Msgr. McLaughlin honored by chancery family

By Cynthia Brewer

A Mass of thanksgiving was held June 10, 2011, in honor of Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin on his 80th birthday and in anticipation of the 55th anniversary of his ordination, which came a week later, on June 17.

Bishop David E. Fellhauer presided over the Mass, which was concelebrated by 25 priests from the diocese, including Msgr. McLaughlin’s seminary classmate, Rev. Peter Higgins. Mass was held at noon at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral with a light reception following at the chancery building.

Since being charged to prepare for the administrative organization of the new Diocese of Victoria in 1982, Msgr. McLaughlin has been judicial vicar and

Patrick Knippenberg ordained to transitional diaconate

By Cynthia Brewer

At a Saturday morning ceremony, seminarian Patrick Knippenberg was ordained to the transitional diaconate by Bishop David E. Fellhauer at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral in Victoria June 4, 2011.

Family and friends joined in celebration of Deacon Patrick Knippenberg’s ordination, including his parents, Robert and Betty Knippenberg, who concelebrated the Mass with 14 other priests. Also attending and concelebrating the Mass, was Rev. José Salzar, formation advisor at St. Mary’s Seminary in Houston.

Three permanent deacons from the dio- cese, Deacon John McCourt of La Grange, Deacon Joe Machacek of Shiner, as well as Deacon Larry Hoelscher of El Campo, and Deacon Glynn, Deacon Trahan and Deacon

Mexican priest dies after being caught in cartel-military crossfire

By David Agren

Catholic News Service

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — A Catholic priest died of his injuries July 2, shortly after being caught in the crossfire of a shootout between drug cartel gunmen and the military in the border city of Matamoros.

Father Mario Antonio Duran Romero, 48, pastor of the St. Robert Bellarmine Parish and host of a local television program, was shot in the chest after encountering the shootout while driving, said Father Alan Camargo, spokesman for the Diocese of Matamoros. Father Duran, who had just

In This Issue...

- Vocations/Youth, pp. 4-5, 8-10
- SHS Alumni receives distinguished award, p. 7
- Roman Missal Changes, p. 3
- Pastoral Institute summer short-term class schedule, p. 6
- Faith vs. Proof, p. 14
- Stories from the Archdiocese for the Military Services, p. 15
- Serious New, pp. 16-17
- Truths about Chemical Contra- ception, p. 18

Diocese of Victoria Web site: www.victoriadiocese.org
The Catholic Lighthouse

Bishop Fellhauer’s Schedule

| July | 8   | 4:00 p.m., Reconciliation service, Spiritual Renewal Center |
|      | 9   | 2:00 p.m., Mass, IWBS Jubilee, MOTHERHOUSE, Victoria |
|      | 10  | 6:30 p.m., Mass with newly ordained Father Myivet Tran, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Bay City |
|      | 12  | 2:00 p.m., Mass, IWBS Jubilee, Motherhouse, Victoria |
|      | 13  | 5:00 p.m., Mass and dinner at Missionary Catechists’ Provincial House, Victoria |
|      | 14  | 6:30 p.m., The Knights of St. Gregory Annual Bishop’s Charity Banquet, Victoria Country Club, Victoria, and drawing of lucky ticket for the Toyota Corolla Sport |
|      | 17  | 2:00 p.m., Mass, celebrating Father Charles Dvornik’s 25th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood, St. John Church, Hurford |
|      | 18  | 11:00 a.m., Opening Mass for Vocation Camp, St. Mary Church, Victoria |
|      | 19  | 4:00 p.m., Diocesan Building Board meeting, Chancery Office |
|      | 23  | 11:30 a.m., Mass, IWBS national reunion, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria |
|      | 25  | 5:00 p.m., Mass celebrating Father Roger Havens’ 10th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood, Holy Cross Church, Yorktown |
|      | 24  | 10:30 a.m., Mass, celebrating 100th Anniversary of the Continuation of Christian Mothers, Sacred Heart Church, Haliefette |
|      | 27  | 9:30 a.m., Priests’ and Lay Pension Board meetings, Chancery Office |
|      | 29  | 3:00 p.m., Reconciliation service, Spiritual Renewal Center |
|      | 30  | 4:00 p.m., Mass, Teen ACTS retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center |

August

| 3   | 9:30 a.m., Mass, Twin Pines Nursing Home, Victoria |
| 8   | 5:00 p.m., Liturgical Commission meeting, Chancery Office |
|      | 6:00 p.m., Mass, Serra Club Spiritual Concert, St Mary Church and Hall, St. Mary (Halletsville) |

Official Appointments By: Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer

Effective June 30, 2011, the Rev. Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin is retired from his duties as Judicial Vicar of the Diocese while remaining the offices of Vicar General and Chancellor.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Rev. Matthew H. Huesfeld is appointed Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Victoria, while continuing as pastor of St. Joseph Church, Yoakum.

Msrgr. McLaughlin honored by chancery family

Continued from p. 1

“I have 31 nephews and nieces; I couldn’t bring them all here,” he said.

He also thanked the laity and the priests for joining him on this dual celebration, “I’ve never seen anything so special; it tells me it’s for someone special. Thank you.”

He concluded his comments saying, “Wherever I go, I’ll need your prayers and God’s blessings.”

As Msgr. McLaughlin has spent all but five of his 29 years in curial positions in the Diocese of Victoria, he does not have the luxury of having a “parish family”; therefore, the diocesan staff coordinated the Mass, the following reception and the private meal held June 8 for him.

Diocesan staff and friends assisted with various parts of the Mass and reception. Sister Carmelita Casso, IWBS, a longtime friend of Msgr. McLaughlin, was the organist; John Quary, superintendent of Catholic Schools was the cantor, with Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament sisters leading as the choir. Renewal Center administrator, Ron Friedel, was the lector and prepared the Mass intentions. Chancery staff prepared and served food and drinks for nearly 100 people who attended the reception.

At the private dinner, his nephew, Eunan, explained that he had an adventurous spirit and so followed his uncle, “Colm,” to the states. Both of them had left their home and family back in Ireland. Because they left Ireland, they are constantly reminded that it’s their duty to visit home, not the family’s duty to travel to the United States to visit them; therefore, when Monsignor left, in a way he was leaving behind his family.

Eunan toasted him saying, “He has no family here; you’re his family now,” to which some chancy staff whooped.

Msrgr. Thomas Columba “Colm” McLaughlin was born in Malin, Co. Donegal, Ireland, on June 30, 1911, and ordained June 17, 1956, in Ireland for the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas.

Msgr. McLaughlin honored by chancery family

By Cynthia Brewer

Until the middle of June 2011, 94-year-old Mgr. Eustaces Hermes still came to his office at the diocesan chancery building, working about an hour a day updating diocesan property records.

Since celebrating the 70th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on June 12, he informed the receptionist that he may not be coming in as often as he has been.

At the Serra Priests’ Appreciation Dinner, held at Holy Family Church in Victoria June 9, 2011, Otto Bleier, the district governor, presented Mgr. Eustace Hermes with a gift in honor of his 70th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. He was ordained June 12, 1941.

At the dinner, Mgr. Hermes led the Serran Prayer and Grace Before Meals, as he is the chaplain of the Serra Club of Victoria. He has been its chaplain for the past 49 years, since September 1962, and is the longest serving Serra Club chaplain in the world.

His workload is not the only thing he’s had to reduce this year. After turning 94 on January 20 of this year, he told me he’s reduced the miles he puts on his station ary bicycle each day. He used to ride 16 miles in one sitting each day.

“The old age started to catch up with me,” he said.

“I still do 16 miles a day, but I break it up now: six, six and four miles at a time. On some days, I do less than 16 miles.”

He does this regime to stay fit, as he has suffered several heart attacks. He doesn’t know how many he’s had, he just says, “For me, heart attacks are becoming monotonous.”

But if you ask Mgr. Hermes how he’s feeling, he’ll still respond in one of two ways, either, “Better than I have any right to feel” or, “Any better and I’d be twins.”

Official Publications of the Diocese of Victoria

Published monthly at 1505 E. Mesquite Lane — Victoria, TX 77901
(361)757-9289 — FAX (361) 573-5725 — www.vicdiocesan.org

Publisher The Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer

Advertisement

Regina Matos-Jarasho — E-mail: jarashojvincatholicdiocese.org

Subscription Price Per Year $7.50 out of the diocese

Periodical postage paid at Victoria, Texas, USPS-001015 (ISSN 0894-7740)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Catholic Lighthouse - P.O. Box 4070 - Victoria, Texas 77903

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DSA and Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates this month are found on page 6.

Please Support Those Who Advertise in “The Catholic Lighthouse”!
Liturgy of the Saints being sung, I realized how many men and women went before me and were praying for me at that very moment. It was as if my life flashed before me, and the overwhelming unworthiness of being called to such a great office as deacon well up inside me. It was also a great feeling of relief knowing that the many years of study were coming to fruition.

“After the ordination and all the pictures taking was taking place I noticed a difference when I put on the collar and everyone was congratulating me. The difference is that I realized I was no longer just a seminarian, but I was part of the clergy, and when people saw the collar they addressed me as deacon.”

“My duties began right away as I preached my first homily a few hours later at my pastoral-year parish at Holy Family in Victoria under Father Greg Korenek and his associate pastor, Father George Henninger. Wearing my new clerical dalmatic and preparing for a homily was a feeling that I cannot describe. Serv ing and preaching were the fruits of so many years of preparation in the seminary and the congratulating thanks I received after Mass was very satisfying. Seeing the heartfelt expressions on the parishioners’ faces gave me so much joy and I knew that my call was fulfilled. I can only imagine what the priesthood holds in store for me. One more year of seminary (God willing) and I will know what it will feel like being a priest.”

