

North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

Vol. 25 No. 10

May 22, 2009

Pope closes Holy Land trip with appeal for peace, message of hope



Pope Benedict XVI celebrates an outdoor Mass in the Josafat Valley at the foot of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem May 12. In his homily, the pope urged the region's Christians to stay in the Holy Land and work for harmony among its people. (CNS photo/Ammar Awad, Reuters)

By John Thavis
Catholic News Service

JERUSALEM — Pope Benedict XVI closed his Holy Land pilgrimage by delivering a plea for peace and a message of Christian hope.

In Jerusalem at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher May 15, the pope prayed at what Christians believe is the place of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

In a talk, he returned to a key theme of his eight-day visit to the region: that the church can bring healing to a land torn by conflict and mistrust.

Christ's empty tomb "speaks to us of hope," he said.

"The Gospel reassures us that God can make all things new, that history need not be repeated, that memories can be healed, that the bitter fruits of recrimination and

hostility can be overcome, and that a future of justice, peace, prosperity, and cooperation can arise for every man and woman," he said.

At an ecumenical encounter in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate headquarters the same morning, the pope pointed to the future, calling on Christians of the Holy Land to educate a new generation

SEE POPE, P. 15

Play Ball! Bishop Vann throws first pitch for Cats opening game

Bishop Kevin Vann shows his game face as he throws the first ceremonial pitch, opening the season for the Fort Worth Cats. (Photo by Juan Guajardo)



Nearly 5,000 fans looked on May 14 as Bishop Kevin Vann threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Fort Worth Cats opening game. Bishop Vann got the ball to the catcher with no problem. "It was great, it was wonderful," spectator and Cats fan, Booty Jones, said of Bishop Vann's attendance and pitch. The

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and many other Catholic baseball fans also came out to support Bishop Vann. The Bishop joked about his pitch afterward with some of the other invited guests, including Fort Worth mayor Mike Moncrief. The Cats went on to win 7-5 against the Grand Prairie AirHogs.



Bishop Vann reads a description of an audio tape held by St. Patrick Rector Fr. Richard Flores, as former Cathedral historian Kay Fialho comments. They were gathering bits of diocesan history, for the 40th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Diocese of Fort Worth. The yearlong observance kicks off with Mass at the Fort Worth Convention Center, Aug. 9. (Photo by Chris Kastner)

Rachel's Vineyard founder presents to 170 counselors, clergy, and pro-life volunteers on post-abortion trauma and healing

Story and Photos
By Joan Kurkowski-Gillen

"We don't know how many people suffer after abortion. What we do know is that they do suffer," said Theresa Burke, founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministry, an organization that promotes post-abortion spiritual and emotional healing. Burke spoke at a May 1 abortion recovery conference held at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Complex.

Helping counselors, clergy, and pro-life volunteers identify and understand the emotional, psychological, and physical manifestations of post abortion stress disorder was part of the

day-long workshop presented by Burke and her husband, Kevin Burke. Both are published authors and internationally recognized experts in post-abortion trauma and healing.

Theresa Burke told the 170 people attending the conference she first noticed a connection between pregnancy loss and psychological problems in graduate school while working with women who had eating disorders. A member of the support group, whom she called Debbie, had suicidal tendencies and talked about being taunted by her husband who called her

SEE RACHEL'S, P. 21



Rachel's Vineyard Ministry founder Theresa Burke addresses the 170 gathered at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden May 1 for the regional abortion recovery conference, sponsored by the diocese's Rachel's Vineyard Ministry. (Photo by Joan Kurkowski-Gillen)



Diocese to roll out re-design of Web-site and NTC to go to all parishioners

See story page 13

Spring feast days help us connect to mysteries of the Church

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

At this point in our liturgical calendar we still find ourselves in the season of the Resurrection of the Lord ... sometimes called "Eastertide." It is worth noting that the two calendars we live by — our yearly calendar and the Church's calendar — especially in regards to the major feasts — clearly teach us that in many ways we are in two worlds at once — the City of God and the human city, something that St. Augustine reflected on in his classic *The City of God*. The liturgical calendar for major feasts is a powerful reminder that in the end, we must always look to God.



Bishop Kevin W. Vann

Some reflection on these feasts, and indeed the whole season, will help us to connect what we hear and celebrate on Sunday with the lived expression of our Faith each and every day, and in all moments of our lives. The liturgical seasons and their novenas of preparation and octaves of celebration are constant reminders that our Faith is never something to be confined to one hour on Sunday only, but must be woven into every day of our life.

Easter and Christmas on the secular calendar are finished in one day. Yet, here we are in these fifty days of the Resurrection of the Lord, where the Scriptures for daily Mass and Sunday Mass continually teach us of the reality of the Resurrection of the Lord in his appearances to his disciples; soon we will celebrate the solemnity of the Ascension, where with the disciples on the Mount of Olives we too, must be joyful at the commission of Christ to go and live the Good News, even though He is no longer visible to us.

In short order will follow Pentecost Sunday (the birthday of the Church), which will remind us of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives, which we received at baptism and confirmation, gifts which are always present in our lives in every major moment of decision, challenge, and joy. Pentecost can teach us that there is an intrinsic unity of the presence of Christ and his Body here on earth, and that we can never separate one from another.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (Trinity Sunday) calls us to study and reflect on the great truth

and mystery of Faith in God revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Finally, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (a feast established later on in history, but which finds its roots in the narratives of the Last Supper), teaches us with its processions and Eucharistic Adoration that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist and walks with us in our daily pilgrimage of life. Some reflection on these feasts, and indeed the whole season, will help us to connect what we hear and celebrate on Sunday with the lived expression of our Faith each and every day, and in all moments of our lives. The liturgical seasons and their novenas of preparation and octaves of celebration are constant reminders that our Faith is never something to be confined to one hour on Sunday only, but must be woven into every day of our life.

To help us reflect on the major Church feasts and seasons and their relevance in our lives, I would highly recommend a small book of reflections entitled *Images of Hope: Meditations on Major Feasts*, by then-Cardinal Joseph

Ratzinger, published by Ignatius Press in 1990.

For example in reflecting on the Ascension (where we are currently) and on an icon of that feast, he says in this work that

"The Ascension allowed the disciples to become glad. They knew that they would no longer be alone. They knew they were the blessed ones. The Church would also like to instill this knowledge in us the forty days after Easter. The Church would like it not to become for us only a knowing of the intellect but rather a knowing of the heart, in order that the great joy might also overtake us that could no longer be taken away from the disciples. In order for knowledge of the heart to develop, encounter is necessary — an inner listening to the words of the Lord, and inner familiarity with him, as Scripture conveys it with the mention of the common eating of salt. The feast of Christ's Ascension invites us to this inner openness. The more we succeed, the more we understand the great joy that occurred on a day in which apparent departure was in truth the beginning of a new nearness" (p. 62).

A special thanks to all in our parishes — parish priests, directors of liturgy and catechesis, and all others — who help prepare and celebrate all of the major feasts, which continually help to build up the Body of Christ here in our diocese. May the great joy of these days inspire all of us in our daily walk and living out of our Faith.

God bless you always.

+ Kevin W. Vann

+ Most Reverend Kevin W. Vann
Bishop of Fort Worth

Deaf Ministry offers sign language class at St. Andrew

The Deaf Ministry Program is offering a Beginning Sign Language Class at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 3312 Dryden Road, Fort Worth, on Tuesday nights this summer. The class will meet from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in the Pastoral Center, June 16th through July 28th. Classes are for adults and children 12 years old or older. The instructor, Kathy Murphy, a leader in the Deaf Ministry Program, will

engage students in small-group activities, games, and hands-on activities. They will learn basic vocabulary, rules of grammar, and cultural aspects of the deaf community. The cost of the class will be \$55 (including registration and sign book) and will be collected the first night of class. For more information, contact Mary Cinatl, director of Deaf Ministry, at (817) 284-3019.

Bishop Vann to lead Corpus Christi Mass and eucharistic procession

Bishop Kevin Vann will celebrate Corpus Christi Sunday, June 14, with a Mass at 12:30 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton St. in downtown Fort Worth. Following the Mass, Bishop Vann will process with the Eucharist around the block of the

cathedral stopping at altars at two separate locations for Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. The procession will end in the cathedral with Adoration and Benediction. For more information, contact the cathedral office at (817) 332-4915.



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Circulation Office: Rita Garber, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Texas 76108, (817) 560-3300.

NORTH TEXAS CATHOLIC (USPS 751-370) (ISSN 0899-7020) is published semi-monthly, except for the months of June, July, and August when it is published monthly, by the Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann, Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Worth, 800 West Loop 820 South. Subscription rates are \$24 for one year, \$46 for two years, \$68 for three years. Periodical postage paid at Fort Worth, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *North Texas Catholic*, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Texas 76108.

Deadline for information for the *North Texas Catholic* is noon of Wednesday of the week before the paper is published. The *NTC* is published two times a month on Friday, except for the months of June, July, and August when it is published one time each month.

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Spirit Games show 'strength' of Catholic schools



Former NFL player Keith Davis gives an inspirational talk while doing feats of strength displays, such as spinning two students hanging from a bar he later bent with his teeth. (Courtesy of Stephen Breen Memorial Foundation)

It was a close competition between St. Andrew School in Fort Worth and St. John the Apostle School in North Richland Hills, for three weeks. All the Diocese of Fort Worth Catholic schools had an opportunity to compete for the 'We've Got Spirit' Award from the Stephen Breen Memorial Foundation Spirit Games, which was given to the school with the highest percentage of students attending the games. It came down to the wire with St. Andrew winning by a five-percent margin.

"The true goal of this competition was to show support through attendance at the Spirit Games," said Jim Breen, president of the Stephen Breen Memorial Foundation. "Both St. Andrew and St. John had over 40 percent of their school's enrollment in attendance," he added. "I hope by holding this competition every year, we can encourage more schools to match the attendance of these two schools."

The Spirit Games began three years ago with the goal of bringing all Catholic students together for a day of fun, food, and friendly competition. The foundation was established after the death of Stephen to a rare form of cancer. It was Stephen's dream to help other students receive a Catholic education and to help children with cancer. This year's event brought the largest participation ever. Part of that growth was based on the 'We've Got Spirit' Award.

While the award is a part of the Spirit Games celebration, it isn't the only reason for a large attendance. "We have over 6,000 Catholic students enrolled in our schools," said Breen. "Our

goal is to help show all Catholic students that they are part of a larger group," he added. "Sometimes it's hard to visualize how important each student is and the privilege of receiving a Catholic education."

The diocese endorses the Spirit Games and the efforts made by an all-volunteer workforce to make this happen each year. Bishop Kevin Vann has started each year's event with an outdoor Mass.

"To have the bishop here means something to these students," said a mother of a St. John student. "He's part of the Mass celebration and then on to the games," she added. "What a wonderful opportunity to interact with students and them with him and his staff."

Along with Bishop Vann, the day held a full agenda including motivational speaker and former NFL player Keith Davis. "He mesmerized the audience," said Breen. "He has a message and method of delivery that is compared to none."

The Ben Walther Band played during Mass and later as part of a spiritual message. "He is a great musician," said the father of a St. Rita student.

Other events of the day included: "Punt, Pass & Kick;" dodgeball; "Are You Smarter Than a Senior?"; a festival for lower grades; "Rock Band"; "Amazing Race"; and a version of the famous "Fear Factor."

"It was truly one of the best days I've had in a long time," said the father of a St. Andrew student. "I have as much fun watching and meeting new parents as my children," he added. "Each year it just keeps getting better and better."

*Responding
to God's Call*

*When the time calls for it —
We must be willing
to stand up for our faith*

By Father Kyle Walterscheid

How do we respond when we hear someone cutting down the Church we know and love? Too often, out of a sense of charity, we respond by remaining silent, biting our tongues to prevent ourselves from saying something offensive. Yet, I must ask: Is this a real way of defending the faith or of expressing charity? I think not.

This passive behavior may free us from a difficult situation, but in the long run, it allows the voice of opposition to rule the day. This has been happening for many years now without the voice of the faithful speaking out using reason, charity, and truth to promulgate the faith.

I should be the first to talk! I have let so many opportunities pass me by where I could have and should have spoken up.

True, there are times when it simply is not the time or the place to discuss a topic, yet there are many forums where we need to speak up. Where is the Catholic voice? Where is the Christian voice? Where is your voice? While the many arms of the media — TV, magazines, radio, newspapers, and the Internet — control what they want their audience to hear, there are just as many of these same media outlets that

TTrue, there are times when it simply is not the time or the place to discuss a topic, yet there are many forums where we need to speak up. Where is the Catholic voice? Where is the Christian voice? Where is your voice?

welcome debate. It is in these open forums that we have a real opportunity to send a message of faith and reason, charity, and truth.

Now I must cite you a real example. I was made aware of a scandal that recently broke in Florida where Father Alberto Cutié, a Catholic priest and famous Spanish talk show host, was caught on a local beach with a woman that he has now admitted has been his girlfriend for several years.

The Internet blog site that I entered was sympathetic toward the priest. But many bloggers, those who wrote in commenting about the news headline, were vicious and vile in their hatred toward the Catholic Church, especially toward its stance on celibacy for the priesthood. I went forward and added the following comment to the blog site using reason, charity, and truth to defend the Church and to support the priest:

Each vocation from each person in the world is a gift from the Holy Spirit to praise God and to labor in service to build up the Kingdom of God. When someone falls to sin we pray as a community that they repent of their sin, that they see the error of their way and the scandal it causes to Christ and to all Christendom. Sometimes this means that the immoral behavior and sin is so grave, that if it is a clergy [member], then they must be removed from the privileged office of service to the community. This scandal, then, is not caused because of the vows of celibacy, but that someone

took the vows to live one type of life for the greater good of the community and then broke those vows. As a fellow priest I can only say that I am so profoundly humbled and yet overwhelmed with joy to serve Christ and the people of God in this capacity. I thus pray for my brother priests and I ask you to pray for your pastors too, married and celibate both.

*Blessings to you,
Fr. Kyle Walterscheid
Vocation Director
Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth*

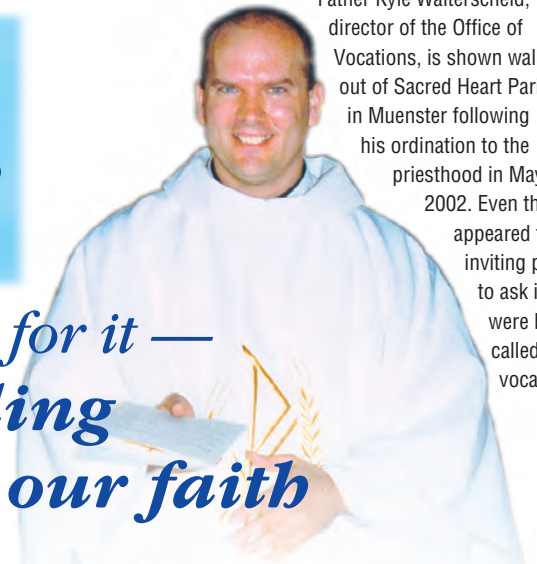
My response certainly is not a response that ends the debate, but at least I entered into the debate and spoke up on the behalf of the Church using reason, truth, and charity.

Can we not get together within our communities and begin to formally bring a voice forward from the faithful that responds and answers these kinds of vile feeding frenzies? Yes, the Catholic Church welcomes the opportunity to debate, as long as we keep within the context of faith seeking understanding as well as hope seeking solutions, with charity as our crown, and truth in Christ as our foundation.

With healthy debates, the world we live in will be less confused and hateful, as the light of Christ through faith and reason will shine forth because of our choice to speak up in appropriate forums with charity and truth.

Father Kyle Walterscheid is the director of Vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth. He can be reached by e-mail to kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org.

Father Kyle Walterscheid, director of the Office of Vocations, is shown walking out of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster following his ordination to the priesthood in May 2002. Even then, he appeared to be inviting people to ask if they were being called to a vocation.



Knights of Columbus conduct 49th Memorial Day observance

The General Worth Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus will conduct its 49th annual Memorial Day Observance at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 24, in Calvary Cemetery located in the Oakwood Cemetery at Grand and Gould Streets in Fort Worth. The Assembly will place a wreath at the monument honoring Major Horace Carswell; a Medal of Honor recipient, a wreath at "Soldiers Row" in honor of all veterans; and a wreath at the center of Calvary Cemetery in honor and in memory of the clergy, religious, and Catholic pioneers buried in the cemetery. The memorial observance will conclude with a prayer and blessing of the graves by Father Anh Tran, faithful friar of the Assembly.

On Monday, May 25, General Worth Assembly will participate in the City of Fort Worth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony in the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Fort Worth at 6 p.m. Wreaths of honor will be placed at the "Doughboy" monument by other fraternal, patriotic, civic, and military organizations in honor of those who have given their lives in the service of their country. Following the services, a motorcade will travel to the Trinity River where additional services will be held and wreaths dropped in the water in memory of the Naval deceased.

Healing Mass to be offered at St. Paul Parish June 1

Father Tom Wigginton invites all to participate in a Healing Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 5508 Black Oak Lane, Fort Worth. Father Robert Hilz, TOR will celebrate the Mass Monday, June 1, at 7 p.m.

For more information, call the parish office at (817) 738-9925.

Courage group meets twice monthly

Courage D/FW, a spiritual support group for Catholics striving to live chaste lives according to the Catholic Church's teachings on homosexuality, meets the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month.

For more information, e-mail to CourageDFW@Catholic.org or call (972) 938-5433.

St. Paul Parish to offer new 'Divorce Care' series beginning June 4

St. Paul the Apostle Parish, 5508 Black Oak Lane in Fort Worth, is offering a new Divorce Care Series and announces the addition of a companion series, Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K). The 12-week program, distributed by Church Initiative, will begin June 4 and will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Facilitators and helpers in both programs have been trained in the program, and have attended "Keeping Children Safe."

DC4K is geared to children ages five through 12, and the adult series is designed for age 13 and older. The program outcome is the realization that it is possible to recover from separation and divorce. Deacon Ron Aziere, pastoral assistant, emphasizes, "The help generated through this seminar, has no boundaries. We have helped persons divorced for over 15 years to get recovered, and in one case the couple reconciled a broken marriage. God's healing presence is visible by the end of the series. Although this program is a Scriptures-based program, it is not a Bible study. Professionals in pastoral care, entertainment, psychology, and social services featured in this seminar will give their personal and professional input to help the participant focus on the job of healing."

Pre-registration is preferred. For more information, call the parish office at (817) 738-9925. There is no charge for this program.

Tribunal to offer advocate training

The diocesan Tribunal Office will offer Tribunal Advocate Training three Thursdays in July. The training will be held July 16, 23, and 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth.

Anyone wishing to serve as a Tribunal advocate in a parish is invited to participate in this training. Attendance at all three sessions is required to serve as an advocate and attendance at "Introduction to Tribunal Ministry" or equivalent is a prerequisite.

