



Inside ...

11 How we betray God

16 IWBS Sisters Jubilees

The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration

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August 2022

Music therapy can be a powerful tool for healing

JANET JONES

The Catholic Lighthouse

Singing the blues? Good for you. Probably better for you than you realize.

Most people at some point have been brought to tears by a song or turned up the radio and sang aloud to something that resonated at that moment. Sometimes a song can express thoughts or feelings that exactly mirror the listener's, giving them a way to express something that might be awkward to say in conversation.

Music is therapeutic. And music therapy is the newest

See Music therapy can be a powerful tool, pg. 8



Teresa Vincent, shown here leading the Our Lady of Victory Christmas program 2021. The music teacher is also a board-certified music therapist and will offer therapy through the Emmaus Center. (Janet Jones/The Catholic Lighthouse)



Blessed to be back

Camp David, canceled in 2020 and scaled back in 2021, was restored to its former glory this year, fostering a passion for Jesus in the Eucharist. For complete story see pg. 13. (Photo by Taylor Janak)

Wanting to know more about your faith? We have the resources

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of a series that looks further into some of the themes that emerged from the synod process in the Diocese of Victoria. This story deals with the expressed desire for more reverence and understanding of the Mass.

JANET JONES

The Catholic Lighthouse

Jenny Vincent coined the term "scratching Catholics" after a non-Catholic friend of someone close to her asked (something to the effect of), "Why do Catholic scratch

themselves during church?"

The Catholic friend had no clue what that meant until they attended Mass together. When the priest announced he was reading from "the Gospel according to ..." the non-Catholic elbowed their friend and said, "Now! You're scratching!" referring to the gesture of using one's thumb to impose the sign of the cross on the forehead, lips and breast.

The gesture was clarified, but even the Catholic in this

See Wanting to know more, pg. 6



Trip to Ghana evinces 'one, holy, catholic, apostolic' Church

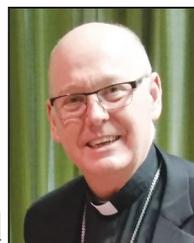
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Knowing I was going to visit Ghana in a journey of gratitude for the people of Ghana who have formed so many of our priests, Archbishop Gabriel Anokye invited me to ordain priests and a deacon in his Cathedral of Kumasi. I experienced this as a tangible sign of our communion as brother bishops in union with our Holy Father, Pope Francis. That Ordination Mass on July 9 was filled with joy, hope and the power of the Holy Spirit. After Mass, Archbishop Anokye told people that I might be the first American bishop to have danced in the cathedral.

The day after the ordination, I asked to visit with the Legion of Mary and the Serra Club. At the Legion of Mary meeting we followed the strict protocol. Members of the Legion set the statue of Mary with the

A Shepherd's Message

By Bishop Brendan Cahill



candles and images in a precise way. It's the same way in Victoria, Bay City and Kumasi. The president opened the meeting, and I led the opening prayers. We call it a "tessera" and it is exactly the same prayer for every member of the Legion of Mary. After the prayers and some business, I gave a five-minute talk called the "allocutio."

The theme of my allocutio was patience, and I shared with them my reluctance as a

younger man to consecrate myself to Mary. For years I was afraid that I wasn't worthy enough and afraid of making a promise that I might not be able to fulfill. It wasn't until one of my students shared his experience and encouraged me not to worry that I finally followed the 33-day preparation and offered my heart completely to Mary. By that time, I was more than 40 years old and had been a priest for more than 15. What I thought about in that sharing is that we don't always get immediate results, yet we can always trust in Mary's love and concern for all of her children.

Patience is a gift that helps us to realize that God is accomplishing things according to His plan and time. The reality of the "One Heart" and "One Spirit" with the people of Ghana came throughout my trip last month. It came in that meeting of the Legion of Mary, and also with the meeting I had with the Serra Club at the University in Kumasi. The Serra Club is a Catholic organization promoting vocations to the priesthood and

consecrated life. More than 40 years ago, a couple from Houston, Frank and Rita Metyko, visited the Archbishop of Kumasi, at that time Archbishop Peter Sarpong, at his home. Frank, then president of the Serra Club International, helped Archbishop Sarpong start the first Serra Club in Africa.

One of the priests at the Serra Club meeting this year was Msgr. John Opoku-Agyemang, currently the rector of the Provincial Major Seminary in Kumasi. He was completing his final years of study at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston 40 years ago, the same year I entered St. Mary's as an 18-year-old college sophomore. We shared memories about our brother priests and the families who welcomed him when he came to Texas – especially the Metykos.

Recently, Kurt Metyko, the son of Frank and Rita, was elected president of Serra International.

When a Catholic professes our faith on Sunday, we truly belong to one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church – the words match the reality and the story continues. May God bless you and your families with the gifts of faith, hope and love. And may we all have the confident assurance that God is accomplishing all things according to His plan and time.

Let's keep each other in prayer.

+Brendan

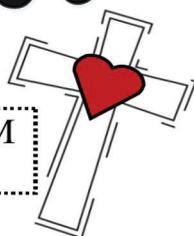
St. John Bosco's

74th Annual

Fall Festival

Catholic Church

Sunday Mass at 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
St. John Bosco Catholic Church, Vanderbilt, Texas



Sunday, September 4, 2022

Trinity Family Center

5508 FM 616 ~ Vanderbilt, Texas

BBQ Brisket and Sausage Plates

\$13.00 with all the Trimmings

DRIVE THRU OR DINE IN

Serving 11:00 AM — 1:30 PM

Silent Auction, Cake Walk, Country Store,
Beer Garden, Drink Concession, Door Prizes,
and Games for Kids!

RAFFLE BEGINS AT 11:30 AM
LIVE AUCTION BEGINS AT 1:00 PM



Bishop Brendan Cahill and Dr. John Quarry, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Victoria, are shown with the Legion of Mary in front of the Cathedral in Kumasi.



Bishop Cahill's Schedule

August

	11 a.m. Mass and lunch at God's Embrace Retreat
2	9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary Praesidium meeting; Cathedral Center
	6 p.m. Serra Club Mass and Dinner
6	10 a.m. Mass for Sister Maria del Rosario's Final Profession at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
8	8 a.m. Mass for Catholic School Seminar at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
	Noon meal with IWBS Sisters
	2:30 p.m. Communities of Faith meeting
	5 p.m. Liturgical Commission; chancery
9	Legion of Mary meeting; Cathedral Center
10-13	North American Maritime Ministry Association meeting; Baltimore
14	9 a.m. Mass for Kolbe Prison Ministry; The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
	4 p.m. Mass for establishment of Our Lady of La Vang as a quasi-parish; Palacios
16	6:30 a.m. "Morning Air Show" on Relevant Radio
	9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary meeting; Cathedral Center
17	4 p.m. Building Board; chancery
20	4 p.m. Pastoral Institute certificate ceremony; chancery
21-30	Pilgrimage to Rome and Pompeii

September

5	Chancery Closed for Labor Day
6	9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary Meeting; Cathedral Center
7	10 a.m. Presbyteral Council; chancery
10	10 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph; New Taiton
	6 p.m. Confirmation Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul; Fresburg

Father Gabriel Bentil earns St. George scouting medal

VICTORIA — The Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting in Victoria presented the Reverend Gabriel Bentil, pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church, with the 2022 St. George medal during its annual awards banquet on July 9. It is a national honor for anyone who has made a difference in the spiritual development of the scouts.

"Father Gabriel Bentil is well known to us as someone who loves to play the guitar and lead the congregation in song. He brings a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm," said Rey Rosas, religious activities coordinator for the diocese committee.

"Father Bentil worked with the Boy Scouts when he had a troop in Inez at St. Joseph Catholic Church. When scouts needed his help to complete their Pope Pius emblem he was there to help them. As part of the Pope Pius emblem retreat, we attended Mass at St. Joseph in scout uniform, and he immediately welcomed the scouts and put the scouts to work doing the collection and gift presentation. He then had us go up and discuss the

religious emblem that the scouts and adult counselors were working to complete."

Father Bentil did many other things to support the troop and they remembered that, at a retreat, he instilled in them the lesson of doing "small things with great love."

Michael Muniz, DCCS emblem counselor presented 11 scouts with the Ad Altare Dei (To the Altar of God) program medal. They

were Noah Bonorden, Ethan Bryan, Marvin Cordes, Michael Cordes, Xavier Flores, Robert Garcia, Anthony Grones, Michael Muniz, Victor Neisser, John Paul Pilkington and Nathan Priest.

Cub Scout Pack 364, chartered by Our Lady of Victory, met

the requirements for Gold Level Recognition, and the National Catholic Unit Excellence Award was presented to Dolores Ruiz.

Matthew Boyle, Director of the Spiritual Renewal Center, was announced as a Golden Bow award recipient for his work with the scouts. He helped with execution of the

See Father Gabriel Bentil, pg. 10



Deacon Jay Vocelka, left, and Ray Rosas present the Rev. Gabriel Bentil with the St. George Medal awarded by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. (Janet Jones/The Catholic Lighthouse)

Happy birthday,
Bishop Emeritus
David Fellhauer!
August 19



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DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF THE PRECEDING MONTH

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Education of Seminarian Fund

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

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

Lector

Bernadette Merta

In Memory of Pauline Liska

Paz Morales

In Memory of Father Dan Morales

Acolyte

CDA, Court of Our Lady Queen
of Clergy #1990

In Memory Ann Lillian Strouhal

Candidate

Mr. & Mrs. Freemann Pettus

Transitional Deacon

Priest

To contribute to the Education of
Seminarian Fund, send contributions to:

Diocese Of Victoria
Education of Seminarian Fund
P. O. Box 4070
Victoria, TX 77903

Happy birthday to our seminarians

Deacon Luke Prihoda is in Theology IV



at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston. He will also be serving as deacon at Holy Cross in East Bernard on weekends during the school year. Luke's hometown is Weimar. His birthday is Aug. 10. Write to Luke at: St. Mary's

Seminary, 9845 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77024.

Alex Woods is in College II at Holy Trinity

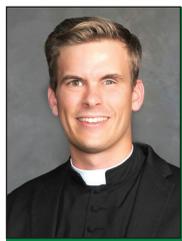


Seminary in Irving studying for the Diocese of Victoria. Alex's hometown is Houston. His birthday is Aug. 29. Write to Alex at: Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Dr., Irving, TX 75062.

Serra Prayer for Vocations

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, St. Joseph, her spouse, St. Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Caleb Krishcke is in his Pastoral Year at Our



Lady of the Gulf Church in Port Lavaca. Caleb's hometown is St. John. His birthday is Aug. 30. Write to Caleb at: Our Lady of the Gulf Church, 415 W. Austin St., Port Lavaca, TX 77979.