“I was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on December 3, 1960, and our family promptly moved to Omaha, Nebraska, and then to Lubbock, Texas. After six years of elementary school, we moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, for my junior-high years and then finally moved to Arlington, Texas, where I finished my high school years at Arlington High School, from which I graduated. I have two sisters and two brothers: Amy, Karen, Todd, and my oldest sibling, Father Bob. I went to college at UTA (University of Texas at Arlington) for a number of years before entering the workforce for the next 20 years. I followed my brother to Victoria, Texas, and then I began my seminary studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, at which I received my bachelor’s degree in history, with a minor in philosophy.

“I am currently enrolled at St. Mary’s Seminary in Houston and will hopefully receive my Master of Divinity degree at the end of the school year May 2012. I look forward to serving the people of the Diocese of Texas as transitional deacon for the next year and then serving the rest of my life as a priest at the end of May or June 2012.

“I want to thank everyone for all our support, for not only me, but also for all the seminarians of the diocese.”

Patrick Knippenberg

Continued from p. 1

Changes to the peoples’ part of the Mass

Preface Dialogue and Holy, Holy, Holy

The use of the new Roman Missal begins the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. Below are the changes to the people’s part of the Order of the Mass. Text that will change is marked with italics and bold printing. From http://www.usccb.org/romannmissal-samples-people.shtml

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Text</th>
<th>New Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priest: The Lord be with you. People: Also with you. Priest: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord. Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right and just.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Commentary on the Order of Mass

The Eucharistic Prayer itself begins with the Preface dialogue. The first change is another instance of “And with your spirit.” This is the third time the exchange appears during the Mass, and it is a particularly profound moment. The Priest, by the spirit given him at ordination, is about to act in the person of Christ to consecrate the bread and wine into the Holy Eucharist.

The second change lies in the phrase, “It is right and just.” This is a simple rendering of the Latin, “Dignum et iustum est,” emphasizing the fact that it is fitting and appropriate, or fair (“just”), to “give thanks to the Lord our God,” because He is both our Creator and Redeemer.

This dialogue is followed by the Preface, a more lengthy prayer that can vary depending on the liturgical occasion. Most Prefaces in the new translation expand upon the words of the preceding dialogue by beginning, “It is truly right and just, our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.”

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Text</th>
<th>New Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commentary on the Order of Mass

At the conclusion of the Preface comes the Sanctus, which in Latin means “Holy.” The Sanctus, like the Gloria, is intended to be sung — in fact, many different settings of the Latin text exist even in Gregorian chant.

The only textual difference from our current version is that “God of power and might” becomes “God of hosts.” The word “hosts” refers to a great gathering or multitude, and speaks here of God’s command over the heavenly host of angelic armies.

This reference has a Biblical foundation in Isaiah 6:1-3, where the prophet writes, “I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne... Seraphim were stationed above... Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts! they cried one to the other. All the earth is filled with his glory!”

And in Luke 2:13, “a multitude of the heavenly host!” also announces the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.

The words of the final three lines of the Sanctus can be found in the Gospel of Matthew, during the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem before His Passion, as the people shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest” (Mt 21:9). Versions of this acclamation appear in the other Gospels, and the “Blessed is he...” line comes from Psalm 118:117, amidst a passage that became understood as a reference to Christ.

The Sanctus reminds us that all creatures on “heaven and earth” owe thanksgiving to God (“Eucharist” also means “thanksgiving”). And because we truly believe that the Angels are also present and worshiping with us as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, then every fiber of our being is made to reflect the utmost reverence. Therefore, immediately after the Sanctus, we kneel. Kneeling is a sign of respect and humility that is distinctly human and bodily — it is something that even the Angels, being pure spirit, cannot do.
Vocations

DO YOU FIT THIS PROFILE?

A Ministry of Service to the Church.

The Profile of The Permanent Deacon

• A person of faith. He must be a prayerful and spiritual person who is open to further spiritual formation.

• A person who is a leader and an enabler. He should be able to animate, facilitate and motivate people into action.

• A person who functions well in a collaborative setting for ministry and service in the parish.

• He must have a demonstrated history of service to people, be open-minded and should be able to work well with others in ministry.

• A person who has the ability to honor commitments and would approach the diaconate as “permanent.”

• A person with a stable background who has surplus time and energy to give to formation, service and ministry.

Helping the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry’s director, Debbie Vanelli (l.), and associate director, Wendy Eggert, are three seminarians who are spending their summers working for the chancery office. Besides preparing for and holding youth camps, they can even “cook.” Above, they are preparing finger sandwiches for Msgr. McLaughlin’s birthday and anniversary reception, which was held June 6. Seminarians from left are Kristopher, Jacob and Max.

LISTEN TO YOUR HEART:
God May Be Calling You To Be A Permanent Deacon

A new formation class will begin soon.

For further information contact:
The Director of Formation, Permanent Diaconate Office, C/O St. Joseph’s Church, P O Box 399, Moulton, Texas 77975 Phone (361) 596-4674

VOCATIONS

Seminary Burses

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

As of June 30, 2011

—Rev. John C. Bily Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $9,159.00
In Honor of Rev. John C. Bily’s birthday by Mary and Martin Lauch 100.00
In Memory of Joe Vesely by MFM Franklin Addicks 25.00
In Memory of William J. Henneke by Annie and Mary Ann Henneke 90.00
In Memory of Beatrice Helmcamp by MFM Franklin Addicks 10.00
In Memory of Joe Hartenstein by Annie Henneke 10.00
In Memory of Lavermia “Sissy” Charbula by K&R Sestak & Family 25.00

Total $9,379.00

—CA DA#369 St. Ann Burse #2

Previously Reported $8,573.99
In Memory of Lumar Vela by Otto and JoAnn Blizer 25.00

Total $8,598.99

—Joseph R. Janak Seminary Burse #2

Previously Reported $1,988.77
In Memory of Geraldine Braden by Margaret Kutac 20.00

Total $2,018.77

—Knights Of Columbus #1329, Victoria

Previously Reported $10,352.50
In Memory of Oscar G. Marx by K of C Council #1329 100.00

Total $10,452.50

—Msgr. Thomas C. McLaughlin Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $470.00
In Honor of Msgr. McLaughlin’s 55th Anniversary by Rev. Ty Bazar 100.00
In Honor of Msgr. McLaughlin’s 55th Anniversary by D’Cater and Jeri Joseph 25.00

Total $595.00

—Fr. Okrulik & Verdanne Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $10,377.89
In Honor of Marvin Hitchler by M/M Anton Schoener 20.00

Total $10,397.89

—Msgr. Stanley J. Petru Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $3,795.00
In Honor of Msgr. Petru on his retirement by Rodney and Nicole Michalk 25.00

Total $3,820.00

—Reverend John C. Peters Seminary Burse #5

Previously Reported 805.00
In Honor of Doctor Sonny and Elaine Rogers by Gilbert & Mary Urbish 25.00
In Honor of Doctor Sonny and Elaine Rogers’ 64 years of marriage! 64.00
For Fr. John on Pastor’s Appreciation Day by Sacred Heart Staff and Students 200.00

Total $1,194.00

—Rev. Cecilton Say Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $4,160.00
In Honor of Father Cecilton Say by OLR All Society 50.00

Total $4,210.00

—St. John Church For Rev. Brian Crookes #2

Previously Reported $4,891.00
In Memory of Joe and Annie Stryk by Margaret Kutac 20.00
In Memory of Julia Jurica by Forrest & Roxanne Dittrich 10.00

Total $5,006.00

—Rev. Jerome J. Stryk Seminary Burse

Previously Reported $13,816.50
In Memory of Joe and Annie Stryk by Lad and Helen Muras 20.00
In Memory of Cleo Muras by Lad and Helen Muras 10.00

Total $13,844.50

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

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

Belated Happy Birthday!

Stephen Vacek will be a College IV student at St. Joseph Seminary in Saint Benedict, LA. His home parish is Holy Cross, East Bernard, and his birthday was June 26. Please show your support for our seminarian by writing to: Stephen Vacek, 735 Main St., East Bernard, TX 77435.

SEIRA CLUB INSTALLS 2011-2012 OFFICERS—Installation of newly elected officers for the Serra Club of the Diocese of Victoria Northwest was held May 7, 2011, after the Mass for Vocations at Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville.

Father John Peters (l.), Serra chaplain, performed the honors. Pictured with him are President Tim Hines, Treasurer Georgia Bujnoch, VP of Vocations Margaret Dornak and Trustee Mathilda Melnar. The Serra Club helps foster, promote and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

SHARE! AMERICA Host Families Needed

HOST FAMILIES are needed for international exchange students for this coming school year. The students hope to arrive in August and will attend local high schools. For more information, please call Yvette Coffman at 1-800-941-3738.
Support a Seminarian and possibly Win a Car!

By Christopher Stefanick

May 11, 2011, marked the 30th anniversary of the passing of Robert Nesta Marley, more popularly known as Bob Marley. He’s known by other titles as well: “The king of reggae,” “the first Third World superstar,” “The Hebrew Prince Robert Nesta Marley,” and, by Rastafarians, as “The Prophet,” or “The Teacher.” There have even been efforts by Dominicans for Him to be declared a national hero.

What many don’t know is that Bob Marley can also be called a Christian. He was baptized into the Ethiopian Orthodox faith before his death in 1981.

Marley had become a zealous Rastafarian and wore dreadlocks and pot smoking that became central to his image. He wasn’t just a星星 or a rock star anymore. They were pillars of Rastafarian faith. Rastas believe that cannabis removes mental barriers to enlightened thinking, and they base their dreadlocks in Old Testament law. As debatable as these doctrines are, it’s clear that a sincere faith in God and service of his people were the driving forces in Bob’s life and music.

