

The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



VOL. 27, NO. 5

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September 2013

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READ
ALL
ABOUT
IT!

Right, Saint Michael Catholic Church, Weimar.

Below, Bishop David Fellhauer with then, Father John Bily following the 2008 celebration outside St. Michael's Church.



Pope's compassion, love touches hearts all over world

by Jordan McMorrough
[Catholic News Service]

SAN ANTONIO (CNS) — Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley highlighted the new evangelization in the pontificate of Pope Francis in an Aug. 6 keynote address to the Knights of Columbus supreme convention in San Antonio.

"Following Pope John Paul and Pope Benedict, Pope Francis is challenging us to embrace the new evangelization with new ardor, with new boldness and with great love for all those who God places in our path. He is calling on all of us to be missionaries in

our own communities," he said.

"In this new millennium, business as usual is not enough. We must be a team of missionaries, moving from a maintenance mode to a missionary one," he added.

He told his listeners they must ask themselves, "What does it mean to live in a culture of unbelief; a culture which does not even know it does not believe because it still lives on the residue of Christian civilization?"

Cardinal O'Malley replied, "Pope Francis is ever warning against a self-referential church

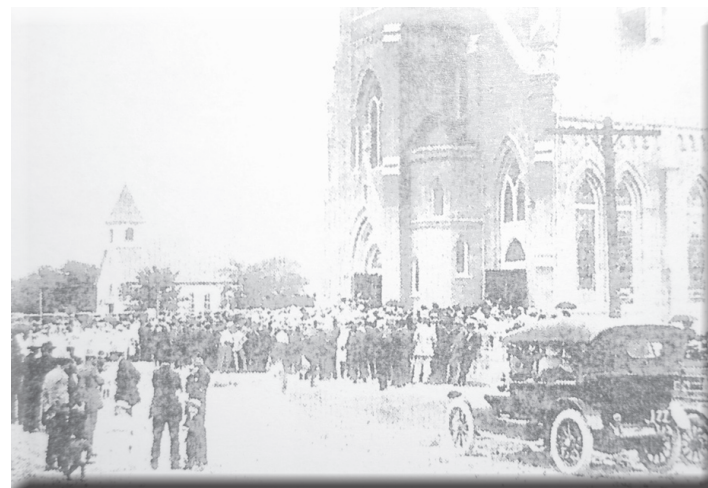
See Pope's compassion, p. 14

Church celebrates centennial

On August 10, 2013, parishioners of St. Michael Catholic Church proudly celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the church, rededication of the current sanctuary, and 125-year anniversary as a parish. Bishop David E. Fellhauer was the main celebrant at the Centennial Mass and bestowed a special blessing upon the church and the congregation. After the ceremony, all

1913—On May 23, 1913 the laying of the cornerstone took place. The Right Rev. J.W. Shaw, Bishop of San Antonio officiated the ceremony.

1928—A group of 110 parishioners met and agreed that there was a need for an annual church picnic. They decided that the picnic should be in honor of their patron, St. Michael, and thus would be held the Sunday nearest



St. Michael's Church, Weimar, on day of dedication.

were invited to the reception at the VFW Hall.

History of St. Michael Catholic Church, Weimar

The following are excerpts from the 100th anniversary booklet as prepared by the late Mrs. Billie Kusey; taken from the Centennial Book of St. Michael Parish 1889-1989 and shortened format compiled by Mrs. Mary Luchak.

1888—A meeting was held at the home of Joseph Fietsam to discuss establishing a Catholic church in Weimar.

the date of his feast day, Sept. 29. When Veteran's Hall was built, the date of the Harvest Feast changed to the second Sunday in August.

1939—St. Michael's parish celebrated the Golden Jubilee of its formation on Sept. 4, 1939. Parishioners, under the guidance of Father Szymanski, pastor and Father John L. Morkovsky, spent weeks planning and preparing a gala program. The celebration attracted several thousand people as well as visiting and local dignitaries. Archbishop Ar-

See Church celebrates, p. 20

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The Diocese of Victoria is comprised of
more than 50 parishes in 69 communities.

Estimated Catholic population: 107,000.

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

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DIOCESE

Bishop Fellhauer's Schedule

September

- 8** 2:00 p.m. Mass, Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Associates consecration, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria
- 14** 11:30 a.m. Mass, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, Holy Family Chapel, Victoria, followed by lunch at Victoria Country Club
- 18** Texas Bishops' meeting, Oblate Renewal Center, San Antonio
- 20** 3:00 p.m. Reconciliation Service, Spiritual Renewal Center, Victoria
- 28** 9:00 a.m. Conference for Catechesis and Ministry, Holy Family Activity Center
- 4:15 p.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, Victoria

October

- 5** 10:30 a.m. Mass, Permanent Deacons' Retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center Victoria
- 6** 10:00 a.m. Mass, Dedication of renovations at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Victoria
- 9** 10:00 a.m. Clergy Day, Spirituality of the Priesthood, Holy Family Church, Victoria
- 13** 10:00 a.m. Mass, Adult Confirmation, St. Michael Church, Cuero

*"He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield ..."*

Psalms 91:4

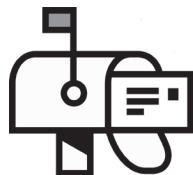


Quiet Days of Retreat and Prayer • September 21 & November 9 • 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Come and spend a quiet day of prayer listening to the voice of God speaking in the stillness of your heart. The theme for September Retreat is Hope: How the Heart Sees and guided by Mary Wilder, adjunct teacher, Oblate School of Theology. Women and men are welcome to attend.
Taizé Prayer • October 15 & December 5 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.
A Taizé prayer service will be held in the Amor Meus Prayer Room. The service will consist of music, song, chant, scriptural readings, meditation, and prayers of praise and intercession.
For reservations or for more information, contact Incarnate Word Convent at (361) 585-7111, amormeus@yahoo.com, or 1101 N.E. Water Street, Victoria, TX 77901.

DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

2013 DSA
Diocesan Goal: \$1,721,343.00
Parish Pledge Totals: \$702,918.94
Parish Contribution Totals: \$624,642.60
Number of Parish Families Participating: 3,265

Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign
Diocesan Goal: \$9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals: \$12,880,978.66
Parish Contribution Totals: \$10,990,715.74
Number of Parish Families Participating: 6,769



Have you moved? Address changed?

**Call (361) 573-0828 with the
change in your address.
Saves Money!**



The Diocese of Victoria will undergo a regularly scheduled on-site USCCB Audit the week of September 9th-13th, 2013. The audit focuses on compliance with the policies and procedures regarding the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

Since the inception of the Safe Environment Program, the diocese has provided education for over 11,000 adults in the area of preventing, recognizing and reporting abuse. Annually an average of 11,000 students are educated on personal safety.

If you suspect a child has been abused or mistreated, you are required to report it to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or to a law enforcement agency within 48 hours of the time you suspect the child had been or may be abused or neglected.

**Reporting Child
Abuse Hotline
1-800-252-5400**



Guest speaker, Mike Brock from Dallas, TX, speaks to attendees at the 2013 Catholic schools seminar.

Diocese of Victoria holds 15th annual Catholic schools seminar

The seminar, *Building Upon the Year of Faith in Our Schools*, was hosted at Our Lady of Victory on Aug. 9. Over 200 people were in attendance. Bishop Fellhauer led the morning prayer service. Morning and afternoon sessions were held. A catered meal was provided by Andy's in Shiner.

Guest speaker, Mike Brock, said teachers do so much and are integral to Catholic education. Teachers do more than "open doors and turn on the lights." He has 34 years in education; 6 years teaching and 26 years as a principal with 23 of those years at one Dallas school. As time passed, he had a "calling" and went back to school for a masters in counseling to become a therapist. He has achieved 43 consecutive years in Catholic education.

The morning session included *Seven Ways to Discipline*. The afternoon focused on *Bullying: What It Is, What It Is Not, Who's Responsible, and What Can We Do About It?* His overall message was to "think of every child as he/she is your (our) own." He provided topics to consider such as: "How you are as a teacher and the little things all year long are worth more than discipline [in the classroom]" and to try and "think preventatively."

Michelle Corona, an 8th grade teacher at Nazareth Academy, was enthusiastic about attending the seminar. She replied, "I gained knowledge in an area that I think troubles many teachers- classroom management."



Michelle
Corona

DIOCESE



St. Michael Assembly #1527 of the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, Weimar, recently installed officers. Seated, left to right: Phil Leibowitz, Guadalupe Province District 6 master; Msgr. John C. Bily, St. Michael Church pastor; David Wanjura; Charles Herzik; Leonard Bartos; Jimmie Bertsch; and Martin Luchak. Standing, left to right: Frank Lara, District 6 marshal; Frank Janacek; Edwin Zapalac; Leonard Buxkemper; Dennis Olsovsky; Richard Schacherl; Ted Bratten, and Tim Leihardt. St. Michael Assembly #1527 representing Weimar, Schulenburg, and Flatonia; Christopher Columbus Assembly #1136 representing Columbus, Nada, Eagle Lake, Frelsburg, and Mentz; and Sealy Assembly #2103 representing Sealy, Bellville, and Industry were three assemblies included in the installation ceremony.



St. Anne's Society, High Hill, recently donated to St. Mary's Church, High Hill, restoration fund. The society sold cookbooks, baked goods, candles, and other items as part of their fundraising efforts. Left to right: Kim Olsovsky, treasurer; Rev. Tim Kosler, St. Mary's pastor and society chaplain; Kathy Kutac, president, and Dorothy Vecera, vice president.



HOLY CROSS PARISH BAZAAR

Riverside Hall, East Bernard
Sunday, October 13, 2013
Meal Served at 11:00 A.M.
*BAR-B-QUE BEEF * CHICKEN * SAUSAGE*
WITH "HOMEMADE DRESSING" & ALL THE TRIMMINGS
Hamburgers Served at 3:00 P.M.

Plenty of Czech Pastries, Refreshments & Country Store Items
Games Noon -5:00 P.M.
Grand AUCTION at 12:30 P.M.

Entertainment from Noon til?
The Dujka Brothers (noon to 3:00 P.M.)
The Red Ravens (3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.)
No Limit (Country/Rock 6:00 P.M. til ?)

Raffle Drawing at 8:00 P.M.
Mass Schedule - Holy Cross Church
7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M.

Pony Rides & Bounce House
Valco Wall
Raffle Drawing at 8:00 P.M.
EVERYONE INVITED!



