

The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



VOL. 28, NO. 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

May 2014

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READ
ALL
ABOUT
IT!



Pope Francis recently announced the canonization of Blessed John XXIII and Blessed John Paul II. John XXIII is depicted in a painting from a museum in his Italian birthplace. John Paul II is shown in a composite featuring an image of him by Polish photographer Grzegorz Galazka. (CNS)



Bishop Fellhauer blesses the path; assisted by Fr. Phi Nguyen.

Blessing of outdoor rosary path, Stations of the Cross, and garden

Last month, the Amor Meus Spirituality Center unveiled an outdoor rosary path, Stations of the Cross, and a garden of Gethsemane. The ceremony in the auditorium included a prayer service and acknowledgements. Bishop Fellhauer conducted the prayers and blessings of the new structures. Sr. Stephana Marbach welcomed the crowd and gave a

brief history of how the project came to fruition. Sr. Emilie Eilers discussed the importance of having a spiritual, quiet, reflective place on the convent's grounds and introduced guest speakers. Lynn Leuckemeyer of Eagle Scout Project Troop #108 spoke of how the scouts assisted in the outdoor stations and landscap-

See Blessing, pg 7

Canonizations of John XXIII and John Paul II

by Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – A few weeks before the canonizations of Blesseds John XXIII and John Paul II, Rome hotels were reporting they were almost fully booked and the Vatican confirmed the Mass would take place in St. Peter's Square, despite knowing hundreds of thousands of people would have to watch the ceremony on large video screens.

Pope Francis announced in late Sept. 2013 he would proclaim the two popes saints in a single ceremony April 27, 2014, Divine Mercy Sunday.

More than 1 million people were expected to try to attend the liturgy.

Blessed John Paul, known as a globetrotter who made 104 trips outside Italy, served as pope 1978-2005 and was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI on Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1, 2011. Blessed John

See Canonizations, pg. 10

40th anniversary ordination of Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters

On March 30, 2014, a special Mass of Thanksgiving was held to honor Msgr. John Peters' 40th anniversary of ordination as a priest at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hallettsville.

Concelebrants included Bishop David Fellhauer, Diocese of Victoria; Bishop Charles Grahmann, Hallettsville native, retired; and priests of the Diocese of Victoria and priest friends

Fr. Tommy Chen served as the master of ceremonies. Deacon Joey Targac was deacon



Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters

*"Be shepherds of the flock of God that is entrusted to you; watch over it not simply as a duty, but gladly."
~1 Peter 5:2*

See 40th anniversary, pg 10

Set the Diocese of Victoria as your homepage: www.victoriadiocese.org. View *TCL* online!



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE
DIOCESE OF VICTORIA
IN TEXAS
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The Diocese of Victoria is comprised of more than 50 parishes in 69 communities.

Estimated Catholic population: 107,000.

The Catholic Lighthouse
USPS-001015 (ISSN 0894-7740)
is published monthly at
1505 E. Mesquite Lane
in Victoria, TX 77901.

Subscription rates are
\$7 per year within the diocese.
\$10 outside the diocese.

E-mail local stories, photos or
festival announcements to
lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org.

**DEADLINE IS THE FIFTEENTH (15)
OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.**

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Bishop Fellhauer's Schedule

May

- 9** 8:30 a.m. School Mass, St. Philip the Apostle Church, El Campo
- 11** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Rose of Lima Church, Schulenburg
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Philip the Apostle Church, El Campo
- 12** 5:00 p.m. Diocesan Liturgy Commission, Chancery Office
- 17** 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Church, Goliad
5:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn
- 18** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Hallettsville
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass, Our Lady of the Gulf Church, Port Lavaca
- 21** 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St. John Church, St. John, including Ascension of Our Lord Church, Moravia
- 24** 10:00 a.m. Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Philip Brune and Deacon Jasper Liggio; Ordination to Transitional Diaconate of Kristopher Fuchs, Scott Hill, Jacob Koether, and Francis Nguyen, Our Lady of Victory Cathedral
5:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass, Holy Cross Church, Yorktown
- 25** 8:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Church, Praha
9:30 a.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Moulton
- 28** 4:00 p.m. Diocesan Building Board meeting, Chancery Office
- 31** 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Peter Church, Blessing

June

- 1** 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Mary Church, St. Mary (Hallettsville)
- 4** 9:00 a.m. Mass celebrating 10th Anniversary of Safe Environment Program, Our Lady of Victory Cathedral
- 7** 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick's Church, Bloomington

DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

2014 DSA

Diocesan Goal:	\$ 1,824,625.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$ 502,665.41
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$ 388,116.07
Number of Parish Families Participating:	2,294

For young, Catholic men



Knights of Columbus
SQUIRES
Youth Organization

Applications are currently being accepted for membership into The Columbian Squires®. It is the official youth organization sponsored by the Knights of Columbus for young Catholic men ages 10-18. Being a member enables one to better serve your parish, help those in need, grow in faith and have fun in some of the most successful youth programs. Membership is \$11. For more information, contact Donald Shellenbarger at (361) 649-9556 or donny@stec.org.

Thank you notes

Dear Bishop Fellhauer:

Please accept my deepest thanks for your diocese's contribution of \$26,536.19 from your Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA). The generosity of your parishioners is needed greatly by our mission dioceses here in the U.S. With your support, CHMA will continue to bridge the gap between the need and available resources. I am grateful for all your work to strengthen our church and support home missions.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Peter F. Christensen
Bishop of Superior
Chairman, USSCB Subcommittee
on Catholic Home Missions

Dear Bishop Fellhauer:

Sincere thanks for \$42,819.57 in support of the 2013 appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR). Over the last 26 years, parishioners in your diocese have donated a total of \$665,608.08 to this collection. Words cannot express our gratitude for their generous and prayerful support of our nation's senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your support is essential to the fund's continued success. I thank you and the faithful of your diocese for this generosity and prayerful support. May our loving God bless you abundantly!

Gratefully,
Sr. Janice Bader, CPPS
Executive Director
National Religious Retirement Office

Grand Canyon, Balloon Festival with Sedona and Tombstone Oct. 6-15



Pathways ~with Patti
334 Jurek Road
Port Lavaca, TX 77979
(361) 552.2695 or (361) 920.3216



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 29, 2014

TOTALS	
— Rev. Msgr. Edward C. Bartsch	
Previously reported	\$10,183.00
In honor of Stazy Hajek's 101st birthday by Gary and Denise Grieve	<u>101.00</u>
Total	\$10,284.00

— Catholic Daughters of America Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374	
Previously reported	\$7,392.12
In memory of Anna Martha Faas by CDA Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374	<u>55.00</u>
Total	\$7,447.12

— Catholic Daughters of America Court St. Ann #369 Burse #2	
Previously reported	\$10,183.99
Annual donation by CDA Court St. Ann #369	<u>500.00</u>
Total	\$10,683.99

— Josephat R. Janak Burse #2	
Previously reported	\$4,589.77
In memory of Edward and Stazie Wagner by M/M Marvin Wagner	<u>1,000.00</u>
Donation from the 2014 Rudolph and Julia Janak Family Reunion	<u>500.00</u>
In memory of Stazie Wagner by Robert and Janet McCabe	<u>50.00</u>
In memory of Robert and Frances Anderle by Mike and Diana Billings	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$6,164.77

— Our Lady of Victory Altar Society	
Previously reported	\$1,577.00
In honor of Miss Elizabeth Hoffer's 94th birthday by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
In honor of Mrs. Judy Neuvar's 75th birthday by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
In honor of Mrs. Shirley Rigamonti Mason's retirement by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
In memory of Agnes Ruth Terry by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
In memory of Jack Donald Davig by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
In memory of Katy DeLane by Grace Rigamonti	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$1,727.00

— Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #6	
Previous reported	\$12,870.00
In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters' 40th ordination anniversary by Ned and Pam Havel-Moser	<u>400.00</u>
Laurence and Carol Bludau Family	<u>100.00</u>
Michael and Janice Jares, Steven and Ryan Jares	<u>100.00</u>
M/M L. W. Karan	<u>100.00</u>
Pat and Barbara Pesek	<u>100.00</u>
Anita Barrera-Rocha	<u>100.00</u>
Richard Squyres	<u>100.00</u>
John and LaVerne Trojcek	<u>60.00</u>
Jean Biederman	<u>50.00</u>