One doesn’t have to dig deep into his lyrics to see Marley’s faith. In “One Love,” named the song of the millennium by BBC, Bob sings, “Give thanks and praise to the Lord and I will tell all right.” And in songs like, “Forever Loving Jah” (“Jah” is Rastafarian for God), Marley is clearly praying, not just performing. Praise to “Jah” can be found throughout the music. Bob was very probably correct in praying “Jah” to a listening audience.

And when Marley wasn’t praying with his music, he was using it to fight for peace and equality, giving a voice to the marginalized in Jamaica and throughout the world. Bob’s fame overlapped a particularly turbulent time in Jamaica’s history. His musical influence had so much sway that one religious leader even believed that he was the target of an assassination attempt in 1976. Two days later, with his would-be-assassins still on the loose, he took to the stage to perform these two songs, unharmed.

Asked why he’d take such a risk, he answered: “The people who are trying to make this world worse aren’t taking a day off. How can I?”

His musical career was clearly motivated by more than fame and fortune. “If my life is just for me,” he said, “my own security, then I don’t want it. My life is for people. That is the way I am.”

Marley developed a close relationship with Ethiopian Archbishop Abuna Yeshaq who had been sent from Africa by the Emperor Haile Selassie I after he found out that many in Jamaica were worshiping him as God incarnate. (This belief is the center of Rastafarianism.)

Floyd Malakot, the archbishop who baptized Bob and many of his friends, is the chief priest and administrator of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Jamaica, known Archbishop Yechezqel. He shared with me how the archbishop won Bob and many other celebrities to his love and respect for them. When police were arresting Rastas and shaving their dreadlocks before releasing them, he went to the chief of police and stopped the persecution.

Archbishop Yechezqel became close friends with Bob who donated to his ministry, even giving him one of his houses in which the archbishop lived for years. Many Rastas have visited the archbishop the right to be heard and, according to Father Malakot: “Bob cried when the archbishop invited him to conversion and accept Christ. He decided to accept baptism.”

Bob’s baptism is marked by the heroic conversion of Bob and his family. When police were arresting Rastas, conversion to Christianity was tantamount to sacrificing the sacred cow. Yet this man who had become the international superstar and icon of the Rastas and the poor, anywhere, deeply upsetting many people, including some of his closest friends. Marley showed a willingness to renounce everything in his pursuit of God.

The late archbishop who baptized Bob several months prior to his death spoke of his deep faith in a 1984 newspaper interview with Jamaica’s Sunday Gleaner: “I remember once while I was conducting the Liturgy, I felt Bob and tears were streaming down his face… When he toured Los Angeles and New York and England, he frequently went to the Orthodox priests in those cities to come to the Church of Bob.… When he was baptized, he hugged his father and wept, all wept who were present of that morning that Judy Mowatt, one of Bob’s background singers, recalled in an interview with The 700 Club: “I can’t describe how emotional it was, she got a call from Bob’s wife as he was dying. ‘She said to me that Bob was in such a turmoil with what he lived through, he checked his hand and said ‘Jesus take me.’” That prayer was answered on May 11, 1981. He was only 36.

“Many Rastasman call him the prophet,” Father Malakot said. “Even myself as the chief of the Church in Jamaica, I saw him as a man for my nation. His music was inspired by God. It was an expression of his belief that the Lord was with him. And he inspired so many people to enter the Church. Many are inspired by his even now, to convert. Five months ago I baptized a Rasta priest with his big dreadlocks who came to Serra Car-Give-Away. I’ve seen many T-shirts depicting Bob’s smiling face with a pot leaf next to it. I’d like to create a T-shirt of Bob’s face with a cross next to it instead.”

Speaker and author Chris Stefanick is Director of Youth, Young Adults and Campus Ministry for the Archdiocese of Denver. Visit him at http://chris.stefanick.com.
XXIV Annual Catechetical Conference
“Do This in Memory of Me”

On Saturday, September 24, 2011, at the XXIV Annual Conference for Catechesis and Ministry, the Most Reverend Richard J. Malone from the Diocese of Portland, Maine, will offer the keynote address using the Catechetical Sunday theme, “Do This in Memory of Me.”

The annual conference will be held at Holy Family in Victoria once again. Bishop Malone was ordained a priest in 1972 and was installed as the eleventh Bishop of Portland, Maine, in March 2004. He served as diocesan director for the Office of Religious Education for the Archdiocese of Boston from 1993 - 2004. Currently, he serves on the committee for Evangelization and Catechesis for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) as well as other USCCB committees. In 2010 Bishop Malone was elected to the Board of Catholic Relief Services and serves on the U.S. Operations Committee.

The one-day, diocesan conference is open to all adults. Come and hear fabulous presenters talk about a variety of topics. Workshops will be offered on the Roman Missal, Scripture, apologetics, prayer and so much more. Catholic vendors will also have religious articles, prayer books, and an assortment of resources available for purchase. The conference will conclude with the Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer celebrating the Sunday Liturgy.

For more information about the upcoming conference, email conference coordinator, Christella Alvarez at calvarez@victoriadiocese.org, or visit www.victoriadiocese.org, or call the catechetical office at (361) 573-0828.

ASA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

2011 ASA

Diocesan Goal: $ 1,471,384.00
Parish Pledge Totals: $ 577,336.06
Parish Contribution Totals: $ 497,579.06
Number of Parish Families Participating: 3,263

Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign

Diocesan Goal: $ 9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals: $ 12,949,119.45
Parish Contribution Totals: $ 9,315,522.01
Number of Parish Families Participating: 6,766

Classes for Everyone

The Pastoral Institute Short-term theological classes, i.e., Liturgy, Church, Prayer & Spirituality, Catholic Morality, Introduction to the Sacraments, and I Believe. We Believe is being offered this summer for all adults Catholic. Catechists and aides involved in religious education classes are highly encouraged to take all classes necessary in order to complete the Certificate, or, not enrolling, Catholic school religion teachers are advised to take the required classes as well. A complete list of classes is available at the diocese’s website www.victoriadiocese.org. Register online or call 361-573-0828.

July 12 & 13 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Liturgy | Sacred Heart, Halletsville
July 12 & 13 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Prayer & Spirituality | Holy Cross, Yorktown
July 12 & 14 | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. | Prayer & Spirituality | St. Anthony, Columbus
July 13 & 14 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Church | St. John Bosco, Vanderbilt
July 18 & 20 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Church | Chancery, Victoria
July 19 & 20 | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. | Prayer & Spirituality | Holy Cross, East Bernard
July 25 & 27 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Catholic Morality | St. Ann, Point Comfort
July 26 & 28 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Liturgy | Sacred Heart, Platonia
July 26 & 28 | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. | I Believe, We Believe | Queen of the Holy Rosary, Houstin
Aug 1 & 2 | 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Intro to the Learner | Immaculate Conception, GODAD
Aug 2 & 4 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Sacraments | Sacred Heart, Halletsville
Aug 9th | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Methodology 1-2 | Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner
Aug 9th | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Methodology 3-4 | Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner
Aug 9th | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Sacraments | Chancery, Victoria
Aug 10th | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Methodology 5-6 | Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner
Aug 10th | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Methodology 7-8 | Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner
Aug 10 & 17 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Intro to the Scriptures | Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bay City

What is a ‘beatific vision’? Will assisted suicide ever be approved?

Q. We have been told that when we go to heaven we will have a “beatific vision” of God. This has always baffled me. What do those words mean? (Oceanza, N.Y.)

A. The “beatific vision” means the eternal and direct visual perception of God. It means seeing God face to face.

We have some sense, even in the natural order, of the importance of direct perception: Those who endured years of meetings by telephone conference call can appreciate what an advance “videoconferencing” has been, allowing people to see one another, and thereby making their presence much more real.

In the divine scheme of things, Christians have always believed that this direct vision of God is the goal that awaits us all. St. Paul said: “At present we see in distinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known” (1 Cor 13:12).

St. Thomas Aquinas reasoned that one is perfectly happy only when all of one’s desires are perfectly satisfied, and this cannot occur until we are fully united with God. That complete union can happen not through human imagining nor even in the most deeply contemplative prayer, but only by the direct presence of God in heaven.

It is a human instinct, and a good one, to try to imagine what heaven will feel like. When I was a child, I may have thought that complete union can happen not through human imagining nor even in the most deeply contemplative prayer, but only by the direct presence of God in heaven. It is a human instinct, and a good one, to try to imagine what heaven will feel like.

When I was a child, I may have thought that heaven would be like playing baseball all day, with occasional breaks to drink soda and read comic books -- but deep down I knew even then that it would be much, much better than that.

We are cautioned that all of our efforts at imagining heaven fall short. Dr. Paul says in I Corinthians 2:9 that “eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, (is) what God has prepared for those who love him.”

But it doesn’t hurt to dream.

Last year, a young woman, who would die the following year, told me what she was expecting in heaven.

“I think it will be like the way my mother loves me,” she said, “times a thousand.”

Q. The recent death of Jack Kevorkian prompts this question. It seems so right to grant a dying person’s wish to end a life that he or she can no longer tolerate because of severe, debilitating health. Will the Catholic Church ever find acceptable circumstances in which a person may elect to make such a decision? (New Jersey)

A. In June of this year, two weeks after the death of Dr. Kevorkian, the Catholic bishops of the United States issued a policy statement on assisted suicide called “To Live Each Day With Dignity.”

In very accurate shorthand, a Pittsburgh newspaper said that the bishops had told America “that killing ill and handicapped people is no way to care for them.”

The statement offers a clear answer to a question of the reader’s question and follows the teaching of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which states that “an act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person” (No. 2277).

The catechism goes on to say: “It is God who remains the sovereign Master of life... We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has given us... It is not ours to dispose of” (No. 2280).

True compassion focuses on eliminating suffering, not eliminating the patient. And so, the Church would argue, every effort should be directed to effective pain management.