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Gabriel Project / Bethlehem Maternity Home
A Christian Based Non-Profit organization

Part time positions for a Residential Support Staff

Saturday and Sunday, or PRN shifts available to cover other shifts
12 AM – 8 AM Awake Night (Overnight) 4 PM – 12 AM Awake Night
\$11 per hour

Volunteer Opportunities

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Classes / or Teaching Opportunities • Assisting with Special Events

Full job descriptions discussed on interview. Please send Resume to
Lisa Howard, Director, at Howard.lisa39@yahoo.com / 361-866-5027 office

Seminary Endowment Fund

Seminary Endowment Fund (formerly known as Seminary Burses) is a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is \$15,000. The **interest from this amount** is applied yearly to the education of seminarians. The burses are in memory of or in honor of an individual priest or layperson, living or deceased. Publication of the burses will appear periodically when new contributions are received. **Donation Categories: Lector - \$.01 - \$99.99; Acolyte - \$100 - \$499.99; Candidate - \$500 - \$1,499.99; Transitional Deacon - \$1,500 - \$2,499.99; Priest - \$2,500 >.**

July 22, 2022

• Rev. Wayne Flagg Seminary Burse

Lector

In memory of Pauline Liska by
Mary Ann Henneke

• Rev. Scott Hill Seminary Burse

Acolyte

In memory of Johnnie Kutac, Jr. by
KC Council #2902, Schulenburg

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

Lector

In memory of Dorothy Olsovsky by:
Dorothy Pavlas
Elizabeth Patalik

• Henry A. Schoenfeld Seminary Burse

Lector

In memory of Billy Kassner by
Bernice Schoenfeld

Acolyte

In memory of Henry Schoenfeld on his
birthday by Bernice Schoenfeld

• St. John the Baptist Church, St. John In Memory of Rev. Brian Crookes Seminary Burse #2

Lector

In memory of Dorothy Olsovsky by:
M/M Jerome Kolenovsky
Ed and Peggy Kusy
Donna Kusy
Donald & Karen Kutac
Diane Kutac
Dennis & Patricia Otto

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

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



KCs give to Gabriel Project

WEIMAR – Linda Venghaus and Virginia Anderson, representing the Gabriel Project of the Crossroads receive a \$500 donation from the Knights of Columbus Council 2153. The women gave an update on their services. The Gabriel Project is a Christian Based ministry whose mission is “to protect the unborn by providing emotional, material, housing and spiritual support to pregnant women and their families in need.” Pictured are Deputy Grand Knight Jack Muggli; Venghaus, Anderson, and Grand Knight Delphin Bartek. *(Contributed Photo)*



The Chancery Offices
will be Closed
Monday, Sept. 5
and will re-open
Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 8:30 a.m.



KC Council 9393 installs officers

EL CAMPO — Knights of Columbus, Fr. Lawrence J. Matula Council 9393, installed new officers for the 2022-23 fiscal year at their June 16 meeting. District Deputy James Kocurek presided. From left are Martin Medina, James Kocurek, District Deputy; Juan Rubio 1st, Year Trustee; Fidel Vargas, Warden; Kenneth Trochta, Diocesan Deputy; Daniel Falcon, Roberto Torres, Deacon Adrian Canales, Lecturer; Sebero Bustamante, Chancellor; Bobby Perez, Advocate; Abel Dominguez, Grand Knight; Frank Flores, Deputy Grand Knight; Richard Benavidez, Inside Guard; David Rodriguez Treasurer; Clarence Manciaz; Roy Rodriguez, 2nd, Year Trustee; the Rev. Philip Brune, Chaplain; Jose Ugarte, Insurance Agent; Hector Gutierrez, Recorder; Travis Trevino and Manuel Torres. Not Pictured are Felix T. Garcia, Outside Guard; Albert Cavazos, 3rd Year Trustee; and Adam Gusman, Financial Secretary. *(Contributed Photo)*



KJZT gives to IWBS

VICTORIA — The KJZT Wied Society No. 53 donated money from their church fundraiser to the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. Pictured from left are Sister Louise Marie Jones, Sister Liliane Janda, Sister Frances Cabrini Janvier, Helen Janak of KJZT, Sister Anna Marie Popp, Monica Peters of KJZT, Sister Colette Kouba and Sister Andrea Hubnik. Sister Liliane Janda is a member of the Hostyn KJZT, Sister Colette Kouba is a member of the Victoria KJZT, and Sister Andrea Hubnik is a member of the Marak KJZT. *(Contributed Photo)*



Weimar KCs 2022-23 officers

WEIMAR — Knights of Columbus Council 2153 installed new officers for the 2022-23 fiscal year on July 11 at the monthly council business meeting. Acting District Deputy Larry Kana presided. From left are, front, Doug Berger, Trustee; Bill Clifford, Outside Guard; Herb Ulbrich, Financial Secretary; Delphin Bartek, Grand Knight; Buddy Hudec, Inside Guard; Leo Hoelscher, Warden; and Francis Janacek, Treasurer; and, back row, Jack Muggli, Deputy Grand Knight; Mike Riha, Trustee; the Rev. Wayne Flagg, Chaplain; David Hessel, Recorder; Mike Koeth Sr., Lecturer; and Larry Kana, Acting District Deputy. Not pictured are Mccall Ulrich, Chancellor; Bill Prihoda, Advocate; and James Polk, Trustee. *(Contributed Photo)*

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Harvest Feast

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL - WEIMAR, TEXAS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

Fried Chicken & Stew Dinner

(DRIVE-THRU PLATES AVAILABLE AT ST. MICHAEL'S FAMILY CENTER)

ALL PLATES \$12.00	SERVING STARTS AT 11:00 AM	PICK-UP & PICNIC DRIVE-THRU & GO
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POLKA MASS
SUNDAY - 10:30 A.M. (THE LOST CAUSE BAND)

DRAWING FOR RAFFLE PRIZES

AUCTION (1:00 P.M.) • BINGO (2:00-6:00 P.M.)
COUNTRY STORE • TREASURE CHEST • RING TOSS
ANTIQU & CLASSIC CAR SHOW
FAMOUS PICNIC BURGERS • SNOW CONES • SNACK BAR
FISH POND • TRAIN RIDE • PLINKO • BALL THROW & MORE!

CORNHOLE
Tournament
BEGINS AT 4 P.M.

FIREWORKS
(9:00 P.M.)

Free Dancing & Music

11:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.

SHINER HOBO BAND	THE LOST CAUSE BAND	SOUTHBOUND 955
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Wanting to know more about your faith? We have the resources

Continued from pg. 1

story had to ask Vincent, “Why do we do that?” Vincent explained that we are asking God to bless our mind, our lips and our heart in order to know, love and proclaim Jesus.

Vincent, pastoral associate for Our Lady of Victory Parish in Victoria, was chosen by Bishop Brendan Cahill to lead the local synodal process and read all of the responses and summaries that came out of the parishes. The “scratching Catholics” story encapsulates some of the concerns voiced during the listening session and surveys, particularly the desire for more understanding of the Mass and more reverence as well.

“That gives us a great example of how we do things without thought,” she said. “It becomes an empty ritual.”

To help Catholics understand their faith better, Chris Kallus, who taught adult confirmation classes, spent years putting together a “Credible Witness” course that taught basic apologetics the first year, then became more topical with each year after that. His class on “The Mass” is one that went deep into the meaning behind the prayers, gestures and rituals. Though he has retired and moved away, he has left the curriculum to the church so they might use it again.

Vincent said our rituals and gestures are intended to increase our sense of sacredness and reverence, but it’s not always explained to Catholics, much less non-Catholics, so many people don’t have the tools to articulate the faith to others.

Several years ago she went back to school and obtained a master of arts in theology. “I remember feeling so excited,” she said. “I always had this sense that I was hearing about my ancestors – telling the stories of who we are as a family.”

Vincent’s advice to anyone grow in their faith should participate in RCIA as a sponsor. “You don’t have to know the answers; you just have to walk with (people preparing to

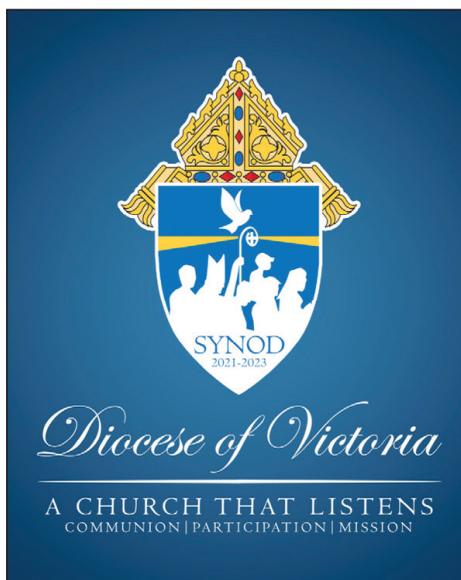
join the Church).”

Bishop Cahill said he still learns about the Church and sometimes has to look up what he doesn’t know or can’t remember. And much of what we do, he said, is based on trust in the Church. “The truth of the faith is preserved, and that’s the beauty of it.”

When it comes to learning, “The resources are there,” Bishop Cahill said. “It’s just making that connection. We have priests and religious sisters we can ask.”

But even the clergy can’t answer some of the questions, Bishop Cahill said. Some things are simply a matter of faith and trust in the Church that Jesus established.

He encouraged looking for the numerous resources on the Internet, citing Ascension Presents, featuring the Reverend



Mike Schmitz of the Diocese of Duluth, as one of his favorites. Schmitz gives short videos to explain the truths of the Church and give guidance on doctrine, dealing with everything from holy days to tattoos.

Schmitz is easy to find with a simple search on YouTube as are all sorts of Catholic offerings. Just Google “Why do Catholics do that?” and see how much material comes up.

Bishop Cahill recently answered a series of questions taken from the Catholic Conference in April and answered them via video on Facebook to benefit more people than just those who asked the question or attended the workshop.

Christella Alvarez, director of the Office of Catechetical Ministry, said one of her

catechists recently took the time to navigate the Diocese of Victoria’s website and found told Alvarez she was surprised at how many resources were on there.

Her office offers the Pastoral Institute, a three-year series of courses that helps prepare Catholics to become catechists, whether they are teaching CCD or simply sharing the faith with friends and family. It has become much easier to access since COVID-19 hastened a transition to virtual classes and recorded classes. Students of the Pastoral Institute can take classes in a traditional setting or on their own time through the online portals.

The Very Rev. Jacob Koether, who recently was named Episcopal Vicar Catechesis and Evangelization, said there are a lot of people who are “sacramentalized, but unevangelized.”

If you have heard the term “new evangelization,” that’s what it’s about. Leading the baptized to an intimate relationship with Jesus.

“It’s really about discipleship,” Koether said. “Walking with people.”

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HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH FESTIVAL

September 11, 2022

Yorktown Community Hall
60 Community Hall Road – Yorktown, TX

MASS AT 9:30 AM

Father Roger Hawes, Pastor

DINNER STARTS AT 10:30 AM

Barbeque Beef Shoulder Clod & Homemade Sausage with trimmings
Adult & To-Go Plates - \$12/plate
Children under 12 - \$8/plate

ENTERTAINMENT

11:30AM-1PM Rusty Stein Band
1-3PM DJ Val Mungia

LIVE AUCTION at 1:00 PM

In the Dance Hall

THINGS TO DO

Country Store, Cake Walk, Children’s Activities, Gift Card Raffle, KC Calf Raffle, And More!

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First Communion, Confirmation,
Bibles, Books, Rosaries, Medals,
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Inspirational Gifts

When we don't see faults, we can't fix them

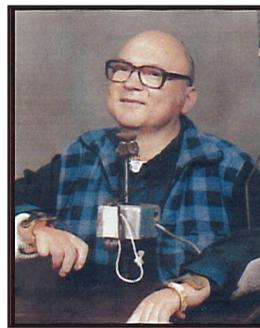
EDITOR'S NOTE: Father Kram wrote this homily for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A. He titled it "Correcting our Faults." It has been edited some for space.