There is no charge for this seminar and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required by Friday, July 10.

For more information and to register, call (817) 560-3300 ext. 204.

People & Events

of Importance for the Church of Fort Worth



HORNET PRIDE — Holy Family Catholic School's softball team has gone undefeated this season. Coach Beth Grimes reaffirmed the value of teamwork and sportsmanship in this team of young ladies and led them in an unstoppable season winning the post-season tournament.

NTC begins summer schedule

The *North Texas Catholic* is published twice monthly, except during the months of June, July, and August when it is published monthly. The deadline to submit information is noon on the Wednesday of the week before the paper is published.

Items for the June 26 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, June 17. Items for the July 31 issue must be received by noon on July 15. Due to the 40th anniversary celebration, items are being requested one week earlier for the July issue.

Respect Life to host 'Sunset Cruise' May 31

Catholics Respect Life and The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Fort Worth will sponsor the fund raising event "Sunset Cruise" Sunday, May 31, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All are invited to join pro-life friends on the Lone Star Lady for an evening of music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres and a cruise on the lake. The cruise will begin at Silver Lake Marina located on Lake Grapevine.

A reservation is required, and a \$50 per person donation is suggested. Reserve online at www.catholicrespectlife.org or call for reservations early, suggests promotion material, as space is limited to 100 people.

For more information, contact Catholics Respect Life at (817) 623-2430 or e-mail angela@catholicrespectlife.org. All proceeds benefit the ministries of Catholics Respect Life.

Marriage Encounter weekend to be held July 10-12

Marriage Encounter weekends will be held July 10-12 and Oct. 9-11 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth. Marriage Encounter, a marriage enrichment program, is centered on three principles: building communication between husband and wife, nurturing the commitment of marriage vows, and strengthening the couple's faith.

"One year or 50! No matter how long you've been married, a Marriage Encounter Weekend is a great way to breathe new life into your relationship. And it's just for the two of you (no group sharing)," according to Marriage Encounter materials.

For more information or to register online, visit the Web site at www.ntexasme.org or e-mail to meregistration@sbcglobal.net

Montserrat to offer bilingual ministry workshop June 8-11

Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House is offering a bilingual workshop June 8-11. Jesuit Fathers Jose Fetzer and Edmundo Rodríguez will facilitate discussions on recruitment, analysis, and decision-making in ministry.

The cost of the program, which includes room and board for three days, is \$300.

For more information and registration, call (940) 321-6020 or visit montserratretreat.org.

Father Carmen Mele, OP, diocesan coordinator of *Why Catholic?*, encourages *Why Catholic?* leaders to attend the workshop, especially those working in a Spanish language version of the program.

St. Mary, Windthorst, to celebrate 117th anniversary

St. Mary Parish of Windthorst will be holding its 117th birthday celebration on Sunday, June 7, beginning at noon. Activities will be held in St. Mary's parish hall and school grounds.

There will be some new activities this year such as sumo wrestling, water gun fun, and horse rides from 1-3 p.m., as well as some old favorites including the Turtle Races, Toy Walk, Train Ride, Water Balloons, Sweet Stroll and Country Store.

A Dairy Derby Fun Run/Health Walk will begin at noon on the football field. To pre-register, contact Diane Conrady at (940) 423-6304 or register the day of the race from 11-11:45 a.m. at the concession stand by the football field. There will be races for ages 1-12 years and a 5K run.

A horseshoe tournament will start at noon and will run all day. For additional information, contact Jerry or Terry Bacon at (940) 237-7765 or (940) 423-6121. A Live Auction will start at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

A golf tournament will be held Saturday, June 6. For more information, contact David Veitenheimer at 423-6780 or Michael Schroeder at (940) 423-6267.

For additional information, on any of the above activities, contact the church office at (940) 423-6687.

Mount Carmel Center to offer series on St. Teresa of Jesus

Mount Carmel Center in Dallas has announced its 2009-2010 schedule. Upcoming seminars will include: "Introduction to the works and spirituality of St. Teresa of Jesus," presented by Father Stephen Sánchez, OCD, Wednesday, July 29, or Saturday Aug. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon. This conference will offer an overview of the historical settings of the reform movement that led to St. Teresa's works. The deadline to register is Wednesday, July 22.

Mount Carmel will also host "Introduction to the *Life* of St. Teresa of Jesus," presented by Fr. Sánchez, Wednesday, Aug. 5, or Saturday, Aug. 8, from 10 a.m. to noon. This seminar will focus on an overview of St. Teresa's first work known as *Life* in preparation for the study and guided reading of the work. This conference is required for those wishing to participate in the three-part series on the *Life* of St. Teresa of Jesus to be offered in the fall. The deadline to register for this conference is Wednesday, July 29.

Participants may bring a lunch and stay for personal prayer until 4 p.m. The suggested donation for these conferences is \$25.

For more information, contact Mary Bellman at admin@mountcarmelcenter.org or call (214) 331-6224 ext. 314.

St. Michael Parish announces Spanish Mass to begin May 31

St. Michael Parish will begin offering Mass in Spanish. The first Mass will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 31 at 1 p.m. The last Mass in English will be the 1 p.m. Mass on May 24.

The St. Michael Parish staff expresses their gratitude to all of who have helped in this transition and continue to ask for support as they strive to be welcoming to the growing Hispanic community.

For more information, contact Father Luis Rude, OFM, at (817) 283-8746 ext. 32.

OLGHS hosts golf tournament June 8

Our Lady of Grace Catholic High School, in association with the Knights of Columbus, will host the second annual Lions Summer Scramble Monday, June 8. The tournament will be held at the Diamond Oaks Country Club, 5821 Diamond Oaks Drive in North Fort Worth, beginning with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

The cost for the event is \$89 per person and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, prizes, and "goody-bag" with various gift certificates. Participants will be treated to a 19th hole banquet/luncheon once all the rounds of golf have been completed.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the OLGHS athletics program. Sponsorships are still being accepted.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to register for the tournament, visit the Web site at www.olghs.golfreg.com or call the school office at (817) 933-6516.

Subiaco Academy offers new summer school program

Subiaco Academy is pleased to offer a new three-week intensive summer school program from June 14-July 3 for young men in grades 9-12.

The new program gives young men who have failed a required class for graduation the opportunity to earn one full credit in one of the core subjects of English, Math, Science, or History.

While the boys will be totally involved in academics during the school day, afternoons and weekends will be full of on-campus activities such as swimming and basketball, and off-campus excursions to places such as Magic Springs Amusement Park, Silver Dollar City, and the Clinton Presidential Library.

The total cost for tuition, room and board is \$2,950. The deadline to register is June 11. For additional details and an application form, visit the Web site at www.subi.org or call the admissions office at (800) 364-7824 or e-mail admissions@subi.org.

Official Assignments

The following assignments have been made by Bishop Kevin Vann:

Father Oren Key, SJ, will complete his assignment as pastor of Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, Vernon, St. Joseph Parish, Crowell, and St. Mary Parish, Quanah on July 1.

Father Jack McKone has been assigned as pastoral administrator of Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, Vernon, St. Joseph Parish, Crowell, and St. Mary Parish, Quanah, effective July 1.

DCYC 2009

Diocesan
Catholic
YOUTH
Conference

I AM in you
with you
for you

July 10-12

@ Hyatt Regency
DFW Airport

"I am the Lord
Your God"

SPEAKERS

Doug Brummel
and his characters

Fr. Hoa
Nguyen

"I am who am"

Jesse
Manibusan

MUSIC

Jesus Team A
Band

- Workshops
- Music
- Prayer
- Exhibits
- Mass
(with Bishop Vann)
- Much More!

Register
through
your parish!

"I am
the bread
of life
I am the WAY,
the TRUTH,
the LIFE..."

"I will be your God
and you will be
my people"

Tschoepe Homiletics Seminar to be held June 8-11

The University of Dallas School of Ministry, in cooperation with the Tschoepe Institute for Homiletics and Communications, will host the annual Tschoepe Homiletics Seminar June 8-11 at Holy Family of Nazareth Church, 2323 Cheyenne St. in Irving. This year's seminar, titled "Preaching Christ — Lessons from St. Paul," is dedicated to "all who support excellence in preaching," said Dr. Dan Luby, Tschoepe Chair of Homiletics at the university. Luby noted that the seminar "is a valuable opportunity to improve skills, learn new techniques, and exchange ideas and experiences with other preachers."

The seminar will offer three plenary sessions featuring nationally prominent speakers and practitioners, including Bishop Daniel Flores, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Detroit and a former rector of the cathedral in his home diocese of Corpus Christi and Father Joe Tetlow, SJ, director of Montserrat Retreat House in Lake Dallas. Father Lawrence Boadt, CSP, president and publisher of Paulist Press, will also serve as a featured speaker.

Breakout sessions led by ministry leaders from the Diocese of Fort Worth include Father Hector Medina, pastor of St. Matthew Church in Arlington and Father John Robert Skeldon, pastor of

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Wichita Falls. Sister St. John Begnaud, SSMN, of the Life Connections program at the Federal Medical Center (FMC) Carswell, will lead a panel discussion on preaching to prison inmates.

Breakout sessions include topics such as "Preparation for Advent: Reflection on the Apocalyptic Sunday Readings"; "Adult Church, Adult Faith: Insights from Adult Learning Research"; "Preaching for Missions and Retreats"; and "Ancient Wisdom for 21st Century Preaching: Patristic Insights into Preaching."

Designed for parish priests and deacons who want to refresh their homiletic skills, the seminar is also open to other ministers of the Word, including campus ministers, chaplains, RCIA leaders, those authorized to lead Sunday celebrations in the absence of a priest and children's liturgies of the Word, and all who support effective preaching.

In addition to the sessions, the seminar offers a preaching practicum and daily Mass. Meals are available at additional cost. Discounted fees on the seminar are available to clergy members and to deacons and their wives. To register, or for more information, visit the Web site at www.udallas.edu/ministry/homiletics or call (972) 721-5809.

Celebrating the Truth concert tour to come to diocese

Catholic musicians Kurt and Julie Carrick will bring their Celebrating the Truth Summer Ground Tour to the Diocese of Fort Worth. The Carricks, of Scottsdale, Arizona, will sing Tuesday, June 16, in Weatherford at a location to be announced; Wednesday, June 17, at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 5508 Black Oak Lane in Fort Worth; and Sunday, June 21, at St. Mark Church, 2800 Pennsylvania Dr. in Denton. Each concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted.

The Carricks, married for 25 years, have been involved with

Engaged Encounter at the local and national level. They have performed on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), several Catholic radio programs, and have won numerous awards, including the 2006 Unity Award for their song, "A Couple's Rosary." The couple travels internationally, offering missions, concerts, and retreats.

For more information, visit their Web site at www.carrickministries.com or call (888)-880-6874 or e-mail to kurt@carrickministries.com.

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Marianist Father Richard Villa named Nolan Catholic president

Bishop Kevin W. Vann, and the Marianist Province of the United States announce the appointment of Father Richard Villa, SM, as president of Nolan Catholic High School, effective July 1. Fr. Villa will succeed Thomas P. Long who has served in this capacity since August 1, 2008.

"We are pleased to welcome Fr. Villa to our diocesan community," said Bishop Vann. "Not only does he bring to Nolan Catholic his presence as a priest, but a wealth of leadership experience, with strong roots in the Fort Worth area."

Fr. Villa holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Saint Mary's University, San Antonio; a Master of Science in Administration from

the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana; a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from the University of Wales, Lampeter, and Chaminade International Marianist Seminary, Pontifical Beda College in Rome.

An experienced Catholic school educator and leader, Fr. Villa spent 10 years as assistant dean at the University of Dallas; seven years at Chaminade College Preparatory School in Creve Coeur, Missouri, as an instructor and associate principal; and eight years at Nolan Catholic as an instructor and the school's first advancement director. Additionally, Fr. Villa taught at St. Michael Central High School in Chicago,

and Assumption High School in East St. Louis. He is currently associate pastor at Saint Joseph Catholic Community in Sykesville, Maryland.

Nolan Catholic's current president, Thomas P. Long, has been a vowed member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools since 1980. He began a three-year leave of absence from his religious community in 2006 to discern his vocation. In consultation with his religious superiors, he has decided to return to active religious life, and the Marist Brothers have assigned Brother Thomas to Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts, effective in September.



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State

Scotland resident ends term as state regent, passes leadership at Texas CDA convention

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) of Texas came together April 23-26, for their 46th Biennial Texas Convention at the McAllen Convention Center, with the theme "One Faith, One Body, One Lord of All."

The convention opened with Mass on the evening of April 23, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Our Lady of San Juan Del Valle. Bishop Raymundo J. Pena, of Brownsville served as main celebrant, with Father Donald Ruppert, Texas State CDA Chaplain, and other priests of the Brownsville Diocese concelebrating.

Father Eduardo Montemayor, director of evangelization for the Diocese of Corpus Christi, gave the convention's keynote address. His address, "Together We Are Strong," emphasized the two-year theme of CDA State Regent Carolyn Bachmann. In his closing remarks, Fr. Montemayor reminded each of the CDA convention delegates in attendance that they are women who are "strong, holy,

a princess, and a gift of God for one another."

The 527 delegates at this year's convention elected a slate of state officers for 2009-2011, including Sheila Martinka, state regent, from Houston; Carolyn Malik, first vice state regent, from Shiner; Peggy Rosales, second vice state regent, from Austin; Eve Trevino, state secretary, from Corpus Christi; and Minnie Rodgers, state treasurer, from Mission.

Members of the Texas State CDA Board also voted to support two more state projects for the 2009-2011 term, including support of the Covenant House located in Houston, a home for displaced youth. The board also approved a Texas Disaster Relief Fund that will help provide for the immediate needs of CDA members who suffer distress in the wake of a natural disaster.

Carolyn Bachmann, a resident of Scotland, Texas, and a lifelong parishioner at Sacred Heart Church in Wichita Falls, reflected

in her opening remarks at the convention that "Texas Catholic Daughters have proven through their works of service to others that [we] abound with love and commitment to the service of our Lord."

Bachmann also offered many of the highlights of her 2007-2009 term in the Regents' Report that she presented to convention participants, making special note of a Habitat for Humanity home, built in Wichita Falls with the help of Texas CDA members in the fall of 2007. Bachmann also traveled to Mexico during Holy Week, 2008, along with several other CDA members, to work on Habitat home building projects in remote villages south of Mexico City.

Bachmann concluded her report by telling convention delegates, "You have given of yourselves not only monetarily but also physically and emotionally to so many across the state and, indeed, across the nation and world. Many have felt your love



2007-2009 CDA Texas State Regent Carolyn Bachmann (right), a resident of Scotland, Texas, and a parishioner at Sacred Heart Church in Wichita Falls, presents her gavel to State Regent-Elect Sheila Martinka of Houston.


and the love of God through your hard work. May God bless you and may you always remember, "Together We Are Strong."

New CDA officers were installed at the conclusion of the convention weekend during a special Mass and ceremony. The 2011 State Convention will be held in Houston.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is a non-profit organization for Catholic women over the age of 18. There are currently nearly 16,000 CDA members in Texas working together at the local, regional, and

national levels of the organization. There are also 56 Junior Catholic Daughter Courts in Texas, comprised of girls ages six to 18, with more than 800 members currently enrolled. For more information about the Texas CDA, visit the Web site at <http://www.texasda.org>.

The Lady Margaret Roper program at the College of St. Thomas More helps Catholic parents in homeschooling their children. Classical learning, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday through Thursday Call 817-923-8459



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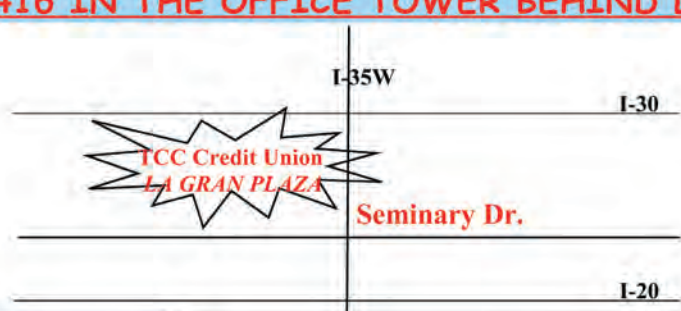

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Diocesan

Serra Club 2009 poster contest winners honored

By Nicki Prevou
Editorial Assistant

Twenty-four young winners in this year's Serra Club poster contest were honored at an awards ceremony at the diocesan Catholic Center in Fort Worth, April 19. The opportunity to participate in the annual contest is offered to students in grades one through eight in Catholic schools and parish religious education programs, and is sponsored by the Serra Club of Fort Worth in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of religious vocations.

According to Serra Club officer and contest coordinator Lynn Sowers, the theme of the 2009 contest was "The Year of St. Paul."

"We developed the theme with the help of Father Kyle Walterscheid, the director of our diocesan Vocations Office," said Sowers, noting that contest participants were given the Scripture passage of *Acts 22:6-8* — the story of Paul's conversion experience — to reflect upon as the theme of their art projects.

"A mother of one little girl called me and told me that she didn't know anything about St. Paul before her daughter was given this theme to work with [for the contest]," said Sowers. "She told me that the whole family got

interested in researching the life of this saint. That's really what this contest is all about," added Sowers. "We want to get young children and families to think about what we're all about as Christians, and how we are called to respond to God's invitation in our lives. We sponsor this contest in the hope that seeds will be planted in the formative years of these young students for serious consideration of vocations to the Church."

The first place winner for each grade level received a \$100 prize; second and third prizes of \$50 and \$10 were also awarded at each grade level, respectively. All winners received a religious pendant created by local artist Janet Rodriguez and donated by Thompson's Harveson & Cole Funeral Home in Fort Worth.

Members of the Serra Club of Fort Worth, a chapter of the International Serra Club, work together to educate and inform others within the Catholic community of their commitment to promote the ordained priesthood and religious life. For more information about the USA Council of Serra International, visit their Web site at www.serraus.org. For more information about the local chapter's annual poster contest, contact Lynn Sowers at (817) 706-8694.



Vocations Director Fr. Kyle Walterscheid poses with the first-place winners from the Serra Club's poster contest. Also pictured are Treasurer John Styrsky (far left), and President Steve Urban.



By sixth grade winner Isacc Martinez, St. George Catholic School, Fort Worth



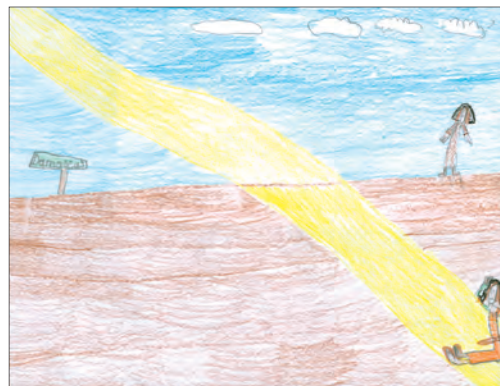
By eighth grade winner Marie Luong, St. George Catholic School, Fort Worth



By fifth grade winner Maddy Weller, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Keller



By third grade winner Marissa Nicole Dailey, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Keller



By first grade winner Ambree Anderle, St. Mary Church, Windthorst



By fourth grade winner Anthony Dinh, Vietnamese Martyrs Church, Arlington



By second grade winner Julia Newell, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Keller



By seventh grade winner Thy Hoang, St. George Catholic School, Fort Worth

is God calling you?