Bill and Fran Byrd	50.00
Mike Davis	50.00
Alton J. Grahmann	50.00
Sidney and Barbara Jasek	50.00
Joe and Ann Machalec	50.00
Robert and Peggy Mendel	50.00
Jerry Mikeska	50.00
Deacon Jarrel and Irene Nohavitza	50.00
Jerome and Georgia Pavliska and Willie Barborak	50.00
Andres and Jane Pesek	50.00
Judy Renger and Gene Renger	50.00
Stanley and Judy Sulak	50.00
James and Monica Vanek	50.00
Ella Mae Bludau	40.00
Georgia Cerny and Stazy Hajek	40.00
Frank J. Forestier and Barbara J. Appelt	40.00
Roger and Beverly Janak	40.00
Johnnie and Aileen Kasper	40.00
Margaret Kutac	40.00
Gilbert and Mary Schindler	40.00
Harold and Stefania Long	25.00
Bob and Maggie Pustka	25.00
Cleo Drabek Family	20.00
Evelyn Konvicka	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$15,000.00

— Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #7	
In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters' 40th ordination anniversary by Margaret Dornak	<u>1,000.00</u>
Franklin and Rita Addicks	<u>100.00</u>
Mildred and Willy Bohlmann	<u>100.00</u>
Catherine Eck	<u>100.00</u>
Charles and Claudia Ennis	50.00
Chris and Patty Parma	50.00
Lawrence and Sylvia Addicks	40.00
Leo and Joyce Janda	40.00

Joe and Joyce Morris	40.00
Bennie and Victoria Orsak	40.00
Leo and Elizabeth Janak	25.00
Kermit and Evelyn Thuemler	25.00
Patricia Wieland	25.00
Bernice Dobecka	20.00
Annie Henneke	20.00
Mary Ann Henneke	20.00
In honor of Rita and Franklin Addicks' 27th wedding anniversary by Mary Ann Henneke	<u>20.00</u>
In memory of Doris Friedel by M/M Vernon Matusek	<u>20.00</u>
In loving memory of Matthew Charles Pohler by Willie Barborak	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$1,755.00

Additional Burses for donations:

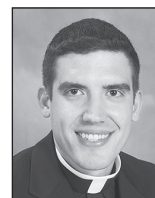
- Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily
- Rev. Msgr. Vaclav Bily
- Deceased Priests of Praha
- Rev. Sean Donohue Burse #2
- Rev. Msgr. John Hanacek
- Sr. M. Perpetua Hawes, IWBS
- Holy Rosary Church – Hostyn Burse #2
- Rev. Joe Levya
- Rev. Charles Kram
- Rev. Godfrey F. Kuratko
- Rev. Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin
- St. Mary's Church – High Hill
- St. Mary's Church – Praha
- Rev. Msgr. Robert Schmidt
- Sophie Schmidt
- William L. Schmidt
- Rev. Jerome J. Stryk
- Jim Vacek Burse #2
- Rev. Marcus Valenta

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:

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

Happy birthday to our seminarians

Kristopher Fuchs is in Theology II at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. His home parish is St. Michael the Archangel, Needville. His birthday is May 13. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Kristopher Fuchs, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43235.



Blayne Jemelka is in Pre-Theology I at St. Joseph Seminary in Saint Benedict, Louisiana. His home parish is St. Michael, Cuero. His birthday is May 13. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Blayne Jemelka, St. Joseph Seminary, 75376 River Road, Saint Bernedict, LA 70457.



Dominic Schaefer is in College I at St. Joseph Seminary in Saint Benedict, Louisiana. His home parish is St. Mary, Victoria. His birthday is May 30. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Dominic Schaefer, St. Joseph Seminary, 75376 River Road, Saint Bernedict, LA 70457.



Prayer for vocations

“Becoming a priest or a man or woman religious is not primarily our own decision. Rather, it is the response to a call and to a call of love.”

~Pope Francis



Northeast American Tour June 18-27

Washington, D.C. • NYC
Montréal • Niagara Falls, Ontario
Must book by May 15.

Europe Bus Tour August 9-21

France, Germany, Czech Republic,
Normandy Beach, Paris, Plzen,
Prague, Frenstat, Moravia



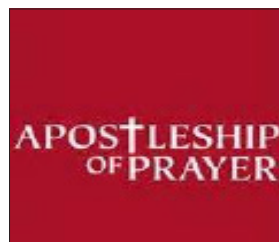
ABCATS TRAVEL • (361) 578-0828
www.abcatstravel.com



June 1st marks the 48th World Communications Day and first message from Pope Francis. This year's theme is *Communication at the Service of an Authentic Culture of Encounter*. To view the pope's full message, visit www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/index.html.



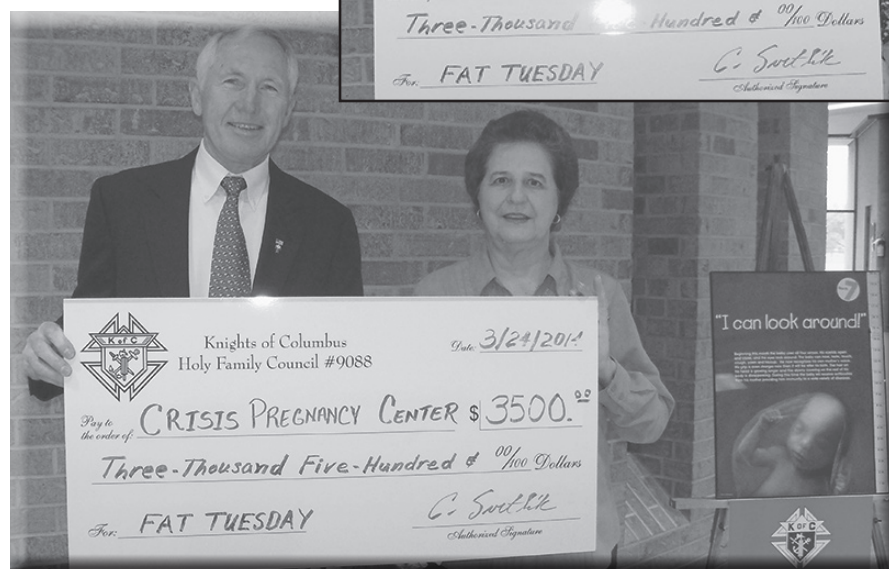
Live faith in daily life and join over 50 million Catholics praying in unity for the good of the world, the church, and one another. Visit the pope's prayer group at www.apostleshipofprayer.org.



Save the date!

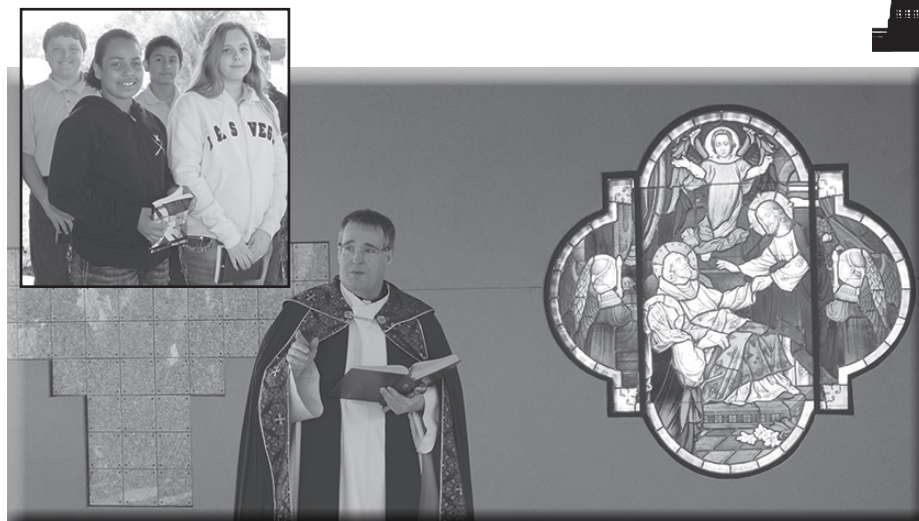
The Knights of St. Gregory the Great's annual charity banquet will be held July 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Victoria Country Club. Benefits several Bishop Fellhauer charities. For more information, call (361) 575-5884 or (361) 649-5750.

