mother from when she’s first introduced in The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38). Her “Yes” to God to be Jesus’ mom is a perfect model of what it means to have strong faith even when something unexpected happens.

In addition to the “Try Prayer! It Works!” contest in the United States, separate competitions are conducted in Mexico, East Af-

rica, West Africa, Bangladesh, Brazil, India, France, Chile, Peru and the Philippines.

Entries are judged on content, ability to capture and interpret the theme, artistic and technical proficiency, and adherence to rules.

In the United States, winners are chosen from four categories: Art, Poetry, Prose and Video. Each winner is awarded \$100 U.S., while the sponsoring organization earns \$100 U.S. All the teachers involved are given a memento and each student who participated get a Certificate of Appreciation.

Family Rosary was founded in 1942 by Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., who was declared Venerable in December 2017. The “Try Prayer! It Works!” contest derives its name from an experience in his life. While a seminarian, Venerable Peyton was stricken with severe tuberculosis. At one point, a frustrated physician said, “Try prayer! We have done all we can for you.” Venerable Peyton prayed his Rosary to the Blessed Mother and he made a miraculous recovery, which he attributed entirely to Mary’s intercession.

This experience – coupled with his spiritually rich family life as a youth in Ireland – inspired Venerable Peyton to devote his life to Mary, Mother of God, and to the spiritual well-being of the family. His famous phrase, “The Family That Prays Together Stays Together,” still resonates today.

In the spirit of its founder, Venerable Patrick Peyton, Family Rosary serves Jesus Christ and his church by inspiring, promoting and fostering the prayer life and spiritual well-being of families throughout the world. Faithful to Mary, the Mother of God, Family Rosary encourages family prayer, especially the Rosary. For more information, call (800) 299-7729 or visit [www.FamilyRosary.org](http://www.FamilyRosary.org).

## Crowning of Mary



May is the Month of Mary and of the rosary. Mary was honored throughout the diocese at parish and school May Crowning Ceremonies. (top left) A parishioner of St. Patrick, in Bloomington is pictured crowning Mary. (top right) An Our Lady of Victory student waits to take flowers to Mary. (above) Four 8th graders from Our Lady of Victory carried the statue of Mary to the front of the church before leading a school-wide rosary.

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

The Knights of St. Gregory invite you to share an evening with Bishop Brendan Cahill at the Bishop’s Annual Charity Banquet held at the Victoria Country Club. This year the event will take place Thursday, July 25. The social will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit Bishop Cahill’s special charities. Tickets are \$100 per person. Seating limited to 250 guests, and reservations will be made in the order they are received. For ticket information, please call (361) 571-6668 or (979) 541-3502.

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## SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



### Lessons From A Garden

One of our Sisters at Incarnate Word Convent has an outdoor plaque that reads, “Life begins the day you plant a garden-Old Chinese Proverb”. When I first saw it, I thought, “That’s interesting; didn’t the story of our life, our life of salvation, begin in a garden?” Moreover, gardens, and nature in general, have been a rich manifestation of God’s power and existence throughout the ages.

A garden has many lessons to teach us. Every time I see a butterfly fluttering around, I am reminded of how life is not ended for caterpillars but transformed into the beautiful creature that we all admire. What a beautiful image of our own death and eternal life! Also, at this time of the year, the lush growth and the lilting voices of the songbird echo the alleluias that resound throughout all Christianity during the joyful post-Easter season. The awe-inspiring evening sunsets, the early-morning dew-covered blossoms, the gentle invigorating breeze, and the soft pattering of raindrops are all aspects of nature that speak of God’s goodness.

There is something genuine about all the activities in a garden. Plants and animals all function in the manner for which they are created. Deception is a human action which

can poison our view of life. Unfortunately, sometimes we can get distracted from our authentic appreciative focus on God’s wonders.

There are times when we hear things that we accept as truth that may not always have been based on reality. For example, I had heard that grackles –those noisy big black birds that gather on power lines in the evening- have few redeeming qualities. I had heard that they knock the eggs out of the nests of song birds and then lay their own eggs in the nests and let the songbirds take care of and feed the grackles’ babies. After observing some grackle parents in our yard, I noticed that at least one of the grackles always swished its catch in the birdbath after it had picked up a tasty morsel.

Then it would fly off to its nest. I’m assuming that it was her own babies that she was feeding. That blew my assumption that she was depending on songbirds to feed her babies. It took my observation of a natural action to set me straight.

I sometimes wonder about those clever minds, among them some renowned scientists, who fail to recognize God as the creator and organizer of life and matter. Some of these individuals spent their lives delving into the mysteries that are hidden about them. Researchers and engineers are busily engaged in a scavenger hunt to uncover and apply marvels that can improve the quality of life without realizing that the creator has embedded treasures for us to find and develop. However, no matter how skilled or knowledgeable such persons are, they are unable to create a simple cell, a single blade of grass, or any living thing. Such sobering realization should dash any pretensions that humans are independent of any being greater than ourselves.

Finally, I hope all of us have some time to spend contemplating all that nature offers: sights, smells, and sounds that speak of a provident God who loves each of us so much. Enjoy!



