



# DAKOTA CATHOLIC ACTION

Volume 71, Number 10

The Catholic Voice for the Diocese of Bismarck

November 2012

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## Deacon Appointments

The following deacon appointments, with the permission of Bishop David D. Kagan, D.D., P.A., J.C.L. are effective October 21, 2012.

Deacon Dallas Carlson to serve St. Joseph Parish, Dickinson.



Dallas Carlson



Ryan Nelson

Deacon Ryan Nelson to serve St. Patrick Parish, Dickinson.



Tony Ternes

Deacon Tony Ternes to serve Spirit of Life Parish, Mandan.

The following appointment, with the permission of Bishop David D. Kagan, D.D., P.A., J.C.L. is effective November 1, 2012.

Deacon Jerome Volk reassigned to Spirit of Life Parish, Mandan, from Queen of Peace Parish, Dickinson.



Jerome Volk

## ALL SOULS DAY LITURGY ALL ARE INVITED



This year the annual All Souls Day liturgy for the deceased bishops, priests and deacons of the Diocese of Bismarck will be celebrated:

**Friday, November 2, 2012**  
**Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck**  
**11:00 a.m. CDT**

This annual Mass is an opportunity to commemorate all the faithful departed and to remember the dedicated work and the generous lives of service of those who served here in previous years and to acknowledge the debt that the church owes to them for the solid foundation of faith that they laid.

Please spread the word, share this invitation.

*+1 David D. Kagan*

*Most Reverend David D. Kagan, D.D., P.A., J.C.L.*  
*Bishop of Bismarck*



Serra Club Vice President Myron Senechal, right, created Fr. Rushford, left, a symbolic walking cane out of diamond willow wood.

## Fr. Rushford receives cane representing his life

**Serra Club vice president creates walking cane honoring priest's military service**

By Matthew Kurtz

Retired priest William Rushford has a motto that has served him well during his life of service: "To give somebody the privilege of leading, you first must show that you can be led."

Fr. Rushford, who recently turned 88, said he first remembers being led by Fr. Florian Krank, who surprisingly "grabbed [Rushford's] ear and wouldn't let go," took him back to the sacristy and briefed him for five minutes on how to be an altar server in the 1930s.

After growing up in Marmarth, N.D., Fr. Rushford was also led directly into the military after high school to serve in WWII at age 18.

"My future was already planned," he explained from his rocking chair at Emmaus Place, a residence for retired priests in Bismarck. He said he "died every day" for three years as a rifleman during WWII, fighting for the 7th Infantry of the US Army in the South Pacific until Dec. 1945. While serving his country, Fr. Rushford grew to understand what it meant to serve God and realized his vocation to the priesthood.

"The whole purpose of basic training in the military is to teach everybody to say, 'Yes, sir' and 'No, sir' and mean it," Fr. Rushford said.

After being led for the first 30 years of his life, Fr. Rushford was ordained a priest in 1955 and spent the next 40 years leading his parishioners in the Bismarck Diocese. The list of parishes he served is a litany in itself from Minot, Marmarth and Medora to Bowman, Butte and Ray, to name a few.

He is now being recognized for his accomplishments. Myron Senechal, vice president of the Bismarck-Mandan Serra Club, a group that promotes and supports religious vocations, crafted Fr. Rushford what he calls a "cane of life." Fr. Rushford has been a Serra member for 53 years. The cane, carved from diamond willow wood, is full of symbolism.

Senechal chose the whitish wood to symbolize the pure, "Christ-centered life" of a priest and aimed to make the cane as if "you're carrying the holy family in your hand" by embedding a crucifix, a Marian medal and a St. Joseph medal into the diamonds of the wood. Better yet, the wood of the cane naturally has 12



Fr. Rushford's "Cane of Life" includes an embedded crucifix, Marian medal, and St. Joseph medal, which its creator says is like "carrying the holy family in your hand."

diamonds, which Senechal said represent the 12 apostles of Christ.

"The true cane of life has a lot of bumps in it," Senechal explained, referencing the unpredictable contour of the diamond willow wood. To signify the "bumps" in Fr. Rushford's life, Senechal placed military memorial pins on the lower half of the cane from Fr. Rushford's 27 years of service as chaplain in the US Army 7th Infantry. Senechal, a Vietnam veteran himself, noted that all the bumps are "smoothed over by his perseverance in prayer and love of Christ."

On the cane's crook is a leather strap to symbolize Fr. Rushford's service to cowboys and ranchers at parishes in the N.D. Badlands. Since Fr. Rushford is "an avid hunter and fisherman," there used to be pheasant rooster tail feathers with the strap, but Senechal removed them because "they were nice to see but highly impractical" for a cane.

Although Fr. Rushford spent many years leading, he will continue (now with his "cane of life") to follow the Lord as he always has.

For a closer look at the "cane of life" and more details about Fr. Rushford's military accomplishments, visit [www.bismarckdiocese.com/dakota-catholic-action](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com/dakota-catholic-action).



# BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

**Bishop David D. Kagan, D.D., P.A., J.C.L.**  
November 1-30, 2012

## November 1

-All Saints Day, Liturgy @ Our Lady of Annunciation Chapel, 11:00 a.m. and Annual Visitation, @ University of Mary, Harold Schafer Leadership Center, Bismarck

## November 2

-All Souls Day Liturgy for Deceased Bishops, Priests and Deacons, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 11:00 a.m.; Luncheon for Priests follows at the Center for Pastoral Ministry  
-Priests' Benefit Association Meeting, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 2:00 p.m.

## November 4

-Confirmation, Church of St. Joseph, Williston, 1:30 p.m.

## November 6

-Diocese of Fargo

## November 7

-Provision for Future Meeting, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 11:00 a.m.  
-Confirmation, Church of Sacred Heart, Wilton, 7:00 p.m.

## November 8

-Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 10:00 a.m.

## November 10

-Confirmation, Church of Christ the King, Mandan, 4:30 p.m.

## November 12-15

-USCCB November Meetings, Baltimore, MD

## November 17

-Deacon Ordination, Diocese of Fargo, 10:30 a.m.

## November 18

-Confirmation, Church of St. Mary, Bismarck, 2:00 p.m.

## November 19

-Holy Hour and Mass, Priests First Workshop, 7:30 a.m., Chancery, Bismarck  
-Speaker, Priests First Workshop, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 1:00 p.m.

## November 20

-Liturgy, Priests First Workshop, Chancery, 8:00 a.m.  
-Speaker, Priests First Workshop, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 9:00 a.m.

## November 21

-Expansion Board Meeting, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 10:00 a.m.

## November 22

-Thanksgiving Day Liturgy, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 10:00 a.m.  
-Thanksgiving Day Dinner for Priests, Chancery, Bismarck, 5:00 p.m.

## November 25

-Confirmation, Church of St. Joseph, Killdeer, 10:30 a.m. MT

## November 27

-Diocese of Fargo

## November 28

-Taping, Children's Stewardship Video, Little Flower Elementary School, Minot, 10:00 a.m.

## November 29

-Diocesan Directors' Staff Meeting, Center for Pastoral Ministry, Bismarck, 10:00 a.m.  
-Taping, Children's Stewardship Video, Christ the King, Mandan, 1:15 p.m.



## FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK

# Right to life must be defended in voting booth

My Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

In this "Year of Faith" each Catholic citizen has the privilege and duty to participate in our Nation's governing by the exercise of our constitutional right to vote in national, state and local elections. As your Bishop I urge you to exercise this cherished right.

I will not tell you how to vote. However, I ask you to vote as a Catholic citizen with a properly formed Catholic conscience. A properly formed Catholic conscience will never contradict the Church's teachings in matters of faith and morals. In this letter I wish to explain what this means in direct relation to the issues on which each person's vote will have a lasting impact.

What is "a properly formed Catholic conscience?" The *Catechism* says: "A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator. Everyone must avail himself of the means to form his conscience." (1798) The Catholic Church's teachings are the means for us to properly form our consciences so that we seek always what is true and good.

At the heart of all Catholic moral and social teaching is a single fact: the respect given to an individual human person must always be first and must govern every law and action so that the person's life and dignity is always and everywhere protected and defended. In other words, from the first moment of human conception to the last moment of life on earth, the person must be respected without exception.

For this reason, there are some actions that are never acceptable and should not be made so by law, they include: abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, and not recognizing the unique and special role of marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

All of the other social, economic and political issues gain importance only from the fundamental issue of the respect for the individual person and the inviolability of each person's life and God-given

dignity.

Thus, if there is no respect for the life and dignity of each person from conception to natural death, then every other moral evil can be justified. There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called "intrinsically evil" actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life as in abortion and euthanasia.

In this election year, the positions of the two political parties and the positions of their candidates are well known. What I ask each of you to do before you vote is to consider carefully what our Catholic Church teaches about these issues, then consider how your vote for a particular candidate will contribute to the common good of us all as persons with that human dignity which must be respected and protected always.

We know that we have a representative form of government and that those we elect are to represent us. When you vote, I ask you to vote for the candidates who represent you as Catholic citizens. Please do not vote for the candidate who is most likeable. We can find something likeable in each candidate but that person may not represent us as faithful Catholics. Our vote as Catholic citizens has to focus on who and what protects human life and dignity and therefore, the common good.

I close with a quote from Blessed John Paul II. He wrote: "The common outcry which is justly made on behalf of human rights – for example the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture – is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination." (*Christifideles Laici*, 38)

May God bless and guide us at this important moment and may Our Blessed Mother remain with us!

## DAKOTA CATHOLIC ACTION

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Most Reverend David D. Kagan, D.D.,  
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Editor: Matthew Kurtz

mkurtz@bismarckdiocese.com

Center for Pastoral Ministry -

Diocese of Bismarck USPS0011-5770  
520 N. Washington Street, PO Box 1137  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1137

Ph: 701-222-3035 Fax: 701-222-0269

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# Obituaries

## Sister James Messer, OSB

Sister James Messer, OSB, 84, a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery, Bismarck, entered eternal life in a Bismarck care center Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2012.

Mary Ann, a daughter of Jacob and Celestine (Loran) Messer, was born May 6, 1928, on a farm near Antelope, N.D. She was the 14th of 15 children.



Sister James Messer, OSB

After graduating from high school, Mary Ann took teacher exams and taught two years in a rural school. Here she discovered her passion for teaching. This is what she did most of her life – taught people of all ages about a variety of subjects, but especially about the love of God for them.

In her autobiography she wrote about those brief years in the country school. “It was a great life to find children who wanted to learn and they taught me to look for something greater in life.”

In 1949 this desire for something greater led her to Annunciation Monastery where she made her monastic profession July 11, 1951. She was given the name, Sister James. She lived 61 years as a Benedictine sister always growing in a relationship with Jesus and serving wherever she was called.

