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New Editor Named

On April 22, 2013, Mike Brown, CFO/ Business Manager for the Diocese of Victoria announced the hiring of a new editor for The Catholic Lighthouse. Allison Hybner will be joining the staff full-time on May 11, 2013, he said. Her first assignment will be to cover the ordination of the two seminarians to transitional deacons.

Allison comes to us from St. Joseph High School in Victoria where she was the coordinator of communications.

Allison said “It is with abundant enthusiasm that I become editor and join The Catholic Lighthouse. I hope to share knowledge and assist in enriching our newspaper.

My work experience includes public and community relations, development, teaching, and communications. I obtained a master’s and a bachelor’s degree from the University of the Incarnate Word. I enjoy working with people of various cultures and backgrounds. I am humbled by and thankful to all for allowing me this wonderful opportunity. I welcome input from others and look forward to this great adventure!”

Pallbearers carry the casket of fallen firefighter Capt. Kenneth “Luckey” Harris, Jr. following his funeral Mass at the Church of the Assumption in West, Texas, April 24. At least 14 people died and about 200 were injured in an explosion at a fertilizer plant in the central Texas town April 17. Harris, 52, was killed when he rushed to the scene of the blast to help. There were a total of five buried from the Church of the Assumption. (CNS photo/Tim Sharp, Reuters)

New auxiliary bishop ordained for Archdiocese for the Military Services

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Not every bishop gets, at his episcopal ordination, a color guard from both the Knights of Columbus and the U.S. military. Nor do they get both “The Star-Spangled Banner” and “The Navy Hymn” sung at the ordination Mass.

But when you are newly ordained for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, as Bishop Robert J. Coyle was April 25, you get that and a lot more – like being told by his new boss, Archbishop Timothy M. Broglio, that he’ll be working in “a global archdiocese.”

Bishop Coyle’s appointment was announced Feb. 11, the same day Pope Benedict XVI announced his intent to retire from the papacy. In Bishop Coyle’s remarks at the end of the two-hour, 45-minute ordination Mass, he said that alone would be enough to make it a memorable occasion.

The new bishop spoke of his great affection for both Pope Benedict and his predecessor, Blessed John Paul II. He also referred of one of Archbishop Broglio’s predecessors, the late Cardinal John J. O’Connor of New York, as one of his heroes.

In their respective military chaplaincies, both had served on Okinawa. “He had served in the 3rd Marines as well,” Bishop Coyle said, adding that he once got a letter from the late cardinal, recommending that the priest “stay close to him (Jesus). He will never fail.”

Bishop Coyle had spent 10 years as a chaplain in the Navy and the Naval Reserves. That service is reflected on his episcopal crest, which pictures a ship on the waters in full sail, with the letter “M” on the sail -- a nod to the “M” Blessed John Paul used on his papal coat of arms to signify Mary.

Israeli president invites pope to visit Israel, ‘the sooner the better’

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Israeli President Shimon Peres officially invited Pope Francis to Israel, telling the pope “the sooner you visit the better, as in these days a new opportunity is being created for peace, and your arrival could contribute significantly to increasing the trust and belief in peace.” The Israeli president’s remarks were reported in a statement released by the Israeli Embassy to the Vatican after Peres met Pope Francis April 30.
### Bishop Fellhauer’s Schedule

**May**

- **4** 5:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Yoakum, including Queen of Peace Church, Sweet Home and St. John the Baptist Church, Koerth
- **5** 10:30 a.m., Confirmation Mass, St. Agnes Church, Edna
- **6** 6:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Holy Cross Church, Bay City
- **7** 7:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Parish of the Nativity, Eagle Lake
- **11** 10:00 a.m., Transitional Deacon Ordinations of Philip Brune and Jasper Liggio, Our Lady of Victory Cathedral
- **12** 5:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Flatonia, including Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Cistern
- **13** 10:00 a.m., Confirmation Mass, Holy Family Church, Wharton, including St. Joseph Church, Boling
- **15** 5:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Holy Cross Church, Yorktown
- **18** 10:00 a.m., Celebration of Father Gary W. Janak’s 25th Anniversary of Ordination, St. Philip the Apostle Church, El Campo
- **19** 5:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Holy Cross Church, Yorktown
- **21** 10:00 a.m., Confirmation Mass, St. John Bosco Church, Vanderbilt
- **23** 3:00 p.m., Diocesan Liturgy Commission meeting, Chancery Office
- **25** 5:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Flatonia, including Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Cistern
- **26** 9:30 a.m., Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Moulton, and the Rite of Candidacy for Permanent Deacons

**June**

- **1** 5:00 p.m., Mass and celebration of 100th Anniversary of Knights of Columbus Council 1682, St. Michael Church, Cuero
- **2** 10:30 a.m., Confirmation Mass, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, including St. Michael Church, Cuero; Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Cuero; and St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff
- **6** 3:00 p.m., Priests’ afternoon of Reflection and Spirituality, Holy Family Church, Victoria
- **8** 4:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, St. John Nepomucene Church, New Taiton
- **9-14** United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Spring General Meeting, San Diego, California

### DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

**2013 DSA**
- Diocesan Goal: $1,721,343.00
- Parish Pledge Totals: $474,279.11
- Parish Contribution Totals: $346,187.70
- Number of Parish Families Participating: 2,169

**Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign**
- Diocesan Goal: $9,000,000.00
- Parish Pledge Totals: $12,879,191.87
- Parish Contribution Totals: $10,963,509.70
- Number of Parish Families Participating: 6,769
The Knights of Columbus Council 9088 from Holy Family Parish in Victoria sponsored a Lenten food drive. Pictured in the photo, left to right, are Fred Kubesch and Bill Spellacy with the Knights of Columbus, Holy Family teachers Millie Chapa, Judy Seiler, and Sue Schaefer, and Eddie Huse with the Knights of Columbus.

The 40 Days of Giving

The Knights of Columbus Council 9088 from Holy Family Catholic Church in Victoria sponsored a Lenten food drive to benefit the Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry. Titled “The 40 Days of Giving”, the goal for the food drive was to collect at least 5,000 pounds of food along with monetary donations. Assistance for those who are less fortunate truly is a year-round issue, especially after the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas when most food drives take place.

This was the first year for the Council to sponsor this food drive. In order to raise awareness about this issue in the children and young adults of the parish, a contest took place between the parish religious education classes to see who could bring in the most food. The top three classes were treated to a gift card for each student to the new Peter Piper Pizza restaurant. The winning classes were Sue Schaefer’s 4th grade class (1st place, 283 lbs), Millie Chapa’s kindergarten class (2nd place, 141 lbs), and Judy Seiler’s kindergarten class (3rd place, 128 lbs). The results of the food drive exceeded expectations as a total of 5,750 lbs of food was collected, along with $2163. The religious education classes collected almost 40 percent or 2,185 lbs of the total amount of the food collected!

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men’s organization dedicated to service to the Church and parish. The core principles of the KC’s are Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism and KC Council 9088 is very active in all these areas. Other groups and organizations that have benefitted from the efforts of this Council include Hospice of South Texas, Habitat for Humanity, the Gabriel Project, the Women’s Crisis Pregnancy Center, Nazareth Academy, the Youth Ministry and Seminarians from the Diocese of Victoria, and many others. It is the hope of the Council to continue the Lenten food drive for years to come. Any Catholic gentleman interested in joining the Knights of Columbus Council 9088 can contact the Holy Family parish office at (361) 573-5304 or go to the parish website www.hfccvic.org for more information. Vivat Jesus!

LOCAL AUTHOR PROMOTES LITERACY AT BOOK SIGNING—Local author DeAnn Vilchez, recently presented and shared her book, “The Boy Who Loved His Dad,” at Hastings Victoria. The book was inspired by Charlie Quary, son of the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, John E. Quary. The book is available at Hastings, online at Barnes&Noble and Amazon.com, in eBook and soft cover. Students from project U-Turn, which is a LULAC sponsored tutoring program, and HOST Mentoring program from Hopkins Academy, were out in numbers to promote literacy, by reading at the book signing. The author and students decided to team up because of their desire and common goal to bring an awareness of “the need to read.” Project U-Turn is part of LULAC Council 4692 after-school program. The book was read in English and in Spanish by Jesus Vasquez, Pre-College Counselor for Victoria College. For additional information on the book, visit www.theboywholovedhisdad.webs.com. For media inquiries or book signings, contact DeAnn Vilchez, Inc. at (361) 237-4636 or contact: author_deannvilchez@yahoo.com.