### VOLUNTEERS HONORED —

The Annual Gabriel Project Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was hosted by the Board of Directors, on Thursday, April 25, at Holy Family Church. More than 70 volunteers and their guests were in attendance as well as the board of director members

and the operations team. Music was provided by Traci Hernandez and Michael Orzibal. Two presenters for the evening were Sheri Danze, of Austin, who is Board-Vice President of Mom’s Center in Fredericksburg, and Board Member and Co-Founder of St. John Paul II Life Center, in Austin and Father Jasper Liggio, Diocese of Victoria Pro-Life Coordinator. Pictured (l-r) are Fred Williams, Gabriel Project Board President; Father Jasper Liggio, Sheri Danze, and Barbara McCain-Williams, Co-Founder and Board Secretary for Gabriel Project.



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**BLESSING OF FARMERS**—The Catholic Rural Life Chapter of Texas, CRL-Victoria held their first annual Rural Life Mass, on Wednesday, May 15, to celebrate the Feast of St. Isidore. This year, the Mass was hosted by Holy Cross Church, in East Bernard. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Brendan Cahill and con-celebrants were Rev. Charles Otsiwah and Rev. Stephen Vacek. Pictured (above) Bishop Cahill blessing tractors and seed. (right) Father Stephen is pictured with his brother and parents.



## Catholic Rural Life - Victoria

### Blessing of the Land

Land and life go hand in hand. Our daily bread comes from land as well as much else that sustains us. The land is beautiful for its mountains and plains; its beauty resounds in the canyons and draws. Its goodness thrives in the forests and fields; every plant emerges from it.

Do we take for granted how precious and fragile the land is? How grateful we should be! Only in rich soil do roots grow deep; if we deplete the soil, we risk everything. Our lives and the great variety of life on the earth depend upon the land and its vitality.



*Loving Creator, you entrusted the care of the land to Adam and Eve in the garden. Show us how to be good stewards of the land; give your blessing on every part of it — the soil, waterways and landscape. Together these contain the elements of life entrusted by You to our care.*

*May you remind us of your constant love and bless us with favorable weather, abundant crops and a vigorous community of life around us.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*



Deacon Lawrence Hoelscher, Father Charles Otsiwah, altar servers, a young farmer, Bishop Brendan Cahill, and Father Stephen Vacek gathered for a photo after bishop blessed everyone present at the Catholic Rural Life Mass.

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## Companions for Our Journey

*The following sermon was written by Father Charles Kram from the nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B.*

Looking back on our past lives, we can all remember certain people we have known who hold a prominent place in our memory- a parent, -a teacher, -a dear friend, a padre, a nun...

Perhaps a special someone who helped us make important decisions in our lives or even to choose our WAY of life. I can especially remember Sister Anthony from my Junior and Senior years in High School. She had a knack for putting the fear and love of God into our hearts and she did so much to form our lives. Whenever we members of the class of '46 meet, we always discuss good old Sister Anthony and the way the things we did to her made her a saint.

We look back with much respect and gratitude on people like these, and we realize that our way of thinking and of acting might have been entirely different if we had never met them.

God works in mysterious ways in taking care of his children. What if Sister Anthony had never heard of Christ or had not followed her special calling? What if our parents had deserted us when we were little. What if as individuals we had not learned better than to

waste our lives on selfish trivia. In each case a vital link in the chain would have been broken and the best things in life that we received would not have been passed on to us.

Thoughts like these can really make us wonder, and make us realize that as persons we have great worth in God's sight, and that we are each important in the carrying out of His loving Providence for the whole world.

What would life be like, what would WE be like if Christ had never come into the world? What truths would we live by? To whom would we dedicate our lives? How would our sins be forgiven?

Some theologians teach that even if Adam had not sinned and mankind had not needed a Redeemer, Christ would nevertheless have come, to be the center of the human race.

Ever since that holy night when the angels sang and announced to the shepherds that He had been born, we have never more needed to feel alone, for he has been with us, like us in every way but sin, and he will never leave us.

Having been through agony and death for us, he is our constant strength and example, our best friend, our secure refuge in life and in death.

And as if that were not enough, much better than the manna that the Lord gave the children of Israel in the desert, now he gives us



his own body and blood as our nourishment, so that we, his chosen ones, can live forever.

Have you ever seen a poem entitled, "Footprints in the Sand"? It tells the story of a man and his dream about walking side by side with the Lord along the seashore and leaving footprints in the sand.

Retracing his steps he noticed that during the worst and saddest moments in his walk, he saw only one set of footprints, so he asked the Lord, "Why did you leave me just when I needed you the most?" The Lord answered, "My child, I never left you. During the worst trials, when you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I was carrying you."

Truly we Christians are a people walking with the Lord, and many a time has he carried us.

So today would be a fine day to reminisce

over all those seeming coincidences which were turning points in our lives and to appreciate how important the Lord Jesus had been to us, how much his influence has helped to make us what we are, and how many opportunities we have each had to be important in the lives of others.

Why not tell Him so.

*Lord Jesus, thank you for doing so much to change our lives and to guide us on our earthly pilgrimage.*

*Help us to be, as often as we can, that special person in someone else's life.*

*Grant that by your Grace we may all one day joyfully walk with you in the Father's kingdom.*

Amen

## Emmaus Center Roast N Toast Gala Draws Laughter



The 2nd Annual Roast N Toast benefiting the Emmaus Center was held on May 10, at the Cathedral Center. It was an extremely successful event raising more than \$122,000! Thank you to all who attended and made the evening special. Pictured (top left) are Father Gary Janak and Annie Coffey who were explaining plans for future growth of the Emmaus Center. Pictured (above) "Roasting" Bishop Cahill were: Michael Fleming, Father Michael Rother, Michael Koch, May Cahill and Father Troy Gately. Pictured (left) is Dr. Bill Sage, who presented Bishop Cahill with the St. Thomas High School Father Daniel Cooper Alumni of the Year Award.