She taught children in Catholic schools in Mandan, Mott, Dickinson, and was principal of Cathedral Grade School, Bismarck, for six years. She was religious education coordinator at St. Mary’s Parish, Richardton and St. Mary’s Parish, Bismarck, and also served as pastoral minister at St. Charles Parish, Bowman, and at Queen of Peace Parish in Dickinson. She was vocation director of Annunciation Monastery and pastoral care minister at St. Benedict’s Health Center, Dickinson.

Sister James loved people of all ages. From her life’s experiences, she understood suffering and showed compassion, understanding and sympathy to those she taught and those to whom she ministered in the parish and at the health center. Her humor brought smiles to many. She also knew the importance of listening with her heart. “So much healing can be done with listening,” she said while being interviewed for an article for St. Benedict’s Health Center.

Sister James had a certain determination about her, held strong beliefs and was highly organized. She often went out of her way to help people wherever she could.

She loved her large family and looked forward to family gatherings where she could enjoy their company and visit and laugh with them.

Sister James had a deep faith in Jesus, especially in the Eucharist. She found strength in receiving Jesus in communion. She sought to live her life as a witness to the love of Christ and encouraged others to do the same.

She is survived by a sister-in-law, Eugenia Messer, Richardton, many nieces and nephews and the Sisters of Annunciation Monastery.

Memorials may be made to Annunciation Monastery.

To share memories of Sister James, visit [www.parkwayfuneral.com](http://www.parkwayfuneral.com) and sign the online guest book. (Parkway Funeral Service, Bismarck)

# What is the Communion of Saints?

By Michelle Duppong

The Communion of Saints refers to the “unity in Christ of all the redeemed, those on earth and those who have died” (CCC glossary). This means that as members of the Body of Christ, each of us are connected at all times to the other members of the Body—Christ as the head, the saints in Heaven, the holy souls in Purgatory, and the faithful on Earth. Being that we are all united, God grants each of us graces through the intercession of others in the Body; we can actually help others through our prayers and sacrifices for them! This also means that in the daily grind, the choices we make—whether they are objectively good or bad—affect the other members of the Body positively or negatively. Through this knowledge, we realize that when we choose to receive God’s grace to do what is good, the whole Body of believers benefits, and when we sin, we hurt people beyond those directly involved in our sin. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are forgiven of our sins by Christ and also reconciled with the Body of Christ, the Church.

In November, the Church Militant, those of us on Earth whose duty it is to spread the Gospel to those we meet, have special days to bring our attention to the Communion of Saints. On All Saints’ Day, November 1, our attention is focused on those who have lived a life of holiness and now are praising God for eternity in the Beatific Vision, before the face of God. These souls are the Church Triumphant, for they have received their eternal reward and are perfectly praising God. This is why we pray through their intercession. This is a huge feast day, so celebrate! Maybe have an All Saints’ Day party and dress up like the heroes of our Faith.

We remember the Church Suffering on All Souls’ Day, November 2, for these holy souls are being purged of their disordered attachment to created goods at the time of their death; they are being perfected before being in the presence of God, who is Love. These souls are getting “cleaned up” for the Eternal Wedding Banquet. It’s like a bride or groom on their wedding day; they wouldn’t want to show up dirty or in their work clothes, but would want to be spotless before their spouse. These souls can do nothing for themselves. They rely on the prayers and help from the other members of the Body of Christ, so that they may enter Heaven. Following are some particular

ways we can help our brothers and sisters who are in Purgatory, including our deceased family members and friends.

### Special Indulgences for November:

- A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful who,
  - On any and each day from November 1 to 8, devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the departed. (A partial indulgence is granted if this act is done during the rest of the year.)
  - On All Souls’ Day or on the Sunday following it, devoutly visit a church or an oratory and recite an Our Father and the Creed.
- A plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who on the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, publicly recite the act of dedication of the human race to Christ the King (Iesu dulcissime, Redemptor) which appears below; a partial indulgence is granted for its use in other circumstances.

### Iesu dulcissime, Redemptor

*Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before you. We are yours, and yours we wish to be; but to be more surely united with you, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to your Most Sacred Heart. Many indeed have never known you; many, too, despising your precepts, have rejected you. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to your Sacred Heart. Be King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken you, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned you; grant that they may quickly return to the Father’s house, lest they die of wretchedness and hunger. Be King of those who are deceived by erroneous opinions, or whom discord keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and the unity of faith, so that soon there may be but one flock and one Shepherd. Grant, O Lord, to your Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give tranquility of order to all nations; make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry: Praise to the divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to it be glory and honor for ever. Amen.*

Taken from the Manual of Indulgences published by the USCCB in 1999.

Liturgical Calendar - November 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  <i>All Saints’ Day</i>	2  <i>All Souls’ Day</i>	3
4  <i>31st Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	5	6	7	8	9  <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	10  <i>St. Leo the Great</i>
11  <i>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	12  <i>St. Josaphat</i>	13  <i>St. Frances Xavier Cabrini</i>	14	15	16	17  <i>St. Elizabeth of Hungary</i>
18  <i>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	19	20	21  <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	22  <i>Thanksgiving</i>  <i>St. Cecelia</i>	23	24  <i>St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions</i>
25  <i>Christ the King Sunday</i>	26	27	28	29	30  <i>St. Andrew</i>	- FASTING - FEASTING



# Homemade “hope and change”

## Dealing with election-year blues



### FROM THE EDITOR

Matthew Kurtz

It’s funny: politicians aim to inspire, encourage, dispel fear and bring hope. But as I look around this election season, I see far too many discouraged, despairing and truthfully worried people.

What have we learned the past few months? One candidate thinks Barack Obama is “amazing” while another doesn’t know the minimum wage. One candidate said something about the “47 percent” while another said “you didn’t build that.” Useless knowledge gained.

While the counterproductive “I’m a deity and my opponent is a devil” political attitude undeniably wears on you, it’s times like this that force us to put things into perspective.

We’ve all been promised hope and change. But do we really need a politician to give them to us?

For me, I simply look at my life: college graduation, a new job, another new job, getting married, moving into a home and an

ultrasound of my first child ... all in the past 10 months. I’d say I’ve got the ‘change’ thing conquered.

I look back and see how unclear my pre-graduation/pre-marriage/pre-job/pre-children life was 10 months ago. Uncertainty, discouragement and yep, even fear crept into my mind. I soon found that I had two options: live in stress or trust in God.

Trusting in God despite the lack of answers certainly wasn’t as simple as I now make it sound. But today I can say with conviction that God never abandoned me. In fact, He had me precisely where I was supposed to be every step of the way. And He lured me closer to His heart at my weakest moments.

I soon found that I had two options: live in stress or trust in God.

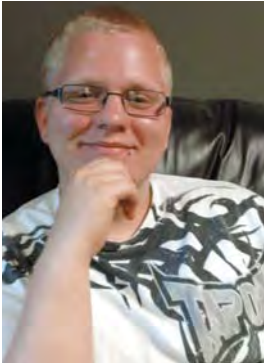
Yes, politics may be discouraging. Yes, the repercussions of this election may be monumental. Yes, the thought of ‘our candidate’ losing may be scary.

But God never loses.

# Looking for a “forever family”



Austin



Michael

### By Catholic Charities ND

Meet Austin, Michael and RJ. They are currently waiting for their forever family through the Adults Adopting Special Kids Program at Catholic Charities North Dakota.

Austin is a 12-year-old boy who enjoys video games, swimming and riding his bike and claims to be a “meat and potatoes” kind of guy. Michael is a 15-year-old who enjoys Batman and spaghetti. His dreams involve becoming a chef and looks forward to cooking for his forever family one day. RJ is a big dreamer who loves basketball and dreams of being an NBA player someday.



RJ

To learn more about these three great young men, go to the AASK website at [www.aasknd.org](http://www.aasknd.org) and click on the Kids and Family tab or call 701-235-4457 for more information.

# BIOETHICAL CHALLENGES of our time



November 16–17

**Abortion, Difficult Pregnancies, Early Induction, Ectopic Pregnancy, Fetal Remains, Sexual Assault Protocols**



Dr. Marie Hilliard, J.C.L., Ph.D., R.N.  
Director of Bioethics and Public Policy at the NCBC

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Marie Hilliard**

Select pre- and neonatal complications that present moral dilemmas will be identified along with a description of treatment methodologies. A discussion of foundational Catholic moral teaching to guide decision making in the face of such situations, and a compare-and-contrast of treatment with standards for protecting human life and dignity will ensue. Approaches to treating victims of sexual assault along in conjunction with the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*, and evaluation of strategies to providing compassionate care will be discussed.

**Next Session: December 14–15**  
**Issues of Cooperation with Evil**

For a complete listing of all sessions or to register visit [www.umary.edu/bioethics](http://www.umary.edu/bioethics).

Workshop sessions eligible for a variety of educational credits including Continuing Medical Education (CME), Professional Learning Credits, Graduate Workshop Credit and Continuing Education Units (CEU). Please inquire for details.

**Open to health care professionals, legal professionals, clergy and all interested individuals.**

**SESSIONS ARE:**  
Fridays, 5:45 PM – 8:30 PM and  
Saturdays, 9 AM – 11:45 AM (all times are CST)

University of Mary  
Matt & Jo Ann Butler Hall  
Gary Tharaldson School of Business  
7500 University Drive  
Bismarck, ND

**COST:**  
1 weekend seminar (with credit).....\$ 75  
1 weekend seminar (without credit).....\$ 50  
Half weekend seminar .....\$ 35  
(Friday evening or Saturday morning, with credit)  
Half weekend seminar .....\$ 25  
(Friday evening or Saturday morning, without credit)

This seminar series is presented by

UNIVERSITY OF MARY  
School of Health Sciences  
Bismarck, ND 58504

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BISMARCK CATHOLIC  
PHYSICIANS GUILD  
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Catholic Medical Association

# PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

The Diocese of Bismarck is firmly committed to the health and protection of our children, young people and vulnerable adults. With the hope of healing the pain and suffering from sexual abuse in the Catholic Church, we encourage anyone who has suffered from this abuse to please come forward and let us know. To report allegations of sexual abuse, please contact: Dale Eberle, Chancellor, Diocese of Bismarck, PO Box 1575, Bismarck, ND 58502-1575. Phone: 701.223.1347 or 1.877.405.7435.

The complaint form and policies can be found on the diocesan web site at <http://www.bismarckdiocese.com>.

# CODE OF PASTORAL CONDUCT

The Catholic Church must be exemplary: Clergy, staff, whether diocesan or parish, and volunteers are held accountable for their behavior. To enable the highest level of accountability, there must be a clear and unambiguous definition of appropriate behavior. To this end, this Code of Pastoral Conduct is defined for the Diocese of Bismarck and it provides a foundation for implementing effective and enforceable standards for all personnel.