Some people believe wrongly that the Church’s position is that life should be pro-longed by every possible means for every possible minute, despite the burden. That is far from the truth, and the bishops’ June statement makes this clear: “Respect for life does not demand that we attempt to prolong life by using medical treatments that are ineffective or unduly burdensome. Nor does it mean we should deprive suffering patients of needed pain medications out of a misplaced or exaggerated fear that they might have the side effect of shortening life.”

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle, the new “Question Corner” writer, at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, NY 12208.)

By Father Kenneth Doyle

Catholic News Service

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Barbara A. McCain
Three seminarians spend summer working at chancery

Continued from p. 4

HALLELTSVILLE — The National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) Distinguished Graduate Award is intended to honor graduates of Catholic schools who have made a contribution to American life and/or the Catholic Church.

Arlyn Kloesel, a 1957 graduate of Sacred Heart High School, is the 2011 recipient of this award. Mr. Kloesel received a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree from The University of Texas College of Pharmacy in 1962. He practiced pharmacy in Austin for 18 years before joining the faculty at UT College of Pharmacy in July 1980.

Mr. Kloesel’s major teaching accomplishment is the development, coordination, and administration of the Care and Respect for the Elderly (CARE) Program which is now mandatory for every first-year UT pharmacy student. The program is based on the philosophy of “active learning” and requires each student to provide social support and companionship to an elderly resident in an assisted living environment. The program teaches the students that the best medicines they can dispense are doses of kindness, empathy and respect.

Pharmacy dean Crisman said, “I don’t think I’ve ever met a more caring and giving person.”

Dr. Lynn Crismon said, “I don’t think I’ve ever met a more caring and giving person.”

“I have a sense of peace and a connection to Sacred Heart,” he said. “I think that’s a sign from God where I need to be,” he said.

Dr. Lawrence (Larry) F. Rossow, dean of the University of Texas College of Pharmacy in 1995, and in 2010, the College of Pharmacy created the Arlyn Kloesel Endowment for Excellence in Pharmacy. Mr. Kloesel and his wife Mary Carol have been married for 50 years and have two sons.

Arlyn and his wife are active members of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Austin where he participates in weekly 3:00 a.m. adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Sacred Heart Catholic Church is proud to recognize Mr. Arlyn Kloesel with the Distinguished Graduate Award.

While in high school Arlyn led the See Distinguished graduate, p. 8

Deacon Rossow appointed commissioner to TCCAC

Dr. Lawrence (Larry) F. Rossow, deacon at Our Lady of Victory since 2009, was appointed as a commissioner to the Texas Catholic Conference Accreditation Commission. The commission oversees accreditation of all Texas elementary and secondary Catholic schools and is a part of the state-approved Texas Private School Accreditation Commission.

Deacon Larry came from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City where he was ordained in 2000. Also, he is the dean of the School of Education & Human Development at the University of Houston-Victoria. In addition to 42 years of education experience, Deacon Larry was a U.S. Army Field Artillery captain. He holds bachelor’s degrees in philosophy and theology, a master’s in school administration and a doctorate in education law.

Deacon Lawrence (Larry) F. Rossow Cell: (979) 543-3770.

The Catholic Lighthouse Page 7 — July 2011

Three seminarians spend summer working at chancery

Continued from p. 4

For Kristopher, this is the third straight summer working in the youth office. He said he enjoys getting to see the faith of the young people of the diocese. “A lot of the work is behind the scenes, but it’s worth it when one of the camps turns out so well,” he said.

Kristopher, 24, is in his third year of formation for the diocese. He grew up in Needville, and has strong family ties in Moulton. His parents and one younger brother live in Needville; he has another younger brother enrolled at Sam Houston State University.

He said he discerned entering semi-nary before graduating from Texas A&M University with a degree in architecture in 2009, and felt at home in the Diocese of Victoria because he loved the people and the rural atmosphere.

Kristopher is set to begin his first year of study at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, in August.

DIOCESE
Lights of Our Lives

As the sun had set and the dusk settlement of lightness, the brightness of the flames of the candles seemed to intensify before my eyes as I waited for the Taize Prayer to begin. Now, this special prayer experience, Taize, is held in an atmosphere of quiet and candlelight. It originated in Taize, France, near the birthplace of our foundress, Jeanne Chezard de Matel. The prayer consists of sacred chants, songs, Scripture readings, meditations and prayers of praise and petition.

That evening I was amazed at the visual impact of the candles in the face of the encroaching darkness. There were candles of all shapes and sizes. Some candles were long and slender; others were short and round. Some had little evidence of having been lit before; others seemed to be struggling to stay lit. Some were single; others were clumped in groups. Some were neatly arranged on canopies; others were randomly placed throughout the stage of our auditorium. Whatever shape or position each candle had, it contributed its bit to an awesome spectacle of light.

I began to think of us as the candles and reflected on the various ways that each of us was letting our light shine wherever we were and whatever kind of candle we were. Some of us display the light of a very simple, sincere spirituality; others shine through multiple ways of relating to God and those about them. Some are new on the prayer scene, while others are near the end of a long life of witnessing to the rest of us. Some of us serve in individual ministries and let our light shine as a lonely beacon in the midst of darkness while others of us are accompanied by the support of companions on our life journey. Together, as we allow God to shine through us, we are all contributing to the manifestation of God’s presence among us.

As I reflected further, I thought of a passage written by our current pope regarding our role as lights. (If you may have alluded to this statement in a previous article even if I did, I think it would be worth repeating.) Pope Benedict XVI wrote:

“The true stars of our life are the people who have lived good lives. They are lights of hope. Certainly, Jesus Christ is the true light, the sun that has risen above all the shadows of history. But to reach him we also need lights close by — people who shine with his light and so guide us along our way (cf. Sp Sali, 49).”

Therefore, whatever our style or location, let us all be lights of hope. May we all shine on!

Editors Note: The next Taize Prayer will be held August 30 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

KJ2T #43 DONATES TO MATTHEW 25 MINISTRY—During the past season of Lent, Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas - KJZT Society No. 43 of Assumption BVM Church, Ganado, sponsored a food drive in conjunction with the state KJZT project of Feeding Families across Texas. Approximately 150 pounds of food plus cash donations of $200 were collected and given to the parish Matthew 25 Ministry, which assists the needy of the parish and community. The state office of CFFT-KJZT matched the dollar amount to bring the total cash donation given to the Matthew 25 Ministry to $400. Pictured are Lanae Macha, KJZT society vice-president; Steve Labay, Matthew 25 coordinator; Frances Vesely, society treasurer; and Alice Wright, society secretary. Not pictured is Cecilia French, society president.

BAY CITY CDA PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS—The 2011 Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Resurrection #32054, Bay City, $500 Scholarship recipients are Jessica Koether, Rachel Richardson, Christina Jean “CT” Kieschnick and Austin Wright, society members.

Sister John Hayden, IWBS, celebrated her 95th birthday on May 30, 2011. On July 10, 2011, she will be celebrating her 70th anniversary of Profession of vows as a Sister of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament.

Sister Kallus Family are parishioners of Holy Agnes in Edna, and the Barton’s are parishioners of St. Agnes in Edna, and the Barton’s are parishioners of Holy Family in Victoria.

A three instrumental music students from St. Joseph High School of Victoria, were awarded State Gold Medals for superior performances at the Texas Private Schools State Solo & Ensemble Contest on Saturday, May 28. The contest was sponsored by the Texas Private School Music Educators.

The gold medal winners were Nathanial Hawes - Baritone Horn; Michael Petrass II – Electric Bass; and Leslie Zepeda – Bb Clarinet.

Congratulations!
Parish youth minister now forms faith of diocesan youth

By Max Landman, seminarian

As a dental hygienist, Wendy Eggert loved cleaning young people’s teeth. Now she gets to brighten their spirits.

Wendy was thrilled at the opportunity.

Wendy, a Victoria native, grew up in the city with two older brothers. She converted to the Catholic faith, completing the RCIA program at Our Lady of Lourdes in Victoria in April 2005.

She began working as a youth minister at the same parish during the RCIA process, igniting a passion more profound than in her work as a dental hygienist, which included stints in Austin, Gonzales and Victoria over the past 18 years.

“Just want them to understand the richness of the Catholic faith,” she said.

For kids to truly understand and value their faith, they need to learn in an environment that suits them, she said.

“I think that if you take them to a camp or if you do a retreat with them, that’s something a little different—that they’re more receptive to it,” she said.

Wendy replaced Jose Ortega, who worked more than two years for the diocese. Jose joined the League City Police Department in May. He is set to begin training to become a police officer in July.

Catholic Daughter of the Americas Court St. Ann #369, Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Pictured above are the Catholic Daughter of the Americas Court St. Ann #369, Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Wendy Eggert (r) replaces Jose Ortega (l) as associate director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.
SHINER – The 2010-2011 school year was a year of unprecedented success for Shiner St. Paul School. The school collected five state championships in athletic competition. On Friday, June 10, the school collected a few more awards at the TAPPS All-Star basketball player. Brandon Sciba, with the TAPPS 2A Male Athlete of the Year Award; Coach Jake Wachsmuth holds the Henderson Cup, Coach Dana Beal, Principal Neely Yackel, and Emily Wagner, with the TAPPS 2A Female Athlete of the Year Award. She was also recognized as a TAPPS All-Star volleyball player.

Unprecedented athletic success for Shiner St. Paul

Emily Wagner and Marissa Ynclan were recognized as TAPPS All-Star volleyball players.

Emily was also selected as a TAPPS All-Star basketball player. The All-Star games were played the following day in San Antonio. “Playing in the All-Star game was an awesome experience,” said Emily. “I love getting to represent my school, teammates and coaches. Without them, I never would have even had the chance to be selected for this honor.”

Emily was also recognized as the TAPPS 2A Female Athlete of the Year. Emily had an outstanding year. She was 1st Team All-District, Academic All-State, and 1st Team All-State in volleyball. Her volleyball team was the State Runner-Up. She was also on the State Runner-Up 4x400 relay team and she placed 6th in the Long Jump. These efforts helped her team win the State Championship and she was Academic All-State in track.

