

# North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

Vol. 23 No. 12

August 31, 2007



**PERU EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY** — Peruvian workers recover items from an earthquake-destroyed Catholic church in Pisco, Peru, Aug. 19. More than 500 people are known to have been killed and 1,500 injured in a magnitude 8 earthquake that struck about 125 miles south of Lima Aug. 15. (CNS photo/Mariana Bazo, Reuters)

## Immigration issues the focus of USCCB Labor Day statement

By Mark Pattison

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Immigration issues, including the “failed immigration debate” that preceded Congress’ unsuccessful vote to change U.S. immigration policy, were highlighted in the U.S. bishops’ annual Labor Day statement.

“This vital national immigration discussion polarized our people, paralyzed the Congress, and failed our nation,” said Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, New York, chairman of the bishops’ domestic policy committee, in the statement. “After this debate, we are a society more divided, a people more confused, and a nation unable to move forward on one of the most serious and complicated issues we face as a nation.”

Although members of Congress could not work together on immigration policy, some low-wage workers were able to work

together to carve out a better life for themselves, one of the “signs of hope” pointed to by Bishop DiMarzio in his statement.

Dated Sept. 3, the statement, “Labor Day 2007: A Time to Remember; A Time to Recommit,” was released Aug. 24.

Bishop DiMarzio was critical of the immigration policy debate. “In my view, sometimes anger trumped wisdom, myths overwhelmed facts, and slogans replaced solutions,” he said. “We have to restart the discussion, to re-engage the hard issues, to search for practical and realistic solutions,” he added.

“This debate brought out some of the worst in us. Now we need to draw on the best in us if we are ever going to move forward as a whole, healthy society and nation,” the bishop said, calling for “reality, civility, morality, and consistency” as the starting

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## Working through parishes, church helps Peruvian earthquake victims

By Barbara J. Fraser

LIMA, Peru (CNS)—When it comes to dealing with disasters like the powerful earthquake that struck Peru’s southern coast Aug. 15, the Catholic Church has an advantage — the pastors know the people.

In responding to an emergency, “you build on your strengths,” said Aaron Skrocki, South American emergency program manager for Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ overseas humanitarian and development agency. “Having a local (parish) community in place that knows the people better than any local

government official does makes it much easier to get a response effort up and running.”

Skrocki arrived in Peru the night after the earthquake and traveled Aug. 17 to Chinchipe, Pisco, and Ica, the three cities nearest the epicenter.

The scene was chaotic immediately after the earthquake, which killed more than 500 people, injured more than 1,500, and left at least 35,000 families homeless. Although more than 200 flights, carrying more than 600 tons of supplies, had arrived at the air force base in Pisco, distribution was slow.

“There was a lack of coordination,” said Luis Cordoba, emergency coordinator for CRS in Peru. “No one knew what assistance had arrived, what had been distributed, and what else was needed.”

Two days after the quake, people were “waiting all day in line for one one-liter bottle of water,” Skrocki said. “The longer this goes on, the more desperate people become.”

Part of the problem with distribution was logistical: Electricity was cut off; water could not be pumped; and roads and bridges

SEE AID IS BEING... P. 21

## Respect Life materials focus on children as ‘cause for rejoicing’

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities has published materials for the 2007-2008 Respect Life program, using the phrase “The Infant in My Womb Leaped for Joy” as its theme.

Taken from the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, the words refer to the pregnancies of Mary and her elderly cousin, Elizabeth — both “cause for rejoicing” despite their unusual

circumstances, said a brochure published as part of the Respect Life package.

“The Old and New Testaments are filled with such passages extolling children as gift and blessing,” the brochure says. “It is disheartening, therefore, to see how far our culture has diverged from this view.”

A series of articles, also published in brochure form, address

SEE RESPECT LIFE... P. 22

## Diocese continues to be vigilant in maintaining safe environment for youth, vulnerable adults

By Joan Kurkowski-Gillen  
Correspondent

When the Catholic clergy abuse scandal became headline news across the country in 2002, longtime diocesan employee Ruth Smith felt sad and confused. “I couldn’t believe it could happen in a sacred place,” she says, still remembering her frustration. “As a mother, it upset me.”

Since that time, the Diocese of Fort Worth has evaluated and increased already existing mea-

asures in order to better protect young people and vulnerable adults from sexual predators. Mandatory criminal background checks, code of conduct enforcement, and programs designed to create greater awareness have been effective in preventing further harm, and thousands of employees and volunteers have been educated about the unpleasant realities of sexual abuse.

The Diocese of Fort Worth’s original policies, which ad-

ressed the matter of sexual misconduct by clergy, religious, or lay leaders, were first adopted in 1993 and were further updated in 2002 to bring diocesan policies into accord with the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.” The Charter, a comprehensive framework developed by the bishops and adopted at their national meeting in Dallas in June 2002, was created with the goal of ending

SEE SAFE ENVIRONMENT... P. 19



**SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM** — At a diocesan safe environment training session, Terri Liles (foreground) takes part in an exercise to differentiate the truths from the fallacies about sexual abuse. The session was offered at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Lewisville, Aug. 25. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)

# Faith must always be our starting point — ‘believe in order to understand’

Dear Friends in Christ in the  
Diocese of Fort Worth,

As I write these words on August 28th, I am reflecting on the fact that this day is the feast day of the great St. Augustine of Hippo, who is often termed the “Doctor of Grace.”

I (and many of my classmates and contemporaries at Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri) have a great respect and love for his life and writings thanks to one of my professors in the seminary, Sister Zoe Glenski D.C.

St. Augustine’s writing and reflection clarified our beliefs in grace, original sin, the divinity of Christ, and human nature being created in



Bishop Kevin W. Vann

*If our starting point in all things is Faith, then we can see the presence of God in all moments of our lives, and know that the power of the Lord is with us to see us through and sustain us....*

the image and likeness of God. The story of his life, narrated in his *Confessions*, holds out great hope for all of us, in that the struggles of his life with his Faith, with faults, failings, and sin, ultimately led to the working of the grace of God and the love of Christ for him. He also reminds us

that with the help of God, it is possible to live a life of Faith in a time of great change and turmoil. The environment of his time, at the Fall of the Roman Empire, was in some ways not too different than our time.

One of his sayings that is one of my favorites is “Do not try to understand to believe, but believe in order to understand (*De Magistro [On the Teacher] 11:37*).” This is not too much different than Pope Benedict’s words in *Jesus of Nazareth* when he says that when reading and studying the Scriptures we must take the “conviction of faith as our starting point for reading the texts with the help of historical methodology” ...(*xxiii*). I would compare these words to a set of lenses [the lenses of Faith] with which we must view and understand all events of our life. Faith must always be our starting point — “believe in order to understand.”

If our starting point in all things is Faith, then we can see the presence of God in all moments of our lives, and know that the power of the Lord is with us to see us through and sustain us, to bring the light of God to all moments and challenges, to understand where we are being led in this world, both personally and as the living Body of Christ, and lead us to eternal life. And, among

other things, to be grateful!

With that, I want to say a few words of thanks to who helped with, and were involved with the celebration of the ordinations of four new priests this past summer. This was a great day of hope for our local Church.

Let us thank all those who have been involved in parish religious education programs this summer. The presence of the Lord is in all of these moments.

I would like to say a special word of thanks to Mary McLarry and Dan Luby for their years of service to our local Church and for their kindness and help to me personally. Let us wish them well and pray for them as they begin this new time in their lives where the Lord has led them.

As we stand on the threshold of another new school and academic year, we can be grateful for all who will be involved in our faith and spiritual lives in the many programs and efforts that lie ahead. All of these endeavors are so that we may believe, and “believe in order to understand.”

(More on believing in order to understand next month)

God bless you always  
+ Kevin W. Vann  
Bishop of Fort Worth

## Pope says young people are strongly attracted to Jesus Christ and the Gospel, contrary to what many think

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Contrary to what many may think, young people are strongly attracted to Jesus Christ and the Gospel, Pope Benedict XVI told thousands of Spanish youths.

The pope urged some 5,000 pilgrims from Youth Mission of Madrid to continue to help their peers discover they are all loved by God and that his is “the only love that never fails and never ends.”

The pope spoke to the young people packed inside the courtyard of his papal summer residence, south of Rome, Aug. 9. Pope Benedict sat and listened from his balcony as five young adults described how they grew closer to God and the church through their evangelization efforts with Madrid’s Youth Mission missionary initiative.

The program, spearheaded by Madrid Cardinal Antonio Rouco Varela, helps prepare young Catholics to evangelize their peers.

The pope told his audience that people have not and will not



Pope Benedict XVI greets the faithful from the balcony of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, as he leads a special audience for young people from the Archdiocese of Madrid, Spain, Aug. 9. (CNS photo/Dario Pignatelli, Reuters)

always be receptive to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Just as the early disciples faced many obstacles and persecution, even today “you see many around you who have forgotten or do not want anything to do with” God, and instead remain “blinded by many fleeting dreams that promise much but leave the heart

empty,” he said.

Faith in Jesus opens up “the horizon of a new life, authentic freedom, and hope without limits,” he said, but it needs missionaries to bring this saving power to everyone.

“Contrary to what many people think, the Gospel strongly attracts young people,” he said.



North  
Texas  
Catholic



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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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**SEMINARIAN RESIDENCE HALL DEDICATED** — Bishop Kevin Vann (second from right) is pictured with (others, l. to r.) Bishop James Tamayo of Laredo; Bishop Emeritus Charles Grahmann of Dallas; Bishop Gerald Barnes of San Bernardino, California; Bishop Armando Ochoa of El Paso; and Bishop Edmond Carmody of Corpus Christi at the dedication of the new residence hall at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio. The new 50,000-square-foot facility, which was dedicated Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary, is viewed as a sign of increased interest in vocations to the priesthood. (Photo by Ruben Alfaro, TODAY'S CATHOLIC)

## New seminary residence hall seen as symbol of renewed interest in the priesthood

By Jordan McMorrough  
Editor, *Today's Catholic*  
Archdiocese of San Antonio

Last fall, Assumption Seminary in San Antonio welcomed the largest class of men studying to become Catholic priests in decades. In just seven years, Assumption Seminary has grown from 34 to 96 students.

In anticipation of this remarkable growth at the seminary, a \$13 million capital campaign was initiated in 2004. The funds were earmarked to restore the campus infrastructure and to build a new 50,000-square-foot residence hall named for San Antonio Archbishop Emeritus Patrick F. Flores. The new structure will soon be home to 80 students and four faculty members.

The dedication of the facility was held Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary, for which Assumption Seminary was named. It also marked the 29th anniversary of the priestly ordination of Archbishop José H. Gomez.

Archbishop Gomez and Archbishop Flores were joined in the celebration by Cardinal Francis George, OMI, of Chicago. The cardinal serves on the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, and is vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

The evening began with the celebration of Mass at the Assumption Seminary Chapel. Cardinal George was the principal

celebrant, and Archbishop Gomez and Archbishop Flores were the principal concelebrants.

Archbishop Gomez, in his homily, said it was very fitting that the Archbishop Flores Residence Hall be dedicated on the feast of the Assumption.

Speaking directly to his predecessor, he said, "Archbishop Flores, we're honored today to name this hall for you. It is a tribute to your tireless efforts to spread the Gospel of love, to proclaim the great things of God here in San Antonio."

He recalled the words of one of the favorite saints of the archbishop emeritus, St. Rafael Guízar y Valencia, who said, "A bishop can do without the miter, the crosier, and even without the cathedral. But he cannot do without the seminary, since the future of his diocese depends on it."

"I believe these words very much," Archbishop Gomez emphasized. "They are an inspiration for my ministry."

He recalled how the atheist government of Mexico persecuted St. Rafael and how they violently forced him to shut down his seminary in Xalapa, Vera Cruz, in 1921. This saintly bishop then risked his life to establish a new "underground" seminary in Mexico City. For the next 15 years, it was the only seminary in the country, helping to form more than 300 priests. Through their sacrifices and ministry they helped keep the faith alive in a

SEE SEMINARY'S..., P. 7

## Responding to God's Call

### Vocation awareness — Mission: Sacraments are 'channels of heaven coming to earth'

By Father Kyle Walterscheid

**W**hat is my mission in life? How can I be more certain that I am heading in the right direction with my life?

Several essentials are reading the Bible daily, having a daily prayer life, learning and following the teachings of the Church, and receiving the sacraments to be in communion with God and neighbor. In this column, I will cover the need for receiving the sacraments.