View the Code of Pastoral Conduct at <http://www.bismarckdiocese.com>.



# Campaign 2012 — The future of marriage



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

Back in the day, altar boys loved to serve weddings because it involved ready cash: minimally, \$5 (which in those days meant something), often a ten-spot. Once in a great while an exceptionally generous best man would slip each server an envelope with \$25 – a small fortune to a boy in the early 1960s.

Serving weddings should have enlarged more than the youthful exchequer, however. For wedding servers were exposed, time and again, to the prescribed “exhortation” the priest read to the couple before they pronounced their vows. That exhortation is worth recalling, now that the very idea of “marriage” is being contested on four state ballots, and in the national election, on Nov. 6:

“My dear friends: You are about to enter upon a union which is most sacred and most serious. It is most sacred, because established by God himself. By it, he gave to man a share in the greatest work of creation, the work of the continuation of the human race. And in this way he sanctified human love and enabled man and woman to help each other live as children of God, by sharing a common life under his fatherly care.

“Because God himself is thus its author, marriage is of its very nature a holy institution, requiring of those who enter into it a complete and unreserved giving of self. But Christ our Lord added to the holiness of marriage an even deeper meaning and a higher beauty. He referred to the love of marriage to describe his own love for his Church, that is, for the people

of God whom he redeemed by his own blood. ... It is for this reason that his apostle, St. Paul, clearly states that marriage is now and for all time to be considered a great mystery, intimately bound up with the supernatural union of Christ and the Church, which union is also to be its pattern. ...

“No greater blessing can come to your married life than pure conjugal love, loyal and true to the end. ...”

It’s impossible to imagine a Catholic priest pronouncing those words at a gay “wedding.” And that impossibility illustrates several Catholic theological objections to the notion that same-sex couples can “marry.” “Gay marriage” is opposed to the divine order built into creation and to the Gospel: for “gay marriage,” by its very nature, cannot be a fruitful one-flesh union, and “gay marriage,” which by definition involves grave sin, cannot be an image of Christ’s spousal love for the Church. Thus Catholics who support “gay marriage” are deeply confused about both Word and Sacrament, the twin pillars of Catholic life.

...a state that asserts the authority to redefine marriage has stepped beyond the boundaries of its competence

In public policy terms, the Catholic critique of “gay marriage” reflects the Catholic idea of the just state. Rightly understood, marriage is one of those social institutions that exist “prior” to the state: prior in terms of time (marriage existed before the state), and prior in terms of the deep truths embedded in the human condition. A just state thus recognizes the givenness

of marriage and seeks to protect and nurture this basic social institution.

By contrast, a state that asserts the authority to redefine “marriage” has stepped beyond the boundaries of its competence. And if that boundary-crossing is set in constitutional or legal concrete, it opens up a Pandora’s box of undesirable results. For if the state can decree that two men or two women can make a “marriage,” why not one man and two women? Two women and two men? These are not paranoid fantasies; the case for polyandry and polygamy is now being mounted in prestigious law journals.

And if the state can define “marriage” by diktat, why not other basic human relationships, like the parent-child relationship, the doctor-patient relationship, the lawyer-client relationship, or the priest-penitent relationship? There is no principled reason why not. Thus “gay marriage” is another expression of that soft totalitarianism that Benedict XVI aptly calls the “dictatorship of relativism.”

Conscientious voters will keep this—and the Democratic Party platform’s endorsement of “gay marriage”—in mind on Nov. 6.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. Weigel's column is distributed by the *Denver Catholic Register*, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303-715-3215.

## Bishop Kagan visits Sanford Health St. Vincent's

**By Kirk L. Greff**  
**Administrator, St. Vincent's**

On Thursday, September 27, Bishop David Kagan celebrated his first Feast Day of St. Vincent DePaul in the Bismarck Diocese at Sanford Health St. Vincent's. Bishop Kagan's day included going throughout St. Vincent's to anoint and meet with residents. He then celebrated Mass where his sermon focused on the positive impact residents can have on our world and diocese through the power of prayer. To thank Bishop Kagan for his visit, he was treated to the first ever performance of the St. Vincent's choir, a mix of residents and staff members.

Bishop Kagan's visit ended with a reception lunch where the colorful past history of St. Vincent's and Marillac Manor was presented.

Besides being named after St. Vincent DePaul, the facility's name was also chosen to honor Bishop Vincent Wehrle and Bishop Vincent Ryan who both played integral parts in the creation of the facility. The talk ended with the current status of St. Vincent's and Marillac Manor after the recent merger of Medcenter One and Sanford Health. Representatives from Sanford Health had previously met with Bishop Kagan to assure him that after the merger, Sanford Health would fully honor the Sponsorship Agreement with Sacred Heart Monastery of



Bishop David Kagan anoints residents at a recent visit to St. Vincent's Care Center. (Photo by Deacon Joe Krupinsky.)

Richardton.

Present at the luncheon were priests from St. Vincent's neighbor, Emmaus Place, sponsoring sisters from Sacred Heart Monastery in Richardton and finally managers, pastoral care staff and pastoral care volunteers from St. Vincent's.

### Is Your Marriage Tearing You Apart?


**Retrouvaille**  
**A Lifeline for Marriages**  
**January 18-20, 2013**  
**Bismarck, ND**  
Aftercare sessions provided  
*Registration is limited*

[www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org) or  
[www.bismarckdiocese.com](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com)  
Call Joyce at Office of Family Ministry  
toll free 1.877.405.7435



Retrouvaille is sponsored by the Diocese of Bismarck and is open to any married couple struggling in their relationship regardless of faith denomination.

**Bishop Kagan and the staff of the Diocese of Bismarck wish you and your family a Blessed Thanksgiving.**





Seeking his workers in a multitude of people,  
the Lord calls out: Is there anyone here who yearns  
for life and desires to see good days?

Rule of St. Benedict, prologue



**ASSUMPTION ABBEY**  
PO Box A  
Richardton, ND 58652  
701-974-3315  
e-mail: [vocations@assumptionabbey.com](mailto:vocations@assumptionabbey.com)  
[www.assumptionabbey.com](http://www.assumptionabbey.com)



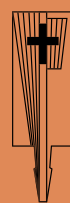
*Is God  
calling you?*

Come and see  
the Benedictines  
of North Dakota.



**SACRED HEART MONASTERY**

PO Box 364  
Richardton, ND 58652  
701-974-2121  
e-mail: [vocations@sacredheartmonastery.com](mailto:vocations@sacredheartmonastery.com)  
[www.sacredheartmonastery.com](http://www.sacredheartmonastery.com)



**ANNUNCIATION MONASTERY**  
7520 University Drive  
Bismarck, ND 58504  
701-255-1520  
e-mail: [vocations@annunciationmonastery.org](mailto:vocations@annunciationmonastery.org)  
[www.annunciationmonastery.org](http://www.annunciationmonastery.org)



*Welcome!*

Please pray for our members in formation.

**Sacred Heart Monastery**



**Sr. Renée Branigan**  
Vocation Director

**Annunciation Monastery**



**Sr. Gerard Wald**  
Vocation Director



**Sr. Hannah Vanorny**  
First Monastic Profession



**Sr. Rosemary DeGracia**  
First Monastic Profession

**Assumption Abbey**



**Br. Michael Taffe**  
Vocation Director



“When a person is conquered by the fire of His Gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him.”

(Pope Benedict XVI)



REMEMBER THESE MEN IN YOUR PRAYERS SO THAT ONE DAY THEY MAY GIVE YOU JESUS IN THE SACRAMENTS.



REV. MR. PATRICK CUNNINGHAM  
St. Therese, Minot  
Theology IV



REV. MR. JOSEPH EVINGER  
Sts. Peter and Paul, New Hradec  
Theology IV



REV. MR. THOMAS GRAFSGAARD  
Corpus Christi, Bismarck  
Theology IV



REV. MR. JARED JOHNSON  
St. Joseph, Williston  
Theology IV



REV. MR. COREY NELSON  
Our Lady of Grace, Minot  
Theology IV



REV. MR. ROBERT SHEA  
St. Paul, Hazelton  
Theology IV



ADAM MAUS  
St. Mary, Gola  
Theology III



DOUG KREBS  
Cathedral, Bismarck  
Theology I



GREGORY LUGER  
Ascension, Bismarck  
Theology I



JORDAN DOSCH  
Cathedral, Bismarck  
College IV



BRANDON WOLF  
St. Leo The Great, Minot  
Pre-Theology I



SCOTT LEFOR  
Queen of Peace, Dickinson  
Basselin I



JARAD WOLF  
Sacred Heart, Glen Ullin  
College III



CHRISTIAN RODAKOWSKI  
Queen of Peace, Dickinson  
College II



DIOCESE OF BISMARCK



FR. THOMAS J. RICHTER  
DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS  
Phone: 701-222-5055  
frichter@bismarckdiocese.com



FR. JOSHUA WALTZ  
ASSIST. DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS  
Phone: 701-471-5758  
frwaltz@smcbs.org



# Election 2012: A guide to forming your conscience



## ND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

**Christopher Dodson**  
Executive Director

The right to vote carries with it a responsibility to study and know the candidates. As citizens of faith, we are led to question, according to our foundational beliefs, how each congressional candidate if elected will address our nation's issues. There are moral and ethical dimensions to every public policy. However, issues carry different moral weight and urgency. Some involve matters of intrinsic evil that can never be supported, such as the direct and intentional destruction of innocent human life. Others involve an obligation to seek the common good.

The following questions are offered to assist in discerning where the candidate can stand on issues concerning the protection of human life and the promotion of a just society.

To obtain more information on your faith and your vote go to [www.yourfaithyourvote.org](http://www.yourfaithyourvote.org).

### Where Does the Candidate for State Office Stand On:

#### *The Sanctity of Human Life & the Dignity of the Human Person*

- Protecting unborn human life from abortion and committing state resources to ending abortion?

- Ensuring that state health care programs respect the human life and dignity
- Preserving the state bans on assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, and embryonic research?
- Prohibiting the intentional destruction of human embryos?

#### *Religious Freedom*

- The right to provide public services without violating faith and conscience?
- The freedom of religious entities to provide services no matter what the recipient's faith or legal status?
- Providing the highest level of legal protection for religious freedom without unduly infringing upon the legitimate and compelling interests of the state?
- Protecting the right of employers to provide health insurance for their employees without violating the employer's conscience or religious beliefs?

#### *Marriage and Family Life*

- Preserving the unique and special role of civil marriage as a lifelong union between a man and a woman?
- Supporting pregnant women in need and the centers that serve them?
- Respecting the freedom of parents to educate their children, especially in matters of moral development?
- Expanding educational choice for all families?
- Treating all immigrants with dignity and respect?

#### *Care for the Poor & Vulnerable*

- A safety net for families with children living in poverty?
- The provision of social and community services for the stranger among us, including those with disabilities, mental illness, or addiction problems?