STJ CHOIR—The St. Joseph High School Varsity Choir won two Texas Private School Music Educators Association (TPSMEA) Concert and Sightreading Trophies on Friday, March 22, 2013. The choir contest was hosted by St. Agnes Academy of Houston and held at Prestonwood Christian Academy of Plano. The STJ Varsity Treble and STJ Varsity Mixed Choirs were judged by a panel of judges in two separate areas of musical competition. A Concert and Sightreading Trophy is awarded to a choral organization that receives 1st division (Superior) ratings in both Concert Singing and Sightreading. This is the sixth consecutive year that the St. Joseph High School Choral program has won a TPSMEA Concert & Sightreading Trophy. Director for the St. Joseph High School Choir is Michael Petrisky. Students were accompanied by Mrs. Sandra Glenn. Mr. Petrisky commented, “All of the students did a great job. To my knowledge, as far as TPSMEA Contest results, this is a first for St. Joseph to win two Concert & Sightreading Trophies at the same contest for two consecutive years.” Petrisky concluded, “With each judge awarding a rating, the choirs were a perfect 12 out of 12 first divisions awarded. We were also fortunate to have Sandra Glenn help as our accompanist. Her talent is a big contributor to the students’ success.” Pictured above are 2013 STJ Varsity Choir Officers with TPSMEA Sweepstakes Trophies for Treble & Mixed Choirs (Left to Right): Marilyn Howard-Librarian, Jillian Janecek-Chaplain, and Sarah Valenzuela-Vice President.

STATE SOLOIST—The St. Joseph High School Choral Program had three students win Gold Solo Medals at the 2013 Texas State Solo Contest for private schools. The three STJ choir soloists included Jillian Strauss, front left, Richie Streeter, middle, and Megha Chandna, front right. Richie was the first choral student from St. Joseph High School to be invited to perform at the prestigious Judges State Solo Recital. Michael Petrisky is choir director at St. Joseph High School. The students were accompanied by Sandra Glenn.

Vocation Director Speaks at Serra

At a recent Serra Club of Victoria meeting Father Dan Morales, vocation director for the Diocese of Victoria, updated Serra members on the status of the seminarians. Currently he said “we have ten seminarians.” Vocation evaluations are being done at this time, so Father Dan has been very busy traveling to the various locations.

Father Dan said “we have six new applicants with an additional six pending.” He explained that applicants range from beginning freshmen in college to those who have completed their first degree.

It takes nine years to complete the study for the priesthood with the average cost of $35,000 a year.

Parents are asked to contribute what they can and the diocese assumes all outstanding expenses.

Father Dan expressed his appreciation for the very generous response of the churches regarding the designated contribution for the seminarians on Holy Thursday.
Seminary Burses

Seminary burses are a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is $15,000. The interest from this amount is applied yearly to the education of seminarians. The burses are in memory of or in honor of an individual priest or lay persons, living or deceased. Publication of the burses will appear periodically when new contributions are received.

As of April 22, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Seminary Burse</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $102,814.00</td>
<td>In loving memory of Edith Browne by Mrs. A. R. Wearden $25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In loving memory of Deacon A. R. Wearden by Mrs. A. R. Wearden</td>
<td>Total $102,964.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Rev. Henry C. Rachunek Burse #3</td>
<td>In thanksgiving to God and the Blessed Mother by Rev. Henry C. Rachunek $15,000.00 Total $15,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Rev. Henry C. Rachunek Burse #4</td>
<td>In loving memory of Rev. Henry Rachunek by CDA Court of Our Lady Queen of the Clergy Court #1990 $200.00 Total $200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Rev. Michael Rother</td>
<td>In loving memory ofThomas Alig by John F. Rother, Jr. $25.00 In loving memory of Alice Panter by John F. Rother, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— CathoD Father kirby expressed his gratitude lic Daughers of America Court St. Ann #369, Victoria Burse #2</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist Church, St John In Memory of Rev. Brian Grooves Burse #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $9,533.99 Annual donation by C.D.A. Court St. Ann #369</td>
<td>Previously reported $844.50 In loving memory of Family and Friends by Dan Stryk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Our Lady of Victory Altar Society</td>
<td>— Rev. Jerome J. Stryk Burse #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $900.00</td>
<td>In loving memory of Val Huvar by Grace E. Rigamonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In loving memory of Helen Klein by Grace E. Rigamonti</td>
<td>In loving memory of Adolph Kraatz by Grace E. Rigamonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #6</td>
<td>— Rev. Msgr. Michael A. O'Shaughnessy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $2,539.00</td>
<td>In loving memory of Michael “Larry” Dvorczyk by M/M Vernon Matuscek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In memory of Earline Chovanetz by Pat Madenka</td>
<td>In loving memory of Dorothy Cinadr by Willie E. Barborak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $2,050.00</td>
<td>In memory of Kathy Janak by Willie E. Barborak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In memory of Earl John C. Peters Burse #6</td>
<td>In loving memory of Dorothy Cinadr by Willie E. Barborak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously reported $7,898.00</td>
<td>In memory of Kathy Janak by Willie E. Barborak</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Rev. Msgr. Edward C. Bartosh

Previously reported $8,000.00 In honor of Stazy Hajek’s 100th birthday celebration by Denise and Gary Greive $100.00 Total $8,100.00

— Josephat R. Janak Burse #2

Previously reported $2,498.77 In honor of Rev. Gary Janak’s 25th ordination anniversary by Rose Marie Janak | Total $2,523.77

— Sr. Denise Bowers, I.W.B.S.

Previously reported $10,000.00 In loving memory of Pearl Hooper by Mike and Elizabeth Hooper | Total $10,025.00

— Catholic Daughters of America Court St. Ann #369, Victoria Burse #2

Previously reported $9,533.99 Annual donation by C.D.A. Court St. Ann #369 $500.00 Total $10,033.99

— Sr. M. Barbara Konvicka

Previously reported $230.00 In loving memory of Suzanne Kurtz by Evelyn Konvicka | Total $245.00

— Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say

Previously reported $9,494.00 In honor of Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say’s 85th Birthday by Barbara Wilcox | Total $9,579.00

— Wm. John Bily

Previously reported $3,488.00 In loving memory of Robert Bily | Total $3,488.00

— St. Mary’s Church – High Hill

Previously reported $4,321.00 In loving memory of Robert Adamek | Total $4,321.00

— St. Mary’s Church – Praha

Previously reported $4,380.00 In loving memory of Robert Adamek | Total $4,380.00

— Rev. Msgr. J. A. O’Shaughnessy

Previously reported | Total |

— Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #6

Previously reported | Total |

— Rev. Msgr. Edward C. Bartosh

Previously reported $7,898.00 In honor of Stazy Hajek’s 100th birthday celebration by Denise and Gary Greive | Total $7,998.00

— Josephat R. Janak Burse #2

Previously reported $2,498.77 In honor of Rev. Gary Janak’s 25th ordination anniversary by Rose Marie Janak | Total $2,523.77

Additional Burses for donations:

- Rev. Sean Donohue Burse #2
- Rev. Msgr. Robert Schmidt
- Rev. Msgr. Vaclav Bily
- Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily
- St. Mary’s Church – Praha
- St. Mary’s Church – High Hill
- Rev. Charles Kram
- William L. Schmidt
- Sr. M. Perpetua Hayes, I.W.B.S.
- Rev. Msgr. John Hanacek
- Rev. Joe Leyva
- Rev. Marcus Valenta
- Rev. Godfrey F. Kuratko
- Sophie Schmidt

Those wishing to begin a burse or to contribute to an existing seminary burse may do so by sending their contributions with the appropriate burse designation to:

SEMINARY BURES
DIOCESE OF VICTORIA
P. O. BOX 4070
VICTORIA, TX 77903

Sophomores take part of Pure Love ceremony

SHINER—Father Kirby Hlavaty wrote in his bulletin recently, “I was very pleased to be a part of the Pure Love ceremony that took place in our church last Wednesday.” For more than 10 years the sopho-more students at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish have been making a pledge to honor their God-given gift of their sexuality until marriage.

These young students have come to recognize that the chaste love between a husband and a wife is one clear example of God’s love in the world. Contrary to popular culture, the students have dedicated themselves to living in purity and chastity until the day of their marriage.