Ordinarily, the notions of right and wrong that we live by all our lives are determined in early childhood. "As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined."

Just as a little sapling must be braced up and protected if it is to grow up straight, so too, without guidance and correction, even the best kind of person can go astray.

Right now, some prisons are so crowded that many inmates have to be released prematurely, creating worse criminals. In fact, a recent news report stated that, statistically, the crime rate has risen in proportion to the rise in prisoner release, and have all heard of instances where suspects were out on several bails at once, freeing them to commit new crimes.

No one likes to be corrected. The latest twist is the ever-more-popular "Don't blame me" mentality, which excuses wrongdoing by calling it an illness or by blaming it on someone else. For example, people who set fires or loot stores during riots are not criminals any more, but victims of "mob frenzy" or "black rage syndrome." Children who kill their parents are afflicted with "chronic abuse syndrome." A man who was fired from his job because he was always late for work claimed to be suffering, not from laziness, but from "chronic tardiness syndrome." Yet, from the criminals on down, we all have our faults, so



1929-2000

Father Charles Kram Corner

the only sensible and honest thing to do is to endure correction just as graciously as we accept compliments and praise.

The craving to be appreciated is one of the strongest drives in our nature, so accepting correction gracefully requires a lot of courage, yet learning to correct our faults is like continuing education, which leads to self-improvement.

Correcting others is the special duty of certain people – parents, teachers, judges, pastors. But others, rightly or wrongly, often participate. We have all heard of meddlers and a variety of self-appointed critics.

Chances are that if you have a fault, your best friends won't tell you, but your enemies will, and little children will. Almost all parents have at one time or another suffered embarrassment when a child of theirs unexpectedly made public an incident that had happened at home.

When it becomes necessary to correct someone's fault, one should have the at-

titude, "I disapprove of your FAULT, but I love YOU." Exercise the Golden Rule – correct others, as you would have them correct you – with kindness, gentleness, firmness, but with love.

A stoplight that is red brings things to a halt, but green makes them go again. So, too, corrections should not be just negative (pointing out faults), but also positive (encouraging improvement).

Once there was a mom who had a teenage son. Whenever she told him to do anything around the house, he always offered excuses. He usually carried out her instructions in the end, but only under protest. The mom, who had once been a teenager herself, remembered how rebellious she had been and how much anguish she had inflicted on her mother during those growing-up years.

Suddenly an inspiration struck her. Instead

of saying anything to her son, she taped a request list on the refrigerator door where he would see it. This solved the problem. The boy now felt that he was in charge and completed his assignment promptly. His mom was no longer telling him what to do.

Yes, the method of correction can be very important. For example, once in school a boy defied the principal and told him, "You're not going to spank me." The principal reasoned with him first and said, "Do you realize the importance of this? Do you mean you're going to throw away your whole future over one little incident like this?" The boy reconsidered and said, "Lay it to me, Mr. Seidenberger." This happened in Shiner.

Whether or not we like it, someone will sooner or later make our faults known to us. If we wish to profit from each such opportunity, we must accept with humility, consider with honesty and, where appropriate, change promptly.

Indeed, where correction is concerned, even our worst enemy may be our best friend.

Lord Jesus, thank you for teaching us right from wrong and for those who have dutifully pointed out our faults. Help us carefully to take advantage of every opportunity to improve. Grant that when you are finished with us, and we come before you in judgment, you may find us worthy of your praise. Amen.

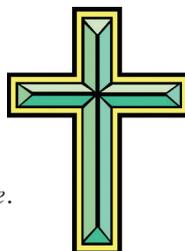
Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria,
who were ordained during the month of August:

Rev. Antonio Perez 08/18/90 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Wharton

Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria, who died during the month of August:

Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say	8/04/2015
Rev. Charles Kram	8/13/2000
Rev. James Kelly	8/20/1986
Rev. Joseph Hamala	8/21/1992
Rev. Alphonse Padalecki	8/24/1992

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)



Biblically Responsible Investing



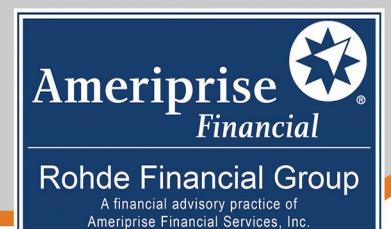
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Brother Jerome Matz

SAN ANTONIO — Brother Jerome L. Matz, one of the Marianist brothers who taught at St. Joseph High School in the 1960s died July 12 at the age of 81 with 62 years of religious profession. He was at the Marianist Residence Community in San Antonio. After he left St. Joseph in Victoria, he pursued graduate studies at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, earning a Ph.D. in sociology. He would go on to serve on the faculty and in leadership positions at St. Mary's University.



Br. Jerome Matz

Employment Opportunities

- Accounting Clerk
- Business Manager
- Cook/Kitchen Assistant
- Director of Clinical Services
- Licensed Professional Counselor
- Licensed Professional Counselor Associate

For more details go to <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/current-job-postings>



CDA officers

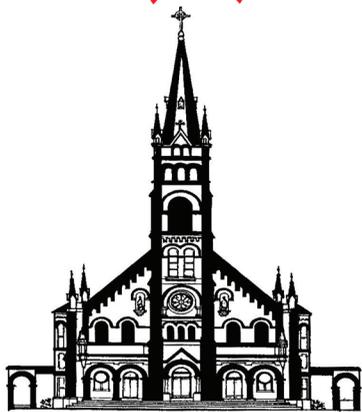
EAST BERNARD — New officers of Cathedral Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1108 were installed at Holy Cross on June 20. From left are, front, Wendy Hurta, financial secretary; Joey Pitman, vice regent; Karen Rejsek, regent; Sandy Valiguera, recording secretary; Karen Riley, treasurer; back, the Rev. Samuel Kwabena Owusu, the Rev. Charles E. Otsiwah, chaplain; the Rev. Michael Odartey-Lamperty; and Nancy Zurek, district deputy.



Angeline Griger, 98, received her pin for 75 years of membership in the CDA Court St. Bernadette No. 1108.

101st Annual SHINER Catholic Church Fall PICNIC Sunday September 4th 2022

At the KC Park - 102 South Ave. G in Shiner, Texas



Pre-Picnic Event on Saturday, May 28th
Motorecycle Run - Registration 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Contact Michael Picha (361) 293-0058 or
Lance Thompson (361) 293-8132

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Inside AIR CONDITIONED Hall



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

Tuba Meisters

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Shiner Hobo Band

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The Czechaholics

MUSIC OUTSIDE

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Classic Top Hits
with Vic Patek

12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. toLoveAndRescue

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Yodel Blitz Band

6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Bill Pekar & the Rainey Brothers Band

DANCE

9:00 p.m. - 12:00p.m.

with THE EMOTIONS

Admission FREE for ages 21 and over

Famous Picnic Hamburgers
Hot off the grill all afternoon-evening!

Drawing for Raffle Prizes 10:00 p.m.

PETTING ZOO 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Plant Wheel, Ring Toss, Ball Throw,
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DINNER

10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Air Conditioned Dining Room

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◆ Picnic Stew ◆ Fried Chicken

◆ Country Sausage and Trimmings

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From 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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Under Bingo Stand - Canned & Baked Goods - Kolaches & Pigs-in-a-Blanket

BIG COUNTRY AUCTION STARTS at 12 p.m.
Cattle Auction 3 p.m.

BINGO in A/C Dining Room
3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

GROCERY WHEEL - 5 p.m.

Ganado KJZT gives to Helping Hands



GANADO — KJZT Society No. 43 of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, presented a donation of \$100 to Helping Hands of Jackson County from the Catholic Family Life Fraternal called the 100 project. The 100 project allows a local KJZT society to give to a charity of their choice. Receiving the donation is Kay Koop, director of Helping Hands. Pictured, from left, are, top row, Cecilia French, Kay Koop and Helen Anedel, and, bottom row, Charlotte Anedel and Mary Ann Peters, members of KJZT No. 43. The KJZT societies

across Texas were able to conduct projects, meetings and donations because of their members' dedication to their parishes and communities. Also, the organization recently celebrated 125 years and was recognized by the Texas Historical Commission with a plaque installed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Yoakum in honor of the ladies who started the organization to provide community service and financial security. (Contributed Photo)

Shredded, wetted, seeds imbedded

Years of journals become a practical medium for new growth in two ways

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sister Rosario Resendez will make her final profession of vows on Aug. 6.

Something that happens when we who are in formation with the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament near the date of our final profession, is we take time off of our ministry for vow prep. This is usually six weeks long, so when discussing it, we sisters decided that I could include my weeklong canonical retreat as part of my six weeks. When thinking about what project I would do during my retreat that would not only bring me closer to my Lord, but also remind me of my commitment to consecrated life, I decided I could create seed bombs or balls out of the pages of my old journals. Not only because I didn't want anyone to ever read them if they came across them, but because, in a way, I thought, it could symbolize my journey to this point and how it could grow.

So I asked my spiritual director if he thought it would be OK for me to "destroy" my old journals to make the seed bombs. He actually thought it was a beautiful idea but made me promise to continue to write in journals.

I am also in a three-year program to become a spiritual director. In this program I have a mentor and I spoke to her about my idea of converting my old journal pages into seed bombs. She agreed with my spiritual director that it was a beautiful idea, but she told me to read them first, which, to be honest, I was not planning to do.

During our retreats we have a retreat director, and when I met with her I told her what I had planned to do. She loved the idea and so we pretty much based the retreat off of that project. We both decided that it would be best to read from the oldest to the newest.

Finding Beauty in Mystery

By Sister Rosario Resendez, IWBS



It has been a long time since I have cried so much. Not of sadness; it's hard to describe the feeling one gets when she sees the affirmation that she is right where she is supposed to be.

There were times that I didn't recognize my own words. I couldn't believe that it was me who had written the paper I was reading. I saw my journey. I saw my growth. One of the first journals that I read was from before I had even contacted the sisters. I wrote about curiosity of religious life, and I would write how much I loved Jesus.

I read when I actually started to seriously consider religious life and how I had all these "conditions" that I expected the religious congregation to meet before I would think they were "the one for me." It is amazing to see in words how my life went from being all about what I wanted to, literally, "Lord, take me where You want me to go."

In 2013, when I finally started formation with the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters, I wrote: "I love you Jesus. I never want You to doubt that. You know my heart, but I don't want to love You in private. I want everyone to know



how much I love You even when I don't tell them. I love You for loving me. I love you even when I don't feel You near. I love you even when I don't act like it. I love how You reach out and grab me when I'm sinking in despair. I love how You reach out to me in song or nature when I need You most. I love how You pull me close when I want to run away and how when I struggle instead of letting me go, You hold me tighter. I love the confidence You have in me (even if at times I wish you didn't have so much!) I love how You protect me and how You defend me. How You are walking before me when I am afraid, beside me when I need support, and behind me when I need a push or someone to fall back on... I tell You that I love You.

See Shredded, wetted & seeds imbedded, pg. 10

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(979) 541-6346



NADA/GARWOOD
Chris Merta, FIC
(979) 543-1059



Father Gabriel Bentil earns St. George scouting medal

Continued from pg. 3

Boy Scout Retreat in September 2021 with the theme of “Martyrs of Canada, U.S. & Mexico.”