Join other Catholics who want to know.

The Vocation Awareness Program will be held Friday - Sunday, July 17-19 at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving. This weekend of discernment helps single Catholic men and women, ages 18-40, find answers about life as a Priest, Sister or Brother. It includes presentations, panel discussions, question and answer periods and one-on-one personal conferences with diocesan and order Priests, Sisters and Brothers. There are no fees, private rooms and meals are furnished, and no one will pressure you or seek commitment. For more information and to apply, visit vapinfo.org, or contact Fr. Kyle Walterscheid at the Fort Worth Diocese, 817-366-0439, kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org.

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Three diocesan priests prepare for silver anniversary of ordination

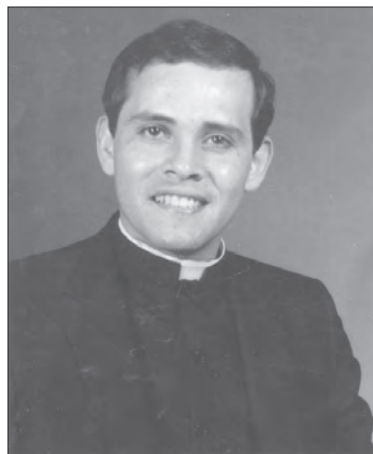
Father Richard Flores gives back to parish that formed him as a youth

Father Richard Flores, rector of Fort Worth's St. Patrick Cathedral, will celebrate his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood at the 12:30 p.m. Mass Sunday, June 7, at the cathedral, located at 1206 Throckmorton St. in downtown Fort Worth.

Fr. Flores, a native of Laredo, was ordained to the priesthood June 9, 1984, at his home parish of St. Patrick Cathedral in Fort Worth. The son of Albert and Maria Flores, Fr. Flores attended St. Peter the Apostle School in White Settlement and Brewer High School in Fort Worth. He began his studies for the priesthood at Holy Trinity Seminary

in Irving in 1976, and transferred to the North American College in Rome in 1981. Fr. Flores has served as associate pastor at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Fort Worth; St. John the Apostle Church in North Richland Hills, and St. Matthew Church in Arlington. He has also served as pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Seymour and St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Megargel. He served as pastor of St. Rita Church in Fort Worth from 1993 until he was named rector of the cathedral in 2008.

"I began discerning my vocation to the Diocese of Fort Worth as a young boy, with the idea of being a priest, but where to



do that and how, was always a question," said Fr. Flores in an interview with the *North Texas Catholic*. "I helped the priests here at the cathedral by



answering the phone and the door, on weekends. Getting to know them... helped me to see what parish life would be like. I was blessed to receive their

encouragement and their help in thinking about serving as a priest within the Diocese of Fort Worth."

Fr. Flores also called it a "blessing" to serve as rector and to be a part of the cathedral community, which "has nurtured my vocation for so long. It is also special to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the diocese in the same year, to have grown up with that new diocese being formed during my [own] years of formation."

For more information about the celebration of Fr. Flores' anniversary of ordination, contact the cathedral office at (817) 332-4915.

Father Ivor Koch answered a late vocation, made Texas his home

Father Ivor Koch, a retired priest of the Diocese of Fort Worth, will celebrate his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood Saturday, June 27 with a noon Mass at Sacred Heart Church, 1501 9th St. in Wichita Falls.

Fr. Koch, a native of Iowa, is the son of the late Fred Koch and Elsie Marie Tancer Koch. A convert to Catholicism, he served as mayor of his hometown and as a florist in his family's business before entering Sacred Heart Seminary in Hales Corners, Wisconsin, in 1979. While at the seminary, he decided to become a priest for the Diocese of Fort Worth, and spent a year as a



pastoral intern at Sacred Heart Church in Wichita Falls before his ordination at Sacred Heart Church June 16, 1984. Fr. Koch was the first priest to be ordained



at the historic church, which was established in 1891.

Fr. Koch served as parochial vicar at Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Arlington in 1984 be-

fore serving at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Arlington from 1984 to 1986. He served at St. Michael Church in Bedford in 1986 before assignments in 1987 and 1988 at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Hillsboro and then at St. Mary Church in Henrietta. While at St. Mary's he also served St. William Church in Montague, St. Jerome Church in Bowie, and St. Joseph Church in Nocona. Fr. Koch was named pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Wichita Falls in 1989; he retired from active priesthood in 2006.

"I would like to thank the Diocese of Fort Worth for permitting me to serve in my ministry for these many years," wrote

Fr. Koch. "The ministry was very rewarding. The people were very receptive and giving of themselves to the church. I worked with many fine people during my ministry in many capacities ... my years working with the dedicated women in the diocese in the National Council of Catholic Women, the hours spent with the men in the Knights of Columbus, and my time spent chatting with the youth these 25 years have been a blessing to me and continue to be as I live out my life as a priest."

For more information about Fr. Koch's anniversary celebration, contact Sacred Heart Church at (940) 723-5288.

Father Hector Medina sees Christ in people he's served as a priest

Father Hector Medina, pastor of St. Matthew Church in Arlington, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood Saturday, June 20 at St. Matthew's, located at 2021 New York Ave. in Arlington. The celebration will include a 2 p.m. Mass and reception.

Fr. Medina, the son of the late Daniel Medina, Jr., and Gloria J. Colunga Medina, was ordained June 23, 1984 by Bishop Joseph Delaney at his home parish, St. Patrick Cathedral in downtown Fort Worth. He attended Assumption Seminary in San Antonio from 1981-1984, and served as a pastoral intern in 1983 at St. Rita Church in Ranger; St. John Church in Strawn; St. Francis

Xavier Church in Eastland; and Holy Rosary Church in Cisco.

Fr. Medina's first assignment after ordination was at Immaculate Conception Church in Denton from 1984 to 1988. He served as pastor of St. John the Apostle Church in North Richland Hills from 1988 to 1990, and at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Wichita Falls from 1990 to 2006, prior to his service at St. Matthew's, beginning in August of 2006. Having received extensive preparation in canon law at the Catholic University of America in Washington, Fr. Medina serves on the diocesan Marriage Tribunal as an instructor to tribunal staff and volunteers. An acclaimed homilist, public speaker,



and musician, Fr. Medina has received national recognition for his liturgical music in both Spanish and English.

In reflecting on his 25th anniversary of ordination, Fr.



Medina recalls that his heart "journeyed toward the Lord" when, as a junior high school student, he "fell in love with Jesus Christ."

"I knew I wanted to serve Him

as a priest, but 25 years later I have come to understand that priesthood is as He desires," wrote Fr. Medina. "He gently has broken all of my preconceptions as He has led me through valleys of darkness to mountains overlooking the cities. He has taught me his passion, death, and resurrection in the lives of parishioners who have come before me. In the midst of chaos, whether personal or parochial, He has kissed my face, healed my soul, and let a tongue of fire rest on my head. I am his."

For more information about the anniversary celebration scheduled for June 20, contact St. Matthew Church at (817) 860-0130.

Viewpoints

The Eucharist is rooted in Scripture and brings us to the foot of the cross

By Lucas Pollice

On June 14, we will celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi during which we commemorate the great gift of the Eucharist that stands at the heart of the life and mission of the Church. This feast is the time to not only celebrate this gift of Christ, but to also ponder its meaning and richness, not only in the life of the Church, but in our own daily lives as Catholics as well.

THE BREAD OF LIFE DISCOURSE

Let's begin with the words and teachings of Christ Himself regarding the Eucharist by turning to the Scriptures. We will first turn to John 6, which is Jesus' long and elaborate teaching on this subject. In fact, Jesus teaches his disciples more clearly and more elaborately on the Eucharist than any other doctrine in Christianity.

Let's examine closely what Jesus teaches us in this Bread of Life Discourse (John 6:22-71). First, He takes us back to the Old Testament, to the Book of Exodus where the Israelites are journeying through the desert. Remember, they had been freed from slavery to the Egyptians and were journeying toward the Promised Land. Now when they became hungry they grumbled against Moses, so God promised to send them bread from heaven. The next morning, when they awoke, there was bread called manna scattered all over the ground for them to eat and be nourished on their journey toward the Promised Land. God did this for his people all throughout their pilgrimage. Now Jesus says, "Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died." His Father had sent bread that came from heaven, yet in the end the people still perished. But Jesus promises to send bread from heaven so that they can eat and not die.

Now take a moment and count how many times Jesus says that *He* is the bread that comes down from heaven or that *He* is the bread of life. He says it 12 times throughout the passage. Twelve

Thus, every Catholic Mass is both a memorial of Christ's life, death, and Resurrection, but is also a participation in the very same sacrifice that Christ made on the cross. It is not a re-crucifixion of Christ, but the same sacrifice miraculously made present again for the atonement of our sins. At the Mass, we are in all actuality at the foot of the cross, adoring, asking forgiveness, and offering ourselves to Christ who loved us even unto death, death on a cross.

times Jesus says it! He is being emphatic about this reality. It is He who will become this bread of life that will give eternal life.

But then He takes it a radical step further. He then says that this bread is "my flesh for the life of the world" and that "whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will have eternal life and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink." In fact, four different times in this passage alone, Jesus commands us to eat his flesh and drink his blood in order to have eternal life! He even invites us to literally "feed on me."

This is very clear and very graphic language used by Jesus in John's Gospel. Jesus is teaching us very clearly and very passionately that He is the new manna, the new bread that comes down from heaven. He commands us to eat his flesh and blood, and that having eternal life is conditional upon eating his flesh and drinking his blood. For unlike the Israelites who ate the manna and died, those of us who partake of the Body and Blood of Jesus will not die and will have eternal life.

Jesus even knew that many did not believe and that as a result of this teaching would ultimately betray him. In fact, after this teaching on the Eucharist, many of Jesus' disciples left Him and no longer followed Him. Do you see Jesus chasing after them saying, "No, stop, I really didn't mean that?" No, because what He taught is the truth! "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:64). No excuses, no further explanation. Instead He turns to the Twelve and says, "Do you also want to leave?" It is Peter who again leads the apostles in the truth and responds, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Jesus wasn't kidding. Jesus wasn't teaching symbolically. And what He was teaching was so important and was so true that He risked everything: his whole mission, his whole reputation, all of his disciples and apostles, and ultimately his life. That is how important and true the Eucharist was to Jesus, and that is why it is always at the heart of

his Body, the Church.

THE LAST SUPPER

Of course, another passage in which we see Jesus speaking explicitly about the Eucharist came during the Last Supper on the night before He embraced the cross. The Last Supper was the celebration of the Jewish Passover meal in which all of Israel was celebrating and commemorating their deliverance from Egypt. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches us about the Eucharist, but it is during the Last Supper in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, that Jesus gives us the eucharistic sacrifice of his Body and Blood.

First, Jesus does not say that "this is a symbol of my body," or "this is like a cup of my blood," but rather He said, "this *is* my body" and "this *is* my blood." Taking this, in addition to what we have already seen in John 6, it is very clear that the bread and the wine literally and actually become the Body and Blood of Christ.

Now, if it is the Body and Blood of Jesus, why do Catholics believe that it is Christ *totally* present? We believe this because Jesus said in John 6 that *He* is the Bread of Life — it is his whole person and divinity, which is given to us for the life of the world. Another important aspect of the Last Supper is Jesus' command, "Do this in memory of me." He is commanding his apostles to continue and repeat the actions of the Last Supper. Just as the Jewish Passover is the commemoration of the Israelite deliverance from slavery in Egypt, the eucharistic sacrifice is to become the constant memorial or commemoration of Jesus' new and eternal sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. With this command, Jesus gave the apostles the authority and power to change bread and wine into Himself, so that He could be continuously present to his people, and that his same sacrifice on the cross could be constantly represented and made efficacious until the end of time.

Thus, every Catholic Mass is both a memorial of Christ's life, death, and

Resurrection, but is also a participation in the very same sacrifice that Christ made on the cross. It is not a re-crucifixion of Christ, but the same sacrifice miraculously made present again for the atonement of our sins. At the Mass, we are in all actuality at the foot of the cross, adoring, asking forgiveness, and offering ourselves to Christ who loved us even unto death, death on a cross. This was Christ's command to his Church and the Church has faithfully followed this command unceasingly for nearly 2,000 years.

In addition, at the Last Supper, Jesus associates the cup of his blood with the New Covenant. In fact, eating the Body and drinking the Blood of Christ is the most important and efficacious way in which we fulfill and participate in the New Covenant which God has made with man. Partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ is at the absolute heart and center of the New and Everlasting Covenant! Christ's Church humbly remains faithful to this at the celebration of every Mass and honors Christ by centering all of its liturgical and sacramental life around this great mystery.

THE FRUITS OF THE EUCHARIST

Finally, the Eucharist, by its very nature, heals, prepares, and strengthens us for evangelization and service. In fact, the entire goal and purpose of the Mass is so that we can come and be fed and transformed; so that we can then be sent out into the world to be Christ's instruments, especially to those who are most in need, vulnerable, alone, and desiring God's love and mercy. In fact, the word, Mass, comes from the Latin word *missio*, which means, "to be sent." Through the Eucharist we are intimately united with Christ our Savior, and we are then called by Him to continue his mission of building the Kingdom of God. We are his hands, his voice, and his instruments in a world that is crying out for the message of the Gospel. The Eucharist is truly the source of our mission of evangelization and service and our intimate communion as the mystical Body of Christ, the Church.



Lucas Pollice is director of Catechesis and Adult Faith Formation and RCIA for the diocese. Lucas holds a degree in theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville and has a master's degree in theological studies from the Institute for Pastoral Theology of Ave Maria University. He is an adjunct professor of theology with the Cardinal Newman Institute in Fort Worth. Lucas and his wife, Mary, have five children, Cecilia, Nicholas, Timothy, Christian, and Julia.

The little people on death row

By Tom Grenchik

Americans have until May 26 to intervene in the death sentences of countless members of our human family. Unless we speak up, some of our youngest sisters and brothers may now be destroyed because their parts are valued more than their very lives.

Stem cells are biological building blocks that can be manipulated to replace many other types of cells, in the hope of repairing the human body and curing disease. Stem cells can be taken from adult tissues and from newborn babies' umbilical cord blood without any harm to the donor, and without any moral dilemma. These are loosely called "adult stem cells." But stem cells can also be immorally harvested from a human embryo, destroying the unconsenting "donor." These are called "embryonic stem cells."

Adult stem cells have been used to regenerate areas of damaged organs, restore eyesight, repair heart damage, and treat rare blood disorders. Embryonic stem cell treatments, on the other hand, have chiefly resulted in growing tumors and killing laboratory rats.

Following President Obama's March 9 executive order, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has proposed new guidelines for federally funded embryonic stem cell research. The guidelines would — for the first time — use taxpayer funds to encourage the killing of embryonic human beings for their stem cells. This is morally wrong. Even if an embryo may be at risk of being abandoned by his or her parents in a fertility clinic, that does not give researchers or the government a right to kill that human being — much less a

Some in Congress and the administration want an even broader policy. They want to obtain stem cells by destroying human embryos specially generated for research through in vitro fertilization (IVF) or cloning procedures, a "create to kill" policy. While the president's executive order gave the NIH the leeway to push to that extreme, so far these initial guidelines have not done so.

right to make the rest of us subsidize that destructive agenda.

These guidelines mark a new chapter in divorcing biomedical research from its necessary ethical foundation, respect for human life at all stages.

Some in Congress and the administration want an even broader policy. They want to obtain stem cells by destroying human embryos specially generated for research through in vitro fertilization (IVF) or cloning procedures, a "create to kill" policy. While the president's executive order gave the NIH the leeway to push to that extreme, so far these initial guidelines have not done so.

Patients suffering from devastating illnesses deserve our compassion and our committed response, but not at the cost of innocent life. The Church supports ethical stem cell research and treatments that do no harm and respect the inherent dignity of persons, such as the morally acceptable medical advances that are already benefiting patients with dozens of conditions in clinical trials.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has launched a new "Oppose Destructive Stem Cell Re-

search" campaign, equipping citizens to contact Congress and the National Institutes of Health to oppose embryonic stem cell research and support ethical and effective cures and treatments. The campaign homepage, www.usccb.org/stemcellcampaign, explains why the proposed NIH guidelines are unacceptable, provides links to USCCB resources, and helps web users to "Contact Congress & NIH Now" by e-mail.

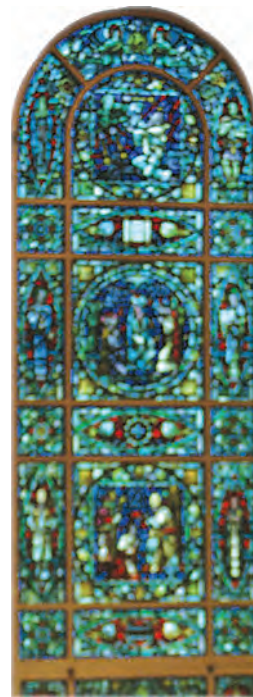
But time is running short for our embryonic sisters and brothers. If we don't speak up, after May 26 their fate lies in the hands of researchers and ideologues who may see them merely sources of body parts, as commodities for our use. Please go to www.usccb.org/stemcellcampaign right now.



Tom Grenchik is Executive Director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Go to www.usccb.org/pro-life

life to learn more about the bishops' pro-life activities.

(Stained-glass window of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Baltimore (CNS file photo))



Being at St. Mary's was like being at home in God's house, belonging there, just as much as the

Stained Glass Windows

By Kathy Cribari Hamer

When I learned St. Mary of the Assumption Parish was refurbishing its stained glass windows, I thought of three individuals: St. Therese, Monsignor Joseph Warnat, and Mickey Mouse.

Mickey was the first thing I ever learned how to draw. Msgr. Warnat was the person who taught me how to draw Mickey. St. Therese was patron saint of the Diocese of Pueblo, Colorado, where I grew up, and also patroness of our school, the Shrine of St. Therese.

The fact that Monsignor was a pastor who also taught art was already counterintuitive. But in addition to the coupling of those two vocations, he hosted a television show called "Father Warnat's Art Class."

The attractive part of that for us, as third graders, was that he featured students, so we all got our turns on the show, where our sketches were broadcast, side-by-side with his, on small-screened, black and white, low-def, Pueblo TV.

My dad was never prouder of his "television set" than the day I was on it. Except maybe that one day when he came home with a sheet of tri-colored see-through plastic that adhered to the TV screen and made the top blue, the middle pink and the bottom green.