When I think of the significance of the sacraments, I often revisit the book of Genesis to remember the paradise in which we once lived. According to Genesis, chapter 2, mankind originally lived in a supernatural state of grace. In the garden of Eden, there was no pain or suffering, no division or hatred, no sin or death. How simple life was. You could imagine a land without limits, magnificent and spacious, tranquil and fruitful, a land in harmony with God except for that one isolated tree of knowledge of good and evil and the serpent who lived there — Satan. Adam and Eve could not resist even this one temptation (now we have millions), and as a result God removed man from paradise and caused him to live in a fallen state of limited natural grace.

What I enjoy reading about

the Old Testament, after the fall, is seeing God's many covenants with Israel. These allowed a gradual rebuilding of God's relationship with mankind. This is God's pure and holy grace in action. But, even living as a chosen race was not good enough for humanity.

Rather, we (mankind) refused to listen to the prophets, obey God's commandments, and remain faithful to his covenants (Matthew 21:33-46). Nevertheless, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

The sacraments of the Church are God's pure and holy grace in action. The sacraments are the dispensing of God's grace upon his disciples, a free gift that was given to Christ's disciples by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-47) and shall continue for all times.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, article 1210, speaks of the sacraments and their importance: "Christ instituted the sacraments of the new law. There are seven: baptism, confirmation, the Eucharist, penance, the anointing of the sick, holy orders, and matrimony. [Read this next part slowly and notice how the "all" is used.] The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life: They give birth and increase, healing and mission to the Christian's life of faith."

Yes, the sacraments draw mankind back into God's grace as we are given a new birth. We are forgiven; we are healed of all infirmity; and we are sent forth to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as our mission in life! With baptism we are reinstated into a

paradise of supernatural grace. Confirmation strengthens us and increases our conviction of salvation in Christ. In the Eucharist, the source and summit of the Church, we are united with Christ himself. In penance, through God's mercy, we are reconciled to God and with our neighbor. With the anointing of the sick, God heals us and brings us closer to his divine life. The bestowing of holy orders upon candidates to the diaconate, priesthood, and the episcopacy are God's great graces to his church, through devoted men, to continue to build his reign, bring his teachings to all, and unite his flock. And then comes the wonderful gift of grace in matrimony, the new birth of the life of husband and wife where the two become one body, ready to bring about a new family and a new generation of holy Christians because of their fidelity to one another, to Christ, and to his Church.

Through the seven holy sacraments that Christ gives his Church, all Catholics can enjoy a new spiritual paradise, living in Christ, in a supernatural state of grace. The sacraments are channels of heaven coming to earth! Division and hatred is ended; sin and death has no power over us; pain and suffering are united with Christ to purify us; and Christ our King reigns in a new paradise. Yes, I believe the sacraments solidify our meaning and mission in life! They lift up our souls to overcome all things; they point us in the right direction; they fill us with the grace and holiness of the Holy Spirit; and they send us forward to proclaim Christ to the world. Want to join in?

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.

Part 4 of 4

## Lay Carmelites invite others to join twice monthly gatherings

"Would you like to deepen your relationship with Jesus and Mary?" ask the Third Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel (Lay Carmelites). The Lay Carmelites invite those in search of this deeper relationship

to join them on the second and fourth Sundays of the month for a time of prayer and fellowship. The next scheduled gatherings will be Sept. 9 and 23.

Those interested are asked to gather at 1:45 p.m. in the rectory

chapel of St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 W. Magnolia Avenue in Fort Worth. Formation will take place from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the school building. For more information, call Phyllis Poth at (817) 457-1746.

## Day of prayer planned in celebration of the Holy Cross, Sept. 14

A day of prayer, praise, and reparation will be held Sept. 14 in Fort Worth. The event, the 10th annual celebration of the feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross, will begin with Mass at 12:05 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton Street in downtown Fort Worth. Participants are asked to bring their lawn chairs, their rosaries, and bottled water to the outdoor portion of the day's events.

The tentative schedule for the day includes a 2:30 p.m. procession with the cross, beginning at the north entrance of Trinity Park, located at the intersection of University Drive and 7th Street in Fort Worth. Other activities include devotional prayers, including the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 p.m. and the recitation of the rosary at 3:30 p.m.; the recitation of the Chaplet of the Precious Blood at 5 p.m.; and a presentation on the Triumph of the Holy Cross, given by Father Jim McGhee, at 6 p.m.

The Tridentine Mass will be offered at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 W. Magnolia Ave. in Fort Worth. Eucharistic adoration will follow. For more information, call Teresa Whitt at (817) 426-6379 or (817) 504-2839, or Georgia Damewood at (817) 657-1506.

## English Cursillo weekends to be offered in October

A Cursillo is a short course in Christianity consisting of a series of talks and meditations examining one's life in relation to Jesus Christ. Many who have gone through this experience have found it helpful in developing a deeper Christian spirituality.

A Cursillo weekend for men will be held Oct. 4-7, and a Cursillo weekend for women will take place Oct. 25-28. Both weekends, which will be presented in English, will be held at The Cursillo Center, 2221 N.W. 26th Street in Fort Worth.

Following a Cursillo experience, participants are encouraged to gather in groups on a regular basis to share with others about the progress of their spiritual journey, to pray, and to offer one another encouragement.

For more information, call Susan Urbanek at (817) 423-4095 or e-mail to qtpikitty@sbcglobal.net.

## Scripture study to be offered at St. Mark's

Organizers of Scripture study classes at St. Mark Church in Denton ask, "Would you like to learn the Word of God from a uniquely Catholic perspective, be able to defend your Catholic faith, and develop friendships with like-minded believers?"

Catholic Scripture Study is beginning a new year of classes at St. Mark Parish, located at 2800 Pennsylvania Drive in Denton, beginning Sept. 10. Each weekly session includes small group discussion, "prayer and share" time, and a large group presentation on the week's readings.

"This Bible study has been formally endorsed by Bishop Vann, and has been a blessing to Catholics at over 200 parishes around the world," wrote Scripture study organizer Jim Hawk. "This year, we will be studying the first five books of the Bible, Genesis through Deuteronomy."

Participants may choose from Monday morning classes from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. beginning Sept. 10, or Wednesday evening classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., beginning Sept. 12. For more information or to register, call Jim Hawk at (214) 552-8935.

## Beginning Sign Language Class to be offered at St. John's

The Deaf Ministry Program will offer a Beginning Sign Language Class this fall on Tuesday nights from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Church, 7341 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills. The sessions, which will begin Sept. 18 and continue through Oct. 30, will take place in the North Meeting Room of the parish's Family Life Center.

The classes are designed for adults and children 12 years of age or older. By participating in small group activities, games, and hands-on activities, students will learn basic vocabulary, rules of grammar, and cultural aspects of the deaf community.

The cost of the class is \$50, which includes the registration fee and sign book; payment will be collected the first night of class. Those planning to attend are asked to arrive at 6:30 p.m. on the first night of class to register. More information is available on the diocesan Web site at [www.fwdioc.org](http://www.fwdioc.org) by clicking on Pastoral Services, then Deaf Ministry; or by calling Mary Cinatl at (817) 284-3019.

# People & Events

## of Importance for the Church of Fort Worth



**KNIGHTS HELP FLOOD VICTIM** — Immediate Past State Deputy Leo Hanus (left) and New Council Development chairman Boyd Burris (right) of the Texas Knights of Columbus are shown presenting checks to Clarence "Dutch" Metzler, a member of Knights Council #11905 of Lindsay. Metzler and his wife experienced flooding in their house as a result of the torrential rains recently plaguing North Texas. The Metzlers had three feet of water in their home, and their truck, which was parked in front of the house, was destroyed. Metzler, a Knight for 62 years, joined the fraternal organization in 1944 after serving in World War II. The donated funds were provided by the Texas State Council Charities, and Western Metroplex Chapter, along with numerous councils and assemblies.

## Catholics Respect Life to offer Mass in honor of Our Lady of Fatima

Catholic Respect Life, a pro-life ministry in the Diocese of Fort Worth, is sponsoring a Mass and procession Saturday, Oct. 13, in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. The Mass will begin at 7 a.m. at St. Mary of Assumption Parish, 509 W. Magnolia in Fort Worth, with Bishop Kevin Vann as the main celebrant. The procession will immediately follow the Mass.

For more information, call Nan Wilsterman at (817) 346-0926 or e-mail to [nan4life01@hotmail.com](mailto:nan4life01@hotmail.com).

## St. Augustine Men's Purity Group meets weekly

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 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller, in Room 213, and at the Padre Pio House, 1301 Paxton in Arlington. Those men interested in attending one of the upcoming sessions are asked to consult the group's Web site, [www.sampg.com](http://www.sampg.com), for specific meeting dates and times.

For more information, e-mail to Mark at [seasmenspurity@yahoo.com](mailto:seasmenspurity@yahoo.com) or call the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish office at (817) 431-3857.

## Good Shepherd Parish to host program on addiction, redemption

Author Constance Curry and her adult daughter, addiction counselor Kristina Wandzilak, will offer a presentation at Good Shepherd Church, 1000 Tinker Road, Colleyville, Wednesday, Oct. 3, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The two Catholic women, authors of *The Lost Years*, published in October 2006 by Jeffers Press, will recount their family's story of addiction and redemption. The presentation is designed for youth in grades 9-12 and for adults of all ages.

In writing their account of their journey through addiction, the women tell a graphic story of Wandzilak's experience as the victim of violent sexual assault and her descent into a life of crime and homelessness until the age of 21.

Mary Kelly, who serves as the coordinator of religious education programs at Good Shepherd, said that the women's compelling story will help families struggling with addictions and will also help teens and young adults to discuss drugs and alcohol with their parents.

"I've heard these women speak, and they offer a powerful presentation," said Kelly. "Those of us who serve young people know that alcohol and drug abuse are on the rise. We hope that many parents and youth ministry leaders will bring their teens to this important event."

The presentation will be offered at no charge. For more information, contact Mary Kelly at (817) 421-1387.

## Family Life Office to hold golden anniversary celebration Oct. 14

The diocesan Family Life office will host the second annual golden anniversary celebration for all parishioners of the diocese who have been married 50 years or more by the end of 2007. The celebration will be held Sunday, Oct. 14, at Most Blessed Sacrament Church, 2100 N. Davis Drive in Arlington.

Bishop Kevin Vann will preside at a special Mass at 2:30 p.m. Participating couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage vows and to receive an anniversary blessing. A reception will follow in the parish Family Life Center.

Those couples who were married prior to 1958 and would like to participate in the celebration are asked to call their parish office and to provide their names, address, and date of marriage. Reservations are requested by Sept. 3.

For more information, contact the Family Life office at (817) 560-3300 or e-mail to [rstojak@fwdioc.org](mailto:rstojak@fwdioc.org) or [sordonez@fwdioc.org](mailto:sordonez@fwdioc.org).

## St. Vincent de Paul Church to host parish mission, Sept. 16-20

St. Vincent de Paul Church, located at 5819 W. Pleasant Ridge Road in Arlington, will host a parish mission, entitled "God is My Rock," Sept. 16-20. The mission, to be offered on five consecutive evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., will be held in the church's main sanctuary.

Redemptorist priests Father John Kuehner and Father Jack Down will serve as presenters during what event organizers call "five dynamic nights that will renew your faith!" Nightly themes of the mission include the topics "God's plan of salvation ... and our response," "Who is Jesus for you?," "Sin, reconciliation, and healing," "Jesus, the Bread of Life — our food for the journey," and "Mission — sharing the work of Jesus and the church."

All are welcome to attend. Childcare is available with prior reservation at no charge for children ages eight and under. A social with refreshments will follow each evening's presentation. For more information or to reserve childcare, call (817) 478-8206.

