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NEWLY ORDAINED—Father Timothy Tran, CMC, son of Deacon Luan Van and Thao Tran, blesses those celebrating birthdays at his Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Bay City, July 9, 2011. Father Tran has one cousin serving as a priest in the U.S. and 10 relatives serving as priests in Viet Nam. See story, p. 4.

The winner of the Serra Club Car Give Away, a 2010 Toyota Corolla Sport, is Clara Heintschel of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hungerford. The months’ long fundraiser, sponsored by both the Victoria Serra Club and Victoria Northwest Club, ended with the drawing for the prize at the Knights of St. Gregory Bishop’s Annual Charity Banquet, which was held July 14 at the Victoria Country Club.

Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters celebrating their jubilee this year are, seated l-r, Sister Ronalda Peltier, Sister John Hayden, Sister Mary Grace Korenek; second row l-r, Sister Adriana Cernoch, Sister M. Paschaline Kutac, Sister Carmelita Casso, Sister Rosemary Leopold; back row l-r, Sister Gregoria Berger, Sister Colette Kouba, Sister Charlene Machula, Sister Lois Marie Etzler, Sister Andrea Hubnik, Sister Clementine Honke, Sister Marietta Hajdić and Sister Anna Marie Popp. The winner of the car is Clara Heintschel from St. John Parish in Hungerford, center, is presented the keys to her new car by Bishop David Fellhauer. George Wenzel, left, was chairperson of the fundraiser.

By Cynthia Brewer

In the past century, over 640,000 Americans lost their lives in military combat. The wars that took the lives of so many military men and women were, of course, WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam, but also included dozens of deployments, such as the Occupation of Haiti, 1915-34; American Expeditionary Force – Siberia, 1918-20; USSR Cold War 1947-91; Bay of Pigs Invasion, 1961; Beirut Deployment...

On Sunday, July 10, 2011, the Most Reverend David Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, officiated at the 2:00 p.m. Mass honoring eight Sisters who celebrated the anniversaries of their religious professions. Also in attendance and concelebrating at the Mass were Bishop Charles Grahmann, Bishop Bernard Popp, Bishop Charles Grahmann, Rev. Phi Nguyen, chaplain; Rev. Bob Knippenberg, Rev. Clint Resler, Rev. Joe Hystone and Rev. Michael Lyons. Rev. Phi Nguyen served as Master of Ceremonies.

The honorees were: 75 years - Sister M. John Hayden; 70 years – Sister Mary Grace Korenek; 60 years – Sister Adriana Cernoch, Sister Marietta Hajdić, Sister Rosemary Leopold, Sister Anna Marie Popp and Sister Anna Marie Popp. The Serra Club sold right at 19,000 tickets for a total of $76,138 in sales. The most recent addition to the group of seminarians studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Victoria is James Dvorak, the son of Gail and Victor Dvorak Jr., from Sts. Peter & Paul in Freiburg. James has served as a Master of Ceremonies.
DIOCESE

2011 BISHOP'S CHARITIES BANQUET—Under the auspices of the Victoria Diocese Knights of St. Gregory the Great, the annual Bishop’s Charities Banquet was held July 14, 2011, at the Victoria Country Club. The evening began with a social and then went into a buffet dinner with a full house. Father Tommy Chen, parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville, led the invocation (3). Father Don Ruppert, pastor of Holy Cross in East Bernard, was the master of ceremonies (4). He introduced the Hon. George Wenzel, president of the KSC, who presented a $14,000 donation to Bishop David E. Fellhauer for his charities (1). Bishop Fellhauer gave an update on some of the activities of the diocesan offices for the past 12 months, noting that the construction of the new building at the Spiritual Renewal Center that will sleep 48 people with a central gathering place had begun, and that there was an increase of three young men to the seminary this fall, which will bring the total number of diocesan seminarians to 12. Bishop Fellhauer drew the winning ticket of the 2010 Toyota and George announced that Clara Heintschel from St. John Bush in Hungerford is the winner (2). The evening concluded with entertainment by Tommy Schelin (5) and benediction by Father Bob Knippenberg, pastor of Holy Family in Victoria.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Rev. Paul Nadamkuzhy, SJ, is appointed parochial vicar at Our Lady of the Gulf Church, Port Lavaca, and appointed secretary of the Diocesan Office of Education. (1)

Effective August 23, 2011, Rev. Daniel Kahlich is relieved of his duties at St. Anthony Church, Columbus, and appointed pastor of Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn, and Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Plunum.

Effective August 23, 2011, Rev. Augustine Asante is relieved of his duties at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff, and appointed pastor of St. Anthony Church, Columbus.

Effective August 23, 2011, Rev. David Berger is appointed parochial administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff, and appointed pastor of St. Anthony Church, Columbus.

Effective August 23, 2011, Rev. Joseph Kariuki is relieved of his duties at Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn, and Sts. Peter and Paul, Plunum, and assigned as sacramental minister at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff, and appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and St. Michael Church, Cuero.

~New E-mail Address~

To send local stories, photos or festival announcements, please use The Catholic Lighthouse’s new e-mail address: Lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org. Thank you!

Vox Clara works on liturgical translations not included in new missal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As English-speaking parishes around the world await delivery of the new translation of the Roman Missal, the Vatican’s Vox Clara Committee already is at work on additional texts. The committee, which advises the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on English translations, met in Rome July 24-26. A committee statement released July 27 said members spent most of their time on a new translation of the prayers bishops use for the christus missus, the Holy Week liturgy where the oils used in the sacraments throughout the year are blessed. In the United States and Canada, the bishops’ prayers for blessing the oils were included in the old missal, which will go out of use on the first Sunday of Advent 2011. To avoid a situation in which bishops would need to pull the old missal off the shelf for the solemn Mass in 2012, the congregation commissioned its own draft translations.

See Vox Clara works, p. 3

2011 DSA

Diocesan Goal: $ 1,471,384.00
Parish Pledge Totals: $ 596,384.17
Parish Contribution Totals: $ 528,215.67
Number of Parish Families Participating: 3,351

Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign

Diocesan Goal: $ 9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals: $ 12,948,391.78
Parish Contribution Totals: $ 9,389,068.94
Number of Parish Families Participating: 6,796

Please Support Those Who Advertise in “The Catholic Lighthouse”!
**Mystery of Faith (formerly the Memorial Acclamation)**

The use of the new Roman Missal begins the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27, 2011. Below are the changes in the part of the people in the Order of the Mass. Text that will change is marked with italics and bold printing. From http://www.icelweb.org/roman-missal/samples-people.shtml

**Changes to the peoples’ part of the Mass**

**Mystery of Faith Commentary**

As part of the new Mass translation, after the consecration, rather than saying, “Let us proclaim the mystery of faith,” the Priest will simply announce, “The mystery of faith” (“Mysterium fidei”). It will be a declarative statement about the Eucharist now present. Blessed John Paul II reflected on this words in his encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, writing that the very thought of the mysterious gift of the Holy Eucharist should fill us with “profound amazement and gratitude” (no. 5).

In response, the people shall make one of three revised acclamations. All three are rooted in Scripture. Option A, and especially option B, are derived from 1 Corinthians 11:26: “For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.” And Christ’s title in option C is found in John 4:42, where the woman who met Jesus at the well is told by her fellow Samaritans, “we know that this is truly the savior of the world.”

The three acclamations all incorporate familiar elements, although some of the phrases have been rearranged when compared to our present text. One acclamation that we use now—“Dying you destroyed our death…”—has been substantially amended to shift the emphasis more upon Christ’s own death and Resurrection. What is conspicuously absent is the popular current acclamation, “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.” This line, although powerful, is not found in the Latin. In addition, unlike the other acclamations, it does not directly address Christ made present in the Blessed Sacrament, nor does it speak of our relationship with Him.

**Music for the Roman Missal**

Music for the Roman Missal is available on the following site. However, it is important to note that it is for study rather than immediate liturgical use as determining definitive versions is the responsibility of the Bishops’ Conferences. Music is included for: The Proper of Time, The Order of Mass, Proper of Saints, Commons, Ritual Masses, Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, Votive Masses, Appendix I: Various Chants for the Order of Mass and Other Chants for Holy Week and the Triduum. Please view at http://www.aceweb.org/musicfolder/opencomposition.php. For further information, one may call Cynthia Goergen, director of the Liturgical Commission at (979) 541-3553 (cell) or e-mail: cacg1@sbcglobal.net.

**Bay City ACTS Golf Tournament**

The first annual Bay City ACTS Golf Tournament was held June 4, 2011, and was a great success. The money collected will be used for scholarships for future ACTS retreats. The Bay City ACTS Core Team and all the ACTS community wish to express their most sincere appreciation to all the sponsors, participants and volunteers who made this event happen. Next year ACTS intends to hold the event earlier in the year, hopefully during cooler weather.

**St. Mary’s Altar Society Golf Tournament**

St. Mary’s Altar Society in Victoria will sponsor a half-day retreat on Monday, October 3, at the St. Mary’s Activity Center. Registration is from 8:45 to 9:15 a.m. at the center. Rev. Dan Morales, pastor of St. Mary’s Parish will be the retreat master. Men and women are welcome.

Lunch will be served after the 12:05 p.m. Mass, which will be held in the Activity Center. The retreat will conclude after the Mass.