"Look! We have color television!" said the man who could have been prouder only if he had also surprised us by coming home that day with a brand new Edsel.

My father, a tailor, and Msgr. Warnat, a pastor, had some things in common. Daddy, whose name, in my mind looks like this: JOE CRIBARI, sewed all of the diocesan priests' suits, and both he and his friend Joe Warnat fancied themselves part-time architects. My father designed and built the Pueblo Medical Center, which housed the office of his brother George, the surgeon.

Magr. Warnat designed the Shrine of St. Therese, which housed, well, everything of importance, including my dad's brother George, and our brother, Jesus.

Originally in that church there were ordinary opaque windows — placeholders for the future. When the parish, which was made necessary by the post-war baby boom, had grown and gained fiscal stability, then we would acquire real church windows, complete with stained glass.

By the time I reached junior high, we got them. Almost. The windows were about seven feet high and about four feet wide, and Msgr. Warnat, the artist, had decided to make them himself.

So he created 12 contemporary-styled windows whose

SEE HAMER, P. 22

UTA Catholic Community grows ministry, encourages others in

Love of Life

By Tony Gutierrez
Associate Editor

Gathered in Artspace 111, a gallery near downtown Fort Worth, students from the University of Texas at Arlington's University Catholic Community welcome visitors to the art show competition they sponsored: *Amor Vitae*, or "Love of Life."

The art show is one of many activities members of the UCC are initiating to reach goals its pastoral council set since their campus ministry director, Lisa Campbell, began in spring 2008.

Campbell said when she started working, she began organizing the pastoral council in a way to help support her in programming and to involve students in the decision-making process.

"We had this student pastoral council, but they weren't doing a whole lot. Their constitution was 20 years old and hadn't been updated, and we weren't empowering the students to take a leadership role,"



(From left to right) Lisa Campbell, Shannon Bates, Kyle Nesrsta, and Nathan Hermes, relax in the University Catholic Center after working in the cold. (Photo courtesy UTA Catholic Community)



ABOVE: Lisa Campbell, director of campus ministry for the UCC, stands (third from left) with members of the UCC pastoral council at the Saturday, April 25 reception for the *Amor Vitae* art show. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)



ABOVE: UCC member and UTA graduate student Josie Fitzgibbons views a winning entry with UTA alumnus Lister Pinto, who was part of the community as a student. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)

she said.

"I was really adamant about recruiting heavily in the freshman class. If we hit the freshmen every summer, it would pay off in four years," Campbell said, adding that the UCC hosted open houses for freshmen and parents, and for faculty and staff members to help build relationships with the UTA community.

The pastoral council came up with a list of five goals: to do more pro-life activities and interfaith activities; make the UCC's building the center of all the community's events; double the numbers of people regularly participating by the end of the academic year; and increase formation in apologetics.

"We've doubled from when I got here," Campbell said, noting that the average Mass attendance was between 10 and 15, and now it is closer to 30.

"I'm big on setting goals that are up there. I'm not going to underestimate."

In keeping with the pastoral council's goals, the UCC has also begun a "Reflections" program for adult catechesis that includes Bible studies and outside speakers on various topics of faith.

The community has an ongoing relationship with Mission Arlington. Students volunteer there as a group twice a month throughout the academic year. Campbell says they benefit from an activity "when they could see an impact." The UCC also provides a lunch for its members every week after the Wednesday Mass. The meals are provided on a rotational basis by two local Knights of Columbus councils, the Serra Club, and the community.

Senior Kevin Quinn, who serves as the pastoral council's social and sports chair, said he

first came to the UCC by attending the Wednesday Mass.

"I slowly got to know the people here, and I got voted onto the council," Quinn said. "All the friends I made in college, I made here. It gives me a place to study and sleep in between classes. When I first came here, I was bored with no friends, so coming here gave me something to do."

Quinn says that as a member of the pastoral council he has to serve at Mass in some capacity.

"Everyone on the council is supposed to make this place welcoming. We try to make this a nice place to come. It gives you a sense of community."

As the academic year drew to an end, the pastoral council organized the *Amor Vitae* art competition as a way to meet two of its goals — to have interfaith and pro-life activities. The contest was open to any high school or college students of any religious affiliation.

"I've been doing a lot of pro-life work in the fall and spring," said junior photography major Matt Redden, a member of the pastoral council, "I started thinking as a way to get the Catholic Center out there, we should have an art show, so then why not make it pro-life?"

Redden said he searched for an art gallery that would host the show, formed a committee to draft an application, and advertised the event by contacting art professors and students from other campus ministries in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

The competition was separated into two categories: high school and college. First-place winners received \$100 and those who placed second received \$50. Artists were allowed to submit up to three entries for \$5 each. Redden said 11 artists submitted 19 entries.

"We're very blessed with the entries we did have," Redden said. "We filled up one third of the gallery."

The community plans to continue the art show in the future. Campbell said the art show generated over \$250 for Mother and Unborn Baby Care of North Texas.

As her first full academic year at the UCC ends, Campbell states that "What it has shown me is this ministry can be a lot of things to a lot of people."



Alexandria Alkire, who achieved first place in the college age category of the art show, poses with her winning entry. The words "They told me it was for my own good," written in a highlighter, are meant to appear like blood under a black light. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)



UCC member Shannon Bates (center), works with other Catholic college students from UTA at Mission Arlington in November, preparing Thanksgiving food baskets. (Photo courtesy UTA Catholic Community)

Vigil allows Notre Dame graduates to air concern about Obama's visit to give commencement address, receive honorary degree

By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — They wore mortar boards and gowns, but they weren't standing with the vast majority of their fellow graduates on another part of campus.

About 30 University of Notre Dame students opted to bypass the school's traditional graduation ceremony in the Joyce Center May 17. Instead they joined several hundred people in an outdoor campus setting to offer prayers for the unborn and supporters of legal abortion during a vigil organized by a student-led group as an alternative event.

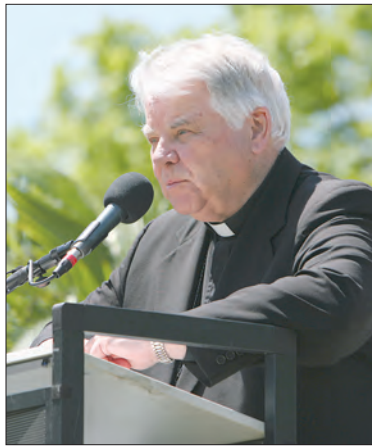
The dissenting graduates said they disagreed with the school's decision to invite President Barack Obama, a supporter of legal abortion, to speak at the commencement and present him with an honorary degree.

During the afternoon vigil, convened at the same 2 o'clock hour that the traditional ceremony began across campus, the graduates placed white roses at a statue of Mary in an area known as the Grotto after praying the rosary, organizers said.

The roses symbolized unborn children who died during an abortion, said Tyson Marx, 28, a law student who helped organize the events as a member of Notre Dame Response, a coalition that was formed soon after the school announced Obama would speak at the commencement.

"There was this real sense that we were doing something good," he said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service May 18. "We were trying to be positive rather than negative."

He explained that the coalition was organized to stress the importance of authentic Catholic teaching on a Catholic campus.



Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Ind., speaks to members of the Notre Dame Response coalition on the university's south quad May 17. (CNS photo/Tim Hunt, Northwest Indiana Catholic)

The events, which began late May 16, involved traditional Catholic prayer, including overnight eucharistic adoration, Benediction, Mass, and the rosary. A rally was sandwiched between the morning Mass and the afternoon vigil.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, one of more than 50 bishops who voiced their disapproval of Obama's appearance on campus, spoke during the noontime rally to a crowd which two organizers estimated at about 3,000.

The gathering included students, Notre Dame alumni, and pro-life activists from as far away as Louisiana and California, organizers said.

Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, led the graduates in a reflection on the glorious mysteries during the vigil. The third glorious mystery, the Pentecost, can serve as a reminder that the Holy Spirit



Holy Cross Father Kevin Rousseau, director of Old College undergraduate seminary at the University of Notre Dame, celebrates Mass on the university's south quad in Notre Dame, Ind., May 17. The Mass was part of a demonstration against President Barack Obama as the school's commencement speaker and the recipient of an honorary law degree. (CNS photo/Scott M. Bort)

provides the grace to lead people to advocate for the most vulnerable, particularly the unborn, he said he told the gathering.

"The Holy Spirit makes us take risks. It's not only preaching but doing, laying down our safety and popularity," he told CNS May 18.

He criticized Notre Dame officials for failing to take the risk to "lay down earthly prestige for the sacredness of life."

During the interview with CNS, Father Pavone also commended the students for their stance.

"They (students) were pure in their intention," he said. "They were so completely willing to witness. They were not bitter. They were like, 'This is what commencement is about. We're starting our life in witness to the community of life.'"



Graduating students who chose not to attend their graduation toss their caps during a vigil for life in the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Ind., May 17 as part of a demonstration against President Barack Obama as the school's commencement speaker and the recipient of an honorary law degree. (CNS photo/Scott M. Bort)

Communications department announces re-design of Web, NTC to go to all

In an interview about changes coming this summer in the Communications Office of the diocese, Director of Communications Pat Svacina, on behalf of Bishop Kevin Vann, announced two major increases in the quality and reach of the diocese's efforts to be in touch with the people of the diocese and the area.

The diocese's already excellent and informative Web site, www.fwdioc.org, is being redesigned to increase its appeal and add functionality, and the *North Texas*

Catholic will be sent to all registered parishioners in the diocese, beginning with the July 31 issue. The tripled circulation, jumping from 25,000 to more than 75,000 will come just in time to herald the opening of the 40th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Diocese of Fort Worth. The opening event of the year, with its focus on the ministries of the local church, will be a special 40th anniversary Mass and reception, Sunday, August 9 at the Fort Worth Convention Center in

downtown Fort Worth.

"The Fort Worth Diocese has been committed to communication since its beginnings," Svacina said. "The excellence of the *North Texas Catholic* is evidence of that."

"Here in the 21st century, Bishop Vann realizes that there is more to communication than print," he said. "There are different methods to communicate not only with our people in the 28 counties of the diocese, but with the whole community in which we live."

Svacina went on to say that

because of the NTC's outstanding quality, the bishop has expanded its circulation to include all homes in the diocese.

"And because people now receive their news and information from many sources, we are upgrading the Web site, set to roll out this summer."

Svacina continued, saying that embracing changes in communication technology is nothing new for the Catholic Church. "The first product to come off of the Gutenberg press was a Bible. The Diocese

of Fort Worth," he said, "simply continues in that tradition."

According to Svacina, a recent image study done on behalf of the local church indicated that the people of the diocese are well informed here, and that those who have gotten the diocesan newspaper and been to the diocesan Web site are aware of the challenges presented by explosive growth of the Catholic population inside the diocese's borders and of the needs for ministry that growth has generated.

NATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

Catholic institutions urged to work 'in solidarity' with bishops

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl said Catholic institutions must work "in solidarity with the bishops," who are responsible for "preserving the unity of the church, and providing leadership." His reflection on the link between bishops and Catholic institutions appeared in a column in the May 14 issue of the *Catholic Standard*, Washington's archdiocesan newspaper. Although he did not specifically name the University of Notre Dame and the controversy over its decision to have President Barack Obama deliver the address at the Indiana school's May 17 commencement, the archbishop noted that "every now and then a news item surfaces about a decision by a Catholic institution that may seem at odds with its Catholic identity." He wrote, "Discussion that follows provides an opportunity to arrive at a better understanding of the unity of the Catholic Church and how institutions relate to the broader church community." More than 50 U.S. bishops have criticized Notre Dame, which also planned to give the president an honorary degree, because Obama supports legal abortion and embryonic stem-cell research.

Church, government have long history of collaboration serving public

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a letter responding to the concerns of Ursuline Sister Marie Therese Farjon about whether the government would interfere with the work her nuns had been doing among the poor in New Orleans, the U.S. president assured her the order could count on "all the protection which my office can give it." "The principles of the Constitution and the government of the United States are a sure guarantee ... that your institution will be permitted to govern itself according to its own voluntary rules, without interference from the civil authority," he wrote in a May 15 letter. The year was 1804; the president, Thomas Jefferson. That early affirmation that the U.S. government would not interfere in the way a religious institution operates takes on a new meaning these days. While the Obama administration revamps the program of outreach to faith-based and neighborhood organizations, societal changes including the increased acceptance of same-sex marriage are leading church-based agencies to push for conscience clauses that protect faith-based institutions and their employees from requirements that conflict with religious teachings. At a May 6 meeting of diocesan directors of Catholic Charities agencies outside Washington, several directors voiced worries about potential conflicts as more states legalize same-sex marriage, for instance. "That could affect our role in providing adoptions and foster care," said one diocesan director.

Senators urged to keep voucher program that helps low-income families

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The District of Columbia's public schools "didn't get bad overnight, and they are not going to get better overnight," a student from a Washington Catholic high school said May 13, urging Congress to continue funding a program that helps low-income families send their children to local private schools. Ronald Holassie, a sophomore at Archbishop Carroll High School, was one of two students who testified at a Senate hearing about the importance of the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program, now in jeopardy since Congress voted to cut funding in March. On May 6, President Barack Obama proposed more funding for students who are already in the scholarship program, but not for new students. The program gives annual scholarships of up to \$7,500 to low-income families that allows them to choose a private school for their children. Until the district's public schools improve, students need Opportunity Scholarships, said Holassie, himself a scholarship recipient and the district's deputy youth mayor for legislative affairs.



Pro-life supporters carry a banner in the annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 22. A new Gallup Poll, conducted May 7-10, finds more than half of Americans call themselves pro-life on the issue of abortion. This is the first time a majority of U.S. adults have identified themselves as pro-life since Gallup began asking this question in 1995. (CNS photo/Leslie E. Kossoff)

Polls find more Americans call themselves 'pro-life' than 'pro-choice'

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Less than four months into President Barack Obama's term, opinion polls are finding that Americans are taking a dramatic turn toward greater opposition to abortion.

A poll conducted May 7-10 as part of the annual Gallup Values and Beliefs survey found that a majority of Americans (51 percent) described themselves as "pro-life" with respect to the abortion issue, while only 42 percent said they were "pro-choice." The results were made public May 15.

It marked the first time since Gallup began asking the question in 1995 that more respondents said they were pro-life than pro-choice, and was a shift of 7-8 percentage points from a year earlier, when 50 percent said they were pro-choice and 44 percent said they were pro-life.

Obama is a strong supporter of keeping abortion legal. Some groups that promote abortion have said his November 2008 election was a mandate to expand access to and federal funding of abortion.

A separate Gallup Poll Daily survey conducted May 12-13 found that 50 percent of Americans described themselves as pro-life and 43 percent as pro-choice.

The results were similar to another national survey made public April 30 by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, which found that the

number of Americans who said abortion should be legal in all or most cases had declined to 46 percent in April 2009 from 54 percent in August 2008.

Forty-four percent of respondents in the Pew poll said abortion should be illegal in most (28 percent) or all cases (16 percent), up from 41 percent in August 2008.

The margin of error for each of the three polls was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The Gallup Values and Beliefs survey found the strongest pro-life views among those who said they were Republican or independents leaning toward the Republican Party, those who described themselves as conservative and those who said they were Christians.

Fifty-two percent of the Catholic respondents and 59 percent of Protestants or members of other Christian religions described themselves as pro-life in the 2009 poll, compared to 45 percent of Catholics and 51 percent of Protestants in May 2008.

Seventy percent of Republicans or those leaning Republican said they were pro-life, compared to 60 percent in 2008; the percentage who said they were pro-choice in that group dropped from 36 percent in 2008 to 26 percent this year.

Among Democrats and independents who leaned toward the Democratic Party, the position on abortion remained virtually unchanged, with 61 percent saying they were pro-choice and 33 percent pro-life in 2009, compared

to 60 percent pro-choice and 33 percent pro-life last year.

"With the first pro-choice president in eight years already making changes to the nation's policies on funding abortion overseas, expressing his support for the Freedom of Choice Act and moving toward rescinding federal job protections for medical workers who refuse to participate in abortion procedures, Americans — and, in particular, Republicans — seem to be taking a step back from the pro-choice position," said a Gallup commentary on the results.

"It is possible that, through his abortion policies, Obama has pushed the public's understanding of what it means to be 'pro-choice' slightly to the left, politically," it added. "While Democrats may support that, as they generally support everything Obama is doing as president, it may be driving others in the opposite direction."

When Gallup first began conducting the Values and Beliefs survey in 1995, 56 percent of Americans described themselves as pro-choice and only 33 percent said they were pro-life. Since then, the highest percentage to identify themselves as pro-life was 46 percent, in both August 2001 and May 2002.

In surveys conducted by Pew Research, support for keeping abortion legal in all or most cases ranged in 2008 from 57 percent in mid-October to 53 percent in late October but dropped to 46 percent in April 2009.

Pope seeks reconciliation in Holy Land

FROM PAGE 1

of "well-formed and committed Christians" who can help shape the life of society.

The 82-year-old pontiff left Israel for Rome later in the day. At a Tel Aviv departure ceremony he declared himself a friend of both Israelis and Palestinians and urged them to "break the vicious circle of violence."

"No friend can fail to weep at the suffering and loss of life that both peoples have endured over the last six decades. Allow me to make this appeal to all the people of these lands: No more bloodshed! No more fighting! No more terrorism! No more war!" he said.

The pope repeated his call for an independent Palestinian state and security for Israel, adding that the "two-state solution" should become a reality and not just remain a dream.

The pope's pilgrimage began May 8 in Jordan, where he visited the place of Christ's baptism in the Jordan River, and later took him to Jerusalem; Bethlehem, West Bank; and the northern Israeli city of Nazareth.

Arriving in Israel May 11, he condemned anti-Semitism and honored the memory of the 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, praying that "humanity will never again witness a crime of such magnitude."

In a visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, Pope Benedict met with six Holocaust survivors and prayed silently before the eternal flame in the Hall of Remembrance. He said the suffering of Jews under the Nazi extermination campaign must "never be denied, belittled, or forgotten."

That evening, the pope told a group of interreligious dialogue experts that, in a world that has in some ways become "deaf to the divine," religions must give

common witness to God's rightful place in the world. The event was marred by a Muslim sheik's denunciation of Israeli policies, which prompted some Jewish representatives to walk out.

On May 12, the pope celebrated an open-air Mass in Jerusalem, prayed at the Western Wall, and visited one of Islam's most sacred shrines. The events underscored his message that Jerusalem, a meeting ground for Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, must again become a city of peace.

At the Dome of the Rock, sacred to Muslims as the place from which Mohammed ascended to heaven, he told Islamic leaders that Christians, Muslims, and Jews have a "grave responsibility" to expand dialogue and mend divisions.

He then went to the Western Wall, a site sacred to Jews as the remains of the Second Temple, and placed a written prayer in a crevice between the massive stones. It asked God to "hear the cry of the afflicted" and "send your peace upon this Holy Land."