### The Emmaus Center



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## National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea, May 22

By USCCB

Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, S.T.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Texas and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) promoter, is encouraging dioceses to mark the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea by remembering the men and women of the sea in homilies and by including special petitions during Mass. When Mass is celebrated on May 22, the text for the Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea, is also encouraged.

Bishop Cahill will celebrate a Mass in observance of Maritime Day on Saturday, May 18 at 12:10 p.m. in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. AOS and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church sponsor this prayerful observance.

In conjunction with National Maritime

Day in the United States of America, the US Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration annually honors the hardworking men and women in "Maritime Service to America" with the National Maritime Day Observance and Wreath-Laying ceremony. The day honors those who serve as merchant mariners, seafarers, fishers, their families, port personnel and all who work or travel on the high seas.

In over 50 ports, there are more than 100 AOS chaplains, maritime deacons and lay ecclesial ministers who participate in the mission of Christ by sharing the gift of love. They welcome, network and reach out to seafarers, fisher men and women, their families, and all who work or travel on the seas. Through the celebration of the Eucharist and the Word of God, the chaplaincy team helps seafarers discover the loving presence of God in an often challenging world. Their continued presence for pastoral ministry is a clear evidence of their dedication and joy for the ministry.

More information is available at: <http://www.usccb.org/aos>.

Please find the following YouTube Channel link to a USCCB conducted interview on 4/30/19 with Bishop Cahill re: the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) for your use and for sharing on social media: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zINKcqMahY&feature=youtu.be>



**BOUNDARIES WORKSHOP HELD—** Melanie Takinen, Associate Director of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops presented a workshop on *Healthy and Holy: Maintaining Positive Boundaries* on May 2-3. Clergy, Safe Environment Coordinators, principals, youth ministers, catechists and others attended. Monica Ashour, shared a presentation and introduced the *Theology of the Body* curriculum and educator guides.



Bishop Brendan J. Cahill of the Diocese of Victoria, Promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) is pictured with Father Joseph Phan, AOS Chaplain at the Port of Oakland. Photo credit: Mr. John Classen, Director AOS.

**BABY ON THE WAY —** A baby shower was held on May 28, at the Chancery, for Claudia Contreras, Director of Disaster Services for the Diocese of Victoria. She and her husband, Peter are expecting their second child, a little girl, who will be named Isabella Catarina. May God bless mom and baby!



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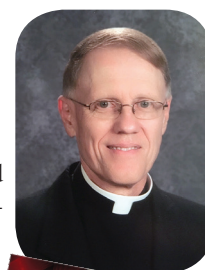
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# Joys of My Vocations

Continued from pg. 1

Each of these seminarians, when asked to share a little about how their vocation brings happiness and balance to their lives, responded with the joys of their vocation.

*James Michael Dvorak*  
**Seminary:**  
St. Mary's Seminary, Houston  
**Hometown:** Frelsburg  
**Home Parish:** Sts. Peter & Paul Parish  
**Summer Assignment:**  
Holy Family, Wharton, Holy Land Pilgrimage & U.S. Naval Academy



Ever since I was 14, I have been discerning and responding to the vocation of the priesthood. Now 26 years-old, that is approximately 12 years — nearly half of my life! My vocation has become an integral part of my life.

As a seminarian preparing for the life of a priest, I have witnessed a fruitful and rewarding life with insurmountable blessings and joys along the way. I have met so many people in my life both Catholics and those of other faiths, and I enjoy getting to know them, learn from them, and preach the gospel. I want to bring people to Jesus Christ and even though dialogue and bearing witness takes great effort, it is rewarding to experience the fruits of the labor. Also, I enjoy silence... Silence has been at the heart of my discernment in listening to God's call for me. I enjoy it in many forms:

- Holy Hours, preferably before the Blessed Sacrament, are most needed during the busyness of a typical day so to invite Christ into my life and allow him to direct my work and focus so that I remain faithful to his will and my vocation. This practice has sustained me through countless trials of life.
- Hunting is another activity I enjoy. Spending time outdoors in peace and quiet observing mother nature is a relaxing way to slow down.
- Occasionally, I also take some time to draw. Bringing an image to life by my own hands is powerful, especially a religious image. It takes a great amount of time and work, but the details bear fruit in the end. Just like life, you can get caught up in the details and fail to take a step back to see the big picture. So too like discernment, you can get bogged down in the details of the day-to-day life, but

lose the sight of the overall picture. The fact is without those details, the image would not be the same.

- I enjoy playing guitar and singing some old country tunes. Whenever I have a busy stressful day, I enjoy picking on my guitar as a way to unwind and relax.