There will be no charge for the lunch and retreat. They ask that you make your reservation before September 30 to Gertrude Jurca at (361) 573-3949 or Janell Kruppa at (361) 575-8166.

**EL CAMPO KC 2490 ELECTS OFFICERS**—Installation of officers of the Archdiocese Drossaerts KC Council 2490 of El Campo took place June 28, 2011. Pictured are new officers, from left, front row: Trustee II Nevel; Grand Knight Greg Witcher; Father Gary Janak, chaplain, pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Parish; Deputy Grand Knight James Kocquire; Inside Guard Robert Lomand Jr.; Recorder Daniel E. Marek; second row: Trustee Roy Smailstria; Trustees John Tomlinson; Deputy Al Priesmeyer; District Deputy Kenneth Trochta; Chancellor Greg Eggemeyer; Outside Guard Terry Supak; and Deacon Deputy Alvin Kulcak, Not Pictured are Charles Albert Yorkey, asst. chaplain; Treasurer Stephen Deiss; Financial Secretary John Hrncir; Advocate Jason Ryan; and Warden Wayne Bard.

**Changes to the peoples’ part of the Mass**

Present Text:

Priest: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: A – Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

or B – Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

or C – When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

or D – Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World.

New Text:

Priest: The mystery of faith.

People: A – We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

or B – When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come in glory.

or C – Save us, Savor of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

**Vox Clara works on liturgical translations not included in new missal**

The translation of the prayers. The translation was reviewed by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy—which normally drafts the translations—and was revised in consultation with Vox Clara, the statement said. The new text “should be available in the first months of 2012,” it said, and bishops’ conferences can decide whether to adopt the new text for use in their countries, a Vatican official said. Also at their July meeting, members of Vox Clara “approved plans for several future publications on behalf of the congregation, most notably an interim edition of the ‘Roman Pontifical,’” which contains prayers and rites usually reserved to bishops. In most countries, the chries Mass blessing of oils is included in the book, rather than in the missal.

**Pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious!**
Father Timothy Tran, CMC, (c.) celebrates a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City. He is assisted by his father Deacon Luan Tran (2nd from l.), Father Gerry Creemers, parson, (r.) and visiting priest, Father Cyrus Gallagher (1st) to celebrate the Mass with him.

By Cynthia Brewer

By Father Timothy Tran, our Mass celebrated in his hometown parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City, newly ordained Father Timothy Thang Viet Tran, CMC, son of Deacon Thanh Tran and Tran Nhu, refreshingly thanked the parishioners for their guidance and support. The Mass was held on the Catholic Church Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is just waiting for those seeds to be planted, to germinate and to grow.

Special guests attending the Saturday evening Mass of Thanksgiving included young Timothy’s 6th grade school teacher, Sister Mary Jane, IINAS, as well as many Missionary Catechists (MSCM).

About his calling to the priesthood, Father Timothy said in an interview with The Catholic Lighthouse, “I felt God was calling me, I give credit to my parents. They always encouraged us as children to be priests or nuns. If we later chose not to be priests or nuns were usually ‘other’ people.”

“It wasn’t until my junior-high years that the reality of a religious calling hit close to home. First it was my dad getting ordained a permanent deacon. Then shortly after that, I had three cousins join a religious order, two to pursue the priesthood and one as a religious sister.”

My mother noticed when his cousins were home from their summer vacation, they seemed different from before. “They had a certain joy and peace that was contagious,” he said. “When I entered my 10th-grade year, my parents asked me if I wanted to join the religious order with my two strongest friends in my faith. I didn’t know what I wanted to do with my life at that time. But since religious vocations were always seen as something special to our family, I felt I couldn’t go wrong by saying yes. I told them I wouldn’t mind going up there to see what it was like.”

So, Father Tran left home to join the CMC’s high school program. He was with 30 other high school guys who went to a Catholic high school during the day and returned to the order afterwards for prayer and meals. He said it was a very simple, not very demanding schedule, so they could still lead a regular religious life.

“It wasn’t until I went home that Christmas that I really felt God’s call,” he said. “It was during our last trip back to my family since leaving in late August. I had only been away from them for a few months, but I had a feeling most like a stomach ache, with my family that first day I came back. I realize that God was telling me that I didn’t belong to this family anymore, but to another, truly God’s order.”

That was the beginning of my discernment to the religious life and the call grew stronger in the years went by.”

Next year Father Timothy will be studying the Italian language and Canon Law in Rome.
Pope Benedict’s WYD: Space made for silence, solemnity

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Bene-
dict XVI will participate in the church’s celebration of World Youth Day, and it’s especially clear in the gathering’s momentum.

In Cologne, Germany, six years ago — Pope Benedict’s first WYD as pope — he surprised the youths at the Saturday night vigil by urging them to quiet down.

The Cologne event was where he started a major new WYD tradition: Instead of ending the vigil with mariachi music as the pope led the adoration and Benediction, he surprised the young people with a new gesture.

In fact, organizers are planning to have 17 tents set up as chapels for all-night adoration.

The visual focal point when the pope leads the Eucharistic Benediction will be a monstrance set into a towering 16th-century gothic statistic of silver and gold usually housed in the Toledo cathedral.

The traditional, solemn sense commu-
nicated by the Toledo monstrance will be echoed in the papal liturgies throughout the trip, organizers said.

“The point is to highlight that the central person of World Youth Day is Jesus Christ, and the monastery that is chosen this time is a setting that many of the young people are expected to camp overnight,” said Father Xavier Jimenez, Madrid coor-
dinator of the liturgies.

However, not all of Father Jimenez’s plans emphasize the formal.

“We’ll take the young people with mariachi music the morning of Aug. 21, because the pope will celebrate the final Mass at the Cuatro Vientos military airport, he said.

“Young people will come to World Youth Day to celebrate with the Holy Fa-
th that we are preparing a liturgy in the pope’s style, they wouldn’t be coming.”

Young women and men will proclaim the Scripture readings at the Mass and read the prayers of the faithful; seminarians will fulfill the role of altar servers.

But in a passage that sounds like he was surprised about the impact that the celebra-
tion had on him, Pope Benedict told an in-
terview “these youth days have actually turned out to be a genuine gift for me.”

In the book “Light of the World,” he told Father James Martin, the pope said “the word was struck by the intense joy” and “the spirit of recollection that, amazingly, pervades the actual World Youth Day itself.”

Talking about the experience in Sydney at WYD 2008, he said, “It was quite sim-
ply the common joy of faith that carried through this and that made it possible for the thousands of people to remain in silence before the sacrament and so to become one.”

Pope Benedict has insisted that real, even prolonged moments of silence be added to every liturgy he celebrates.

Visiting Sulmona, Italy, in 2010, he said, “We live today in a society in which every space, every moment must be ‘filled’ with words, actions and sounds — so that there is no time for listening and dialogue.

‘Of brothers and sisters, don’t be afraid of silence outside and inside our-
selves, if we want to hear not only the voice of God but also of those who are close to us, the voices of others,” he said.

No Apologies! Young Adults Meet

VICTORIA YOUNG ADOLESCENTS TO ATTEND 2011 WYD

A group of 30 young adults will be traveling to Madrid, Spain, Aug. 10-23 to be “Rooted Up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith” (cf. Col 2:7) with Pope Benedict XVI and 450,000 youths from around the world.

Each pilgrim raised $3,000 for travel expenses through fundraisers and generous benefactors. The young adults will travel with Fathers David Berger, Bryan Heyer and Michael Rother, along with other adult leaders, including Associate Youth Ministry Director Wendy Eggert, Mrs. Toni Scharr, Susan and Dr. Fries, Robbie Lauger and Mrs. Trobl. Please pray for the diaconate youth and all who will be joining the pope on this pilgrimage.

Have you ever had a teenager ask a “faith and morals” question about Ca-
tholicism and you didn’t know the “right” answer? Or did you wonder why you sometimes talk about faith in such a way it’s clearly just not being discussed? Perhaps, there are theologians in the research that you aren’t really putting your finger on.

The Whirlpool galaxy and the Companion gal-
axy are seen in this image taken by the Hubble Space Telescope. The Whirlpool galaxy is the central galaxy of the Whirlpool galaxy group. The two galaxies are the most prominent galaxies in the group, which is located about 30 million light-years away from Earth in the constellation Canes Venatici.

Professors and students from The Catholic University of America will join colleagues from other Catholic uni-
versities and the Vatican Observatory at a conference this month in Brazil to discuss their research on the universe.

Catholic University of America will host its first-ever Vocation Fair at a World Youth Day (WYD) on Wednesday, August 17. The Vocations Fair will be held at St. Francis Borgia Parish (Parro-
quia San Francisco de Borja) located just across the street from the U.S. Embassy in Madrid.

The fair is co-sponsored by the USCCB Secretariat of Clergy, Con-
secrated Life and Vocations (CCV) and the Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth.

This is a tremendous opportunity to invite our youth to open their hearts to Christ and respond to his call to the priesthood and the consecrated life,” said Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis, Missouri, chairman of the CCV Committee. Recent surveys of the newly ordained and those making their final religious profession indicate that at least 20 percent of them participated in a World Youth Day at one time or another. The fair will open with an Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer, led by Cat-
doinal Seán O’Malley of Boston, and will continue in the auditorium with featured speakers, opportunities for the youth to interact with bishops and other activities.