## St. John's to host 40 hours of eucharistic adoration, beginning Sept. 14

The Stewardship Council of St. John the Apostle Parish, 7341 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills, will sponsor 40 hours of eucharistic adoration in celebration of the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. The devotion will begin Friday, Sept. 14, at 8:15 a.m. with the celebration of Mass. Adoration will continue, except for the Saturday 5 p.m. Mass, until the 8 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Sept. 16.

The parish will accept sign-ups for the adoration beginning Sept. 8. For more information, call Mary Anne Lemmon at (817) 427-0953.

## Mother-Daughter Tea is opportunity to celebrate gifts of being female

A Mother-Daughter Tea, offered especially for girls ages 10 to 13, and their mothers, grandmothers, or other special female friends and relatives, will be held Sept. 16 from noon to 4 p.m. at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth.

The Sunday afternoon program, sponsored by the diocesan offices of Family Life and Natural Family Planning, is an opportunity for women across the generations to share their experiences and their faith. The Catholic Center will be transformed into a tea house, where tea and a light lunch will be served while female speakers share their personal stories of celebrating their femininity and the gifts received from God to function in this role. Discussion from a faith-based perspective will concentrate on the physical, emotional, and psychological changes that occur in young women during the adolescent years.

"If you are a parent looking for a way to begin to approach talking about these subjects with your daughter who is approaching adulthood," says Deacon Dick Stojak, director of the Family Life Office, "perhaps this is the opportunity for both of you to listen, talk, and share your thoughts and feelings."

The cost is \$12.50 per person. Space is limited, so reservations will be accepted on a first-call basis. To make a reservation call Kathy Stojak at (817) 773-8096.

## 'Jump Start Your Family' program to be offered at Good Shepherd

"Jump Start Your Family," a five-week series of programs designed to strengthen marriage and family life, will be offered at Good Shepherd Church, 1000 Tinker Road in Colleyville, on consecutive Thursday evenings, Sept. 27 through Oct. 25, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Topics and presenters are as follows: Sept. 27, "Saying 'I Do' Over and Over Again," by Butch and Linda Moses, coordinators of adult and family ministry at Holy Family Parish in Irving; Oct. 4, "Family Patterns," by Kelly Simmons, family life educator with The Parenting Center; Oct. 11, "How Much is Too Much?," by Melinda Weiler, parent educator with The Parenting Center, Catholic Charities, and the Camp Fire organization; Oct. 18, "Giving Life Back to Your Parents: Elder Care Basics," by Zanda Hilger-Seaberg, provider of elder caregiver education programs for the Area Agency on Aging of Dallas, North Central Texas, and Tarrant County; Oct. 25, "Necessary Losses," by Mary Rossman, certified spiritual director.

The cost is \$20 for the full series or \$5 per class. Childcare is available by reservation prior to Sept. 15. For childcare or to register for sessions, call the parish at (817) 421-1387 or visit the parish Web site at [www.gsc.net](http://www.gsc.net).

## Official Assignments

The following assignments were effective Aug. 1:

Rev. Charles Gorantla, a parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls, will serve as sacramental minister to Sacred Heart Parish in Seymour and St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Megargel.

Rev. John Swistovich has been appointed priest moderator for Sacred Heart Parish in Seymour and St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Megargel.

Rev. Richard Flores has been appointed assistant director for Hispanic Vocations, without prejudice to his appointment as pastor of St. Rita in Fort Worth.

Rev. Thu Nguyen has been assigned as parochial vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grapevine.

## People and Events

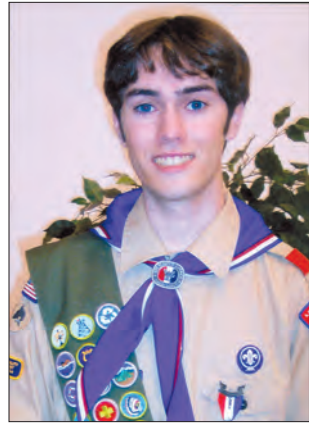
### Cub Scout, Boy Scout retreats planned for September

The Catholic Committee on Scouting of the Diocese of Fort Worth has announced that the annual Catholic retreats for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will be held in September at Worth Ranch, near Palo Pinto.

The 10th annual Catholic Cub Scout Retreat will be held Saturday, Sept. 29, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The retreat activities will include an opportunity to work on religious emblems, a historical reenactment, craft activities, games, songs, storytelling, and the celebration of Mass at Worth Ranch Chapel. Cub Scouts are invited to stay overnight on either Friday or Saturday, according to organizers, for a spiritually enriching program, during which many optional activities will be offered. Cub Scout families from every Pack are encouraged to participate.

The 47th annual Catholic Boy Scout Retreat, "Living the Scout Law," will begin Friday evening, Sept. 28, and will end Sunday, Sept. 30, at noon. During this retreat, the 12 Scout Laws will be brought to life, according to organizers, with the help of Catholic heroes such as St. Joan of Arc, St. George, and St. Ignatius Loyola. Father Anh Tran, the diocesan Scouting chaplain and pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in Grapevine, plans to participate and to be available for the sacrament of reconciliation and for Mass.

The cost of the Cub Scout Retreat is \$12 without breakfast, \$14 with breakfast, or \$20 for the entire weekend including Friday and Saturday night. The Boy Scout Retreat's cost is \$20 per Scout or Scouter. Information and applications for both retreats are available online at [www.bsaccs.org](http://www.bsaccs.org).



### Marc Seidel is awarded rank of Eagle Scout

Marc Seidel, 18, of Bedford, was awarded the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor for achievement, the Eagle Scout rank, March 22. His court of honor was held July 7 at St. Timothy Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Bedford, where he is a member of BSA Troop 86. As a special honor, Mayor Jim Story proclaimed July 7 as Marc E. Seidel Day in the city of Bedford.

Marc, a parishioner of St. Michael Church in Bedford, began his Scouting career as a Tiger Cub with Pack 850 at Holy Trinity School in Grapevine. He has also been awarded the Arrow of Light award and was elected a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, the Boy Scouts National Honor Society.

For his Eagle Scout project, Marc led a group of volunteers in building two large shelving units for Twice Blessed Resale Shop in Hurst. The son of Jason and Laura Lucero of Bedford, and William Seidel of Grapevine, Marc is a recent graduate of Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth. He will be attending Texas State University at San Marcos as a Mitte Honors Scholar.

### Diocesan Singles Mass to be celebrated Sept. 29 at St. Joseph's

The 25th annual Diocesan Singles Mass will be held Saturday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, 1927 S.W. Green Oaks Blvd. in Arlington. Father Michael Olson, vicar general for the Diocese of Fort Worth, will serve as the main celebrant.

Since 1982, singles of all ages from across the diocese have gathered at this yearly event to participate in the Eucharist and to enjoy food and fellowship at the gathering after Mass, according to information provided by the Diocesan Singles Council. Singles who have never married and those who are "single again" are invited to attend the Mass and the following social. A DJ will provide music at the social until 11:30 p.m.

All participants are asked to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the parish food pantry. Information about the diocesan Singles Ministry program and the ministry's activities and outreach will be available for those interested in becoming more involved.

Those interested in assisting with the liturgy are invited to contact Elizabeth Lowe at (817) 294-5989 or by e-mail to [beth18lowe@yahoo.com](mailto:beth18lowe@yahoo.com). For more information, contact Mike Wuller at (817) 292-9169 or by e-mail to [fwdscmw@earthlink.net](mailto:fwdscmw@earthlink.net). More information may also be found on the diocesan Web site at [www.fwdioc.org](http://www.fwdioc.org); look for the Singles Ministry option under Faith Formation.

### St. Boniface to celebrate town's centennial Oct. 6-7

St. Boniface Parish in Scotland and the entire Scotland community will join together in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the town's settlement in 1907. Located 19 miles south of Wichita Falls on U.S. Highway 281, Scotland was settled 100 years ago by people of predominantly German heritage, and a two-day centennial and Oktoberfest celebration honoring its founding will take place Oct. 6-7 with a variety of planned activities.

Historical tours and displays, a Scotland history book, and an antique tractor show are among the sights that visitors can expect to encounter. There will be limited edition centennial items for sale, and a special centennial postal cancellation will be available for purchase. German sausage and home-baked goods will be in plentiful supply.

A highlight of the two-day event will be the celebration of Mass by Bishop Kevin Vann on the morning of Oct. 7. Historic tours of the 96-year-old church will be offered during the two days of the festival. Much of the original building and its interior is still in use today.

All are welcome to join the Scotland community in celebrating its first 100 years. For more details, call Jerry or Margaret Smith at (940) 541-2285 or call the Scotland City Hall at (940) 541-2360.



**NOTRE DAME VISION CAMP** — Teens and youth ministers from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Arlington traveled to South Bend, Indiana, in July to attend Notre Dame University's Vision Camp. Offered each summer since 2002, the camp brings high school students together in order to help them to recognize God's call in their lives and to respond to that call with courage and faith. Pictured from the St. Vincent de Paul contingency are (l. to r., front) youth minister Liz Shauflert, Heather Myers, Becky Boyd, Katie Mamach, (back) Joseph Crowley, Royal Brown, Nic Gutierrez, and youth minister Diane Donahue. (Photo courtesy of Patty Myers)

### Czech Heritage Day to be held Sept. 15

A Czech Heritage Day, celebrating the 97th anniversary of the SPJST Lodge #92, will be held Saturday, Sept. 15, at 4 p.m. at the National Hall, 3316 Roberts Cut-off Road in Fort Worth.

Program highlights will include accordion music from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.; the Memory Makers Czech Choir from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and a Parade of Costumes at 6:20 p.m. Music will be provided by the Jodie Mikula Orchestra from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The Youth Club Kitchen will be open from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The cost of admission is \$8; children, ages 12 and under, are admitted free with a paid adult.

A traditional Czech dinner will be served from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$8 for adults, and \$4 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call (817) 624-1361.

### St. Michael Parish to celebrate feast day Sept. 29

St. Michael Parish, 3713 Harwood Road in Bedford, will celebrate its 30th anniversary feast day Saturday, Sept. 29, from noon until 5 p.m.

The church community, which was established in 1977, began scheduling the annual celebration in 1985 with the dedication of their current church building. Although feast day activities have changed through the years, event team leader Phil Farco explains, "the major focus of the day has remained the same: to have a day of thanks, appreciation, and community building for the people of St. Michael."

All are welcome to attend. "We look forward to seeing each and every one of you for a wonderful day filled with games, food, music, and fun," states a parish press release. "But most of all, we look forward to ... coming together as a community ... to honor our patron, St. Michael."

For more information, call the parish office at (817) 283-8746.

### Tim Staples to speak at Magnificat breakfast Sept. 22

A Magnificat Breakfast, sponsored by the Grapevine Magnificat chapter, will be held Saturday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. until noon at the Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 Highway 26 East in Grapevine. Tim Staples, a Catholic convert known for his work in Catholic apologetics and evangelization, will serve as the featured speaker at the event. Bishop Kevin Vann is expected to attend.

A radio interview with Tim Staples is also to be aired Sept. 14 at noon on the Guadalupe Radio Network station 910 AM KATH. More details about Tim Staples and his ministry may be found online at [www.catholic.com/seminars/staples.asp](http://www.catholic.com/seminars/staples.asp).

The ticket cost is \$18 per person. For more information about the breakfast or to purchase tickets prior to the Sept. 18 deadline, call Lucy Gonzales at (972) 393-2518. Tickets also may be purchased at the following Catholic bookstores: Keepsakes Catholic Books and Gifts, Arlington; Little Angels in Coppell, or Catholic Arts and Gifts in Farmer's Branch.

### Reunion for former St. Joseph Hospital employees set for Sept. 22

All former employees, physician staff, nursing and allied health students, volunteers, and friends of St. Joseph Hospital are invited to attend the annual reunion picnic Saturday, Sept. 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Arts Pavilion in Trinity Park in Fort Worth. Come "see old friends and share your experiences," suggest picnic organizers.

Participants are asked to bring their own food and drinks, and a chair if desired.

For more information, call Connie Dankesreiter at (817) 244-3311 or e-mail to [cdank@swbell.net](mailto:cdank@swbell.net).