- Ensuring safe and affordable housing?
- A guardianship system that protects and serves the state's vulnerable persons?

#### *The Economy*

- Policies that ensure a just wage?
- Allowing workers to form associations to collectively represent their interests?
- Policies to protect and foster family farms, rural communities, good stewardship of natural resources, and the right of local communities to regulate for the common good?
- Economic development that respects families, the common good, creation, and the dignity of the human person?

### Where Does the Candidate for Federal Office Stand On:

#### *The Sanctity of Human Life & the Dignity of the Human Person*

- Protecting unborn human life from abortion and committing federal resources to ending abortion?
- Prohibiting the use of federal funds to pay for or provide insurance coverage for elective abortions?
- Prohibiting the use of federal funds for research that relies upon destroying human embryos (i.e., embryonic stem-cell research)?

#### *Religious Liberty*

Allowing individuals and businesses, including religious organizations, to offer employee benefits and services to the public in accordance with their religious beliefs?

#### *Marriage*

Preserving the unique and special role of civil marriage as a lifelong union between a man and a woman?

#### *Immigration*

Legislation that ensures the integrity of our borders, fosters family reunification and provides a path to citizenship for the undocumented who have lived in the United States for a number of years, and do not have a criminal record?

#### *Economy*

Budget policies with adequate revenues to put a circle of protection around programs that serve poor and vulnerable people at home and abroad?

#### *Education*

- Providing federal tax relief (i.e., income-tax credits or deductions) for education expenses incurred by families in choosing any K-12 school they deem best suited for the education of their children?
- Reauthorizing the current provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to ensure that all public and nonpublic schoolchildren receive equitable services?

#### *Agriculture/Rural Development*

Targeting income support and premium subsidies for crop insurance to small and moderate-sized, family-owned-and-operated farms and ranches?

#### *Foreign Policy*

- Linking decisions on U.S. military aid to a country's record on religious freedom and other basic human rights?
- Maintaining and increasing funding for poverty-focused development assistance to poor countries and communities?



### Catholic Daughters National Convention

Catholic Daughters of The Americas recently held their 54th Biennial National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska. Many from North Dakota were in attendance, including, Left to Right: Marie Wax, Dickinson; Caroline Heidt, Dickinson; Michelle DeFoe, Devils Lake; Luella Jochim, Linton; (Standing) State Regent Renae Sticka, Dickinson; Millie Hauck, Richardton; Mary Campbell, Wahpeton; Regent Jean Privratsky, Dickinson; First Vice State Regent Kathy Kennedy, Harvey.



**YEAR OF FAITH 2012 2013**  
DIOCESE of BISMARCK



## THIRST 2013 A EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE

October 25-27, 2013, the diocese is sponsoring a conference centered around the new evangelization. We ask for your prayers and invite you to be a part of this dynamic event. If you are interested in volunteering at THIRST 2013, please contact Michelle Duppong at the diocese at 877-405-7435 or [mduppong@bismarckdiocese.com](mailto:mduppong@bismarckdiocese.com).





*How  
do you  
want  
to be  
remembered?*





# *Be remembered as someone*

**F**amily is the loving structure that sustains us throughout our lives and into the next. We are born into families, raised, educated, loved, supported, and comforted by them.

## ***At the center of the Catholic family is the Church.***

The Church ministers to the spiritual lives of the family through the sacraments and formation in the Catholic faith. Through the Church, families share their talents, time and financial resources for the good of others.



Just as we care and provide for the future of family members, so too should we provide for the future of the Church.

## ***Christian Stewardship***

The concept of Christian Stewardship calls us to share our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure with our family, our Church, and others.

# *Be remembered as someone*

## *Leave a Legacy with a*

## ***How does an endowment work?***

**A**n endowment fund is a permanent fund set aside to provide income for each specific program. The dollars in the fund (called “principal”) are invested, with the income used each year for each respective program.



## ***The Seminarian Scholarship Fund***

Over the past four years, the Diocese of Bismarck has averaged over 20 seminarians a year. The cost of education for this large group of seminarians is very high. Thanks to the generosity of God’s people, we are able currently to provide for one third of the needs of our future priests through this fund. Our goal is for this fund to provide for 100% of the needs of our future priests.

## ***The Catholic School and Religious Education Endowment Fund***

We start learning our faith as a youngster and it is paramount we continue the process throughout our adult life. The Catholic School and Religious Education Endowment Fund extends a distribution each year which is paid directly to our parishes and Catholic Schools through an annual grant program.



# *He who cares about family...*

**P**lanned Giving provides us with ways to take care of our families, our Church and others.

Our family is our first responsibility, and a will or living trust are two of the most basic and powerful stewardship tools we have. They provide a loving, swift and economical distribution to those we care about most.

## ***Have a will or living trust***

Chances are you don't have an estate plan or you need to revise the one you have. Call the Planned Giving Office for a new wills planning kit. The kit covers wills, living trusts, and basic estate planning.

## ***Minimize taxes***

We have seen increases in the value of real estate and stock portfolios. We now may be vulnerable to capital gains tax. There is much you can do to reduce these taxes.

## ***Increase your income and decrease your taxes***

You can earn a charitable income tax deduction and bypass capital gains by giving stock or real estate to a charitable gift annuity. The Church sells the stock or real estate free of capital gains tax, then invests the proceeds to pay you income for life. Your income goes up, your taxes go down, and a future gift goes to good causes.

## ***Avoid the tax pitfalls of retirement plans***

By setting aside retirement plan assets for good causes and leaving less tax-vulnerable assets to your heirs, you provide good causes with a tax free gift that would have otherwise triggered income tax.

## ***Give your home and keep it, too***

You can deed a personal residence to a charity and still retain the right for you to enjoy the use of the home.

# *He who cares about others...*

## ***Gift to an Endowment***

### ***Priests' Benefit Association (Priests' Retirement Fund)***

This fund was established with the gifts of generous benefactors who fittingly saw the need to provide for those men, in retirement, who gave their all for Christ and his Church. The plan is a defined benefit pension plan covering all priests ordained or incardinated into the Diocese of Bismarck.

### ***Priests' Care Endowment Fund***

This fund helps with the needs of our retired priests and any expenses associated with the active priests not covered by parishes. This fund will help secure the services needed to assist our priests in getting the necessary care to carry out a wholesome and productive life ultimately in service to our parishioners of the Diocese of Bismarck.

### ***Parish, Catholic School or Agency Endowment Funds***

Your parish, Catholic school or another Catholic agency may have an endowment fund establish locally. Please contact the Diocese of Bismarck Office of Planned Giving for more information.





Dear Friends in Christ,

Since the Church has always been a vital part of our family life and we have been so very blessed, we wanted to make a gift to our church as represented by the diocese and its ministries. In our case, we were particularly drawn to the parish and school ministries.

Guided by information provided by the diocesan Office of Planned Giving, we are now delightfully confident that our assets not only will be saved from some taxes, but will be used to benefit others through the diocesan ministries. We hope you will consider the inclusion of the diocese, your parish, Catholic school or other Catholic ministry in your estate plan. No matter the size of your gift, please consider including the church in your estate plan.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. R.M.



Note: A portion of the tax savings mentioned in the letter above was the 40% ND tax credit extended to donors for a planned gift. In this particular case it was a charitable gift annuity. This couple received a 40% ND tax credit on the deductible part of their gift. They will take portion of the credit this year and a portion each of the next three years. (ND Century Code 57-38-01.21 and 57-35.3)

# Be remembered...

If you would like to include the diocese, your parish, Catholic school, or any of its ministries in your estate plan, or if you would like more information on wills or trusts, please contact Mike Kiedrowski, Director of the Office of Planned Giving at 877-405-7435, e-mail [mkiedrowski@bismarckdiocese.com](mailto:mkiedrowski@bismarckdiocese.com), visit our web site at [www.dobgift.org](http://www.dobgift.org), or complete this request form and mail to:

**Diocese of Bismarck, Office of Planned Giving, P.O. Box 1177, Bismarck, ND 58502-1177**

*Seek independent legal and financial counsel in these and other estate planning matters.*

## Planned Giving Information

Please send me the following information:  
(check below)

- ☐ Your free wills planning kit
- ☐ Leaving a bequest to the Church
- ☐ Benefiting from charitable gift annuities
- ☐ Avoiding the tax pitfalls of retirement plans
- ☐ Giving your home and keeping it too

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsored by the Diocese of Bismarck Planned Giving Office**



# Diving into Vatican II: *Sacrosanctum Concilium*

By Rev. Nick L. Schneider

As the season changes, and we enter fall again, I am experiencing my first North Dakota fall in ten years! It is great to be back, to enjoy the nip in the air, and to see the fall colors everywhere.

While we enjoy the fall, Bishops from around the world are gathering in Rome for the 13th Ordinary General Assembly of the Bishops’ Synod to discuss topics of the New Evangelization. Every few years, such a group gathers to discuss important issues in the life of the Church. Recent topics have included the Eucharist (2005) and the Word of God (2008). Other “Special Assemblies” have dealt with the Church in Africa (2009) and in the Middle East (2011).

The topic for the present Synod, the New Evangelization, is tied to the Holy Father’s Year of Faith. In order to evangelize – to be witnesses of the Gospel and proclaim the Good News in all we do – we must first be evangelized ourselves. One of the things the Pope has asked us to do this year is to revisit and meditate on the Documents of the Second Vatican Council. To help in this, I intend to take a break from our ongoing look at the Mass in order to devote this article during this year to looking at parts of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. For this first installment on *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, we will take a look at some of the historical context and background of the document.

## 1. Orientation toward God.

*Sacrosanctum Concilium* was promulgated on Dec. 4, 1963. It was the first of the Documents of the Second Vatican Council. In a recent Wednesday Audience (Sept. 26, 2012), Pope Benedict XVI comments on how significant it is that the first document of the Council was on the liturgy. “The Council began its work by discussing the liturgy, and rightly so, for the liturgy reminds us of the primacy of God. The fundamental criterion for it is its orientation towards the Father, whose saving love culminates in the death and resurrection of his Son. It is in the liturgy that we ‘lift up our hearts,’ opening ourselves to the word of God as we gather with our brethren in a prayer which rises within us, and which is directed to the Father, through the Son, in the Spirit.”

The Council wanted to be an aid for the Church to regain Her fundamental orientation toward God, and to invite people of all faiths into this God-ordered world. In this way, the Liturgy, in which God gives Himself to us, and we receive the gift of His very person, became an ideal starting point.

## 2. The “Liturgical Movement”

Behind *Sacrosanctum Concilium* lies almost a century of a “liturgical movement.” This movement, starting in Belgium and slowly spreading across Europe and America, sought a deeper understanding of the inner nature of the liturgy, greater formation in the meaning and practice of the liturgy, and certain reforms of the liturgy that would make greater participation in the liturgy possible. To understand *Sacrosanctum Concilium* requires some understanding of the key people and moments of the Liturgical Movement and their contribution. The following is a brief list of these people. A list could be much longer, but these are among the key players in the Movement.