In the evening, the pope celebrated Mass for several thousand people in the Josafat Valley beneath the Mount of Olives and called for Jerusalem to regain its vocation as a "promise of that universal reconciliation and peace" against the "despair, frustration, and cynicism" that afflict the city today.

Visiting the West Bank city of Bethlehem May 13, Pope Benedict reiterated support for Palestinian statehood and urged young people to reject acts of violence and terrorism.

He celebrated Mass in the city of Christ's birth and encouraged Christians to be a "bridge of dialogue" and help build "a culture of peace to replace the present stalemate of fear, aggression, and frustration."

To reach Bethlehem, the pope crossed the border from Israel through a gate in the most striking feature on the landscape: Israel's 26-foot-tall concrete security wall. Speaking at the Aida Refugee Camp later in the day, he said it was "tragic" to see new walls being erected, and he later called the wall one of the "saddest sights" on his pilgrimage.

In Nazareth, where Jesus grew up, the pope celebrated Mass for 40,000 people and appealed for the strengthening of family bonds in the region and the world.

Later, he met with Christian and non-Christian religious leaders of Galilee and emphasized the need to ease tensions over places of worship. Then he held hands in prayer with other participants as a specially composed psalm of peace was sung in Arabic, Hebrew and English.

Before leaving Nazareth, the pope led a prayer service for Catholics in the Basilica of the Annunciation. He said that, with the appearance of the angel to Mary announcing that she would bear Jesus, God entered into human history and changed the world.

The pope began his eight-day trip May 8 in Jordan, where he walked a pilgrim's path, energizing its minority Christian population and building bridges to the moderate Muslim world. Arriving at Amman's airport, he expressed his "deep respect" for the Muslim community. It was Pope Benedict's first trip to an Arab country.

The pope paid tribute to interfaith dialogues launched by Jordanian leaders, saying they have advanced an "alliance of civilizations between the West and the Muslim world, confounding the predictions of those who consider violence and conflict inevitable."

The following day, the pope



Pope Benedict XVI rekindles the eternal flame at Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem May 11. The flame commemorates the six million Jews killed by the Nazis in the Holocaust. Speaking at the memorial, the pope said the suffering of Jews under the Nazi extermination campaign must "never be denied, belittled or forgotten." (CNS photo/Ronen Zvulun, Reuters)

visited the King Hussein Mosque in Amman, pausing briefly in what the Vatican called "respectful meditation" in a Muslim place of prayer.

In a speech afterward to Muslim academics and religious leaders, the pope warned of the "ideological manipulation of religion" that can act as a catalyst for tensions and violence in contemporary societies.

The pope also traveled that day to Mount Nebo, the place where Moses glimpsed the Promised Land before dying, and blessed the foundation of Jordan's first Catholic university in the biblical

city of Madaba.

Celebrating Mass May 10 in an Amman soccer stadium for some 25,000 people, the pope said Christians in the Holy Land have a special vocation to engage in dialogue and build new bridges to other religions and cultures, and to "counter ways of thinking which justify taking innocent lives."

Later in the day the pope made his way to the Jordan River, where archaeologists believe they have identified the site of Jesus' baptism by St. John the Baptist. He blessed the foundation stones of two Catholic churches to be built at the location.

Pope offers support to Holy Land Christians, encourages unity

JERUSALEM (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI encouraged the "little flock" of Christians in the Holy Land to persevere as a vital presence in society and a witness to unity in the troubled region.

The pope met with the bishops of the Holy Land May 12 in the chapel of the Cenacle, which tradition says is the "upper room" of Jesus' Last Supper and the place where the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles at Pentecost.

He sought to bring energy and hope to a flock that has decreased drastically. Over the last 40 years, the Christian population in the Holy Land has gone from about

20 percent of the population to about 2 percent.

In a speech, the pope said one key element for the church's future is an effort to build unity among its various branches.

The Christian presence in the Holy Land, he said, is of "vital importance for the good of society as a whole." The church, though small in numbers, can act as a leaven in society, transforming hearts and shaping actions, and promoting a "climate of peace in diversity."

The pope said the church must avoid the temptation to "turn in upon ourselves in selfishness or

indolence, isolation, prejudice, or fear." It should carry out its mission in the Holy Land with frankness and courage, he said.

The pope commended the bishops for setting up assistance programs for local Catholics, and told them they could also count on his support. The Holy See coordinates funding for hundreds of projects and programs for the people in the region.

Pope Benedict cited Jesus' words in St. Luke's Gospel: "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."



Pope Benedict XVI attends a meeting with bishops of the Holy Land in the Chapel of the Cenacle on Mount Zion just outside the walls of Jerusalem's Old City May 12. Tradition holds that this room is the "upper room" of the Last Supper and the place where the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles at Pentecost. Picture released by the Israeli Government Press Office. (CNS photo/Amos Ben Gershom, Government Press Office/Reuters)



May 31, Pentecost Sunday.
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Acts 2:1-11
Psalm) 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34
- 2) 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
Gospel) John 20:19-23

By Jeff Hensley

The range of ethnicities, shades of skin color and even languages spoken in our Catholic churches today remind us of the Scripture from Acts in which those gathered in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost heard the Gospel proclaimed to them in their various languages by the Apostles. They were amazed that these unlettered Galilean followers of Jesus were able to speak in their diverse languages. But God had sent his Holy Spirit to unify those who had been formed by Jesus on earth.

In the Gospel, Jesus links this empowerment to the Holy Spirit when, following his resurrection, he comes into the disciples' midst, even though the doors are locked, breathes the Holy Spirit on them, and says, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

The Gospel of Jesus' cross, resurrection and

promise of a new way of life would come to those who were able to say "Jesus is Lord." And, as Paul says in the Acts reading, they could do so only by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul credits the unity that was part of the promise of Pentecost to the work of the Spirit in bringing together the diversity of gifts and forms of service as "workings of the same God."

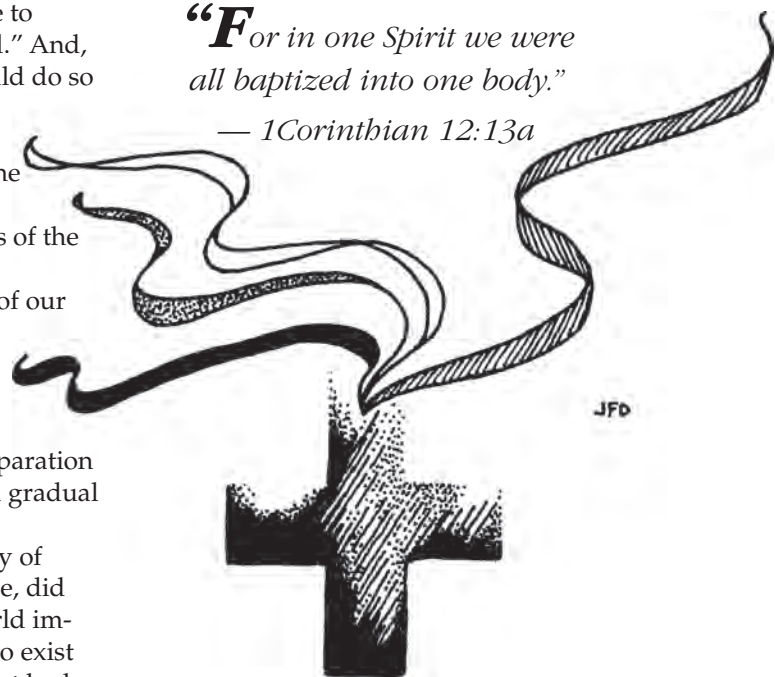
Fifty years ago, a glance around most of our churches would not have given the same impression of unity among the peoples of our society. Even though the Catholic Church was a leader among our nation's institutions in breaking down walls of separation between ethnic groups, it was a slow and gradual process.

The spread of Christianity after the day of Pentecost, for all of its power and promise, did not establish Christianity around the world immediately. Walls and barriers continued to exist between groups of Christians, barriers that had to be dealt with on a practical, day-to-day level, as documented elsewhere in the book of Acts.

As we pray for continued outpouring of the Spirit, continued breathing of the Spirit of Jesus on his church, we should pray for a continued empowerment to proclaim the Gospel and the wisdom to continue to increase unity in the body

"For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body."

— 1 Corinthians 12:13a



of Christ. As happened in the early church, we will increase that unity by recognizing the various gifts and forms of service brought by the many nations who join together to worship and serve under the same church roofs — our church roofs.

QUESTIONS:

Does your parish consist of more than one ethnic group? How can you and your church community move toward a greater unity within the body of Christ?

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Pope highlights God's role in history in meeting with religious leaders

NAZARETH, Israel (CNS) — Meeting with Catholic and other religious leaders in Nazareth, Pope Benedict XVI returned to a running theme of his Holy Land pilgrimage: that God intervenes in human history, offering people a real reason for hope.

The corollary to that theme is just as important to the pope: that when people try to shut God out of their lives and the life of society bad things happen.

The pope was in Nazareth May 14 for a day of liturgies and encounters as he neared the end of his eight-day trip to Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinian territories.

After celebrating a morning Mass to mark the Holy Land's year of the family in the city where Jesus grew up, the pontiff met in the afternoon with about 300 members of various religious communities — including Christians, Muslims, Jews, and Druze — in the Galilee region.

The atmosphere was friendly and respectful. At one point the pope, smiling broadly, stood with the other main participants and held hands in prayer with a rabbi and a Druze cleric as a specially



Pope Benedict XVI prays at the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest prayer site, in the Old City of Jerusalem May 12. The pope left a prayer for peace in a crevice of the wall. (CNS photo/Abikam Seri, Reuters)

— he has reminded people that these are the places where God acted in history, and that current tensions in the region require a similar openness to divine guidance.

The pope prayed at the Grotto of the Annunciation, a cave enshrined in the lower level of Nazareth's Basilica of the Annunciation. In the basilica's upper level he led an evening prayer service, listening as the Magnificat, the canticle of Mary, was sung in Arabic.

What happened in Nazareth, the pope said in a talk, was a "singular act of God" that illustrates the unlimited possibilities of God's love and power.

The narrative of the Annunciation also illustrates "God's extraordinary courtesy," because instead of imposing himself on Mary or predetermining her role in salvation, he first seeks her consent. Her response changed the course of history, he said.

"When we reflect on this joyful mystery, it gives us hope, the sure hope that God will continue to reach into our history, to act with creative power so as to achieve goals which by human reckoning seem impossible," he said.

composed psalm was sung.

In a brief speech, the pope noted that Nazareth is revered by Christians as the place where an angel announced to Mary that she would conceive a child by the power of the Holy Spirit — a divine intervention, he said, that changed the world.

"The conviction that the world is a gift of God and that God has entered the twists and turns of human history is the perspective from which Christians view creation as having a reason and

a purpose," he said.

Far from being the result of blind fate, he said, the world has been willed by God and reveals his splendor. That implies a particular responsibility for people, and it is common ground for all faiths, he said.

"At the heart of all religious traditions is the conviction that peace itself is a gift from God, yet it cannot be achieved without human endeavor. Lasting peace flows from the recognition that the world is ultimately not our

own," he said.

"We cannot do whatever we please with the world; rather, we are called to conform our choices to the subtle yet nonetheless perceptible laws inscribed by the Creator upon the universe," he said.

In a nutshell, that's been the core religious message of his pilgrimage. As he has visited the places where the events of the Old and New Testaments were lived out — from Mount Nebo above the Promised Land to the Upper Room in Jerusalem

Scripture Readings



June 7, Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity.
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40
Psalm 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22
- 2) Romans 8:14-17
Gospel) Matthew 28:16-20

By Sharon K. Perkins

"I doubt it." "I've had my doubts about her." Common enough expressions, used casually to convey moderate skepticism about the truth of a statement or a person's character. But what about the kind of deep-seated doubt that supplants one's faith in Christ? Can a doubter be a disciple?

If the readings today are any indication, doubt has been on the flip side of faith for quite a long time. Indeed, in the first reading Moses is compelled to use all his powers of persuasion and Israel's own history to assure the people that the God of the entire universe has chosen them to be his special people, and that worship of the one true God — not the practice of idolatry — is their only proper response. In similar fashion, St. Paul must convince the Christian community in Rome that they are no longer fearful slaves but adopted children of God and heirs with Christ. However,

persuasive arguments aren't always enough to dispel doubt and restore faith.

Today's Gospel shows that even seeing isn't necessarily believing. The same 11 disciples who had been closest to Jesus experienced doubts that overshadowed their worship of the risen Christ, even as he appeared to them. Obviously, when we wrestle with our own uncertainties about God's love and provision, or when we deeply question God's purpose for our lives, we stand in solidarity with some pretty distinguished doubters.

A closer look at today's readings tells us that faith does not come by simply pretending that doubt — that most human of emotions — doesn't exist. On this particular solemnity of the church's year, we are reminded that the Spirit given to us by the Father of the risen Lord accompanies us always, propelling us beyond doubt and fear so that not only can we "be" disciples — we can "make" disciples of others.



"When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted."

— Matthew 28:17

QUESTIONS:

With what doubts or fears have you wrestled lately? How can you better cooperate with the Holy Spirit to overcome doubt and walk as God's adopted son or daughter?

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The Holy Spirit empowered the Church at Pentecost

By Jeff Hedglen

None has ever accused me of being a great cook. I am doing good to make a quesadilla and not catch the kitchen on fire. Sure in my single days I survived, but the pickings were slim. I am always amazed at what people who are good cooks can do with a few simple ingredients and some know how.

Take for example a little competition my wife and some friends engage in every winter. We call it "Soup Wars." Each of three couples brings a soup to a dinner party. We taste each soup and then have a secret ballot to see who wins. The winner takes home a vintage Campbell's soup thermos as the "trophy."

In actuality the real winners are the people who eat the soups. They are always excellent! Some are personal versions of old standbys like potato soup, and others are unique creations like a boudin sausage in Bloody Mary mix. Each time we gather for this

I am almost certain that not one person in that upper room would have ever imagined the kind of impact they would have on the world.

competition, I walk away amazed at how something as simple as soup can be so delicious.

As wonderful as the soup wars are, I experienced a whole other level of ingredient magic recently when my wife and I attended a night of New Zealand cooking at Central Market, demonstrated and cooked by one of New Zealand's top chefs.

For the most part I recognized all the ingredients.

There was lamb, scallops, and salmon; we had salad, soup, and dessert. All of these things are fairly normal, but when each item came into contact with my taste buds, I was transported to the other side of the world.

It is simply astonishing the varied amount of potential that is present in such simple ingredients. The chef explained everything he did. I understood just about everything he said, but I am almost certain I could not recreate the dishes he presented us with that night.

I watched in amazement as this world traveling chef unlocked the potential of these common foods and herbs, and I realized that I was experiencing a Pentecost kind of moment. Pentecost Sunday is the day when our potential went through the roof. The Easter season is a time to celebrate what the risen Jesus can do, and Pentecost is the day of its fulfillment.

The Acts of the Apostles reveals to us the story of the followers of Jesus being transformed into the leaders

of the Church. We hear that a group of people who had followed Jesus, seen his miracles, witnessed his death, resurrection, and ascension, were now huddled in fear and wonderment at what would come next.

Jesus had told them he would send the comforter, the Paraclete, the Spirit, but they were unsure what that meant. So they did the only thing they could think of, they gathered together and prayed.

On that special day, what was once hidden inside of these first Christians was unleashed by the driving wind that entered that upper room in Jerusalem. The possibility to lead the Church and spread the Good News was always in them, but until they received the Spirit, this potential had lain dormant.

We are not unlike the early Christians or even the simple ingredients of a fine meal. We are packed with potential. We can make a significant impact on the world around us. I am almost certain that not one

person in that upper room would have ever imagined the kind of impact they would have on the world. Yet it is these very people who laid the foundation upon which we now firmly stand.

The power of the Holy Spirit is there for all of us. Jesus desires for us to live a life filled with the Spirit. With this power we can stand up and witness to the ways God has touched us. We do not have to impact thousands to make a difference. We only have to live the words of Mother Theresa: "None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love." The key to unlocking the potential is a simple "yes" to God. So this Pentecost, say yes to God and unlock the potential planted in you from the beginning.

Jeff Hedglen, youth minister at St. Bartholomew Parish in Southwest Fort Worth, is the principal organizer of Camp Fort Worth each summer. Readers with questions can contact Jeff at jeff@stbartsfw.org.

Estos días de fiesta nos ayudan a conectarnos a los misterios de la Iglesia

Estimados hermanos y hermanas en el Señor,

En este punto de nuestro calendario litúrgico todavía nos encontramos en la época de la Resurrección del Señor, también llamado Pascua.

Vale el observar de que los dos calendarios en los cuales vivimos, nuestro calendario anual o gregoriano y el calendario de la Iglesia o litúrgico — especialmente en lo que se refiere a las fiestas principales — claramente nos enseña que estamos en gran medida en dos mundos a la vez — la ciudad de Dios y la ciudad humana, algo sobre el cual San Agustín reflexionó en su obra clásica *La Ciudad de Dios*. En última instancia, el calendario litúrgico para las fiestas importantes es un fuerte recordatorio de que al final, siempre debemos dirigir nuestra mirada hacia Dios.

Pascua y Navidad en el calendario secular acaban en un día. Sin embargo, aquí estamos en estos cincuenta días de la Resurrección del Señor, donde las Sagradas Escrituras en la Misa diaria y dominical continuamente nos van enseñando sobre la realidad de la Resurrección del Señor en sus apariciones a sus discípulos; pronto celebraremos la solemnidad de la Ascensión, donde con los discípulos en el



Monseñor Kevin W. Vann

Que la gran alegría de estos días nos inspire a todos en nuestra vida diaria y en el vivir de nuestra fe.

Monte de los Olivos nosotros también debemos estar alegres de que Cristo nos ha dado la comisión de ir y vivir la Buena Nueva, aunque él ya no esté visible ante nosotros.

En orden corta seguirá el domingo de Pentecostés (el cumpleaños de la Iglesia), que nos recordará los dones del Espíritu Santo en nuestras vidas. Dones que recibimos en el bautismo y la confirmación y que están siempre presentes en nuestras vidas en cada momento importante de toma de decisiones, retos y momentos de gozo. Pentecostés puede enseñarnos sobre la unidad intrínseca de la presencia de Cristo y de su cuerpo aquí en la tierra, y que nunca podemos separar uno de otro.

La solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad nos llama a estudiar y reflexionar sobre la gran verdad y misterio de fe en Dios revelado como Padre, Hijo, y Espíritu Santo.