The diocese also received a Quality Diocesan Committee Award. The Victoria Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting was established in 1983 when the Rev. Don Ruppert called a meeting asking for people to help establish a Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for the new diocese. Members such as Gary Rangnow, David Kouba, David Wearden and others answered the call. To earn the award, the committee met objectives, including a report to the bishop and region chair, regularly scheduled

meetings of a committee actively providing a program to the scouts, adult leader training as provided by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, promotion and participation by units in the Catholic Unit Excellence Award.

Committee members are, Deacon Jay Vocelka, diocesan chaplain; Dolores Ruiz, treasurer coordinator; Gary Rangnow, religious emblem coordinator; Rey Rosas, religious activities coordinator; Gilbert Ramon, recognition and publicity coordinator; Michael Muniz, emblem counselor; Charles Bonorden, Don Sudheimer, Roger Lawrence, Drew Pilkington and Dave Kouba.

Father Jasper Liggio’s sister passes away

DICKINSON — Pauline Antonette Liggio, 79, of Houston passed away July 13, 2022. She was born Sept. 18, 1942, in Galveston, the oldest of four children, to Anthony and Rose Marie Liggio.



Pauline Liggio

Raised in Dickinson, Pauline attended True Cross Catholic School and Dickinson High School where she was Salutatorian of the Class of 1960. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Dallas with a degree in elementary education. She received her master of education with honors from the University of Houston. She began teaching at Northside Elementary in Texas City in 1964 and retired from Levi Fry Intermediate in 2000. During her tenure she received many accolades including Teacher of the Year and The President’s Volunteer Service Award. She has served as president, treasurer, historian and yearbook committee chairman of Mainland Retired Teachers Association. Pauline was also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma

Epsilon Tau. She enjoyed her get-togethers with her Red Hat sisters, the Mainland Scarlett O’Hatters. Pauline was a world traveler and loved doing extensive genealogy research into her Italian family roots. Her family, faith, and friends were everything to her.

Pauline was a faithful member of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church where she was lector coordinator and liturgy planner, an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, an adorer for Perpetual Adoration, and enjoyed countless hours as a Gathering Place Care Team Volunteer.

Pauline was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her sister Pamela Liggio and proud twin brothers Vincent Liggio (Cheryl), and the Rev. Jasper Liggio.

Her funeral Mass was July 18 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Nassau Bay. Burial followed at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Dickinson. Services were handled by Crowder Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, Shrine of the True Cross Catholic Church or True Cross Catholic School.

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Parish **CHURCH PICNIC** CISTERN, TEXAS

COUNTRY STORE

GAMES

**AIR
CONDITIONED
BINGO**

12 NOON - 4 P.M.

MAGIC SHOW

3 P.M.

KARAOKE

4 P.M. - 7 P.M.



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Czechaholics
11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

CAKE SPIN

**BALLOON
ARTIST**

Bobby Cordell
1 P.M. - 3 P.M.

WATER SLIDE

All Ages
11 A.M. - 5 P.M.

SUNDAY AUGUST 28, 2022
(4th Sunday in August)

*Under the SHADY pavilion at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
in Cistern – off Hwy 95 between Smithville & Flatonia*

HOLY MASS: Sunday - 10:00 A.M.

Dinner: 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (*Walk-up plates or drive thru*)
Fried Chicken and V&V Sausage
Adult & Plates To-Go: \$12.00 Children Plates: \$6.00

Auction: 1:00 P.M. - Homemade items, crafts, livestock & more
Hamburgers and sausage wraps in the afternoon.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! COME AND ENJOY THE DAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 361-865 3568 or 512-619-8201

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS ARE DONATED TO MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Shredded, wetted & seeds imbedded

Continued from pg. 9

Help me show You how I love You by loving all of Your people... Thank you for being my friend. I ask, too, that You help me live my life in a way that no one will question that I am Yours and that I am also Your friend.”

I was not able to make the seed bombs during my retreat as I spent the whole week just reflecting on my own writings. I don’t know if I will ever be the person I was asking to be, but I do know that I am exactly where Jesus wants me to be.

I did make the seed bombs when I began my weeks of vow prep. It was messy, as is life. Yet as I tore the pages, soaked them in water, then blended them and made them into balls with seeds, I thought about the words that

I had written and my journey to this point. I do believe these seed bombs, made to be given to those who attend my final profession, symbolize the growth to come. Just because I’ve chosen to be a consecrated religious sister does not mean I stop living once I make my final vows. Some believe that we sisters die to this world to then live for God alone. That is not the case, for this world is God’s. In reading the pages of my old journals, I saw that I died to myself so that I may live for Jesus. This is the beginning of something new.

“Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” John 12:24

Indian Open Golf Classic

Benefits Sacred Heart Catholic School Teachers

Saturday, September 3

Tee Time: 9:30 a.m.

Hallettsville Municipal Golf Course

3-person scramble @ \$60 per person / Silent Auction: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



For more information contact:

Hallettsville Golf Association at 361-798-9908 or
Aaron Chovanetz at 281-750-9279; Pete Murphy 832-817-8147



Kiss as Peter did, not as Judas

“The way to Christ is first through humility, second through humility, third through humility.” -- St. Augustine (Letters 118:32)

“What do you whisper to that long table? Are you telling it secrets?” These are questions from second-graders after a school Mass. So I went into teacher mode and explained that the “table” was the altar and the “kiss” was an expression of our love of Jesus and in thanksgiving for His sacrifice. Kissing the altar was giving a kiss of love to Jesus.

“Did you know there was another man who kissed Jesus? Sister Collette said he was a bad kisser,” one of the students added. Their teacher herded the giggling students out the door while explaining that Sister had not said he was a bad kisser, but that his kiss was a bad thing. While the episode lasted only several minutes, the questions raised continue to shape the way I approach Mass – from entering the sanctuary to how I enter into the Penitential Act – from kissing the altar to striking the breast.

“Jesus said, ‘Judas, are you betraying the Son of man with a kiss?’” (Luke 22: 48)

In the “Judas Kiss,” we see the intimate sign of love and commitment used with insincerity and in betrayal of the love offered by Jesus. It is tempting to regard this betrayal as coming from a hateful heart; since I don’t hate Jesus, I could never act like Judas. What is troubling is to consider that, while the act of Judas was an offense, Judas could still have love for Jesus -- troubling because it forces me to recognize that I am like Judas.

The fact is the lips that kiss the altar out of my love for Him are the same lips that betray His love for me through words that sting and voice jealous thoughts. God loves us. He invites us to share in Divine life through the gift of His sacred Mass.

We love God, but the hands that make the sign of the cross are the same hands that strike the SEND button that launches an insult or makes a false claim on social media. We profess our faith with the same tongue that speaks in anger or rash judgment. Perhaps we’ve denied the fullness of His Mass by approaching it as the obligation to receive certification rather than an opportunity for transformation.

Maybe, like Martha, we attend Mass “... anxious and worried about many things” and remain in that mode. If this is you, join the rest of us Catholics. All of us have betrayed the love of Christ in our lives; some severe enough to require the Sacrament of Reconciliation for absolving (mortal sins). Consid-

At Your Service

By Deacon Michael Tankersley



erably more of our offenses against God are those of a lesser degree – venial sins – which are less serious but still in need of reparation. These lesser faults feed on our ego, and, in turn, produce more love of self. According to St. Augustine, to the degree that humility is present in our hearts, so Christ will be. Unlike ego-feeding attributes, humility is not to be grasped through our efforts, but through our surrender. Fortunately, Sacred Liturgy provides the means by which the virtue (habit) of humility grows most especially, through the Penitential Act and *Kyrie*.

After the sign of the cross and liturgical greeting, the priest calls us to “acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.” Notice that our capacity to receive what Christ is offering is conditional upon the acknowledgement of our sins and the request for mercy. When we “call to mind our sins,” we ask Him to enter into our specific wounds and to heal particular betrayals through His mercy.

And things get personal: When “*I confess*,” I make a personal declaration in public because I am part of the orchestra of the Body of Christ and not a soloist. I cannot minimize my accountability that an opening line of “*We confess*” would allow. I confess to “*you my brothers and sisters*” because my journey to salvation is always in the context of a community. My failures are never in a vacuum and affect others beyond myself. In my admission that I have “*greatly sinned*,” I bring to mind what I might otherwise wish to forget: that I kiss Christ in love and betray him out of self-love.

Like Adam and Eve, I eat from the forbidden fruit of ego that is so “pleasing to the eye.” My failures in living Christ-like is not the blame of the serpent, or circumstances, or wherever else to point a finger of blame. I must put down the rocks to throw at other sinners -- for what I thought, said, did or failed to do is “*through my fault, my most grievous fault*.” I strike my breast as an act of beating back the ego and awakening my heart to receive what is offered. These are not words that should shackle me in guilt or shame. They are liberating, not convicting.



Rather than staying in the prison of ego-guilt, I go to those who can set me free, and “*therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.*”

My friends, our salvation was made possible through the humility of Jesus. Our salvation can be realized through our own humility. The ego-driven desire to satisfy our wants and promote our self-interests is the chain that binds. Humility frees us to forget ourselves by assuring us that our worth comes from God and not personal merit. While ego drives us to defend our weaknesses, in humility we can hear Christ speak to us the words spoken to Paul: “*My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.*”

These days, as I bend to venerate the altar, I can kiss Christ accepting that I have not loved him as He has loved me. I can I recognize the gap between what He offers and what I have surrendered enough to receive. I do not kiss as Judas, however, as Judas rejected Christ’s mercy and ran from His forgiveness. I kiss as did Peter, who, despite his frailties and failings, continued to seek out the Lord. And I have added a whisper now -- words similar to the father of the possessed boy: “I do love you. Help me in my unlove.”

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy..

Pax tibi,
Deacon Michael



Join in listening to Bishop Brendan Cahill every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 a.m. on *Relevant Radio Morning Air with John Morales*. Listeners can call in with questions or comments. You can listen to past podcast online.

Relevant Radio® has been helping people bridge the gap between faith and everyday life through informative, entertaining, and interactive programming twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. The Relevant Radio network is currently serving the Church with 127 stations reaching 39 states, with a potential listening audience of 133 million people. Programming can be heard worldwide via streaming audio at relevantradio.com and on the mobile app.



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5 Shows and Christmas Lights



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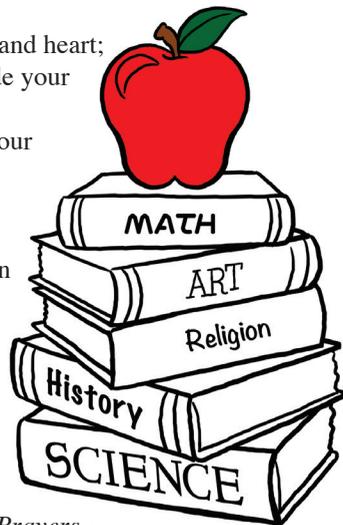
Prayer to Begin a School Year

Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways.

At the beginning of this new school year we implore your mercy: bless the students, teachers, and staff that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus.

Expand the horizons of our minds, that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.

Glory and praise to you, Lord God, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.
R/. Amen



Prayer taken from the Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

When does school start?