Their Pure Love Promise was: “Believing that sex is sacred, I promise to God that I will save the gift of my sexuality from now until marriage. I choose to glorify God with my body and pursue a life of purity, trusting that the Lord is never outdone in generosity.”

With their parents present, each student signed a copy of this pledge and were presented with a ring or necklace to remind them of their promise.

It was a witness to see families commit themselves to upholding the value of chastity. Again, in our world promiscuity is more valued than chaste love, and to see our parishioners stand up for what is counter-cultural is inspiring.

Father Kirby expressed his gratitude to Robert Adamek, who has organized this ceremony for the sophomore students since it’s beginning in Shiner.

Birthday Thank You

I would like to thank everyone in and outside of our diocese who support my brother seminarians and I. For my birthday, I was privileged to receive countless letters and cards containing prayers and well wishes. I am truly thankful for this generous support. It is the moments such as these that give witness to the love of Christ and enable to more fully discern my vocation. Your continuous support is greatly appreciated.

In Christ,
James Dvorak.

Happy Birthday!

Jacob Mendoza is finishing Theology I at St. Mary’s Seminary in Houston; his birthday is June 6. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Jacob Mendoza, St. Mary’s Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024.

Pray for our seminarians and those studying in religious orders that God will continue to guide them in the right path.
Father Henry C. Rachunek

BEASLEY—Reverend Henry Charles Rachunek, age 80 of Beasley and formerly of Hungerford, died Wednesday, April 3, 2013, in a Houston hospital following an extended illness. He was born on May 14, 1932 in Hungerford, the son of the late Frank W. Rachunek and Mary Ann Mikel Rachunek.

Father Rachunek grew up in Hungerford and attended Hungerford schools until having to drop out to help his father with the family farm. In 1952 he entered St. John’s Minor Seminary in San Antonio and graduated in 1954. He then entered St. Mary’s Seminary in Houston to complete his studies and was ordained June 2, 1962.

Father Rachunek’s assignments included Houston, East Bernard, Rosenberg, Hungerford and Beasley. He served as pastor of both St. John Church in Hungerford and St. Wenceslaus Church from 1974 until 2010, when he retired from the Diocese of Victoria and then became the retired priest in residence at St. Wenceslaus Church in Beasley.

Visitation was held on Sunday, April 7 at St. Wenceslaus Church in Beasley with a rosary recited that evening. Visitation was held on Monday, April 8 at St. John Church in Hungerford with a rosary recited in the evening. A funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, April 9 at St. John Church in Hungerford with Bishop David Fellhauer and Msgr. William Manger concelebrating. Burial followed in the St. John Church Cemetery in Hungerford.

Survivors include; sisters, Della Morris and husband Bennie and Clara Kostka all of Wharton, Ollie Faltisek and husband Emil of Lake Jackson; brothers, Frank Rachunek and Adolph Rachunek and wife Edith all of Wharton, Richard Rachunek and wife Jo Ann of Angleton and Ben Rachunek and wife Louise of Sweeny.

Numerous nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Mary Andel and husband Adolph, Leona Vasek Clemons; brothers, Anton Rachunek and wife Dorothy, Ed Rachunek and wife Dolores; sister-in-law, Dorothy Mae Rachunek, brothers-in-law, Edwin Kostka and Steve Vasek; nephews, Robert Morris, Bill Faltisek, Anthony Rachunek, infant Gregory Rachunek and great nephew, Trey Rachunek.

Pallbearers were Bobby Stasney, Rudy Kuba, James Vincek, Douglas Grigar, Greg Kubes, Rudy Vrana, Jr. and Drew Vincen.

Honorary Pallbearers included the Jim Pustejovsky family, the Smesny family, the Mikel family, the Rachunek family and all priests of the Galveston-Houston Diocese and the Victoria Diocese.

In lieu of usual remembrances the family requests memorials to St. Wenceslaus Church, P. O. Box 89, Beasley, TX 77417 or St. John Church, P.O. Box 121, Hungerford, TX 77448.

Msgr. Hybner’s brother dies

SHINER—Theodore “Teet” Hybner, age 87, passed away Sunday, April 21, 2013. He was born in Shiner on July 3, 1925 to Leo and Josephine Kurtz Hybner. Survivors: wife, Henrietta Sitka Hybner; daughters, Diana Hybner of Shiner, Mary Alice Wagner and husband Jimmy of Yoakum and Clare Petru and husband Jonathan of Victoria; son, Michael Hybner of Shiner; grandchildren, Krisi Zaruba and husband Scott, Gail Wagner, Jamie Soliz and husband Julian, Julie Petru, Jeremy Petru and Kevin Hybner; great-grandchildren, Mason, Connor and Alexis Zaruba; brothers, Msgr. Joseph Hybner and Johnny Hybner both of Shiner; sisters, Agnes Pustka and Rita Janak both of Shiner.

Preceded in death by: parents; son, Bruce John Hybner; brothers, Bennie Hybner, Alois Hybner and George Hybner; sister, Bernadette Valis.

Funeral Mass was held on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in Shiner, with Father Kirby Hlavaty officiating. Burial was at Shiner Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Jeremy Petru, Kevin Hybner, Jimmy Wagner, Jonathan Petru, Scott Zaruba and Mason Zaruba.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shiner Catholic School.

On-line guest book may be viewed at www.thielecooper.com.

Deacon Rogers’ wife, Elaine dies

HALLETSVILLE—Elaine Rogers, 84, of Hallettsville, passed away April 17, 2013. She was born on March 1, 1929, to Joseph and Della Yentzen Placecette in Port Arthur. She married Walter Rogers Jr. on July 3, 1947, at St. Mary’s Church in Port Arthur. Together they lived in Port Arthur, Groves, Bridge City, Mauriceville and Hallettsville. She was a charter member of Sacred Heart Altar Society, member of ACTS and Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Hallettsville.

They have always been very active in the church. She was very involved in ACTS and enjoyed working at LAMB. In her early years, she enjoyed traveling, she did not need any urging, and could have her bags packed in less than 15 minutes. She loved to dance and gave as much of her time as possible volunteering wherever she could.

Elaine is survived by: her husband Deacon Walter Sonny Rogers Jr.; son Dr. John Rogers and wife Jill of Woodlands; 2 daughters, Mary Urbish and husband Gilbert of Hallettsville, and Becki Nation and husband Rick of Hubert, OK; 3 sisters, Patsy Collins of Austin, Theresa Adair of Hallettsville, and Rosalie Benton of Bridge City, Texas; 9 grandchildren, Heather Lawson, Jason Minton, Shelley Boozer, Dr. Kristen Rogers, Kaleb Nation, Jaden Nation, Maddi Nation, Blaise Nation, and Avery Nation; and 4 great grandchildren, Chance and Cole Minton, Riley Boozer and Gentry Lawson.

Elaine was preceded in death by: her parents; and 3 brothers, J.G., Harold, and Cecil Placecette.

Funeral Mass was held Monday, April 22, 2013, at Sacred Heart Church of Hallettsville. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. Officiating was Msgr. John Peters, Father Bob Knippenberg, Father Michael Petering, and Father Michael Rother. Pallbearers were Jeff Lawson, Paul Boozer, Jason Minton, Blaise Nation, Jaden Nation, and Jerry Teltschick. Honorary Pallbearers: Greig Placecette and Gilbert Urbish. Memorials can be given to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, ACTS, or LAMB.

Prayer for the Deceased Person

Almighty Father, eternal God, hear our prayers for Your son/daughter (Name) whom You have called from this life to Yourself. Grant him/her light, happiness, and peace. Let him/her pass in safety through the gates of death, and live forever with all Your saints in the light You promised to Abraham and to all his descendants in faith. Guard him/her from all harm and on that great day of resurrection and reward raise him/her up with all Your saints. Pardon his/her sins and give him/her eternal life in Your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, 
O Lord, 
and let perpetual light shine upon them. 
May they rest in peace. Amen.
By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS

Where is God?

One of the first questions that we encountered in our Catechism class years ago was “Where is God?” Together with our classmates we proudly chimed, “God is everywhere”; we all certainly knew that answer. However, sometimes I wonder if we really believe the significance of God’s omniscience – God being everywhere. Somehow our limited human minds may not be able to wrap around such an awesome aspect of God’s existence. So to start out, let’s look at some of the places we are readily aware of God’s presence.