(right) Cathy Rojas receives a check on behalf of the Gabriel Project.



(above) Barbara Respondek of the Crisis Pregnancy Center accepts the donation from KC Council #9088.

The **Knights of Columbus Council #9088 of Holy Family Catholic Church**, Victoria would like to thank the patrons and volunteers that helped make the recent Fat Tuesday Fundraiser successful. Proceeds totaling \$7,000 were given to local charities committed to the pro-life cause in aiding new and expectant mothers. Both organizations were presented checks by Clyde Svetlik, grand knight.



A dedication ceremony of an official Texas historical marker and blessing of the pavilion was recently held at **St. Joseph Cemetery**, Yoakum. The ceremony presider was Fr. Matthew Huehlefeld, pastor of St. Joseph Church. (Inset) 6th grade St. Joseph school students sang songs. Roger Raney, representative of the Lavaca County Historical Commission; Vera Kaiser and Thomas Wenzel assisted in unveiling the historical marker.



The **Praha Altar Society** recently donated \$3,000 for the restoration of the church bells at St. Mary's, Praha. Extensive restorations will be occurring in the coming year. Kathleen Svatek (2nd from right) presents a check to

Fr. Gabriel Maison (3rd from right), parochial administrator of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church. Seated is Julia Stryk. Standing, left to right: Georgia Cerny, Stacy Hajek, Ellene Vrazel, Liz Janak, Leona Herzik, Pat Masek, and Virginia Olsovsky (right). **St. Mary's School- Praha Alumni** also recently made a donation towards the restoration of St. Mary's Church.

May is Older Americans month. Take a moment to appreciate the elderly. Offer love and support. Help them stay healthy and active. For more information, visit www.acl.gov.



Reporting Abuse

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a member of the clergy or other church personnel, you can register a complaint.

- Call the bishop or the chancellor at the Chancery at (361) 573-0828;
or
- Call Rev. Gary Janak (361) 575-4741 or Sr. Emilie Eilers (361) 575-7111, Coordinators of Pastoral Care and Outreach;
or
- Write to: Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer
Diocese of Victoria, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903
Mark your letter "Personal and Confidential"

We will also help you bring your concerns to Church officials outside the diocese if the abuse occurred elsewhere and you now reside in the Diocese of Victoria.

If you are unsure about bringing forth a complaint or need more information, please contact: Rev. Gary Janak at (361) 575-4741.



Did you know?



The Diocese of Victoria offers several ministry programs including:

- Catechetical Ministry
- Family Ministries
- Library and Media Center
- Pastoral Institute
- Prison Ministry
- Youth and Young Adult Ministry

The Diocese of Victoria also provides many services from:

- Business Office
- Catholic Cemeteries Office
- Catholic Schools Office
- Safe Environment Office
- Spiritual Renewal Center
- Office of Vocations... and more!

For more information, contact:

The Diocese of Victoria
1505 E. Mesquite Lane • Victoria, TX 77901
(361) 573-0828 • www.victoriadiocese.org

To Love as God Loves

The Diocese of Victoria's 1-day marriage preparation program designed for couples 40 years of age and older, couples seeking convalidation of their civil marriages, and couples entering a second marriage. July 27, and Oct. 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church. For more information, contact the Office of the Chancellor at (361) 573-0828 or visit www.victoriadiocese.org.



St. Michael Catholic Church

302 E. Church St.
Cuero, Tx

* BINGO * GAMES * FOOD
* COUNTRY STORE
* RAFFLE * AUCTION
* PLANT WALK



• Auction starts at 12:30 p.m. inside hall •

SUNDAY
MAY 18, 2014

Roast beef, gravy, potatoes,
green beans, desserts
---- Tickets: \$8.00 ----
Serving from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Plates-to-go available - drive-thru



Pictured above seminarian Jacob Koether, Bruce Poncek, Steve Volkmer, and Fr. Michael Rother.

The 17th annual Bishop David Fellhauer Invitational Charity Golf Tournament, held for youth programs, vocations and for the education of the seminarians was another success. Winners were: 1st flight, 1st place: Brady Boehl, Fr. David Berger, John Eric, and Russell Goebel. 2nd flight, 1st place: Charles Papacek, Msgr. Robbie Robisheaux, Mark Travis, and Bishop David Fellhauer. 3rd flight, 1st place: Richard Schmidt, Tim Braaten, Bill Sanders, and Wanda Sanders.



Bishop David Fellhauer with Msgr. Robbie Robisheaux.

Bishop's secretary retires



Minnie Bochat, executive secretary to Bishop David E. Fellhauer, has worked for the Diocese of Victoria for 32 years since its inception in May 1982. She first served as secretary to Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin in the vicar general, chancellor, and judicial vicar offices. She became secretary to Bishop Fellhauer when he was installed as bishop of the Diocese of Victoria in May 1990. She was the bishop's secretary for 24 years. Minnie, much happiness and good health upon your retirement!

St. Mary's Parish Picnic

1836-2014 ~ 178 years

Sunday, June 8

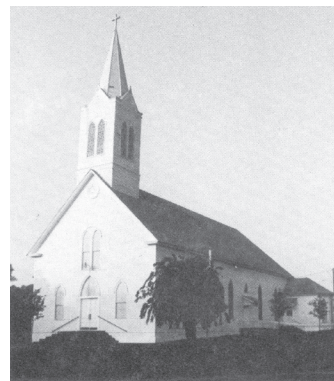
St. Mary's Parish Hall
Hallettsville, Texas

Food:

Beer • Popcorn • Soda
Snow cones • Hamburgers
Ice Cream • Kolaches
and more!

Games:

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



Mass 9:15 a.m.

Meal begins at 10:30 a.m.

Featuring special St. Mary's stew &
sausage & all the trimmings

Plates: \$8.50 p/p.

Dine-in or drive-thru.

Music: 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Texas Sound Czech (10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)

Tony Janak (2:00-5:30 p.m.)
Red Ravens (5:30-9:00 p.m.)

Auction @ 1:00 p.m.



2014 CKB winners

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER
READING II – 1 PETER 1:17-21

The Diocese of Victoria 7th Annual Catholic Knowledge Bowl (CKB) was held this recent March at Our Lady of Victory, Victoria. Two family teams competed as well as 99 year-old, Catherine Palmer (below). Her team was Our Lady of Lourdes Golden Girls. She has not missed a competition since CKB's inception.

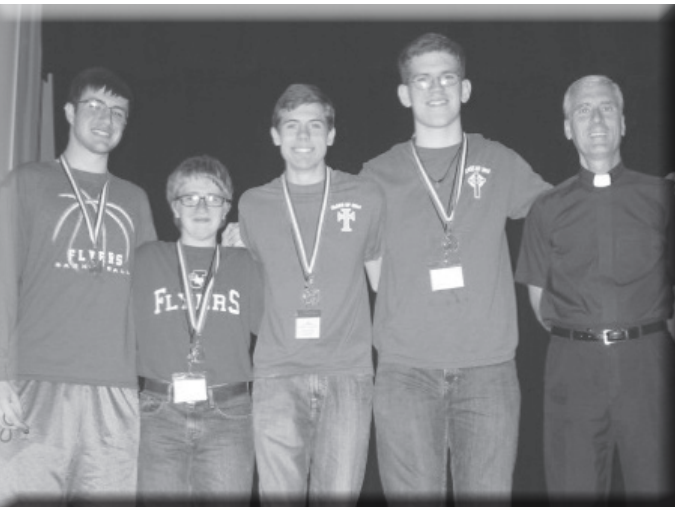


Additional winners: 2nd place family- *Wenske Family*: Mary Ann Wenske, James Wenske, John Wenske, and Cathy Wenske. 2nd place teen- *Faithful Flyers*: Olivia Creager, Emily Omencinski, Hannah Adams, and Chloe Velasco. 2nd place adult- *Struggling Disciples*: Paul Reinermann, Lucy Ohrt, Doris Doehrman, and Dorothy Shenkir. 3rd place teen- *Friends of Jesus*: Luke Harper, Jami Shimek, Tyler Kraatz, and David Burroughs. 3rd place adult- *Ambrose's Bees*: David Coffey, Chris Kallus, Diana Kruciak, and Betty Mitchell.