Finalmente, la *Solemnidad del santísimo Cuerpo y Sangre de Cristo* (una fiesta establecida en el siglo XIV pero que encuentra arraigo en las narraciones de la Última Cena),

nos enseña con sus procesiones y adoración eucarística que Cristo está verdaderamente presente en la Eucaristía y camina con nosotros en nuestro diario peregrinar de la vida. Una cierta reflexión sobre estas fiestas, y de hecho sobre la época completa, nos ayudará a conectar lo que oímos y celebramos el domingo con la expresión viva de nuestra fe cada día, y en todos los momentos de nuestras vidas. Las épocas litúrgicas y sus novenas de preparación y las octavas de la celebración son recordatorios constantes de que nuestra fe nunca será algo solamente confinado a una hora cada domingo, pero es algo que se debe entretejer en nuestro diario vivir.

Para ayudarnos a reflexionar en las fiestas y épocas principales de la Iglesia y su relevancia en nuestras vidas, recomendaría altamente un pequeño libro que lleva por título *Imágenes de la esperanza: Itinerarios por el año litúrgico*, escrito por el entonces José Cardinal Ratzinger, publicado por Ediciones Encuentro.

Por ejemplo, al reflexionar sobre la Ascensión (donde estamos actual-

mente) y en un ícono de esta fiesta, él nos dice en este libro que *“La Ascensión permitió que los discípulos estuvieran alegres. Ellos sabían que no seguirían solos. Ellos sabían que eran los bendecidos. La Iglesia también quisiera inculcar este conocimiento en nosotros durante los cuarenta días después de Pascua. La Iglesia quisiera que este conocimiento no se convirtiera nosotros en solamente en el saber del intelecto sino en el saber del corazón, para que así, esta gran alegría pudiera también llegar a nosotros de manera que no podría ser quitados de los discípulos. Para que crezca el conocimiento del corazón, un encuentro es necesario — el escuchar interno las palabras del Señor, familiaridad interna con Él, como la escritura nos lo presenta con la mención de la comunión común de la sal. La fiesta de la Ascensión de Cristo nos invita a esta apertura interna. Cuanto más éxito tenemos, más entenderemos la gran alegría que ocurrió aquel día en que una aparente despedida fue en verdad el comienzo de una nueva cercanía”*.

Gracias especiales a todos en nuestras parroquias — sacerdotes de parroquia, directores de liturgia y de catequesis, y todos los otros — que ayudan a preparar y a celebrar todas las fiestas principales, y que ayudan continuamente a fortalecer al Cuerpo de Cristo aquí en nuestra diócesis. Que la gran alegría de estos días nos inspire a todos en nuestra vida diaria y en el vivir de nuestra fe.

Dios los bendiga siempre.

Kevin W. Vann

+Monseñor Kevin W. Vann
Obispo de Fort Worth



Centinelas suizas cargan una corona decorativa mientras otros permanecen en guardia durante una ceremonia en el Vaticano el 6 de mayo, conmemorando la fecha cuando 150 soldados suizos murieron defendiendo al Papa Clemente VII durante el saqueo de Roma en 1527. La guardia suiza está considerando abrir sus filas a las mujeres, dijo su comandante, el Coronel Daniel Anrig, el 5 de mayo. (CNS photo/Danilo Schiavella, Reuters)

Misa en español en la iglesia de St. Michael, el 31 de mayo, Pentecostés

La iglesia de St. Michael tiene el gusto de estar iniciando formalmente su ministerio a la Comunidad Hispana. La primera Misa en español se celebrará el domingo 31 de mayo – día de Pentecostés – en la Misa de la 1 p.m. Como ya hemos anunciado previamente, la misa de la 1 de la tarde se celebrará en español todos los domingos comenzando con el 31 de mayo. Para más información comunicarse con el Padre Luis Runde al 817-283-8746 ext. 32

Encuentro para comprometidos, del 24-26 de julio

El encuentro para comprometidos es una preparación matrimonial de fin de semana para parejas de novios que desean contraer matrimonio. Está designado para dar a las parejas la oportunidad de dialogar intensamente y honestamente sobre su futura vida como pareja.

Es presentado por un equipo de parejas casadas. El próximo fin de semana se llevará a cabo del 24-26 de julio, en el *Catholic Renewal Center*, 4503 Bridge St., Fort Worth.

Para inscribirse, favor de hablar con Suzanna Ordóñez al 817-560-3300 ext. 256.

Retiro sobre el Espíritu Santo en el Centro de Cursos

Todos están cordialmente invitados a un día de retiro llamado *El Espíritu Santo: su misión en nuestra vida, en la Iglesia y en el mundo*, mayo 31, domingo, de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. El retiro en español será para adultos, hombres y mujeres, solteros o casados, en el *Centro de cursos*, 2221 N.W. 26th St., Fort Worth. La donación

es \$25. Si no puede dar esa cantidad, le ayudaremos. Además de pláticas y reflexión, habrá Misa, oportunidad de confesarse, y de dialogar con líderes. Para más información, llame al Centro (817) 624-9411 o a Martha Galván (817) 770-6522. No hace falta registración previa. Venga a pasar un día con el Espíritu Santo.

En encuesta se demuestra que más personas de EE.UU. prefieren ser conocidos 'protectores de la vida' que 'agentes de libre elección'

Por Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — A menos de cuatro meses del mandato del presidente Barack Obama, se demuestra mediante encuesta que las personas de EE.UU. toman un cambio de postura y se halla más oposición en contra del aborto.

En una encuesta llevada a cabo del 7 al 10 de mayo, como parte del estudio anual de sondeo Gallup *Valores y creencias*, se demostró que la mayoría de las personas de Estados Unidos (el 51 por ciento) se consideraba "protectoras de la vida" en contra del aborto, mientras solamente un 42 por ciento dijo que prefería ser "agentes de libre elección". Los resultados se dieron a conocer el 15 de mayo.

Esta fue la primera ocasión desde que Gallup empezó a hacer sondeos de opinión pública, en 1995, en que hubo más personas que se declararon protectores de la vida en oposición a los que prefieren ser agentes de libre elección (en relación al aborto), y esto fue un cambio de 7 a 8 por ciento de los puntos del año anterior, cuando un 50 por ciento dijo que prefería ser agente de libre elección y un 44 por ciento ser protector de la vida.

Obama apoya la idea de conservar la práctica del aborto como legal. Algunos

grupos de personas que trabajan a favor del aborto dijeron que la elección de noviembre del 2008 a favor de Obama fue un mandato para extender el acceso al aborto y consignarle fondos federales.

En una encuesta diaria hecha por separado por Gallup, del 12 al 13 de mayo, se demostró que el 50 por ciento de las personas de Estados Unidos se declaró como protector de la vida, y un 43 por ciento prefería ser agente de libre elección.

Los resultados fueron similares a los de otra encuesta nacional hecha pública el 30 de abril por el *Centro de investigación Pew para el pueblo y la prensa*, en donde se demostró que el número de personas de Estados Unidos que dijo que la práctica del aborto debería ser legal, en la mayoría de los casos, disminuyó a un 46 por ciento en abril 2009, de un 54 por ciento en agosto de 2008.

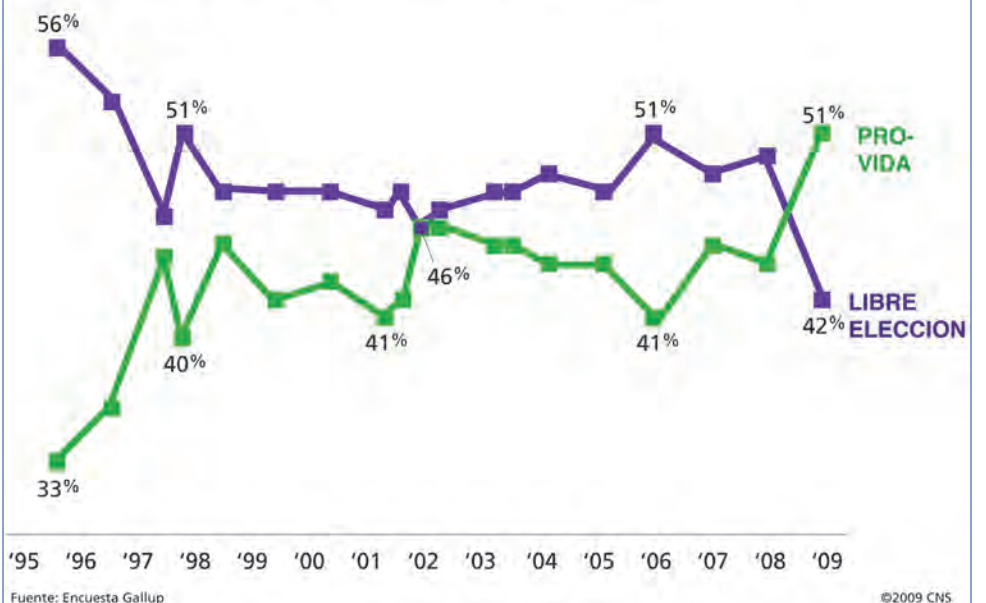
El cuarenta y cuatro por ciento de las personas que respondió en la encuesta Pew dijo que el aborto debería ser legal en la mayoría (28 por ciento) o todos los casos (16 por ciento), más del 41 por ciento en agosto de 2008.

El margen de error para cada una de las tres encuestas fue más o menos del 3 por ciento de puntos.

En la encuesta *Valores y Creencias*, de Gallup, se demostró que los más fuertes

MÁS ESTADOUNIDENSES SE CONSIDERAN "PRO-VIDA" en lugar de "pro-elección" por primera vez desde que Gallup empezó a preguntar esa pregunta:

¿En referencia al aborto, se considera usted pro-vida o libre elección?



puntos de vista para proteger la vida entre los que se decían ser republicanos o independientes se inclinaban hacia el partido republicano, aquellos que se describieron como conservadores y los que se identificaron como cristianos.

El 52 por ciento de los católicos que respondió y el 59 por ciento de protestantes o miembros de otras religiones cristianas se describió como protectores de la vida en la encuesta del 2009, comparado con el 45 por ciento de católicos y el 51 por ciento de protestantes en mayo de 2008.

El 70 por ciento de republicanos o los que se inclinaban por los republicanos dijeron que eran protectores de la vida, comparado con el 60 por ciento en 2008; la cifra del porcentaje que se indentifica como agentes de libre elección en ese grupo bajó de un 36 por ciento en 2008 al 26 por ciento este año.

Entre los demócratas y los independientes que se inclinaban hacia el partido demócrata, su postura ante el aborto permaneció substancialmente inalterada, con un 61 por ciento pronunciándose agentes de libre elección, y un 33 por ciento como protectores de la vida en 2009, comparado con un 60 por ciento de libre elección y un

33 por ciento protectores de la vida el año pasado.

"Es posible que, por medio de su política de acción, Obama haya empujado la comprensión del público a lo que significa ser 'agente de libre elección' un poco hacia la izquierda, políticamente", se decía en un comentario de Gallup en la encuesta. "A pesar de que los demócratas apoyen eso, como generalmente apoyan todo lo que Obama hace como presidente, quizás esté llevando a otros a la dirección opuesta".

Cuando Gallup empezó primero con las encuestas *Valores y creencias* en 1995, el 56 por ciento de las personas de los Estados Unidos se describieron como protectores de la vida y solamente el 33 por ciento dijo que se pronunciaba agentes de libre elección. Desde entonces, el mayor porcentaje de los que se identificaron como protectores de la vida era el 46 por ciento, tanto en agosto de 2001 y en mayo de 2002.

En las encuestas llevadas a cabo por *Pew Research*, se apoyaba la idea de conservar la práctica del aborto legal en todos, o en la mayoría de los casos, en 2008, del 57 por ciento a mediados de octubre, al 53 por ciento a finales de octubre, pero bajó a un 46 por ciento en abril de 2009.

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Mecanismos para reportar la conducta sexual inapropiada

Si usted o alguien que conozca es víctima de conducta sexual inapropiada por parte de cualquier persona que trabaje para la iglesia, sea voluntario, empleado, o miembro del clero, puede reportarlo de las siguientes maneras:

- llamar a Judy Locke, Coordinadora de asistencia para víctimas, al número (817) 560-2452, Ext. 201, o, mandarle correo electrónico a

jlocke@fwdioc.org

- llamar al número de emergencia para el abuso sexual: (817) 560-2452, Ext. 900

- o llamar al Centro Católico al número: (817) 560-2452, ext. 102 y preguntar por el canciller/moderador de la curia, el padre James Hart

Mecanismo para reportar abuso

Llamar al Ministerio de familias de Texas, Servicios de protección (Servicios de protección de niños) al número: (800) 252-5400.

El Papa dice que odio del Holocausto nunca debe reinar de nuevo

JERUSALÉN (CNS)—Durante su primer día en Jerusalén el Papa Benedicto XVI visitó el memorial al Holocausto *Yad vashem* y dijo que el sufrimiento de los judíos bajo la campaña nazi de exterminio debe “nunca ser negada, menospreciada u olvidada”.

El Papa llamó el Holocausto una atrocidad que deshonró la humanidad y dijo que la Iglesia está comprometida con trabajar incansablemente “para asegurar que el odio nunca reine otra vez en los corazones de los hombres”.

Con su cabeza inclinada y sus manos juntas el Papa de 82 años de edad oró silenciosamente ante una flama eterna en la *Salón de recuerdos*, monumento de piedra a los 6 millones de judíos que fueron asesinados durante la *Segunda guerra mundial*. Estuvo parado en la estructura de forma de carpa, donde los nombres de algunos de los campamentos nazis de muerte están inscritos en el piso, mientras una oración fue recitada para las víctimas, los luchadores de resistencia y aquellos que arriesgaron sus vidas para salvar a los judíos de los nazis.

En una charla breve el Papa Benedicto dijo que había venido a “estar parado en silencio ante este monumento, erigido para honrar la memoria de los millones de judíos asesinados en la horrible tragedia del Shoá”.

“Perdieron sus vidas, pero nunca perderán sus nombres:

estos están gravados indeleblemente en los corazones de sus seres queridos, de sus compañeros prisioneros sobrevivientes y de todos aquellos que se proponen nunca permitir que tal atrocidad deshonre la humanidad otra vez”, dijo.

Mayormente, dijo, sus nombres están fijados en la memoria de Dios.

La visita del 11 de mayo del Papa Benedicto al memorial vino después de un período de tensión católico-judía, después de la suspensión de la excomunión de un obispo tradicionalista que menospreció públicamente la extensión del Holocausto. Después de la crítica aguda de judíos y otros líderes, el Papa reafirmó su dedicación a mejorar los lazos católico-judíos.

Israela Hargil, de 70 años de edad, fue una de los sobrevivientes del Holocausto invitados a conocer al Papa Benedicto en el memorial. Aunque dijo que está en deuda con un católico por su supervivencia, vaciló al asistir al evento.

Hargil dijo que vaciló porque el Papa, cuando era niño, fue miembro del *Movimiento juvenil de Hitler*. Ha dicho que ser miembro era obligatorio. Hargil también dijo que no pensaba correcto la reintegración en la Iglesia del obispo Richard Williamson, miembro de la *Sociedad de San Pío X*, quien ha negado la extensión

del Holocausto.

“El Papa dijo que cometió un error (en cuanto a Williamson) y eso es algo grande”, dijo, explicando por qué finalmente decidió aceptar la invitación a *Yad vashem*.

“Le debo mi vida a católicos y a los polacos que me salvaron”, dijo Hargil.

En *Yad vashem* el Papa, quien vivió bajo el régimen nazi en su Alemania natal, no analizó las causas específicas del Holocausto. En vez, se enfocó en el tema del memorial ante los recuerdos.

Uno de los sobrevivientes que el Papa conoció, Edward Mosberg, de 83 años de edad, después dijo a los reporteros que la reunión fue muy emocional.

“Le dije al Papa que yo había nacido en Alemania, pero que no lo veo a él como alemán; lo veo como un ser humano y líder de la Iglesia Católica y le doy mi respeto”, dijo Mosberg.

“Pero también le dije que él sabe que el Holocausto sí ocurrió y que, como líder de la Iglesia Católica, Su Santidad debe siempre condenar todas las negaciones”, dijo.

Dan Landsberg, otro sobreviviente, dijo que la ceremonia y reunión con el Papa fue una ocasión muy solemne.

“Siento como si el círculo ha sido cerrado”, dijo. “Hay paz entre nosotros y la Iglesia. Creo que es respetuoso que el Papa esté aquí y que respete este lugar y su historia”.



El Papa Benedicto XVI saluda a sobrevivientes del Holocausto en el Salón de recuerdos del Museo del Holocausto Yad Vashem el 11 de mayo. Hablando allá, el Papa dijo que el sufrimiento de los judíos bajo la campaña de exterminación Nazi nunca debe ser negado, minusvalorado u olvidado. (CNS photo/Ronen Zvulun, Reuters)

El Papa Benedicto XVI reaviva la llama eterna en el monumento al Holocausto en Yad Vashem en Jerusalén el 11 de mayo. La llama conmemora los seis millones de judíos asesinados por los nazis durante el Holocausto. (Foto CNS/Ronen Zvulun, Reuters)



Decretos de tribunal, nuevas políticas vistas como cambios importantes para inmigrantes

WASHINGTON (CNS) — La decisión unánime del *Tribunal supremo* del 4 de mayo que diciendo que el gobierno estaba incorrecto al procesar inmigrantes ilegales por robo de cédulas de identidad en ciertos tipos de casos fue el más reciente de varios decretos y anuncios de políticas que efectivamente repitará el enfoque sobre la inmigración, iniciado por la administración Bush.

En el caso *Flores-Figueroa v. Estados Unidos* el tribunal dijo que el gobierno federal estuvo incorrecto al acusar de hurto de identidad a Ignacio Carlos Flores-Figueroa cuando fue encontrado que había usado en los documentos para empleo los números del Seguro Social y de inscripción de extranjero de otra persona. El caso podría tener implicaciones para otros inmigrantes que enfrentan acusaciones similares bajo una fuerte estrategia de procesamiento empleada durante los pasados uno o dos años.

Esa decisión vino tres días después que un decreto del tribunal federal de distrito ordenara al gobierno federal reabrir los casos de inmigración de docenas de

viudas extranjeras, cuyos esposos ciudadanos estadounidenses murieron antes que sus solicitudes de tarjetas de residencia pudieran ser procesadas. En algunos casos se ha ordenado que los inmigrantes que tienen solicitudes pendientes para la residencia legal fueran deportados después que sus cónyuges murieran, antes que sus casos fueran procesados.

El decreto del 1 de mayo de la juez del distrito federal, Christina A. Snyder, en California, aplica solamente a unas cuantas docenas de viudas de estados occidentales, pero similares demandas están pendientes en otros lugares. Una portavoz para el *Departamento de seguridad interna (DHS)*, que incluye la agencia federal de *Servicios de ciudadanía e inmigración*, dijo a *The Associated Press* que la secretaria Janet Napolitano ha pedido que su personal formule una solución al problema de las viudas.