The first thing that may come to our minds is God’s presence during the Mass when the bread and wine are changed into the sacred Body and Blood of Christ, an action which stems from Jesus’ instruction to the Apostles at the Last Supper to do this in remembrance of Him. Not only does Jesus make himself present in the Bread and Wine; but we receive him, Body and Soul, Humanity and Divinity every time we receive him in Holy Communion. God is present also in the priest who presides, in the Scripture readings and in the assembly which is participating in the Liturgy. This overwhelming reality of God’s presence is so conducive to prayer that we are propelled into a prayerful mood.

Now, we all know that when we receive Jesus in Communion he dwells within us in a special way as we take him to others through our words and actions. We can find Jesus in every one we meet; after all, each of us is a special beloved son or daughter of God who has been created in the image and likeness of God. And wherever we are, we can always find God in the Bible, through which God speaks to us. Moreover, our awareness of God’s presence will open our eyes to discover God’s handiwork in the splendid of a beautiful sunset, a flourishing field, a breath-taking landscape, an intricate flower, or countless other manifestations of God’s creative presence. Therefore, let us—wherever we are—lift our hearts and minds up in praise and Thanksgiving to our God for all that we are and have been given by our powerful and omnipresent God!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On behalf of our community and parish, we extend our gratitude to each of you who remembered us in prayer following the events of December 14, 2012, at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

We quickly realized the universality of the Church by the outpouring of support and concern that was shown to us by so many in our faith communities. The cards and letters from staff and students in Catholic elementary schools, high schools, colleges and universities reminded us of the faith to which we are called to witness through the tradition of Catholic education. No less important were the number of cards from parish religious education programs, especially the sacramental programs.

We are also very appreciative of the number of donations sent to us to assist our parish in our continuing ministry to the community, to help pay the expenses of the victims’ funerals, to support counseling programs, to provide direct aid to the families and so on. Your generosity reminded us that we are not alone during this very sad and challenging time.

While we tried to acknowledge every letter and gift sent to us, it became an overwhelming task, so please accept this letter as a thank you to every person who remembered us in prayer during the days immediately following the tragedy to these days of recovery and healing. We know that the road ahead of us will be a long one, but we are given great hope by the outpouring of generosity and love shown to us. We are truly blessed by your many acts of faith and kindness. Please know that you continue to be in our prayers of gratitude for the goodness you have demonstrated to us in so many ways.

God bless,
Msgr. Robert Weiss, pastor
St. Rose of Lima Parish
Newtown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Brown,

We have received your recent check for $14,689.17. This amount has been posted to the 2012 Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign and will appear in our annual report.

I am grateful for your assistance in facilitating the generous gifts of the parishioners in your diocese.

Sincerely,
Bevin Kennedy
Assistant Director of Promotions
Office of National Collections

Dear Bishop Fellhauer,

Please accept my deepest thanks for your diocese’s contribution of $27,130.17 from your 2012 Catholic Home Missions Appeal. The generosity of your parishioners is needed greatly by our U.S. mission dioceses.

In the United States, 85 dioceses and eparchies currently receive our support to fund basic and essential pastoral programs such as evangelization, catechesis, seminary formation, and lay leadership training.

Forty-four percent of U.S. dioceses depend on grants coming from the appeal to maintain their Catholic presence.

I am grateful for all your work to assist home mission dioceses.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Peter F. Christensen
Chairman, USCCB Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions

Your Excellency,

His Holiness Pope Francis has asked me to acknowledge the message of good wishes which you sent to him on behalf of the Diocese of Victoria following his election to the See of Peter. He is grateful for the devoted sentiments which you expressed and he thanks you for the support of your prayers as he begins his ministry as Universal Pastor of the Church.

Assuring you and your people of a remembrance in his own prayers, the Holy Father cordially impart his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace in the Lord.

With every good wish, I am
Yours sincerely in Christ,
Archbishop Angelo Becciu
Substitute
Secretariat of State
God’s Embrace Renewal Center is a non-profit organization which serves the Church through spiritual formation programs with a great longing to help in the renewal of our Church. With the blessing and endorsement of Bishop David Fellhauer, we are planning to start three new groups centrally located within the Diocese of Victoria so that they are accessible to anyone interested in deepening their discipleship.

Beginning in August the groups will meet once every month for 2 1/2 hours with Michael Fonseca, who presents the program, and will be provided with a manual and companion workbook to help you in your daily walk with Jesus. If you choose you may meet a second time within the month with facilitators who will lead you in prayer, review sessions, and share personal experiences as we come closer to Christ. You will also be offered four weekend retreats and four day long retreats throughout the year!

In case you are interested please provide your name, postal address, phone number, parish, and e-mail address, to Sandy Reese who is the secretary for God’s Embrace. PO Box 1211, El Campo, TX 77437; sandy.reese@godsembrace.net (979) 541-6881; www.godsembrace.net.

St. Michael’s School students in Grades 1-6 recently competed in the Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) District 9 competition held in Victoria. Congratulations to those students who won in their competitions. (Back row): Spencer Owens - 1st in Maps, Graphs, and Charts (Gr. 4) and 2nd in Listening Skills (Gr. 4, 5); Teresa Esparza - 2nd in Spelling (Gr. 6) and 5th in On-Site Drawing (Gr. 6); Hally Gips - 5th in Ready Writing (Gr. 5); Jared Sauer - 3rd in Listening Skills (Gr. 6, 7, 8) and 4th in Number Sense (Gr. 6); Cooper Bishop - 4th in Maps, Graphs, and Charts (Gr. 5); Mitchell Crain - 3rd in Ready Writing (Gr. 5). (Front Row): Audrey Janak - 2nd in Prose Interpretation (Gr. 6); Teresa, Spencer and Allison will compete in the State PSIA competition at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth on May 4.

God’s Embrace

SHINER CATHOLIC CHURCH
SPRING PICNIC, SUN., MAY 26, 2013
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PARK
SHINER, TX

FREE MUSIC & DANCING
Inside Air CONDITIONED Hall
***11 am – 2 pm***
Accordian Music
By Local Accordian Players
***2 - 4 pm***
Shiner Hobo Band
***4 - 8 pm Dance***
Texas Legacy Czech Band
MUSIC OUTSIDE HISTORIC BEER STAND
***1 - 2 pm*** Jungemeisters
***3:30 - 7:30*** Chris Rybak Band
MUSIC OUTSIDE BINGO STAND
PAVILION
7:30 - 11:30 pm
Los Kolaches

DANCE
9 PM to 1 AM
THE EMOTIONS and
THE CROOKS
Admission charged inside hall
beginning at 8 p.m.

Bingo - 12:30
Grocery Wheel - 6:30 pm
Drawing for Prizes at 10 pm

* Plenty of Famous Picnic Hamburgers
* Old Town Gift Shop
* Water Slide, Ring Toss, Ball Throw, Wheel of Fortune, Moon Walk, and games for children

COUNTRY STORE
Canned and Baked Goods
* Kolaches * Pigs-in-Blanket
8 am until ...

BIG COUNTRY AUCTION
Following Memorial Tribute at 11:45 am
Cattle Auction: 3:00 pm

TAPPS STATE WINNERS—St. Joseph High School, Victoria, students win at TAPPS State Competition. Congratulations to the following students who placed in the TAPPS State Competition on April 5th and 6th at Concordia University: Marian Howard placed 6th in Prose (2nd left); Jess Williams placed 1st in Poetry (middle); David Du placed 3rd in Number Sense and 2nd in Advanced Math (second from right). Other students who competed included: Johanna Hoang in Prose (right) and Clara Allen in Poetry (left).
**Volunteers Honored**—The Sixteenth Annual Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton Awards were presented recently in Shiner by the Office of Catholic Schools. A dinner was served, followed by the presentation of the awards. Making the presentations were Bishop David E. Fellhauer, John Quary, school superintendent; and Janie Carrales, administrative assistant for Diocesan Catholic Schools. The recipients of the award for the year 2013 were front row (l-r): Teresa Heth, Holy Cross, Bay City; Linda Schmidt, St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg; Frances Keseling, St. Michael, Cuero; Rhonda Cummins, Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca; Mary Sablatura, St. Anthony, Columbus; Tami Triska, St. Philip, El Campo; Lisa Seger, Nazareth Academy, Victoria; top row (l-r) John Quary, Carolyn and Tim Markham, St. Ludmila and St. Paul, Shiner; David Spaeth, St. Joseph, Yoakum; Ed Martinka, Our Lady of Victory, Victoria; Bishop David Fellhauer; Martin Luchak, St. Michael, Weimar; Patrick Strauss, St. Joseph High School, Victoria; and Vince Seger, Nazareth Academy, Victoria. Not pictured are: Phillip and Nanci Hadash, Sacred Heart, Hallettsville.