1st place family- *Mary's Team/Harper Family*, Sacred Heart, Hallettsville. Left to right: Renae Harper, Dorothy Harper, Ella Harper, and Dorothea Harper. Also pictured with the team is Fr. Patrick Knippenberg, parochial vicar, OLV.

1st place adult- *Explorers on the Journey*, St. Michael, Cuero. Left to right: Virginia Ruschhaupt, Margaret Dixon, DiAnne Cowey, and Pat Koranek. Also pictured with the team is Fr. Patrick Knippenberg, parochial vicar, OLV.



1st place teen- *Brainy Bunch*, St. Joseph, High School, Victoria. Left to right: Luke Wenske, James Heath, Connally Krueger, and Ben Adams. Also pictured with the team is Fr. Gary Janak, pastor, OLV.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter: Beloved: / If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially / according to each one's works, / conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, / realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, / handed on by your ancestors, / not with perishable things like silver or gold / but with the precious blood of Christ / as of a spotless unblemished lamb. He was known before the foundation of the world / but revealed in the final time for you, / who through him believe in God / who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, / so that your faith and hope are in God.



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



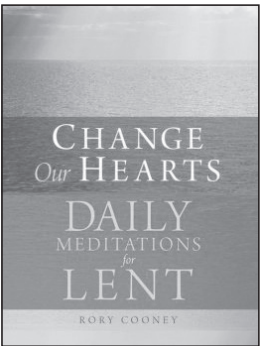
Puzzle contest winners

The winner of the April puzzle contest and the book, *Stories of Jesus* by Joseph F. Girzone, is Nicole Belicek of Sacred Heart Parish, Hallettsville. The winner of the children's contest are 11-year-old, Myles Svatek, St. Philip School, El Campo 11-year-old, and Ethan Sanchez, Our Lady of Sorrow Parish, Victoria. They will receive a gift from the Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

The winner of the May

contest will win *Change Our Hearts, Daily Meditations for Lent* by Rory Cooney. The book provides daily lectionary citations, reflections, and prayers. Prepare for next Easter with daily reflections centered on baptismal calls to renounce sin, renew your faith in God, and follow the Gospel. The author is a liturgical songwriter with more than 15 collections of music. His work is represented in several hymnals and worship aids in the U.S.

If you have not won the puzzle contest within the past six months, please mail a completed May puzzle form by May 30, 2014 to *The Catholic Lighthouse*, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 for a chance to win!





Catholic by Grace

by Denise Bossert
www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com



Finding Mary in May

It is May- that means Catholic schools and parishes will be having May Crowning.

About two years after my conversion, the whole Mary-and-the-month-of-May thing hit my radar. "So what's with Mary and the month of May?" I asked my cradle Catholic friend. She explained the church has set aside the month of May to honor the Blessed Mother- hence, May Crowning. She also said it is a time to pray the rosary and present the Blessed Mother with flowers and a crown.

Try explaining that to your Protestant family and friends. *You do what? We pray the rosary...* (You have already lost them, and you have not even gotten to the part about the crown.)

Have you ever read the children's book, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, by Laura Joffe Numeroff? It is kind of like that.

If you mention May and the Blessed Mother, you have to mention May Crowning. If you mention May Crowning, you have to explain how Mary is the Queen of Heaven and Earth. If you mention Mary is the Queen of Heaven and Earth, you have to talk about the Assumption, the Immaculate Conception, the Ark of the Covenant, the New Eve and why that is all scriptural. You will have to crack open the Bible and look at the Book of Revelations and the 'women clothed with the sun' and explain how Mary was prefigured by Hannah, Ruth, Queen Esther, and Judith.

If you make it to Judith, you are going to have to explain why Judith is not in their Protestant Bibles, but they do not know what they are missing because Judith is the most amazing widow in salvation history.

If you find yourself back to the Bible, you are going to have to talk about the rosary again and how those prayers come right out of the Bible because Jesus prayed the Our Father, and the Hail Mary is a combination of the words of Archangel Gabriel and Saint Elizabeth.

If you manage to explain why Catholics pray memorized prayers, you will have to explain we pray in many different ways

and it all comes together in the Mass and the Mass fits into the liturgical calendar and the liturgical calendar takes us from Advent to Christmas to Ordinary Time, to Lent to Easter to Pentecost, and then to... May...to the Blessed Mother.

If you mention the month of May and the Blessed Mother, you had better put on another pot of coffee because you are about to cover the same ground all over again.

Our faith is organic. It all fits together. It cannot be reduced to one sound bite. It lives and breathes and has a complexity and beauty that is as mysterious and glorious as the body of Christ.

The month of May is connected to that living, breathing intricacy.

Let's face it, the best way to experience Mary's month is to become a little child. Don't try to figure it all out at once like someone cramming for a final exam. Just go cut some flowers and lay them at her feet. Pick up your rosary and pray the Glorious Mysteries, or simply plan to learn the Hail Mary if you have never tried.

For you see, it all comes down to this:

Sometimes, the best way to find Christ is to let yourself find Mary. Embrace the simple elegance of it and the organic complexity will fall into place.



Blessing of outdoor rosary path, Stations of the Cross, and garden

Continued from pg. 1

ing. Kenneth Richter was the designer, architect, and manager of the rosary path. Monroe Rieger, KC #9088 of Holy Family, explained how the Garden of Gethsemane was incorporated into such a wonderful place. The Honor Guard/4th Degree Knights Assembly #1126 were also present. A reception was held afterwards in convent's dining room.

Thank you from IWBS

We, the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, gratefully acknowledge and thank families, friends, and contractors whose major contributions of time, talent, and funds made it possible to provide the rosary path, Stations of the Cross, and garden of Gethsemane as outdoor spaces for prayer. We also thank the countless unnamed donors who continue to support the ministry of Amor Meus Spirituality Center.

.....

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Come, discover God's love with us!



Center of the path.

"And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

~John 1:14



Construction-phase of the path.



Holy Family Knights of Columbus Council #9088, Victoria, and B&B Metal Buildings unloaded 4,000 pounds of rice delivered by Ricebelt Elevator of El Campo. The rice was bagged into 2 pound bags by 14 KC members and donated to Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM) for distribution to those in need.

Left to right: Bob Purdy, Ed Lehnert, Tommy Treybig, Mike Bludau of B&B Metal Buildings; Rodney Tegeler of Ricebelt Elevator; Jim Spacek, Cody Bradley of Ricebelt Elevator and Ted Sheblak. Other helpers included: Clyde Svetlik, Harvey Kocian, Gene Rehak, Emory Migura, Steve Dolezal, Richard Bomkamp, Betty Migura, and Rena Spacek.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival Meal

Sunday, June 8

Bay City

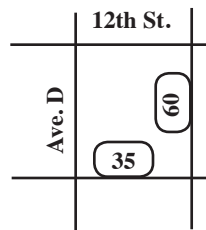
Parish Hall (12th Street and Ave. D)

Brisket dinner

11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. • \$8 p/p.

Dine-in / Pick-up / Drive-thru

Auction begins at 11:30 a.m.





Bishop Fellhauer blesses the oil at the Chrism Mass.

Chrism Mass held at OLV

Last month's Chrism Mass at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral, Victoria, signified a renewal of priestly promises and consecration of the Holy Chrism. Bishop David E. Fellhauer served as celebrant. Assisting at chair was Msgr. John Peters. Deacons of the Mass were Philip Brune and Dennis Kutach. Masters of ceremonies were Fr. Tommy Chen and Fr. Gary Janak. Seated in the Sanctuary were Fr. Dominic Antwi-Boasiako, Fr. Timothy Kosler, Fr. Matthew Huehlefeld, Fr. Charles Dwomoh, Fr. Greg Korenek, and Fr. Roger Hawes. Altar servers included diocesan seminarians and students from Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca. Lectors were Johanna Green, St. Paul Catholic High School, Shiner and Emily Poux, St. Philip the Apostle Catholic High School, El Campo. Deacons of the oils were Dcn. Edward Molina, Dcn. Joe Duplan, Dcn. Chuck Glynn, Dcn. Larry Hoelscher, Dcn. Larry Koether, Dcn. Michael Vieira, and Dcn. Fred Soto. Music was provided by the

diocesan liturgical commission and choirs from various diocesan parishes.