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 August 27, 2013

| TOTALS | |
|---|--------------|
| — General Seminary Burse | |
| Previously reported | \$103,289.00 |
| Anonymous donation to the burse | 100.00 |
| Total | \$103,389.00 |
| — Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily | |
| Previously reported | \$14,954.00 |
| In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily by Ken and Jeanette Walla | 25.00 |
| In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily's 80th birthday by James and Marcia Zabransky | 25.00 |
| Total | \$15,004.00 |
| — Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily Burse #2 | |
| Balance forward | \$4.00 |
| Donation to the burse by CDA Court St. Michael #559, Weimar | 200.00 |
| In honor or Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily by David and Elivera Kahlich | 50.00 |
| Jane Schneider | 30.00 |
| In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily on the 100th year of St. Michael Church, Weimar by Donald and Karen Kutac | 25.00 |
| In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily's 80th birthday and his appointment as a Msgr. by Alvin and Betty Wick | 25.00 |
| Total | \$334.00 |
| — Josephat R. Janak Burse #2 | |
| Previously reported | \$3,318.77 |
| In honor of Deacon Frank Fikac's 25th anniversary to the diaconate by Larry and Delores Dornak | 25.00 |
| In loving memory of Siegfried Golch by Victor and Doris Janak | 20.00 |
| In loving memory of Larry Haas by Victor and Doris Janak | 20.00 |
| Total | \$3,383.77 |
| — Knights of Columbus Victoria Council #1329 Burse #3 | |
| Previously reported | \$13,137.50 |
| In loving memory of Ramon Barela by K of C Council #1329 | 100.00 |
| In loving memory of William H. Sullivan, Jr. by K of C Council #1329 | 100.00 |
| Total | \$13,357.50 |
| — Sr. Denise Bowers, I.W.B.S. | |
| Previously reported | \$10,075.00 |
| Donation in honor of Sr. Denise Bowers, IWBS by Harold and Cheryl Bowers | 5,000.00 |
| Total | \$15,075.00 |
| — KJZT, Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas | |
| Previously reported | \$13,360.98 |
| In honor of Rev. Tommy Chen by KJZT Society #2, Hallettsville | 50.00 |
| In loving memory of Marcella Klekar by KJZT Society #2, Hallettsville | 5.00 |
| Total | \$13,415.98 |
| — Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #6 | |
| Previously reported | \$9,095.00 |
| In honor of Rev. Tommy Chen by M/M Richard Rouse, Sr. | 30.00 |
| In loving memory of Elaine Rogers by Theresa Adair | 20.00 |
| In memory of Carlos Dean Wenske by M/M Vernon Matusek | 20.00 |
| In memory of Dolores Hermes by M/M Vernon Matusek | 10.00 |
| In memory of Wilma Pesek by M/M Vernon Matusek | 10.00 |
| Total | \$9,185.00 |
| — Rev. Msgr. Robert Schmidt Burse #2 | |
| Previously reported | \$80.00 |
| In loving memory of Rosie Mensik by Eugene and Henrietta Veselka | 25.00 |
| Total | \$105.00 |
| — Rev. Msgr. Benton Thurmond | |
| Previously reported | \$2,325.00 |
| In memory of Rev. Msgr. Benton Thurmond by CDA Court #2475 Court St. Joseph Proctor of Mary, Inez | 200.00 |
| Total | \$2,525.00 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| — Rev. Msgr. Stanley Petru | |
| Previously reported | \$3,820.00 |
| In loving memory of Rev. Msgr. Stanley Petru by Frank C. and Anna Janda | |
| Family Reunion | 500.00 |
| Eloise and Walter Eyring | 200.00 |
| Leo and Evelyn Hoffer | 200.00 |
| Gilbert and Agnes Adamek | 100.00 |
| Czech Catholic Union of TX KJT Society #3 | 100.00 |
| Cathy Eck | 100.00 |
| Joe and Geraldine Kuntscher | 100.00 |
| Vaclav and Helen Motal | 100.00 |
| Bill and Edna Mae Psencik | 100.00 |
| Mrs. Celestine Ermis | 50.00 |
| Sherry Hale | 50.00 |
| Leo and Elizabeth Janak | 50.00 |
| Benedict and Diana Kallus | 50.00 |
| Bobby and Lillian Kallus | 50.00 |
| Arlyn and Mary Carol Kloesel | 50.00 |
| Fred and Dorothy Kubesch | 50.00 |
| Verlene Kuntschnik | 50.00 |
| M/M Richard W. Rouse, Sr. | 50.00 |
| Charlie Supak | 50.00 |
| Mary Vasek | 50.00 |
| Family of Deacon A. R. Dick Wearden | 50.00 |
| Leo amd Barbara Wick | 50.00 |
| Jeanette and Ervan Zouzalik | 50.00 |
| Dorothy Bujnoch | 25.00 |
| Mrs. Albertha Dettling and Family | 25.00 |
| Ralph and Cathy Goerig | 25.00 |
| Arnold and Helen Janda | 25.00 |
| Irene Janda | 25.00 |
| Sandy and John Janda | 25.00 |
| Mary Jane and Bernard Muras | 25.00 |
| M/M Thomas J. Sitka | 25.00 |
| Ed and Dolores Guenther Vacak | 25.00 |
| Eugene and Henrietta Veselka | 25.00 |
| Alice Zezula | 25.00 |
| Grace Kloppenburg | 20.00 |
| John J. Marek | 20.00 |
| Patrick Petru | 20.00 |
| Deacon Charlie and Lorraine Novosad | 10.00 |
| Glenn and Anita Schulte | 10.00 |
| Total | \$6,375.00 |

Five receive Eagle Scout awards

Scout Troop #231. Shiner, recently held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church. Father Kirby Hlavaty gave the invocation and closing prayer.



Mitchell McElroy



Cole Hybner



Laddie Patek



Craig Kneifel



Justin Siegel

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

- Rev. Godfrey F. Kuratko
- Rev. Msgr. John Hanacek
- Sophie Schmidt
- Rev. Sean Donohue Burse #2
- Rev. Msgr. Vaclav Bily
- St. Mary's Church – Praha
- St. Mary's Church – High Hill
- Holy Rosary Church – Hostyn Burse #2
- Rev. Charles Kram
- William L. Schmidt
- Deceased Priests of Praha

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:



Fishing tournament benefits Nazareth Academy Catholic School

The Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council #9088 and Nazareth Academy hosted the 11th Annual "Readin', 'Ritin' and Reelin'" Fishing Tournament in Port O'Connor August 2 and 3, 2013 with all proceeds benefiting Nazareth Academy Catholic School.

Being a Catholic service organization, the KC's of Holy Family Catholic Church have adopted Nazareth Academy to help the school, operated by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, continue to provide a quality Catholic education for children in pre-K3 through 8th grade. The tournament is organized by a team of Knights of Columbus members and parents from Nazareth Academy.

On Friday, August 2, registered teams competed in the tournament. 46 teams entered and competed in this year's tournament. A barbecue pork dinner and live auction were held.

The fishing started at 5:00 a.m. Saturday morning. The official weigh-in of fish occurred between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Many of the teams donated their fish to the fish fry that evening. Following the fish

fry, prizes were awarded to the winners of the tournament as well as winners of the Bait Bucket Raffle and silent auction were announced.

This year's tournament brought in \$49,000. Over the past eleven years, the Knights have raised in excess of \$486,000 for Nazareth Academy. The funding has been directed toward a variety of purposes including: creating and maintaining the computer lab in the school, the purchase of SMART boards for every classroom (kinder through 8th grade), an electronic security system with key fob doors and security cameras to keep our children safe, an air-conditioned bus, and a Ren-Web online database for parents to remain informed as of their children's grades and schedules. The most recent purchase has been new Dell computers for each teacher to use in the classroom with RenWeb and the SMART boards. A future purchase includes adding smart technology document cameras that work in conjunction with the SMART boards.

To view photos from the event, visit www.nazarethacademy.org.



The Knights of Columbus #2153, Weimar, grand knight James Fox and scholarship chairman Willie Tichavsky present \$1,000 scholarships. Recipients were awarded for outstanding academic and personal achievements. Left to right: Jacob Sestak, Spencer Leppin, Olivia Wheatley, and Justin Rosenauer.

"Come and See"
October 4-6
Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate
San Antonio, TX

This is for women ages 18-45 who want to learn more about religious life.

For more information or for a registration form, contact Sister Gabriel Hession, S.H.Sp. at (210) 533-5149, sghession@hotmail.com, or visit www.shsp.org.



Participants at the 2013 Readin', Ritin, and Reelin' Fishing Tournament. All of the proceeds benefit Nazareth Academy.



Continuing Education for Priests' Seminar *The Spirituality of the Priesthood: How Our Faith Life Impacts Our Parishioners* October 9

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Holy Family Church • Victoria

Father Bill Wack, CSC will be the presenter. He is from the Holy Cross Congregation and currently serves as pastor of St. Ignatius Martyr Parish, Austin. For several years he was the director of Andre House, a center for outreach to the poor and homeless in Phoenix, Arizona.



St. Patrick's Fall Festival Dinner Bloomington

Sunday, September 29

Turkey, Gravy, Dressing, Corn, Yams, Cranberries, Cake Dessert
ALL PLATES \$8

Plates-to-go at 9:00 a.m. - Serving begins at 11:00 a.m

Auction at 11:30 a.m.
Country/Religious Store, Cakewalk,
Kid Games: Face Painting, Toy Walk, Fish Pond

Raffle tickets available from church members or at the picnic that day.

For orders on Festival Day: (361) 897-1398

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XXVI Annual Conference for Catechesis and Ministry Saturday, September 28, 2013 • Holy Family Church • Victoria

The conference, open to all adults, provides an opportunity to *Open the Door of Faith* and continue the journey of discipleship. We live in extraordinary times. Our lives have been changed dramatically by 21st century technology, but the basic hunger and thirst to be fully human, fully alive still remains. The quest for meaning in life and the longing for a relationship with the living God persists. More than ever, the mission of evangelization must continue by witness and by opening the door of faith for all who seek to know Jesus.

A multitude of workshops on various topics will be provided throughout the day. Catholic vendors and publishers will have religious articles, prayer books, and an assortment of resources available for purchase. The conference will conclude with the Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer celebrating the Sunday liturgy.

Register today! Early registration, through Sept. 13, is \$18 per person. Group

rates available. For more information, contact conference coordinator, Christella Alvarez at (361) 827-7172, calvarez@victoriadiocese.org, or visit www.victoriadiocese.org.