**Shoe Drive**—Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas #206 from Yoakum donated over 200 pairs of shoes to the Barefoot Sunday shoe project, which donates shoes to the poorest countries in the world, at their April 11, 2013, meeting. Victoria Advocate columnist, Ms. Jennifer Preyss accepted the donation and informed the members about the project and let them know that these shoes will go to Malawi, Africa which is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. She also stated that people will walk barefoot for three days when they hear the word that shoes are coming. The gift of shoes makes a big difference in their lives, it protects their feet from the terrain and aids in keeping down infections from sores that may develop on their feet. Another project the girls were involved with was Dash for Downs 5k Race held at Yoakum Shape Shop. Miss Macy and Maddie Svec accepted the donation for the race which will help raise money and awareness for local children who have Down Syndrome. Along with the donation, Mrs. Karen Quinney read the book *Taking Down Syndrome to School* which educated the members about children with Down Syndrome. The girls were also introduced to the book, *With Arms Open Wide!* and discovered that Macy Svec along with other local children with Down Syndrome are in this touching and vibrant book. The books may be purchased for $5 and all proceeds go to the local Down Syndrome foundation.

**Holy Family Wharton honors Gloria Pavlas for thirty-five years of service**

WHARTON—Gloria Pavlas was sitting in the car waiting for her children to get out of CCD, when God called her to catechetical ministry. Well, actually, it was Rev. Jim Olsovsky who went to the car and asked her to help with the second grade class at St. Joseph Parish in Boling. Thus began Gloria’s life-long commitment to catechizing the little ones.

On Sunday, April 21, 2013, the parish family of Holy Family in Wharton honored Gloria for 35 years of dedicated service to God’s people as catechist and parish catechetical leader. The celebration began with Mass and continued in the parish hall with a luncheon and fellowship. Her husband, children, and grandchildren were also in attendance.

Richard Lesak shared a little of Gloria’s journey from preparing second graders for First Communion to being director of the religious education program at Holy Family in Wharton for dozens of years. Rev. Dominic Antwi-Boasiako mentioned that Gloria served under many pastors throughout the years, which also showed her dedication to the ministry. Sister Digna Vela said, “When I became the director of the catechetical office, Gloria was already the DRE. She was always very involved with diocesan meetings, conferences, and trainings. She was a true leader.”

Gloria spoke about her love of God and the Catholic faith. She told the crowd that it is our duty to pass on the faith to all God’s children.

Throughout her years in catechetical ministry, Gloria taught various grade levels, organized the First Communion and

See Holy Family, p. 9
AUSTIN—The Texas Capitol served as a backdrop for more than 1,000 Catholics, who gathered in Austin to participate in Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day.

Wearing blue t-shirts, the participants filled the House and Senate Chambers, as many of the bishops of Texas led the opening prayers at the Tuesday, April 9, 2013, session of both the House and Senate.

At the rally later that morning, on the steps of the capitol building, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo told the participants, seeking to have the legislators recognize them as one Catholic voice: “For all of them it’s impressive, for some of them it evokes such pride and perhaps in a couple even some fear. Let it be. But what we want is your presence.”

In the afternoon, many of the participants lobbied their legislators and called upon them to, among other things, value life with measures that reduce abortion, increase health care access, allow companies to receive tax credits for donations made to scholarships for those who send their children to Catholic and private schools and improve social justice in Texas by cracking down on predatory lenders, along with other issues.

Representing the Diocese of Victoria was Father Gary Janak, diocesan coordinator for the event, Father Tommy Chen, Diocesan Respect Life/Pro-Life Director, Mike Johnson of Hallettsville, Bill and Dolores Wilkes of Weimar, Don and Tish McAlister of El Campo, and Gail Janecka, Michele Martin, Molly Adams, Nicki Hagel, Robbie Lauger, Hannah Adams, Benjamin Adams, Michael Garcia and Brandon Benavidez, all of Victoria. This marked the first time the Diocese of Victoria has participated in Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day.

Confirmation programs, helped to bring the evangelization program Disciples in Mission and the diocesan Lenten program Disciples on the Journey to the parish community.

Gloria completed the Diocese of Victoria Basic Catechist Training in 1986, and the Pastoral Institute Extended Program in 1990. In 1997, she completed the Basic Training for Catechetical Leadership & Management course; in 2003, 2004, and 2005, she took on-going training courses for parish catechetical leaders offered through the catechetical office. She was a member of the Organization of Catechetical Leadership and was named Parish Catechetical Leader of the Month in July 2008. Gloria is truly a catechetical leader.

Pictured at the right is, Gloria Pavlas with Father Domonic Antwi-Boasiako, pastor of Holy Family in Wharton.

**Faithful from the diocese attend gathering in Austin**

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Continued from p. 8

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May’s prize puzzle: “All You Really Need To Know About Prayer You Can Learn From The Poor”

The book for May’s drawing will be “All You Really Need To Know About Prayer You Can Learn From The Poor” by Louise Perrotta.

This book tells of one woman’s first encounters with the poor of the Caribbean Islands. The people are real, and their stories are true. The author captures both poverty and dignity, reality and hope.

As you read, you’ll discover that even the poorest of the poor have something to teach us. About faith.

In this fascinating and beautifully illustrated collection of personal stories, you will meet men and women from every Christian tradition. The poor and those who serve them are spiritually rich. And all are generous with their spiritual wisdom.

Listen to the trusting, heartfelt prayers of two small boys who ask their Bondye (the Creole word for God) for a pair of shoes so they can go to school:

Good Father, Bondye, my life is in your hands. Open the door of heaven to provide what I need today. Even before my prayer is on my lips, you know what it will be — for shoes ... a decent job ... protection ... help for those I love ...

Take care of me again today and keep me very close to you, so that one day I may see you open the door of heaven to welcome me home.

Beautifully illustrated with black and white photographs, these stories will touch and inspire you. But if you take a closer look, you, too, will learn valuable lessons on the power of prayer.

Product Details
Paperback: 182 pages
Publisher: Charis/Servant Publications; 1st edition (November 1996)
ISBN-10: 156955028X
Available through Amazon

The winner of the April puzzle contest and the book Mercy With Out Borders - The Catholic Worker and Immigration” by Mark and Louise Zwick is Henrietta Mueck of St. Rose of Lima in Schulenburg. The winners of the children’s contest are Kaylie Olivarez (7) of Sacred Heart Parish in Hallettsville and Karlie Beth Stehle (15) of St. Joseph Parish in Yoakum. They each will receive a gift from the Incarnate Word Gift Shop. The winner of the May contest will win “All You Really Need To Know About Prayer You Can Learn From The Poor” by Louise Perrotta. More about the book is at the left.

If you have not won the puzzle contest within the past six months, please mail completed May puzzle form to The Catholic Lighthouse Office, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903, by May 26, 2013, for a chance to win the book.

“... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. ...”

1 Peter 3:15

St. Mary’s Parish Picnic
St. Mary’s Parish Hall
Hallettsville, Texas
Beer • Popcorn • Soda
Water • Snow cones
• Hamburgers • Ice Cream and More

Games
Bingo • Ball Throw • Ring Toss • Cake & Plant Walk
• Train Ride • Fish Pond • Country Store w/Arts & Crafts, Canned Goods, Kolaches, etc.

Music 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Texas Sound Czech (10:30-2)
Tony Janak (2-5:30)
Red Ravens (5:30-9)

Sunday, June 9
1836-2013

Mass 9:15 a.m.
Meal Begins at 10:30 a.m.
Featuring Special St. Mary’s Stew & Sausage & all the trimmings

PLATES: Adult: $8
Dine-in or Drive-thru

Auction @ 1:00 p.m.
“May I have this dance?”

In those final weeks of my father’s life, Dad and I reminisced about our father-daughter dance at my wedding reception.

That’s when he said it, though not as a complaint. Just a passing sadness.

“I don’t know why your mother would never say yes to dancing with me.”