Oils used in sacramental celebrations were blessed and included consecration



Bishop Fellhauer prepares the incense prior to the Gospel. Seminarians Kristopher Fuchs, left, and Deacon Philip Brune assist.

of the Holy Chrism to be used for service to anoint those receiving the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and holy orders; oil for the sick to be used for those in need of healing and oil for catechumens to be used in anointing those preparing for baptism. Also, during Mass, priests renewed promises made at their ordinations. Those in attendance celebrated the Liturgy of the Word and the Holy Eucharist.

For more information, visit
OLVTV-2014-01-15-Chrism or
www.olvcathedral.org.



Please pray for and support our priests!

Marriage Encounter can develop communication skills and more

by Msgr. Casey Jarzombek



Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) for a married couple is a weekend away from your family; a weekend to expand and deepen your marriage relationship. A Marriage Encounter (ME) is not a retreat, a marriage clinic or a sensitivity group. Its aim is to help participants develop very special communication skills. Feelings and thoughts flow more freely, resulting in a greater love, renewed and continuing dedication, and more joy in living one's married life. Priests and religious are invited to make a ME weekend. For a priest or religious, a ME weekend is a time to develop relationships with parishioners, fellow priests, and religious community.

A series of presentations is given by a team of Catholic couples and a priest allowing one to look at oneself as an individual and look at their relationship with a spouse. Or, for a priest, to look at their relationship with parishioners, with brother priests, with God, the church as a whole, and the world. Married couples view all of these relationships in terms of their own vocation, but the principles are freely applicable to the priesthood and religious life as well.

As a priest, I have promoted WWME among parishioners at Holy Cross, Bay

City, and in other parishes of the Diocese of Victoria. I have been involved and presented ME weekends since Sept. 1979 in Victoria and in other areas of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arkansas for 30 years. I am currently involved in presenting WWME weekends.

I used to see the people as simply members of the church, but after my ME weekend they became like family to me. This kind of love brings real renewal to the entire church.

I am on fire for doing what I do because I believe in the institution of marriage between a man and a woman and the holy orders. I believe WWME has much to offer priests as well. I have grown stronger relationships with people and other couples. People have often told me that I am an expert in marriage. I say, "absolutely not! Each day is a gift for me from God to grow stronger in my love and relationships with others. It is a lifetime journey."



WWME's vision

"Love one another as I have loved you."

WWME's mission

To proclaim the values of marriage and holy orders in the church and in the world.

ME weekends and important dates:

May 23-25 • Houston

June 20-22 • Houston

June 27-29 • Corpus Christi

July 25 • Priests' Day • Marriott Hotel near the Hobby Airport • Houston. This is open to all priests.
July 25-27 • WWME National Convention • Pasadena
Aug. 8-10 • San Antonio

All couples are invited to participate.

To register for a ME weekend, for more dates or for more information, visit www.wwme.org. To learn about ME opportunities in your parish, e-mail parishwwme@dfwme.org.

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Way of St. James (a TCL 4-part series)

From a seminarian's experience



by James Dvorak

This past summer, I walked *El Camino de Santiago*, a centuries old pilgrimage walked by countless Christian believers. It was and will be one of the most memorable experiences of my life! At the time of the walk, I was a shy 20 year-old. The first time I left the state of Texas was to visit St. Joseph Seminary in Louisiana at the age of 17 for a discernment retreat. When I was invited to participate in this pilgrimage, I was in my second year of collegiate-seminary. Considering the numerous time commitments of seminary life, I thought it would be best to use the summer as a time of rest and relaxation back home with my family and friends. Even though I was excited about the opportunity, I was still fairly nervous. I had never been to Europe- and I had never walked 500 miles. I knew this would be an excellent tool to help discern my vocation. I had no idea the experience would be more than I ever expected.

The pilgrimage resembled a self-led retreat. There were no confinements or restrictions. It was my responsibility to be the beginning agent of my prayer while on the walk. However, the journey seemed to steer the pilgrim wherever they needed to go, both physically and spiritually. Along the way, I acquired countless insights through the many hours of prayer, silence, reflection, and interactions with others.

Along the *Camino*, my group encountered pilgrims from all over the world. No

two people had the same experience or the same reason for making the trek. It truly brought about a sense of the universal and pilgrim church: we are all here as pilgrims walking along our way to the eternal Kingdom of our Lord in the manner in which God calls us.

It has been over 6 months since we walked the *Camino*, but the effects from it remain with me. I have a much greater respect and understanding for the importance of prayer in daily life. The pilgrimage helped me better grasp the foundational obligation to foster a healthy prayer life in order to maintain a personal and intimate relationship with God. Through this newly found self-awareness and reflection, I have built my prayer life with what works best for me while at the same time avoiding what hinders such an important relationship.

El Camino de Santiago pilgrimage was a wonderful blessing and a great experience. Looking back, it was a most unexpectedly transformative walk with God. I can say the *Camino* truly enriched my person, outlook, and discernment through the blessing of spending intimate time with God. I pray I am able to live up to this experience for the rest of my earthly pilgrimage until we all reach the heavenly home we walk toward.



(right) James and fellow seminarians walking on the 500-mile pilgrimage.



(above and left) James, on the *Camino*.

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Msgr. Peters ordination day. He is pictured with his parents, John Jr. and Tillie Peters, and Archbishop Francis J. Furey.

40th anniversary ordination of Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters

Continued from page 1

of the Liturgy. Deacon Linard Harper was deacon of the Word. Michael Johnson and Dr. Warren Migura were lectors. Representatives of Msgr.'s four parishes made the presentation of the gifts. Sr. Emiliana Grafe and Sr. Colette Kouba presented flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Candy Hines was choir director and Denise Drozd was the accompanist. Choirs included Sacred Heart Adult Choir, Sacred Heart Children's Choir, and St. Mary's Czech Choir. Director of the Czech Choir was Richard Rouse. A catered meal was served at the KC Hall. Entertainment was provided by the Spanish Choir and Men's ACTS. Chuck Grafe served as emcee.

Many guests attended and tory praise including: Hunter, confirming the with a formal procla- John Henke, Jr., grand Columbus; Joyce Ma- Klekar of the Festival of Curley of LAMB and president of the Parish Ad- principal of SHCS; Lucille Klekar



of St. Mary's Church; Bobby Mendel of St. John's Parish and Kathy Guenther of Ascension of Our Lord Parish. Msgr. Peters was ordained a priest on April 26, 1974 by Archbishop Francis J. Furey in Weimar at St. Michael's Catholic Church. Several parishes and ministries have been influential in his life over the past 40 years. They include: St. Mary Magdalen, St. Matthew, and St. Pius in San Antonio; St. Joseph in Yoakum; Our Lady of Lourdes in Victoria; the Chancery staff from the beginning of the Diocese of Victoria; St. Mary's Seminary in Houston; Assumption Seminary in San Antonio; Sacred Heart and St. Mary's in Hallettsville for the last 20 years and additionally St. John the Baptist in St. John and Ascension of Our Lord in Moravia for the last 12 years. He currently serves as vicar general for the Diocese of Victoria and has been active in the KJT, Knights of Columbus, JCDA, and Serra Club. Msgr. Peters thanked everyone in attendance and said, "I am grateful to all of you who have blessed me with your presence today and with your support over the past 40 years. I thank everyone who had a part in organizing this celebration. May God continue to bless you and guide you on your journeys." In lieu of gifts, donations may be made to Sacred Heart School Capital Campaign or Msgr. John C. Peters Seminary Burse.

spoke words of congratula- Mayor Pro-Tem, Stephen day as Msgr. Peters' Day mation from the city; knight of the Knights of chieek of the CDA; Anna Lights Committee; Bill ACTS Retreat; Pat Fawbush,

visory Council; David Smolik,

Canonizations of John XXIII and John Paul II

Continued from page 1

XXIII, known particularly for convoking the Second Vatican Council, was pope 1958-1963; Pope John Paul beatified him in 2000.

Asked by reporters last July to describe the two late popes, Pope Francis said Blessed John was "a bit of the 'country priest,' a priest who loves each of the faithful and knows how to care for them; he did this as a bishop and as a nuncio" in Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece, and France before becoming a cardinal and patriarch of Venice.

He was holy, patient, had a good sense of humor and, especially by calling the Second Vatican Council, was a man of courage, Pope Francis said. "He was a man who let himself be guided by the Lord."