Schedule of the Day

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration/Exhibits Open
9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Welcome/Opening Prayer
9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Keynote Presentations
11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Exhibits Open
11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **Round A** Workshops
12:30 – 1:45 p.m. Lunch and Exhibits Open
1:45 – 2:45 p.m. **Round B** Workshops
2:45 – 3:00 p.m. Last Time for Exhibits
3:00 – 4:00 p.m. **Round C** Workshops
4:15 p.m. Liturgy

Catholic Exhibitors

Sadlier, Inc.
RCL/Benziger
Our Sunday Visitor
Loyola Press
Viva Bookstore
Heavenly Helpers
Treasures of Faith

Round A Workshops 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

A-1 What is the New Evangelization? Dr. Thomas H. Groome

Beginning with the Second Vatican Council, the Church has been calling its people to mount a “new” evangelization. It proposes that all of us need to be evangelizers and constantly in need of evangelization ourselves. This workshop will reflect on what this means for “ordinary” Catholics.

A-2 Mary: Mother of the Church Brother Patrick Wildgen

This workshop will explore the various dimensions of Mary as Mother of God and Mother of the Church. The beliefs we hold as Catholics about her will be examined in light of Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Church theologians and Vatican II documents. Since Mary leads us to Jesus, it is important to understand her role in salvation.

A-3 Enriching the Catholic Home by Becoming Domestic Church Sponsored by Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum **Anne Comeaux**

The Domestic Church is NOT separate from the parish. It is an extension of the

parish and offers a more intimate experience of being Catholic. Catechesis is an important part of this experience as are prayer, holiday celebrations and “tech time.” We’ll explore all of these aspects and encourage you to bring your own ideas to share as well.

A-4 Walking Together in Solidarity: Praying, Learning, Acting and Giving Sponsored by Catholic Relief Services **Carmen Diaz**

Solidarity will transform the world! Living as Christians in today’s world requires us to delve into the wellspring of our faith tradition in order to reinforce a spirituality of solidarity that will transform the world. Come join us as we reflect on some essential ingredients for living and doing faith in the 21st Century.

A-5 The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: A Service of “Boundless Charity” **Rev. Robert Knippenberg**

An examination of the theology of the distribution of Holy Communion and the document Immensae Caritatis by which Pope Paul VI gave permission in 1973 for lay people to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This is not so much a “how to” but a “why” workshop.

A-6 Understanding the Ministry of the Lector Deacon **Chuck Glynn**

Formerly regarded as one of the minor orders, the Lector (Reader) proclaims the readings. It is in the readings that the table of God’s word is spread before the faithful, and the treasures of the Bible are opened to them. The why and how of being an effective reader will be reviewed.

A-7 Breathing with Both Lungs: Eastern Catholic Liturgical Spirituality **Rev. Tommy Chen**

The Eastern Catholic Churches offer to the Universal Church a wealth of liturgical and spiritual treasures. As a body has two lungs, so does the Church, an Eastern one and a Western one. We need both to breathe. Come and learn about the riches of the Eastern Churches.

A-8 Vocations: It Is Everybody’s Business **Rev. Dan Morales**

Our diocese has a rich history of praying for and supporting priestly and religious vocations. Thankfully, our diocese has more seminarians than ever before. Young men are hearing the call to serve the Lord with an undivided heart and yet the Church needs more laborers. Prayer is our first response, but what else can we do? In this presentation, you will hear about the universal call to holiness, fostering a

culture open to vocations, the role of the family and the work of the Serra Clubs.

A-9 “In the Footprints of Francis and the Sultan” **Sr. Martha Ann Kirk**

While people were fighting during the Crusades, Francis of Assisi and the Muslim Sultan had a dialogue, which eventually led to peace. Their example is an invitation to us to join in respectful dialogues with people of different faiths and cultures. Learn to use this video and to dialogue.

AS-10 ¿Qué requiere la nueva evangelización de nosotros? **María Apac Smith**

Como Cristianos bautizados estamos llamados a ser fieles discípulos de Jesús y seguir adelante proclamando la buena nueva del evangelio. Tomando en cuenta las complejidades que existen en nuestra sociedad global vamos a explorar la mejor forma de responder a ese llamado con fidelidad.

Round B Workshops 1:45–2:45 p.m.

B-11 The Venue Has Changed: The Proliferation of Pornography, the Impact of Social Media and the Battle to Protect our Souls **Rev. Gary Janak**

This workshop will offer information on the impact of pornography on adolescents and adults, in light of the ever-changing technology and the impact of the social media, and how we, both personally and in our catechetical ministry, can win the battle to protect our souls against this proliferating menace.

B-12 Ask the Bishop **Most Rev.**

David E. Fellhauer

In this workshop participants will have the opportunity to ask Bishop Fellhauer questions about the Mass, sacraments, church law, canon law, catechesis, evangelization, or topics of interest within the Church today.

B-13 Written in Their Hearts **Marie Cehovin**

In an age in which morality has become a dirty word and few are interested to learn the 10 Commandments, how do we share Christ’s vision for human sexuality? This is Christian Morality 101 with a basis in human dignity, made in the image and likeness of God.

B-14 Enriching the Catholic Home by Becoming Domestic Church See A-3 for workshop description. **Anne Comeaux**

B-15 Storytelling **Sr. Clare Underbrink**

Continued on page 7



What are dandelions, a bishop, an elephant, and an old turtle doing in my classroom? Come to this workshop to find out how they are helping students explore their beliefs. Learn how to use storytelling as a powerful tool for catechesis at any level. Discover new stories, sources, techniques, and ideas for adaptations in your ministerial setting.

B-16 We Have a Jesuit Pope. What Does This Mean? **Sr. Digna Vela**

Pope Francis has been formed by and steeped in Ignatian Spirituality, which among many other things, includes the Spiritual Exercises and directed retreats. If you are interested in learning more, come to this workshop.

B-17 Does the Catholic Church Allow Cremation? **Gary Rangnow**

The Catholic Church does allow cremation, BUT there are rules the Church says we must follow. Cremation has become popular but the secular world does NOT always want to follow Church rules but rather popular secular practices. This seminar outlines the do’s and don’ts of cremation funerals.

B-18 “In the Footprints of Francis and the Sultan” See A-9 for workshop description. **Sr. Martha Ann Kirk**

B-19 Sing to the Lord **Cynthia Goerig**

One of God’s greatest gifts to us is the gift of song. In words and music our ancestors taught us how to celebrate God’s love, proclaim His glory, and give thanks for His generosity. Sing to the Lord echoes the call to full, active, and conscious participation in the Liturgy. Come and better understand your role in sung worship.

B-20 Open Your Classroom Door to Prayer **Betty Mitchell**

“Pray for us, too, that God may open a door to us for the word, to speak of the

mystery of Christ” Colossians 4:3. Make prayer a part of every class! Not just an opening or closing must do—but introduce them to different prayer forms. Prayer activities, crafts, and services help you to not only lead children in prayer, but inspire them to take it home with them.

B-21 RCIA: Discernment and the Scrutinies **Dr. Geri Telepak**

The RCIA calls the whole community to conversion. Discernment leads all to reflect on their spiritual development. The Scrutinies are not only for the catechumen and candidate, but for all gathered at the liturgical celebration. We will renew the understanding of the process of conversion and reflect on the importance of the scrutiny experience. The reflection will help whether dealing with adults or children of catechetical age. Remember to bring your RCIA Rite book.

BS-22 En la Santa Iglesia Catolica, la comunión de los Santos **Miguel Mejia, Jr.**

El artículo noveno del credo se mueve hacia la comunión de los creyentes: la Santa Iglesia Católica y la comunión de los Santos. Cuando hablamos de los Santos, nos referimos a aquellos canonizados por la iglesia, así como los santos que no han sido canonizados. ¿Quién es nuestro favorito santo o Santa Patrona? ¿Qué tan bueno eres en juegos de categoría de los Santos? Patrocinado por Sadlier, Inc.

Round C Workshops 3-4:00 p.m

C-23 Overview of the New Testament **Ron Friedel**

This workshop will examine the layout of the New Testament, the timeline of the writings, authors, and audiences of the texts. Also included will be interesting facts about the style and structure of various texts.

C-24 Teaching Chastity in an Unchaste World **Debbie Vanelli**

Young people are constantly bombarded with mixed messages about their sexuality. How does one live a chaste life in a world desensitized to chastity? This workshop is based on Pope John Paul II “Theology of the Body.” It will give practical methods how to teach the truth regarding sexuality.

C-25 The Holy Catholic Church, The Communion of Saints Sponsored by Sadlier, Inc. **Miguel Mejia, Jr.**

The ninth article of the creed moves towards the communion of believers: the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints. When we speak of saints, we mean those canonized by the church, as well as the

saints who have not been canonized. Who is your favorite saint or patron saint? How good are you in Saints Jeopardy?

C-26 Incorporating Arts and Crafts to Enhance a Lesson, Not Fill Time Sponsored by Loyola Press **Bill Smith**

The participants will explore ways to use art, music and crafts to keep their students actively engaged in the lesson and reinforce the key concepts. Online and printed resources will be presented as well as an easy-to-make resource guide.

C-27 Storytelling See B-15 for workshop description. **Sr. Clare Underbrink**

C-28 Everyday Mystic **Sr. Digna Vela**

More and more people in our modern, hectic, busy world are becoming interested in mysticism and contemplative prayer. Aren’t these only for great saints or special people? Could God be calling you to become a mystic? Maybe? This workshop will explore this possibility.

C-29 What the U.S. Bishops Really Say about the Catholic Social Teaching of the Church **Sr. Mildred Truchard**

Get the facts about what the Church teaches about some current controversial issues. This workshop presents an overview for anyone interested in a greater understanding of the foundations of Catholic Social Teaching as found in the Scriptures, the writings of our Popes, the U.S. Bishops, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

C-30 Human Sexuality: Common Questions, Pastoral Answers **Marie Cehovin**

As catechists, one of the most daunting aspects of teaching on human sexuality is not knowing how to answer questions

regarding the most sensitive of topics. In this workshop, we’ll address contraception, same sex attraction, cohabitation and much more.

C-31 Called to be a Catechist! **Jennifer Vincent**

Join Jennifer as she gives an overview of the journey that is waiting for every catechist. She will give an overview of how we learn, teach, and live the faith in a spirit-filled catechetical setting. Participants will receive a copy of *Called to be a Catechist* by the National Society for Volunteer Catechists.