U.S. Bishops to Hold Vocations Fair at World Youth Day

WASHINGTON — The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will host its first-ever Vocation Fair at a World Youth Day (WYD) on Wednesday, August 17.

The Vocations Fair will be held at St. Francis Borgia Parish (Parroquia San Francisco de Borja) located just across the street from the U.S. Embassy in Madrid.

The fair is co-sponsored by the USCCB Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (CCV) and the Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth.

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Call for Resistance: The Catholic Lighthouse

PHYSICS FACULTY AND STUDENTS DISCUSS “EVOLVING UNIVERSE” AT CONFERENCE IN BRAZIL

Professors and students from The Catholic University of America will join colleagues from other Catholic uni-
versities and the Vatican Observatory at a conference this month in Brazil to discuss their research on the universe.

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doinal Seán O’Malley of Boston, and will continue in the auditorium with featured speakers, opportunities for the youth to interact with bishops and other activities.

Call for Resistance: The Catholic Lighthouse
• Sister M. John Hayden, daughter of the late Joseph and Caroline Machala, was born in Baytown, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero, Sacred Heart School in Brownsville and St. Mary School in Hallettsville. She then attended St. Thomas University in Houston and received her B.A. degree in English and a minor in Spanish. She was awarded a BA degree with a major in English and a minor in Latin from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio. She was ministered at Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero, Sacred Heart School in Brownsville and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville. She was ministered as a teacher and as principal of Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Falls City Public School, Sacred Heart School in Floresville and St. Ludmila Academy in Galveston. She has served as a Bursar and as a member of the treasurer’s office of the congregation for the last 25 years.

• Sister Anna Marie Pegg, daughter of the late Ronald and Evelyn Imhauser Pegg, was born in Danbury, Texas. She attended Danbury Public School andgraduated from Nazareth Academy in Victoria. She is one of seven children and her sister, Sister Carola, followed her into the IWBS Congregation. During her years as a professed member she has served as a principal of Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero, Sacred Heart School in Brownsville and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville. She was ministered as a teacher and as principal of Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero and Sacred Heart School in Brownsville. She received her certification as a RN shortly after that.

In her early years of ministry after profession, Sister Ronaldal taught at Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero, Sacred Heart School in Brownsville and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville. She was Health Care director at IWC for two years before returning to Jourdanton where she became the director and instructor of the LVN School. She later served as director and instructor of the Victoria College LVN Program at Gonzales at Warr Springs Hospital. From 1989 – 2006 Sister served on the General Council of the Congregation and assisted in various duties of IWC. In her last 25 years she has assisted in the Health Care and now resides there, still using her gift in nursing as a consultant.

On Saturday, July 9, 2011, the Most Reverend David Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, officiated at the 2:00 p.m. Mass honoring seven sisters who celebrated the 50th anniversaries of their religious profession. Also in attendance were Bishop Bernard Popp, Bishop Charles Mallmann, Rev. Gary Janak, Rev. Phi Nguyen, chaplain; Rev. Jose DeLa Rosa, Rev. John Peters and Rev. Ted Haag. Rev. Gary Janak was homilist for the occasion and Rev. Phi Nguyen served as Master of Ceremonies.

These honorees were: • Sister M. Coletta Koubia, Sister M.Christopher Peltier, Sister M. Theresa Henke, Sister Lois Marie Etzler, Sister M. Paschaline Kotie and Sister Maria Carola Hubrik. Together these Sisters have contributed a total of 350 years of service to the Church in ministries of education, health care and social services.

• Sister M. Coletta Koubia, daughter of the late Benjamin and Besse Matala Koubia, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Thompson Public School and
During her 50 years of profession, Sister Gregoria ministered at St. Michael School in Weimar, St. Leo School in San Antonio, Nazareth Academy and Our Lady of Vic-
tory School in Victoria, and St. Michael School in Cuero. In 1985, Sister was ap-
pointed treasurer for Nazareth Academy and Convent, a position she held until 2004. After taking a semester sabbatical, Sister took on the management of the IWC Gift Shop. Some of Sister Gregoria’s favorite pass time activities are sewing and arts
and crafts.

• Sister M. Clementine Henke, daugh-
ter of the late Leo and Veda Kieker Henke, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart Grade School in Hallettsville and then studied at Nazareth Academy in Victoria from which she received her high school diploma. She entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister entered a B.A degree with a ma-

• Sister Lois Marie Etzler, daughter of the late Joseph and Helen Henke Elzter, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville for all twelve grades. Sister entered the postu-
lancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister entered a B.A degree with a ma-

• Sister M. Paschaline Kutac, daughter of the late Louis and Annie Marie Hone Kutac, was born in Shiner, Texas. She went to Heasley Public School and Shiner Public School before entering to Sacred Heart Academy for the 8th grade and high school. After doing clerical work at Burns Hospital in Cuero for a year, Sister entered the postu-
lancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959. She received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister entered a BS degree in nursing from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

During her years of ministry, Sister served at the Community Hospital in Cuero as surgical and medical nurse and director of nurses. Sister was assigned to Huth Me-

Sisterly Highlights

L ast month we saw that together, as we allow God to shine through us, we are all contributing to the manifestation of God’s presence among us. However, many of us are coming to a greater awareness of the difficulty of keeping our light shining in the midst of today’s challenges of living. We see science and industry making stupen-
dous strides in discerning and assessing the unfortunate con-
sequences or side effects of this progress, we are faced with issues that did not exist for our spiritual ancestors.

“Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith.” – USCCB

Now is the Time to Let our Light Shine

Today there is concern about what is happening to the quality of the air, to the water that we drink, to the food that we eat, and to the earth itself. There is concern about how much of the earth’s resources are being destroyed or polluted by industry, often apparently without due consider-

Experience one of these fabulous trips!

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A Few Cabins Left (Deadline 8/1)
~ Christmas Tour ~
Dec. 2 - 4, 2011

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Port Lavaca, TX 77979
361.952.2895 or 361.920.3216

Praised be the Incarnate Word!

ST. ANTHONY’S MEDAL IN MAY—Christina Kearbey sits among her favorite things – books! She was awarded a medal in her 5th-grade year at St. Anthony School in Columbus for becoming the highest point earner in the history of the school’s Accelerated Reading Program, earning 355.5 points with no less than 95 percent accuracy on all tests. Congratulations for a successful 2010 - 2011 school year. St. Anthony has all its grades, 1 – 8, participate in the Accelerated Reader Program.

We see science and industry making stupen-
dous strides in discerning and assessing the unfortunate con-
sequences or side effects of this progress, we are faced with issues that did not exist
for our spiritual ancestors.

First of all we can call attention to
God’s initial instruction to humans: “... fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth” (Gen 1:28). I think that the term “have dominion” means “to take care of” or “to shepherd.” Likewise, the Church has always promoted respect for God’s creation – the earth and all living things. Every time we say the Creed, we pray to God the Father as “Creator of Heaven and earth.” And we all appreciate the example that St. Francis has given us of joyful gratitude for the wonders of God’s gifts of nature.

However, unfortunately, respect for God’s creation has often been over-
shadowed by a quest for profit, power and human comfort today. As a consequence, there is a rapidly accelerating urgency for us to illuminate humanity’s role as stewards of the earth. We are receiving numerous calls from the Church, along with calls from concerned voices in society, to let our lights shine upon efforts to show care for creation. For example, Blessed John Paul II told us:

For example, let us allow God to shine through us, as we promote the wellbeing of God’s creation – a manifestation of God’s presence among us.

“Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith.” – USCCB
On Saturday, September 24, 2011 a fabulous lineup of clergy, religious and lay persons from the Diocese of Victoria will be at Holy Family Church in Victoria offering a large variety of workshops on pertinent Catholic topics. The Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, bishop of the Diocese of Portland, Maine, will offer the keynote address “Do This in Memory of Me.” The day will be filled with 37 English and Spanish workshops. Catholic publishers will exhibit religious articles and resource materials for religious education programs. Otto Bleier and the Knights of Columbus Council 9088 will be cooking up a great breakfast and lunch for conference attendees at affordable prices.

Early registration for this year’s conference will be August 15 - 31, 2011. For a complete listing of all the workshops and biographical information of the presenters go to www.victoriadiocese.org. Call 361-573-0828 for a conference announcement or to register.

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JCDA hold Parents Appreciation Banquet

SHINER—The Junior Catholic Daughters of the American, Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, Texas, held their 13th Annual Awards Program and Parents Appreciation Banquet on Tuesday, June 28, 2011, in the Shiner Catholic Parish Hall.

Special guests in attendance were immediate Past National CDA Regent Mary Adamek, President Ramirez, current State CDA Regent Carolyn Malik, local officers, CDA Vice Regent Patricia Pesek, CDA Treasurer Mary Rose Barto and parents and juniors.

Court Chairwoman Diane Hernandez opened the program with a prayer and welcomed all in attendance.

State Regent Carolyn Malik then conducted the installation of officers for the coming year of 2011-2012: President Diane Hernandez; Vice-President Mary Adamek; Secretary Amanda Ramirez; Treasurer Rose Barto; and Court Chairwoman Diane Hernandez.

Special recognition was given to the following adults who assisted with the JCDA program during the past year: Gayle Schafer for calling and arranging refreshments at the monthly meetings; Amy Adamek for serving as JCDA treasurer; to those parents that assisted with the morning liturgy assignments; to those that assisted with the banquet; to the Senior Court CDA #1604 members for the sewing of the sashes; to state regent Carolyn Malik, for her continued moral support of the program as a counselor and as the spiritual director; to the group and to the parents for allowing their daughters to be a part of the JCDA.