“Emily being named TAPPS 2A Athlete of the Year is a tremendous honor. She is very deserving of this award. She was a 5-sport athlete each year,” said Coach Dana Beal. “Through her leadership and hard work, she was an integral part of the Lady Cardinal’s success each year of her participation.”

Brandon Sciba was recognized as the TAPPS 2A Male Athlete of the Year. Brandon also had a fantastic senior year. He was 1st Team All-District on offense and defense in football. He was 2nd Team All-State on offense and 1st Team All-State on defense. He was Academic All-State. His football team won the State Championship and he was selected as the State Final MVP. He was also awarded with the Right Guard Defensive Player of the Game trophy. Brandon was selected to play in the TAPPS All-Star Game in July. He was 2nd Team All-District in basketball and his team advanced to the playoffs. He was 1st Team All-District, Academic All-State, and 1st Team All-State in baseball. His baseball team won the State Championship. In track, he was a member of the 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams, which each finished 4th at the state track meet. His team finished 5th overall at the state track meet and he was Academic All-State.

“It’s been an overall great year, better than I could have imagined. All the success I have achieved comes from hard work, good coaching and good teammates,” said Brandon. “I have enjoyed every bit of playing sports at St. Paul. I will surely have memories to last a lifetime.”

“Coaching is a lot of fun when you work with kids like Brandon,” said Coach Jake Wachsmuth. “He has been a tremendous representative of our school. He always did whatever his team needed and he never cared about the individual. You could always count on him. He participated on 19 teams during his four years of high school.”

Emily is the third female athlete at St. Paul to receive the “Of the Year” award. "I’m excited to see what college is like at VC while taking this next step toward becoming a nurse,” said Emily. “I look forward to one day being the one who people count on during their time of need and helping them on their way to recovery.”

In addition to being a member of the National Honor Society, Emily has been a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic School’s student council and a charter member of the Leo Club (the youth organization associated with Lions Club International). She has been active in cheerleading, band, volleyball, tennis, track and the 4-H Shooting Club throughout her years at Sacred Heart. In her spare time, she enjoys long trail rides with her horse along with painting, baking and gardening. As a way to further nurture her artistic side, she’s also recently mastered pottery.

Emily Wagner and Marissa Ynclan were recognized as TAPPS All-Star volleyball players.
By Cynthia Brewer

My husband and I decided a beach destination would make the best vacation choice for us this year. Little did we know that the place we chose to travel to just so happened to be full of history, culture and religion, too.

We flew to Punta Cana at the eastern tip of the Dominican Republic to relax and enjoy the crystal-blue water and white-sand beaches, and we were not disappointed. The beaches of Punta Cana are boasted to be some of the prettiest in the world, and I believe they live up to that boast.

But that’s not all that makes the Dominican Republic a wonderful place to visit. If you enjoy religion and history, the Dominican Republic, which shares the island with Haiti, is 85 percent Catholic and was the third American island upon which Christopher Columbus landed.

From our beach resort, we reserved a day tour to the nation’s capital, Santa Domingo, named after St. Dominic.

While traveling in a comfortable 15-passenger van, we learned why the Dominican Republic is so much more prosperous than its neighbor, Haiti. Our tour guide, Pedro, told us that the Dominican Republic’s fertile soil lies on level land more suited to farming; whereas, Haiti is mostly mountainous, and its forests have been clear cut. Countries and businesses donate to Haiti but invest with the Dominican Republic. Many Haitians come to the Dominican Republic in search of employment on sugar cane farms. “The difference between Haiti and the Dominican Republic,” Pedro said, “is that in Haiti, they speak French and play fútbol, and in the Dominican Republic, we speak Spanish and play baseball.”

Our guide told us that on October 12, 1492, Columbus sighted and landed on what is now known as the Bahamas. Next he explored Cuba, and in December of 1492 he landed on the island he named Hispaniola, later to become the countries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. December 12, 1492, marked the founding of a temporary settlement called La Concepcion, and in an improvised chapel, the first Mass in the New World was said on January 6, 1494.

First, we stopped at and viewed the Basilica of Our Lady of Altagracia in the town of Higuey, the capital of the province of Altagracia. Our guide told us that next to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico, Altagracia is the most visited Shrine of Our Lady in the Americas. It is said that a miracle took place in Higuey with a painting of The Virgin of La Altagracia, which was brought by the Spaniards over 500 years ago. The painting is on display at the modern basilica, built in the 1950s.

Upon arriving in Santa Domingo, we visited the Holy Metropolitan Cathedral dedicated to St. Mary of the Incarnation, whose foundation stone was laid in 1521. The limestone Cathedral was completed and consecrated in 1541, making it the first Christian church in the Western World.

We toured the beautifully appointed, two-story, limestone structure that was once the home of Christopher Columbus’ son, Diego, and his family. After lunch and shopping, we visited the amazing, underground Three Eyes caves in the middle of the capitol before driving past the Columbus Lighthouse (Faro a Colón), which purportedly holds the remains of Christopher Columbus and was inaugurated by Pope John Paul II with a Mass on the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’ landing in the New World.

Our unexpected discoveries of the birthplace of Christianity in the Americas and the Shrine of Our Lady of Altagracia made a perfectly grace-filled pause in our otherwise luxurious, secular beach vacation. It’s amazing how God visits us in the most unexpected places. I truly felt blessed.

Secular vacation holds religious, cultural surprises
The Catholic Lighthouse
Page 12 — July 2011

Hungarian migration story to be July puzzle contest prize

The horrors perpetrated by oppressive regimes jump at us every day, from Egypt and Tunisia to Libya and beyond. The innocent continue to suffer, many without hope of ever achieving a life of freedom, peace and happiness.

The first disruption of young Julius Fábovics’s idyllic, life on his family’s prosperous farm in Marcali, Hungary, came in the early 1940s when nearly 1,000 German vehicles stormed through the peaceful town on their way to invade Yugoslavia in 1941 — a har- binger of the horrors to come.

Eventual German occupation of Hungary was supplanted by the Soviets by the end of World War II. Under Stalin’s rule, the nation’s agriculture was collectivized. In million people, together with their families, were classified and persecuted as enemies of the state — a list comprised mostly of Kulaks (well-to-do farmers) but also including priests, criminals, black marketeers and party hacks. A vicious anti-Soviet campaign ensued against the Kulaks.

Private property was confiscated and laws passed forbidding private citizens to own anything resembling foreign currencies, gold and other valuable jewelry.

Farmers were ordered to produce enormous quantities of grain and milk and to surrender many live animals for meat to the Soviets.

Failing to meet unrealistic quotas, Julius, along with his family, was exiled to Siberia by the Soviets and spent time in a camp near Kuibyshev. Two years later, they returned to Hungary, only to be subjected to a second round of Stalinist Oppression for a New Life in America.

Julius Fábovics’ tale chillingly echoes hardships faced even today by countless victims of oppressive regimes, and offers hope to those who suffer.

This book would be enjoyed by gardeners, farmers and foreign ci-vilians. For a chance to win Son of a Kulak: How a Hungarian Farm Boy Survived World War II and Escaped Stalinist Oppression for a New Life in America, please send in completed puzzle to The Catholic Lighthouse, by July 25.

Because of our mix up in last month’s puzzle, we have two winners for books this month.


The winner of the children’s contest is Brema Munch (12) of St. Anthony Parish in Dublin. She will receive a gift from the Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

Congratulations to all our winners, and thank you to everyone for their patience! The winner of the July Puzzle Contest will win a month’s featured book, Son of a Kulak: How a Hungarian Farm Boy Survived World War II and Escaped Stalinist Oppression for a New Life in America.

Please mail all completed July puzzle forms to arrive in The Catholic Lighthouse office, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 by July 25.

May/June Puzzle Contest Winners

Name: Address: Phone number:

Age if 18 or under:

Father John A. Leies, SM, STD, president emeritus of St. Mary’s Uni-

By Father John A. Leies, SM, STD, former head of its theology department

The Estonian Constitution of 1992 was written a few years ago, the final docu-

people of Hungary wrote a new Constitu-

ciples of the Constitution. Article 3 of the document prohibits eugenics practices. And the new Constitution defines the “family” as the conjugal union of a man and a woman “based on their independent consent” and declares that the country “shall protect the institution of the family, the basis for the survival of the nation.” There is no place for same-sex marriages.

The Constitution provides that taxes for families would be dependent on the number of children in the family. Parents with young children would be given special tax breaks. This concern for families truly represents Christian principles. In regard to church/state relations, the new document declares: “For the attainment of com-munity goals, the state shall cooperate with the churches.” (One interesting provision in the Constitution was removed before the final vote, but may be incorporated later into the law. It stated that each parent in a family would have a second civic vote on behalf of one minor child. That would give many parents a double civic vote in elections.)

The new Constitution outraged many representatives of the European Union. Germany, for example, warned the Hun-

not was in keeping with current European values. Leigh Phillips quoted the German deputy foreign minister as saying: “We are observing the development in Hungary with great attention and some worry. . . . (Their legislation) shows an attitude towards fundamental human rights which is hardly compatible with European Union values.” Phillips also noted that the Justice Commission of the Council of the European Union, a group which monitors new constitutions in Eastern Europe, gave a scathing criticism of the new law.

The Estonian Constitution is a sign that purely secularist values have not taken over every country of Europe. Poland still maintains the Christian faith and acknowled-

edges it. And Hungary is another example. Undoubtedly, critics will demand that the European Union call Hungary to task for the audacity to be so Christian and so protective of life. Pray that the Hungarian government has the strength to resist such pressures.