C-32 Celebrating the Liturgical Seasons in the Classroom **Betty Mitchell**

Our children/families can grow in the knowledge and love of the Church and God by doing fun and easy projects that tie into the Church year. Integrate your class plans into the liturgical life of the Church by the use of crafts, story, song and instruction.

C-33 Mary: Mother of the Church See A-2 for workshop description. **Brother Patrick Wildgen**

C-34 RCIA: Discernment and the Scrutinies See B-21 for workshop description. **Dr. Geri Telepak**

CS-35 Caminando juntos en Solidaridad: Orar, Aprender, Actuar, **Dar Carmen Diaz**

¡Solidaridad transformará el mundo! La vida como cristianos en el mundo de hoy nos requiere a cavar en la fuente de nuestra tradición de fe para reforzar una espiritualidad de la solidaridad que transformará el mundo. Los invitamos a una reflexión sobre algunos ingredientes esenciales para vivir y actuar nuestra fe en el siglo XXI.

Barbeque Turkey & Dressing Dinner



**St. Peter’s Parish Hall • Blessing
Sunday, October 27 • 11:00 a.m.**

Barbeque Turkey, Dressing, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes,
Cranberry Sauce, Dessert, & Tea (Tea ~ Dine-in only)

Dine - In or Drive - Thru ~ \$9.00 per plate

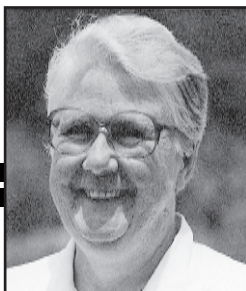
Auction Begins at 12:30 p.m.

Country Store ~~ Raffle



SISTERLY THOUGHTS

by Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



We are all teachers

Schools are opening for a new year. Teachers have decorated their rooms and students are showing off their brand new school supplies, while parents are trying to figure how they can afford new outfits and shoes for their children who always seem to be outgrowing their clothes.

I have fond memories of the many years I spent teaching. In fact, whenever I drive by a school bus or a school in session, a wave of nostalgia washes over me. At this time of the year, I have recurring dreams about the beginning of the school year. However, in my dreams there always seem to be obstacles. The bell is ringing and I am not in my classroom. Or, it is time for report cards and I do not have any recorded grades for the students. Back in my day, we had a grade book in which we kept students' grades; now grade keeping is done on a computer. My, how times are changing!

As a youngster, I always wanted to be a teacher. Fortunately, I was able to enter an order which would support my dream. Christian education has always been one of the ministries of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. From the

beginning of our order in France in the early 17th century, our Foundress Jeanne de Matel, embraced the education of young women. Being a cloistered order, which was required by the Church of her time, members could not leave the convent to engage in outside ministries. Also, there was great need for education for girls, since schooling was only deemed necessary for young men at the time. Therefore, the Sisters could meet a great need by engaging in the education of the young women that either lived as boarders with the Sisters or commuted to the convent each day.

Now, our Sisters are free to minister in varied aspects of education and health care for our needy world along with the many lay colleagues who serve their brothers and sisters. The Sisters of IWBS salute all formal and informal teachers as this new school year begins. In fact, the Holy Father's intention for the daily offering for August is Parents and Teachers. It is necessary to remember that every one of us is a teacher through our example, especially through the roles we have in the education of our young people. Parents and teachers, we are praying for you.



Nuns evangelize for nearly 70 years

An appreciation gathering for the Sisters of the Order of Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts (MCSH) was recently held honoring the Sisters for their service to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and Holy Trinity Catholic Church (Silver City). Many were sad, but several were thankful for the time to share memories within a Catholic community of caring parishioners. Although no longer



MCSH at a Bible study

look forward to being active in helping it grow. Sisters, we will always be here for you. All of you have become dear to our



Order of Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts (MCSH)



Order of MCSH and friends

hearts. We pray everyday for you to all stay active in our community. Thank you for being 'angels in disguise,' for taking us in and showing us the way. We love you.

~The Salazar Family

We were saddened and disappointed to hear that after nearly 70 years of service at our parish, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, the Sisters MCSH will no longer be part of the parish. As long as we can remember, the Sisters have been a great influence to our family. Where man closes one door we pray that God will open our hearts to re-open the door to our parish to the Sisters who have done so much for this community.

~The Magallan Family

It was Nov. of 1943 when the Congregation of the Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary were asked to come to Victoria to serve the Hispanic population of those who were already present and the newly arrived immigrants. The beginning was difficult; teaching under trees, visiting the homes in the heat of the day, encountering each person and making them feel welcome. Years passed and the parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows and

Santísima Trinidad grew to be proud of their culture and proud of their expression of faith. They cultivated a love for the Eucharist and a prayerful, warm, and welcoming community. Many Sisters have served throughout 70 years in Victoria. One has only to see from the heart, the faces of the consecrated women who have given their life tirelessly, full of apostolic zeal in an effort to bring God's message of His merciful love to all. The time has come to depart, but doors open elsewhere as the Church seeks to serve the growing population in other areas. As missionaries, we are ready to go forth and teach.



MCSH during First Communion

~Sister Miriam Perez, provincial superior for MCSH, from *Weaving a History of Faith*



JCDA Court #1604, Shiner, members, parents, state convention chairwomen, and state JCDA chaplain, Msgr. John Peters.

JCDA members attend state convention, elect officers, and receive awards

The 25th Biennial State Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA) Convention was held this summer at Hilton San Antonio Airport in San Antonio. Approximately 200 members were in attendance as well as 100 sponsors, other adults and guests from 24 courts throughout Texas. The convention theme was 'I Am the Light of the World' from John 8:12.

JCDA Court #1604 hosted the event with Diane Hermann and Carolyn Malik as convention co-chairwomen. The delegation enjoyed a 'JCDA's Got Talent Show', attended prayer service of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a roll call of delegates, and viewed presentations about activities completed since the previous convention. A report was given highlighting the toy drive, cookie bake, and crafts made at various meetings in Shiner. The delegation also attended a candlelight living rosary and Msgr. John Peters, state chaplain, concluded with the Litany of Our Lady.



A formal banquet was held and the keynote speaker was Doug Barry, founder of RADIX, a Catholic ministry that challenges and encourages families to embrace their Catholic faith. An election of new officers was held. New youth co-chairwomen were announced as Sheila Martinka and Peggy Supak. JCDA Court #1604 was named the first place winner in the membership/retention contest, second in the banner, and second in the newsletter contest. The convention closed with Msgr. John Peters offering Mass for the convention attendees and officer installation ceremony. The next convention will be held in 2015.

Outgoing and incoming state JCDA officers. Front row, left to right, 2013-2015 state officers: Clella Evans, state president; Olivia Perez, state 1st vice president; Kaya Price, state 2nd vice president; Emily Malinovsky, state secretary; and Marissa Pena, state reporter. Back row, left to right, 2011-2013 state officers: Terri Beltran, youth chairwoman; Mary Adamek, state president; Katelynn Martinez, state 1st vice president; Jamie Ornelas, state 2nd vice president; Holly Soukop, state secretary; Allison Whitworth, state reporter; and Msgr. John Peters.



St. Anne's Society, High Hill, made a donation to St. Rose School and St. Rose parish CCD classes. Left to right: Kim Olsovsky, treasurer; Kim Wellborn, secretary; Rosanne Gallia, St. Rose principal; Kathy Kutac, president; Rev. Tim Kosler, St. Rose pastor and society chaplain; and Dorothy Vecera, vice president.

Position available for employment

Associate Youth Director Youth and Young Adult Ministry

The full-time associate youth director will primarily be responsible for assisting the director of youth ministry in implementing the goals and vision of the diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office. Prospective applicants must be able to multi-task effectively and be willing to assist in all areas. Position may require working some nights, weekends, as well as travel in personal vehicle.

For job duties, requirements, and responsibilities or to submit a resume, contact Wendy Eggert at (361) 573-0828, weggert@victoriadiocese.org or visit the career tab at www.victoriadiocese.org.

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church
Annual Parish Festival
September 15, 2013
Bauer Community Center
Port Lavaca, Texas

Auction

SEAFOOD PLATTER

Includes Fried Shrimp, Fish, Cole Slaw, German Potatoes, Mushrooms & Tea
\$8.00 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Dine in or Carry Out
For Deliveries call 361-212-9656

Raffle and Meal Tickets available at church office

Raffle

Grand Prize

\$5,000 Debit Card

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Many other great prizes on the raffle list!

Sausage

Egg Rolls

Country Store

Nachos

TAMALES

Kolaches

Arts & Crafts

Bingo

FACE PAINTING

Pizza

Wii U

Children's Games!

CAKE SPIN

Roasted Corn

Desserts

BBQ ON A BUN

FRUIT CUPS

Children's Games!

Bring your family & friends and join us for a day of fun, food, crafts & games.
For more information call: 361-552-6140

MEET OUR SEMINARIANS ... PRAY FOR OUR VOCATIONS

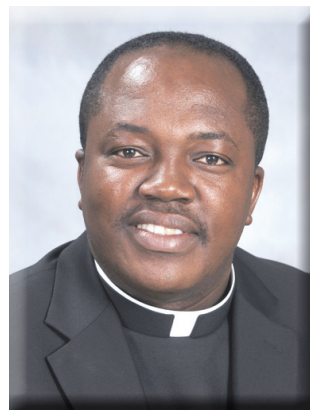


Rev. Dan Morales
Vocation Director

The Call of the First Disciples

Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

~Matthew 4:19



Peter Oscar Kofi Amo

"Being in the minor seminary for 7 years at the age of 14, I had the love to become a priest. As a mass server, several thoughts, prayers and reflections occurred. I continued to pray for the will of the Lord in my life. It was recommended by my Bishop in Ghana to come here, to the Diocese of Victoria, to continue discerning into the Holy Priesthood of Jesus in the Catholic Church."



Deacon Philip Brune

"The most interesting aspect so far in my formation to become a priest is absorption of God's mystery and the mystery of life. It is awe-inspiring and humble. I feel I am part of a great mystery I cannot control, yet God takes care of everything and everyone. I am committed to being a priest because it is what God wants and I also realize that this is what will fulfill me and make me incredibly happy."



James Dvorak

"My discernment to the priesthood centers around the love of Christ and His Church. The priesthood is how I am to spread that Love."



Dalton Ervin

"As a teenager, I recall being attracted to the priesthood and the service it provided to the church. God always answers prayers, even if not in the way we expect. I recently read a quote regarding vocations and it has stuck with me: 'If this is not the work I am called to do, then what is the work? If this is not the time, then when is the time? If not me, then who?'"