The following is a list of start dates for Catholic schools in our diocese:

Aug. 9 – St. Michael in Weimar

Aug. 10 – Holy Cross in Bay City; St. Anthony in Columbus; St. Michael's in Cuero; St. Philip in El Campo; Sacred Heart in Hallettsville; Our Lady of the Gulf in Port Lavaca; Our Lady of Victory in Victoria; Nazareth Academy in Victoria; St. Joseph High School in Victoria; and St. Joseph in Yoakum

Aug. 11 – Shiner Catholic Schools and St. Rose of Lima in Schulenburg



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THE Gabriel Project OF THE CROSSROADS



Scholarships awarded

PORTLAVACA — Abigail Holford, a St. Joseph High School graduate going to Texas A&M this fall, and Krystal Guerrero, a Calhoun High School graduate going to the University of Texas, were awarded the Father Dan Morales Memorial Scholarship. Both are 2018 graduates of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic School. (Contributed Photo)

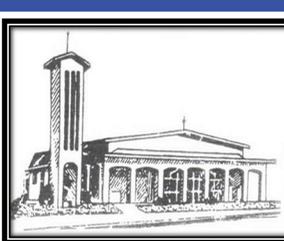
Sacred Heart Parish

Fall 2022 Picnic

Sunday, September 4, 2022
Hallettsville
At the K.C. Hall in Hallettsville, Texas

DINNER: SERVING FROM 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Dining in the KC Hall
Drive thru Plates-to-Go: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Country Fried Chicken, Stew, Homemade Cornbread Dressing with all the trimmings!
Dinner Tickets: \$12
Short Memorial at 1:00 p.m. given by Rev. Msgr. John Peters

Inside the air-conditioned KC Hall
Cake Walk
Country Store
Religious Articles Booth
Bingo (Noon to 6:00 p.m.)



Washer Pitching Tournament Begins at 5:00 p.m.
Delicious Hamburgers, Nachos, Popcorn, SnowCones, Lemonade & Sodawater All afternoon!!

Auction sale at 1:00 pm
Cattle, Quilts, Antiques, Homemade Canned Goods, Noodles, Vegetables, Outdoor Furniture & more
"20 Grand Giveaway"
(In Place of Polaris Ranger Raffle)
Top Prize \$10,000 Gift Card
To be given away at Fall Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 4, 2022

--AUCTION & ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PAVILION--
CHURCH PICNIC RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM PARISHIONERS, RECTORY & AT PICNIC

Music on the Main Pavilion
Kovanda Czech Band 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Free Dance on the Polka Pavilion/Biergarten
Red Ravens, and Dujka Brothers
1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.




Red Ravens
The Dujka Brothers

There are 34 Cash Certificate Prizes to be given away after Auction. (Total Value of the 34 Certificates-\$9,500.00).

EVERYBODY WELCOME! FUN FOR ALL AGES!



Camp David back in full force for 2022

JANET JONES
The Catholic Lighthouse

After the first of two sessions of Camp David this year, a very happy mom of a camper said, “My daughter came home just on fire for the Eucharist.” And she told her daughter to hold on to that passion.

Even before the Eucharistic Revival in the Church was announced, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry had planned to highlight the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic at the next Camp David, a summer retreat for middle-schoolers with a day-long session for younger children between the two regular camp sessions.

That was also before the pandemic, which led to the 2020 camp being canceled and the 2021 camp being reduced to half capacity. But this year saw the event come back full force; maybe even better.

Shannon Thomas, associate director of the youth ministry office, said she and Wendy Eggert, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, reviewed the PEW research that showed some 70 percent of Catholics do not believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

“That kind of struck us,” she said.

This summer’s camp included a session Thomas called Eucharist 101. “I think that was a favorite session,” she said. After the session they went directly to Adoration to



Camp David 2022 focused on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Adoration was included as a part of the camp for middle-schoolers.

During the closing prayer service, the youth were able to bring roses to place in front of the tabernacle in which Jesus was present as a gesture of gratitude for something for which they felt most thankful.

Children also were asked to write down a particular struggle or prayer intention on a special piece of paper. The pieces were put together to form a “stained glass” panel to show them that, when the light shines through, “God can make something beautiful out of your struggles,” Thomas said.

The youth office received a lot of positive feedback, according to Thomas. “Those affirmatives motivate us and gives us the strength to keep doing this,” she said.

“really spend some time with Jesus. That was a new experience (for Camp David).”

The young people also were enlightened on many Eucharistic miracles around the world and were exposed to the story of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the teenage boy who so loved Jesus that he dragged his parents to Mass and encouraged all people to receive the Eucharist daily. He built a website to catalogue and promote the world’s known Eucharistic miracles before he died from leukemia in 2006 at age 15.

The campers also had lots of time for play as well through water activities, team-building games and skits.



Youth attending Camp David enjoy “Water Day” activities.



Matthew Van Antwerp, one of the Youth Leadership Team for the Diocese of Victoria, teaches campers about a Eucharistic miracle. Wendy Eggert, director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry said Camp David included a “tour” of six countries where Eucharistic miracles have occurred. The campers had passports that were stamped at each “country.” (Photos by Taylor Janak)

Safe Environment

Reporting Procedures for Suspected or Known Sexual Abuse of a Minor (person under 18 years of age) or Vulnerable Adult by a Member of the Clergy

Contact:

- The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, within **48 hours**, at (800) 252-5400, www.txabusehotline.org, or local police department.
If person is in immediate danger call 911.

and

- Shannon Thomas, LMSW, Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Outreach, Diocese of Victoria, (361) 827-7186, pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.

or

- Bishop or Chancellor of the Diocese of Victoria, (361) 573-0828
Written allegations can be mailed

marked “Personal and Confidential” to
Office of the Bishop
P.O. Box 4070
Victoria, TX 77903



If sexual abuse by a member of clergy has occurred in another diocese, the Diocese of Victoria will help bring your concerns to church officials. For assistance contact Shannon Thomas at (361) 827-7186 or pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.



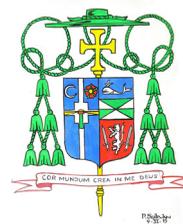
Viaje a Ghana demuestra la Iglesia 'una, santa, católica, apostólica'

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,
Sabido que iba a visitar Ghana en un viaje de gratitud por el pueblo de Ghana que ha formado a tantos de nuestros sacerdotes, el Arzobispo Gabriel Anokye me invitó a ordenar sacerdotes y diáconos en su Catedral de Kumasi. Experimenté esto como un signo tangible de nuestra comunión como hermanos obispos en unión con nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco. Esa Misa de Ordenación el 9 de julio estuvo llena de alegría, esperanza y el poder del Espíritu Santo. Después de la misa, el arzobispo Anokye dijo a la gente que yo podría ser el primer obispo estadounidense en haber bailado en la catedral.

El día después de la ordenación, pedí visitar a la Legión de María y al Club Serra.

Mensaje del Pastor

By Obispo Brendan Cahill



En la reunión de la Legión de María seguimos el estricto protocolo. Los miembros de la Legión colocaron la estatua de María con las velas y las imágenes de manera precisa. Es lo mismo en Victoria, Bay City y Kumasi. El presidente abrió la reunión y yo dirigí las oraciones de apertura. Lo llamamos "tessera" y es exactamente la misma oración para

todos los miembros de la Legión de María. Después de las oraciones y algunos asuntos, di una charla de cinco minutos llamada "allocutio".

El tema de mi allocutio fue la paciencia, y compartí con ellos mi reticencia de joven a consagrarme a María. Durante años tuve miedo de no ser lo suficientemente digno y de hacer una promesa que quizás no pudiera cumplir. No fue hasta que uno de mis alumnos compartió su experiencia y me animó a no preocuparme que finalmente seguí la preparación de 33 días y le ofrecí mi corazón por completo a María. En ese momento, yo tenía más de 40 años y había sido sacerdote por más de 15. Lo que pensé en ese compartir es que no siempre obtenemos resultados inmediatos, pero siempre podemos confiar en el amor y la preocupación de María por todos sus hijos.

La paciencia es un don que nos ayuda a darnos cuenta de que Dios está realizando las cosas según Su plan y tiempo. La realidad de "Un solo corazón" y "Un solo espíritu" con la gente de Ghana se presentó durante mi viaje el mes pasado. Llegó en esa reunión de la Legión de María, y también con la reunión que tuve con el Serra Club en la Universidad de Kumasi.

El Club Serra es una organización católica que promueve las vocaciones al sacerdocio ya la vida consagrada. Hace más de 40 años, una pareja de Houston, Frank y Rita Metyko, visitaron en su casa al Arzobispo de Kumasi, en ese entonces Arzobispo Peter Sarpong. Frank, entonces presidente del Serra Club International, ayudó al arzobispo Sarpong a iniciar el primer Serra Club en África.

Uno de los sacerdotes en la reunión del Serra Club este año fue Mons. John Opoku-Agyemang, actualmente rector del Seminario Mayor Provincial de Kumasi. Estaba completando sus últimos años de estudio en St. Mary's Seminary en Houston hace 40 años, el mismo año en que ingresé a St. Mary's como estudiante de segundo año de la universidad a los 18 años. Compartimos recuerdos sobre nuestros hermanos sacerdotes y las familias que lo recibieron cuando vino a Texas, especialmente los Metykos.

Recientemente, Kurt Metyko, el hijo de Frank y Rita, fue elegido presidente de Serra International.

Cuando un católico profesa nuestra fe el domingo, verdaderamente pertenecemos a una Iglesia santa, católica y apostólica: las palabras coinciden con la realidad y la historia continúa. Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias con los dones de la fe, la esperanza y el amor. Y que todos tengamos la confiada seguridad de que Dios está cumpliendo todas las cosas de acuerdo a Su plan y tiempo.

Mantengámonos unos a otros en oración.

+Brendan

96th ANNUAL
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
CUERO, TEXAS
JAMAICA
2022
SUNDAY, SEPT. 4, 2022



Parish Hall Grounds 207 Graham - Cuero

TAMALE SALE \$13.00
dozen

BBQ DINNER \$12.00
with Trimmings
DINE IN OR PLATES TO GO
11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

FREE MUSIC & STREET DANCING
4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Featuring ★ "Grupo Ayana"
★ "Grupo Pecado"
★ "DJ VAL" ★ "DJ Slick"
★ "DJ Guerrero"
Sound & Lighting by
CJ's Sound Production

GAMES:
★ Cake Walk ★ Train Ride
★ Surprise Pkg.

AFTERNOON AUCTION
1:00 P.M. Inside A/C Parish Hall

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT 9 A.M.
Contact: Russell Ortiz - 361-935-3208

Soft Drinks & Refreshments Available

\$ RAFFLE PRIZE \$
DRAWING TO BE HELD
SUN. SEPT. 4, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT starts @ 4:00 p.m.
WASHER TOURNAMENT 1 P.M.

ID REQUIRED FOR ALCOHOL SALES -
Bring Lawn Chairs / Fun For The Whole Family! - Strictly No Ice Chests Permitted

POSTERS DONATED BY STANDARD PRINTING COMPANY - DEBBIE and GERARD GONZALES



Bishop Brendan Cahill and Dr. John Quarry with the Serra Club in Kumasi.