*Dalton Ryder Ervin*  
**Seminary:**  
Pontifical College Josephinum, Ohio  
**Hometown:** Weimar  
**Home Parish:** St. Michael Church  
**Summer Assignment:**  
Our Lady of Sorrows, Victoria



I have always said that being a seminarian for the Diocese of Victoria has been the best time of my life so far. I can only imagine that being a priest in the diocese will be even better. Throughout the past six years, I have had the opportunity to serve in many ways throughout our diocese, the state, the country, and the world. Some include traveling from parish to parish and visiting Vacation Bible Schools, serving as a chaplain at the Children's Medical Center of Dallas, working with migrant farmworkers and their families in California, to studying Spanish and living at the hospital and orphanage in Guatemala. All of these opportunities have revealed to me the true joy that is to be found in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

The primary joy I have found in pursuing this vocation to the priesthood has been seeing how much people love Jesus and want to know him more. It is always a humbling experience to encounter people who are

searching for a deeper relationship with the Lord and come to me seeking guidance and assistance. To be able to walk with people, to accompany them, as they respond to God's invitation to come to him has definitely been a highlight of the past six years of seminary formation. Hearing people's stories, entering into their lives, sharing their emotions, and feeling their support for the priesthood has given me joy and confidence in this critical and demanding time in the life of the Church. Another joy of pursuing this vocation has been the intimacy of the life of prayer afforded to me as a seminarian. One view could be that seminarians have to pray a lot; however, it could also be said that we get to pray a lot. Having the opportunity and access to spiritual directors, daily Mass, daily confessions, adoration, communal prayer, and always available chapels has been a gift that has far surpassed any of my expectations. While using these resources for myself and my own good, I also carry with me the requests and intentions of so many people who entrust me with their needs.

While I have found immeasurable joy in the service of the community and prayer, it has also been realized through being in the Diocese of Victoria, especially during my pastoral year in Port Lavaca. Spending time near the bay and fishing allowed me to see God in creation and get away from the daily routine. Standing in the water, in silence, except for the sound of the wind, birds, water, and occasionally the hum of a passing boat gave me time to reflect on past days and look forward in hope to days to come without worrying about anything more than the hook I just failed to set, because I was thinking about something else. Lastly, I find so much joy in this vocation, support to pursue it, and encouragement to be better in it, from my family. Family gatherings, from weddings to funerals, or just a weekend get-together on a patio, remind me of where I come from and how I have gotten this far. For this I can only be eternally grateful.

*Chase Rittenhouse Goodman*  
**Seminary:**  
Pontifical College Josephinum, Ohio  
**Hometown:** Victoria  
**Home Parish:**  
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory  
**Summer Assignment:**  
St. Michael & Our Lady of Guadalupe, Cuero



I haven't found a ministry I haven't enjoyed, but I love teaching. I taught junior high religion, religious education, confirmation, and two series of adult classes, while on my pastoral year, at Sts. Cyril and Methodius, in Shiner. They each posed unique difficulties, but I loved stirring the embers of faith into a roaring fire.

When it comes to prayer, eucharistic adoration is my favorite choice. No matter where I find myself in life, I always have recourse to the Blessed Sacrament. I always find rest and peace in him.

I've found a lot of joy in cooking at the seminary. The seminary provides all our meals, but the seminarians have a community kitchen that we're free to use whenever we like. It's nice to break away from the food service occasionally and make something for me and some friends.

Cooking (and eating) have always been an important part of gatherings for my family, and I've definitely carried that over into the seminary. There tends to be several events every semester that I've been able to cook for, such as our Super Bowl chili cook-off, the "Mud Bowl," and the sow roast at the spring softball tournament. In the past year I've been barbecuing about as often as I could, and experimenting with dry aging and curing meats. I smoked a brisket that I dry aged for four weeks, and it turned out to be the best beef I've ever had. I'm currently curing some prosciutto at the seminary, hopefully it will turn out well.

I love to provide and share a good meal with my brother seminarians, and all my experience in the diocese has affirmed that this is a hobby that will translate well into my future ministry. I'd love to put some pancetta or a dry aged steak dinner in an auction!



Seminarians studying at St. Mary's Seminary, in Houston, attended the diaconate ordination on May 25. They are from the Diocese of Austin and the Diocese of Brownsville.







During the ordination, those to be ordained went before Bishop Cahill and made a promise of obedience. Bishop asked each candidate, "Do you promise respect and obedience to me and my successors?" James Dvorak is pictured kneeling before bishop with his hands between Bishop Cahill's hands making his promise of obedience.



The newly ordained deacons each received the Book of the Gospels from Bishop Cahill. Dalton is pictured kneeling before Bishop Cahill, as he placed the Book of the Gospels, in his hands, saying, "Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you have become. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach."



During the ceremony the newly ordained deacons were invested with the stole and dalmatic, vestments which signify their ministerial role in the celebration of the Eucharist. Chase is pictured with Father Kristopher Fuchs and Deacon Joe Machacek, who helped him adjust his stole and put on the dalmatic.



Bishop Brendan Cahill, Bishop David Fellhauer, and Bishop Joseph Coffey, the Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA visited as they processed in line for the ordination.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE—**  
Father Gary Janak, pastor of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, in Victoria, blessed the Warrior's Weekend Field of Honor at a prayer service on Tuesday, May 14. Warrior's Weekend XIII was held on Saturday, May 17-19, in Port O'Connor.