Kristopher Fuchs

"I decided to enter seminary because the idea of being a priest kept reoccurring in my prayer to God, and later in life, there was a great sense of peace that came along with that desire to be a priest. Being on this path to priesthood is important to me because I want to follow the vocation God has given me."



Alonso Gonzales

"The thought of becoming a priest first came to me at the age of 6, but my discernment did not begin until I was 19. A priest is a leader, a shepherd to lead the flock home- I feel that is what I am called to do. I pray, not only for myself, but for my fellow diocesan brothers and others who are currently discerning a religious vocation, to keep on the journey."



Chase Goodman

"Priests have always been the greatest role models in my life. In times of distress, priests have been there to comfort and guide my family. The more I observed, prayed, and thought over the call, the clearer the decision became. The priesthood gives one great responsibility. The priesthood is vital to the health of the Church and society as a whole."



Scott Hill

"I consider my calling to the priesthood to have started when I was a child. The one feeling that had been consistent in my life was the idea of being a priest. The moment I decided to become a seminarian I knew it was the right decision and something I wanted to do for a long time. The priesthood is important to me because quite simply I love the Church and I want others to grow in love of it."



Blayne Jemelka

"During my time at St. Mary's Catholic Center at Texas A&M, I felt God calling me to enter the seminary. Learning more about my faith and being able to serve God and His church was a blessing I could not refuse. I look forward to my future years of formation."



Ryan Kapavik

"My discernment began when I became involved in youth leadership. More specifically, I received my calling at the Vocation Camp when I was 16-17. I was so inspired and fascinated at what priests do. One reason why becoming a priest is important to me is so I can perform the Sacraments to all the people in the Catholic Church."



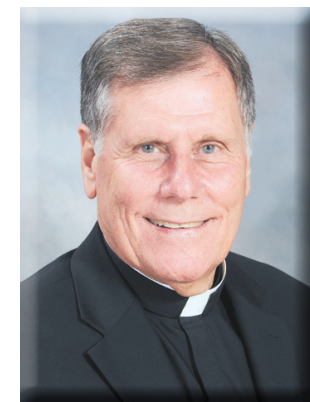
Jacob Koether

"I first thought about the priesthood as a boy in elementary school because I got to be an altar server. I was influenced by the example and encouragement of my pastor. What made me look at the idea more seriously was involvement in my high school youth group where I received support from my youth minister, the adult core members, and my peers."



Max Landman

"I began thinking about the priesthood when I was an altar boy, about ten years old. People told me I would be a good priest throughout my years growing up. Towards the end of college, my great aunt Biddy died. For some reason, the experience of attending the rosary and funeral had a profound impact on my faith and reignited the idea of priesthood in my soul. It has been a tremendous blessing."



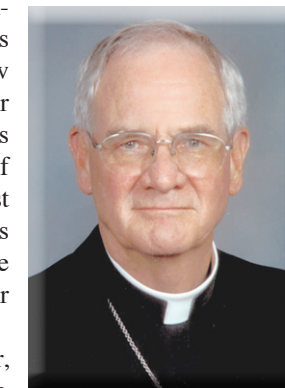
Deacon Jasper Liggio

"Becoming a priest is being able to carry out the ministry of Christ. I feel that I am answering the call of God. I have found peace in my heart that I have been longing for. I have found that all things are possible when you are working with Christ and for Christ. I can see his hand in everything that I do and this brings me great joy and happiness."



Jacob Mendoza

"I have had the desire to become a priest for at least 10 years. Seeing the self-sacrifice, competence, holiness and sense of duty that a priest must have was very compelling and stimulated a desire to respond to the call. After many hours of prayer, I realized that I would be restless until I joined the seminary."



Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer

The response to our Bishop's recent plea was overwhelmingly generous. At the present time we have 17 seminarians preparing for eventual priestly ordination. Over the past few years these numbers represent a 400% increase in the number of men formally discerning their call to the priesthood. This is due in no small part to the frequent prayers on the part of the people, parishes, and schools of our diocese. The cost of educating and forming one young man in the seminary is around \$35,000. If all 17 men continue in the seminary, the diocese will spend approximately \$600,000 annually on their education and formation.

If you gave to the Holy Thursday collection this year, thank you again for your prayers and generosity. Although the collection amount was just over \$255,000, there is still great need in securing funds to educate so many men for service in our diocese as priests.

If you missed the collection, please consider a contribution to the Seminarian Educational Fund. It is not too late to contribute! Also, prayerfully consider remembering the diocese in your will, with a bequest for the education of seminarians. Regardless of your level of participation, please remember our present seminarians in your prayers, along with the men who are discerning their call to the holy priesthood.



Francis Nguyen

"As I study for the priesthood, I think ministry for people is significant. In responding to God's call, I also think the role of the priesthood is extremely important in the world; therefore, I have chosen to become a priest."



Dominic Schaefer

"For me, it was something I have felt drawn to ever since I was little. I would see the priest at Mass and wanted to do the same thing. As I got older, the desire to share Jesus and His love grew in me. To share the gospel and celebrate the Sacraments was something I felt that God had been slowing leading me in that direction all my life."



Stephen Vacek

"The first recognition of my vocation began in second grade. I desired to be a priest like my associate pastor Fr. Michael who was a SOLT priest. I saw that he was a good man. At Holy Apostles in Cromwell, CT, I confirmed my calling to the priesthood. As a shepherd, I wish to follow Jesus' command to St. Peter to feed His sheep."



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Prayer for Vocations

O God, you have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind. Grant that those whom He has chosen, ministers and dispensers of His mysteries, may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. Amen.

~Serra Club of Victoria

For seminary addresses, birthdays, and more information, visit:

www.victoriavocations.org/VictoriaVocations/Our_Seminarians.html



Parish outreach to young parents? There's an app for that

Joliet, Ill. (CNA) – Father John Belmonte noticed two things about the millennial generation- they were scarce in the pews and they were always on their smartphones.

Since many millennials, people ages 18-34, are now young parents, He had an idea to bridge the gap by “evangelizing, education, and re-engaging” this demographic through the *We Parent More* app.

“We wanted to make it a technological piece in the new evangelization,” Fr. Belmonte said.

The app has 6 buttons that include information on the Catholic faith, blogs from young Catholic parents, Mass and confession times for parishes across the U.S., and games for kids.

Parishes can also subscribe to the app and use it as “an electronic, updated bulletin” to provide parents with infor-

mation about church happenings at the local level.

“We’re not reading parish bulletins anymore,” Fr. Belmonte said, “This generation is really living on their smartphones. We need to reach out to them at this really key moment in life.”

Users of the app started locally where Fr. Belmonte serves as Superintendent of

Catholic schools. Numbers quickly grew to 1,200 users from parishes across the country, from Anchorage, Alaska to Atlanta, Georgia.

So far, the app has received positive re-

views.

“Our analysis of the usership shows our users are on the app an average of 18 minutes a day, which is a significant amount of time,” Fr. Belmonte said, “People see the need for it and understand the need for the application.”



As the word gets out, Fr. Belmonte hopes more and more parishes and pastors take advantage of the app with the goal of keeping parents connected and most importantly keep them coming to Mass.

“One of the taglines is, ‘Get off your app and go to Mass.’” Father Belmonte said, “We’d really like to see more of this demographic (at church).”

To learn more, visit www.weparent-more.org.



The USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth has released a 22-minute marriage preparation video. This free video includes a brief overview of the Sacrament of Marriage and an explanation of the three forms of the Rite of Marriage. It answers basic questions such as when and where Catholic weddings can be held and how non-Catholic clergy can participate in the ceremony. It is intended for engaged couples, their families, those involved in marriage preparation and anyone with questions about Catholic weddings. It can also be used as part of a high school curriculum. This video can be viewed at www.ForYourMarriage.org.



Transformed in Love helps couples build a loving and lasting marriage amid today’s cultural attitudes toward marriage and family life. It is the end product of over six years of collaboration among a bishop, judicial vicar, canon lawyers, theologians, psychologists, priests, deacons, religious sisters, and married couples and three years of field-testing. The program consists of a leader and team manual, complete with a DVD of presentation material, and an Engaged Couple workbook. It’s ‘teach-out-of-the-box’ nature, flexible session options, and diversified methods to engage couples make running the program easy. Utilizing a house building metaphor that combines faith formation and human formation, *Transformed in Love* helps couples lay the foundations and create a blueprint for living out their marriage with faith and practicality.

For more information, please visit www.transformedinlove.com.

Catholic workout video combines faith and fitness

Exercise your body. Exercise your soul.

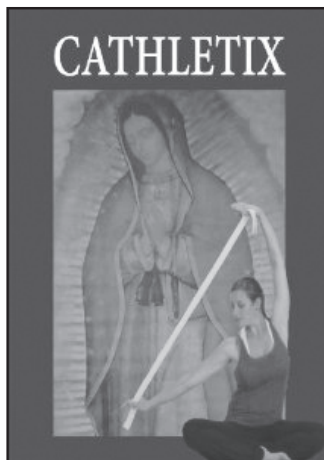
Fitness conscience Catholics now have a new way to exercise. *Cathletix* combines the benefits of yoga and Pilates without the New Age spirituality often found in these practices.

The workout consists of a series of strengthening stretches designed to complement any exercise program. In addition to providing physical benefits, *Cathletix* also nourishes the spirit. The routine is set to the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary beautifully sung in Latin. Three highly-qualified instructors demonstrate the exercises using various adaptations for individuals at different

fitness levels.

According to Sue Brinkman, staff writer for Women of Grace, “the routine offers a blissful series of stretches in a room decorated with a portrait of the Sacred Heart and of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Even more delightful is the occasional view of a tabernacle as the heavenly voices of the Children of Mary Religious Community chant the rosary in Latin in the background. This combination turns the whole routine into one long prayer of both body and heart.”

For more information, visit www.womenofgrace.com or www.cathletix.com.



Sunday Readings from Sept. 8 to Oct. 6

September 8 — Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18B
Psalms 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17
Philemon 1:9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

September 15 — Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32

September 22 — Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8:4-7
Psalms 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13

September 29 — Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 6:1A, 4-7
Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

October 6 — Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Luke 17:5-10

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

www.usccb.org/bible/readings

Brought to you by the Catholic Communications Campaign.
Please be generous.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNUAL PARISH FESTIVAL



Sunday, October 13

at the Victoria Community Center

Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.