Gaze Upon Jesus

WOMEN'S RETREAT

October 7-9, | Friday 4pm - Sunday 1:30pm
Spiritual Renewal Center
718 Gussie Schmidt Rd. Victoria, Texas 77905

SPEAKER:
Kelly Wahlquist is a wife, mother of three, inspiring Catholic author and speaker residing in Minnesota. She is the founder of WINE: Women In the New Evangelization and the Director of the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. She is the author of *Created to Relate*, and the creator and editor of *Walk in Her Sandals* and *Gaze Upon Jesus*.

Stop, Gaze, and Listen with WINE!
What if you had walked beside the Virgin Mary from the Annunciation to the point at which she and Joseph found Jesus in the Temple? How might seeing Christ as a child impact you and your faith life? Join us for this unique retreat that follows the infancy and early years of Christ as seen through the eyes of Mary and other familiar and imagined women in the gospels.

Grab a friend & register!

To Register: <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/women-retreats>

Sunday Readings from Aug. 14 - Sept. 11

August 7 ~ Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 18:6-9
Psalms 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19
Luke 12:32-48

August 28 ~ Twenty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29
Psalms 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a
Luke 14:1, 7-14

August 14 ~ Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10
Psalms 40:2, 3, 4, 18
Hebrews 12:1-4
Luke 12:49-53

September 4 ~ Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 9:13-18b
Psalms 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

August 21 ~ Twenty-first Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 66:18-21
Psalms 117:1, 2
Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13
Luke 13:22-30

September 11 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32

For daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, visit
www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH

NADA, TEXAS

Festival & Homecoming

Sunday, September 4

BBQ Beef & Sausage Dinner

11am-1:30 pm

Adult \$12 ~ Children under 12 \$6

PLATES TO GO AVAILABLE

BBQ Sandwiches, Nachos, Sweets & More 1:30-7 pm

AUCTION AT 1:00 PM

RAFFLE
DRAWING

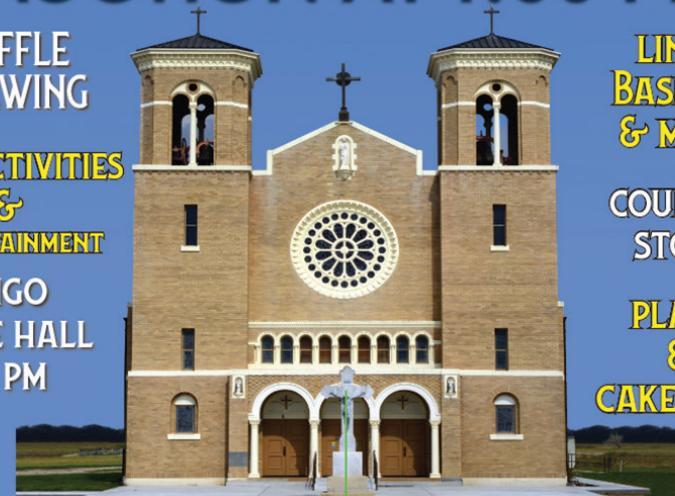
KIDS ACTIVITIES
&
ENTERTAINMENT

BINGO
INSIDE HALL
1-7 PM

LINEN
BASKETS
& MORE

COUNTRY
STORE

PLANT
&
CAKEWALK



MUSIC PROVIDED IN HALL



2022 IWBS jubilarians have put in 405 years of service

Sister Rosa Sanchez

Profession Date: 9/2/1947
75th Anniversary

Sister Rosa Sanchez is the daughter of the late Diego and Genevieve (Vargas) Sanchez. She received her elementary education at Adams Public School in El Campo and her high school education at Nazareth Academy School in Victoria. She entered Nazareth Convent as a postulant in 1945 and made her profession of vows on Sept. 2, 1947. Sister Rosa received her BA with a major in English and a minor in Spanish from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio and her MA with a major in secondary education and a minor in sociology/psychology from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

During the 75 years as a member of the congregation, Sister Rosa taught on the elementary and junior high levels. She also served as principal in several of the schools, and served as director of religious education in various parishes. Sister Rosa's teaching experiences took her to St. Jerome School in Plum, St. Agnes School in San Antonio, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Holy Cross School in Bay City, St. Michael School in Weimar, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma, St. Leo School in San Antonio, Immaculate Conception School in Sealy, St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner, St. John School in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in La Grange, Nazareth Academy in Victoria and Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio. As director of religious education, Sister Rosa ministered to the people in Holy Cross Parish in East Bernard, St. Mary's Parish in Nada, Guardian Angels Parish in Wallis, St. Basil and St. Thomas parishes in Angelton and St. Lawrence and St. Cecilia's parishes in San Antonio. She ministered as a certified Chaplain for Pastoral Ministry, counselor/chaplain with Family Hospice, Nurses in Touch Hospice, and Outreach Health Services in San Antonio. In 2016 she moved to Incarnate Word Convent Health Care where she has entered into her Apostolate of Prayer and Suffering. She enjoys puzzles, listening to music and spiritual recordings. She finds delight in sharing the wonders God has accomplished in her life.

Sister Claudia Klesel

Profession Date: 9/2/1947
75th Anniversary

Sister Claudia Klesel, daughter of the late Edmund and Annie (Till) Klesel, was born in Schulenburg. She received her elementary education at St. Edward School in Dubina and graduated from Nazareth Academy. Sister Claudia entered Nazareth Convent and received the habit of the Sisters of the Incar-



Celebrating significant anniversaries of their final profession of vows this year are, from left, front row, Sister Mary Juroske, 60 years; Sister Claudia Klesel, 75 years; and Sister Rosa Sanchez, 75 years; and, back row, Sister Marian Sturm, 60 years; Sister Digna Vela, 60 years; Sister Laura Toman, 60 years; and Sister Louise Marie Jones, 15 years.

nate Word and Blessed Sacrament on Sept. 1, 1946, and made her first profession of vows on Sept. 2, 1947. Sister received a BS degree with a major in elementary education and a minor in social science from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

During the 75 years as a professed member of the congregation, Sister Claudia taught on the elementary level and served as CCD teacher. Her teaching experiences took her to Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma, St. Michael School in Weimar, Holy Cross School in Bay City, Sacred Heart School in La Grange, Immaculate Conception School in Sealy, St. Leo School in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Edward School in Dubina, Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville, Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Sacred Heart School in Crosby, and St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner. Sister Claudia served as a receptionist, secretary and office manager at Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio before moving to Incarnate Word Convent in 2012. She resides in the IWC Health Care Center where she generously continues sharing her many gifts as she enters into her Apostolate of Prayer and Suffering. She enjoys keeping in touch with family and friends and listening to books on tape.

Sister Mary Juroske

Profession Date: 8/6/1962
60th Anniversary

Sister Mary Juroske, daughter of the late Eddie and Olga (Pratka) Juroske, was born in Angleton. Sister Mary attended Industrial

Elementary School and Lolita Junior High School before entering Nazareth Academy for her high school education. She entered Nazareth Convent and received the habit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament on July 30, 1961, and made her first profession of vows on Aug. 6, 1962. Sister Mary attended Annunciation College where she took sacred scripture classes as well as dogmatic and moral theology courses. When her aptitude for art was perceived, she attended classes in oil painting, charcoal, watercolor, ceramics and other classes connected with the arts.

During the last 60 years, not only were Sister Mary's culinary abilities and dietary knowledge put to use at Incarnate Word Convent, so were many of her other talents. She was assigned to Nazareth Academy from 1978 to 2007 where she developed a clientele for private art lessons and assisted in the NA pre-school day care with religion classes. From 2008 to 2021, Sister Mary volunteered as a teacher/teacher aide in grades pre-K through kindergarten teaching religion. Her last private art lessons were taught in 2021.

Sister Mary moved to Incarnate Word Convent in 2021 and enjoys arts, crafts, puzzles and continues to assist the Sisters.

Sister Laura Toman

Profession Date: 8/6/1962
60th Anniversary

Sister M. Laura Toman, daughter of the late Raymond and Anne Rose (Sablatura) Toman, the third of six children, was born

in Houston. She attended Ganado Public School for the first four grades then moved to the newly opened Assumption School for grades five through eight. At age 13, she entered Nazareth Convent and attended Nazareth Academy for high school. Sister Laura received the habit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament on July 30, 1961, and made her first Profession of Vows on Aug. 6, 1962. Sister attended Annunciation College in Victoria, Incarnate Word College in San Antonio and Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio where she was awarded a BA with a major in English and a minor in history. She received her M.Ed. from Southwest Texas State College in San Marco with a major in administration and a minor in psychology/sociology.

During her 60 years as a professed member of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Sister Laura taught at St. Michael School in Cuero, then moved into administration at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma, Sacred Heart in Floresville, St. Michael in Cuero, St. Patrick in Dallas, St. Michael in Weimar and Our Lady of Victory in Victoria. During her 23-years as principal of St. Michael in Weimar, the school received numerous academic awards, culminating in its designation as a nationally recognized "Blue Ribbon School, 2006" by the U.S. Department of Education.

Sister Laura also served as councilor in the Leadership of the Congregation from 1988 to 2000 and again from 2012 to 2018.

In 2019, Sister Laura retired from her work in education and began her ministry at Promise Pointe in Raisin where formerly homeless people live in community in their own "tiny houses."

Some of the highlights in her life include her yearlong sabbatical in New Hampshire in 2007 and 2008, her month-long missionary trip to Kenya in 2009, her trip to the Holy Land in 2017 and all the special moments she has shared with her incredible and loving family throughout the years.

Sister Marian Sturm

Profession Date: 8/6/1962
60th Anniversary

Sister Marian Sturm, daughter of the late Arnold and Mary (Kapitza) Sturm, was born in Falls City. She attended grades one through eight at Falls City Public School and high school at Nazareth Academy in Victoria. On July 30, 1961, she received the habit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament and began her religious formation in the novitiate at Nazareth Convent. She

Continued from pg. 16

professed the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on Aug. 6, 1962.

Her college education began at Annunciation College in Victoria and later at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio where she earned a BA in biology and math. Later she received a master of arts degree in theology and catechetics from St. Mary's University, San Antonio.

During her 60 years of professed life as a religious sister, Sister Marian has ministered in various capacities. She taught all age levels beginning at: St. Leo School, San Antonio, St. Michael School, Weimar, Nazareth Academy, Victoria, and St. Michael School, Cuero. She continued teaching at St. Paul High School, Shiner, St. Joseph High School, Victoria, and Sacred Heart High School, Hallettsville. During this time, she also taught catechetical workshops through the Archdiocese of San Antonio to catechists.

During the creation of the Diocese of Victoria, Sister Marian served as the Director of the Reflection Process for the diocese that helped parish members to identify themselves as a part of the Diocese of Victoria and as Church.

Later, Sister became a parish faith formation director at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Huntsville, and in San Antonio at: St. Philip of Jesus Parish, St. Anthony Claret Parish and St. Mark the Evangelist Parish. For ongoing spiritual growth, she completed five units of clinical pastoral education at Hermann Hospital and MD Anderson Hospital in Houston where she also ministered as a chaplain. She also completed studies and internship for certification in spiritual direction at the Center for Spiritual Growth and Contemplative Life, San Antonio.

Presently, Sister Marian ministers at Incarnate Word Convent's Amor Meus Spirituality Center as a social justice promoter for Region XII of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), a group of religious sisters from Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Arkansas and as the sacristan at Incarnate Word Chapel.