The evening concluded with a prayer for the students and those who serve in the military.

SHINER CDA’S STATE WINNERS—Four students from Shiner placed in the 2011 State CDA Education Contest. They are listed in the grade they were in when the award was achieved. Pictured L to R are: St. Paul High 12th grader Devi Pesek, 2nd Place, Div II, Poetry; Shiner Elementary 8th grader Andrew Wagner, 3rd Place, Div I, Essay; St. Paul High 10th grader Justin Siegel, 3rd Place, Div III, Essay. Right, receiving scholarships of $800 each, awarded by the Texas State CDA Court, were Laurie Morkovsky (top), a graduate of Shiner High School, and Blue Hybner (bottom), a graduate of St. Paul High School.

When the dynamic Zach Hunter first burst onto the antislavery scene at just 12 years of age, he captured the attention of a nation with his sincere passion to help those less fortunate. After learning that there were many of them children ages 5-17, Hunter embarked on an international campaign to do something about it. Recreating such famous faces as Harriet Tubman and Ho- radius John Moore, the band Leekland, Hunter formed the “Loose Change to Loosen Chains” campaign, which inspired his book Be the Change in 2007.

This fall, Hunter, now 18, returns with an expanded and updated version of his cornerstone book Be the Change, Revised and Expanded Edition: Your Guide to Freeing Slaves and Changing the World (Zondervan; www.the-inn-on-main.com; www.zondervan.com or $9.99 from Amazon.com).

Kaci Pesek receives a certificate in recognition as Outstanding JCDA 2010-11 from CDA Chairman Diane Hernandez.

The 2010-11 Outstanding JCDA was Kaci Pesek, and she stated in her essay that the JCDA program has nurtured her faith by providing programs that helped her in her goal of helping others. Amy Adamek, for her continued moral support of the program as a counselor and as the spiritual director; to the group and to the parents for allowing their daughters to be a part of the JCDA.

The evening concluded with a prayer for the students and those who serve in the military.

Drawing from his personal experience and from those who have inspired him, Hunter shares stories from such icons as Mother Teresa and Winston Churchill to further illustrate to readers how they too can make a difference in the world. Hunter also highlights key Bible passages to inspire readers, including the following verse from 1 Timothy 4:12: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.”

Featuring new and updated information about abolitionists and those who stepped out of their comfort zones to make a difference in the world, this new edition provides practical advice to help readers and budding abolitionists make revolutionary changes in the world.

Tips include:
• Find a cause you're passionate about.
• Think of something practical you can do to support it (e.g., donating a portion of your allowance or salary to a local shelter).
• Get involved. Volunteer your time at a service organization in your area (soup kitchen, hospital, etc).
• Read about some of the courageous leaders who came before you (e.g., Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks) and learn how to have the courage to push through pain.
• Become a leader. Don’t see any initiatives targeting your specific cause? Start one on your own. You’ll be amazed to see how many people will follow suit.
• Have compassion for others and stand up for those whose voices aren’t often heard. Only then will you be able to give your cause the proper support it deserves.

In the 7th grade, he launched the “Loose Change to Loosen Chains” campaign, for which his school and youth group students raised awareness and funds to help end modern-day slavery. Today, students around the world are participating in the LC2LC campaign. Each year Zach speaks to hundreds of thousands of people about God’s heart for the hurting and oppressed in the world and his own dream that his generation would be motivated to care for neighbors around the world. Zach lives with his parents and little brother outside of Atlanta, Ga. www.zachhunter.me

Watch a video about Human trafficking and Abolitionists including Zach Hunter at:

The book will be released in September 2011. It may be pre-ordered at $8.99 from Zondervan.com or $9.99 from Amazon.com.

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

Daily
Weekly
Monthly

Fall Turkey Dinner
St. Patrick’s Church
Bloomington (13316 State Hwy 185)
Sunday, September 25
Selling Time: 11:00 a.m.

J C D A

Letter to the Editor

Exchange Student to share culture in Victoria

Dear Editor:

This September, a family in Victoria will enjoy a special experience by welcoming into their home a high school exchange student from Czech Republic. This volunteer host family is participating in the SHARE! Student Exchange Program for the 2011-2012 school year. This international exchange student is eager to learn about how Americans live.

I am prompted to write an expression of my gratitude to the high school students who hosted me in the past and the memories the students and their families shared. This year, I am looking forward to learning about the unique American culture with a new host family. The students share their part of the world with me through their personal experiences, and this is an experience not to be missed.

Several outstanding candidates await host families. If anyone has thought about hosting, now is an excellent time to contact. Please contact us as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity to SHARE your heart and home with the rest of the world.

My thanks to the host family, their teachers and high school, and the members of the community for extending such a warm welcome to this exchange student who has chosen to travel thousands of miles away from family and friends to learn about our unique American culture. The student will always remember the welcome that she received from the people in Victoria.
Citizens. Congratulations, Father Gabriel!

A U.S. citizen. Of the 15 priests from Ghana serving Christi. Father Gabriel, pastor of St. Joseph Church aboard the Lexington Museum on the Bay in Corpus American citizens, including Father Gabriel Bentil, Services welcomed more than 100 newly sworn-in us CITIZEN—

DIOCESAN PRIEST BECOMES MOST RECENT US CITIZEN—The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services welcomed more than 100 newly sworn-in American citizens, including Father Gabriel Bentil, to become a U.S. citizen. The 15 priests from Ghana serving in Victoria, at least four are American citizens. Congratulations, Father Gabriel!

BUSY, BUSY, HOT AND BUSY. Those adjectives come to mind when I think of the summer of 2011. Camp David started on June 10 as the staff gathered at the Spiritual Renewal Center and began the thousands of last minute details that comprise Camp David. The first tasks at hand were assembling the challenge course and the water activities, although the temperature reached 98 degrees every day the entire duration of camp, the staff enthusiastically worked as they anxiously anticipated the 180 young people they would be ministering to and sharing their love of Christ with throughout the upcoming week. Their hard work was not in vain, as the first group of 60 junior-high young people arrived in only a few short hours. The Elementary Day Camp is always a highlight of the week for the staff as for just a few hours they get to relive their childhood again. Three short, short hours after the elementary camp, Session Two of Camp David began. Another 60 nervous and shy junior-high young people arrived at camp, but within minutes everyone was singing, dancing and participating in the many, many activities. I think one of our camper’s evaluations summed it up best when he wrote, “It was awesome, it always is!”

This year, the youth office had the assistance of three seminarians, Jacob Mendota, Max Landman and Kris Fuchs, for the entire summer. They have truly received a LARGE dose of what comprehensive youth ministry is all about. They had an amazing rapport with the staffers and the youth in attendance and they even managed, for the most part, to “hang in there” for the 17-plus-hour days. All agreed that the hiring of a good youth minister would be a top priority when they become a pastor.

One week after Camp David, the youth office hosted Discipleship Week (D Week) at the Spiritual Renewal Center. This is the 10th year to be selected to host D Week – and is one of only five sites in the nation to do so. It was so popular this year that in addition to filling up every available sleeping area – we housed twenty people on air mattresses on the floor in one of the halls. It was literally wall-to-wall teens! But what a magnificent sight it was to have so many young people attend who were committed to learning more about their faith and building a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

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One day, actually 32-hours later to be exact, we boarded a charter bus for the 24-hour ride to the 26th annual Rocky Mountain High Retreat in Pagosa Springs, Co. We experienced a welcome reprieve from the hot, hot, hot Texas sun as we woke to 45-degree mornings at the camp. But I have to say it was a shortlived reprieve as the temperatures were unseasonably warm in Colorado this year. The young people were truly one of the most delightful groups that we have ever had. Of course the staff for this retreat is second to none, and that certainly sets the tone for the way the retreat flows.

After this retreat, the youth office took four days to regroup and prepare for Quo Vadis? – the Boys Vocation Camp. This is the fifth year to hold the boys vocation camp. Four priests: Fathers Bryan Heyer, Tommy Chen, David Berger and Dan Morales, juggled their extremely busy schedules to spend the week at the camp, in addition to the seven seminarians who also facilitated the camp. This is such a special camp, which allows the participants to ask questions, experience the spiritual life of the priesthood and look at the holiness that all of us are called to as baptized Catholics regardless of what vocation God is calling us to. We were very blessed to have 30 retreatants at this vocation camp.

While it was an extremely busy summer, it is always so rewarding to work with such gifted and willing servants of God, as well as the amazing participants of these retreats. We begin now to start looking at the 2011-2012 school year and all the great things God has in store for us.
A safari can be defined as a journey or expedition, for hunting, exploration, or investigation. This concept can be true in both a hunt and a friendship.

Greg Goerig, born and raised in El Campo, Texas, graduated St. Philip the Apostle School and El Campo High School, was destined to help others in more ways than one. As MISD’s (Midlothian Independent School District – southwest of Dallas) head athletic trainer, he coordinates and supervises all components of the district’s athletic training program for student athletes. Greg also enjoys volunteering at the Sunshine Kids Organization as well as playing golf, camping, and spending time with his family. His wife, Brittany, is a Longbranch Elementary teacher and they have three children: Kaylee (14), Landen (11) and Maycee (3).