Buffet Style Barbecue-Beef and Sausage Dinner

Adults • \$8; Children under 12 years • \$5

Plates-to-go • \$8

Auction begins at 12:30 p.m.

Booths and Games for the entire family

Come Join Us!

Catholic By Grace

by Denise Bossert
www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com



Words are powerful

Dad tried to convince me to become a Presbyterian minister. Presbyterians had embraced women’s ordination. My father could think of nothing that would make him prouder than for one of his children to follow in his footsteps and become a Protestant preacher. My sister was more interested in science and math than theology and philosophy, so Dad targeted me.

I laughed, and said, “No way. I see what you go through. Every parishioner is a critic. You have as many bosses as you have members on the parish roster. And many of them criticize you behind your back!”

It was sad, but true.

I still do not like gossip, and as a Catholic convert, I am particularly uneasy when I hear someone talking about a priest.

Old Testament David would not be amused.

I remember sitting on my grandma’s lap as she read the story of young David and King Saul from a children’s Bible. When David stumbles upon King Saul in a cave, he knows this is his one chance to end the deadly cat-and-mouse game that King Saul started. But David merely cuts a square from Saul’s garment and walks away- to prove to Saul that David is his trusted servant.

“I will not raise my hand to God’s anointed one.” It was David’s motto and it should be ours as well.

Most of us would walk away from revenge, but how often do we use our tongues as a weapon? A weapon against a family member. A colleague. And even one’s own priest.

Words are powerful. They kill friendships and wound marriages. They turn neighbors into enemies. They can make a person resign or stop going home for the holidays.

I think the greatest damage the tongue can do is in a parish.

When I was about five

years old, I learned a song in Bible school. “Oh be careful little mouth what you say. For the Father up above is looking down in love. So be careful little mouth what you say.”

It is a lesson I need to learn.

As much as I hate gossip, I find it difficult to walk away when others dabble in it. All too often, I have remained silent or even participated in the conversation when I should have come to the defense of another. When two people gossip, the “weak and defenseless one” is the one who is not present to refute the accusations, yet he or she is the one that I am charged with defending!

Father, forgive me.

Sins such as these affect the Body of Christ. Each one of us is made in the likeness of Christ. Our fellow Catholics have been anointed with Holy Chrism. And so, we are called to remember David’s motto, “I will not raise my hand to God’s anointed one.”

If we are to be one body in Christ, we must place a guard on our tongues. Father, silence our wayward tongues and make us truly one.

Sometimes, the hand we must not raise is actually a mouth that should not speak.

Pope Francis has exhorted the faithful to remain meek and refuse to speak ill of others. Meekness has “many enemies,” he said, explaining that gossip is the first enemy of meekness. The Holy Father wants us to put aside a gossiping tongue and a critical spirit.

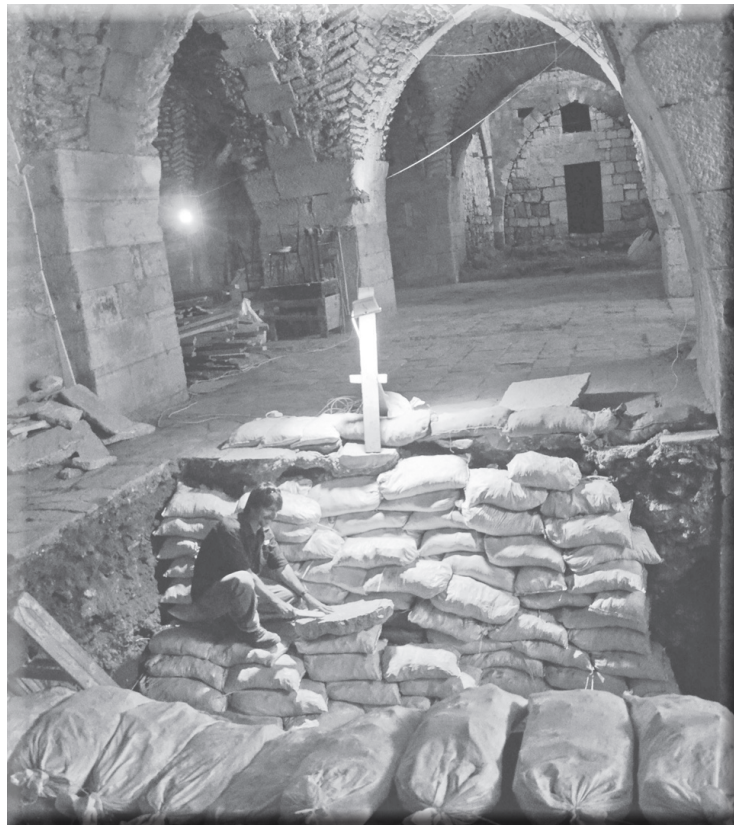
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Israeli archaeologists have restored a 2,000-bed Crusader-era hospital in the Old City of Jerusalem. Dating to the 11th century, the hospital was operated by members of the order dedicated to St. John the Baptist and known as the Knights Hospitallers, precursors to the Rome-based Knights of Malta. The Hospitallers treated pilgrims of all faiths making their way to Jerusalem, according to historical documents. (CNS photo/Yoli Shwartz, courtesy of Israel Antiquities Authority)

Pope's compassion, love touches hearts all over world

Continued from p. 1

turned in on itself. He tells us to open the doors, to invite others in and so that we can go out and invite."

Education for the journey must therefore be experiential, personal, engaging and life-giving, he added. "We learn discipleship the way we learn a language, by being part of a community that speaks that language. The Boston archbishop stressed that young Catholics must be mentored in the faith by others, either peers or older Catholics who are walking the walk.

"In today's world, we must promote the Catholic way of life, which is increasingly alien in the secular world, where our concern about unborn children or the sacredness of marriage makes us appear quaint and even nettlesome," he explained. "We need mentors: parents, grandparents, godparents, teachers, youth ministers, neighbors, who are ready to pass on the faith."

According to the cardinal,

Pope Francis is calling on Catholics to embrace the vision of reality that is the church's faith



Saint Joseph

and that values each and every human being, and stresses responsibility to love and serve each other, especially the most vulnerable.

The word that Pope Francis repeats over and over, he said, is "tenerezza," or tenderness.

In his inaugural Mass on the feast of St. Joseph, Cardinal O'Malley recalled, the pontiff

spoke about protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need. The pope said, "We must not be afraid of goodness or tenderness."

"He points to the heart of Joseph, his tenderness which is not the virtue of the weak but a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern and compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love," said the cardinal.

He added, "The truth isn't a wet rag that you throw in someone's face, but a warm cape that you wrap around a person, to protect and strengthen them."

"Our efforts to heal the wounds of society will depend on our capacity to love and to be faithful to our mission," the cardinal insisted.



Pope Francis discovers charismatic movement a gift to the whole church

by Francis X. Rocca [Catholic News Service]

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—During World Youth Day celebrations in Rio de Janeiro, last month, many worshippers in the crowds could be seen swaying from side to side, arms raised in the air, wearing rapt or joyous expressions on their faces.

Such scenes, along with on-stage appearances by celebrities such as Father Marcelo Rossi, a mega-church pastor whose records and movies regularly top the charts in his native Brazil, testified to the Catholic Charis-

The movement, which started in the United States, reports fast growth in Asia and Africa. But the world's largest concentration of charismatics today is in Latin America, where 16 percent of Catholics identify themselves as participants.

One of the movement's pioneers was Jesuit Father Edward Dougherty, founder of Brazil's Seculo 21 Catholic satellite television channel.

When



Pilgrims wave to television cameras during the opening Mass of World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro. Young Latin Americans say they are excited to take their faith to the street after the weeklong celebration. (CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn) Inset: Father Edward Dougherty

matic Renewal's strong influence on the church in Latin America today.

As the church continues to lose members in the region with the world's largest Catholic population, the charismatic movement stands out as a source of hope, not only for fending off the formidable competition of Pentecostal Protestantism but for raising morale among the faithful as a whole.

Though not even half a century old, the movement claims that at least 120 million Catholics in 238 countries have been "baptized in the Holy Spirit," according to a 2012 document published by International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services.

the Louisiana native moved to Brazil in 1966, he discovered a country where, as in most of Latin America, vocations and Mass attendance rates had languished. He also learned that a recent Catholic movement to promote social justice in the region had led, in some cases, to neglect of otherworldly values.

"I felt very much a strong emphasis on liberation theology, which I say is very horizontal," Father Dougherty told Catholic News Service in Rio. "There was a need for spirituality."

Like Pentecostalism, charismatic Catholicism emphasizes the Holy Spirit, features faith healing and speaking in tongues and is spread by door-to-door

evangelists. But the important roles it gives to Mary and the Eucharist ensure that charismatic devotion has a clear Catholic identity.

The movement also encourages social service, Father Dougherty said, noting that it draws its inspiration from the church's foundational event, the first Pentecost, when Jesus' disciples "went out to the streets" to preach and help the needy as soon as they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Strong Catholic identity has been crucial to the movement's acceptance by the church's hierarchy in Latin America, many of whom had initial reservations about its unfamiliar forms of worship and largely lay leadership.

One early skeptic was Argentine Jesuit Father Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis.

"Back at the end of the 1970s and the beginning of the 1980s, I had no time for" charismatics, the pope told reporters on the plane returning from Rio July 28. "Once, speaking about them, I said: 'These people confuse a liturgical celebration with samba lessons!'"

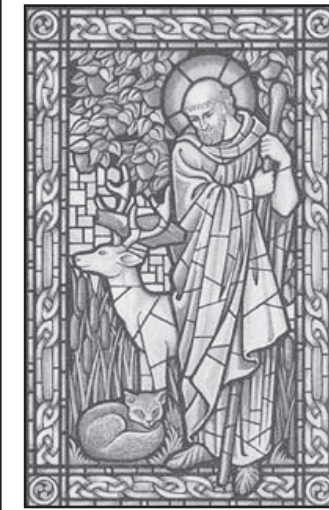
"Now I regret it," he said. "Now I think that this movement does much good for the church, overall."

"I don't think that the charismatic renewal movement merely prevents people from passing over to Pentecostal denominations," Pope Francis said. "No! It is also a service to the church herself! It renews us."

"The movements are necessary, the movements are a grace of the Spirit," the pope added, speaking of ecclesial movements in general. "Everyone seeks his own movement, according to his own charisma, where the Holy Spirit draws him or her."