For recreation and relaxation, Sister Marian enjoys playing scrabble, gin rummy, watching mystery movies and reading mystery novels.

Sister Digna Vela
Profession Date: 8/6/1962
60th Anniversary

Sister M. Digna Vela, daughter of the late Emilio and Bertha (Cantu) Vela was born in Port Lavaca on Aug. 16, 1942. Sister Digna's early education was at Jefferson Elementary School and Travis Junior High School in Port Lavaca before she transferred to Nazareth Academy in her sophomore year and graduated from NA in 1960. She entered



Bishop Brendan Cahill celebrates Mass in honor of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament who had jubilee anniversaries this year. (Janet Jones/The Catholic Lighthouse)

the convent on Aug. 21, 1960. She received the habit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament on July 30, 1961, and pronounced her first vows on Aug. 6, 1962. She began her college education at Annunciation College in Victoria and transferred to Incarnate Word College in San Antonio where she earned a BA with a double major in English and Spanish. She then attended St. Mary's University in San Antonio where she earned a master's degree in theology. Sister Digna attended a spiritual direction program at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., where she earned a graduate certificate in spiritual direction and directed retreats on Aug. 14, 2011.

During her 60 years of service as a professed member of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Sister Digna taught in the elementary and junior high schools at Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria, Immaculate Conception School in Sealy, St. Mary School in Nada, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma, and Holy Cross School in Bay City. Sister also ministered in the following high schools: Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio and St. Joseph High School in Victoria. Sister began ministry for the Diocese of Victoria as director of the Office of Catechetical Ministry, serving in that capacity for 22 years.

Beginning in the Diocese of Victoria and continuing at Incarnate Word Convent, for 18 years Sister was the director and editor of "Disciples on the Journey," a Lenten lectionary booklet in English and Spanish for small groups. This booklet was sold to parishes throughout the United States. Sister Digna is presently the director of Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Amor Meus Spirituality Center at Incarnate Word Convent. Sister ministers by teaching courses for the Diocese of Victoria, speaking at conferences, conducting retreats and workshops and giving spiritual direction.

Sister Louise Marie Jones
Profession Date: 9/30/2007
15th Anniversary

Vyra Louise Marie Jones, daughter of the late Ivan and Fredaline (Bauer) Najvar, was born in Victoria. She received her elementary education at Central and East Side Elementary in Palacios and graduated from Palacios High School.

She attended Wharton County Jr. College where she met her future husband, Bill Jones Jr., and they were married on March 15, 1975. God blessed them with two children, Michael and Traci. In March of 1994 Bill was accidentally electrocuted on his shrimp boat.

In July 1997, Vyra was invited to attend a sister returned and she found herself at Incar

Cursillo weekend. The desire of becoming a nate Word Convent where she spoke with one of the Sisters. The Sister suggested that she join the Associates of the Incarnate Word and in 2000 made her consecration as an Associate of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament.

In 2001 she began the initial stage of formation as an affiliate. Vyra received her new name, Sister Louise Marie, and the habit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament on Sept. 29, 2005, and made her first profession of vows on Sept. 30, 2007. She made her final profession on Aug. 19, 2012, at Incarnate Word Convent.

As a professed member of the congregation, Sister Louise Marie served as the secretary at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Victoria and she was missioned to Sacred Heart in Hallettsville and Saint Michael's in Weimar where she served as a teacher's aide. Sister attended the Texas Vocational School in Victoria and received a certificate of accounting and, also received a certification from the School of Christian Healing in Jacksonville, Fla.

Sister Louise Marie has also served as a vocation directress. Presently she works in the business office at Incarnate Word Convent and leads the Incarnate Word Prayer Group.

She enjoys playing cards, dominos and spending time with her family.



Catholic Rural Life

A Prayer on the Feast of Mary's Assumption

(Feast, August 15)

HOLY Mother Mary, we all rejoice with you today on the feast of your glorious Assumption into heaven. Long ago in the Garden of Eden, our first parents, Adam and Eve, were told that they would have to earn their bread in the sweat of their brow and that the earth would be cursed, bringing forth thorns and thistles. Now, after Christ our Redeemer has come, and taught us how to make use of the thorns and thistles of this life, and turn them into blessings, you, like Him, have been taken up body and soul into heaven. There, with your divine Son, you await our coming, and prepare a place for us. Mother Mary, it is a great comfort to us to realize that your precious body, the taber-



nacle of the infant Christ, is now in heaven with Him. Your being taken into heaven is also, like the resurrection of Christ's body, a pledge to us of the resurrection of our own bodies. It is wonderful to think that these hands, with which we earn our bread now in the sweat of our brow, will, because of the merits of Christ, one day, with our bodies, be glorified forever in heaven. O most pure Virgin Mary, help us to realize this as we go about our work from day to day. Help us to have great respect for these bodies of ours, and for those of others because we recognize in them the temple of the Holy Spirit, and because we look forward to seeing each other, body and soul, with you and your Son Jesus Christ forever in heaven. Amen.

Informational meeting set for Holy Land trip with Father Brune

Have you ever wanted to visit Holy Land? Have you been to Holy Land and felt a call to go back? Have you dreamed of visiting Petra in Jordan?

The Rev. Philip Brune is hosting an informational meeting about his upcoming pilgrimage to Holy Land and Jordan on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 10 a.m. at St. Robert's Parish Hall in El Campo.

Father Brune go over the trip, why the time is right to go, and how to prepare for this journey. Sign up at the meeting and receive a special gift. If you are interested, or just curious, please join us.

Presidio La Bahia



Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors, \$3.50 for military personnel, \$2 for children 6-11, and under 6 are free.

Group rates available when reservations are made in advance.

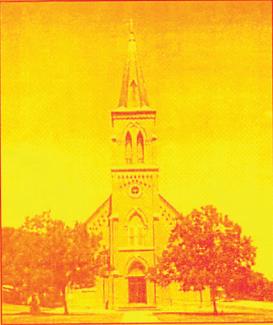
Guided tours available to large groups and schools. Please confirm in advance.

The fort is handicapped accessible. For more information, call 361-645-3752.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COME CELEBRATE WITH US** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

(1860-2022)
Our 162nd Year

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High Hill, Texas



Queen of the Painted Churches

Parish Picnic

www.stmary-highhill.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY AT 9:30 A.M. ★ POLKA MASS AT 10:00 A.M.
CAKE WALK 11:00 A.M. ★ COUNTRY STORE ★ DUCK POND ★ RING TOSS
CORN HOLE 1:00 P.M. ★ NACHOS ★ HAMBURGER STAND
SAUSAGE STAND (HIGH HILL SAUSAGE) ★ TRAIN RIDE ★ SOUVENIR BOOTH AT RECTORY
BOUNCE HOUSE ★ SODA WATER STAND ★ SWEEPSTAKES (OVER 50 PRIZES) DRAWING AT 8:00 P.M.

SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS SHOW AT 10 P.M.

Music During the Day by
Texas Sound Czech and Mark Halata/Texavia
FREE DANCE At Night by **TEXAS SUNDOWN**

FRIED CHICKEN & STEW DINNER
11:00 a.m. to ?
(German Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Green Beans)
ADULTS - \$12.00 **CHILDREN - \$6.00**
— DRIVE-THRU — ADULT PLATES ONLY — ENTRANCE FROM FM 2672 NORTHBOUND ONLY —

AUCTION 1:00 P.M. - ?
Livestock, Quilts, Homemade Items, Plants & much more

Journeys of Faith with Ceci



Time is running out to register for A Marian Pilgrimage to Paris, Lourdes & Fatima with Father Michael Rother

We will be based in Paris for 4 nights! We will visit Nevers where St. Bernadette's incorrupt body can be viewed, Miraculous Medal Shrine where Blessed Mother appeared to St. Catherine Laboure, Mass in Sacre Coeur Cathedral, and more before we board the train to Lourdes where we will spend three nights. We will visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, bathe in the miraculous waters, and participate in the nightly Candlelight Rosary Procession. Then on to Fatima for three nights where the highlight of our pilgrimage is attending the Mass of the Miracle of the Sun, which was our Lady of Fatima's last appearance to the three children.



Holy Land and Jordan Pilgrimage
January 27-February 9, 2023

This is a once in a lifetime experience! Even if you've been to Holy Land before, you will want to go on this pilgrimage. Can you imagine walking in the Footsteps of Jesus in His homeland? How will you feel as you lay your hand on the place where his earthly body lay for three days only to rise again? Experience experience the Scriptures come to life! And to add to this life changing experience, we will also visit Holy Jordan! We go to Mt Nebo and see the Promised Land as Moses did. We go on to Petra to walk the ancient Siq to the famous Treasury carved into the side of a cliff. Afterwards we travel to the Wadi Rum in the Desert for the night where we sleep in "tents!" Stargazing here is incredible! The next day we head back and visit the Baptismal Site of Jesus and the swim in the Dead Sea. Our last day includes a visit to Amman before our flight home. The price is inclusive of all but two meals, and includes a family dinner with Christian families in Bethlehem! Join us on this pilgrimage!

Information and online fliers are found at www.selectinternationaltours.com or contact me at ceci.triska@gmail.com and I will email it to you

Meals • Picnics and More

August

Victoria – Our Lady of Victory - Boy Scout Troop 364 Annual BBQ Chicken Dinner will be on Aug. 7 serving 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory School Cafeteria with TO GO plates only for \$12 each.

Yoakum – St. Joseph Picnic, Aug. 7, at the Community Center. A stew and sausage dinner will be served.

Victoria – The God's Embrace Weekend Retreat will be held on Aug. 12-14, at the Spiritual Renewal Center. The retreat topic is: Developing a Eucharistic Lifestyle in and through Jesus. To register contact the God's Embrace office at 979-561-8883 or register online at www.godsembrace.org/gem-weekend-retreat.

Ganado – Assumption of the BVM Feast Day Picnic, Aug. 14 on the parish and hall grounds. BBQ pork steaks, sausage and trimmings will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$12 per plate. There will be country market, cakewalk, activities for kids, and much more from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Weimar – St. Michael Harvest Feast, Aug. 14, at Veterans Hall. For more information see ad on pg. 5.

Praha – 167th Prazska Pout/Praha Picnic Monday, Aug. 15. Mass will be at 10 a.m. Starting at 11 a.m., a stew and fried chicken dinner will be served at \$12 per plate, dine-in or plates-to-go available. Music starting at 11 a.m. with Ennis Czech Boys, Czechaholics and Blue Denim Band. There will be a cakewalk, games, country store, bingo (2-6 p.m.), and more throughout the day. Auction at 1 p.m. Food available throughout the afternoon and evening.

Hillje – St. Andrew Summer Festival, Aug. 21, see ad on pg. 17 for more information.

Cistern – Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Picnic, Aug. 28, on the parish grounds. See ad on pg. 10.

September

Hallettsville – Indian Open Golf Classic Sept. 3. See ad on pg. 10 for more information.

Cuero – Our Lady of Guadalupe Annual Jamaica, Sept. 4 on the parish hall grounds. For all the details, see ad on pg. 14.

Hallettsville – Sacred Heart Parish Fall Picnic, Sept. 4 at the KC Hall. See pg. 12 for more information.