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



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

## Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church **FEAST**

Dubina, Texas

**Celebrates its 163rd Year**

**SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2019**

**POLKA MASS at 9:00 a.m.**

**"Dubina-Style" Fried Chicken and  
Sausage Dinner**

**with All the Trimmings**

**ADULTS: \$10.00**

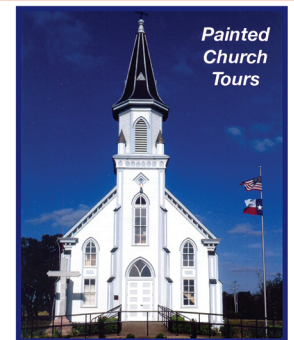
**CHILDREN: \$5.00**

(Children under 12)

**Serving Begins at 11:00 a.m.**

**Adult Take Home Plates**

**Through Express To-Go Line**



Painted  
Church  
Tours

**Entertainment and Amusements All Day**

**COUNTRY AUCTION:**  
**1:30 P.M.**

**BINGO**  
**2:00-6:00 p.m.**  
(License #30-006202303)

**"CLASSIC CARS"**  
**- On Site -**

**WASHER PITCHING  
TOURNAMENT**  
Registration - 3:00 p.m.  
Tournament - 4:00 p.m.

**HAMBURGERS**  
will be served in the evening

**SWEEPSTAKES  
DRAWING**  
at 8:00 p.m.

Free Dancing (Under the Pavilion)  
POLKA and WALTZ  
MUSIC DAY & NIGHT

**Mark Halata &  
Texavia /  
Lost Cause Band**  
Noon - 7:00 p.m.

**Dubina Cookbooks**  
For Sale at the Country Store

**EVERYONE INVITED!!!**





**KC MEMBERS PROMOTED**— The Knights of Columbus (KC) 4th Degree, Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, District-2 held an Exemplification in San Antonio, on Saturday May 11, 2019. The installation was held at Saint Pius X Catholic Church, with District-2 Master Herman Poohong as the main officiate. Four Knights of Columbus members from the St. Michael, Weimar, 4th Degree Assembly #1527, were raised up to Knighthood, the highest degree of the order. Sir Knights pictured (l-r) are Sir Knight Rodney Kalich, Schulenburg; Sir Knight Andrew Velasquez, Flatonia; Sir Knight Colton Bubela, Schulenburg; and Sir Knight Paul Zapalac, New Ulm.



**100TH ANNIVERSARY**— The community and parishioners of Queen of Peace, in Sweet Home celebrated the church's 100th Anniversary on June 2. A new brick church was built in Sweet Home, with Bishop Shaw blessing the cornerstone in 1918 and Bishop Drossaerts blessing the church on June 3, 1919, under the title of the Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace. Today the pastor is the Rev. Dominic Antwi-Boasiako.

## KJT Helps with Restoration

SCHULENBURG—St. Augustine KJT Society of Schulenburg, annual Matching Grant Turkey Shoot contest was cancelled due to bad weather but that did not stop the society from shooting the Big Card Shootout Raffle that were sold prior to the contest and presenting a check of the proceeds with a matching grant from the Home Office to the American Legion McBride Post 143, in Schulenburg, to help with the restoration of the stage curtain from the Tri-Association Dance Hall.

The stage curtain was painted in the late 1920s by local Weimar artist Edmund R. Horak and hung in the Schulenburg Turner

Hall. The hall was purchased in 1936 by a Tri-Association made up of the local American Legion Post, the Dairy Association, and the Volunteer Fire Department. By 1965 the American Legion Post had sole ownership of the hall until 2004 when it was sold to the Boys and Girls Club of Champion Valley. The stage curtain was removed and donated to the Schulenburg Historical Museum where it currently hangs on loan in Senglemaun's Hall in Schulenburg. The American Legion is working closely with the Schulenburg Historical Museum on the restoration plans.

## In Memoriam

### Sister Lucille Ann Fritsch, CDP



Sister Lucille Ann Fritsch, CDP (aka Sister Mary Cordelia) entered eternal life on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at the age of 86.

She was the daughter of Alfred and Marie Agnes (Seidenberger) Fritsch. Sister Lucille Ann was born in Schulenburg, on October 23, 1932. She answered God's call to become a Sister of Divine Providence on June 21, 1952. Sister Lucille Ann prayerfully accepted her many ministries as opportunities for growth and recognized the challenging aspects as blessings of self-awareness. She was a

teacher, principal, parish liturgist, director of religious education, director of Moye Retreat Center, faith formation director, sacristan, and director of the CDP Associates. During her four years of retirement, she continued being a voice and presence for her fellow resident Sisters.

Mass of Resurrection was held Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at Annunciation Chapel, at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center, in San Antonio.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Divine Providence, 515 SW 24th Street, San Antonio, TX 78207-4619.

## Fat Tuesday Fundraiser Benefits Organizations

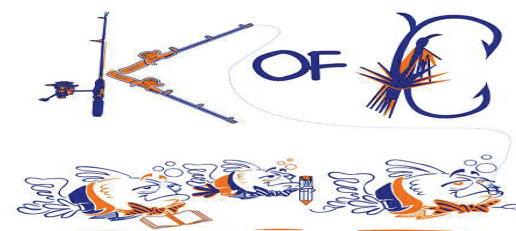
The Knights of Columbus (KC) Council #9088 from Holy Family Church, in Victoria held their Annual Fat Tuesday Fundraiser on March 5, which raised a total \$8,800. Proceeds were presented to charities in the Victoria area. George Wenzel, KC Committee Chairman and Manuel Gonzales, III, KC

Grand Knight presented a check for \$2,200 to the following: Annie Coffey, Director of Clinical Services at the Emmaus Center; Sr. Rebecca Janacek, IWBS, Director for Promise Pointe; and Barbara Respondek, representing Crisis Pregnancy Center of Victoria.