The Estonian Constitution, as Msgr. Barreiro-Carambula observed, “may represent a resurrection of values that many thought had all but disappeared from the laws of Europe. . . . another step in a long and uneven journey back to Hungary’s and Europe’s roots.”
Looking Around

By Father William J. Byron, SJ
Catholic News Service

Help for parents in raising teenagers

A journalist friend of mine, Susan Fertig, is co-author with pediatrician Kenneth Ginsburg of a new book titled “Letting Go With Love and Confidence” (Avery Books, a division of Penguin). It promises help to parents in “raising responsible, resilient, self-sufficient teenagers in the 21st century.”

“Helping our children develop the ability to work and think for themselves is one of the most important tasks parents face,” Fertig and Ginsburg write. “It is the key to creating healthy, caring, independent, contributing adults.”

Fertig and Ginsburg advise parents not to micromanage their children, to hand over more responsibility, and to avoid negative myths about 15-year-olds. 

Fertig and Ginsburg advise parents to:

1. Know your child’s boundaries. “Bake bread. ‘Even if it’s no good, you’ll eat it with pride and joy because it’s something you’ve made and it’s something that has expressed the person.’”

2. Keep your promises. “Visiting a farm or farmers’ market. Meet the people who grow your food.”

3. Parent mindfully. “If we can illuminate our habits of consumption and really introduce principles of justice and principles of stewardship in our habits of consumption, that would be huge.”

4. Supervise. “Purchase local, seasonal food directly from a farmer through a Community Supported Agriculture program. To find one of these farms near you, go to www.localharvest.org/csa/.”

5. Go for a walk. “Go for a walk. Encounter God in nature.”

6. For parties. “Develop a partnership between an urban parish and a rural parish.”

7. School. “Purchase locally produced food for school programs.”

8. For parties. “Ideally, parishes would have little gardens, and the produce would go to the poor.”

9. Bake bread. “Even if it’s no good, you’ll eat it with pride and joy because it’s something you’ve made and it’s something that has expressed the person.”

10. Help families and parishes cultivate a deeper appreciation for agriculture and God’s creation. “Bring to you by the Catholic Communications Campaign – please be generous.”

www.usccb.org/nab/

Family Fiesta of Life Conference - Archdiocese of San Antonio

Attention, Families! The Archdiocese of San Antonio’s Family Fiesta of Life Conference will take place July 29-30, at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church. Friday night’s program begins with an hour of praise and worship with Christian musicians “Body of Christ Ministries,” followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. The evening will close with a sneak preview of the movie “Courageous.”

For more information, visit the National Catholic Rural Life Conference Web site at www.ncrlc.com.

FAITH & FAMILY

CONGRESS HAS INTRODUCED THE NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

PROVING ONCE AGAIN THAT ELECTIONS DO HAVE CONSEQUENCES

By Gary Cangemi

July 10 —

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14
Romans 8:16-23
Matthew 13:1-23

July 17 —

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Psalms 86:5-6, 9-11, 15-16
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-33

July 24 —

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Psalms 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

July 31 —

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3
Psalms 145:4-8, 15-16, 17-18
Romans 8:35, 37-39
Matthew 14:31-21

August 7 —

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:19a, 11-13a
Psalms 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-23

August 14 —

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1-7
Psalms 113:15, 16, 5, 6, 8
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Sunday Readings from July 10 to Aug. 14
Faith, no matter how small, leads to faith

In the spring of 2010, a tornado siren was simply a time to go downstairs — just in case. My husband’s parents hadn’t yet experienced the New York Eve tornado that was a Missoula based storm that we were dining. My grown daughter hadn’t yet witnessed the Good Friday tornado from the back steps of our home while we were venerating the Cross. And Joplin, Missouri, hadn’t suffered unspeakable loss from the deadliest tornado since 1947.

No, in the spring of 2010, a tornado siren just signaled a time for gathering downstairs. On one of those stormy nights in 2010, I realized the capacity to love another, hold bitterness against one another, scam each other, destroy each other, give another, work with another. We have the capacity to love another, die for another, for those who cared one way or another.

It is an interesting application of probability theory.

For those of us who have a faith, which shapes everything we do, we have trouble understanding the thought processes of those who have no faith in God or eternity. How do we help them get from point A to point B? From no faith to at least some faith?

My husband tells me to have compas- sion on the one who cannot believe and encourage them with the past as that would “leave the faith today in darkness.”

No one must theologians only look at psychologi- cal or sociological studies leaving faith on the wayside as that would strip theology of meaning and a solid founda- tion added.

Though the teaching of the pope said the real question at stake is: “Is what we be- lieve in true or not? In theology the ques- tion of truth is at play: truth is its ultimate in- ternal and essential foundation.”

So while reason is fundamental to theology, it had to ask itself about the reasonableness of faith.

By the way, the 76-year-old Spanish priest and professor Father Olegario Gonzalez de Cardedal, a Doctor of Sacred Scripture, was given the Ratzinger Prize for his excellence in theological studies: Manlio Simonetti, an 85-year-old Italian profes- sor and expert in ancient Christian stud- ies and patristics but finds the interpreta- tion of truth is at play: truth is its ultimate in- ternal and essential foundation.”

The pope said this use of reason, which is “incompatible with the nature of faith,” can be seen in Psalm 95, which recalls Meribah as the place where the early Isra- elites proved God, because they did not trust the supreme and final judge of everything,” he said.

The correct use of reason in matters of faith is when it is used on a personal level and is driven by love.

The pope said: “Love wants to know better the person who loves. Love — true love — will not make us blind,” it makes people see.

Loving will satisfy a person’s thirst to really know the other, to touch those who seek the truth are on the path to seeking God, he said.

This is why authentic theology is so important. Solid faith leads reason to open itself up to the divine, so that reason, guided by love for the truth, may know God even more deeply.

Therefore, theology must be made up of two elements: “humility, which lets us ‘be really known’ by God, and discipline, which is tied to the order of reason, which keeps us free from the, which leads to seeking love and helps develop its power to see,” he said.

In the spring of 2010, a tornado siren just signaled a time for gathering downstairs. On one of those stormy nights in 2010, I realized the capacity to love another, hold bitterness against one another, scam each other, destroy each other, give another, work with another.

So while reason is fundamental to the- ology, it had to ask itself about the reasonableness of faith.


People can abuse reason when they demand proof from God, pope says

By Carol Glaz Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While em- pirical science has done much to further understanding of the world, subjecting his truth to scientific scrutiny represents an incorrect and despotic use of human reason, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“Now reason, truth and faith intercon- nect has always sparked debate throughout history, the pope said June 30 during an award ceremony in the fresco-covered Clementine Hall in the Apostolic Palace.

The pope gave three European theo- logians the Ratzinger Prize for their excellence in theological studies: Manlio Simonetti, an 85-year-old Italian profes- sor and expert in ancient Christian stud- ies and patristics but finds the interpreta- tion of truth is at play: truth is its ultimate in- ternal and essential foundation.”

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The father of the Heiligenkreuz monastery in Austria.

The pope used the occasion to talk about the significance and the challenges sur- rounding theology.

He noted the important contribution: theology has made, but warned that theol- ogy must not only be concerned with the past as that would “leave the faith today in darkness.”

Not theologians only look at psychologi- cal or sociological studies leaving faith on the wayside as that would strip theology of meaning and a solid founda- tion added.

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So while reason is fundamental to the- ology, it had to ask itself about the reasonableness of faith.

This was the first time the prizes were awarded since the establishment last year of the Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) Vatican Foundation, which promotes theological studies on the pope’s writings and rewards promising scholars.

Pope Benedict XVI’s Intentions

July 2011

General Intention: That Christians may contribute to alleviating the ma- terial and spiritual suffering of AIDS patients, especially in the poorest countries.

Missionary Intention: For the reli- gious who work in mission territories, that they may be zealous of the joy of the Gospel and living signs of the love of Christ.

Pray for vocations!

Heavenly Father, if it is your divine will, inspire many of our youth to say “Yes” to your special calling to be priests, sisters and brothers. Amen.

For more information, please contact Betty Urbanovsky at (979) 543-2333 or E-mail: Burbانovsky@bcsglobal.net

Pope Benedict XVI

CNS photo from Reuters

Substitute Adorers Needed

The Adoration Chapel at St. Mary’s Church in Victoria is in need of adorers to spend 1 hour each week at the chapel. Hours available include: Wednesdays, 4 – 5 p.m. and 7 – 8 p.m.; and Fridays 9 – 10 a.m. and 3 – 4 p.m. Please call Betty Mary’s at (361) 573-4328 or Mrs. Cleo Boldt at (361) 573-6161.
Chaplain recruiter has been in line of fire

By John B. O’Donnell

This article first appeared in The Catholic Review, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and then in the Spring 2011 SALUTE, the magazine of the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

Father Paul Anthony Halladay is on a mission, to replenish the depleted ranks of Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Army. His pitch is backed by experience in the line of fire, a brush that earned him a Bronze Star.

“The Army needs 500 priests to take care of the service’s members,” Father Halladay said in a recent interview. “We are far from that.”

He traveled frequently, meeting with priests and seminarians to encourage them to consider the chaplaincy, and with bishops in an effort to obtain releases for priests who want to become Army chaplains. He also meets with Catholic soldiers, to encourage them to consider a career in the priesthood.

In their last childhood, seminarians who are considering the Army are invited to spend three months in chaplaincy as an auxiliary to a chaplain. In Baltimore, Father Halladay is assigned to the Chaplain Recruiting Branch of the Army at Fort Meade.

By the time they graduate from seminary, Father Halladay said, “they are invited to consider the vocation filled with honor and rewards, and I can help them with that decision.”

The bonds these Marines forge are very strong, and, as their new “family”, they grieve greatly when someone loses a “brother warrior” in combat.