### Series on Catholic social teaching to be held at St. Michael's

St. Michael Church, 3713 Harwood Road in Bedford, will be hosting a series on Catholic social teaching beginning Sept. 27 and continuing through Oct. 25. The Thursday evening sessions will take place from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. By participating in these seminars, according to information from the parish, participants will gain a better understanding of current social justice issues, possible solutions, and how their faith is calling them to action.

Topics to be covered include the following: Sept. 27, "Catholic Social Teachings 101," by Father Emmanuel Lewis; Oct. 4, "Poverty, Global Migration, and Effects of World Trade," by Father Juan Molina of Catholic Relief Services; Oct. 11, "Health Care and the Uninsured," by Catholic Health Association of Texas; Oct. 18, "Abortion and Capital Punishment," by Bishop Kevin Vann; Oct. 25, "Political Responsibility," by Ralph McCloud, diocesan director of Community and Pastoral Services.

For more information, call Martin Peña, director of social outreach/pastoral care at St. Michael Parish, at (817) 283-8746 ext. 30 or e-mail to [mpeña@smchurch.org](mailto:mpeña@smchurch.org).

### Calix support group meets monthly at Holy Family

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 Holy Family Church, 6150 Pershing Avenue in West Fort Worth. The next meeting will be held Sept. 1, beginning at 10 a.m. in the chapel.

Calix meetings focus on enhancing spiritual growth through sharing Eucharist, discussion, and fellowship.

For more details, call Deacon Joe Miligan at (817) 737-6768 ext. 105.

### NTC deadlines for submission

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 Sept. 14 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Sept. 5. Items for the Sept. 28 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Sept. 19.



**SIGN OF TRADITION** — St. Maria Goretti School in Arlington recently received an antiquated cast iron plaque from the Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars of Tampa, Florida. The sign, which was viewed by all who entered St. Patrick's School in Florida for 75 years, needed to be relocated because of closing of St. Patrick's School. The friars chose to combine their long tradition of Catholic education with the local efforts of St. Maria Goretti School. Principal Mary Ellen Dorskocil is shown accepting the plaque from Father Jim Gigliotti, TOR, pastor of St. Maria Goretti Parish. The sign, which is now displayed on Principal Dorskocil's office door, displays gold lettering, symbolizing "our glory and praise to God" on a green background, symbolizing "the virtue of hope," according to information from the school.

## Diocesan

# Catholic Charities partners with TXU Energy to ease effects of summer heat on low-income residents' energy bills

This summer, low-income individuals and families within Tarrant County have benefited from the long-standing partnership between Catholic Charities and TXU Energy. In order to aid Tarrant County citizens most in need of assistance, TXU will provide the social service agency with \$625,000 to help low-income residents with temporary bill-payment assistance.

Catholic Charities participated in TXU's summer safety awareness program, "Beat the Heat," by offering low-income TXU customers energy bill-payment assistance and information about other services available through Catholic Charities. During the recent summer months, Catholic Charities and TXU Energy have worked together to distribute box fans, energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs, and information about simple, low-

cost ways to conserve energy and avoid heat-related emergencies.

In order to help needy families meet their needs for electricity, TXU Energy has administered a long-term community assistance initiative, "TXU Energy Aid." Under this program, the company provides financial support to its customers in need through selected social service agency partners such as Catholic Charities. Since 1983, TXU Energy Aid has provided over \$40 million to assist more than 300,000 families throughout Texas in paying their electricity bills.

The company has pledged \$5 million to the TXU Energy Aid program in 2007. TXU also accepts donations for the program from customers and employees, matching such contributions at approximately \$5 for every \$1 donated. All TXU Energy Aid donations are returned to the

*"Catholic Charities is committed to serving the people in our community. The working poor ... each have a face, a story, and a need, and we are called to help them, particularly in the summertime when bills can be much higher."*

— Heather Reynolds  
Catholic Charities

local communities in which they are donated, and donations are tax-deductible.

In 2006, Catholic Charities assisted more than 9,500 individuals with emergency financial relief and distributed more than \$550,000 in TXU Energy Aid funds to over 2,000 of the company's customers. Catholic Charities manages the temporary bill-payment assistance program in Tarrant County to help low-income households with their energy bills.

"Catholic Charities is committed to serving the people in our community," said Heather Reynolds, president of Catholic Charities. "The working poor we serve each have a face, a story, and a need, and we are called to help them, particularly in the summertime when bills can be much higher. Catholic Charities is lucky to have a great partnership with TXU ... working together we can accomplish so much more!"

"TXU Energy is committed to

playing an active role in the communities in which we live and work," added Jim Burke, CEO of TXU Energy. "We truly value partnerships with life-changing organizations like Catholic Charities, and we are excited to help promote awareness of the many ways customers can stay cool and conserve energy this summer."

TXU Energy customers who wish to make a contribution can contact the TXU Energy Aid contribution line at 1 (877) 281-6359. Customers can make a one-time contribution or a recurring pledge to the the energy assistance program by completing the information on the back of their monthly TXU bills or when making payments online.

Families in need of a fan and/or assistance with their TXU Energy bill may contact Catholic Charities at (817) 921-5381.

## Ministry Formation Day in Wichita Falls will be held Oct. 6

"Encountering the Living Christ" is the theme of the diocesan Ministry Formation Day, to be held Oct. 6 at Notre Dame High School, 2821 Lansing Blvd. in Wichita Falls. The event is an opportunity for enrichment, fellowship, and development of practical skills for ministry.

Ministry Formation Day, to be offered in English and Spanish, will begin at 8 a.m. with the viewing of exhibits. Registration and a continental breakfast will follow from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

The keynote address, offered in English at 10 a.m., will be presented by Father Nathan Stone, SJ, from Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House. A native Texan, Fr. Stone has spent time as a teaching volunteer in Chile. Inspired by the Ignatian model, he became a Jesuit in 1992, and was ordained to the

priesthood in 2000 as a member of the Chilean province. Fr. Stone is a published writer, having had articles appear in both electronic and print media, including the Ignatian journal, *The Way*.

The Spanish keynote, which will begin at 11:15 a.m., will be presented by Jesús López of Los Angeles. López works full time in evangelization ministry among the Hispanic community of Los Angeles. Born in Michoacán Mexico, López has offered conferences, courses, and retreats throughout the United States, and in Mexico, Peru, El Salvador, and Guatemala. López and his wife, Araceli, are the parents of three children.



Saturday, Oct. 6  
Notre Dame High School  
Wichita Falls

During the English keynote address, a breakout session with Spanish-language workshops will be held, and while the Spanish keynote is offered, Eng-

lish-language workshops will take place. There also will be a second round of workshops in the afternoon, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Sessions will be offered on a variety of topics, including "Keeping Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults Safe," "Personalizing the Gospels, Encountering Christ in Everyday Living," "The New Evangelization for the Third Millennium," and "What's happening with Marriages Today: Developing an Effective Parish Ministry."

After another opportunity to view exhibits at 2:30, Ministry Formation Day will conclude at 3 p.m.

All involved in parish or school ministry, whether volunteer or paid staff, are welcome to attend. The cost, which includes lunch, is \$20 per person prior to Sept. 24; after that date, the cost is \$25. Scholarships are available. For more information, call The Catholic Center at (817) 560-3300 or visit the diocesan Web site at [www.fwdioc.org](http://www.fwdioc.org).

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## Diocesan / State

# JCDA biennial state convention takes place in Wichita Falls

One hundred and twenty-five young women and their 58 adult leaders from around the state of Texas met June 29 through July 1 for the 22nd biennial Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas State Convention, held in Wichita Falls.

Catholic Daughters of America Court Our Lady of Perpetual Help #296 of Windthorst served as the host court and prepared for the gathering, arranging all convention activities, including art projects, prayer services, Mass, and the convention banquet. Father John Peters, JCDA state chaplain, served as celebrant and spiritual leader for the convention.

Carolyn Bachmann, Texas state regent for the Catholic Daughters of America, served



Newly elected state officers for the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas — President Elizabeth Krenek, First Vice President Sarah Ornelas, Second Vice President Ashley Stilley, Secretary Christina Muench, and Reporter Laura Aguilar — pose for a picture with several state CDA officers, state chaplain Father John Peters, and the national CDA Regent Elect Libby Ramirez, after the JCDA installation Mass. The young women were elected to their new posts during the state JCDA convention, held June 29 through July 1 in Wichita Falls.

as guest speaker at the event, along with National CDA Regent Elect Libby Ramirez of Victoria. Ramirez offered congratulations to the delegates for an increase from 40 JCDA courts within the state of Texas to the current

number of 52, an increase that occurred in the past two years. New officers were elected at the convention and were installed at the Saturday evening liturgy.

"The trip for many Junior Catholic Daughter members,

[Fr.] John Peters, and the senior court representatives resembled preparations to board [Noah's] Ark," wrote Terrie Vacek, CDA state publicity chairman, in describing the event, noting that heavy rains during the event led

to hotel evacuations and closed roads due to area flooding.

"However, in the spirit of unity and charity and the JCDA three-fold program of 'Message, Service, and Community,' the attendees were led by the host court and the outgoing JCDA Board with humor, dignity, and confidence."

JCDA, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America, is an organization for Catholic girls ages 8 to 18. The program promotes development of the whole person, service to the community and church, and spiritual growth.

For more information about JCDA or CDA, visit the national Web site at [www.cda.org](http://www.cda.org) or the Texas site at [www.texascda.org](http://www.texascda.org).

# Seminary's new residence hall is symbolic of growth in priestly vocations

FROM PAGE 3  
very dark time, according to the archbishop.

He continued, "The church doesn't face persecution in our country. But the faith is seriously threatened by our society's growing indifference to spiritual values. Our culture no longer

understands the values of the Gospel. And that means it can't understand the supreme gift of the priesthood...."

However, "Assumption Seminary is a sign of contradiction in our culture. And a great sign of hope," Archbishop Gomez said.

"I'm proud to say that As-

sumption Seminary is a pioneer in preparing men to meet that special calling — to proclaim God's mercy and reconciliation in a society that is both bilingual and multicultural," Archbishop Gomez concluded. "We are forming strong, prayerful, and virtuous men who have an intimate knowledge and friendship with Jesus Christ."

Following the Mass, those in attendance processed to the Flores Residence Hall, where Cardinal George conducted a blessing.

The centerpiece of Flores Residence Hall is the Adoration Chapel, which includes antique stained glass windows that once adorned a church in Philadelphia and a silver tabernacle to hold the Blessed Sacrament. The chapel will eventually have additional

stained glass windows, designed and crafted by San Antonio's Cavallini Stained Glass Studio.

The completion of the enclosed courtyard and an outdoor prayer garden were delayed by this summer's record rainfall, but will be completed in four to six weeks.

The Assumption Seminary Gala concluded the evening's celebration. The event was held in a tented dining room on the Mexican American Cultural Center parking lot on French Street. Keynote speaker for the gathering was Cardinal George.

At the gala, Archbishop Gomez expressed his gratitude to the more than 500 guests in attendance for their support. He exclaimed, "People said it wouldn't be easy to raise this amount of money, but it was an

easy task because everyone was so open."

Father Larry Christian, rector of Assumption Seminary, provided the concluding remarks at the gala. "The people of God wanted this and were eager for it," he said of the construction project.

Father Christian drew rousing applause when he said that 96 men total will be enrolled at the seminary this fall, and he thanked the lay faithful for their support of the seminarians. He elicited laughter when, looking directly at Archbishop Gomez, he smiled and said, "Archbishop, we're almost out of room again. What do we do?"

Among the guests at the dinner were more than a dozen bishops, many with connections to the archdiocese or seminary. They included Bishop Kevin W. Vann of the Diocese of Fort Worth and several other bishops from throughout the state of Texas.

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# Viewpoints

## We are all catechists, and our sharing of Christ is an element of our Communion with Him

By Lucas Pollice

As many of us are busy setting back into another year of school and parish catechetical ministries, I thought this would be a good time and a good opportunity for us to reflect again upon what exactly is catechesis and what we can do as catechists to be effective in handing on the Catholic faith to those entrusted to us. However, we need to remember that catechesis does not just take place in CCD classes, Catholic schools, or parish faith formation programs. Catechesis is the mission of the whole Church!