But Greg says his childhood friend, Chad Waligura, also from El Campo, Texas, St. Philip the Apostle and El Campo High School, is the person who inspired him to become an athletic trainer. Chad is an American outdoor writer, magazine editor, and professional disabled hunter. He suffered a paralyzing injury after diving into a swimming pool in 1986.

Chad says, “When your life is changed by a tragic event, as soon as you find some meaning in that journey, it ceases to be a tragedy.”

Over the years, their friendship has remained strong through trials and tribulations. Chad recently received the Pathfinder Award, which included a 10-day, all-expense paid trip for two to go on an African Safari Hunt in Namibia (southwestern part of Africa). Greg was humbled when he was invited to accompany Chad on this journey.

The Midlothian High School athletes and the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America class saw a humanitarian opportunity and decided to collect school supplies, clothing, and games to send to the kids in Africa. Studies indicate that over half of the Namibia population makes less than $1.50 per day.

Greg and Chad look forward to seeing the African wildlife. They also can’t wait to deliver the donated goods and spend quality time together. Greg is the son of Bill and Cynthia Goerig of El Campo, and Chad is the son of Randy and Judy Waligura of El Campo. They left Saturday afternoon on this adventure, June 4, 2011.

To experience their African Safari, go to their blog, which will be linked on the Disabled Hunter Magazine Web site: http://dhuntmag.com/namibia-day-6/

Instead of going empty handed, Greg Goerig and Chad Waligura, both graduates of St. Philip School in El Campo, collect school supplies, clothes and toys to give to orphans they will meet while on an African Safari Hunt that Chad won by receiving the Pathfinder Award; he’s a journalist and professional disabled hunter.

Above, Greg Goerig hands out balls to orphans in Namibia in Africa. Above right, Greg and Chad spend time with the orphans they met in Namibia.
August Puzzle Contest prize announced

There is always some part of the world where human rights are trampled and op-pression quashes the human spirit. In the 1980s, it was the Soviet Union.

In Swimming in the Daylight, Lisa Paul, a Catholic-American student living in Moscow in the early 80s, explains how she grew to un-derstand the perverse reality of the pre-Gorbachev Soviet regime. Her friendship with her Russian-language tutor, Inna Kitzrosskaya Meiman, blossomed into a lifetime friendship.

Inna, a Soviet-Jewish dis-sident and refusenik, was repeatedly denied a visa to receive life-saving cancer treatment abroad. The refusal was an apparent punishment imposed on both her and her Jewish husband, Naum, for his par-ticipation in the Moscow Helsinki Watch Group—the lone group fighting for human rights in the USSR.

When Lisa returned to the United States, she vowed to do all she could to get Inna out of Moscow. But she was one person, what could she possibly do that would make a difference?

Inspired by her faith and rights as an American, she staged a hunger strike, held press conferences, and galvanized Ameri-can politicians to demand Inna’s immedi-ate release. All of these efforts eventually

persuaded Mikhail Gorbachev to issue Inna a visa, and in January 1987, Inna ar-rived in Washington, D.C. diminished by illness but triumphant in spirit.

The lessons that Lisa relates in Swim-ming in the Daylight of Inna’s heroic struggle are as relevant today as they were during the final years of the Soviet regime: that the human spirit can soar above oppression, that hope can burn through the darkest despair and that one person can make a difference.

Swimming in the Daylight – An American Student, A Soviet-Jewish Dissident, and the Gift of Hope by Lisa C. Paul and published by Sky-horse Publishing is available in a hardcover for $24.95. Find it on Amazon.com and other Web sites or send in completed August Family Puzzle Contest to The Catholic Lighthouse by August 25 for a chance to win a copy.

About the Author: Lisa C. Paul lived and worked in Moscow from 1983 to 1985. She worked for a landmark conference on U.S.—Soviet relations in Washington, D.C., and later took a job at the American Committee on U.S.—Soviet Relations until 1990. She is currently an attorney and lives with her husband and two daughters in Shorewood, Wisconsin.

Franciscans and KJZT unite for US troop care packages

Members of the St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in Victoria gratefully accepted a $100 monetary gift from the St. Ann KJZT Society #37 of Yoakum. The order will utilize the funds to defray the cost of sending “Care Packages” to Catholic troops overseas. The SFO began this Apostolate five years ago.

Catholic Host Families Needed For 53 Catholic Exchange Students

Catholic host families - with or without children - are needed to host Catholic in-ternational exchange students for upcoming school year. Host families are volunteers and are asked to provide a bed and meals, as well as friendship, understanding and a genuine desire to share the American Catholic way of life with a Catholic youngster from overseas.

The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance and have spending money for their personal expenses. For more information, please contact Yvette Coffman at SHARE! at 800-941-3703 or info@share- southwest.org.

July Puzzle Contest Winners go to the fellows

The winner of the July contest and the book, Son of a Kulak: How a Hungarian Farm Boy Survived World War II and Escaped Stalinist Oppression for a New Life in America, is Anthony Petra of Sacred Heart Parish in Hallettsville.

The winner of the children’s contest is Matthew C. Heath (11) of Our Lady of Victory Parish in Victoria. He will receive a gift from the Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to the “guys” for playing the Puzzle contest.


Please mail all completed August puzzle forms to arrive in The Catholic Lighthouse office, P. O. Box 40, Victoria, TX 77903 by August 25. Those wishing to purchase Son of a Kulak, may purchase it from booksellers on Web sites from $22.98 to $29.95.

Account of national shrine’s beginnings


In “America’s Church,” Thomas A. Tweed, a professor of religious studies at the University of Texas in Austin, gives us a long overdue historical over-view of the crucial compo-nents of American Catholicism that led to the establishment of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Over the years, the basilica has come to represent many things to various groups within the American Catholic Church, and a historical overview of the political and social intrigues that were part of its con-struction and completion are part of that rich tapestry.

Taking a historical chronology that il- luminates the multiple groups, clergy and laity alike, that advocated the initiation of a national Catholic cathedral, the author provides a clear portrait of the intense dynam-ics at play between the concept of the separa-tion of church and state, the internal intriguess among members of the U.S. Catholic hierarcy and the devotional needs of many segments of various Catholic ethnic groups that desired a symbol of their Catholic identity in the nation’s capital.

In a detailed and re-markable manner, the author narrates the in-dividuals’, groups and events that successfully overcome obsta-cles of internal Catholic Church politics, governmental and bureaucratic red tape, the shortages of the Second World War and many other unforeseen problems to finally provide a home for American Catholicism that incorporated the multicultural notions and ideals of a growing American Catholic Church.
Women of Grace participants learn of women’s powerful vocation

By Gina Pilkington
For 15 ladies from the Diocese of Victoria, Saturday, May 7, 2011, was a very special day. It was the culmination of the first Women of Grace Foundational Study for the Victoria area. The journey started on the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe.

The participants committed to weekly meetings and at home lessons from January until May under the patronage of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

At this initial meeting, the closing address to women from Vatican II was discussed. Here is a portion of the letter:

And now it is to you that we address ourselves, women of mankind in not falling.... That is why, at this moment when the human race is under going so deep a transformation, women impregnated with the spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid mankind in not falling.

Women, you do know how to make truth sweet, tender and accessible, make it your task to bring the spirit of this council into institutions, schools, homes, and daily life. Women of the entire universe, whether Christian or non-believers, you who are entrusted at this grave moment in history, it is for you to save the peace of the world.

The 12-year effort to pass a bill to create a Choose Life license plate in Texas has finally met with success! On May 4, 2011, the Texas House of Representatives gave final approval to Senate Bill 257 to authorize the Department of Motor Vehicles to create a Choose Life license plate. The Texas legislature passed the same bill in March. Pro-life Gov. Rick Perry signed it into law on May 17.

The Choose Life plate will be available after September. The cost will be $30, of which $22 will go to eligible nonprofit organizations to promote infant adoption and to assist pregnant mothers considering adoption.

The Choose Life plates promote infant adoption as a compassionate alternative to abortion. The “Choose Life” message will gently but persuasively increase awareness, and the sales of the plate will raise funds for nonprofit organizations to provide services to pregnant women considering the loving option of adoption.

The Texas Legislature

On March 16, the Senate passed SB 257 on a 21-9 vote. The House gave preliminary approval (2nd reading) to SB 257 on a 95-29 vote on May 3 after finding enough votes to pass the bill. That’s fewer than 1,400 infants across the entire state per year.

Infant Adoption in Texas: Too Little Awareness, Too Few Adoptions

Only percent of infants born in Texas on non-martial circumstances are placed for adoption. That’s fewer than 1,400 infants across the entire state per year.

For every infant placed for adoption, 64 unborn children are terminated by abortion.

Specialty License Plates

Twenty-six states already have approved the Choose Life license plates. Sales of the plates have raised nearly $14 million to promote infant adoption. Texas has more than 130 specialty license plates to raise funds for a variety of causes. This Web site is sponsored by Texas Alliance for Life (TAL), the official state contact of Choose Life, Inc.

Those are powerful words that many of the ladies had never heard before. Mother Church is asking all women to bring peace to the world and to aid mankind in not falling. Through this study, the ladies delved into prayer, Sacred Scripture, the Catechism, the lives of amazing women saints, especially the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and papal encyclicals to understand and accept God’s urgent call to “aid humanity in not falling.”