As for Blessed John Paul, Pope Francis told the reporters on the plane, "I think of him as 'the great missionary of the church,' because he was "a man who proclaimed the Gospel everywhere."



Pope Francis met with cardinals at the Vatican last Sept. during the consistory in which he announced the date for the canonization of Blesseds John XIII and John Paul II. The Polish pontiff who led the Catholic Church for 27 years and witnessed the fall of communism and Pope John XXIII, who called the Second Vatican Council, were declared saints in a single ceremony on Divine Mercy Sunday. (CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via Reuters)

Interested in learning more about Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII who recently became saints? The Library and Media Center of the Diocese of Victoria has several DVDs, VHS tapes, and books on the saints' lives and accomplishments.

DVDs: *A Man Who Became Pope (Pope John Paul II)*

Legacy: *The 10 Greatest Achievements of Pope John Paul II*

VHS: *Pope John Paul II: The Movie*

Books: *Pope John XXII: Journal of a Soul* and *Pope John XXII Comes to the Vatican*

For more information, call (361) 573-0828 x2246 or

visit www.victoriadiocese.org and click the link to the Library.

For additional canonization coverage, visit www.usccb.org.

The Dream

It began with the boy, the boy who had a dream- a dream to serve the highest one of all. To serve the one, true God. The boy would face anything, clear many hardships, and prevail through obstacles, but he would carry out his dream. The boy lived for God and would die for God. That was his dream.

Soon, he launched the journey. After he started, the boy became unstoppable! He scaled the tallest of mountains, crossed the mightiest of rivers and seas, and battled the strongest beasts! Many questioned him, but He couldn't stop short. He would never serve his God if he stopped.

The challenges arrived, but the boy prevailed and grew stronger from them. He was strong in the heart, strong in the mind, and strong in the faith. Nothing could halt the boy.

The boy matured and transformed into the man. The man searched and searched for the opportunity. He soon discovered it and became a priest. He developed into an important leader in his community and lots of people looked up to him. But best of all, the man got to serve his God. After all, that was what he wanted from the very beginning.

The man received one of the highest rankings of priests, yet he remained humble. He never stopped serving his God, for that was his dream, and he would never give it up. He still faced hardships and people still questioned him, but he had won the race, and that was all that mattered. The man's name... Rev. Msgr. John Peters.

~Sacred Heart Catholic School 6th grader, Conner Popp



Sunday Readings from May 11 to June 15



Last month, Bishop David Fellhauer presented the **Catholic Schools Bishop's 8th Grade Awards**. He was assisted by John Quarry, school superintendent and Janie Carrales. Awards were given to 10 Catholic schools in the diocese. Above, Our Lady of the Gulf 8th graders received their awards with Bishop Fellhauer. Additional award recipients are listed on page 14.

May 11 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14A, 36-41
Psalms 23:1-2A, 3B-4, 5, 6
1 Peter 2:20B-25
John 10:1-10

May 18 — Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7
Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

May 25 — Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21

June 1 — The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11
Psalms 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

June 8 — Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11
Psalms 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34
1 Corinthians 12:3B-7, 12-13
John 20:19-23

June 15 — The Solemnity of the
Most Holy Trinity

Exodus 34:4B-6, 8-9
Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

All daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, are available at:

www.usccb.org/bible/readings

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SHINER CATHOLIC CHURCH 28th Annual **SPRING PICNIC** **SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2014** **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PARK**



Sts. Cyril & Methodus Catholic Church, Shiner, TX

Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. (Polka Mass)
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

---PRE-PICNIC ACTIVITIES---

Saturday, May 24 ♦ 6-10:00 p.m.

- ♦ Visit historic beer stand. Hamburgers available.
- ♦ Shiner Sunset Fun Run: 6:30 p.m.
- ♦ Pavilion music: 7:00-8:00 p.m. - Jeremy Halliburton; 8:00-10:00 p.m. - Bill Pekar and the Rainey Brothers
- ♦ Enjoy children's activities.

---MOTORCYCLE RUN---

Sunday, May 25 ♦ 10:30 a.m. registration.
Call: (361) 772-8001

---DINNER---

10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Dine in air-conditioned dining room!
All plates: \$9.

- Plates include **THREE MEATS**:
- Shiner picnic stew • Fried chicken •
 - Country sausage • Trimmings •

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Drive-thru/plates-to-go
American Legion Hall on Hwy 90A East

---COUNTRY STORE---

- Canned and baked goods •
 - Kolaches • Pigs-in-a-blanket •
- 8:00 a.m. until ?

---BIG COUNTRY AUCTION---

Following memorial tribute at 11:45 a.m.

Cattle auction: 3:00 p.m.

---ENTERTAINMENT---

FREE music & dancing inside
air-conditioned hall.

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Music by

local accordion players.

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Shiner Hobo Band

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Chris Rybak with

special guest Santiago Jimenez

MUSIC OUTSIDE HISTORIC BEER STAND:

Noon-3:00 p.m.

All Star Entertainment

3:00-6:00 p.m.

Classic Top Hits by

Vic and Beav

MUSIC OUTSIDE BINGO STAND PAVILION:

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Los Kolaches

---DANCE---

9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

THE EMOTIONS

Admission charged inside hall
beginning at 8:00 p.m.

---GAMES & MORE---

Bingo: 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Grocery wheel: 5:30 p.m.

Drawing for prizes: 10:00 p.m.

- Plenty of famous picnic hamburgers
- Find It-Keep It
- Water slide, ring toss, ball throw, Wheel of Fortune, moon walk, and games for children

---ARTS & CRAFTS---

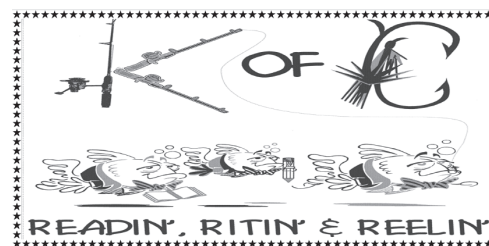
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PROCEEDS BENEFIT

NAZARETH ACADEMY SCHOOL, VICTORIA.



St. Joseph Catholic School, Yoakum, first graders completed reading points for the year and were awarded with a trip to Splashway. The students were motivated and excited about accomplishing their reading goals.



JCDA #206, Yoakum, recently held an action-packed meeting at Warrior Defensive Arts (WDA). Members learned about the inspiring life of St. Joan of Arc, patron saint of soldiers and France. Members also learned self defense moves by Ed Kimes, WDA instructor and owner.



The following **JCDA Juniors/Juniorettes** from **Court St. Paul #1604**, Shiner, recently received religious recognition medals. Left to right: Fr. Kirby Hlavathy, court chaplain; Samantha Siegel and Emily Pokluda (Spirit Alive); Delynn Pesek (Mary, the First Disciple); Taylor Wenske (I Live My Faith) and Stefany Pokluda, Avery Pesek, Brooke Pesek and Dallyn Pesek (Family of God).



As a Valentine's Day project, members of **JCDA Court St. Paul #1604**, Shiner, baked cookies for residents of the local nursing home. Pictured with JCDA members is resident, Viola Darilek.



A team of four **St. Joseph High School**, Victoria, students recently won 1st place in the Game Show Competition at the University of Houston-Victoria College Math and Computer Science Contest. Left to right: David Du, Johanna Hoang, Hira Malik, and Olivia Creager. Their final score was 840 points. The 2nd place team scored 390 points. David Du also won 1st place in the senior division of the math contest. There were more than 200 students, from 15 high schools, in the Coastal Bend Region that participated in the contest.

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The **Nazareth Academy Band**, Victoria, attended the Band Solo and Ensemble Contest, held at Patti Welder Magnet School last month. They won a total of 23 first division medals.



Youth Calendar



Jr. High Sessions (students entering 6th or finishing 8th grade)

Session I June 15-17 • Session II June 18-20

\$65 per person includes food and lodging for 2 nights

Permission and medical release forms are required of everyone attending the retreat. Space is limited to 50 participants. Registration will close when this number is reached. A \$15.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT is required to secure a space. This deposit is considered part of the registration fee; thus the balance due after the deposit is \$50. To order a 2014 Camp David t-shirt, include an additional \$10 with the deposit and indicate size.