In fact, catechesis begins first and foremost in the family where parents are given the vocation of being the first teachers of the faith to their children.

And by virtue of our baptism, we are all called to catechize through each of our own vocations and states in life through our example and faith. Thus, this reflection on catechesis and the role of the catechist applies to all of us who are workers in the vineyard of the Lord bringing Christ to the ordinary and many times the spiritually starved places of our world.

What is catechesis? Catechesis comes from the Greek meaning "to echo." It is the mission entrusted to the Church by Christ to "echo" or to faithfully hand on what Jesus has revealed to us through his Incarnation, his life and mission, and the Paschal mystery of his death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. In fact, through catechesis, it is not so much what we hand on but Whom. As John Paul II simply but profoundly states in his letter on catechesis *Catechesi Tradendae* (*On Catechesis in Our Time*):

"At the heart of catechesis we find, in essence, a Person, the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, 'the only Son from the Father ... full of grace and truth'" (CT, 5).

Here we see the essence of what catechesis is: the handing on of the person of Christ and truth he reveals and the life of grace he offers to us. First

**W**hat is catechesis? Catechesis comes from the Greek meaning "to echo." It is the mission entrusted to the Church by Christ to "echo" or to faithfully hand on what Jesus has revealed to us through his Incarnation, his life and mission, and the Paschal mystery of his death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. In fact, through catechesis, it is not so much what we hand on but Whom.

People reach out to Pope Benedict XVI as he greets a crowd outside the papal summer residence. (CNS photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters)

and foremost, catechesis must hand on the truth of Christ and who he is; the full revelation of the Father and the full revelation of our own humanity destined for eternal glory. For it is only in the truth of Christ that we can come to know true freedom and the fullness of human life: "For I came that they might have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

Thus as catechists, we hand on not our own teaching, but Christ's teaching. What a profound gift it is to be the instrument Christ chooses to use to bring his grace and truth to those entrusted to us! In order to be true and effective catechists, we must have the humility to know and understand our role of instrumentality. With this precisely in mind, Pope John Paul beautifully and powerfully lays forth the role of the catechist:

*Every catechist should be able to apply to himself the mysterious words of Jesus: "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me." St. Paul did this when he was dealing with a question*

*of prime importance: "I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you." What assiduous study of the word of God transmitted by the Church's Magisterium, what profound familiarity with Christ and with the Father, what a spirit of prayer, what detachment from self must a catechist have in order that he can say: "My teaching is not mine" (CT, 6)!*

This indeed is a tall order, and we don't do it perfectly! But, if we as catechists are to more faithfully echo the person and teaching of Christ, then we ourselves must see that we are immersed into his mystery in our own lives by contemplating and pondering the mystery of Christ through prayer, the sacraments, and our own personal study and ongoing "faith seeking understanding" and conversion of heart. The more we are rooted in Christ, the more perfect and clear will be our echoing of Christ and his truth. We see in Mary, who was the first catechist, the first to echo Christ and his truth, a

profound living example for us who catechize. For often in the Gospel do we see Mary "pondering these things in her heart" (Luke 2:19). She allowed the mystery and truth of Christ to so penetrate her being that she was able to perfectly reflect the light of her Son. As John Paul explains:

*Christ is the supreme Teacher, the revealer and the one revealed. It is not just a question of learning what he taught but of "learning him." In this regard could we have any better teacher than Mary? From the divine standpoint, the Spirit is the interior teacher who leads us to the full truth of Christ (cf. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13). But among creatures no one knows Christ better than Mary; no one can introduce us to a profound knowledge of his mystery better than his Mother (ROSARIUM VIRGINIS MARIAE [ON THE MOST HOLY ROSARY], 14).*

Thus, it is especially when we ponder with Mary the mystery of her Son through the rosary that we sit at the "school of Mary" and come to a deeper knowledge and communion with her Son. Through the rosary we join with her in pondering in our own hearts the saving truth of Jesus Christ and come into a more intimate communion with him. This is why the rosary is above all a Christ-centered prayer in which we learn Christ with and through the intercession of his mother. Therefore, devotion to the rosary can be a powerful spiritual tool in helping us come to a deeper knowledge of Christ so that we may be ever more faithful in "echoing" Christ through catechesis.

May we all be more faithful to the role and example of Mary in bringing others into communion with her Son through our faithfulness in handing on the Catholic faith in the many different ways in which God calls us. We repeat with faith and love Mary's words at the wedding at Cana: "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).



Lucas Pollice is director of Catechesis and Adult Faith Formation and RCIA for the diocese. Formerly the director of faith formation at St. Maria Goretti Church in Arlington, 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 four children, Cecilia, Nicholas, Timothy, and Christian.



# Amnesty International

## what they really did

By Deirdre McQuade

Until recently, Amnesty International (AI) was officially neutral with regard to abortion, but now they have embraced abortion as a human right in false solidarity with women around the world.

In doing so, they propose violence to solve violence and discriminate against a whole class of voiceless human beings: the unborn. It's a far cry from Catholic founder Peter Benenson's principles in the 1960s and the spirit of their "Protect the Human" campaign in England only two years ago.

Their new policy calls for legalizing abortion in countries that currently protect women and their children from abortion. Spun as a reasonable measure to help survivors of rape during wartime, the resolution they passed is actually much broader than that. Their agenda includes promoting abortion access for women's "health," which AI fails to define. Such ambiguity hardly confines the practice to rare circumstances or the early stages of pregnancy. In fact, AI-USA publicly opposes the modest partial-birth abortion ban recently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Amnesty's campaign offers false hope to women. Abortion provides no relief from the realities they face. It does nothing to alleviate injustice. It cannot go back in time and undo the violence of rape. Nothing can. The reality is that abortion harms women even as it ends the lives of their unborn children.

A strong pro-woman stance would refuse to choose between mothers and their vulnerable children. It would advance the social standing of women and contend with the

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cruelty of communities that treat rape victims as outcasts. It would embrace the truth that women deserve better than abortion.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) had urged Amnesty for almost a year not to change their policy. USCCB president, Bishop William S. Skylstad, now invites us to continue the "essential work" of justice, but "in authentic ways, working most closely with organizations who do not oppose the fundamental right to life from conception to natural death."

If you are a member of AI, or have a friend who is, prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you do. How is He calling you to be authentically pro-justice and pro-life? There are several reputable groups working on the issues that Amnesty addresses, such as freeing prisoners of conscience, protecting women from sexual assault, and ending the use of the death penalty. If God has called you to support these contemporary corporal works of mercy, then consider giving to or volunteering with an

alternate group.

Whatever you decide, try to maintain relationships with those who might oppose you. Leave the door open for them. Some, like the rich young man, may walk away sad when met with a challenge. But others, like the Samaritan woman at the well, could catch a new vision, leave behind their old abortion advocacy ways, and run to tell others about the consistently pro-life position. Who knows? God is "bigger" than Amnesty International and his plan for justice will not be thwarted. As it says in Isaiah, "My word...will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

For the full text of Bishop Skylstad's statement, visit: [www.usccb.org/comm/archives/2007/07-136.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/comm/archives/2007/07-136.shtml)



Deirdre McQuade is director of planning and information at the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

A new school year;  
a chance to share  
with colleagues

## Your Most Treasured Possession

By Kathy Cribari Hamer

It was the first week of school, and the smell of pine cleaner and paint filled the building. The year was fresh — pristine like a hopeful, immaculate blackboard yet to be lavished with language. And life.

No children were on campus, not yet. For now the building boasted pupils of a different sort — educators, 20- to 60-something-year-olds, attending in-service sessions for the week prior to classes.

That day, faculty and staff had brought completed homework from the night before. Their principal had made a simple assignment: "Thursday when you report to school, bring your most treasured possession."

It was an unanticipated request, and the classmates sat silently on the gym floor in a perfect circle, their knees touching. What would they be expected to say? How would they say it?

But their teacher — this principal of perception — did not call on any of them. Instead she took the first turn herself, she who had challenged her students, this day, a week before classes would begin. Like a true educator, she demonstrated her expectation, showing the treasure that rested on her knees.

The cylindrical object she held was unobtrusive and subdued — somber brown and subtle camouflage. The principal was a beautiful woman whose hair and fashion sense caused the item to appear ill-at-ease, even misplaced sitting on her lap. But when she turned it, touching a button, it lit, and her audience could see the light reflected in her eyes, as the item accented her own bright style.

"My father gave me this flashlight," the principal smiled. "And he received it from his father — they both were Eagle Scouts. It is not the most beautiful thing in the world, but it belonged to him."

Before her father died, he went through his possessions, she explained, and one day he gave her this gift. "With this, you will never be lost," he said. "All you will ever need is this light, and your good friends around you to lead your way."

The principal looked around herself — left to right. Who among her good friends was lighting the way today?

The teacher who spoke second wore her prized possession around her neck. It was a simple, modest adornment, and she showed it with pride. "This is the first gift my husband ever gave me," she said, "We have

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## Pledge Redemption Report by Parish