A couple months later, my father passed away, and my mother grieved. She replayed their life together in her mind – all the trips and pastorates and friends and life events. She sighed and said, “I wish I had told your dad that I would dance with him. I don’t know why I never did.”

It would have caused Mom too much pain for me to share what Dad had said just weeks earlier. I knew why she didn’t say yes. It was a remnant, a final vestige, of her fundamentalist faith heritage.


Not even with your husband.

Over the years, Mom had lost most of her childhood taboos. She ordered french fries and bought movie tickets. She made sure her children had swimming lessons and enjoyed the local swimming pool. She wore sleeveless tops in the summer and played Rook (not quite the same thing as cards – but pretty darn close). The only remaining taboos were dancing and a glass of wine.

She wouldn’t raise a glass of champagne. And she wouldn’t take to the dance floor.

She had experienced every marital grace, given birth to his three children, listened to every sermon he had preached (as a Protestant minister), edited every college paper he wrote, listened to every confidence he shared – but she simply couldn’t say yes to a dance between a husband and his wife.

How sad, you might say. But I think most of us are guilty of this, spiritually speaking. As members of the Bride of Christ, Jesus invites each of us to dare to dance. To do something that others may not understand. To stop chatting at our little tables, to push away from the group of friends we cling to, to abandon all that’s comfortable, and to walk toward the dance floor.

Daily, Jesus invites us to slip our hand in His and let Him lead – any way He chooses. We may be asked to follow the Bridegroom somewhere really exciting or dangerous or far off. We may have to risk stepping on his toes – and disappointing him with our lack of finesse. We may need to abandon our fear of what others might think.

This is the moment for a bride’s gentle, perhaps shy, yes. It yields a life without regret.

What has Jesus been proposing to you? It’s time to put on your dancing shoes and take his outstretched hand. Most of us have become too comfortable with our spiritual walk. Most of us are content to be a quiet wall flower when it comes to the Faith.

It’s time to be a little daring. Tap your foot to the music. Something different is playing now, and it demands your response. What is the name of that song?

It’s called The Year of Faith.

Imagine Our Lord with outstretched hand, asking, “May I have this dance?”

And this is where you say yes and leave regret behind.

Denise Bossert is a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in New Melle, Missouri.

Catholic members of royal couples won't have to raise kids Catholics

LONDON (CNS)—Church leaders have told the British government that members of the royal family who marry Catholics under recently passed legislation will not be obliged to bring up their children in the Catholic faith.

Lord Wallace of Tankerness, speaking on behalf of the government, said he had been assured personally by Msgr. Marcus Stock, general secretary of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, that the canonical requirement of Catholics to raise their children in the faith was not always binding.

“I have the specific consent of Msgr. Stock to say that he was speaking on behalf of Archbishop (Vincent) Nichols (of Westminster) as president of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales and can inform the House that the view taken by the Catholic Church in England and Wales is that, in the instance of mixed marriages, the approach of the Catholic Church is pastoral,” he said.

“Where it has not been possible for the child of a mixed marriage to be brought up as a Catholic, the Catholic parent does not fall subject to the censure of canon law.”

The remarks were made during the third reading debate of the Succession to the Crown Bill in the House of Lords April 22.
The Pope Speaks

Pope Francis

Prepare for Last Judgment by serving the poor, pope says

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians believe they are saved by God’s grace, but they also know they will be judged at the end of time on how they used the talents God gave them and how they served others, especially the poor, Pope Francis said.

“Today belief in Jesus’ return and in the last judgment isn’t always so clear and firm in Christians’ hearts,” the pope said April 24 at his weekly general audience. But “Jesus, during his public life, spoke frequently” about his coming again to judge the living and the dead.

While teaching about belief in the second coming of Christ and the last judgment, Pope Francis also spoke about what it means to live in “the intermediary time,” the time between the death and resurrection of Christ and his coming again.

It is a “time of vigilance when we must keep the lamp of faith, hope and charity burning, a time when we must keep our hearts open to goodness, beauty and truth. It’s a time to live according to God, because we do not know the day or the hour of Christ’s return,” the pope said.

Faith is a gift and salvation is a grace, he said, “but in order to bear fruit, God’s grace requires us to be open, to give a free and concrete response.”

The time of waiting for Christ’s return is “a time for action,” Pope Francis said. Especially at a time of global financial crises, people must use their gifts to help others.

The parable in St. Matthew’s Gospel about the Last Judgment -- using the image of a shepherd separating the sheep from the goats -- is not meant to frighten people, but to motivate them to act, the pope said.

The Gospel “tells us that we will be judged by God on our charity, on how we have loved our brothers and sisters, especially the weakest and neediest,” he said.

The time before the last judgment, he said, is a time given by God, who with mercy and patience, wants us “to learn to recognize him in the poor and the little ones, work for good and be vigilant in prayer and in love.”

Christians continually must look for signs of God’s presence, he said; they must be vigilant. “Do not fall asleep. The life of a sleeping Christian is a sad life.”

Pope Francis also spoke about the importance of using the talents God gives each person, and -- in both Italian and Spanish -- he urged young people to recognize their gifts and seek ways to use them to serve God, others and the whole world.

“Do not be afraid to dream big dreams,” he told them.

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The irony of human dignity is that it requires our freedom. It depends on our free will. We own our actions. And free persons can freely choose to do wicked things. Spend an hour browsing through Scripture: It’s the story of a struggle between good and evil that cuts bloodily through every generation in history. And the story is made bearable, and given meaning, only by the fidelity of God — the constancy of his justice, his mercy, his solace, his love.

Within hours of the Boston bombings, public officials were telling the nation that terrorists would not be allowed to destroy “our way of life.” It’s the duty of leaders — an important duty — to reassure and strengthen their people in times of tragedy. Our country has a vast reservoir of goodness built up by generations of good people. America’s best ideals are well worth fighting for. But we also need to remember that our way of life is as mortal as every other great power; and sooner or later, America will be a footnote in history. Only God is forever.

To read the complete commentary go to CatholicPhilly.com

The views or positions presented in this or any guest editorial are those of the individual publication and do not necessarily represent the views of Catholic News Service or of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
The 16th annual Bishop David Fellhauer Invitational Charity Golf Tournament, held for the diocesan Seminarian Education Fund, Vocations, and Youth offices, was an even greater success this year than the most successful tournament held last year. As we mention successes we must also congratulate David Heyer for making a hole in one on #14.

The tournament, which was held at The Club at Colony Creek, Friday, April 12, is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council 9088 of Victoria.

This year’s tournament raised over $55,000 – the most ever raised in this tournament – thanks to many generous sponsors and the participation of 30 teams. The proceeds will benefit numerous new and existing vocations and youth programs throughout the diocese.

The tremendous increase in seminarians in our diocese necessitates more funds to educate these perspective priests. Thirty sponsors stepped up to the “tee” becoming $1,000 Bishop Level sponsors and golfed in the name of one of our 10 seminarians. The $32,000 raised will go directly to the Seminarian Education Fund.

We also thank this year’s golf committee members: Monroe Rieger, tournament chairman; Ron Sitka, golf chairman; Wendy Eggert, Debbie Vanelli, Gerald Bludau, Mike Brown, Ed Lehnert, Clyde Svetlik, Hardy McCullough, Rev. Dan Morales, John Pribyl, Tommy Treybig, Bennie Vitek, George Wenzel, Glenn Machicke, and Gerald Bryant.

Winners of the tournament include the following: 1st Flight Winners were, 1st Place: Mike Rippamonti, Ron Sitka, Andrew Vasquez, and Richard Vasquez; 2nd Place: Robert Chaney, George Galbraith, Anisia Wolfschlag, and Mel Wolfschlag; 3rd Place: Fabian Ballbus, Andre Chapa, Diego Chapa, and Jessie Sanchez; 2nd Flight Winners were, 1st Place: Fritz Baumgartner, Jeral Nethery, Mark Sadler, and Mike Torres; 2nd Place: Bruce Blaha, John Garcia, Bobby Poss, and Chip Stelpflug; 3rd Place: Father David Berger, Father Brian Heyer, Father Patrick Knippenberg, and Father Michael Rother; 3rd Flight Winners were 1st Place: Anthony Collins, Joe Freeman, Ralph Gold, and Dick Ottis; 2nd Place: J.J. Hill, Deacon Larry Hoelscher, Bob Little, and Tommy Turner; 3rd Place: Chris Miller, Donna Miller, Eddie Miller Jr., and Trey Miller.