## Holy Family K of C Council #9088

*Presents the*

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL



READIN', RITIN' & REELIN'  
PORT O'CONNOR, TEXAS

## FISHING TOURNAMENT

# AUGUST 2 & 3

## PORT O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTER

DOOR PRIZES ★ CASH PRIZES  
LIVE AUCTION ★ RAFFLE

FOR INFORMATION ON ENTRIES, CONTACT:

**SISTER ANN MELETIO AT 361-485-2044**

**BRENDA HERMES AT 361-564-8361**

**GEORGE WENZEL AT 361-649-7707**

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT

## NAZARETH ACADEMY SCHOOL, VICTORIA





## President of U.S. Bishops' Conference Issues Statement on Pope Francis's "Motu Proprio" Ordering Worldwide Response to the Evil of Sexual Abuse

WASHINGTON—Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following statement regarding the release of Pope Francis's *Motu Proprio*. . . earlier today. The *Motu Proprio*, *Vos estis lux mundi* ("You are the light of the world"), is a worldwide order to the Church from the Pope, in response to the evil of sexual abuse. The new law comes after a meeting in Rome that brought together all episcopal conference presidents from across the globe to discuss the Church sex abuse crisis.

Cardinal DiNardo's full statement follows:

"Today, Pope Francis ordered a worldwide response to the evil of sexual abuse. It calls for the establishment of easily accessible reporting systems, clear standards for the pastoral support of victims and their families, timeliness and thoroughness of investigations, whistleblower protection for those making allegations, and active involvement of the laity. It also leaves latitude for national bishops' conferences, such as the USCCB, to specify still more to account for their local circumstances. We receive the *Motu Proprio Vos estis lux mundi* ('You are the light of the world') as a blessing that will empower the Church everywhere to bring predators to justice, no matter what rank they hold in the Church. It also permits the Church the time and opportunity to bring spiritual healing.

The Holy Father said a 'continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church.' Pope Francis was clear that this responsibility 'falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles.' As part of this responsibility, bishops also will be held accountable under the authority of this *Motu Proprio*, which covers sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable persons, sexual acts compelled through the abuse of authority, and any cover-up of such crimes.

In publishing this new law, which is applicable to the Church throughout the world, Pope Francis has made clear that protection and healing must reach all of God's children. Following on the meeting just two months ago of all episcopal conference presidents, the *Motu Proprio* shows Pope Francis expects swift and comprehensive progress. For the Church in the United States, the task before us now is to establish whatever is necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the *Motu Proprio*. Our committees have already begun the work of preparing

implementation measures for deliberation at the USCCB Plenary Assembly in June.

I am grateful for the opportunity to build upon the excellent foundation of the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons, and the Statement of Episcopal Commitment, all of which date back to 2002. The existing framework in the United States including victim outreach, zero tolerance, reporting allegations to civil authorities, and lay expertise on review boards, among other measures - positions us readily to bring the Holy Father's instructions to action. By embracing the painful experience of survivors and working on these new protections, let us pray we continue to grow into a stronger Church."

### Questions & Answers Regarding Pope Francis's *Motu Proprio Vos estis lux mundi*

#### What does the new *Motu Proprio* do?

The new *Motu Proprio Vos estis lux mundi* is a significant move forward for the universal Church, one that echoes many of the practices established in the U.S. Bishops' Essential Norms and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People that have been in force in the United States since 2002. For example, it affirms the existing:

- Commitment to provide for the spiritual and emotional well-being of victims/ survivors and their families;
- Duty to comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities;
- Right of any person to report such crimes;
- Guarantee of a prompt and objective investigation;
- Assurance of lay involvement

The *Motu Proprio* also continues to focus on victims by significantly building upon existing local practices, for example by expanding:

#### The scope of cases to include:

- The sexual abuse of a new classification of "vulnerable persons,"
- The use of violence or other abuse of power to perform or submit to sexual acts,
- Any cover up of such conduct by other;
- Those who are to be reported for such cases, namely, cardinals, bishops, other clerics, religious superiors, and other members of institutes of consecrated life or societies of apostolic life;

Reporting obligations to include mandatory, internal reporting;

- Safeguards against retaliation or discrimination by mandating "whistle-blower" protections

#### When do these norms take effect?

- They will take effect on June 1, 2019;
- They will be reviewed by the Holy See after three

years and adjusted as needed;

- Every diocese and eparchy (either individually or collectively) is to have a publicly accessible means for people to report cases covered under the *Motu Proprio* by June 1, 2020. In the United States, while this has already been accomplished for cases involving the sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons, reporting mechanisms will have to be modified to serve the broader categories of the *Motu Proprio*.

#### What about cases of sexual misconduct that do not fall under this *Motu Proprio*?

These are generally already covered by existing diocesan or eparchial codes of conduct. With the help of lay and legal experts, bishops are working on ways to ensure that coverage and enhance awareness and reporting mechanisms for such cases.

#### How are transparency and confidentiality promoted in this new *Motu Proprio*?

The *Motu Proprio* increases transparency by establishing clear procedures that must be followed, reaffirming the obligation to report to civil authorities, providing for lay involvement in internal investigations, protecting from possible conflicts of interest, and ensuring that those who report complaints to the Church are also free to report the same information to others and are protected from retaliation. At the same time, because the *Motu Proprio* involves the investigation of

a complaint, it carefully balances the rights of those involved. Confidentiality is needed for the effectiveness of the investigation. It protects victims and witnesses, as well as the presumption of innocence and the seal of the confessional.

#### Does this new *Motu Proprio* interfere or hinder civil law, such as mandatory reporting requirements and civil investigations?