Esa misma semana, *Seguridad interna* anunció nuevas directrices para la aplicación de la ley de inmigración enfocadas en el procesamiento criminal de patronos

que emplean intencionalmente a personas que carecen del permiso para trabajar en Estados Unidos “para poder enfocarse en la causa radical de la inmigración ilegal”, dice una hoja de datos de la agencia en las directrices.

“*Inmigración y control de aduanas (ICE)* continuará arrestando y procesando para la remoción de cualquier trabajador ilegal que sea encontrado en el transcurso de estas acciones de aplicación de la ley en los lugares de trabajo”, dice la declaración. Pero críticos de las recientes políticas de aplicación de la ley dijeron que éstas son fomentadas por el aparente cambio de enfoque, que también incluirá la participación de la sede central de ICE en cualquier redada de lugares de trabajo. Previamente tal supervisión estaba a un nivel más local.

Tamar Jacoby, presidenta de *Immigration works USA*, dijo que las directrices “envían un mensaje claro sobre el nuevo pensar y las nuevas prioridades del DHS”.

Dijo que la agencia “está haciendo una distinción crítica entre los patronos que violan deliberadamente la ley ... y aquellos que

intentan cumplir con las reglas de un sistema irrealizable de inmigración”.

Napolitano había dado señal de un enfoque diferente a las redadas después que 28 trabajadores fueron arrestados en una redada en febrero en un negocio de reparación de motores automotrices en Bellingham, Washington. Napolitano fue aparentemente sorprendida por la redada, que vino apenas un mes después de que ella se convirtiera en secretaria. Ordenó una revisión de la redada.

Días después los trabajadores arrestados que habían sido llevados a detención de inmigración regresaron a Bellingham, liberados, dándoles permiso de trabajo temporal, mientras los resultados de sus casos estuvieran pendientes. No ha habido redadas mayores de ICE en un lugar de trabajo desde entonces.

En ese cuadro vino el decreto del *Tribunal supremo* acerca del robo de cédulas de identidad.

La opinión escrita por el magistrado Stephen Breyer dice que el estatuto requiere que el gobierno demuestre que los

acusados sabían que la identificación que usaron pertenecía a otra persona.

A la luz del decreto, la *Asociación americana de abogados de inmigración* le pidió al procurador general federal Eric Holder que ordenara una investigación completa de centenares de procesamientos similares por robo de cédulas de identidad, notablemente aquellos procedentes de una redada en mayo del 2008 en la planta empacadora de carne *Agriprocessors*, en Postville, Iowa.

“Los procuradores federales usaron una interpretación demasiado cerrada y, según concluyó unánimemente el *Tribunal supremo*, simplemente errónea en ese estatuto para presionar a los trabajadores, la mayoría de los cuales eran granjeros guatemaltecos no educados, a que se declararan culpables a una acusación menor y aceptaran una condena de cinco meses de prisión, además de aceptar la deportación automática”, dice una declaración de David W. Leopold, primer vicepresidente de la asociación de abogados.

Diocesan

Special Collection: Church in Latin America

Parish Name	Parish Location	Latin America Jan 2008	Latin America Jan 2009
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	229.00	138.00
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	0.00	61.00
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	890.25	1,245.65
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	2,825.71	3,078.96
St. Joseph	Arlington	2,393.97	2,623.27
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	1,440.00	1,881.00
St. Mary the Virgin	Arlington	193.00	377.00
St. Matthew	Arlington	873.35	576.00
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	1,157.00	171.00
Vietnamese Martyrs	Arlington	1,680.00	1,575.00
Holy Trinity	Azle	660.00	0.00
St. Michael	Bedford	2,402.00	2,233.00
St. Jerome	Bowie	82.00	130.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	210.65	297.31
St. John the Baptizer	Bridgeport	487.11	529.62
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	232.00	435.19
St. Ann	Burleson	1,271.00	1,391.00
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	2,491.25	2,444.62
Holy Rosary	Cisco	131.00	112.75
St. Joseph	Cleburne	832.20	1,011.01
Holy Angels	Clifton	394.30	0.00
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	2,204.00	3,264.50
Holy Cross	The Colony	1,159.01	1,137.61
Sacred Heart	Cornanche	75.00	180.00
St. Joseph	Crowell	160.00	64.00
Assumption/Blessed Virgin Mary	Decatur	737.64	795.38
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	46.16	50.00
Immaculate Conception	Denton	749.01	704.00
St. Mark	Denton	2,620.94	2,382.57
St. Mary	Dublin	533.00	581.00
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	61.75	81.00
St. Paul	Electra	21.00	0.00
All Saints	Fort Worth	1,395.00	1,753.34
Christ the King	Fort Worth	502.00	0.00
Holy Family	Fort Worth	1,709.00	2,014.00
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	334.00	0.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	2,804.00	2,017.44
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	917.25	1,318.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	2,506.00	2,791.50
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	282.00	0.00
San Mateo	Fort Worth	469.00	0.00
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	2,971.82	3,951.85
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	4,730.15	6,045.98
St. George	Fort Worth	699.00	793.00
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,016.75	849.03
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	14.00	269.00
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	4,219.00	3,705.50
St. Paul	Fort Worth	695.00	1,038.10
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	503.19	470.00
St. Rita	Fort Worth	296.00	178.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,627.01	0.00
St. Mary	Gainesville	330.00	304.00
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	223.25	177.25
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	0.00	0.00
St. Mary	Graham	0.00	762.00
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	1,259.00	1,350.70
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	2,022.25	1,273.00
St. Mary	Hennietta	45.00	35.00
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	1,017.82	688.07
Korean Martyrs	Hurst	0.00	0.00
Christ the King	Iowa Park	30.00	0.00
St. Mary	Jacksboro	121.00	48.00
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	3,943.00	2,914.00
Santa Rosa	Knox City	150.00	114.00
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	2,719.71	2,911.34
St. Peter	Lindsay	2,085.81	1,517.00
St. Jude	Mansfield	1,137.57	0.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	15.00	0.00
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	148.00	484.55
St. William	Montague	0.00	0.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	172.01	0.00
Sacred Heart	Muenster	1,198.00	838.00
St. Joseph	Nocona	0.00	108.00
St. Theresa	Olney	0.00	0.00
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	167.50	150.50
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	353.00	767.45
St. Mary	Quanah	102.00	132.00
St. Rita	Ranger	104.00	79.00
St. Joseph	Rhineland	203.00	332.00
St. Boniface	Scotland	64.00	59.00
Sacred Heart	Seymour	337.00	0.00
St. Brendan	Stephenville	1,339.00	190.00
St. John	Strawn	74.00	119.00
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	269.00	363.00
St. Stephen	Weatherford	1,991.00	1,645.00
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	480.00	528.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	1,196.93	1,182.35
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	653.00	716.31
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	735.50	758.00
St. Mary	Windthorst	454.00	629.26

82,073.82 77,921.36

Prepared by the Accounting Dept for the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
Please forward all questions and comments to Debbie Lankford

Rachel's Vineyard offers help to those dealing with post-abortion trauma

FROM PAGE 1

a murderer. Another woman reacted to the story with anger and a third left the room crying. In addition to anorexia and bulimia, all three shared a common experience — abortion.

"The whole experience was a microcosm of a larger world," Burke continued. "There are people out there like Debbie with nightmares, flashbacks, intrusive thoughts, and other indications of post traumatic stress disorder. They're in a lot of pain and need our support."

Another segment of the post-abortive population is stuck in the "angry" stage of grief.

"These are people who are so focused on defending the right to abortion that they inhibit any meaningful discussion on abortion and what women are feeling," she added.

A third group is so traumatized, they can't stand to hear the word. "It generates the flight response in them because it's just too painful," Burke said, referring to the group member who ran from the room. "Just mentioning it or bringing it up as a therapeutic issue will generate a fear response."

After telling her supervisor about the group and her observations, the insightful grad student was scolded.

"He shook his finger in my face and told me I had no business prying into people's abortions," Burke recalls. "I was instructed not to bring up the issue."

The fledgling therapist disagreed. Realizing that any addiction cycle, including eating disorders, is fueled by anxiety, Burke felt helping clients explore feelings and hidden traumas could spur healing. Soon afterwards, she started the first therapeutic post-abortion support group from her home. Offered free of charge, the ministry never advertised but attracted women by word of mouth.

"The curriculum for Rachel's Vineyard came out of those early experiences," the founder said, referring to the weekend retreats that integrate psychology with spirituality. "We deal with issues of death and forgiving self. People know God forgives them, but they can't forgive themselves, and that impacts many areas of their functioning."

Today Rachel's Vineyard Ministries exist in 27 countries where programs are organized by former retreat participants who want to reach out and help other women and men.

Macaria Gonzalez hoped to



The 170 participants at the Rachel's ministry conference at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Complex represented a broad cross section of Catholic and Protestant; lay and clergy; pro-life volunteers and professional counselors.

glean some information from the conference to use in a Spanish language post-abortion retreat she is developing for Rachel Ministries of North Texas. The new program will launch by early 2010.

Adapting the Rachel's Vineyard retreat to the Spanish-speaking community requires more than just translating language. There are several cultural differences. In the immigrant Hispanic community, abortion is viewed as a sin that must be harshly condemned, the volunteer explained.

"It's a big taboo, and there are people who will say 'God doesn't love you, and you must stay away from the church,'" said Gonzalez, who worked for Rachel Ministries in Dallas for seven years. "By using Spanish, we can use the right words to let people know the Church cares, and God is calling them to come to these retreats."

Among workshop participants were 28 clergy, both Catholic and Protestant. Licensed professional therapist Kevin Burke conducted a break out session for the priests, deacons, and pastors entitled "Sharing the Heart of Christ."

Steve Rook, who works in Life Ministries at Fort Worth Presbyterian Church, admires the Catholic Church's stance on abortion and registered for the Rachel Ministries conference after a publicity brochure arrived at his church. He hopes to bring the "vision of life" to his denomination — the Presbyterian Church in America.

"It's been enlightening," Rook said, after listening to Burke's presentation on abortion and post traumatic stress disorder. "I always thought there were serious problems, but having her point them out, it now seems so



Fr. Tom Kennedy, one of several members of the clergy, both Catholic and Protestant, who took part in the day visits with another workshop participant.

obvious. This looks like an aspect of life ministries that absolutely needs to be dealt with."

Betsy Kopor, local director of Rachel's Ministries, was pleased with the large, diverse turnout. The Fort Worth-based organization had never hosted a regional conference before.

"It was new material for most of the attendees who were not aware of the issues associated with post traumatic stress disorder," she observed. "I'm so glad word is getting out that there is pain after abortion, so we can help people."

Theresa Burke, who travels the country conducting one or two workshops a month on post-abortion healing and trauma, said her goal is to increase recognition of symptoms and behaviors that people don't always associate with pregnancy loss.

"So many people suffer disorders, addictions, or relationship problems. There's a great need for healing," Burke told the *North Texas Catholic*. "When folks can be referred to a place where they can heal, then their symptoms are likely to diminish. They can go on to lead much richer, fuller, happy, and productive lives."

Repairing troubled souls is the goal of Rachel Ministries.

"We want to restore peace to people's lives so they can do what they're called to do," Burke said.

Diocesan / International



TCU student and Catholic Community member Harrison Hanvey dances with a teacher from the elementary school at a program on Nicaraguan life given for the TCU group by the school community.

Tepeyac...

FROM PAGE 24
to make a commitment to us, to hold an agreement that will be mutually beneficial."

Together, they decided to build a fence between six and eight feet tall, with a concrete base, Fr. Charlie said, built of a combination of stone and steel mesh, with razor wire on top, that will encompass the whole school property. Fund raising began on TCU's campus with a spring roll cooking demonstration in April.

The spring roll event raised \$1,385, and, with donations

from Catholic Community alumni and supporters, the fund rose quickly to \$3,721.24. The students are currently working on a letter-writing campaign and a sale of locally-made native bracelets.

"Every night in Tepeyac we got together and processed what had happened that day," Fr. Charlie said.

"My eyes got watery," Fr. Charlie remembered. "I told the students, 'To me, in moments like this I know I'm part of something greater than myself. Something else is at work here.'"

"It was a grace-filled week," he said, "and we were living the mystery that we're part of something bigger. There was a sense of God's presence at work in everything that was happening."

At night the students would drag their mattresses up on the roof to sleep. "Outside under the stars was really a place where I could relate to God," Hanvey said. "There's not much between you and God up

there on the roof.

"I'm pretty sure working with the poor is what God wants me to do with my life," he said.

"Every night we would sit on the porch and talk about what we got from the day — one day we had Mass. We would talk about what the day meant to us, and what God was doing. I think the great thing for the students — where they saw God the most — was through the people. Like through the baby Christina handed to Jenny, or like Milton, the boy I talked to both last year and this year.

"God is working within us," Hanvey said. "The amazing thing was that these people valued our relationships, and remembered us by name."

TCU students went to Nicaragua two years in a row. It was called a service-learning opportunity, but it was more than that to them.

While they were doing the service, they were learning who it was for.

Hamer...

FROM PAGE 11
identical designs were simple outlines in thick strips of black lead. They needed only to be filled with color, and who would provide that?

Father Warnat's art class. Eighth-grade artists.

What Msgr. Warnat did — a gigantic leap of faith — was trust us with "leaded coloring books" and lots of paint.

It was a questionable choice, but one of the great joys of my life.

The windows of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Fort Worth are more elegant than ours were, and more than twice as old. But the memories they have overseen are similar, I sense, to those at St. Therese. When I am in St. Mary's for liturgy with parishioners who could be you and I, and who might have been Joe Cribari, there is a sense of sweet sameness, of oneness in the universal church. The Body of Christ.

St. Mary's is enjoying a year-long celebration of its 100th birthday, and a liturgy on the anniversary of the parish's first Mass took place a few weeks ago.

The celebrant that night was Father Jonathan Wallis. He traced national history over the past 100 years, at the same time calling to mind the thousands of people who had carried on the faith from those very walls.

"One of my personal favorite experiences in this parish," the young priest said, "was that I spent my internship here. Not every day was good, but at a particularly low point, I was sitting in my office, looking outside, and there was a man cutting the grass.

"He had one of those lawn tractors, and he drove to the front of the door, stopped his tractor, made the sign of the cross, and continued cutting the grass.

"He didn't do it for anyone to see," Fr. Jonathan said, "but I saw it, and at that moment, I decided it's worth it. Any suffering, anything that I would have to do to follow our Lord Jesus Christ would be worth it."

After the anniversary Mass, a crowd of long-time parishioners gathered on the porch, laughing and reminiscing. They greeted each other happily, jousting about who had been there the longest, who had earned placement in a carefully-selected group photograph.

Being with them I shared their laughter, but I was also envious — in a good way — of the fact that those walls had been with them for their whole lives. I missed St. Therese.

Father Warnat taught me how to draw Mickey Mouse, wearing the hat of a drum major, leading a parade. I still remember how I did it. Maybe that was the only decent drawing I have ever completed.

But it was those windows

that were my finest work of art. Msgr. Warnat made them, and my friends and I painted them. One had a corner with an embarrassing glob where I had not wiped the brush correctly, and the sun would never shine through. I lived in fear of chastisement, but that window took its place in the church, proudly lined up with all the others, that had my hand and the hands of my friends all over them.

Those windows are gone now, as is Msgr. Warnat and even the old St. Therese church itself.

St. Mary's has 10 stained glass windows, and the first — the Assumption — has gone away for refurbishing. The whole process will take some time, but when they come back to the church — like Lupe, Richard, or Margaret, and all the rest — they will take their places like they never left.

There they will resume witness, as they always have, to life at its best, with Christ in their midst.



Kathy Cribari Hamer, a member of St. Andrew Parish, has five children, Meredith, John, Julie, Andrew, and Abby.

Last May, her column received the second place award for best family life column by the Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada at the Catholic Media Convention in Toronto. In 2005, Kathy's column was recognized with the first place award in the same category.

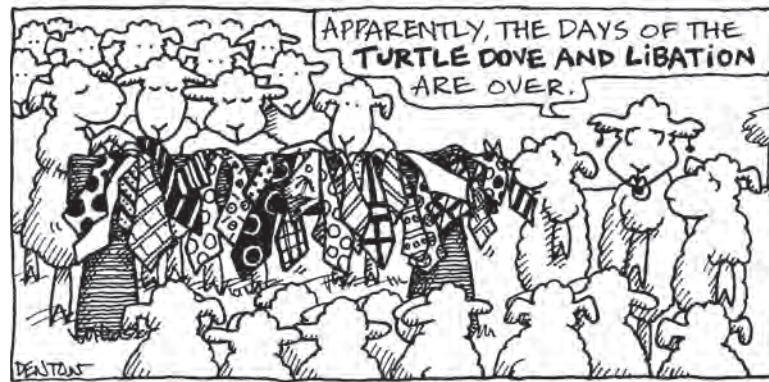


TCU students worked with young school children of Tepeyac to create colorful murals in four rooms at the school, in order to illustrate the lasting bond between the two communities. This mural features the handprints and names of TCU students and the children of Tepeyac. **INSET:** A young elementary school student waits to have her hands washed after making her prints on the mural.

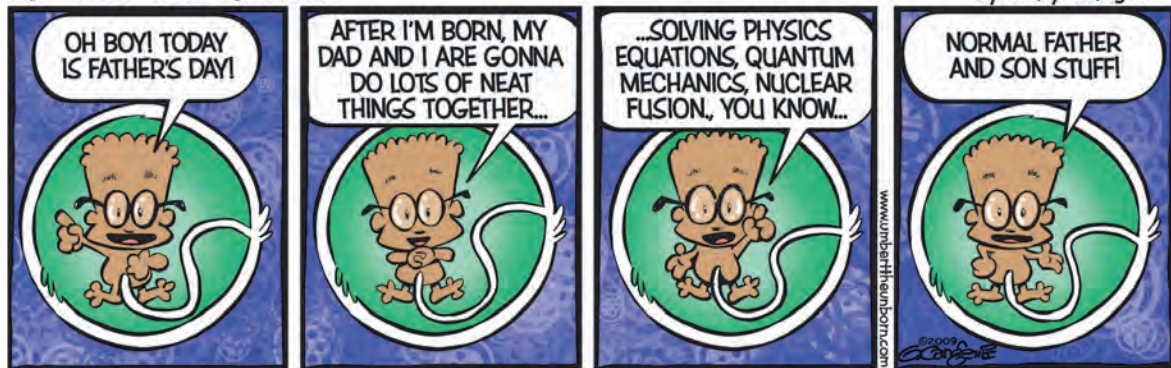
The FLOCK

By Jean Denton

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Umbert the Unborn



by Gary Cangemi

Calendar

ST. MICHAEL / SPANISH MASS

St. Michael Parish will begin offering Mass in Spanish. The first Mass will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, at 1 p.m. The last Mass in English will be the 1 p.m. Mass on May 24. The St. Michael Parish staff expresses their gratitude to all of who have helped in this transition and continue to ask for support as they strive to be welcoming to the growing Hispanic community. For more information, contact Father Luis Runde, OFM, at (817) 283-8746 ext. 32

DIVORCE CARE FOR KIDS

St. Paul the Apostle Parish, 5508 Black Oak Lane in Fort Worth, will offer a new Divorce Care Series with the addition of a companion series, Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K). The 12-week program, distributed by Church Initiative, will begin June 4 and will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Facilitators and helpers in both programs have been trained in the program, and have attended "Keeping Children Safe." DC4K is geared to children ages five through 12, and the adult series is designed for age 13 and older. Pre-registration is preferred. For more information, call the parish office at (817) 738-9925. There is no cost for this program.