The ladies learned to embrace their gift of authentic femininity and their dignity as a daughter of God. In small group meetings and discussion, there were many Masses for the intentions of the Women of Grace members, and the ladies began to mature in their understanding.

That Sunday marked the end of the study, and now that the ladies had completed the study, the Victoria area Women of Grace will begin a new study on Ignatius of Loyola.

For those interested in participating in the next study, they are invited to contact Gina Caron to set up a study in their parish. The topics will be announced later in the year.

From the Office of New England

* Reprinted from www.ttxchoose-life.org (8/2011) with slight editing to update story

** Scranton, Pa. — Notwithstanding the bizarre nature of the comic strip universe itself, one comic strip is celebrating the longest gestation period ever conceived for an unborn baby human. For ten years, Umbert the Unborn has graced the pages of Catholic newspapers, pro-life newsletters, church bulletins and the Internet, making it the longest pregnancy ever recorded in a four-panel feature. Of course, Umbert has essentially been frozen in time at six months gestation in his mother’s “womb with a view” from which he makes his poignant observations about life before and after birth, along with frank commentary about life issues, including abortion, birth control, euthanasia, and embryonic stem cell research, to name a few.

“As much as I’ve tried to get Umbert to tone down the rhetoric on controversial issues, I’ve found that to be too difficult a task,” said cartoonist Gary Cangemi, Umbert’s creator. “There’s too much at stake in this ever-changing, technologically advancing world to politely avoid controversy in what would otherwise be a mildly rendered art form. I am compelled to let the Umbert within me speak out. Any less would be hiding the light under the proverbial bushel basket.”

While Umbert pulls very few punches, his extreme youth, innocent demeanor, and naive way of expressing himself tend to disarm the reader, making his pro-life message more palatable. The down side of Cangemi’s direct approach is that Umbert the Unborn appeals mostly to those who already agree with the strip’s core philosophy. The result is that Umbert has yet to find his way into the mainstream media. But Cangemi hasn’t given up on that score.

“If I’m not thrilled with all the support I have received from the faith and pro-life communities, now that the strip has been well developed and the character clearly defined, I’m going to make it my mission over the
Archbishop Sambi, apostolic nuncio to U.S., dies from medical complications

WASHINGTON — Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, died at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore July 27, apparently from complications of lung surgery performed approximately three weeks earlier. He was 73.

Archbishop Sambi had not yet been named U.S. nuncio, Archbishop Sambi told Catholic News Service, the of- fice of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop Sambi was a member of the corps.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said Archbishop Sambi was a friend of the United States.

Archbishop Sambi was appointed U.S. nuncio, or ambassador, in December 2005 by Pope Benedict XVI. Prior to the U.S. appointment, Archbishop Sambi served in a variety of capacities, including as a representative of the Holy Father, at the Lateran, at the Vatican, and as ambassador to Israel, after the Vatican and Israel established diplomatic relations in 1994.

Mr. Sambi was also active in his native country of Italy and was ordained a priest in 1964. He was named an archbishop and nuncio to Burundi in 1985, a position he held until October 2001.

During Pope Benedict’s April 2008 visit to the United States, Archbishop Sambi accompanied the pope and hosted him at the residence of the papal nuncio to the United States, and the pope and bishops in the Washington in 2006 invited the archbishop to pray for the people of the Philippines.

“Many people still have a reputation as ‘a holy card’ or ‘the pope’s picture on the wall,’” the pope said.

Pope emphasizes importance of rightly formed conscience

By Catholic News Service

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the proper for- mation of conscience requires the ability to “venerate the truth,” which is particularly important for people in posi- tions of governing.

“Venerate the truth,” the pope said in his midday audience. “This involves recognizing the moral order as a reality that has objective conditions andet that cannot be changed. This reality is affirmed in the conscience of each person, especially of those in positions of governing.”

The pope said that praying to God for preferential treatment or conditions reflected a “mistaken mentality.” Instead, he said, people should ask above all for the capacity to recognize good and evil and to act on that awareness in their lives.

Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions

August 11

General Intention: That the World Youth Day taking place in Madrid may encourage all the young people of the world to root and found their lives in Christ.

Missionary Intention: That Chris- tians of the West, docile to the action of the Holy Spirit, may re-encounter the freshness and enthusiasm of their faith.

Offer it up is not the same thing as “get over it”...
Confession: It puts you straight with everyone

Spirituallity

Blog by Sister Mary Ann Walsh, spokes-
woman for the USCCB

Confession, in the Catholic Church, is the sacra-
fice of the forgiveness of sin. You can’t be left to be 
its comfort. It’s available practically whenever. Tell 
you a priest you want to go to confession and you’ll 
get his attention. One bishop I know was 
flown on an airplane. Another passenger figured out 
what was going on and asked if he could come 
along. It must have been an interesting game of 
musical seats. An interesting 
question for priests might be: When was the 
strangest place you ever administered the 
sacrament of penance? The 
answer. The true century. In a way, the 
pope said, Jesus is the ultimate “parable” 
of Brooklyn, N.Y.

At the Sunday Angelus July 10, Pope 
Bea said, “The Church, as the vessels about the 
world, addressed his outdoor audience on Christ’s use of 
parables. God, the 
Holy Father continued, does not force 
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our curiosity. The persuasive power of the 
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Guy Commenter

The truth with charity

Responding to editors’ requests for a 
regular column, I must offer an attempt to 
write from around the Catholic press, here is an 
unsigned editorial titled “The truth with 
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of Brooklyn, N.Y.

As the Church finds itself engaged in 
the world by presenting a society so 
confused and confused about the value of 
human life, the meaning of sexual 
rights, the rights of the unborn, immigrants, the 
poor and many others who are marginalized, 
it is helpful to recall the many ways 
of proposing the saving message. Moral 
oral communication, reflecting reasonable 
arguments about, for example, the true meaning of 
mariage, the slippery slope of euthana-
sia, the tenacious logic of the death penalty offers 
the Church a more compelling starting 
point for participation in public debate.

Those who say the Church has no 
business “imposing” sectarian beliefs on 
society seem unaware of the very nature of 
our constitutional guarantees, that not 
only protect the freedom to express one’s 
beliefs but presuppose an atmosphere in 
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public. Without the presumption of public debate, there would 
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More to the point, however, to propose 
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freeing grounds for its reasonability can even 
be an act of charity in the service of truth, 
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Recent responses of some outspoken 
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Spectacular Fireworks 
Show

Sunday, September 4, 2011

Flag Raising Ceremony at 9:30 a.m. • Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m. • Cakewalk 11:00 a.m. • Polka Lovers Kebab of America Dance Performance 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. • Toy Walk • Country Store • Duck Pond • Bingo • Texas Sound • Czech Band • Ball Throw • Train Ride • Nachos • Hamburger Stand • High Hill Homemade Sausage • Auction • Souvenir Booth • Bingo (License #2-06-020320) 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sweepstakes (Over 50 Prizes) Drawing at 9:00 p.m.

Music During the Day

Texas Sound Czech • Mark Halata/Texavixia • Chicken & Steal Dinner • Free Dance at Night by Texas Dream

Young people want more
than what pop culture offers

New York (CBSN) – Young people have been “beaten down” by a message from media and pop culture that anything goes in their personal and public life, but what they really want is to “make a 
difference in the world,” a former fashion model, Leah Darrow, told a New York 
audience. Darrow made the remarks July 
25 at the Church of the Holy Family 
during an event sponsored by the Holy 
family’s permanent observer mission to 
the United Nations; it coincided with the U.N. 
General Assembly’s high-level meeting on 

Confession

Because, if you want to be sure, it is sure. Clarity of conscience, however, does not always inspire an 
acclamation of faith, let alone a conversion 
that the unexamined life is not worth living. 
To examine our lives and acknowledge fail-
ings marks the first step of making 
things right with God, others, and ourselves. Life 
can be more worth living when you ponder 
the meaning of your own life.

6. Contribution toward world peace. 
Gaudium et Spes, the Second 
Vatican Council’s Pastoral 
Constitution, on the Church 
in the Modern World, said that 
the imbalances in the world that lead to war and 
tensions “are linked with that 
more basic imbalance which is rooted in the 
heart of man.” Peace of soul leads to peace 
leads to peace beyond oneself.

7. A better neighborhood. Confession 
leaves you feeling good about yourself, 
thereby cutting back the inclination to road 
rage and aggressive boat driving. 
With the grace of the sacrament you’re 
energized as, as Jesus said to the woman 
called adulteress, “go and sin no more.”

8. Realistic self-perception. Confes-
sion helps overcome your arrogance when you 
have to admit you’re as much of a sinner 
as anyone else. It helps build tolerance for 
others’ perceived shortcomings.

9. One more benefit of being Catholic. 
There are lots of benefits, including 
a sense of community, Dumont wrote to 
help us encounter God in prayer, and the wonderful 
sense of humanity exemplified in the 
saints, the council’s, the loving companionship of 
Augustine, the exasperating son of Monica. 
The sacrament that leads us to inner 
peace is among the greatest boons.

10. Closeness to God. Confession 
helps you realize that you have a close 
close relationship to God and receive for 
us through the sacraments. What can be bet-

What was going on and asked if he could come 
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question for priests might be: When was the 
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next couple of years to carve a niche for Umbert in mainstream newspapers and other media. The rights of the unborn de
dedicate a place in our public discourse, even if continued to the editorial page. Wherever it is possible for such a discussion to take place, Umbert will be there,”

stated Cangemi.