Other Prizes given were: Closest to the Hole (Men) #5 Bishop David Fellhauer; (Women) #14 Wanda Sanders Closest to the Line (Men) #10 Tommy Treybig; (Women) #15 Anne McIntosh Hole in One #14 David Heyer

From left are those who sponsored a hole at the Bishop Level, which was earmarked exclusively for the Seminarian Education Fund. At the Bishop Level the sponsor was able to choose a seminarian to sponsor.

Pope Francis Coat of Arms
This is a high-quality artist’s reproduction of the coat of arms of Pope Francis. The insignia borrows much from his former episcopal emblem. On the blue shield is the symbol of the Society of Jesus. Below it is a star and the buds of a spikenard flower, which represent respectively Mary and St. Joseph. The papal motto is the Latin phrase “Miserando atque eligendo,” which means “having mercy, he called him.” The phrase refers to a line in a homily by St. Bede: “Because he saw him through the eyes of mercy and chose him.” (CNS graphic/Tim Meko)
Theological and Catechetical Courses Offered This Summer

A companion booklet ($4.25 per book) is required for each course. There are no other fees associated with these courses. Registration can be done online or to view a complete listing of all the 2013 Short-term courses, at www.victoriadiocese.org, click on Ministries, then Pastoral Institute, then Short-term Program, then click 2013 Summer Short-term program, then Short-term Registration, or by calling (361) 573-0828 ext 2223. The courses, locations, and times are listed below:

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<th>DATES</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Methods 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>The Learner Pt. 1</td>
<td>O. L. of Guadalupe, Bay City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>The Learner Pt. 2</td>
<td>O. L. of Guadalupe, Bay City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Sacraments Pt. 1</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Sacraments Pt. 2</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>The Learner Pt. 1</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>The Learner Pt. 2</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Methods 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
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<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Methods 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Our Lady of Victory, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Prayer &amp; Spirituality Pt. 1</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Prayer &amp; Spirituality Pt. 2</td>
<td>Chancery, Victoria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NCEA Convention attended by teachers from diocese

HOSUTON—Faculty and staff from the various schools and John Quary, superintendent of Catholic Schools, of the Diocese of Victoria traveled to the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston to join thousands of others involved in the ministry of Catholic Education at the National Catholic Educators Association Convention.

The NCEA Convention & Expo is the largest private-education association gathering in the nation and was held in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston. Those who participate represent all aspects of Catholic and faith-based education from preschool, elementary, secondary, adult education, colleges and universities, to local parish pastors, priests, directors of parish religious education programs, parish volunteers, and more. The convention was a time to celebrate, to acquire new knowledge, and to experience a renewing of the spirit.

Attendees were able to enjoy more than 300 professional development sessions, departmental meetings, beautiful liturgies, and the special events hosted by our host diocese. There was also an opportunity to visit the Expo Hall to get the latest in educational technology, products, and services.

Among the keynote speakers was Father Robert Barron of Chicago, Founder of Word on Fire Ministries. His presentation “Proclaiming Christ to a Secular Culture” discussed the indispensable work of the church in light of the New Evangelization.

Each day of the convention there were daily Liturgical Celebrations. These Masses included special musical accompaniment by various Catholic School choirs and music programs throughout the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The celebrant at the opening Eucharistic Liturgy on Tuesday, April 2 was Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston. His homily was spiritual and motivating.
For a registration form, contact your
Marriage Encounter—
Engaged Encounter—
Gabriel Project–
Natural Family Planning–
St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity/Secular Franciscans–
Catholic Family Services–
The Beginning Experience–
attraction and looking for answers. It is a Roman Catholic

death, or abortion. Learn more at
suffering a loss of a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, infant
also provides peer counseling and spiritual direction for those
It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in Flatonia that
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.; contact (979) 532-

Tuesday, 101 W. Convent at 6:30 p.m., includes light supper; for
Oct. 20; Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.
Summer Session: July 21, Aug. 18 and Sept. 15; Fall Session:
co
62x44]tact David and Annie Coffey
time of family planning. To learn about the Sympto-Thermal
of Catholic organizations that focus on the family, please go
to the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers
at www.nacflm.org.
St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity/Secular Franciscans–
For information, please go to www.lostcompaneros-soft.
org. For Victoria meeting dates, contact Mary Ann LeBlanc
to (361) 575-1858.
Natural Family Planning–NFP is the only Church-approved
method of family planning. To learn about the Sympto-Thermal
Method in the Victoria area and the NFP class schedules, con-
tact David and Annie Coffey vprojectfpteachers@yahoo.
.com, Classes—Spring Session: April 21, May 19 and June 23;
Summer Session: July 21, Aug. 18 and Sept. 15; Fall Session:
Oct. 20; Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.
Galbraith Project—A ministry providing help to women experi-
cing a crisis pregnancy – an alternative to abortion – holds
monthly meetings for all interested. Victoria meetings, 2nd
Tuesday, 101 W. Convent by 6:30 p.m., includes light supper; for
Angel Workshop/Training dates, contact Barbara at (361) 649-
1612 or e-mail: barbaramccinc85@yahoo.com. Holy Family,
Wharton, meets 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.; contact (979) 532-
3593, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. See: www.victoriadiocese.
org/lighthouse/gp.htm
Raphael’s Refuge—The mission of Raphael’s Refuge 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 that
also provides peer counseling and spiritual direction for those
suffering a loss of a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, infant
death, or abortion. Learn more at www.raphaelsrefuge.org/

Engaged Encounter—For a registration form, contact your
pastor, visit the website at www.victoriadiocese.org/family/
ee.htm. The weekend is held at the Spiritual Renewal Cen-
ter. The 2013 dates are: Sept. 27-29 with ONLY 25 spaces
available. For more info., call (361) 573-0828 ext. 2230. All
registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must
accompany registration form.
Retrouvaille—Retrouvaille, meaning rediscovery, is a marriage-
healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult
marriages. Go to www.retrouvaille.org, contact John and
Jennifer Vincent at jbjovj@bchglobal.net or (361) 580-2770;
(800) 470-2230; or www.helpourmarriage.org

Marriage Encounter—This program is no longer offered in the
Diocese of Victoria; Retrouvaille (see above) has replaced it.
To find a Marriage Encounter weekend outside of the diocese,
go to www.wmme.org

Courage—This is a ministry for those experiencing same-sex
attraction and looking for answers. It is a Roman Catholic
Apostolate endorsed by the Pontifical Council for the Family.
EnCourage ministers to family and friends of persons with
same-sex attraction. Learn more at couragerc.net/.

Presidio La Bahia Museum and Visitor Center—The Presidio,
located in Goliad, is the only Spanish fort in the possession of
the Catholic Church in North America and is a National Historic
Landmark. It and its museum are open daily from 9:00 a.m.
to 5:00 p.m.; and closed on major holidays. The Quarters,
a two-bedroom guest quarter, is available for overnight stays.
For rates and more information, contact (361) 645-3752 or see

Picos, Activities, etc.
May
Hostyn—Holy Rosary Mayfest May 5
Victoria—Holy Family Parish Festival May 5
Weimar—Celebrate Weimar Gedenke May 10 – barbecue
cook-off, 5K fun run, antique car show, arts and crafts, con-
tests, reunions, loads of activities, silent auction and more.
Music Friday with The Good, Bad & Ugly and TUB — Satur-
ds—music - Red Ravens – the Telstars and The Hit Men. The
parade will be at noon on Saturday—bring your lawn chairs.
A celebration of culture, history, and tradition. For more infor-
mation call (979) 725-9511 or visit weimartx.org.
Cuero—St. Michael Annual Parish Spring Festival May 19
on the parish grounds. A roast-beef dinner including dessert
will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with a drive-thru-line
for plates-to-go available. Meal tickets are $8 p/p. See ad on
page 7 for more information.
Inez—Catholic Daughters Court St. Joseph, Protector of Mary
is hosting a games party at $7 p/p on May 19 at the St. Joseph
Parish Hall from 2:00-5:00 p.m. with dinner served (king
ranch chicken, salad and drink). Reservations required by
calling Kathy Prukop at (361) 575-3559 or Brenda Miller at
(361) 218-9389.
Hallettsville— Sacred Heart Parish Spring Festival May 26
at the KC Hall. A fried-chicken and stew dinner will be served
from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the hall with plates-to-go
available. There will be music, auction, games, entertainment
and more all afternoon.
Shiner—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Spring Picnic May 26, see ad
on page 7 for more information.