CHILDREN OF GOD'S DELIGHT

The Children of God's Delight Christian Community will host a "Born of the Spirit" seminar May 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church located at 5508 Black Oak Ln. in Fort Worth. The cost for the seminar is \$10, and scholarships are available. For more information or to reserve a seat for the seminar, contact Natasha Childress at (817) 312-5421 or nateater@yahoo.com, or Stephanie Ayala at (817) 239-1297 or sayala3@sbcglobal.net.

SINGLES RETREAT

"Singles Living in the Spirit," the diocesan singles retreat will be held May 29-31 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge St., Fort Worth. The retreat is designed for all singles interested in their faith. All those who have never been married, as well as those single again are invited. The cost is \$80 for the weekend. For more information, contact Elizabeth at (817) 368-6898 (cell) or visit the Web site at www.fwdioc.org under Faith Formation and then Singles Ministry.

NFP PRACTITIONERS

The FertilityCare Center of North Texas will offer an informational luncheon May 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for individuals interested in teaching a natural form of family planning and women's health maintenance. The luncheon will be held at St. Maria Goretti Church, located at 1200 S. Davis Blvd. in Arlington. RSVP to Mandy Cox at fccont@att.net or at (817) 685-0756. The cost is \$6. For more information, visit www.fwcreighton.com.

MINISTRY FOR GAYS, LESBIANS

The Fort Worth diocesan Ministry with Lesbian and Gay Catholics, Other Sexual Minorities and Their Families regularly meet the fourth Thursday of the month. The next regular meeting will be May 28 at 7 p.m. at the Catholic Renewal Center at 4503 Bridge St. in Fort Worth. For more information, contact Father Warren Murphy, TOR, at (817) 927-5383 or Doreen Rose at (817) 329-7370.

COURAGE GROUP

Courage D/FW, a spiritual support group for those striving to live chaste lives according to the Catholic Church's teachings on homosexuality, meets every second and fourth Friday evening of the month. For information, e-mail to CourageDFW@Catholic.org or call (972) 938-5433.

CALIX SUPPORT GROUP

Calix, a monthly support meeting for Catholics who are alcoholic and others who are struggling with addiction and seeking recovery, is offered the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the chapel of Holy Family Church, 6150 Pershing Ave. in West Fort Worth. Calix meetings focus on enhancing spiritual growth through sharing Eucharist, discussion, and fellowship. For more information, call Deacon Joe Milligan at (817) 737-6768 ext. 105.

To Report Misconduct

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct by anyone who serves the church, you may

- Call **Judy Locke, victim assistance coordinator**, (817) 560-2452 ext. 201 or e-mail her at jlocke@fwdioc.org
- Or call the **Sexual Abuse Hotline** (817) 560-2452 ext. 900
- Or call The Catholic Center at (817) 560-2452 ext. 102 and ask for the chancellor/moderator of the curia, Father James Hart

To Report Abuse

Call the **Texas Department of Family Protective Services (Child Protective Services)** at (800) 252-5400

TRIBUNAL TRAINING

The diocesan Tribunal Office will offer Tribunal Advocate Training three Thursdays in July. The training will be held July 16, 23, and 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth. Anyone wishing to serve as a Tribunal advocate in a parish is invited to participate in this training. Attendance at all three sessions is required to serve as an advocate, and attendance at "Introduction to Tribunal Ministry" or equivalent is a prerequisite. There is no charge for this seminar, and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required by Friday, July 10. For more information and to register, call (817) 560-3300 ext. 204.

NTC BEGINS SUMMER SCHEDULE

The *North Texas Catholic* is published twice monthly, except during the months of June, July, and August when it is published monthly. The deadline to submit information is noon on the Wednesday of the week before the paper is published. Items for the June 26 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, June 17.

MT. CARMEL CENTER

Mount Carmel Center in Dallas has announced its 2009-2010 schedule. The first seminar scheduled is "Introduction to the works and spirituality of St. Teresa of Jesus," presented by Father Stephen Sánchez, OCD, Wednesday, July 29, or Saturday, Aug. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon. This conference will offer an overview of the historical settings of the reform movement that led to St. Teresa's works. Participants may bring a lunch and stay for personal prayer until 4 p.m. The suggested donation for this conference is \$25. The deadline to register is Wednesday, July 22. For more information, contact Mary Bellman at admin@mountcarmelcentr.org or call (214) 331-6224 ext. 314.

ST. AUGUSTINE GROUP

The St. Augustine Men's Purity Group, a support group for men who struggle with sources of sexual impurity such as those found on the Internet, meets regularly in Room 213 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, located at 2016 Willis Lane, Keller; at 1301 Paxton Ave. (Padre Pio House) in Arlington; and at Immaculate Conception Parish in Denton at 2255 Bonnie Brae St. For additional information, visit the Web site at www.sampg.com, or e-mail to Mark at seasmenspurity@yahoo.com.

LAY CARMELITES

The Lay Carmelites invite those in search of a deeper relationship with Christ to join them on the second and fourth Sundays of the month for a time of prayer and fellowship. Those interested in participating are asked to gather at 2 p.m. in the chapel of The College of St. Thomas More, 3017 Lubbock St. in Fort Worth. Formation will take place in the college library from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Phyllis Poth at (817) 457-1746.

HEALING MASS

Father Tom Wigginton invites all to participate in a Healing Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 5508 Black Oak Lane, Fort Worth. Father Robert Hilz, TOR will celebrate the Mass Monday, June 1, at 7 p.m. For more information, call the parish office at (817) 738-9925.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Marriage Encounter weekends will be held July 10-12 and Oct. 9-11 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth. Marriage Encounter, a marriage enrichment program, is centered on three principles: building communication between husband and wife, nurturing the commitment of marriage vows, and strengthening the couple's faith. For more information or to register online, visit the Web site at www.ntexasme.org or e-mail to meregistration@sbcglobal.net

NOLAN BAND CAMP

Nolan Catholic High School will offer its ninth annual Middle School Summer Band Camp June 8-12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Summer band camp provides opportunities to bring together young musicians from across the Metroplex and learn from some of the best music teachers in the area, according to a press release. Camp will be held in the Music Hall of the Multi-Purpose Activity Center at Nolan Catholic High School located at 4501 Bridge St. in East Fort Worth. An end-of-camp concert will be held on June 12 at 11 a.m. Cost of the camp is \$75 which includes five days of group, ensemble, and individual instrument instruction, and a concert experience. For more information and to register, visit the "Band" page on the school's Web site at www.nolancatholic.org or contact Melissa Korzekwa at mkorzekwa@nolancatholic.org, or at (817) 457-2920 ext. 1733.

ROSARY CONGRESS

Marian Renewal Ministry Director, Father Al Winshman, SJ, will be the presenter at the 20th annual Rosary Congress sponsored by Apostolatus Uniti and hosted by St. Ann Church in Burleson, June 13-20. The Rosary Congress will also feature the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the Our Lady of Fatima carved by renowned sculptor, José Thedim, June 19-20. For information on Rosary Congress, call Bonnie Sager at (817) 723-5630 or visit the Web site at www.apostolatusuniti.com

ST. MARY, WINDTHORST

St. Mary Parish of Windthorst will be celebrating its 117th birthday celebration on Sunday, June 7, beginning at noon. Activities will be held in St. Mary's parish hall and school grounds. There will be new activities as well as some old favorites. A Dairy Derby Fun Run/Health Walk will begin at noon on the football field. To pre-register, contact Diane Conrady at (940) 423-6304 or register the day of the race from 11-11:45 a.m. at the concession stand by the football field. A horseshoe tournament will start at noon and will run all day. For additional information, contact Jerry or Terry Bacon at (940) 237-7765 or (940) 423-6121. A Live Auction will start at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Contact David Veitenheimer at 423-6780 or Michael Schroeder at (940) 423-6267 for information and to register for the golf tournament to be held on Saturday, June 6. For more information, contact the church office at (940) 423-6687.

BILINGUAL MINISTRY WORKSHOP

Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House is offering a bilingual workshop June 8-11. Jesuit Fathers Jose Fetzer and Edmundo Rodriguez will facilitate discussions on recruitment, analysis, and decision-making in ministry. The cost of the program, which includes room and board for three days, is \$300. For more information and registration, call (940) 321-6020 or visit montserratretrat.org.

SUBIACO SUMMER PROGRAM

Subiaco Academy is offering a new three-week intensive summer school program from June 14-July 3 for young men in grades 9-12. Young men who failed a required class for graduation can earn one full credit in one of the core subjects offered. The deadline to register is June 11. For more information and an application, visit the Web site at www.subi.org or call the Admissions Office at (800) 364-7824 or e-mail admissions@subi.org.

'SUNSET CRUISE'

Catholics Respect Life and The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Fort Worth will sponsor the fund raising event "Sunset Cruise" Sunday, May 31, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All are invited to join pro-life friends on the Lone Star Lady for an evening of music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres and cruise on the lake. The cruise will begin at Silver Lake Marina located on Lake Grapevine. A reservation is required and a \$50 per person donation is suggested. Reserve online at www.catholicrespectlife.org or call for reservations early, suggests promotion material, as space is limited to 100 people. For more information contact Catholics Respect Life at (817) 623-2430 or e-mail angela@catholicrespectlife.org. All proceeds benefit the ministries of Catholics Respect Life and are tax-deductible.

OLGHS TOURNAMENT

Our Lady of Grace Catholic High School, in association with the Knights of Columbus, will host the second annual Lions Summer Scramble Monday, June 8. The tournament will be held at the Diamond Oaks Country in North Richland Hills beginning with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. The cost for the event is \$89 per person and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, prizes, and "goody-bag" with various gift certificates. When all golfers have completed their rounds, they will be treated with a 19th hole banquet/luncheon. All proceeds from the event will benefit the OLGHS athletics program. Sponsorships are still being accepted. For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to register for the tournament, visit the Web site at www.olghs.golfreg.com or call the school office at (817) 933-6516.

Classified Section

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

St. Mark Catholic Church, Denton, has an opening for a full-time (40 hour) coordinator of high school youth ministry. This individual would direct the comprehensive high school youth ministry program, which includes adolescent catechesis, the implementation of the diocesan youth ministry program, involvement of youth in diocesan sponsored youth activities, confirmation preparation, and direction of the Life Teen program. We are looking for an energetic, faith-filled individual who is an active member of a Catholic parish and well organized, with excellent communication and computer skills, and is both creative and detail-oriented. A thorough understanding of relational ministry is critical. In addition, this person will be responsible for recruiting and training volunteers for the programs under his/her direction. A bachelor's degree in theology (or its equivalent) is preferred as well as diocesan certification in youth ministry. If interested, e-mail a résumé to slesko@stmarkdenton.org or fax it to (940) 382-1641, to the attention of Silvia Jo Lesko, director of Religious Education. Application due date is June 5. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.

LITURGY / MUSIC DIRECTOR

A North Dallas Suburban Parish in transitional growth is seeking a full-time director of liturgy and music to lead the assembly in worship and song as a member of our pastoral team. A collaborative person is needed to initiate and grow a comprehensive liturgical music ministry; to guide parish liturgical ministries, plan and accompany weekend liturgies, holy days, weddings, funerals, special liturgical celebrations, direct and rehearse choir and cantors and interface with existing Spanish Choir. Requires close collaboration with staff and parishioners. Needs strong piano and conducting skills, good vocal skills, knowledge of Catholic liturgy and must be a practicing Catholic with a degree in liturgy or music, or equivalent years of experience. Salary and diocesan benefits commensurate with education or experience. Send letter, résumé, salary requirements and three current/verifiable references to: Search Committee Liturgy and Music, 352 Cascata Drive, Frisco, TX 75034.

ACCOMPANIST

Accompanist with experience at three-manual pipe organ needed for three weekend Masses at Holy Family Church in Fort Worth. Responsibilities include rehearsals with up to two choirs weekly, holy day Masses; availability for parish funerals, weddings, and major parish celebrations throughout the year is preferred. Applicant must be familiar with post-Vatican II Catholic liturgy. Send a résumé to Holy Family Church; Attn: Diane Kain, 6150 Pershing Ave., Fort Worth 76107 or e-mail to dkain@holymfamilyfw.org. For more information, call (817) 737-6768 ext. 104

SACRED HEART PRINCIPAL

Sacred Heart Catholic School in Muenster is seeking a spiritual and educational leader to serve as principal for 2009-2010. Sacred Heart, a PreK-12 school with 260 students, has served the parish community for 117 years. Candidates must be a practicing Catholic and must have master's degree with 18 hours of administration and three years experience in a Catholic school. Administrative experience is preferred. Submit a letter of interest, résumé, references, and a request for an application to Catholic School Office, Sacred Heart Principal Search, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, TX 76108-2919.

ASSOC. SUPERINTENDENT

The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of associate superintendent of schools. The associate superintendent will provide leadership and service in the areas of curriculum, supervision, professional development, accreditation, and federal programs. Dedication to quality Catholic school education as integral to the teaching mission of the Catholic Church should be demonstrated with a minimum of five years administrative experience in Catholic schools. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic with at least a master's degree in educational administration or a related field. Submit a letter of interest, résumé, and references to Catholic School Office, Associate Superintendent Search, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, TX 76108-2919.

SECRETARY/YOUTH MINISTER

St. Patrick Cathedral is seeking a full-time secretary/youth minister. This job candidate must be a practicing Catholic, well formed in the faith, possess good organizational skills, be proficient with computer skills (knowledge of PDS and Spanish is desirable), and have experience teaching or working with youth. Not only will this person direct junior and senior high programs, including Confirmation preparation, retreats and other youth activities, but should also be flexible in accomplishing a variety of support activities for the Religious Formation Department. Submit a letter of interest, résumé, references and a request for application to St. Patrick Cathedral, Attn: Patty Bransford, 1206 Throckmorton St., Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

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Good Newsmaker

Students from TCU's Catholic Community serve children in Nicaragua and build

Lasting Friendships



A sign welcomes visitors to the retreat house run by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Tepeyac, Nicaragua, where TCU students established lasting friendships.

By Kathy Cribari Hamer
Correspondent
Photos courtesy of
TCU Catholic Community

Texas Christian University students traveled to Nicaragua two spring breaks in a row. The university called the trips service-learning opportunities, but the students described their trips with simpler words — first names.



Fr. Charlie Calabrese, Catholic campus minister at TCU, breaks up the rocky Nicaraguan soil and digs holes in order to plant banana trees.



TCU students take a break after an afternoon spent stacking firewood for sale at the Sisters' retreat house, which also serves as a community center and offers services such as tutoring and marriage and family enrichment.

"There was a kid last year named Milton," said Harrison Hanvey, a junior mechanical engineering major from Wichita Falls, "and we played soccer with him.

"This year on the first day, he walked with us around the village, and he remembered me, which I didn't expect. While we were out there, he challenged me to a foot race and he destroyed me!"

"I went on the trip last year as a freshman," said Jenny Nguyen, a TCU sophomore from Arlington, where she is a member of St. Matthew Parish. "There was a 12- or 13-year-old girl named Christina, and we got to know each other, even though my Spanish was limited. When we left, she asked me when we would come back.

"Then, on the first day this year," Jenny said, "Christina came to the party they had for us, and she was carrying her baby sister. She handed the baby to me. I was amazed, because Christina trusted me enough to give something so valuable — her baby sister — to me."

The service-learning excursion was to Tepeyac, a village 10 kilometers from Granada,

and participants were mostly students from the TCU Catholic Community, directed by Father Charles Calabrese, campus minister, who has worked with the university for more than 25 years.

Co-sponsor of the trip was TCU International Student Services, directed by John Singleton, whose friendship with Sister Liz, a Sister of the Sacred Heart, located in Tepeyac, was the catalyst for the trip. Also taking part was Christina Ramos, from TCU's Inclusiveness and International Services staff.

"I was obviously happy," Singleton said, "but also surprised at how many people in the community remembered our students by name."

A group of eight students went to Tepeyac in 2008, and this year seven of the eight returned, along with 13 additional students. The TCU students were the first college group to visit Tepeyac on a service trip. And they were the first group of any kind to visit again.

"One of the things Fr. Charlie and Christina and I worried about," Singleton said, "was if we took 20 students, that was so much different than taking eight. My greatest concern was that with 20 students there wouldn't be the chance for that engagement. But I learned that 20 students were able to engage



TCU Catholic Community member Kim Tran offers candy to children following a soccer game at the Tepeyac elementary school.

at the same level."

The inaugural Tepeyac trip, in 2008, had been mostly organizational. The group stayed with the sisters in their retreat house, Casa de Retiros, and while there, spent 40 percent of their time learning about the community, 30 percent working on local jobs at the convent, and another 30 percent traveling within Nicaragua. On the 2009 trip, students came ready to meet with the community, identify their needs, and make future plans.

"We didn't want to program expectations," Fr. Charlie said. "Everything was negotiable, and as the experience unfolded we made changes."

Colegio Juan Diego has more than 600 students in two small buildings, and "lacks everything you grew up with," according to a TCU student-produced flier, "running water, electricity, plumbing, clean bathrooms, windows, doors, books, an ability to store supplies and secure the rooms."

"One thing I struggled with was how we could make the most impact there," Hanvey said. "We only had a week, and everyone wanted to make the most of it, to make each day count. That was difficult for me I guess, having the American



Nick Boerner, a member of the TCU Catholic Community, smiles with his two new friends from the school.

mindset of making progress, and getting things done."

"Speed is always an interesting thing for us," Singleton said, "because the quicker we get something accomplished, the more we feel like we've achieved something. But for what we're doing there, slowness is really a key thing to making this all work.

"Where I grew up the church would go in, do a mission trip, then next year they would choose another place and go in," he said, "never the same place, never that long-term bond."

So the TCU students met with the community and made a long-term commitment to education in Tepeyac, Fr. Charlie said. "They told them, 'If we help the community, they need

SEE TEPEYAC, P. 22

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Inside... This issue of the NTC

This year's Serra Club poster contest produced another crop of very inspired artwork from Catholic students across the diocese. Take a look at the first place winners. **8**

Father Richard Flores, Father Ivor Koch, and Father Hector Medina, are all celebrating their silver anniversaries of ordination in June. Read a bit about these priests' lives and ministries. **9**

The UTA Catholic Community is growing and developing. Mass attendance at the UCC's weekly Mass has doubled in the last year, and they sponsored a pro-life art show, Amor Vitae. **12**