PARISH NAME	CITY	GOAL	PLEGDED	% of GOAL	PAYMENT	% of GOAL
St. Mary/St. Brendan	Dublin/Stephenville	\$11,705.00	\$14,655.00	125%	\$14,410.00	123%
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	\$968.00	\$725.00	75%	\$455.00	47%
St. Paul	Electra	\$2,387.00	\$3,085.00	129%	\$2,777.00	116%
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	\$6,013.00	\$8,355.00	139%	\$7,695.00	128%
St. Michael	Bedford	\$144,013.00	\$233,408.99	162%	\$187,615.17	130%
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	\$1,813.00	\$1,845.00	102%	\$1,428.33	79%
St. Jerome	Bowie	\$3,878.00	\$4,670.00	120%	\$4,060.00	105%
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	\$4,745.00	\$8,886.00	187%	\$6,660.00	140%
St. John the Baptist	Bridgeport	\$6,854.00	\$11,176.00	163%	\$7,771.00	113%
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	\$15,906.00	\$15,906.00	100%	\$15,906.00	100%
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	\$10,013.00	\$8,513.00	85%	\$7,583.00	76%
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	\$60,033.00	\$68,809.60	115%	\$63,306.60	105%
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	\$104,959.00	\$116,507.00	111%	\$112,336.65	107%
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	\$94,954.00	\$104,298.00	110%	\$95,747.00	101%
St. Mary The Virgin	Arlington	\$13,677.00	\$11,063.92	81%	\$9,503.92	69%
Vietnamese Martyrs	Arlington	\$29,377.00	\$42,235.00	144%	\$41,405.00	141%
St. Matthew	Arlington	\$68,505.00	\$37,945.60	55%	\$30,296.68	44%
St. Joseph	Arlington	\$69,843.00	\$63,947.00	92%	\$53,044.00	76%
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	\$97,467.00	\$85,029.83	87%	\$78,449.83	80%
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	\$110,102.00	\$158,388.97	144%	\$146,973.97	133%
St. Ann	Burleson	\$30,455.00	\$38,736.00	127%	\$36,093.00	119%
Holy Rosary	Cisco	\$2,207.00	\$3,010.00	136%	\$2,610.00	118%
St. Joseph	Cleburne	\$18,174.00	\$27,233.00	150%	\$18,967.67	104%
Holy Angels	Clifton	\$4,926.00	\$7,740.00	157%	\$6,490.00	132%
Holy Cross	The Colony	\$30,248.00	\$24,511.77	81%	\$19,661.77	65%
Sacred Heart	Comanche	\$2,551.00	\$2,550.00	100%	\$2,435.00	95%
St. Joseph	Crowell	\$790.00	\$1,380.00	175%	\$540.00	68%
Assumption BVM	Decatur	\$14,363.00	\$21,882.00	152%	\$17,738.00	123%
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	\$2,217.00	\$3,105.00	140%	\$2,385.00	108%
All Saints	Fort Worth	\$46,076.00	\$36,632.00	80%	\$24,326.62	53%
Holy Family	Fort Worth	\$121,149.00	\$190,162.19	157%	\$170,286.19	141%
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	\$43,285.00	\$46,960.00	108%	\$25,466.00	59%
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	\$66,405.00	\$31,765.00	48%	\$21,054.33	32%
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	\$30,826.00	\$27,087.00	88%	\$22,094.00	72%
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	\$8,234.00	\$12,915.00	157%	\$9,555.00	116%
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	\$164,862.00	\$233,044.20	141%	\$191,132.29	116%
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	\$72,802.00	\$94,453.00	130%	\$86,359.00	119%
St. George	Fort Worth	\$29,070.00	\$21,475.00	74%	\$14,632.50	50%
Christ The King	Fort Worth	\$17,681.00	\$24,710.00	140%	\$24,070.00	136%
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	\$119,094.00	\$106,250.03	89%	\$89,887.36	75%
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	\$39,308.00	\$23,590.59	60%	\$19,619.59	50%
Korean Martyrs	Fort Worth	\$5,200.00	\$1,510.00	29%	\$1,510.00	29%
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	\$84,638.00	\$129,244.47	153%	\$116,737.97	138%
St. Paul	Fort Worth	\$16,440.00	\$13,406.00	82%	\$9,827.67	60%
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	\$49,498.00	\$57,144.38	115%	\$55,134.38	111%
St. Rita	Fort Worth	\$33,720.00	\$21,975.00	65%	\$20,875.00	62%
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	\$11,117.00	\$13,508.00	122%	\$13,508.00	122%
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	\$32,372.00	\$50,058.64	155%	\$42,441.64	131%
Holy Trinity	Azle	\$14,730.00	\$20,245.00	137%	\$18,526.67	126%
San Mateo	Fort Worth	\$5,261.00	\$6,099.00	116%	\$4,413.00	84%
Immaculate Conception	Denton	\$85,640.00	\$74,896.00	87%	\$60,704.00	71%
St. Mark	Denton	\$52,380.00	\$79,806.68	152%	\$65,260.53	125%
St. Mary	Gainesville	\$21,298.00	\$15,856.00	74%	\$14,736.00	69%
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	\$4,133.00	\$3,450.00	83%	\$3,415.00	83%
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	\$1,409.00	\$2,360.00	167%	\$2,360.00	167%
St. Mary	Graham	\$8,776.00	\$11,957.00	136%	\$9,651.66	110%
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	\$129,194.00	\$167,250.00	129%	\$148,440.00	115%
St. Mary	Henrietta	\$4,713.00	\$4,670.00	99%	\$4,550.00	97%
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	\$9,293.00	\$15,795.00	170%	\$15,408.35	166%
Christ the King	Iowa Park	\$3,368.00	\$2,745.00	82%	\$2,080.00	62%
St. Mary	Jacksboro	\$1,842.00	\$2,613.00	142%	\$1,953.00	106%
Santa Rosa	Knox City	\$1,783.00	\$2,080.00	117%	\$2,016.00	113%
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	\$99,992.00	\$67,745.00	68%	\$65,498.00	66%
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	\$182,392.00	\$179,932.50	99%	\$171,486.50	94%
St. Peter	Lindsay	\$15,933.00	\$18,267.00	115%	\$18,107.00	114%
St. Jude	Mansfield	\$41,046.00	\$56,701.25	138%	\$51,935.25	127%
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	\$1,105.00	\$1,825.00	165%	\$1,365.00	124%
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	\$13,512.00	\$4,040.00	30%	\$3,864.00	29%
St. William	Montague	\$3,980.00	\$4,130.00	104%	\$3,830.00	96%
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	\$2,140.00	\$1,645.00	77%	\$1,280.00	60%
Sacred Heart	Muenster	\$27,527.00	\$33,846.40	123%	\$32,891.40	119%
St. Joseph	Nocona	\$3,886.00	\$4,505.00	116%	\$4,080.00	105%
St. Theresa	Olney	\$2,002.00	\$2,480.00	124%	\$2,307.00	115%
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	\$2,273.00	\$3,152.02	139%	\$2,727.02	120%
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	\$23,925.00	\$8,820.00	37%	\$8,650.00	36%
St. Mary	Quanah	\$2,005.00	\$2,320.00	116%	\$1,275.00	64%
St. Rita	Ranger	\$1,534.00	\$3,740.00	244%	\$3,205.00	209%
St. Joseph	Rhineland	\$6,587.00	\$5,210.00	79%	\$5,210.00	79%
St. Boniface	Scotland	\$3,959.00	\$3,590.00	91%	\$3,465.00	88%
Sacred Heart	Seymour	\$7,316.00	\$11,955.00	163%	\$9,805.00	134%
St. John	Strawn	\$2,215.00	\$3,130.00	141%	\$3,025.00	137%
St. John	Valley View	\$3,368.00	\$1,070.00	32%	\$980.00	29%
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	\$9,936.00	\$7,779.81	78%	\$4,984.81	50%
St. Stephen	Weatherford	\$38,334.00	\$30,640.00	80%	\$29,618.60	77%
St. Mary	Windthorst	\$14,807.00	\$19,124.63	129%	\$18,449.63	125%
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	\$35,964.00	\$36,154.00	101%	\$35,964.00	100%
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	\$18,842.00	\$19,439.00	103%	\$11,581.00	61%
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	\$60,954.00	\$43,035.33	71%	\$40,090.33	66%
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	\$55,573.00	\$51,935.02	93%	\$45,460.02	82%
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	\$4,270.00	\$4,715.00	110%	\$4,665.00	109%
Direct Gifts			\$68,990.00		\$68,065.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$3,375,227.82</b>	<b>130%</b>	<b>\$3,029,177.07</b>	<b>117%</b>

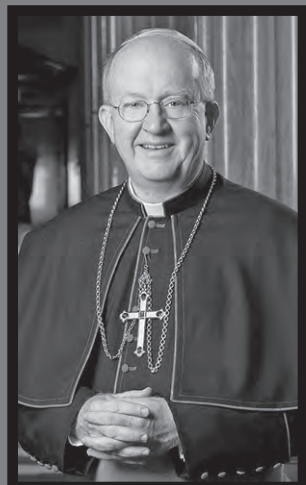


Thank you for your generous gifts to the 2006-2007 *Sharing in Ministry* appeal. More than \$3,200,000 was pledged - the highest amount in the history of the appeal. I am pleased to report that 100% of every dollar contributed remained in the Diocese of Fort Worth funding our most critical and immediate needs.

I am humbled by the commitment of our parishioners, pastors and staff to *Sharing in Ministry*. Together as the Church in North Texas we accomplish more than any one parish can. It is my prayer that this year's appeal will continue to assist the mission of our local Church.

Thank you again for your generous response to the 2006-2007 *Sharing in Ministry* appeal. May God bless each of you always.

*Kevin W. Vann*  
 Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann,  
 J.C.D., D.D.  
 Bishop of Fort Worth



# ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

## 2006-2007 Faithful Disciples in Christ



### Sharing in Ministry 2006-07 Year-End (Unaudited Figures as of 6/30/07)

Pledges.....	\$3,375,228
Payments (90% of Pledges) .....	\$3,029,177
Actual Distribution.....	\$2,600,000
Parish Rebates (47) .....	\$171,704
Center-City/Rural Parish & School Support Fund.....	\$257,473

### 2006-07 Allocation of Funds

**Sharing in Ministry** gifts were distributed to support these Catholic ministries, programs and priorities for 2006-07:

Capital Grants for Needy Parishes & Schools.....	\$ 675,000
Operating Grants for Needy Parishes & Schools.....	200,000
Catholic School Office.....	225,000
Permanent Deacon Formation .....	200,000
Catholic Charities .....	175,000
Office of Worship & Liturgy .....	175,000
Family Life.....	125,000
Media & Internet Ministry .....	125,000
Children & Youth Formation .....	100,000
Hospital Ministry .....	100,000
Tuition Assistance.....	100,000
Light of Christ Institute.....	90,000
Tribunal.....	69,400
Prison Ministry.....	60,000
Campus Ministry.....	50,000
Cursillo Center .....	50,000
Children's Scholarship Fund.....	30,000
ECHO - Faith Formation Leadership Program .....	25,600
Vocations Program .....	25,000
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$2,600,000</b>



Through **Sharing in Ministry**, your prayers and sacrificial gifts assure the continuation of a broad range of Catholic ministries and programs in the Diocese of Fort Worth focused on:

- Capital and Operating Grants for Needy Parishes
- Catholic Charities and Pastoral Ministries
- Catholic Family Life
- Catholic Schools
- Growing in Faith and Evangelization

All funds donated to **Sharing in Ministry** are restricted exclusively to support these local needs of the Church of North Texas.

Due to the generosity of all who contributed, we met and exceeded our 2006/07 appeal goal of \$2,600,000 for local programs. Parishes earned rebates of 50% of every dollar contributed in excess of their assigned parish goal. All excess contributions past the campaign goal and parish rebates were restricted to the Center-City/Rural Parish & School Support Fund.

For more information, please contact:  
**Sharing in Ministry** – Annual Diocesan Appeal  
 Office of Stewardship and Development  
 Diocese of Fort Worth  
 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, TX 76108-2919  
 (817) 560-3300

With humility and joy, through 25 years of service to the local church, Dan Luby has helped open our eyes to God's presence in our daily lives through

# Stories of Faith

By Kathy Cribari Hamer  
Correspondent

**Below:** Dan Luby, pictured here with Mother Teresa of Calcutta, has shared stories about the time he spent with the famous nun during her 1976 visit to Fort Worth.



In the Diocese of Fort Worth, the man known for storytelling carries his ideas around in his pocket, handwritten in small notebooks. And after decades working at The Catholic Center, the educator and award-winning columnist has accumulated enough notebooks to fill a desk drawer.

Dr. Daniel Luby, STD, for the past 25 years, has been working in continuing education and adult formation, and most recently as the diocesan director of Christian Formation. His signature quality, as he speaks in parishes, at diocesan gatherings and workshops, and especially through his award-winning column in the *North Texas Catholic*, has been to teach and explain through stories.

Last month he modified his own story, moving from Fort Worth's Catholic Center to the School of Ministry at the University of Dallas, where he will hold the endowed Tschoepe Chair of Homiletics.

Dan and his wife Theresa began their Fort Worth ministry in 1975 at St. John the Apostle Parish, with Dan hired as director of adult education, and Theresa of youth education. "It was a 'Camelot experience,'" Luby recalled, "because St. John's was growing — and lay people working in the parish was still a brand new idea."

Because most of the new staff was either single or newly married, the group spent so much time together they became like family, Luby said. When their first child, Kate, was born in 1977, the Lubys' last year at St. John's, "No one wanted to miss the baby," he said. "They were as thrilled as we were, and as our families were."

So, at five days old, Kate attended her first parish staff retreat in her cradle, at a lake house, where she was held and rocked by a large extended family.

The next year Kate and

her parents left "Camelot" for Rome, where mom and dad studied at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, or the Angelicum, for two years. On their return, they lived in Lewisville, where Theresa worked at St. Philip the Apostle Church, and Dan, writing the dissertation for his doctorate in sacred theology, taught at UD, and started his career at The Catholic Center.

At a reception honoring Luby and Mary McLarry, both of whom left their positions at the diocese over the summer, Father Joseph Scantlin recalled the Luby's' stay in Lewisville when he was pastor at St. Philip.

"They had been involved with a program called The Happening, with Gail Schatzman at the Catholic Renewal Center," he said. "And then they went to Rome, and all of a sudden they were back, with their new-found knowledge! Theresa worked in adult formation, and Dan went to the University of Dallas to do some teaching there.

"Now, when they come to Mass at Most Blessed Sacrament," Fr. Scantlin said, of his current Arlington parish, "I see them out there ... [and] I'm always a bit intimidated when Dan Luby walks into a church.... I know he can explain what I am trying to explain a lot better than I can ... and my hands begin to sweat."

Later, in his own remarks, Luby responded, with good humor, "If I had know that [Fr.] Joe Scantlin was intimidated by me, I'd have come to church here more often."

Throughout his diocesan ca-

reer, Luby tackled high-profile projects, including directing the local expression of the spiritual renewal program RENEW, together with Andrés Aranda, beginning in 1990.