Father Halladay resides at St. William of Moors, TX 78419. For more information, visit www.chaplain.org or call (210) 791-3600.
Order accuses Father Corapi of sexual, financial wrongdoing, falsehoods

By Nancy Frazier O’Brien

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Father John A. Corapi was involved in “years of cohabitation” with a former prostitute, repeated abuse of alcohol and drugs and “serious violation” of his promise of poverty, according to a fact-finding team appointed by his religious order.

“Catholics should understand that the (order) does not consider Father John Corapi as fit for ministry,” said a July 5 news release from Father Gerard Sheehan, procurator general for the Order of the Most Holy Trinity.

Although Father Corapi’s ministry “has inspired thousands of faithful Catholics,” the news release said, he is “now misleading these individuals through his false statements and characterizations.”

There was no immediate response to the announcement from Father Corapi.

Catholics may not participate in civil unions, bishop says

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (CNS) — Saying that civil unions “promote an unacceptable lifestyle, undermine the faith of the church on holy matrimony, and cause scandal and confusion,” Providence Bishop Thomas J. Tobin reminded Catholics that they may not participate in such ceremonies.

“Do so is a very grave violation of the moral law and, thus, seriously sinful,” he said in a statement June 30, the day after passage of legislation that will give same-sex couples who enter into civil unions the same rights and benefits as marriage in Rhode Island.

The state Senate agreed to the bill, which the House had already approved, on a 21-16 vote late June 29 and Gov. Lincoln D. Chafee, an Independent, said he will sign it.

“The concept of civil unions is a social experiment that promotes an immoral lifestyle, is a mockery of the institution of marriage as designed by God, undermines the well-being of our families, and poses a threat to religious liberty,” Bishop Tobin said.

He said the church members should “have respect and love for persons with same-sex attraction” but must remember that “homosexual activity is contrary to the natural law and the will of God and, therefore, is objectively sinful.”

“Persons with same-sex attraction are required to live the Christian virtues of chastity and modesty, as all persons are,” Bishop Tobin said.

The Rhode Island vote came less than a week after the New York Legislature approved a same-sex marriage bill, which the state’s Catholic bishops said would undermine marriage and families.

By Mark Pattison

WASHINGTON (CNS) — We use TVs for more than watching TV. There are DVDs (and, for the hardy holdouts, VHS tapes), and time-shifting and on-demand options in the digital age.

TVs are also used to play video games. And the Supreme Court has opened the door to anyone under 18.

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The justices in the majority considered the California law’s “dangerous products.”

“American families deserve a strong statement – without going through the court to defer to an elected legislature’s ruling. ‘It is simply wrong that the video game industry can be allowed to put their profit margins over the rights of parents and the well-being of children.’”

Some critics come “at the expense of our kids’ mental health and the safety of our community,” he said.

The video game industry’s annual sales total $15 billion.

U.S. Rep. Joe Baca, D-Calif., said June 27 he would reintroduce a bill that would require the makers of any video game rated ‘T’ (for teen) or higher to post a health and the safety of our community,” he said.

The video game industry’s annual sales total $15 billion.

In a separate dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas — considered an “originalist,” meaning that he backs the intent of the Constitution’s original framers — said: “The freedom of speech, as originally understood, does not include a right to speak to minors — or a right of minors to access speech — without going through the mind-numbing process of age verification.

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Southern Sudan’s Independence Day

St. Bakhita, may we be inspired to tire ourselves and serve, to be faithful in love and service, and to stand up against the evil of slavery and brutality. May St. Bakhita’s spirit inspire us to give our lives for human rights and justice. 

The nation’s Independence Day is July 9 — the new nation of the Republic of South Sudan, that is. Both celebration and sorrow are in order.

— Celebration, because after more than two decades of brutal fighting with the Republic of Sudan, the independent Republic of South Sudan is being born as the world’s newest nation.

— Sorrow, because much of the oppression heaped upon it from the Republic of Sudan continues in the form of an economic blockade and its support to southern Sudanese militias, which raise great evoc.

Additionally, according to the Genoc ide Project, the Republic of Sudan has attacked the disputed border areas of Abyei and South Kordofan — killing many innocent civilians and displacing more than 70,000 very poor human beings.

“Make no mistake,” Father Tom Tiscornia, ministering in Southern Sudan, emailed me saying that the northern Republic of Sudan has a clear moral duty to adopt policies and support programs that encourage integral development and long-term economic growth for the poorest countries, with particular attention to sub-Saharan Africa. This is not just a policy option; it is a moral obligation.

“Our voices can join with others to encourage a sustained, just and comprehensive engagement of the world’s vast resources to generate lasting solutions that respect the full human dignity of our brother’s and sisters in the poorest coun tries of Africa.”

Near the end of her life, former slave and native of Sudan, St. Josephine Bakhita, experiencing the terrible memories of her slavery, said to her nurse, “Please, loosen the chains, ... they are heavy!”

Through the powerful intercession of St. Bakhita, may we be inspired to tirelessly work to “loosen the chains” of all the suffering people of both Sudans.

(left a prayer meeting in his parish, died after emergency surgery.

“He was very dynamic, creative, very charismatic and had a way being very open and direct with young people,” Father Camargo said.

A funeral Mass was celebrated July 4. Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas, across the border from Matamoros, issued a statement expressing sorrow and offering prayers for Father Duran, the church of Matamoros and “all those who live in circumstances of great danger.”

“Many innocent people have been killed as a result of the violence in north ern Mexico, and Father Duran Romero is among the most recent,” the bishop’s statement said. “A priest should be with his people in times of trial,” and Father Duran’s death “witnesses to this solidarity.”

The death was the latest difficulty for the Catholic Church as it serves regions of Mexico rife with violence from drug cartels and organized crime. One priest in the Diocese of Matam oros fled a violent region of Tamaulipas and was murdered by the northern soldiers.

In their pastoral statement “A Call to Solidarity With Africa,” the U.S. Catholic bishops wrote: “The United States has a clear moral duty to adopt policies and support programs that encourage integral development and long-term economic growth for the poorest countries, with particular attention to sub-Saharan Africa. This is not just a policy option; it is a moral obligation.

“The Holy See’s daily stands as a ‘paper of information,’ an organ of formation and not only the presence of God, the papal letter said. Today, the paper continues to be ‘a guiding beacon’ in a world that often lacks adequate points of reference and the word of God, the papal letter said. “The Holy See’s daily stands as a ‘paper of ideas,’ an organ of formation and not only of information,” it said.

— Continued from p. 1

Continued from p. 1

Mexican priest dies after being caught in cartel-military crossfire

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Auction 12:30 p.m. Pyramid Cheese and Poppyseed Rolls • Arts & Crafts • Quilts • Many more items •

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Mexican Food fresh in the afternoon.


Pope says selfless economic models at root of world hunger

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said persistent world hunger was a “tragedy” driven by selfish and profit-driven economic models, whose first victims are millions of children deprived of life or good health. In responding to the crisis, international agencies should rediscover the value of the family farm, promoting the movement of young people back into rural areas, the pope said July 1 in an address to participants in an annual conference on hunger organized by the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Meeting with the group at the Vatican, the pope strongly emphasized the theme of economic justice that has figured prominently in his encyclicals and other writings. He noted that millions of men, women and children remain without adequate nourishment today. “My thoughts turn toward the situation of millions of children, who are the first victims of this tragedy, condemned to an early death or to a delay in their physical or psychic development, or forced into forms of ex- ploitation just to receive minimal nutrition,” he said. The pope said the cause of such hunger cannot be found only in technical developments such as production cycles or commodity prices. “Poverty, underdevelop- ment and, therefore, hunger are often the result of selfish behaviors that are born in the human heart, manifest themselves in social life, economic exchange, in market condi- tions and in the lack of access to food,” the pope said.

Vatican newspaper is at service of truth, justice, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — “The pope’s newspaper” is a paper of information and ideas at the service of truth and justice, Pope Benedict XVI said. L’Osservatore Romano, therefore, must continue to put focus on important issues of the day like bioethics and on women’s perspectives, ecumenism and relations with Jews, the pope said.

The pope praised the Vatican paper as “one of the privileged instruments at the service of the Holy See and the Church,” in a written message marking the paper’s 150th anni versary. The letter, released to journalists June 30, recognized the paper’s “long and important journey” from its first issue of July 1, 1861, through today. The paper’s present authority increased over time “because of its line of impartiality and courage in particular, staunchly maintained in the face of the tragedies and booms that scarred the first half of the 20th century,” the pope wrote. The Vatican paper “was able to inform with honesty and freedom even during the rise of totalitarianism, the horrors of the Holocaust and the persecu tion of Christians by communist regimes, he wrote. Today, the paper continues to be “a guiding beacon” in a world that often lacks adequate points of reference and the word of God, the papal letter said. “The Holy See’s daily stands as a ‘paper of ideas,’ an organ of formation and not only of information,” it said.

Cardinals help feed Rome’s poor to mark pope’s ordination anniversary

Pope’s anniversary celebration lunch with the pope in the Apostolic Palace July 1. Cardinal Sodano told the pope the only other pope in recent memory who celebrated a 60th anniversary of priestly ordination was Pope Leo XIII in 1897, when he was 87 years old. He said the cardinals back then gave Pope Leo a large anniversary celebration lunch with the pope in the Apostolic Palace July 1.

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Summer brings threat of Ozone Action Days

The warmer temperatures of the Texas summer also bring the threat of Ozone Action Days, when ground-level ozone can reach concentrations high enough to endanger human health, the staff of Air Victoria recently warned.

“Certain people are at a higher risk for ozone-related health problems,” said Marie Lester, environmental programs coordinator for the City of Victoria and Air Victoria. “They need to stay informed and stay inside as much as possible when we issue an Ozone Action Day alert.”

Children, the elderly, and those with respiratory conditions like asthma are at a higher risk. Everyone should consider limiting strenuous outdoor activities, such as running or yard work, until after 6 p.m. on Ozone Action Days to protect their health.