A. Fr. Prosper Guèrenger (1805-1875) – Although some would contest Fr. Guèrenger as a figure of the liturgical movement, there is no question that his life had an impact on further developments. His two major contributions are reestablishing the Benedictine Monastery of Solesmes where scholarship and critical editions of Gregorian Chant are compiled even to this day,

and a work titled *The Liturgical Year* that looks at the theology of the liturgical seasons and the rites and prayers throughout the year.

B. Fr. Lambert Beauduin (1873-1960) – Fr. Beauduin was a Belgian monk whose work, *Liturgy: The Life of the Church* is the earliest and perhaps most classic work on Liturgical theology and renewal. He founded the monastery of Chevogne in Belgium, a place where Eastern and Western monks live a common life. His speech at a “Liturgical Week” at Mont César Abbey in 1910 begins, for many, the official Liturgical Movement.

C. Tra Le Sollicitudini (1903) – This Papal Bull of Pius X marks an official recognition of the need for restoration of the liturgical life of the Church, particularly in the area of Sacred Music.

D. Fr. Romano Guardini (1885-1968) – Guardini was a great influence on the present Holy Father, Benedict XVI. He wrote broadly on topics ranging from a life of Christ to various topics on the liturgy. Most important was his attempt to give education and formation regarding the meanings of various ritual actions in the liturgy.

E. Fr. Odo Casel (1886-1948) – Fr. Casel was a German Benedictine monk. Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) referred to Casel’s rediscovery of the theology of “mystery” in the Fathers of

the Church “probably the most important theological insight of the 20th century.” This teaching holds that what we celebrate in the liturgy puts us in contact with an inner content – the Mystery of Faith. When we are engaged in the liturgy, we actually participate in that mystery and are thus transformed by it.

F. Fr. Virgil Michel (1890-1938) – The first and greatest American among the pioneers of the Liturgical Movement. Fr. Michel established the Liturgical Press at Collegeville, and published translations of many of the European theologians of the Liturgy, including Beauduin, Casel and Guardini.

G. Mediator Dei (1947) – This Papal Encyclical marks an “official” recognition of the liturgical movement. In the Encyclical, the Holy Father recognizes the efforts of the pioneers of the Liturgical Movement, encourages a deeper understanding of the liturgy, and cautions against excesses in experimentation.

The awareness of the liturgy developed by these scholars and documents lay in the background of *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. Much more could be said about any of them. A brief internet search will provide you with more information, and the writings of many of them are available in translation, now, thanks to the work of Fr. Michel. God bless you, and may your faith increase 30, 60 and 100-fold throughout this year!

# Happy 20th anniversary!

## STEWARDSHIP



Ron Schatz  
Office of Stewardship &  
Resource Development

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the United States Bishop’s Pastoral Letter, “Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response,” I want to finish sharing my understanding of the pastoral letter through a mini-series of articles. This is my sixth and final month, with the last five months focusing on Stewardship: The Challenge and the Choice; Stewardship: The Call; Stewardship: Living as a Steward; and Stewardship: Stewards of the Church.

## The Christian Steward:

I encourage you to read two beautiful Scripture readings: Luke 1:26-56 and James 1:16-27.

The Christian steward: ...receives God’s gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in an accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others and returns them with increase to the Lord” (Stewardship, 8).

After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship in their fullest sense. All of the essential elements are found in her life: She was called and gifted by God, she responded generously, creatively, and prudently, she understood her divinely assigned role as ‘handmaid’ in terms of service and fidelity.

Good stewards understand that they are

to share with others what they have received, that this must be done in a timely way, and that God will hold them accountable for how well or badly they do it.

“In the lives of disciples, however, something else must come before the practice of stewardship. They need a flash of insight – a certain way of seeing – by which they view the world and their relationship to it in a fresh, new light” (Stewardship, 41). It is this insight, this grace of suddenly seeing God, present and active, in the works of creation and in the movements of the human heart, which sets the disciple on the path of Christian stewardship.

Christian stewards must be conscientious and faithful – remember St. Paul’s insistence that “it is of course required of stewards that they be found trustworthy” (1 Cor 4:2)? Christian stewards are also generous, but out of love as well as duty. After all, the Scripture says “Serve one another through love...Bear one another’s burdens, and so you will fulfill the law of Christ” (Gal 5:13, 6:2).

The life of the Christian steward, lived in imitation of Christ, is challenging, even difficult in many ways; but both here and hereafter it is charged with intense joy. Christian stewards look forward in hope to hearing the Master’s words addressed to those who have lived as disciples faithful in their practice of stewardship should: “Come you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Mt 25:34).

A final question for you. Mary was a good steward in great and small ways. She said “Yes!” to the Incarnation – an example that can be a bit intimidating to us. But she also went in charity to assist her cousin, Elizabeth, in the last three months of Elizabeth’s pregnancy – an example that can inspire us to service. Is Mary an example that inspires you or intimidates you? Why?



# KENYA CONNECTION

The Kenya Connection is a newsletter about the activity of the Diocese of Bismarck's mission in Kenya. The logo symbolizes the call of Christ to reach out and assist those in need.

## A few lessons learned

By Keven and Kristi Wanner

We had both been very excited to go to the Bismarck Mission in Kenya. We knew that God had wonderful things in store for us, and that He had many things to teach us. Upon returning we realized that our intuitions were right - God had big things in store for us and would bless us beyond what we even imagined.

One of the main lessons we learned from the mission experience was of the power and importance of prayer. We immediately noticed how prayer is infused into many aspects of the Kenyan culture and is welcomed in the public sphere, including the public schools. "God" is even found within their national anthem. Prayer is definitely not foreign to the children that our diocese serves. We had the chance to pray with orphans during home visits, as a part of the larger groups during the Saturday program, and also with individuals at the mission house. The children were called upon to pray at the beginning of each Saturday program

and would pray spontaneously from the heart. Even in the public schools, the Kenyan children have a generic religion curriculum and learn about Jesus. On one of our visits to a public primary school, we found the students packed in a classroom leading a prayer service to start the day. The prayer of the children inspired both of us to think about our own prayer lives and to make a commitment to go to God in prayer even more readily and with the simplicity of a child.

We were also reminded again of how music is an amazing, universal language of God's love. One of the ministries we enjoy as a couple is music ministry, where we help others to worship. We found that the Kenyans have a great love of music, and that music and dance have very deep roots both in the society and in the Church. One is amazed at the sort of music they are able to create, especially with so few resources — perhaps a broken drum and some crude shakers might be the only accompaniment. There are no

organs or pianos to be found, and very rarely a small keyboard (which might run off of 12-volt car batteries). We had some wonderful experiences of musical programs with local church choirs in the area, and there was a mutual sharing of music from our respective cultures. Their sense of welcome and hospitality was tremendous. We had a wonderful experience singing frequently at Mass with the school choirs from some Catholic secondary schools. We greatly enjoyed singing with the religious sisters

who lived next door. Music was truly a wonderful part of the experience and taught us so much about the human spirit and that God really does use music to draw people together and to glorify Him.

Another lesson learned is what a large difference an individual really can make in helping others. We saw orphans being sent home from school because they did not have the 50 cents needed for a notebook or an exam fee. Orphans would be sent home from school with the expectation they would somehow get the money from relatives or neighbors. To watch the children receive the money that they needed to return to school and watch their smiling faces was such a joy. The children are eager to go back to school and continue learning.

We received so many thank you's from both children and adults in Gekano. They want the good people of Bismarck to know the difference our Mission continues to make in their lives. They were so very happy to see missionaries again. We will never forget the expressions of gratitude and were very humbled to receive them on behalf of the diocese. The donations of each individual make a profound impact on the lives of these children. The money provides life-saving medicines for the orphans that have HIV/AIDS. It provides an education, which is the chief means of climbing out of poverty. It also makes possible the construction of homes, wells, and toilets for orphans in greatest need. We helped build three houses



### The Kenya Connection

All correspondence regarding the mission should be addressed to:

**Co-Directors of Missions  
Center for Pastoral Ministry  
PO Box 1137  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1137**

Address corrections should be sent to: Editor at the above-mentioned address.



## Serving through mission

By Tip Reichert

When we arrive in Nairobi for our Mission in Gekano, it is usually late at night, and due to "jet lag" and the lack of road safety at night we stay at a hostel (our Mission is yet another eight hours by car). The hostel often houses other missionaries of many faiths from many countries. The parking lot is filled with Range Rovers whose licenses list Tanzania and Uganda, as well as Kenya.

Just this reminds me that we are "World Mission"—all in this together. In Minnesota alone there are at least two Mission Projects active in Kenya, serving children as we do.

1) In Walker, MN, Fr. Francis Kabiru, a Kenyan himself has established an elementary school in his village of Mota, called "St. Francis Moto Hope Academy". It is fully funded by members of St. Agnes and Sacred Heart Parishes of Walker and Hackensack, MN, and other generous benefactors. It presently has five classrooms with 75 students.

2) The Diocese of St. Cloud has several Mission projects including two Mission projects in Homa Bay, Kenya. When Bishop Kinney left Bismarck to be Bishop of St. Cloud Diocese, he founded a "People" Exchange Program with Homa Bay Diocese. Recently they have added a Program called "Child Survival Project" which gives 50 high school graduates trade school training.