Upcoming Events
Flatonia—Sacred Heart Parish Annual Spring Picnic on June 2.
Fried-chicken and stew dinner will be served. There will be an
outdoor auction, silent auction, games, bingo, music—something
for all ages. located at 516 South Faires.
East Bernard—Holy Cross Annual Czech Kolache Kobase Fes-
tival June 8 at Riverside Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
sponsored by KJT Society No. 40. Admission is $7 p/p and
children 12 and under free. Entertainment indoors and under
pavilion with water-fan cooled comfort. Sausage/barbecue-
chicken plate lunches available beginning at 11:00 a.m., ham-
burgers and sausage sandwiches available in the afternoon.
Arts/crafts, kiddie games, cakewalk and more family fun. For
more information including all the bands that will be there to
see www.kkfestival.com or call (979) 335-7907.
Bay City—Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival Meal June 9 at
the parish hall located on 12th Street and Avenue D. A brisket
dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at $7 p/p. Dine-in/
Pick-up/Drive thru available. Auction begins at 11:30 a.m.
Schulenburg—St. Rose of Lima Annual Parish Picnic June 9
at KC Hall.
St. Mary—St. Mary picnic June 9. See ad on page 10 for more
information.
Port Lavaca—Catholic Daughters Court Our Lady of the Gulf
#2267 will have their annual Games Party June 9 at St. Jude Hall
(across from the church) 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Admission will be
$7 p/p including refreshments and door prizes. There will also
be other activities. For table reservations call (361) 987-2387 or
(361) 552-6844 or (361) 552-3233.
St. John—St. John Annual Parish 4th of July Picnic on the parish
grounds (7026 FM 957 - 6 miles SW of Schulenburg). Mass
at 9:00 a.m. followed by flag-raising ceremonies at 10:00 a.m.
A stew and fried-chicken dinner begins at 10:30 a.m.
Dubina—Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Picnic July 7
Moravia—Ascension of Our Lord Parish Picnic July 14 (located
at FM 957 and FM 532) begins with Mass at 10:00 a.m.
A stew and fried-chicken dinner will be served at 11:00 a.m.
There will be a country store, toy walk, games and cakewalk
along with much more. Auction starts at 1:00 p.m. Refresh-
ments and food available throughout the day. Music during
the day and night.

Masses • Retreats • Conferences
Dallas—The 16th annual multi-denominational Dallas Benedict-
tine Experience will take place at The Catholic Conference and
Formation Center from Wednesday, June 19, to Saturday, June
22. This monastic experience is presented by The Friends of
St. Benedict, Washington, D.C. and is open to men and women,
lazy and clergy of all denominations. For information, please
e-mail heepsence@aol.com or call (214) 339-8483.
Victoria—St. Mary’s Altar Society will sponsor a half-day retreat
on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at the St. Mary’s Activity Center. More
information at a later date.

Victoria—Incarnate Word Prayer Group invites you to Praise
and Worship on Mondays at 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the auditorium.
Events are held at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water
Street. For any event, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at
(361) 575-7111, or amorgus@yahoo.com

Victoria—Healing Mass and Prayer at Our Lady of Lourdes
Church, 105 N. William St., on the first Saturday of the month
at 10:00 a.m. with Father Phi Nguyen, chaplain of IWBS
Convent. Mark your calendars now for next month. For
more information, please contact Sister Louise Marie Jones at
jwbsvoc2@yahoo.com.

Shiner—Latin Masses will be celebrated by Father Bob Knip-
penberg at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church every 1st & 3rd
Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

Tivoli—First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6
p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 501B William Street,
Mass follows at 7:00 p.m., with Rev. Paulson Panakal. Mark
your calendars now for next month. Call for more information:
(361) 237-3634

ACTS Retreats—For information on ACTS retreats, please go to
100 Years of Catholic Daughters of the Americas in Yoakum
Court Our Lady Of Guadalupe #206, 1913 – 2013

YOAKUM—Whether it’s aiding St. Joseph Parish in Yoakum, helping with local community projects, or weighing in on social-justice issues, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas have done a century’s worth of goodwill in Yoakum, Texas. Catholic Daughters Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206 observed its 100th anniversary on March 10, 2013. Court #206 was first organized on June 1, 1913, with 33 charter members and was only the fourth court to be organized in the State of Texas.

Also recognized was Yoakum’s Junior CDA Court, celebrating 70 years, and currently led by adult leaders Jennifer Jahn and Desiree Muenich.

The anniversary celebration began with Mass at St. Joseph Church. Mass was celebrated by Bishop David Fellhauer, with Deacon Dennis Kutach assisting. The entrance procession was led by the Color Guard, U.S. Flag, and CDA Banner, followed by members of the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, CDA Court 206 members and local, state and national CDA officers. Members of Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree Council #1128 served as honor guard for the procession and during the Mass.

Concelebrant was Reverend Matthew H. Huehlefeld with Deacon Dennis Kutach assisting. The entrance procession was led by the Color Guard, U.S. Flag, and CDA Banner, followed by members of the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, CDA Court 206 members and local, state and national CDA officers. Members of Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree Council #1128 served as honor guard for the procession and during the Mass.

Mass was followed by a reception and lunch served at the St. Joseph Parish Family Center. The celebration was well attended by members of Court #206 as well as by representatives from various CDA Courts throughout the state. Special guests attending the event were: Bishop Fellhauer of Victoria, Father Huehlefeld—pastor of St. Joseph Parish and Chaplain of Court #206, Second Vice National Regent Olga Samaniego of El Paso, State Regent Carolyn Malik of Shiner, First Vice State Regent Peggy Rosales of Austin, Second Vice State Regent Eve Trevino of Corpus Christi, State Secretary Rosie Stockwell of Edinburg, and State Treasurer Melodie Brunt of Texarkana.

Mayor Annie Rodriguez and City Council member Elorine Sitka presented a Resolution of Recognition of CDA Court #206 from the City of Yoakum. Mary McQuillen gave the history of Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206.

Ladies who have been members of the Yoakum Court for 50 years or more were recognized and presented a red rose by fellow CDA members. 50+ year members included: Marcella Janak, Theresa Polzin, Joyce Brewer, Ruby Jiral, Ann Richter, Evelyn Brzozowski, Veraline Kaiser, Fay Rohan, Almarené Bucek, Marie Jo Knippa, Ruby Sansom, Agnes Chomout, Mag Laqua, Margie Schindler, Mertes Culak, Jo Ann Machac, Ardylce Vaclavik, Sheila Dennis, Aileen Manning, Betty Vaclent, Elenora Ebner, Helen Manning, Edith Vanek, Doris Friedel, Mary McQuillen, Aliene Vinklarek, Dorothy Herche, Tillie Mudd, Lillie Vecera, Margaret Hermes, Virginia Patek, Bernice Watson, Marie Holster, Genevieve Pekar, Mary Ann Wenzel, Maggie Jahn, Wilma Pesek, Barbara Lauer, Margaret Smolik.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (originally called Daughters of Isabella) was founded by the Knights of Columbus in 1903, and is now one of the oldest and largest Catholic women’s organizations with members within and outside of the United States.

Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206 was first organized 100 years ago with 33 charter members. On June 1, 1913, the Degree Team from Court Marie Galante in Austin (the first Court in Texas) came to Yoakum to institute Yoakum’s Court as “Daughters of Isabella” the 4th Court in Texas!

Mrs. D. J. Shall served as the first Regent for the court; Shirley Kocian is currently serving as Regent. Two Yoakum CDA members have served as State Regent: the late Mrs. Bettie Rohan and the late Mrs. Ida Poth. Mrs. Bettie Rohan also served as National Director.

Yoakum’s Court #206 is proud to sponsor the local Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court for girls age 6-18 for the past 70 years (1943-2013). Currently they are blessed to have 59 active members. The JCDA Court is very active and is a role model for young ladies, encouraging leadership and responsibility. Counselors for the JCDA are Jennifer Jahn and Desiree Muenich.

Court #206 is always welcoming new members to their fun-loving group of Catholic women. Please set aside the first Monday of each month to join us at St. Joseph Parish Family Center at 6:00 p.m.