High Hill – St. Mary's Parish Picnic, Sept. 4 on the parish grounds. For more details see ad on pg. 18.

Nada – St. Mary's Parish Festival and Homecoming, Sept. 4. For more information, see ad on pg. 15.

Shiner – Sts. Cyril and Methodius Fall Picnic, Sept. 4 at the KC Park. See ad on pg. 8.

Vanderbilt – St. John Bosco Fall Festival Sept. 4 at the Trinity Family Center. See ad on pg. 2.

Inez – St. Joseph Church Annual Picnic at the Inez Community Center on Sept. 11. See ad on pg. 4.

Yorktown – Holy Cross Festival at Community Hall on Sept. 11. See ad on pg. 6 for more information.

Holman – St. Wenceslaus Annual Feast (9937 FM 155, between Weimar and La Grange) is on Sept. 18. There will be a drive-thru only meal of fried chicken, sausage and all the trimmings beginning at 10:30 a.m. Also, there will be an online auction at www.charityauction.bid/HolmanPicnic.

Meyersville – Sts. Peter and Paul BBQ and Raffle on Sept. 25. A BBQ meal will be served 11 a.m.-1p.m. at \$12 per plate for dine-in or to-go. There will also be a country store.

Ministries • Ongoing Activities

ACTS Retreats – Anyone needing any information regarding ACTS retreats in the diocese should e-mail dovactschapter@victoriadiocese.org.

Catholic Family Services – To find Catholic organizations that focus on family, visit the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at <http://www.nacflm.org>.

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

Crisis Pregnancy Center of Victoria – A sister organization to the Gabriel Project staffed by volunteers that offers help to girls and women who find themselves in a difficult situation due to an unplanned pregnancy. Office located at 1501 E. Red River, is open 1-4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free pregnancy tests offered and medical referrals are made for prenatal care. New volunteers are welcome. For information call 361-575-6171.

Emmaus Center – Offers individual, couple, family, adolescent and children's counseling, as well as specialized support groups. Spiritual direction is also available if requested. To make an appointment, call 361-212-0830.

Engaged Encounter – 2022 Dates: Sept. 16-18; Nov. 11-13. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For information, call 361-573-0828 or visit <http://www.victoriadiocese.org>.

Gabriel Project of the Crossroads – Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy as an alternative to abortion. Our mission is to protect the unborn by providing spiritual and emotional support as well as supplies. We provide housing through the Bethlehem Maternity Home and have an outreach ministry that visits pregnant women in our community. Our services cover Victoria, Calhoun, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda and Wharton Counties. For more information, please contact our helpline at 361-576-1156.

Grief Ministry – For parents whose children have died meets on Aug. 9 at Assumption Church parish hall, 108 6th St., in Ganado from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, please call Pat Hoelscher at 979-257-9984.

i.d.9:16 Ministry – For adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married. Held at Holy Family in Victoria every first Thursday of the month. Starts with 6 p.m. Mass followed by dinner and a talk live streamed from the headquarters in Michigan and fellowship. It is open to all young adults of the diocese. For information, or to RSVP for events, e-mail id916victoria@gmail.com.

Incarnate Word Prayer Group – Praise and worship 7:30-9 p.m. Mondays in the auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water St. For information, contact

Sister Louise Marie Jones at 361-575-7111 or e-mail amormeus@yahoo.com.

Mothers of Grace – A mothers' group at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. For information, contact Leslie Book at book.leslie@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Mothersofgraceolv/.

Natural Family Planning – NFP is the only church-approved form of family planning. For the CREIGTON MODEL Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro TECHNOLOGY™ contact Susanne Koch in Wharton at 505-710-0903 or mailto:susannekoch614@gmail.com. Also in the Cuero area contact, Ashley Rodriguez at 361-293-0700 or e-mail ashleyfay09@gmail.com.

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

Retrouvaille – Retrouvaille, meaning "rediscovery," is a marriage-healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult marriages. Contact John and Jennifer Vincent at jbvjav@sbcglobal.net or 361-580-2770; or call 800-470-2230; or visit <http://www.helpourmarriage.org>

Pilgrimages

God's Embrace Ministries (GEM) is hosting its first Marian Pilgrimage this fall from Sept. 26-Oct. 5. GEM has partnered with 206 tours for this 9 day pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes and Spain. Mary plays a significant role in the life of every disciple and is always pointing the faithful toward her son, Jesus. In January 2023 GEM will be making its 2nd pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Register for either of these trips by visiting www.godsembrace.org and clicking on the Experiences tab or calling the God's Embrace Ministries office at 979-561-883 to have a staff member help complete registration.

Journeys of Faith with Ceci has an upcoming Marian pilgrimage to Paris, Lourdes and Fatima in October. New trips for 2023 to Holy Land, Jordan, and Italy. For more information see ad on pg. 18.

Fr. Dan Morales Endowment Fund

EL CAMPO — The Second Annual Father Dan Morales Endowment Fund party will be Aug. 26 at 5 p.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Church. The evening begins with Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by supper, music, a silent auction, 50/50 raffle and more. Proceeds are for the ongoing support of Las Obras ministries in Guatemala, a ministry dear to Father Morales and one he visited with missionaries many times.



Father Dan Morales

Do you have any calendar of events
for the Lighthouse?

Submit to
lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org



Bishops call HHS proposed regulations ‘bad medicine’

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The chairmen of four U.S. bishops committees said July 27 that proposed regulations from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on abortion, transgender services and other procedures threaten the Catholic Church’s ability “to carry out our healing ministries” and others’ ability “to practice medicine.”

They called the proposed regulations – a 308-page document released July 25 by HHS – “a violation of religious freedom and bad medicine.”

“They mandate health care workers to perform life-altering surgeries to remove per-

fectly healthy body parts,” the bishops said. “Assurances that HHS will honor religious freedom laws offer little comfort when HHS is actively fighting court rulings that declared HHS violated religious freedom laws the last time they tried to impose such a mandate.”

They added: “The proposed regulations announce that HHS is also considering whether to force health care workers to perform abortions against their will or lose their jobs. We call on HHS to explicitly disavow any such intent.”

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops released the joint statement from Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman, Committee on Pro-Life Activities; Archbishop

Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman, Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth; and Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chairman, Committee for Religious Liberty.

The proposed HHS regulations would apply to implementation of the Affordable Care Act’s Section 1557, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex -- including pregnancy, sexual orientation and gender identity -- in covered health programs or activities.

In 2020, the Trump administration put in place a final rule that eliminated the general prohibition on discrimination based on gender identity and also adopted abortion and religious freedom exemptions for health

care providers. But the courts blocked this rule change.

In 2021, shortly after he was inaugurated, President Joe Biden issued an executive order declaring that his administration would apply the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2020 ruling in *Bostock v. Clayton County* in all areas of government -- including the ACA.

In a 6-3 ruling, the court held that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity is necessarily also discrimination “because of sex” as prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The HHS announcement about its proposed regulations can be found at <https://bit.ly/3zzYBZ8>. The full text of the proposed regulations can be found at <https://bit.ly/3b7PF3C>.

Music therapy can be a powerful tool for healing

Continued from pg. 1

offering at the diocese’s Emmaus Counseling Center.

The Very Rev. Kirby Hlavaty, executive director of the Emmaus Center and a spiritual director, said the timing of bringing in this new type of therapy seems providential as one counselor recently left to develop a private practice, and the center was in need of an additional therapist. And music therapy, it was suggested, might benefit some of the clients.

Teresa Vincent, a native of Victoria who moved back to the area from San Antonio in 2019, is the certified music therapist who will work with clients at the center. She is also the music teacher at Our Lady of Victory. Though she can teach music for people seeking counseling, and does, she is, first and foremost, a therapist, she said.

“The goal is never to be good at piano or good at singing,” she said. “It’s to reach whatever that therapeutic goal is.”

She has worked with children who have behavioral problems or who have been traumatized by abuse. The music can be a vehicle to help them talk about their feelings or put them in a better frame of mind when discussing an uncomfortable issue.

She said children are always focused on how good music feels while they try an instrument or sing a song. Adults, on the other hand, can be self-conscious at first, but can clear that hurdle in time.

“It’s an individualized therapy,” Vincent said. “I try to be familiar with as many genres as I can to see what fits.” She does this by finding out their favorites “because it’s their favorite for a reason,” and is sensitive to their culture and background and age.

Another population who benefits from music therapy are those with brain injuries

or dementia. One symptom of dementia is aphasia, the loss of the ability to speak. But when presented with a song from the past, many can still sing along.

Vincent explained that music “lights up” all parts of the brain – left and right hemispheres. She recalled working with an elderly woman who was an atheist for her whole life, but during music therapy she discovered that church hymns were the thing that touched her. “Hymns were super comforting for her.”

Father Hlavaty who has worked with bereavement support groups likened music to grief in this way: “Grief reduces you to nothing but God. It can be a really good teacher.” The other thing that has that effect is beauty, he explained. “Music conveys beauty.”

Erin Hatley, executive director of The Vine School for children with autism, said music therapy reaches all ages of children, from babies to teen-agers. The school was providing music therapy through a grant, but the funding is no longer there. She said traditionally they work on motor skills through writing or drawing. But music therapy “is a little bit more fun. We saw a lot of growth in those areas.”

Hatley also said music has the power to engage children in groups of five to seven who normally don’t do well in a group setting because it can calm the senses or alert the senses to energize a class.

“I’ve heard great things about the Emmaus Center and I commend the diocese for thinking outside the box” to reach people who need various types of therapy, Hatley said.

Anyone interested in learning more or scheduling an appointment can go to www.emmauscounselingcenter.com or call the center at 361-212-0830.

Audit shows DOV compliant with Safe Environment policies

JANET JONES
The Catholic Lighthouse

The Diocese of Victoria completed its three-year Safe Environment program audit on July 20 and is in compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

Auditors from Stonebridge Business Partners, the business hired by the USCCB to carry out the audits of all its dioceses, were in the diocese for three days reviewing policies, practices and documents.

Auditors conducted site visits at three Catholic schools and three parishes including Sacred Heart Church and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Ganado, St. Joseph High School in Victoria, The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory and OLV school in Victoria.

“It all went well,” said Stephanie Morales, director of Safe Environment for the diocese. “They (the auditors) were pleased with all of them. They understood the charter and what their roles were.”

Morales took over as director of the Office of Safe Environment seven months ago so it was her first such audit.

“I want to thank all of the pastors and schools for being patient and understanding as we prepared for this audit,” Morales said. She added she was grateful that they supported her “every step of the way” and prayed with her through the process.

“This is not just a reflection of us in this office; it’s all of us as a team,” she said.

She also gave a lot of credit to the Safe Environment assistant Alicia Olive for helping prepare for the audit.

Olive is now transitioning out of the Safe Environment office after accepting a position as the administrative assistant in the Office of Catechetical Ministry. Her new contact number will be 361-573-0828, Ext. 2224.

Valerie Buentello joined the diocese



Valerie Buentello, new executive assistant for the Office of Safe Environment

in July to become the new Safe Environment program assistant for the diocese. Before accepting this new role, she had been an administrative assistant for The Vine School in Victoria for

five years. She and her husband, Ralph, have two daughters and are members of Our Lady of Victory Parish in Victoria. Her email address at the chancery is vbuentello@victoriadiocese.org and her contact number is 361-573-0828, Ext. 2270.