To view a video interview with Jesuit Father Edward Dougherty, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSjDms1_evI.



St. Kieran's
Feast Day is Sept. 9.

ST. KIERAN

St. Kieran was born in Con-nacht, Ireland. He was the son of a carpenter. He studied at St. Finnian's school at Clonard and was considered the most learned monk. Forced to leave by what was considered excessive charity, he spent some time on Inis Aingin (Hare Island). He, along with eight monastic brothers, built a monastery on the bank of the Shannon River in Offaly. It became the famous Clonmacnoise, renowned for centuries as the great center of Irish learning. He is often called St. Kieran the Younger.



Jesuit Father Peter F. Ryan is the new executive director of the Secretariat for Doctrine and Canonical Affairs at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

ST. PHILIP
the APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PICNIC

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013
K.C. Hall (Armory Rd.) in El Campo • 11 am-7 pm

Dinner: BBQ Beef & Sausage
with all the trimmings!
Dine-in -or- Plates to Go!
\$8.00 per plate

HUGE AUCTION
Beginning @ 1:00 p.m.

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10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
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EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR A DAY OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!

40 DAYS FOR LIFE[™] Sep. 24-Nov. 3

(Diocese of Amarillo, *West Texas Catholic*) - The annual 40 Days for Life observance in the Diocese of Amarillo will begin Tuesday, Sept. 24, according to Stephanie Frausto, diocesan director of Respect Life Ministries.

"Forty Days for Life is nearly here," she said, "and as we do every year, we are asking everyone in the Diocese of Amarillo to pray... Our foundation must be our faith, our values must be those of the Gospel. We must become people of hope for

those who have none. Prayer is powerful and in this wonderful state of Texas we know just how powerful our prayers can and have been."

For more information on 40

Days for Life or to schedule a day of prayer, contact Frausto at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, (806) 383-2243 x129 or respectlife@dioama.org. When sending an email regarding 40 Day for Life, please type in the subject line 40 Days for Life.

"Just as Christ has arisen from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also may walk in newness of life."

~Romans 6:4

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Diocese of Victoria
Youth Ministry



Alumni association holds golf tournament

Flyer Classic Golf Tournament

Hosted by the St. Joseph High School Alumni Association

Saturday, September 14 • Victoria Country Club

11 a.m. Registration • 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start

Proceeds benefit the St. Joseph High School Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Registration forms can be downloaded at

www.stjvictoria.com/alumni

For more information, call (361) 573-2446.

Flyer Classic

STJ Alumni Golf Tournament

**Sunday,
October 6,
2013**

Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Hostyn Festival

936 FM 2436

La Grange, TX 78945

6 miles South of La Grange off Hwy 77
hostynch@cvctx.com



**Czech
Hymns
9:30 AM**

**Polka
Mass
10 AM**

Auction at 1 PM
Country Store
Cake and Plant Wheels
Silent Auction
Games
Raffle
Balloon Artist 1-5 PM
Magic Show 3 PM
Hamburgers
Shaved Ice

Music All Day!
11:00 AM—3:00 PM
**Donnie Wavra
& His Orchestra**
3:30 PM—7:30 PM
Dujka Brothers

**Hostyn Style Dinner
11 AM to ?**
**Fried Chicken, Sausage
& All the Trimmings**
Adults \$8.00
Children \$4.00
**Drive Thru Serving Line for
Plates to Go \$8.00**

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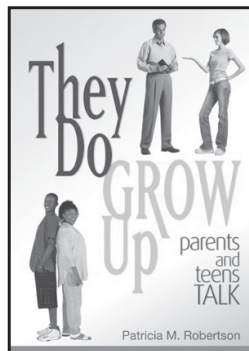
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Puzzle contest winners

The winner of the August puzzle contest and the book *10 Things They Never Told Me about Jesus* by John L. Bell is Annette Howard of Holy Family JMJ, Victoria. The winners of the children's contest are Kaitlyn Kramer, 9, of Sts. Peter and Paul, Blessing and Sarah Spitzmiller, 7, of St. Philip the Apostle School in El Campo (class submission). Each will receive a gift from



Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

The winner of the September contest will win *They Do Grow Up* by Patricia M. Robertson. The book provides a series of thoughts and conversation topics to help parents and teens improve family communication. It is told in a personal, engaging style and it is particularly helpful in overcoming barriers.

If you have not won the puzzle contest within the past six months, please mail a completed September puzzle form by September 27, 2013 to *The Catholic Lighthouse*, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 for a chance to win!



Feast of the Assumption • August 15



1. Altar servers from St. Mary of the Assumption at St. Ann's Church in Hull, Massachusetts approach the A Street Pier as part of a festival for the feast of the Assumption of Mary. (CNS photo/Christopher S. Pineo, *The Pilot*) 2. Pope Francis celebrates Mass for the feast of the Assumption of Mary in the main square of Castel Gandolfo, a small town in the hills near Rome where previous popes have spent the summer months. (CNS photo/Giampiero Sposito, Reuters) 3. Scaffolding is positioned near an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe inside St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. Although the cathedral is undergoing a \$177-million restoration, parishioners lit candles for the Assumption of Mary. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz) 4. Dolly Robinson, 85, of Richmond, Virginia carries a candle during Mass for the feast of the Assumption of Mary at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. (CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn) 5. People process around grounds of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin. Several thousand people turned out for the annual Mass and eucharistic procession. (CNS photo /Sam Lucero, *The Compass*)

Nazareth Academy Fall Festival 2013

Sunday, October 6th
Doors Open at 10:00 a.m.

Victoria Community Center
Traditional Turkey Dinner and Sides Served

Serving Begins at **11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** or until it's gone!

Plates To-Go begin at 10:30 a.m.

- Roast Turkey and Gravy
- Homemade Dressing
- Yams & Mashed Potatoes
- Seasoned Green Beans
- Chilled Cranberry Sauce
- Rolls and Iced Tea

\$8.00 PER PLATE! **All SERVED in hinged to-go containers!!**

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| Games Wrist Band Only Face Painting Lollipop Tree Mini-Golf | NEW this YEAR! Wristbands for Games! \$10 Pre-sale <small>Can be purchased at the school office before the festival.</small> \$12 at the DOOR <small>Movie Begins at 2:00 in the Dome for kids while parents are in the auction!</small> | Booths Cash Only Country Store Cake Wheel Concessions Arts & Crafts |
|--|--|---|

Games & Booths open from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Raffle Tickets \$5 each or five for \$20
Silent Auction 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Live Auction: preview items at 11:00 a.m.
Bidding begins at 1:00 p.m.
Beer Garden in the Auction Area

San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller greets Knights of Columbus and their family members during the Catholic fraternal organization's 131st annual convention in San Antonio. (CNS photo/courtesy of Knights of Columbus)



North American church leaders attend opening Mass of the 131st annual Knights of Columbus convention. Front row, left to right: Cardinals Theodore E. McCarrick, Justin Rigali, Sean P. O'Malley, Donald W. Wuerl, (unidentified), Timothy M. Dolan, James M. Harvey and Raymond L. Burke. (CNS photo/courtesy of Knights of Columbus)

'Love of neighbor' called motivation for Knights' commitment to charity

by Catholic News Service

SAN ANTONIO (CNS)—Saying "our order is stronger today than ever before, and the best is yet to come," Supreme Knight Carl Anderson delivered an annual report last month that chronicled the record-setting activity of the Knights of Columbus at the organization's 131st annual convention.

For the 13th consecutive year, Knights' charitable contributions have grown. While charitable giving in the U.S. grew by 2 percent last year, charitable donations from

the Knights of Columbus grew three times as much, by 6 percent. That increase of \$9.4 million set a record of \$167.5 million donated last year.

Volunteer time donated by Knights of Columbus members also climbed to a new record high, reaching over 70 million hours.



Truck stop chaplain Deacon Rich Seveska talks with Abdi Rizak at the Foristell Travel Center in Missouri. There are 18,000 Catholic deacons in the U.S. (CNS photo/Lisa Johnston, *St. Louis Review*)

Number of permanent deacons grows, but many reaching retirement age

by Mark Pattison

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)—While the number of permanent deacons keeps growing, those ordained to the permanent diaconate are steadily reaching retirement age, with a need to replenish their ranks, according to a study released last month on the diaconate.

There are more than 18,000 permanent

deacons in the U.S., including more than 15,000 who are active in ministry, according to the study conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate.

However, more than two-thirds of active deacons— 68 percent— are at least in their 60s, with 25 percent of all deacons at least 70. 13 percent of U.S. dioceses have a mandatory retirement age of 70 for deacons; 80 percent mandate retirement at age 75.

Holy Cross • Bay City Fall Festival & Turkey Dinner

Sunday, October 6
Knights of Columbus Hall
63 CR (Nichols Road)

Turkey & Dressing Dinner • \$9 p/p
Turkey • Homemade dressing • Mashed potatoes • Green beans • Cranberry sauce • Dessert & Tea (tea dine-in only)

Drive-thru or Dine-in
10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Live Auction • 12:00 p.m.
CDA Raffle

Country Store
Music by Rusty Steins
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome
Fun For All!!

For large orders (15 plates or more) call the church office at (979) 245-5379.



Ongoing Activities • Ministries

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—Sept. 27-29 at the Spiritual Renewal Center. Registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For a registration form, contact your pastor. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 x2230 or visit www.victoriadiocese.org click on the Ministries tab followed by Family Ministry.

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/raining 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, please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572.

Incarnate Word Prayer Group—Praise and Worship on Mondays 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water Street. For more information, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at (361) 575-7111 or amormeus@yahoo.com. See Amor Meus on pg. 20.

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.wmme.org.

Natural Family Planning—Upcoming introductory session to the Creighton Model Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro technology Nov. 10 at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church in Wharton. 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. Fall Sessions: Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. To learn about the sympto-thermal method in the Victoria area and NFP class schedules, contact David and Annie Coffey at victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com.

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. Learn more at www.raphaelsrefuge.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., JPPII Family Center. Visit www.thatmanisyou.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.

Picnics • Events

September

Blessing—Knights of Columbus Council #4307 Shrimp Etouffe and Gumbo Meal Sept. 8 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter's Catholic Church in the Parish Hall. \$8 p/p. Includes rice, dessert, and tea or coffee.

Bloomington—St. Patrick's Parish Picnic Sept. 29. 11:00 a.m. serving begins. Turkey, dressing, sides, and cake. \$8 p/p. 11:30

a.m. auction. There will be a cake walk, country/religious store, face painting, games, raffle, and more. See ad on pg. 5.