In no way. The *Motu Proprio* establishes the canonical (Church law) procedures that are to be followed. Included in these procedures, however, is the obligation to comply with all applicable civil laws.

#### Zero tolerance is not mentioned. Is that no longer the policy of the Catholic Church?

In the United States, zero tolerance has been the policy since 2002, which comes from the Charter and the Essential Norms. The *Motu Proprio* does not undo this policy. Other episcopal conferences around the world have or will be developing policies appropriate to their legal and cultural situations. The good news here is that what was first thought of as an "American problem" or a "Western problem" is now on everyone's radar.

#### Why does the *Motu Proprio* focus on the role of the Metropolitan?

The *Motu Proprio* uses the Metropolitan because it is a position in the Church that is grounded in tradition and the teaching of Vatican II and is governed by existing canon law.

This also allows investigations to be carried out on the local level, where the Metropolitan will have more direct access to information, documents, and lay experts to help investigate, and can collaborate with civil authorities. The Metropolitan, being local, can also take measures to preserve and secure evidence.

Recent investigations of misconduct by a bishop, such as in West Virginia, have successfully followed this practice.

#### What does this mean for the proposals the U.S. bishops considered last November?

The work of our committees that has already taken place will be examined and adapted to work within the framework of the new *Motu Proprio* and will be the basis for deliberation over its implementation at the USCCB Plenary Assembly in June.

Source: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops







Solemnidad del Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo
Evangelio
Lc 9, 11-17

Lectura del santo Evangelio segun san Lucas: En aquel tiempo, Jesús habló del Reino de Dios a la multitud y curó a los enfermos. Cuando caía la tarde, los doce apóstoles se acercaron a decirle: "Despide a la gente para que vayan a los pueblos y caseríos a buscar alojamiento y comida, porque aquí estamos en un lugar solitario". Él les contestó: "Denles ustedes de comer". Pero ellos le replicaron: "No tenemos más que cinco panes y dos pescados; a no ser que vayamos nosotros mismos a comprar víveres para toda esta gente". Eran como cinco mil varones. Entonces Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: "Hagan que se sienten en grupos como de cincuenta". Así lo hicieron, y todos se sentaron. Después Jesús tomó en sus manos los cinco panes y los dos pescados, y levantando su mirada al cielo, pronunció sobre ellos una oración de acción de gracias, los partió y los fue dando a los discípulos para que ellos los distribuyeran entre la gente. Comieron todos y se saciaron, y de lo que sobró se llenaron doce canastos.

Word search grid containing letters for the crossword puzzle.

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.



Un devoto venera un relicario que contiene el corazón incorrupto de San Juan Vianney en la Iglesia St. Anne en Gilbert, Arizona el 6 de mayo de 2019. (Foto CNS-Billy Hardiman, The Catholic Sun)

Ven y Sígueme Clase en Español
Ven y Sígueme: Primer curso al discipulado
Sesión 5: Desarrollo de Liderazgo
Presentadores: Gloria Gonzalez y Arturo Lara
Donde: St. Robert Church, 512 Tegner St., El Campo, TX 77437
Cuando: 8 de junio 2019, 10:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m.
Estas clases se llevan a cabo sin costo alguno para usted vengan y pasen un día explorando su fe. Se dará la comida de mediodía. Guardería de niños está disponible.
Para más información contactar a:
Diocese of Victoria/Sister Rosario (361) 573-0828 ext. 2216;
Sister Miriam Perez, MCSH: (361) 676-9302; Mauricio Santiago: (979) 616-0421;
Heriberto Castillo: (361) 208-5014

Reporting Procedures for Suspected or Known Sexual Abuse of a Minor (person under 18 years of age) or Vulnerable Adult by a Member of the Clergy
Contact:
• The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, within 48 hours, at (800) 252-5400, www.txabusehotline.org, or local police department. If person is in immediate danger call 911.
and
• Vicki Pyatt, LMSW, Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Outreach, Diocese of Victoria, (361) 827-7186, pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.
or
• Bishop or Chancellor of the Diocese of Victoria, (361) 573-0828.
Written allegations can be mailed to Office of the Bishop, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 marked "Personal and Confidential".
PROMISE TO PROTECT
PLEDGE TO HEAL
If sexual abuse by a member of clergy has occurred in another diocese, the Diocese of Victoria will help bring your concerns to church officials. For assistance contact Vicki Pyatt at (361) 827-7186 or pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.





## Meals • Picnics and More

### June

**East Bernard**—Annual Czech Kolache Klobase Festival – Saturday, June 8, 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Riverside Hall sponsored by KJT Society No. 40. Admission is \$8 p/p and children 12 and under free. For more information, go to [www.kkfest.com](http://www.kkfest.com) or call (979) 335-7907.

**Bay City**—Our Lady of Guadalupe Annual Live Auction and Mexican Meal, June 9, at the Family Education Building (Parish Gym). A Carnitas de Puerco (Shredded Pork) plate with rice, beans and tortillas at \$10 p/p. Dine-in begins at 11:00 a.m. with drive-thru plates-to-go beginning at 10:30 a.m. Auction begins at 11:30 a.m. along with fun and games.

**St. Mary**—St. Mary's Picnic June 9, at the parish hall (1648 FM 340 just outside of Hallettsville). Mass will be celebrated at 9:15 a.m. A stew and sausage dinner begins at 10:30 a.m., \$10 p/p.

**Schulenburg**—St. Rose of Lima Annual Parish Picnic June 9, at the KC Hall. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. Games, music and more throughout the day.