Elementary Session (students entering 3rd & 5th grades)

June 18 • \$15 includes food and all crafts supplies

Permission and medical release forms are required of everyone attending the retreat. Space is limited and will close when spots are filled. To order a 2014 Camp David t-shirt, include an additional \$10 with payment and indicate size.

D-week • June 23-26

Registration forms can be found on the diocesan website under Youth & Young Adult Ministry as well as other forms needed to attend this retreat by NET Ministries.

For more information contact:

The Office of Youth Ministry

Wendy Eggert, director

Ryan Leos, associate director

ym@victoriadiocese.org

(361) 573-0828

www.victoriadiocese.org



St. Joseph High School, Victoria, sophomores Taylor Darst, (left), and Alexandra Marlow, (right), have been selected to attend the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Conference at the Texas A&M University-Galveston campus in June. Founded in 1958, Hoby's mission is to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership,

service and innovation. HOBY programs provide students the opportunity to participate in unique leadership training, service-learning and motivation-building experiences.



St. Joseph High School, Victoria, juniors Elliot Hughes (left), Nicholas Vallejo (center), and Brendon Sparkman (right) have been selected to attend American Legion's Texas Boys State this June. They will have the unique opportunity to learn about government, civics and patriotism in a 'learn by doing' environment. The one-week program will take place at the University of Texas in Austin and will culminate when delegates get to be seated in the chambers of the Texas Capitol to craft, debate, and vote on mock legislation.



Front row, left to right: Brooklyn Dixon, Carter Hlavinka, and Carissa Kocian. Back row, left to right: Janiece Holub, CDA education contest chairperson; Amber Kocian, Taylor Watz, and Amber Sutton.

CDA Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374, El Campo, held their annual education contest last month. Themes were 'Jesus Loves Us. How do We Spread that Love?' and 'How do I promote Peace in the World?' Contest winners and their parents were invited for awards and pizza. 1st place winners advance to the state level competition. Each contestant received a certificate, cash prize, and several gift cards. Winners were: Art division 1: Carissa Kocian, 1st place; Brooklyn Dixon, 2nd place, and tied Carter Hlavinka and Anne Marie Matula, 3rd place. Poetry division 2: Sarah Grace Singleton, 1st place and Amber Sutton, 2nd place. Poetry division 3: Amber Kocian, 1st place. Essay division 1: Taylor Watz, 1st place and Joshua Fowler, 2nd place. CDA scholarships were given to selected El Campo High School students: Morgan Rae Eggemeyer, Kacey Knesek, Shelby Lynn Stary, Kari Wilkins, and Robin Eggemeyer.



Teacher, Joe Cash (far right), and AP Biology students participate in the Sea Grass Parade.

The **Sacred Heart Catholic High School** AP Biology Class, Hallettsville, was invited by Richard Gonzalez of the Dia Del Rio project to present data and information from their winning project. Presentations were made to over 150 fifth and sixth grade students divided into 6 sessions during the 5th Annual World Sea Grass Day Festival in Aransas Pass at Charlie Marshall Elementary School. Biology students placed 1st in the Rio Research Round-Up Program and shared their winning presentation with elementary students. The Lavaca River and all the rivers of Texas affect Aransas Bay and other bays along the coast of Texas. The goal of the presentation was to raise awareness of how every Texas water way affects other water ways and ecosystems.



Catholic Schools Bishop's 8th Grade Award recipients

Congratulations to the following Catholic school students:

Nazareth Academy -Victoria

Jenna Alegria, John Atzenhoffer, Grace Cano, Trevor Gloor, McKenna Haynes, Reina Hingoranee, Grayson Howard, John Howard, Morgan Lemke, Mary Lisa Murphy, Alex Nagle, Katelyn Perez, Kegan Rubio, Drew Sanchez, Chloe Schmidt, Kyle Smejkal, Hunter Soliz, Lane Stewart, Britani Walther

Our Lady of the Gulf - Port Lavaca

Gabrielle Anderson, Benjamin Chen, Lucia Hernandez, Reilly Low, Manuel Ortiz, Juan Pina, Derek Servantes, Elizabeth Silvas, Sarah Villarreal, Jenna Weaver

Our Lady of Victory - Victoria

Kyle Bitterly, Aaron Bradicich, Alexandra Corpuz, Taylor Dohmann, Kelsey Ellett, Hannah Flynn, Garrett Gutierrez, Pierce Hammack, Kimberlee Hathaway, Presley Henry, Shubham Kathpalia, Kacie Knippa, Mary Grace Konarik, Jane Lambert, Maegan Marshall, Sophie Miska, Michael Morales, Teresa Nguyen, Alisa Novosad, Jordan Pyatt, Zoha Qadri, Catherine Ridley, Logan Rivera, Briana Rodriguez, Gabriella Rodriguez, Christa Schoener, Gina Tames, Helena Verando, Caitlin Walsh, Gabrielle Wenske, Baylee Young, Carson Young, Tomas Young

Sacred Heart - Hallettsville

John Bludau, Kelsey Bohuslav, Annie Boone, Dustin Burroughs,

Maci Grahmann, Briana Haas, Jordan Janak, Corrina Lackey, Mallorie Layton, Simon Machicek, Cole Mullen, Kaitlyn Nieto, Adam Pavlicek, Erica Pavliska, Grace Renner, Jacob Rivers, Arin Schindler, Miranda Shimek, Hailey Steffek, Reid Timm, Reese Wachel

St. Anthony - Columbus

Rebecca Boulward, Nicolas Frischknecht, LeAnn Frnka, Hedy Hartigan, Troy Pflughaupt, Lucas Smith, Isabel Theut, Ashley Trapp, Alex Velasquez, Luke Warschak

St. Joseph - Yoakum

Kenzie Coull, Ryan Gearson, Gerardo Gonzalez, Sadi Meza, Angelica Rojas, Jensen Schindler, Lisa Seidenberger

St. Ludmila - Shiner

Anna Adamek, Lillie Bell, Scarlett Crawford, Jacob Darilek, Jaydon Darilek, Sydney Grabarkievitz, Krystin Hodges, Jack Janecek, Darby Johnson, Conor Kresta, Kayla Kubenka, Pilar Romero, Tiffany Thomas, Ashley Wachsmuth, Andrew Wagner, Elyssa Wagner, Michael Wagner, Jenna Wenske

St. Michael - Weimar

Olden Adams, Riley Cernosek, Addison Elstner, Emily Hasse, Kamie Klesel, Garrison Koehn, Casey Menis, Emily Purdy, Emily Rabel, Dylan Varley

St. Philip - El Campo

Abby Anderson, Cameron Crivellari, McKenzie Ellis, Anna Iwanicw, Chloe Jenkins, Rhys Kennedy, Ty Korenek, Kendall Kresta, Caitlynn Lara, Makaela Lauritsen, Kaitlyn Marquardt, Reed McGuill, Hannah Petty, Emily Poux, Aubin Powell, Paige Rasmussen, Ashley Rioux, Victoria Ritter, Delaine Valenzuela, Faith Wagner, Blair Watz, Victoria Zalman

St. Rose of Lima - Schulenburg

Tyler Allan, April Brossmann, Elizabeth Edwards, Blair Guentert, Jase Hollas, Kate James, Miles Marburger, Lauren Mazoch, Haley Olsovsky, Kristen Osina, Seth Patten, Jack Seyl, Bryn Stryk, Sydney Thompson, Sarah Vecera

Ministries • Ongoing Activities

Catholic Family Services—To find listings of e-mail/websites of Catholic organizations that focus on family, visit the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at www.nacflm.org.

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

Engaged Encounter—2014 dates: Sept. 26-28. Registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 x2230 or visit www.victoriadiocese.org.

Gabriel Project—Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy- an alternative to abortion. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 101 W. Convent. Light supper included. For angel workshop/training dates, contact Barbara at (361) 649-1612 or barbaramccain85@yahoo.com. Holy Family, Wharton, meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (979) 532-3593, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or visit www.gabrielproject.com.

Grief Group—Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in conference/brides' room at Holy Family Church, Victoria. Before attending, call Sharon at (361) 578-7572.

Marriage Encounter—This program is no longer offered in the Diocese of Victoria. Replacing it is Retrouvaille (see below). To find a Marriage Encounter weekend outside of the diocese, visit www.wwme.org.