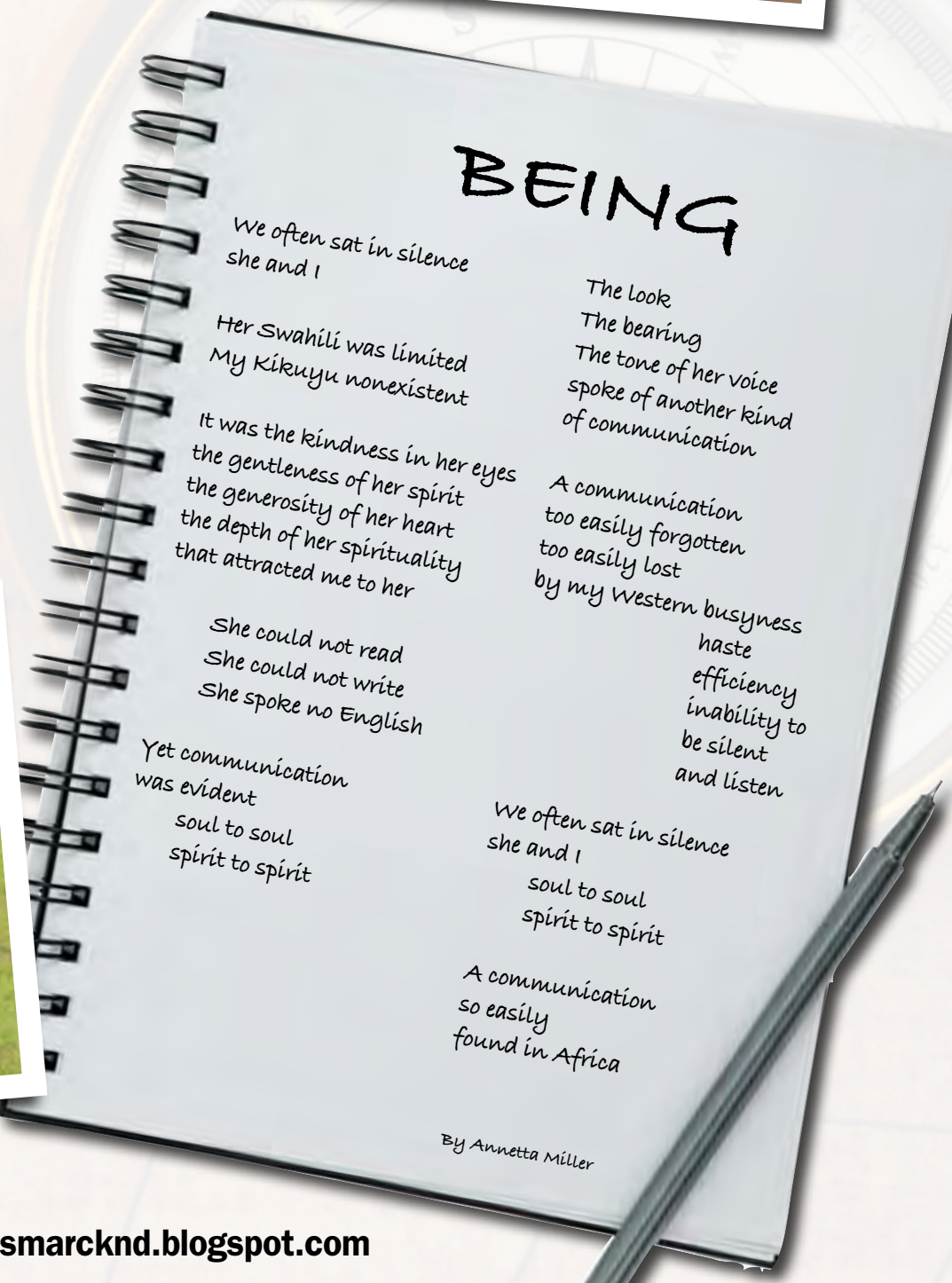
As with the 350 children our Bismarck Diocese sponsors, education is the key and "you" are doing just that!

while we were there, and to see the excitement and gratitude of the families was most moving.

The people of Kenya also taught us much about trust. When one sees just how simply they must live — not knowing how or if their basic needs are going to be met — one realizes the depth of their trust in God. Not only do they have an amazing ability to trust in a loving God and his providence, but they express a joy and serenity through it all. We heard over and over again from the children that even though things are very tough, they know that somehow God will provide for them. And they have joy because of that faith.

We are so grateful for this experience at the Bismarck Mission and the lessons learned. We pray that we can one day go back and learn more from the simple faith, trust, and joy of these beautiful people.

*“We knew that God had wonderful things in store for us, and that He had many things to teach us.”*





# Bishop Ryan has new chaplain

**The Rev. Jady Nelson doesn't plan any major changes at Minot school**

Story and photo by Andrea Johnson,  
Staff Writer-Minot Daily News  
ajohnson@minotdailynews.com

Bishop Ryan High School in Minot has a new chaplain. The Rev. Jady Nelson was just ordained as a Catholic priest in May and began working with teenagers from Ryan this summer during the annual pilgrimage to Rome.

“They threw me into the fire,” he said with a laugh. “Isn’t it wonderful?”

Nelson, from Dickinson, graduated from high school in 2003 and had started a pre-pharmacy program at North Dakota State University in Fargo when his life took a twist.

Nelson recalls that he felt a strong vocation for the priesthood because of “the encounter that I had with our Lord” when he began participating in the perpetual adoration held at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Fargo during his college years. It was then that he knew he was meant to be a priest and decided to enter the seminary during his third year at the university. He completed his degree in humanities at NDSU and then spent the following four years studying at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

Nelson said he knew last October that he would be assigned to be the new chaplain at Ryan and would be an associate pastor at St. Leo’s Catholic Church in Minot when he was ordained. The Rev. Justin Waltz, who is now the pastor at St. Leo’s, was the previous chaplain at Bishop Ryan.

“Father Justin has a great program in place (at Ryan),” said Nelson, who said he doesn’t plan to make any major changes at the school.

**Youth involvement**

Seniors serve as assistant chaplains at the



The Rev. Jady Nelson, the new chaplain at Bishop Ryan High School, poses in the chapel at the school.

school and help organize things such as “The Rock” three times a year. “The Rock” draws young Catholics from the school and kids from the surrounding communities.

It features religious speakers, fun activities and other events that draw youth closer to God. The assistant chaplains also help with Mass and other events.

Nelson teaches a class on morality to the 11th graders and says Mass four times a week for the younger students. He is looking forward to getting to know all of the children at the school.

Bishop Ryan students also do community service projects in the community. This week the entire senior class helped clean up the buildings at Hope Village in preparation for closing the site for the winter.

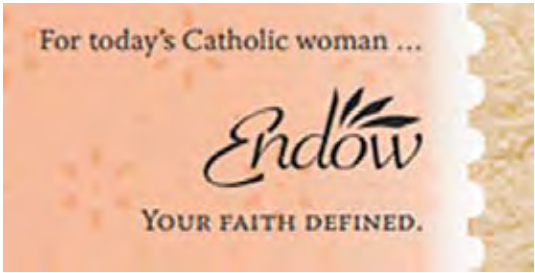
Service projects are important, but Nelson said his main job is to help the kids grow their faith.

“I want to help them discover the living God,” said Nelson.

# Bishop welcomes ENDOW to the Diocese of Bismarck

By Michelle Duppong

In the midst of a world deeply conflicted and confused, ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women), a women’s ministry new this year to the Diocese of Bismarck, provides a clear voice for all women seeking to grow in their faith, and to understand more profoundly the gift of being a feminine person created in God’s image. Grown out of the Archdiocese of Denver, ENDOW is an educational program of prayer and study — by Catholic women, for Catholic women — that helps the “woman in the pew” stretch intellectually.



With the blessing of the local bishop, ENDOW promotes John Paul II’s New Feminism, which recognizes and affirms what he calls the “genius of women” and responds to our culture’s desperate need for an authentic feminine presence in every aspect of life and society. To share this message, ENDOW arranges women into small groups, typically through their parish, so they can unpack together the theological treasures of our Catholic faith. Each class is between 8-10 weeks in length and is led by a local facilitator trained by ENDOW. By providing knowledge and fellowship in an intimate group setting, ENDOW fosters a sense of belonging and gives women an opportunity to deeply understand and personalize the faith that draws us together.

Interested in helping ENDOW take off in our diocese? Or even using ENDOW Junior High or High School curriculum in your youth group or Religious Education classes? Perhaps the Lord is calling you to become a trained ENDOW facilitator! Although it is possible to complete the facilitator training at a distance, it is ideal to gather a group of 6-10 interested ladies for a training session led by an ENDOW Headquarters staff member who would come to us here in the Diocese of Bismarck. If you want to learn more about ENDOW, visit their website at [www.endowgroups.org](http://www.endowgroups.org), or call (720) 382-5242. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please contact Michelle Duppong at (877) 405-7435 or email at [mduppong@bismarckdiocese.com](mailto:mduppong@bismarckdiocese.com).



# Together, we can prevent child abuse

**Act on suspicions**

The future well-being of a child is at stake.

By acting on suspicions of child sexual abuse, you will save not only one child, but perhaps countless others.

Many of those who sexually abuse children have multiple victims.

You may be faced with a situation where you suspect abuse but don’t have any proof.

Suspicions are scary, but trust your instincts.

Have the courage to report the suspected abuse.

To report a suspicion of child abuse, contact the local social service office where the child resides. If you’re unsure about whether to make an official report or just need support, contact the Sanford Health Dakota Children’s Advocacy Center at 323-5626. The staff will help you evaluate your suspicions and your next steps.

### Calendar of events

**Safe Environments** 6–8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7  
St. Joseph’s Church, Williston

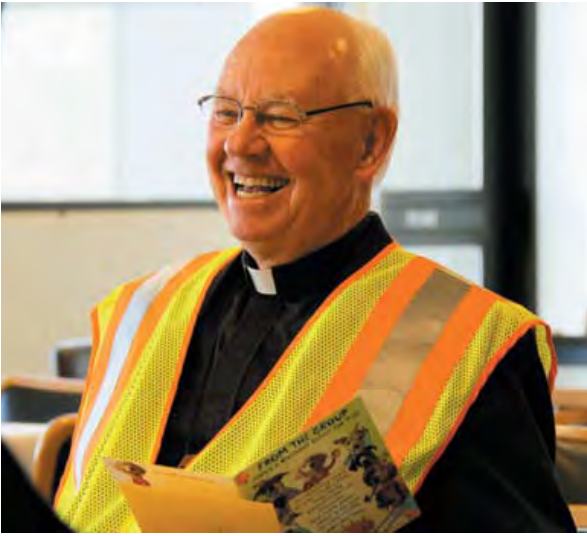
**Safe Environments** 7–8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14  
St. Joseph’s Church, Mandan

**Happiest Baby on the Block** 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 20, Sanford Well Baby Clinic

We offer free on-going counseling and advocacy.  
If you or someone you know needs help, contact us at 323-5626. For more information, please visit [bismarck.sanfordhealth.org](http://bismarck.sanfordhealth.org).

Dakota Children’s  
Advocacy Center

SANFORD  
HEALTH



**Happy Birthday, Bishop Zipfel!**

Dear Bishop Zipfel, Congratulations on your 77 years, and we pray you enjoy many more. No, Bishop Zipfel has not taken up construction work or become a traffic cop in his retirement—the vest is a gift from staff at the University of Mary! They figured he needed something to help students spot him during his many walks on campus!



# The holiness of letting go



**WE ARE FAMILY**

**Joyce McDowall**  
Office Of Family Ministry

As I sit and contemplate what words to put to paper, I am empty. I glance out at the trees and see their bare branches or few leaves remaining and feel stripped of color and beauty myself.

We have had two deaths this month. My brother died on a Thursday and my husband's brother died that Saturday, both unexpected. It changes life; what importance we put on things and the realization that we oftentimes take people for granted. It gives pause to memories of happier times and gatherings which bring comfort. But because of the pressing issues of planning funerals, reaching out to other family, finances, and burials it seems like there isn't time to truly mourn.