El Campo—St. Philip the Apostle Parish Picnic Sept. 29 at 11:00 a.m. in the KC Hall. \$8 p/p. BBQ beef and sausage. 1:00 p.m. auction. There will be bingo, cake walk, country store, and games. See ad on pg. 14.

Florida—National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) 2013 Annual Convention: *The Voice of Catholic Women* Sept. 25-28 at Fort Lauderdale, FL. The convention promises inspiration, education, worship, prayer, and praise. Renew your sense of mission, learn from experts in spirituality, leadership, and service. For more information, visit www.nccw.org.

Holman—St. Wenceslaus Parish Picnic Sept. 15

Inez—St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 8 at Inez Community Center. 11:00 a.m. serving begins. \$8 p/p. Fried chicken, brisket, and sausage. 1:00 p.m. auction. There will be a cake walk, country store, games, raffle, and more.

Koerth—St. John the Baptist Parish Picnic Sept. 29 at Sweet Home Community Center. 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. stew and sausage. \$8 p/p. \$4 children plates. There will be an auction and games.

Meyersville—Sts. Peter and Paul Annual Festival Sept. 29 on church grounds (11220 FM 237, 77974). 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. BBQ beef dinner. \$8 p/p. 1:00 p.m. bingo and live auction. There will be a cake walk, country store, games, raffle, silent auction, and more.

Moulton—St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 15

Port Lavaca—Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Festival Sept. 15. at the Bauer Community Center. 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. seafood platter includes fried shrimp, fish, coleslaw, German potatoes, hushpuppies, and tea. \$8 p/p. 12:30 p.m. auction. There will be arts and crafts, bingo, cake spin, children's games, country store, games, and raffle. See ad on pg. 9.

Victoria—Our Lady of Lourdes Altar Society Games Party Sept. 23. 6:00-9:30 p.m. at KC Hall. For reservations, call Josie at (361) 580-2980, Leona (361) 575-3160, or Dorothy (361) 574-8569.

Victoria—*Come and See* Discernment Weekend Sept. 21-22 at the Incarnate Word Convent is for single Catholic women 18-50 years of age. For more information, contact (361) 575-7111, iwbsvoc@yahoo.com, or visit www.iwbsvictoria.org. See Amor Meus on pg. 2.

Victoria—STJ Alumni Association Flyer Classic Golf Tournament Sept. 14 at Victoria Country Club. 11:00 a.m. registration. 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. For more information, visit www.stjvictoria.com/alumni or call (361) 573-2446.

Wharton—KC#3262 Bazaar and Celebration Sept. 22 at KC Grounds. 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. BBQ chicken and sausage. \$8 p/p. 12:30 p.m. auction. There will be games and a raffle. See ad on pg. 6.

Yorktown—Holy Cross Fall Festival Sept. 8. 9:30 a.m. Polish Mass. 1:00 p.m. auction (in a/c lunch area). 10:30 a.m. BBQ homemade sausage and shoulder clog with trimmings. \$10 p/p. \$5 children 12 and under. There will be a cake walk, children inflatables, country store, and silent auction.

October

Bay City—Holy Cross Catholic Church Fall Festival and Turkey Dinner Oct. 6. 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in KC Hall. \$9 p/p. Noon auction. There will be a country store and raffle. 10:30 a.m.-noon music by Rusty Steins. See ad on pg. 18.

Blessing—St. Peter's Catholic Church BBQ Turkey Dinner Oct. 27 at 11:00 a.m. at the Parish Hall. \$9 p/p. 12:30 p.m. auction. There will be a country store and raffle. See ad on pg. 7.

Columbus—St. Anthony Church Fall Festival Oct. 13 at KC Hall. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. BBQ beef and sausage. \$9 p/p. \$4.50 children plates. 1:00 p.m. auction. There will be bingo, cake walk, country store, raffle, silent auction and more.

Hostyn—Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish Festival Oct. 7 in La Grange (936 FM 2436). 10:00 a.m. Polka Mass. 11:00 a.m. fried chicken, sausage, and trimmings. \$8 p/p. \$4 children plates. 1:00 p.m. auction. There will be balloon artist, cake walk, games, raffle, and more. See ad on pg. 16.

East Bernard—Holy Cross Bazaar Oct. 13 at Riverside Hall.

11:00 a.m. BBQ beef, chicken, sausage, with trimmings. \$8 p/p. 12:30 p.m. auction. 3:00 p.m. hamburgers. 8:00 p.m. raffle. See ad on pg. 3.

Italy—*The Year of Faith* Pilgrimage to Italy Oct. 15-25. Cost is \$3,895 plus tips and taxes. For more information, contact Ceci Triska at (979) 541-7699, (979) 543-8575, or jctriska@sbcglobal.net.

Mentz—St. Roch Catholic Church 159th Annual Picnic Oct. 6. 10:30 a.m. Mass. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. BBQ beef, pork, and sausage. \$10 p/p. \$5 children plates. 1:00 p.m. auction. 3:00 p.m. hamburgers. There will be bingo, games, raffle, and silent auction. See ad on pg. 12.

Seadrift—St. Patrick Catholic Church Rummage Sale & Turkey Dinner Oct. 26-27. Rummage Sale 9:00-11:00 a.m. on Sat. in Old Hall. Reopen 10:00 a.m. on Sun. Turkey Dinner 11:00 a.m. on Sun. in New Hall. Meal includes turkey, dressing, sides, and more. Raffle held after dinner.

Victoria—Nazareth Academy Fall Festival Oct. 6 at 10:00 a.m. at Victoria Community Center. 11:00 a.m. serving begins. \$8 p/p. Turkey dinner and sides. 1:00 p.m. auction. There will be arts and crafts, cake wheel, country store, games, kids movie, and more. See ad on pg. 17.

Victoria—Our Lady of Victory Fall Festival Oct. 13 at 11:00 a.m. at Victoria Community Center. BBQ beef and sausage. \$8 p/p. \$5 children plates. 12:30 p.m. auction. There will be booths and games. See ad on pg. 13.

Wharton—Holy Family Catholic Church Bazaar Oct. 20 at Holy Family Life Center. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. BBQ chicken and sausage. Noon auction. There will be a cake walk, country store, crafts, and more.

Masses • Retreats • Conferences

East Bernard—Polka Mass Sept. 21 at 5:00 p.m. Holy Cross Catholic Church.

San Antonio—Ladies, your 'spa for the soul' is almost here! The Catholic Women's Conference will be held Sept. 20-21 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. It will focus on the search for the truth of God's plan in the lives of all women and feature inspirational speakers, Mass, music, and more. For a schedule, list of speakers, or to register contact Mary Machacek at (361) 594-3234 or Jennifer Peters at (361) 594-3881 or visit www.CWCSanAntonio.com.

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

Victoria—Christian Warriors Retreat Oct. 24-27 at Victory Christian Life Center is for combat and non-combat Veterans of the U.S. military. There will be music, worship, speakers, and small group participation for Veterans as they experience the love and grace of God through acts of service at the 72-hour spiritual renewal. For more information, contact Nick Lowry at ChristianWarriorsCCCT@yahoo.com.

Victoria—Holy Family Men's ACTS retreat September 19-22 at the Diocesan Spiritual Renewal Retreat Center. For more information, contact Greg Haynes at (361) 649-8478, John Sager at (361) 212-4557, or Robert Seale (361) 220-0008.

Victoria—Our Lady of Lourdes holds Healing Mass and Prayer the first 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 Sister Louise Marie Jones at iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com.

Victoria—St. Mary's Altar Society half-day retreat Sept. 10 at the St. Mary's Activity Center. Men and women are welcome. Rev. Patrick Knippenberg retreat master. 8:30 a.m. registration. Lunch will be served after 12:05 p.m. Mass. No fees charged. For reservations, call Janell Kruppa at (361) 575-8166 or Lorraine Hebert at (361) 578-6589.

• **Have an event?** •
• lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org •



Church celebrates centennial

Continued from p. 1

thur J. Drossaerts, of San Antonio, addressed the crowd paying tribute to the growth of the Weimar parish during the past 50 years and complimented the work of Rev. Joseph Szymanski, pastor here for the past 33 years.

1948—A new pipe organ was played for the first time at Msgr. Szymanski's funeral. He served the parish for 42 years. Msgr. Drozd assumed pastoral duties and the rectory was remodeled.

1957—A public reception was held to honor the Rt. Rev. Anthony Drozd who was deemed Domestic Prelate by Pope Pius XII.

1964—The Diamond Jubilee of the Weimar parish and the Golden Jubilee of St. Michael Catholic Church building was observed on Sunday, Sept. 6, 1964. An all-day celebration began with Mass and continued with the annual Harvest Feast.

1975—The Weimar Mercury reported on Dec. 25, 1975 that Bishop Morkovsky blessed the official Texas historical marker which was placed in front of St. Michael's Catholic Church. The marker states the parish was organized in 1888 as a mission and obtained its first resident priest, Father Edward Brucklin, in 1982.

1986—Father Charles Carolan began preparation of restoration and preservation of the church building in readiness of the Centennial Celebration in 1989.

1989—The Centennial of St. Michael Parish was celebrated with a two-day



St. Michael School, established in 1890

occasion Aug. 12-13, 1989. On Sunday, April 30, 1989 the 75th anniversary of the church and 100th anniversary of the parish were celebrated. *The Weimar Mercury* reported that 75 years ago on April 26, 1929 the open house reception of the new St. Michael rectory was attended by more than 200 people, there were "exclamations of delight and appreciation" of the new building.

2013—Rededication of the church was held Aug. 10, 2013 with pastor, Msgr. John C. Bily.

Priests who have served the parishioners of St. Michael Catholic Church: (Pastors)

Rev. Jerome Laegleder
Rev. Edward Brucklin
Rev. Francis Just
Rev. Charles J. Benes
Msgr. Joseph Szymanski
Msgr. Anthony F. Drozd
Rev. Henry Otto Rolf
Rev. Albert Hubertus
Rev. Oswald Kahlich
Rev. Charles B. Carolan

1988-Present Msgr. John C. Bily



Msgr. John Bily

Grandparents Day September 8

Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and role of grandparents.
May they never be ignored or excluded,
but always encounter respect and love.

Help them to live serenely
and to feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them.

~Pope Benedict



Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
And do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host-
by the Divine Power of God-
cast into hell, satan and all the evil spirits,
who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

St. Michael's Feast Day is Sept. 29.

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