Luby was also instrumental in developing the diocese's deacon formation program, remembering when Bishop John Cassata wanted to institute the program, and also when Bishop Joseph Delaney finalized the idea. Luby helped with plans, and assisted Dr. Ann Healey when she was hired as director of the program in 1984.

"It was a rich experience," he said, "an opportunity to see God working in people's lives, and to see people whose ministry you have contributed to, working in the parishes."

Luby assisted with RCIA programs, catechesis, and the development of religious education programs in parishes, and while working with RENEW, he began writing the column that became a staple for readers of the *North Texas Catholic*.

"Some people were saying they wanted ways to connect the Sunday readings with the themes from RENEW," he said, "so I started writing during Lent of 1991."

Luby was asked to continue writing, and his column has three times been awarded first place in the national category of "Best Regular Column — Spiritual Life" by the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada.

"Writing has given me great opportunity for looking at the life of the local church and making connections with our

**Left:** Dan Luby and his wife, Theresa, enjoy anecdotes shared at the June 29 gathering held in honor of Dan and of Mary McLarry for their years of service to the diocese. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

**Right:** Dan Luby receives congratulations on his years of service from friend and colleague Phil Record. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

traditions," Luby said. "The work of writing the column helped me develop a habit of looking below the surface of things and sensing the presence of God in our daily lives.

"It is a great privilege," he said, "to express yourself in ways other people are going to appreciate. And there is that discipline of having a deadline every two weeks. Sometimes when I need an idea, I pull out the desk drawer and go through the stacks of notebooks I've kept, and I'll find something and think, 'That will work!'"

Two of his favorite columns, Luby said, were written when his son Peter, now 22, left for college, and when Bishop Delaney was dying of cancer.

Among high points in his diocesan career, Luby said, is "Harvest and Sow," the celebration that finalized RENEW. "It was a huge public event in the convention center — culminating in a wonderful liturgy." He also relishes the small faith communities that still meet today in 2007, after starting out during RENEW in 1990. "That is a long-term thing — for people to have made that commitment.

"And the Call to Easter Sacraments," he added, "was the annual moment in the liturgical cycle when I thought Bishop

**Above:** Dan Luby is shown here with his wife, Theresa, and their children, Kate and Peter, in a treasured family photo (circa 1997).

**Left:** Msgr. Charles King (left) evokes laughter from Dan Luby while Ana Rothschild, a longtime parishioner at St. Rita Church in Fort Worth, looks on. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)



Delaney shined more than any place. It was one of his favorite things to do — he loved it. And I would be standing at a podium saying the names one by one.

"I had the opportunity to look at the people's faces as they came forward, and to see how much joy that gave him and how the church has been built up."

At his retirement party, Luby spoke his thanks: "I was thinking [while] driving over here tonight about a poem I wrote several years ago," he said. "It was kind of a mediocre poem, but I was going to put it in the *North Texas Catholic*, so I gave it to Sr. Cecile [Faget] to check it for me. She not only read it, but she read it aloud, and with such feeling and such caring and respect.

"I am aware that we have an opportunity when people share with us the stories that are the stuff of their lives, and they receive from us the stories that are the stuff of our lives.

"It is in those stories, where God makes himself manifest," he said, and, "to receive those stories so respectfully, and to be received and have our own stories received so respectfully, is a huge privilege.

"For that I am deeply, deeply grateful."

# Diocesan

Noche de Fiesta to be held Sept. 19 at Joe T. Garcia's Mexican Restaurant

## Fenoglio family has supported Catholic Charities' fundraiser from the beginning

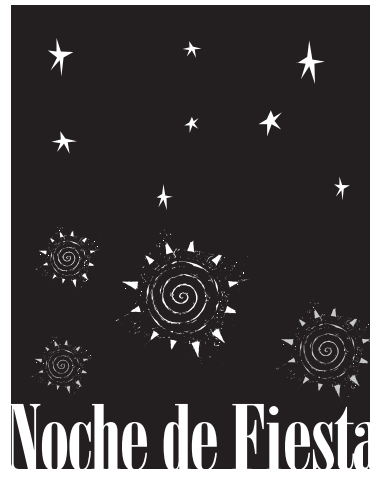
Henry and Juanita Fenoglio love a good party. Each summer, they begin to look forward to their favorite gathering of the year — a large-scale, festive affair, complete with exuberant music, fabulous food, enticing auction prizes, and hundreds of delighted guests.

Noche de Fiesta, Catholic Charities' annual fundraising event, is the Fenoglios' favorite kind of festivity — the kind of memorable evening that brings people together to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to assist people in need. This year, Noche de Fiesta will be held Wednesday, Sept. 19, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the patio at Joe T. Garcia's Mexican Restaurant, located at 2201 N. Commerce Street on the near North Side of Fort Worth.

Each September for the past 15 years, the Fenoglios — high school sweethearts who are celebrating 60 years of marriage this year — have worked to help launch Noche de Fiesta. "It's always just so much fun to see it all come together," says Juanita.

As the event's honorary chair and co-chair, she and Henry expect the event to raise \$260,000 Sept. 19 to assist Catholic Charities in providing services in 28 counties within the Diocese of Fort Worth. The need for funding is urgent, according to agency officials; in 2006, Catholic Charities increased their existing services by 25 percent, as they assisted more than 91,000 individuals and families throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth.

The Fenoglios serve as willing archivists and historians in explaining how Noche de Fiesta evolved. Fifteen years ago, in 1993, Noche de Fiesta began as a way for the St. Joseph Hospital Guild to promote awareness about the hospital within the



community. The Fenoglios joined forces with longtime friends Kathleen and Guy Thompson in working to plan the first event, which raised a grand total of \$247.

"About 300 people came," chuckles Henry. "And we all considered it a huge success." With abundant guidance and the participation of "many, many great people from the community," says Henry, a committee was formed and the event gathered momentum through the years, eventually changing its focus to the support of Catholic Charities. Five corporate tables were sponsored at the 1993 gathering. In 2006, more than 30 corporate sponsors were signed up, representing levels of giving that ranged from \$2,000 to \$20,000. Approximately 600 guests attended, raising over \$230,000.

Henry, a retired Texas Electric Service Company (now TXU) executive, modestly asserts that he and Juanita "just helped out however we could" through the years as active parishioners at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Fort Worth and as volunteers for their three sons' schools, Scouting organizations, and sports teams.

"We were very involved at St. Mary School and at Nolan Catholic High School, and then

we went on to be very active with Texas A&M, because all three of our boys attended A&M," says Juanita, proudly noting the couple's status as grandparents of eight and great-grandparents of one.

"And with everything we've done as volunteers through the years, we've met the most wonderful people, and made the most wonderful friends," she adds. "Working with Catholic Charities, we've come to know that their staff is so impressive. They work so hard, and they accomplish so much."

The Fenoglios, who became parishioners at St. Andrew Church in Fort Worth in 1974, began to volunteer their time in other ways with Catholic Charities as they witnessed first-hand the scope of the services that are offered through the agency. Henry especially enjoys serving as an affable Santa Claus at the agency's Assessment Center, a shelter for abused and neglected children ages 13 and under.

"We just became so interested in the work that Catholic Charities is doing to help immigrants, to help people with their health-care needs, and to help these beautiful children that we see when we spend time at the Assessment Center," says Juanita. "We believe in their mission 100 percent. We are just so happy to be associated with Catholic Charities and with Noche de Fiesta. It just keeps getting better and better each year."

*For more information, to sponsor a table, to donate a prize, or to make a reservation at \$75 per person at this year's Noche de Fiesta, contact Catholic Charities by e-mail at [nwalker@ccdofw.org](mailto:nwalker@ccdofw.org), visit the Web site at [www.ccdofw.org](http://www.ccdofw.org), or call (817) 534-0814.*

## Special Collection: Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Parish Name	Parish Location	Home Missions April 2006	Home Missions April 2007
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	170.00	202.00
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	141.00	104.71
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	681.20	812.00
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	2,953.00	2,793.11
St. Joseph	Arlington	2,429.18	1,843.93
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	2,492.00	2,048.00
St. Mary the Virgin	Arlington	360.00	218.00
St. Matthew	Arlington	1,335.50	996.50
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	1,317.50	1,416.00
Vietnamese Martyrs Community	Arlington	2,068.00	1,928.00
Holy Trinity	Azle	446.00	732.00
St. Michael	Bedford	2,151.00	4,543.00
St. Jerome	Bowie	20.00	155.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	309.24	386.50
St. John the Baptizer	Bridgeport	387.00	528.32
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	301.00	185.00
St. Ann	Burleson	991.00	1,194.00
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	1,779.00	1,957.00
Holy Rosary	Cisco	108.91	125.00
St. Joseph	Cleburne	518.76	884.07
Holy Angels	Clifton	225.47	319.75
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	878.75	1,176.00
Holy Cross	The Colony	256.00	304.00
Sacred Heart	Comanche	88.00	73.00
St. Joseph	Crowell	0.00	13.00
Assumption/Blessed Virgin Mary	Decatur	816.27	884.03
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	97.00	0.00
Immaculate Conception	Denton	862.00	944.65
St. Mark	Denton	2,259.90	2,550.85
St. Mary	Dublin	381.00	334.00
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	74.00	53.00
St. Paul	Electra	20.00	32.00
All Saints	Fort Worth	695.00	1,235.65
Christ the King	Fort Worth	454.00	380.00
Holy Family	Fort Worth	2,073.00	2,165.32
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	144.00	165.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	1,445.00	2,445.00
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	1,832.00	844.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	2,772.00	1,910.00
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	430.00	376.00
San Mateo	Fort Worth	387.50	244.00
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	2,765.48	4,783.70
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	4,351.00	4,934.82
St. George	Fort Worth	641.00	637.00
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	2,705.00	1,426.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	0.00	0.00
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	3,714.82	3,204.00
St. Paul	Fort Worth	1,092.45	704.00
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	746.00	849.00
St. Rita	Fort Worth	181.00	333.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,320.03	1,809.99
St. Mary	Gainesville	713.00	792.53
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	163.18	247.00
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	0.00	0.00
St. Mary	Graham	0.00	0.00
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	1,305.00	2,724.22
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	1,898.20	1,881.00
St. Mary	Henrietta	115.00	139.00
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	458.23	704.84
Korean Martyrs	Hurst	0.00	0.00
Christ the King	Iowa Park	35.00	17.00
St. Mary	Jacksboro	83.10	63.00
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	4,102.05	4,310.00
Santa Rosa	Knox City	63.00	104.00
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	3,417.67	2,873.38
St. Peter	Lindsay	1,288.65	2,031.26
St. Jude	Mansfield	792.02	416.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	0.00	20.00
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	411.60	0.00
St. William	Montague	0.00	0.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	96.00	105.00
Sacred Heart	Muenster	1,354.26	926.00
St. Joseph	Nocona	292.00	0.00
St. Theresa	Olney	0.00	0.00
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	129.00	111.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	282.00	265.00
St. Mary	Quanah	137.00	71.00
St. Rita	Ranger	38.00	45.00
St. Joseph	Rhineland	386.00	353.00
St. Boniface	Scotland	95.00	81.00
Sacred Heart	Seymour	125.00	256.00
St. Brendan	Stephenville	409.14	160.03
St. John	Strawn	55.00	102.85
St. John	Valley View	95.00	0.00
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	265.50	305.00
St. Stephen	Weatherford	1,274.00	2,295.00
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	645.00	491.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	0.00	230.00
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	799.00	0.00
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	731.00	802.00
St. Mary	Windthorst	472.00	564.00

77,192.56 81,669.01

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

## Catholic Schools Office announces free / reduced-price lunch and milk programs

The diocesan Catholic Schools Office has announced its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children who are unable to pay for meals served under the National School Breakfast, Free Milk, or Commodity School programs.

The following parochial schools will participate in the National School Lunch Program: All Saints, St. George, Our Mother of Mercy, and Our Lady of Victory, all in Fort Worth; Sacred Heart, Muenster; Notre Dame Elementary,

Wichita Falls; and St. Mary's, Gainesville.