**Victoria**—KC Council #9088, Holy Family (704 Mallette Dr.) will be serving BBQ chicken dinner plates (take-out) June 9, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at \$10 p/p. Proceeds benefit the special charity projects.

**Port Lavaca**—Catholic Daughters Court #2267 of Our Lady of the Gulf will host the annual games party on Monday, June 10, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Jude's Hall (415 West Austin), \$8 p/p. Bring your games, your friends and enjoy the afternoon and a variety refreshments (at 2:00). For more information, and/or table reservations, call: Margaret (361) 552-3233; Doris (361) 987-2387, or Georgia (361) 552-6844.

**Ammansville**—St. John the Baptist (FM 1383) Fathers Day Picnic June 16. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner served. Entertainment throughout the day.

**Plum**—Sts. Peter and Paul Plum Feast, June 30, serving sausage and fried-chicken from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., auction at 1:30 p.m., music during the day by Ken Brothers. There will be a free dance from 6:00-9:30 p.m. with music by Johnnie Holub Polka Band.

**LaGrange**—Vocation Camp: Quo Vadis, June 30-July 3, For more information see pg. 8.

### July

**St. John**—St. John Parish Picnic, Thursday, July 4, with Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by a flag raising ceremony. A stew and fried-chicken dinner at 10:30 a.m. for \$10 p/p dine-in or take-out available. See ad on pg. 12.

**Dubina**—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Feast July 7, Mass at 8:45 a.m. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner begins at 11:00 a.m. See ad on pg. 15.

**Moravia**—Ascension Parish Picnic July 14 with a stew and fried-chicken dinner at \$10 p/p with dine-in or drive-thru plates-to-go available. Auction, bingo, cakewalk, games, water slip-n-slide, country store, and music by Mark Halata & Texavia and the Moravians.

**Victoria**—Knights of St. Gregory annual Bishop's Charity Banquet, Thursday, July 25 at Victoria Country Club. Beginning with a social at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner. See pg. 8 for more information.

## Ministries • Ongoing Activities

**Catholic Family Services**—To find Catholic organizations which focus on family, visit the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at [www.nacflm.org](http://www.nacflm.org).

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

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

**Emmaus Center**—Offers individual, couple, family, adolescent and children's counseling as well as specialized support groups. Spiritual direction is also available on request. Appointments may be made by calling (361) 212-0830. For more information see pg. 11.

**Engaged Encounter—2019 Dates: Sept. 20-22, and Nov. 15-17**, registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 or visit [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org).

**Gabriel Project**—Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy- an alternative to abortion. **Victoria:** Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 101 W. Convent. Light supper included. For angel workshop/training dates, contact Lisa Kainer (361) 676-3264 or [lisa\\_heysquierdo@yahoo.com](mailto:lisa_heysquierdo@yahoo.com); **Meyersville:** 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. 7.

**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 [id916victoria@gmail.com](mailto:id916victoria@gmail.com).

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

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

**Natural Family Planning**—NFP is the only church-approved form of family planning. For the CREIGTON MODEL Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro TECHNOLOGY™ contact Susanne Koch in Wharton at (505) 710-0903 or [susannekoch614@gmail.com](mailto:susannekoch614@gmail.com).

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

**Retrouvaille**—Retrouvaille, meaning rediscovery, is a marriage-healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult marriages. Contact John and Jennifer Vincent at [jbvjov@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbvjov@sbcglobal.net) or (361) 580-2770; call (800) 470-2230; or visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) or [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org). See ad on pg. 12.

### Amor Meus

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

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

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

### God's Embrace

For more information call (979) 561-8883  
e-mail: [info@godsembrace.org](mailto:info@godsembrace.org)  
website: [www.godsembrace.com](http://www.godsembrace.com)

**Upcoming Events:** Weekly Prayer: Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Adoration in GEM Chapel, Tuesdays, noon-3:00 p.m.

**Saturday Seminar:** June 29 ~ Developing a Sanctified Unconscious

## Masses • Retreats and more

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

### Pilgrimages

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** October 30-November 10, 2019, with Bishop Brendan Cahill and the Southwestern Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. Some locations to be visited are Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Mt. Beatitudes, Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, and Tiberias. Departing from Houston, with daily Mass, three meals daily, and more. For further information, contact Michele Malloy at (713) 819-7318 or email [mmalloylaw@gmail.com](mailto:mmalloylaw@gmail.com).

**For more pilgrimages, see Journeys of Faith with Ceci on pg. 13 and Nativity Pilgrimage on pg. 9.**





Congratulations to the Diocese of Victoria Catholic High Schools' 2019 Top Graduates!



Christine W.  
Valedictorian  
Parents: Tim and Donna  
University of Texas



Riley J.  
Salutarian  
Parents: Ron and Beth  
Texas A&M University



Hope K.  
Historian  
Parents: David and Trish  
Texas State University



Madeline B.  
Valedictorian  
Parent: Lisa  
Texas A&M University



Stacie S.  
Salutarian  
Parents: Dale and Lynette  
Texas A&M University



Tori D.  
Historian  
Parents: Randy and the late Pam  
Texas A&M University



Pranav J.  
Valedictorian  
Parents: Arun and Naveen  
Texas A&M University



Angelina V.  
Salutarian  
Parents: John and Jennifer  
St. John's University



Tatum A.  
Historian  
Parents: Burt and Kelley M. and the late Kevin A.  
Texas A&M University