But I can say autumn is a natural time to let go. Because it is a season where nature invites us to deepen our understanding of the seasonal change by reflecting inwardly on our gains and losses; where we have blossomed and where we have had to let go and surrender. We can learn much from trees that relinquish their foliage and reach deep into their roots to embrace the change of seasons. Death is a time when we need to reach deep into our faith roots to embrace the pain and know that there is the hope of resurrection.

There is a holiness of letting go. The beauty of autumn colors gives way to brown and bareness wearing 'the color of emptiness'. We too need to ask ourselves how it feels to lose so much, to be so empty, stripped of loved ones or goals and dreams, and then simply to wait patiently for God to fill us just as the trees wait for their springtime newness.

Right after the funerals my husband and I had opportunity to attend a deacon's retreat that weekend. I went kicking and screaming inwardly; the last thing I wanted was a retreat. But it was pure gift. The retreat gave us time alone, a silent retreat, so as to ponder the words of our excellent Retreat Master Bishop Zipfel. I felt as though his words were just for me. He spoke of hope, integrity, joy, humility, and simplicity of life: everything I needed to wrap myself around in this time of loss. The time allowed me to see the holiness of letting go.

And so as you look outside to the barren ground take time to ponder the holiness of your letting go. What have been your gains and losses this past season? Matthew 6:25-“And Jesus said, that is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life, whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. If God so wonderfully cares for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you.”

So as we lean into the winter sky let us all begin with a vigil of trust. Know that the season and holiness of getting go will bring a time of new life, eventually. It is a trust guaranteed to us by our Lord's own death and resurrection.

*In Him who is the source of my strength. I have strength for everything.*

*Philippians 4:13*



Larry Bernhardt (Executive Director, CCND), Jerome Clark (Catholic Charities North Dakota Board Member), Mary Barker (Recovery Warehouse Manager), Gerald Dyke (Mennonite Disaster Services), Debra Ball-Kilborne (United Methodist Committee on Relief), Pat Smith (Souris Valley United Way) and Shirley Dykshorn (Lutheran Disaster Response).

## Catholic Charities ND gives Minot over \$1 million

Catholic Charities North Dakota is proud to announce a \$1,025,000 grant to the Minot Community. The grant will be used to provide funds to the Souris River Basin Unmet Needs Committee, restock and provide building supplies through the Recovery Warehouse, purchasing supplies for the Mennonites to bring homes to completion and to recognize and honor RAFT Volunteer Case Managers. Catholic Charities is collaborating with other Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (VOAD) partners such as United Way, Lutheran Disaster Response, United Methodist Committee on Relief, and Mennonite Disaster Service, and others to ensure the greatest impact.

“Catholic Charities North Dakota is proud to

help Minot and the surrounding communities in their rebuilding process from the devastating floods of 2011. We hope that our efforts will assist those in need in rebuilding their homes and their lives,” states Larry Bernhardt, Executive Director.

Catholic Charities North Dakota serves people in need and advocates for the common good of all. Programs of the agency include Adults Adopting Special Kids (AASK), Counseling Services, Guardianship Services, Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services, and Disaster Response. To learn more about Catholic Charities North Dakota, visit [www.catholiccharities-nd.org](http://www.catholiccharities-nd.org) or 1-800-450-4457.



2200 West Livingston Street (Baltimore, MD 21201) (410) 251-2270 (800) 251-2772 [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

September 7, 2012

Most Reverend David Kagan  
Bishop of Bismarck  
420 Raymond St.  
P.O. Box 1575  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1575

Dear Bishop Kagan:

I sincerely thank you and the people of the Diocese of Bismarck for heeding the call to become personally engaged in addressing the needs of our brothers and sisters around the world. Your generosity and thoughtfulness allows CRS to confront global hunger, set up structures and systems to help with disaster recovery efforts and deliver health services to the poorest of nations. This letter will serve as the formal acknowledgement of your recent donation to Catholic Relief Services for the following gift(s) from the diocese:

- \$41,913.18 for CRS Rice Bowl

Catholic Relief Services has been the international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic community since 1943, reaching millions of people in need, providing relief to communities affected by natural and man-made disasters, and assisting people to gain independence and sustainable livelihoods in countries around the world.

On behalf of all of us at CRS and those who will be touched by your compassionate generosity and spirit of humility, I am grateful for your steadfast support of our mission and leading the faithful in the Diocese of Bismarck to live their faith in solidarity with the poor and marginalized people overseas.

May God bless you for your continued prayers and generous support.

Dr. Carolyn Y. Woo  
President and CEO



# Father can't do it all by himself

That was the message Fr. Russell Kovash and Fr. Brian Gross made abundantly clear at the pastoral meeting held in oil country at Watford City. Building vital communities requires efforts from everyone. The message resonates with what Pope Benedict XVI wrote in preparation for the 50th anniversary celebration of the opening of the Second



Deacon Lynn Clancy  
Office of Pastoral  
Planning

Vatican Council. Pope Benedict XVI said: *“Co-responsibility demands a change in mind-set, especially concerning the role of laypeople in the church. They should not be regarded as ‘collaborators’ of the clergy but rather as people who are really ‘co-responsible’ for the church’s being and acting. All church members need to make a renewed effort to ensure laypeople are aware of their responsibility for the church and are allowed to exercise it,”* the Pope said.

Our parishes are blessed with many faithful members who have a vast array of skills and talents. Getting more people to step forward to provide leadership and organization is not always easy. Having clarity of task descriptions, training and good communications will empower members to continue and expand their contributions to pastoral service. Modern communication systems such as webinars must be utilized to save time and travel. Sharing resources and talent between parishes and on a regional basis within deaneries can build capacity for vitality.

Liturgical ministers will benefit from workshops regarding music, hospitality, Eucharistic ministry and devotional service. Pastoral Councils will benefit from training in planning efforts and guidance with evaluation. Finance Councils, trustees, parish secretaries and business managers will benefit from training in best practices in administration, human resource development, financial development and accounting. Service Committees will be interested in outreach, evangelization, and temporal works of mercy. Word Committees will appreciate help in the organization of small groups, Bible studies, marriage ministry, and youth ministry.

Working together, there is a great capacity for building skill sets and confidence. The diocesan offices have highly capable and talented people and can network with others to assist parishes with leadership development. The Diocesan Pastoral Plan identifies the need and commits the diocese to leadership training initiatives. Pope Benedict XVI says: *“This is a topic of great importance to the laity that fits in well with the Year of Faith. Strengthened by all her members, the Church can thus more effectively fulfill her mission for the life of the world.”*

Father will not be left to do it all by himself if we just do it together!



Above: The \$2.75 million renovation includes a new slate floor, pews, woodwork, altar, ambo and full-figured statues in the chapel as well as an expanded gathering space and handicap-accessible entrances.



Right: Fr. Patrick Schumacher, pictured with an image of the renovated exterior of St. Wenceslaus Church, also completed successful capital campaigns at St. Joseph's (Mandan) in 2000 and 2006.

# Capital Campaign kicks off at St. Wenceslaus in Dickinson

By Matthew Kurtz

It's a big year for St. Wenceslaus parish in Dickinson. Actually, the next 18 months or so will bring excitement for the parish's families.

Not only is St. Wenceslaus currently celebrating its centennial year (complete with a pilgrimage in Sept. 2013 to Prague, Czech Republic, to attend Mass at the grave of its patron saint on his feast day), the church also kicked off a capital campaign Oct. 6-7 to expand its gathering space and renovate its interior for the first time since 1956.

“We are going to create within the church a neoclassical design,” said Fr. Patrick Schumacher, pastor of St. Wenceslaus. “We have needs of roofing and lighting and sound right now, but we thought we'd look at the bigger picture to provide for the next 40 years.”

...we thought we'd look at the bigger picture

to provide for the next 40 years.

Fr. Schumacher plans to update certain characteristics of the church while keeping others in place. For instance, the redesigned nave will have a new slate floor, pews, woodwork, altar, ambo and full-figured statues while the existing stained-glass windows, tabernacle, hand-carved stations of the cross, devotional candles, and crucifix will remain.

“Our people have been praying in front of this crucifix for 57 years. It is dear to them. [The crucifix] of course will remain,” Fr. Schumacher explained.

Another new feature will be a partial communion rail, which Fr. Schumacher said “will not be for the point of function, but will serve to define space; a demarcation of the Holy of Holies.” The gathering space will be expanded to 1,850 square feet in addition to a new outdoor gathering space and handicap-accessible entrances on the church's south side.

Fr. Schumacher is no stranger to capital campaigns. After two successful campaigns at St. Joseph's (Mandan) in 2000 and 2006, the priest is confident that the \$2.75 million project can be completed...and completed soon.

“Every penny [donors] give, every dollar they sacrifice for this work goes directly to the work,” he said. “We're not paying a firm to help us raise the money because we believe we can do it.” Fr. Schumacher hopes to have the money raised for construction to begin in Sept. 2013.

For more details on the redesign and to view the St. Wenceslaus Capital Campaign booklet, visit <http://issuu.com/bismarckdiocese/docs/wenceslauscampaign>.

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Total Distribution		22,180	22,102
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Matthew Kurtz, Editor			



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**Saint Anne, Bismarck, Fall Gift Fair**  
– Nov. 3, 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Serving for German dinner begins at 4:00p.m.; sausage, knoeffe, kraut, borscht and German chocolate cake. Adults \$8, children 6-12 \$4, 5 and under eat free. Borscht and homemade noodles for sale. Baked goods, candy, Chinese auc-tion, gifts, face painting and raffle.

**St. Mary, New England, Fall Festival**  
– Nov. 3 & 4, -Saturday Mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by supper of turkey and all the trim-mings, bingo with \$500 guaranteed blackout, games for all ages, silent auction and food sale. Sunday Polka Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by dinner of fried chicken and roast beef, bingo with \$1000 guaranteed blackout, games for all ages, silent auction and food sale. Both days: adults \$11, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under eat free.

**St. John the Baptist, Beach, Fall Dinner**  
– Nov. 18, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Roast beef and ham dinner with all the trimmings. There will also be a silent auction and bake sale. Free will offering for the dinner.