Natural Family Planning—Introductory sessions to the Creighton Model Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro technology: Aug. 3, and Oct. 12 at Holy Family Church, Wharton. All sessions are at 2:00 p.m. For more information, contact Susanne Koch at (505) 710-0903 or susannekoch614@gmail.com.

Natural Family Planning—NFP is the only Church-approved form of family planning. To learn about the sympto-thermal method in the Victoria area and NFP class schedules, contact David and Annie Coffey at victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com.

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. The museum is open 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and is closed on major holidays. The Quarters is available for overnight stays. For rates and more information, contact (361) 645-3752 or visit www.presidiolabahia.org.

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

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

St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity/Secular Franciscans—For meeting dates in Victoria, contact Mary Ann LeBlanc at (361) 575-1858 or visit www.lostrescompaneros-sfo.org.

That Man Is You—This men's group transforms men, families, and society as it presents the vision of man fully alive. Holy Cross, Bay City, Fri. 5:45-7:15 a.m.; Holy Family, Victoria, Wed. 5:45-7:00 a.m., St. Peter Parish Hall; and Assumption, Ganado, Wed. 5:30-7:15 a.m., JPII Family Center. Visit www.thatmanisyou.org.



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EVENTS

The Catholic Lighthouse
Page 15 — May 2014

Events • Picnics

May

Brenham—100 Days of Summer Festival May 18 at St. Mary Parish. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. silent auction. 12:30 p.m. live auction. There will be a cake, plant, and grocery walk; a waterslide for children and more. For more information, call (979) 836-4441.

Cuero—St. Michael Festival May 18 at the Parish Hall. Roast beef dinner 11:00 a.m. \$8 p/p. 12:45 p.m. live auction. Games, silent auction and other activities during the day. See ad on pg. 5.

Hallettsville—Sacred Heart Parish Spring Festival May 25 at the KC Hall. A fried-chicken and stew dinner will be served from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the hall with plates-to-go available. \$8.50 p/p. There will be music, free polka dance under pavilion, auction, games, entertainment and more all afternoon.

Shiner—Spring Picnic May 25 at the KC Hall. Meal, free music, auction, games and much more. Entertainment day and evening. For more information, visit www.sscmshiner.org. See ad on pg. 11.

Victoria—KJZT Society #101 hosts KJZT District 9 gathering May 18 at OLV Cafeteria. 11:00 a.m. registration. Noon lunch. For more information, call Irene Brosch at (361) 573-2669.

June

Bay City—Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival Meal June 8 at the parish hall located on 12th Street and Avenue D. Brisket dinner. \$8 p/p. See ad on pg. 7.

East Bernard—KJT St. Wenceslaus Society #40 sponsors 24th Annual Czech Kolache Klobase Festival June 14 at Riverside Hall. For more information, contact Jason Hlavinka at (979) 533-1536, Ed Marik at (979) 335-6402, or visit www.kkfest.com.

Flatonia—Sacred Heart Spring Picnic June 1. Fried chicken and stew. \$9 p/p. 11:00 a.m. Music by The Incredible Music Makers and Krazy Kirb DJ. Auction, horseshoes, country store, games, and more.

Helotes—Padua Place Retirement Home for Priests *June Jamboree: Living the Holy Spirit* June 6 at Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch. Honoree is Bishop Thomas Flanagan. \$60 p/p. There will be live and silent auctions. Entertainment by Cactus Country Band. For more information, Betty Cronin at (210) 820-3211 or Rita Hannan (210) 658-1276.

Safe Environment Office 10th anniversary celebration

The 10th anniversary of the Safe Environment Office and workshop will be held June 4th. Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory. Due to several items on special order, registration deadline is May 9th. To register, visit www.victoriadiocese.org, scroll over safe environment, click on For Trainers Only, click on For Trainers Only Secure Site, and submit registration.

Please note, due to the number of changes regarding trainings, handbooks, policies and procedures, the workshop is mandatory for all safe environment trainers, site admins, and transportation facilitators. Individuals with scheduling conflicts or for more information, contact Melissa Perales at (361) 573-0828 x2249.

Port Lavaca—Our Lady of the Gulf Court #2267 CDA Annual Games Party June 8 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at St. Jude's Hall. \$7p/p. Enjoy any game you choose to bring as well as refreshments and door prizes. There will also be a raffle and silent auction. For table reservations, call Doris Winter (361) 987-2387, or Georgia Mikosh (361) 552-6844, or Margaret Hilscher (361) 552-3233.

Schulenburg—St. Rose of Lima Parish Picnic June 8 at the KC Hall. Fried-chicken and sausage dinner 11:00 a.m. \$8 p/p.

St. Mary—St. Mary's Church Picnic June 8. Mass 9:15 a.m. Stew and sausage dinner 10:30 a.m. Auction 1:00 p.m. Games, country store, and music. See ad on pg. 5.

July

Rockport—Stastney Hacek Fishing Tournament July 11-12 at Goose Island State Park. Benefits the Religious Education Endowment Fund of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Shiner. For more information, visit www.shinerreef.com.

St. John—St. John 4th of July Picnic on the parish grounds (7026 FM 957 - 6 miles SW of Schulenburg). Mass 9:00 a.m. Flag-raising ceremonies 10:00 a.m. Stew and fried-chicken dinner 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$ 8.50 p/p.

Conferences • Masses • Retreats

ACTS Retreats—For information, visit www.actsmissions.org.

Bastrop—Ascension Parish celebrates 150th anniversary on June 1. Mass celebrated by Bishop Joe Vasquez. For more information, call (512) 332-0404.

Beaumont—Diocese of Beaumont Summer Camp July 13-18 for 4th-6th grades. July 20-25 for 7th-9th grades. \$210 early registration before May 31. For more information, call (409) 924-4358.

Beaumont—*Honoring the Joys of Mary* 22nd Annual Third Age Day Celebration May 20 at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica and Basilica Center. For more information, call (409) 924-4410.

Corpus Christi—Vocation Awareness Retreat June 20-23 at the Pax Christi Liturgical Retreat Center. It is for Catholic men and women between the ages of 18-35. For more information, call (361) 882-6191 or visit www.ccpriest.org/retreat.

Dallas—Project Joseph one-day retreat for men May 31. It is a confidential outreach to men for abortion after-care healing. For more information, call (972) 679-4760 or e-mail healing@racheldallas.org.

East Bernard—Holy Cross Church Polka Mass May 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Georgetown—Annunciation Maternity Home annual banquet May 8 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Helen Church. For more information, visit www.thematernityhome.org.

Grand Rapids, MI—National Council of Catholic Women Annual Convention Sept. 24-27 at The Amway Grand. For more information, visit www.nccw.org.

Houston—The Diocese of Beaumont Youth Convention June 25-28 at Hyatt Regency. For more information, visit www.dioceseofbmt.org.

Irving—*Walking Together in Faith* 8th Annual University of Dallas Ministry Conference Oct. 23-25 at the Irving Convention Center. For more information, visit www.tx catholic.org or www.udallas.edu/udmc.

La Grange—*Quo Vadis?* Vocation Retreat July 6-9 at Cooper's Farm for Catholic young men ages 15-21. It will include discussions on discernment and be facilitated by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Victoria. \$65 includes food and lodging. For more information, contact Fr. Dan Morales at (361) 573-5304, vocations@victoriavocations.org, or visit www.victoriavocations.org.

San Antonio—Catholic Women's Conference Sept. 19-20. It is a ministry of the Pilgrim Center of Hope. The mission of the conference will be to foster an appreciation for the personal dignity of women, to encourage women to know and love God, and to inspire women to use their feminine gifts to transform the family and society. For more information, visit www.pilgrimcenterofhope.org.

San Antonio—St. John's/Assumption Seminary Centennial Celebration will have several events throughout the year. For more information, contact Mike Davis at mike.davis@archsa.org.

Sugar Land—Region X's *Rejoice Together... Encouraged Forever!* 24th Annual Unity Explosion Conference June 12-15 at the Marriott Sugar Land Hotel Town Square. For more information, visit www.unityexplosion-regionx.com.

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

Victoria—Our Lady of Lourdes holds Healing Mass and Prayer the 1st Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at 105 N. William St. with Fr. Phi Nguyen, chaplain of IWBS Convent. Mark your calendars now for next month. For more information, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com.

Have an event?

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