Local residents also should refrain from refueling vehicles before 5 p.m., and wait until after sundown or until another day to do yard work.

Ground-level ozone is produced when air and car exhaust chemically combine due to hot temperatures. In Victoria, the ozone season for Ozone Action Days runs from May to October.

To help reduce ground-level ozone, local residents should:

- Stop at the click when refueling
- Turn off unnecessary lights and cooling systems
- Keep home windows closed when pollutants are high
- Drive only one vehicle to and from work
- Use public transportation
- Use carpooling
- Drive less
- Plan outdoor activities early or later in the day
- Stay indoors when ozone is high
- Use an air conditioner
- Keep pets indoors when ozone is high
- Avoid jogging

Victoria residents can sign up for free e-mail alerts at airvictoria.org/ozone, where you can also learn more about how to prevent ground-level ozone.

Victoria Air Victoria – Air Victoria, a program of the City of Victoria, promotes voluntary compliance with best practices for improving air quality through public education and research.

Court strikes down state’s ban on sale of violent video games to minors

Continued from p. 16 government, to transmit content. The California law “abridges the First Amendment rights of young people whose parents, grandparents and others purchase violent video games are a harmless pastime,” said the majority opinion, written by Justice Antonin Scalia and joined by four other justices.

Justice Samuel Alito wrote a separate concurring opinion, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts, but he added his belief that a more narrowly tailored law could work, noting the disturbing imagery of some of the games.

“The objective of one game is to rape a mother and her daughters,” Alito said. In another, “players attempt to fire a rifle shot into the head of a young boy, as if he were his motorcyle passes by the Texas School Book Depository.”

The Federal Communications Television Council was none too pleased with the ruling. “When an industry trade group files a federal lawsuit to defend a child’s constitutional rights, the alarm bells should be响起,” said Robert Cornegy, who served as the council’s president, Tim Winter, in a June 27 statement.

When most TVs now in use carry a V-chip to allow parents to block programs that carry a TV Parental Guideline they can’t watch, the FCC has specifically directed the to the point where: DVDs or video games carrying ratings obligated to by parents - but still needing the TV screen to be viewed – can be likewise blocked. It may turn out to be the next, necessary, step.
St. Philip Catholic School will have a 4-Man –

Gabriel Project—

Grief Group —

and drive-thru plates-to-go at $9 p/p.  Hamburgers, nachos

starting at 11:00 a.m. at $9 for large plate; $6 for small plate; church grounds.  Mass at 8:45 a.m. followed by coffee and

information or to register, please call Isidro Castanon at

registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must

11-13.  For more info., call (361) 573-0828 ext. 2230.  All

Pastor, visit the Web site at

www.aclm.ca

Sacred Heart Festival Sept. 4

San Juan Bautista Church – High Hill —

Mass –

Catholic Daughters Court St. Ann is hosting a games party Aug. 14 at the Bay City Catholic Church.  Please call (979) 485-2220 or (361) 575-6111.

St. Mary Parish Picnic Aug. 15 on the parish grounds.  The day starts with an old-fashioned

a.m., drive-thru available, auction 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., boat

Choice of three plates: barbecue brisket or chicken or fried

a.m. at the amphitheater at the corner of 6th & Main streets.

For a listing of e-mail addresses and

ACTS Retreats—

For information on ACTS retreats, please go to the Web site at

www.retrouvaille.org/dates.

Meetings are held in Wharton the 4th Tuesday of each month at Holy Family Church in Wharton (2011 Briar Lane) at 6:30 p.m.  For more information, call (361) 922-1951.

• August 27 — Retreat Day -1st year Formation Program

• August 26 — Open

• August 25 — Church Mission - Holy Family Church –

543-1884 for more information.  If you're looking for someone to provide caregiving, housework,

For more information call Betty Urbanovsky at (979) 543-2333

For more information call Jaye Holley at (979) 543-2326.

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www.swlc.org

Sony Pictures Entertainment will release OF GODS AND MEN on a Blu-ray/DVD Combo Pack. OF GODS AND MEN is a remarkable film, which re-

chronicle of these men of God and their harmonious

relationship with their Muslim neighbors, to whom they provide much needed medical care and religious services. When the insurgents arise, the monks find themselves faced with a harrowing and impossible decision: to flee, or to stand their ground and fulfill their spiritual and human mission. The Blu-ray/DVD release will include a behind the scenes featurette on the making of the film.

God's Embrace Retreat Center Program – Reminder

God's Embrace Retreat Centers will be with the Victoria Diocese 10 days of each month starting August 20. Michael will provide a 3-year Spiritual Formation Program, Group Missions and Private Individual Spiritual Direction Consultations throughout the Victoria Diocese. Below is the schedule for August. For more information or to book a Church Mission for your parish, please contact Sandy Reese @ (979) 541-6881 or sandyreesefra@yahoo.com

• August 20 — 2nd year Formation Program-Halletsville, 9 a.m. - 4 .p.m.
• August 21 — Diaconate Program
• August 22 — Facilitator Program
• August 23 — Church Mission-Holy Cross Church - Bay City, 7 - 9 p.m.
• August 24 — Church Mission - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church – Gamado, 7 - 9 p.m.
• August 25 — Church Mission - Holy Family Church – Wharton, 7 - 9 p.m.
• August 26 — Open
• August 27 — Retreat Day -1st year Formation Program-St. Robert Parish Hall-El Campo, 9 a.m. - 4 .p.m.

For more information call Betty Urbanovsky at (979) 543-2333 or burubovskyb@icloud.com

Job Wanted

If you’re looking for someone to provide caregiving, housework,

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Openings

ACTS Retreats—

For information on ACTS retreats, please go to

ACTS Web site at

www.actmissions.org.

For more information call Betty Urbanovsky at (979) 543-2333 or burubovskyb@icloud.com

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For more information visit the ACTS Web site at

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EL CAMPO, Texas—On Saturday, June 18, the Knights of Columbus Assembly 1131 hosted the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Our Lady of Guadalupe Province First District of Texas Summer Exemplification. The exemplification was dedicated in honor of The Most Reverend Sir Knight (SK) David E. Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Texas. The First District of Texas Knights of Columbus is under the leadership of SK Peter S. Tan, master.

This was the first time an exemplification has been held in El Campo and the first time Assembly 1131 hosted an exemplification. This was a history-making event for the local 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and El Campo.

Out of the 118 new Sir Knights joining Our Lady of Guadalupe Province First District of Texas, 78 were from the Diocese of Victoria and of those, 57 joined the El Campo area Archdiocese District Assembly 1131, including Father Bryan Heyer, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Palacios. In the Diocese of Victoria, two new Sir Knights came from Victoria Assembly #1126, Victoria; six from Yoakum Assembly #1128, Yoakum, including Rev. Robert E. Knippenberg, who became pastor of Holy Family Church in Victoria June 22, and 11 from Christopher Columbus Assembly #1136, Columbus. Victoria Seminarian Stephen Vacek joined Fr. Nenec Assembly #1142, Wallis. The 57 new Sir Knights joining El Campo’s Assembly 1131 is a district record for the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Guadalupe Province First District of Texas. Those joining Assembly 1131 were: Rev. Bryan Heyer, Wayne Bartz, Bradley Bethke, Garland Bhals, Travis Bolcik, Isidro Castanon, Gary Charbula, Chris Dettling, Kevin Dluhos, Thomas Dubois, Brandon Drapela, James Drapela, Nathan Drapela, Steven Drapela, Thomas Drapela, Timothy Drapela, Tommy Drapela, William Drapela, Zachary Edwards, Curtis Eggemeyer, Gregory Eggemeyer, Norbert Eggemeyer, Hector E. Gutierrez, Mario Manriquez, Daniel Marek, Nick Mikeska, Frank Munner, Michael Orsak Jr., Michael Orsak Sr., Daniel Pasak, Danny Pleiss, Allen Polasek, Gregory Popp, Arthur Priesmeyer, Jesse Rodriguez, Jimmie Roznowsky, Michael Roznowsky, Darin Stock, Edward Strnad Jr., Terry Supak, Roberto Torres, Matthew Tapa and John Winter.

Councils Assigned to Assembly #1131 include Archdiocese District Assembly 2490, EC Council; Father Francis A. Havel Council 3204, Ganado; Father M.L. Hurley Council 3262, Wharton; St. Isidore Council 4307, Blessing; Bishop Alfredo Galindo Council 9393, El Campo; and Fr. James Kelly Council 9394, Louise-Hillje.

This special event included an IPad 2, Netbook and a flat-screen TV.

“Although the exemplification is a private event prior to the Sir Knights entering the church, they all proceeded marching down the street in full regalia,” said Donna Mikeska.

“The actual exemplification took place in St. Philip Catholic Church. A Mass followed the event and all were invited to attend.”

After the Mass, the Knights of Columbus Council 2490 hosted a banquet luncheon at the KC Hall. They served 325 guests a grilled chicken lunch with cilantro sauce, green beans, rice and a salad, all prepared by KC members. A special drawing was held at the event and prizes included an iPad 2, Netbook and a flat-screen TV.

“Two history-making events for the local assembly; a very impressive event for the community at large and encourage active Catholic citizenship,” said Faithful Navigator Mikeska.

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The event was a spaghetti supper hosted by El Campo’s Knights of Columbus Council 2490 on Friday, June 17, at the KC Hall with early registration. The Hall was decorated with a patriotic theme. A hospitality suite was hosted by Msgr.

William D. Steele Assembly 2033 Cypress. Then on Saturday, June 18, El Campo’s St. Robert’s Council 9939 hosted a breakfast for all the new members and participants at the St. Philip Parish hall.

Although the exemplification is a private event prior to the Sir Knights entering the church, they all proceeded marching down the street in full regalia.”

“This was a very impressive event, so many Sir Knights and new members marching down Depot Street into the church all wearing togs and full regalia,” said Donna Mikeska.

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