**Learn to pray the Liturgy of the Hours**  
– Dec. 11 & Dec. 18, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Spirit of Life Church, Mandan. Rev. Wayne Sattler will be offering free training on how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. Training is free, but pre-registration is requested. Anyone interested in purchasing a leather one-volume Christian Prayer book with a zippered case can do so when registering. Cost of the book: \$40. To register, or for more information please call: 663-1660

**THE SUNDAY MASS**  
Televised each Sunday on KNDX FOX 26: 10:00 a.m. & 11:35 p.m., and on ABC Family: 5:30 a.m. Paid for in part by your generous donations to the annual God’s Share Appeal.  
Nov 4: 31st Ordinary Sunday  
Nov 11: 32nd Ordinary Sunday  
Nov 18: 33rd Ordinary Sunday  
Nov 25: Christ the King

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
Nov 1: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/  
Mt 5:1-12a  
Nov 2: Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11/Jn 6:37-40  
Nov 3: Phil 1:18b-26/Lk 14:1, 7-11  
Nov 4: Dt 6:2-6/Heb 7:23-28/  
Mk 12:28b-34  
Nov 5: Phil 2:1-4/Lk 14:12-14  
Nov 6: Phil 2:5-11/Lk 14:15-24  
Nov 7: Phil 2:12-18/Lk 14:25-33  
Nov 8: Phil 3:3-8a/Lk 15:1-5  
Nov 9: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-11,  
16-17/Jn 2:13-2  
Nov 10: Phil 4:10-19/Lk 16:9-15  
Nov 11: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/  
Mk 12:41-44  
Nov 12: Ti 1:1-9/Lk 17:1-6  
Nov 13: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Lk 17:7-10  
Nov 14: Ti 3:1-7/Lk 17:11-19  
Nov 15: Phil 7-20/Lk 17:11-19  
Nov 16: 2 Jn 4-9/Lk 17:26-37  
Nov 17: 3 Jn 5-8Lk 18:1-846  
Nov 18: Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/  
Mk 13:24-32  
Nov 19: Rv 1:1-4, 2:1-5/Lk 18:34-43  
Nov 20: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Lk 19:1-10  
Nov 21: Rv 4:1-11/Lk 19:11-28  
Nov 22: Rv 5:1-5/Lk 19:1-44  
Nov 23: Rv 10:8-11/Lk 19:45-48  
Nov 24: Rv 11:4-12/Lk 20:27-40  
Nov 25: Dn 7:13-14/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37  
Nov 26: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Lk 21:1-4  
Nov 27: Rv 14:14-19/Lk 21:5-11  
Nov 28: Rv 15:1-4/Lk 21:12-19  
Nov 29: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a  
Nov 30: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22

**PRAY FOR THE PRIESTS, RELIGIOUS AND DEACONS SERVING OUR DIOCESE**  
An invitation from the Serra Clubs of the diocese:  
Nov 1: Rev. Mr. Patrick Cunningham  
Nov 2: Rev. Austin Vetter  
Nov 3: Deacon Wilfred Wolf  
Nov 4: Abbot Brian Wangler, OSB  
Nov 5: Sr. Rebecca Mayer, OSB  
Nov 6: Rev. Mr. Joseph Evinger  
Nov 7: Rev. Kenneth Wald

Nov 8: Deacon James Wosepka  
Nov 9: Bro. Basil Kirsch, OSB  
Nov 10: Sr. Rita Miller, OSB  
Nov 11: Sr. Paula Larson, OSB  
Nov 12: Msgr. Gerald Walsh  
Nov 13: All Seminarians  
Nov 14: Deacon Robert Zent  
Nov 15: Rev. Sebastian Schmidt, OSB  
Nov 16: Sr. Elizabeth Novy, OSB  
Nov 17: Sr. Laura Hecker, OSB  
Nov 18: Rev. Chris Walter  
Nov 19: Deacon Edward Ziman  
Nov 20: Bro. John Patrick Arnett, OSB  
Nov 21: Sr. Agnes Reinert, OSB  
Nov 22: All Lay Ministers  
Nov 23: Sr. Renee Branigan, OSB  
Nov 24: Rev. Joshua Waltz  
Nov 25: Deacon Daniel Barone  
Nov 26: Rev. Basil Atwell, OSB  
Nov 27: Sr. Renee Zastoupil, OSB  
Nov 28: All in Religious Formation  
Nov 29: Sr. Michael Emond, OSB  
Nov 30: Rev. Justin Waltz

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED CLERGY ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DEATH**  
Nov 2: Rev. Leo Gourde, OSB - 1979  
Nov 2: Rev. Louis Pfaller, OSB - 1979  
Nov 2: Most Rev. Vincent Wehrle, OSB - 1941  
Nov 3: Rev. George Rau - 1918  
Nov 6: Most Rev. Hilary B. Hacker - 1990  
Nov 6: Rev. Ambrose Johannis, OSB - 1957  
Nov 6: Rev. Ambrose Lethert, OSB - 1917  
Nov 7: Rev. Claude Ebner, OSB - 1904  
Nov 7: Rev. Leo Kaufman - 1957  
Nov 8: Rev. Augustine Fox, OSB - 1947  
Nov 8: Rev. Walter Lenger - 1948  
Nov 8: Deacon Martin Schumacher - 2004  
Nov 9: Rev. Amandus Struder, OSB - 1983  
Nov 10: Rev. Joseph Adkins - 1998  
Nov 10: Most Rev. Vincent J. Ryan - 1951  
Nov 11: Rev. Charles Bauer, C.PPS. - 1961  
Nov 11: Rev. Harold Roth, C.PPS. - 1992  
Nov 12: Rev. Joseph Heer - 1961  
Nov 13: Rev. Clement Bauer, OSB - 1918  
Nov 13: Rev. Jerome Schommer, SDS - 1994  
Nov 15: Rev. Maurice Hilpert, OSB - 1931

Nov 15: Rev. Timothy Majerus, OSB - 1952  
Nov 15: Rev. Otto Weber, C.PPS. - 1971  
Nov 16: Rev. Otto Diller, C.PPS. - 1981  
Nov 16: Rev. Thomas Jundt, OSB - 1980  
Nov 17: Rev. Edmund Guillozet, C.PPS. - 1954  
Nov 19: Rev. Herman Regensburger - 1918  
Nov 21: Rev. Berthold Brown, OSB - 1945  
Nov 21: Rev. Donald Hill - 2004  
Nov 21: Rev. C. Robert Kavaney - 2001  
Nov 21: Deacon Dominic Pereira - 1992  
Nov 22: Rev. John Dubsky - 1962  
Nov 22: Rev. Paul Neussendorfer, OSB - 1939  
Nov 22: Rev. Aloysius Strigl, OSB - 1925  
Nov 23: Rev. Maurice Kelch, SDS - 1982  
Nov 24: Rev. Clarence L. Gavett - 1991  
Nov 25: Rev. Richard Rauth, C.PPS. - 1966  
Nov 28: Rev. William Hake - 1950  
Nov 28: Rev. Michael Krank - 2010  
Nov 29: Rev. Francis M. Ryan - 1965  
Nov 30: Rev. Karl Hellmeier - 1918  
Nov 30: Rev. Augustine Studeny, OSB - 1956

**CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS**  
**DEADLINE:** The Dakota Catholic Action is published monthly except for July. Material deadline is noon the first Friday of the month for the following months’ publication (ex: first Friday in January for the February issue of the DCA). **Recurring or ongoing events must be submitted each time they occur to be included.**  
  
**ACCEPTED MATERIAL:** Brief notices of upcoming events hosted by diocesan parishes and institutions. Items are published on a space available basis.  
  
**SUBMITTED ITEMS MUST INCLUDE:**  
For consideration each event must be listed individually and include:  
\*Time and date of event  
\*Full event description including related times  
\*Complete address of event venue  
\*Contact information of individual responsible for submitted material  
  
E-mail: jlongtin@bismarckdiocese.com  
Mail: DCA Calendar, PO Box 1137, Bismarck ND 58502-1137

## To whom much is given, much is expected



AG ATTITUDES

James Odermann

The date was August 28 and I was wondering what to do first. There were lots of things to do and I was wondering about August 30. “Why did I say yes?” I rhetorically asked. But, then I had to remind myself of the many instances when my family and friends have often times told me that I tried to pack too much into an hour. The rhetorical question was the result of my saying “yes”. Lynn Clancy had asked me to participate in an excursion via a bus with members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council to view, examine and discuss issues and concerns how we as Catholics can (and should) minister to our sisters and brothers. The challenges of the changing façade of the diocese and faces of our sisters and brothers have definitely impacted everyone. As an agricultural producer, my neighborhood is changing. Land that was agricultural has been rezoned. The farm buildings (except one) on an adjacent 40-acre

tract were removed or moved, a road installed and the land subdivided into 30 lots for sale. Highway 85 has become a caravan of trucks, laden with oil field supplies, production or waste. It is a major change from the past. Progress comes in many forms. Energy development has created challenges. This whirlwind, however, is not new to the region. The late 1970s and early 1980s saw much of the same action in my neighborhood, only to go bust. The gusto of this new development is much more intense, involves perhaps more investment. The result is a need for more people than we have within our diocese to complete the work. Outmigration has ended. Population growth projections are mind-boggling. Everything is stretched: housing, roads, food and hospitality industry, education facilities, public services and more. As a Catholic, I see the same within the Church. What is my role as a member? What can I do to make sure that my sisters and brothers (whether Catholic or not) have housing that is not substandard? Where is my responsibility to share resources?

As I reflected on these questions (and more), I recalled the quote from Jesus “to whom much is given, much is expected”. What are the expectations on me relative to time, talent and treasure? There are many challenges that can be turned into opportunities. It takes the resolve to be fair, open-minded and prayerful. It means listening to God, which may be a voice from those in need. I hope I can minister as Jesus would want. Care to join me?

## NFP Quick Reference Guide

### Some Practical Benefits of Natural Family Planning

- The following are true of all modern NFP methods offered through the diocese:
- NFP has no harmful side effects. It is healthy, organically sound and environmentally friendly! Since NFP is 100% natural, there are no chemicals produced or waste products created.
  - NFP is safe and has been clinically proven to be 98-99% effective at avoiding pregnancy when used properly. It is also very effective in helping couples achieve pregnancy. Modern methods of NFP are not to be confused with the older “rhythm method” which was less effective because it depended upon the regularity of a woman’s cycle.
  - Any woman, regardless of the regularity or irregularity of her cycles, can use NFP effectively. Modern methods of NFP are based on the readily observable signs of fertility present in each cycle (primarily cervical mucus, but also temperature, changes in the cervix, and other signs).
  - NFP is in no way contraceptive. It does not work against God’s creative design for sexual intercourse, but works in complete accord with it.

For more information contact Amanda Ellerkamp, NFP Coordinator at 701-590-2837, aellerkamp@bismarckdiocese.com





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- How will Bishop Kagan vote in the elections this fall?
- What are indulgences?
- Bishop Kagan attends event for new bishops in Rome



**Children's Holy Hour**

Bishop Kagan joins students for worldwide children's holy hour



# DAKOTA CATHOLIC ACTION

Volume 71, Number 10 The Catholic Voice for the Diocese of Bismarck November 2012



**Fifth graders explore vocations at Assumption Abbey**

*Lord Jesus, Please grant to me the grace to know my true vocation... to whatever You ask of me, may I freely, courageously and lovingly respond. Amen.*



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