Life commentary is actually only a portion of the strip’s focus. Because the strip appears largely in faith-based publica
tions, Umbert also touches on spiritual matters with the help of his Guardian Angel and his Umbert. Umbert’s love for the image of God in the Bible. Of course, Cangemi can’t resist a little pre-natal humor as well. “When I was doing a comic about womb service,” reads Gestation for Dummies, and treats his ultrasonic as reality television.

As of 2001 the comic strip’s population has grown, featur
ing such new characters as Elwood, the pre-natal genius Vita, the child of a single mom who’s struggling with the idea of pregnancy, Cara, a child with Down Syndrome, Umbert’s cousin Eb the Embryo from Texas, Fredo, a frozen embryo living on a secluded ice floe, and Doby and Toby, a pair of fraternal twins whose antics are reminiscent of Laurel and Hardy. There are also some villains and oddball, occasionally wacky, Umbert to tempt or otherwise distract him from his pro-life message such as B.L. Zeebub or “Bub,” the little devil, Dr. Dubious, the Umbert, a fur-lined baby umbrella who ran to怅 about Umbert for President of the Un
born States of America.

How do the strip’s characters interact? It’s simple, at least in the mind of Gary Cangemi. They have pre-natal computers from which they access the “interwomb” and the “out-of-the-body web.” They even have their own social networking site called Fetusbook. Likewise, they can talk to each other on their umbilical cell phones, being careful to avoid those which use embryonic stem cells.

“My critics say that my strip is too bizarro and fanciful; the very idea of a conscious unborn human child who thinks and talks,” says Cangemi. “I have to laugh, I don’t hear them complaining about the talk shows and cats that populate the funny pages. It’s all about using the imagina
tion to simplify serious issues, in this case, matters of life and death.”

Other critics have complained about using humor to deal with such a sensitive subject as abortion. Early on, a woman wrote the editor of a diocesan paper that was doing a comic strip about abortion as unthinkable as doing one about the Holocaust.

“That really surprised me,” Cangemi remarked, “my strip doesn’t make fun of abortion. It exposes the absurdity of the human logic that makes abortion permissible. I’m always very careful not to offend. I would much rather illuminate and invite people to rethink their position by using their heartstrings or their funny bones.”

Is there a birthday in the works for a baby who has spent ten years in the womb? Cangemi has no plans to end Umbert’s unborn saga anytime soon, referring to a promise he made to a young boy from Kentucky who asked the same question. “I told him that Umbert would be born when every child’s right to be born was acknowledged and protected by law. It’s a promise I still hope to keep in my lifetime.”

To that end, Gary Cangemi is actively involved as vice-chairman of theScranton Chapter of Pennsylvaniaans for Human Life, working closely with the chapter’s president, Helen Gohsler, whose request for a teaching vehicle for pro-life issues for children inspired him to create Umbert. Cangemi also travels to other cities to speak and present his cartoons to pro-life audiences. He is also a regular workshop speak and present his cartoons to pro-life audiences.

The last official American serviceman killed in Vietnam, based on the official end of the Vietnam War being Jan. 27, 1973, was 2nd Lt. Colonel William B. Nolde. Since then, another 7,490 U.

S. Service personnel have died in military combat, but during that same time period, with the decision of Roe vs. Wade on Jan. 22, 1973, over 53-million Americans have been killed by abortion.

A colleague questioned me about these statistics, asking, “Or, could you mean there’s been 53,000,000 abortions throughout the world since 1973?” I had to steady her for the fact I was about to lay out for her and said, “No, nearly that same amount, 50-million, is killed throughout the world by abortion each and every year.” It’s odd that the protests of the “Make love, not war” generation helped influence the end to the Viet Nam War because they had seen enough death, but their “free love” attitude brought about a new, silent war against humanity, deaths that for the most part are hidden from society.

Yes, in recent years, the daily abortion rate in the United States has actually gone down by about one-quarter, but when you compare the number to combat deaths, the decrease is hardly noticeable.

Some may argue that the life of a fetus can’t be compared to the life of a soldier, but what determines human life? Having a heartbeat! Having fingerprints! If so, an unborn human being has a heartbeat 21 days after its conception and has finger
pos/scranton.com. umbert@umbert@umbichildren.org look for the end to the Genocide of Abortion!
Hunger and the threat of malnutrition are becoming the daily reality for millions of people in East Africa. A lack of rainfall and rising food prices are increasingly straining their food supply. CRS staff members in the region are reporting, “Rains last fall failed completely,” says CRS Africa Team Leader Brian Gleeson. “And spring rains earlier this year were erratic and weak. As a result, farmers have experienced horrible harvests and pastoralists are seeing their livestock dying off.”

This drought — it’s been one of the driest years in the region since 1950-1951 — has combined with increased food costs to put 10 million people across the Horn of Africa in need of humanitarian assistance.

Most live in Kenya and Ethiopia, countries where CRS has worked for decades. CRS has been active in Kenya for decades with many programs that address agricultural and water needs and have helped mitigate the effect of the drought. But the severity of the drought, coupled with rising food prices, is overwhelming the ability of millions of people in East Africa to cope, CRS staff members in the region are reporting.

But now Kenya is being burdened further by an influx of tens of thousands of refugees from Somalia; most are striking out in search of food because dangers in Somalia limit humanitarian assistance.

A Catholic Relief Services team is on the ground in the Eastern Kenyan town of Dadaab, home to a sprawling refugee camp that sees some 1,300 people arrive each day from drought-stricken Somalia, only one of the countries in East Africa where hunger and the threat of malnutrition are the daily reality for 11 million people.

The United Nations officially declared a famine in parts of Somalia, the first such declaration in two decades, meaning it’s been determined that many are dying from a lack of food. These areas are plagued by a lack of security, which severely limits humanitarian assistance.

Working with church partners through the region’s bishop, CRS has been able to get some aid into the stricken areas of Somalia. For families unable to access aid in Somalia, survival means walking across a harsh desert to camps like the one in Dadaab, where hurricanes have been determined that many are dying from a lack of food. These areas are plagued by a lack of security, which severely limits humanitarian assistance.

In Ethiopia, the CRS-led Joint Emergency Operational Plan is ramping up. Now feeding 400,000 people, it should reach 1 million beginning this month. The Emergency Operational Plan is ramping up. Now feeding 400,000 people, it should reach 1 million beginning this month.

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas held talks with Pope Benedict as well as with Cardinal Tarcizio Bertone, the Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, the Vatican’s foreign minister in early June.

The Vatican said the talks were “cordial” and focused on “the troubled situation in the Holy Land,” according to a written Vatican statement released after the meeting.

Particular emphasis was put on “the urgent need to find a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one capable of ensuring respect for the rights of all and, therefore, the attainment of the Palestinian people’s legitimate aspirations for an independent state,” the Vatican said.

Soon both Israel and the Palestinian nation will have to “live in security, at peace with their neighbors and within internationally recognized borders,” it said.

Peace will come to the region with the help of the world community and by upholding “a spirit of cooperation and openness to reconciliation,” it said.

The talks also focused on the situation of Christians in the Palestinian territories and the Middle East, saying Christians make an “irreplaceable contribution” to society.

The two leaders also said they hoped that recently resumed talks between the Vatican and the Palestinian Liberation Organization would “proceed fruitfully toward the elaboration of a comprehensive agreement” between the two parties.

The diplomatic talks, which resumed at the end of 2010, aim to elaborate ways toward the elaboration of a comprehensive agreement” between the Vatican and the PLO. The agreement was signed in 2000 spelling out principles for guaranteeing church rights and religious freedom in territories administered by the Palestinian Authority.

Pray for Peace on Earth, Rain, for the Homeless and Starving!

Sacred Heart Parish Fall Picnic
129 Years
Sunday, September 4, 2011
at the K.C. Hall in Hallettsville, Texas
Dinner: Serving from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Drive thru Plates-to-Go: 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Country Fried Chicken, Stew, Homemade Cornbread Dressing with all the trimmings!
Adults $7.50 Children $4.00

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Victoria, TX 77901
PH 361/576-0178
www.edwardjones.com

Pray for Peace on Earth, Rain, for the Homeless and Starving!
**Catholic doctors say proposed contraceptive mandate not good medicine**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A recommendation that all health plans be required to cover contraceptives without patient co-payment “fails the tests of logic and sound science” and “does not constitute good clinical medical advice,” wrote the Catholic Medical Association.

In a July 20 statement, the Bala Cynwyd, Pa.-based association criticized the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Preventive Services for Women for recommending that the Department of Health and Human Services include “the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and patient education and counseling” as mandated services for all health plans under the new health reform law. Such a mandate “threatens substantial harm to the health of women and to the civil rights of millions of Americans,” the association said. The statement was released the day after Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston said the panel’s recommendation showed that “there is an ideology at work ... that goes beyond any objective assessment of the health needs of women and children.”

If HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius accepts recommendation, “these controversial plans -- public and private -- without that recommendation, “these controversial plans -- public and private -- without balancing the budget on the backs of the poor,” according to a statement from the coalition that planned the action. After they ignored warnings by U.S. Capitol Police to stop praying, they were arrested for demonstrating in the Capitol. Late in the day, the group was still being held, but a spokeswoman for the group expected them to be released within hours. Each person was expected to be fined $50. Those ar rested included the executive director of Faith in Public Life, the general secretary of the United Methodist Church and a past president of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Daily prayer vigils led by a different religious organization each week have been taking place on the grounds of the United Methodist Building near the Capitol. The archbishop of two U.S. bishops’ committees reiter ated their message to Congress, telling members of the Senate July 26 that they know not “the moral and human dimensions” of the ongoing debate. “A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor persons,” wrote Bishop Stephen E. Blair of Stockton, Calif., and Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany, N.Y. “It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues, science protection that allows us to carry out our mission in a pluralistic environ ment respecting our religious beliefs.”

As debt-ceiling debate continues, faith leaders protest on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As U.S. lawmakers continued to wrangle over a decision on the nation’s debt ceiling and proposed budget cuts, representatives of faith groups today protested on Capitol Hill and Catholic leaders urged lawmakers to remember the nation’s poor and vulner able people. During the protest, about a dozen people were publicly and publicly to ask the Obama administration and Congress “not to balance the budget on the backs of the poor,” according to a statement from the coalition that planned the action. After they ignored warnings by U.S. Capitol Police to stop praying, they were arrested for demonstrating in the Capitol. Late in the day, the group was still being held, but a spokeswoman for the group expected them to be released within hours. Each person was expected to be fined $50. Those arrested included the executive director of Faith in Public Life, the general secretary of the United Methodist Church and a past president of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Daily prayer vigils led by a different religious organization each week have been taking place on the grounds of the United Methodist Building near the Capitol. The archbishop of two U.S. bishops’ committees reiterated their message to Congress, telling members of the Senate July 26 that they know not “the moral and human dimensions” of the ongoing debate. “A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor persons,” wrote Bishop Stephen E. Blair of Stockton, Calif., and Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany, N.Y. “It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues, science protection that allows us to carry out our mission in a pluralistic environment respecting our religious beliefs.”

By Mary Anne Moreno, reprinted with permission from Catholic Exchange January 17th, 2011

Poisons are Profitable

Hormonal contraception is a carcinogenic and potent drug. High doses of these hormones are needed to suppress pregnancy. It’s not normal for the body to function with such high levels of these hormones, especially over a prolonged period of time spanning many years. [10] Webster’s defines poison as: “Any agent which, when introduced into the animal organism, is capable of producing a morbific, noxious, or deadly effect upon it.” The pill is poisoning many women. Hormonal contraception poisoning (HCP) occurs in two of these women. They:

- **Cause Growth** in breast tissue which in turn causes cellular mutations and ultimately cancer.
- **Act as a Direct Carcinogen** directly causing cancersous cells to form.[11] Each year, thousands of cases of cancer can be attributed to hormonal contraception.[12] Any other drug (or heaven forbid, natural supplement) which had been linked to so much cancer would have been yanked from the market long ago. But evil drugs are allowed to poison women so long as they can help make up budget shortfalls.

Poisoned by the Pill: Truths about Chemical Contraception

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Poisoned by the Pill: Truths about Chemical Contraception

- **Birth control pills carry an economic incentive that has blighted society’s desire to do right.**
- **The last decade has seen a universal world trend of birth control pill usage.**
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Pope decries terror attacks in Norway, calls for end to violence

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — An in excep tional move, the Vatican recalled its nuncio to Ireland so that he could participate in meetings aimed at drafting the Vatican’s formal response to an Irish government report on clerical sex abuse. Following the publication July 12 of the so-called Clooney Report “and, particularly, after the reactions that followed, the secretary of state has recalled the apostolic nuncio in Ireland, Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza, for consultations,” the Vatican said in a statement July 25. Passionist Father Ciro Bortone, vice president of the Vatican press office, said recalling the nuncio “denotes the seriousness of the situation, the desire of the Holy See to face it with objectivity and determination, as well as a certain note of surprise and disappointment over the excessive severity of the report and its accusations against the Vatican. The Clooney Report, which examined how the Diocese of Cloyne handled accusations of sexual abuse by a priest, said the bishop paid “little or no attention” to child safeguarding, as recently as 2008 and that he falsely told the government his diocese was reporting all allegations of abuse to the civil authorities. The report also accused the Vatican of being “entirely unhelpful” to Irish bishops who wanted to implement stronger norms for dealing with accusations and protecting children. Addressing parliament July 20, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said the Clooney Report “exposes an attempt by the Holy See to frustrate an inquiry in a sovereign, democratic republic as little as three years ago.”

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St. Philip Catholic School will have a 4-Man shrimp at $8 p/p, serving begins at 10:30 a.m., drive-thru with dine-in or plates-to-go available at $7 p/p. The auction for small plate; and plates-to-go at $9 p/p. Hamburgers, nachos and a fried-fish dinner starting at 11:00 a.m. at $9 for large plate; $6 for children. A re-enactment will be available for school groups headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by learning to communicate with love and respect. For more information, please go to their Web site at www.presidiolabahia.org,

- Sts. Cyril and Methodius Picnic Sept. 4 Knights of Columbus (formally American Legion) Park begins at 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is $7 p/p with refreshments, door prizes, bake sale and more. For reservations call Joan (361) 685-2387 or go to victoriadiocese.org. See page 15 for more information.

- St. Theresa Annual Parish Picnic Oct. 16 with a turkey and dressing dinner served from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. with dine-in plates-to-go available. Auction at 12:00 p.m., games, country store and more. See page 19 for more information.

- Pope John Paul II Birthday Celebration. Breakfast at Buffalo Crossing for more information, please contact Sister Louise Marie Jones at reshove@txcatholic.org.

- Mary — St. Mary’s Altar Society will sponsor a half-day retreat on Monday, Oct. 3 at St. Mary’s Activity Center. More information, please call Peggy Smith (361) 578-6440 or Greta Siev (361) 574-1907. See page 19 for ad.

- Understanding God in Our Lives - St. Robert Parish, 7 - 9 p.m. in the Activity Center. For more information, please contact Sister Louise Marie Jones at reshove@txcatholic.org.

- Taizé Prayer Experience on Aug. 30 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in a candle-light setting. See page 17 for ad.

- Virginia — Madonna Catholic Church annual Parish Picnic will be held on Sept. 25 at 10:30 a.m. Food, music, dancing, games, cakewalk, silent and live auctions. Call (979) 543-3770 for more information.

For more information see ad on page 5.
Over 300 attended the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA) 24th Biennial State Convention in Austin, Texas, June 24-26, 2011. Look out Texas drought, these girls are on fire for God; the flames of the Holy Spirit ignite the most amazing acts of service positively changing lives. There are currently 70 JCDA Courts in Texas with 829 members.

The “Stars of P.E.A.C.E.” convention theme and the JCDA threefold program of ‘Message, Service and Community’ was emphasized by guest speakers throughout the convention. The speakers included Sheila Martinka, 2009-2011 CDAD State Regent; from Houston; Carolyn Malik, newly elected 2011-2013 State Regent and former JCDA State Chairman of Shiner; and Reverend Bill Wack, CSC, pastor, St. Ignatius Martyr Parish of Austin. Father Wack delivered an outstanding banquet keynote speech challenging the girls to take every opportunity to “make a difference” for Christ. In closing he said “Peace I leave you, just like in our Mass, I send you forth to go out and serve the Lord.” The 2009-2011 State Officers, Maya Cuellar, JCDA President, Dallas; First Vice President Kimberly Kallies, Deer Park; Second Vice President Sarah Proskoe, LaGrange; Secretary Valerie Barrera, Lubbock; and Reporter Mary Adamek, Shiner, hosted a talent show for the opening welcome. The girls and court advisors presented various skits, sang and literally danced with Love and Peace right into a hula hoop contest.

JCDA Talent show judges were CDAD State Officers, ‘Minnie Pearl’ State Regent Carolyn Malik, Shiner; ‘Rose Petal’ First Vice State Regent Peggy Rosales, Austin; ‘J Lo’ Second Vice State Regent Eve Trevino, Corpus Christi; ‘Grace Stick’ State Secretary Rosie Stockwell, Edinburg; and ‘Moon Beam’ Immediate Past State Regent Sheila Martinka, Houston.

Convention business included a slide presentation with the charitable events for each JCDA Court. Reverend John Peters, State JCDA chaplain, Halletsville, shared the highlights of the past two years. Terrie Beltran, JCDA Youth State Chair, El Campo, reported on JCDA’s growth, noting that 23 new courts were installed in this term! Newly Elected 2011 – 2013 JCDA State Officers are, State President – Mary Adamek, Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, 1st Vice President – Katelyn Martinez; Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner; 2nd Vice President - Jamie Ornelas, Court Mary St. John #2197, Baytown; Secretary - Holly Soukup, Court Sacred Heart #829, West; and Reporter - Allison Whitworth, Crosby. The full convention feature story with photos may be viewed on the Texas CDAD State Web site.

Above are the newly elected 2011 – 2013 JCDA state officers, flanked by Rev. John Peters, state JCDA chaplain, and Terrie Beltran, JCDA Youth State Chair. They are 1st Vice President Katelyn Martinez, Floresville; 2nd Vice President Jamie Ornelas, Baytown; Secretary Holly Soukup, West; and Reporter Allison Whitworth of Crosby. See JCDA state president at bottom of page.

Martinka, Houston.