St. Maria Goretti School in Arlington will participate in the free and reduced-price milk program.

Under current guidelines, applicants for the free and reduced-price lunch program must list the Social Security numbers of all adults living in the household. All incomes must also be listed by source, such as Social Security, wages, child support, and pension.

Everyone wanting to partici-

pate in the program must apply again this year at their respective schools, including children who had tickets for the last school year. A child must be registered in school before an application will be accepted. Participants will be notified within one week after applying if their children qualify for free or reduced-price lunches or milk.

In the operation of child-feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or handicap.

# Called to Worship

With a gentle spirit and a sincere devotion to the Body of Christ, Mary McLarry has shared her love of liturgy with the people of North Texas for more than 21 years



By Nicki Prevou  
Staff Writer

For Mary McLarry, the evening of June 29 included what she referred to as a “feast” of many of life’s richest gifts. Communal worship in a beautiful, sacred space, with an organ joyously pealing; abundant, delicious food; a large, laughter-filled room, spilling over with loving friends; and the melodies from stringed instruments adding a sense of lively celebration to the gathering.

The friends who gathered at Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Arlington, representing a wide variety of treasured places and people in Mary’s life, were united in their resolve to gently tease, to thank, and to praise her for 21 years of devoted service to the Diocese of Fort Worth in her role as director of the Office of Worship.

Her special devotion to the people of God within this diocese seems natural, some point out, as she has lived most of her life within the boundaries of the diocese, even though she began life with a Baptist, rather than a Catholic, identity.

Mary’s gentle, artistic spirit was nurtured in her parents’ home in Wichita Falls, where she was born and raised, along with a younger brother, Rhea. Alice and Jess McLarry’s home was filled with music, and young Mary was already an accomplished pianist at the time of her mother’s death, when Mary was 12 years old.

“Then, I was sent to Our Lady of Victory boarding school in Fort Worth,” Mary explains. “I was given the opportunity to meet Catholicism, and it was wonderful.”

“My mother always told me, ‘you can be anything you want to be.’ And I took that very seriously,” says Mary. “The reality was, while I was with

**Top, left:** Mary McLarry, with her trademark smile, thanks friends and family members for their presence at a gathering held June 29 in honor of Mary and Dr. Dan Luby and their years of service at the diocesan level. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

**Background:** A 1986 clipping from the *North Texas Catholic* announces Mary McLarry’s appointment as the first director of the Office of Worship for the diocese.

the sisters at Our Lady of Victory, I became very much interested in becoming a Catholic.”

In spite of her father’s initial hesitation, Mary, who went on to the University of North Texas in Denton to major in music education with a concentration in piano, was received into the church at Immaculate Conception Church in Denton in the spring of 1950. On Sept. 1 of the same year, the young pianist entered religious life, joining the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, the order of her former teachers at OLV.

Mary plunged into a life of many responsibilities within the congregation, which included years of teaching individual piano lessons to children and young adults, while also teaching music and leading choirs in various school settings. She studied at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, where she received an undergraduate degree in music. In 1964, she went to study liturgy at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

“Unless you lived in that time — the time of the Second Vatican Council — there’s no way to begin to understand what it was like,” says Mary simply. “It was a time of so many changes in the church, and it was exciting to be a part of that, and to be serving in ministry with the sisters, because they were and are so forward-looking, so aware of the needs of the people.”

While working on her

**Above:** Mary McLarry shares memories at the reception with Mary McNally (center) and Lucy Taylor. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

**Right:** Mary looks on as her brother, Rhea McLarry, greets Sister St. John Begnaud, SSMN. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

graduate degree in pastoral liturgy at the University of Notre Dame during the summer months, Mary continued to teach music, and in 1967, she began working at Nolan Catholic High School, where she taught piano, led choirs, and taught religion classes.

“Those years were so busy,” she reflected. “I was named to the diocesan Worship Commission. I wrote a handbook for parish liturgy committees, and I began helping to lead workshops on how to put those kind of committees together.”

In the summer of 1970, Mary became the music and liturgy director at St. Peter Church in Fort Worth. She stayed for 16 years, working with pastor Father Larry Breedlove and, over the years, bringing hundreds of parishioners, young and old, together to actively participate in the celebration of the Eucharist.

Since 1986, Mary has served as the first director of the Office of Worship in the Diocese of Fort Worth. Appointed by Bishop Joseph Delaney, she went on to assist parishes all over the diocese in developing inclusive, multicultural liturgies, while working with committees at the diocesan level to develop

sacramental guidelines and, at every opportunity, emphasizing the need to invite people of all cultures, languages, and backgrounds into the active experience of the Eucharist.

Beloved by liturgists and music directors throughout the diocese, Mary has encouraged the formation of a close network of trained professional liturgical leaders. Active in assisting with the permanent deacon formation program within the diocese, she has also served as an organizer and a leader within the Southwest Liturgical Conference, the National Liturgical Conference, and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, among other professional accomplishments.

Though she ultimately decided, after years of discernment, to leave religious life in 1985, Mary has continued her close connection with the sisters. She enjoys various passions, including reading mysteries; doting on her cats; traveling to Santa Fe, New Mexico, each year to enjoy the opera; enjoying time with close friends and family members; and playing the piano each week at the 5:30 p.m. vigil Mass at Holy Name Church in Fort Worth.

“...The Almighty has done great things for us through your faithful and devoted liturgical ministries.... God has shown us his mercy in your spirit of compassion and reverence for clergy, religious, and laity.... Through his servant, Mary, God has helped the Diocese of Fort Worth, with its diversity of cultures, languages, and religious heritages.”

— Reflections by Dr. Ann Healey at  
Most Blessed Sacrament Church  
June 29

## Diocesan

Photos by  
Francine Sustaita

# Franciscan Friars of Renewal welcomed to Fort Worth with blessing of friary

**B**ishop Kevin Vann welcomed members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal religious order to the Diocese of Fort Worth Aug. 8 by presiding at the blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Friary, located on the Our Mother of Mercy Church campus at 1003 E. Terrell Avenue in Fort Worth. The facility is the former Our Mother of Mercy Church convent.

Four Franciscan friars arrived in Fort Worth July 5 and will reside at the friary. Father Michael Kmioterk, Brother Peter Marie Westall, Brother Mariano Joseph Demma, and Brother Patrick Crowley were invited to come to Fort Worth, said Bishop Vann, to carry out the mission of their congregation by serving the materially poor, particularly the homeless, and to evangelize through the preaching and teaching of the Gospel message.

Father Bernard Murphy, CFR, and Father Richard Roemer, CFR, the friars' community vicar, also represented the religious congregation through their presence at the blessing. As a sign of their rejection of worldly pleasures and their dedication to service, many of the Franciscan friars grow long beards, shave their heads and wear distinctive gray habits.

For more information on the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, visit their Web site at [www.franciscanfriars.com](http://www.franciscanfriars.com).



## DivorceCare sessions being offered at St. Paul Church

DivorceCare, a nationally recognized program designed to assist those who are experiencing separation or divorce, is currently being offered at St. Paul Church, 5508 Black Oak Lane in River Oaks. The program began Aug. 23 and continues to be held on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. through Nov. 15 in the parish cafeteria.

DivorceCare is comprised of 13 Scripturally-based weekly sessions and offers a supportive, confidential atmosphere in which to explore the emotions involved in the termination of a marriage. Facilitators provide leadership, structure, encouragement, and support during the program, which consists of videotaped presentations, small group discussion, and writing exercises.

All are welcome to attend. For more information, call program director Deacon Ron Aziere at (817) 738-9925, or visit the DivorceCare Web site at [www.divorcecare.com](http://www.divorcecare.com).

## Knights of Columbus respond to help brother in need

Reminiscent of an old-fashioned "barn raising" when a community would gather to support a neighbor in a time of need, several members of the Knights of Columbus and their wives recently answered the call to help a brother Knight in a desperate situation.

Former State Warden Jim Gallagher and his wife, Lynn, returned from the Knights of Columbus State Convention, held May 4-6 in Corpus Christi, to the devastating news that Jim had terminal cancer. And to compound their distress, the couple also discovered significant water damage in their home, the result of flooding from the recent torrential rains in North Texas. No sooner had the damage from these first storms been repaired when it rained again and flooded the same room.

A permanent solution was needed, and a group of concerned Knights from the Fort Worth Diocese stepped forward to help, said Leo Hanus, immediate past state deputy for the Knights of Columbus.

On Saturday, July 14, approximately 35 knights, wives, friends, and family members gathered at the Gallagher home for a different kind of "barn raising." In an



effort to prevent future flooding, an underground pipe carrying excess water from the backyard to the street in front of the house was installed. Decorative rock was then added to facilitate drainage and enhance the beauty of the outdoor area.

Knights of Columbus Council #2813 opened their hall, located directly behind the Gallagher's home, as a staging area, meeting place, and meal site for the workers. While the men worked, the women prepared lunch for

the laborers.

A local landscape company owned by a brother Knight donated all the pipe and materials to complete the work. Knights used their pickup trucks and tractors to haul rock and move dirt. A lot of muscle power and ditch digging made it all happen, said Hanus, and by mid afternoon the repairs were completed.

Jim and Lynn Gallagher offered their sincere gratitude to the tired workers as they went their separate ways at the end of a long

but satisfying day. As one brother Knight was leaving, according to Hanus, he commented, "This is what the Knights of Columbus are all about."

**Editor's Note:** Jim Gallagher, 70, lost his battle with cancer on Aug. 1. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Andrew Parish in Fort Worth, with burial following at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Immediate Past State Deputy Leo Hanus commented, "This work was even more important now for his widow."

**KNIGHTS OFFER HELP** — Local Knights lay a new drainage system at the home of Jim and Lynn Gallagher. Their home had experienced two episodes of flooding from the heavy North Texas rains which fell earlier this summer. At the time, Jim, a past state warden with the Knights of Columbus, was battling terminal cancer. (Photo provided by Leo Hanus)

# Honored Graduates

Each year, *The North Texas Catholic* honors Catholic students of the Diocese of Fort Worth who have recently graduated from public and Catholic schools with high honors.

Their parents and family members, pastors, teachers, youth leaders, and friends are justifiably proud of these young people and their many accomplishments. May God continue to bless and guide them all as they pursue their dreams and seek to know God's plan for their lives.

## ARLINGTON THE OAKRIDGE SCHOOL



**Lauren Goodwin**  
*Salutatorian*

Lauren Goodwin, the daughter of Matt and Lisa Goodwin, achieved the honor of salutatorian for The Oakridge School in Arlington. She attends St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine, where she has served as a teaching assistant for religious education and has assisted with several retreats at Good Shepherd Parish in Colleyville. Additional service hours include a mission trip to the Bahamas, participation in Teen Court, involvement as a Mavericks Ball Kid for four years, and work at Mission Arlington and GRACE. Lauren will attend the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

## CALLISBURG CALLISBURG HIGH SCHOOL



**Royce Daniel Krahl**  
*Salutatorian*

Callisburg High School salutatorian Royce Daniel Krahl is a member of St. Mary Parish in Gainesville. He participated in the National Honor Society Trash Pick-up for Keep Callisburg Beautiful, played in the band for community celebrations, and has been involved in community theater at the Butterfield Stage and Whaley Conservatory. Royce is the son of Gary and Cathy Krahl. He will study history and pre-med at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

## CARROLLTON HEBRON HIGH SCHOOL



**Kara M. Pretzlaff**  
*Valedictorian*

Kara M. Pretzlaff has earned the distinction of being named valedictorian of Carrollton's Hebron High School. A member of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Carrollton, Kara served as a youth delegate to the pastoral council, lector, eucharistic minister, and choir member. Community service involvement includes participation in Camp Fort Worth as both a camper and an A Team leader, National Honor Society president, and Habitat for Humanity volunteer. Kara is the daughter of Deb and Eric Pretzlaff. She plans to major in biology at St. Louis University, a Jesuit college in Missouri.

## CLEBURNE CLEBURNE HIGH SCHOOL



**Nicholas James Passalugo**  
*Valedictorian  
National Merit*

Cleburne High School valedictorian Nicholas James Passalugo is a National Merit Commended Scholar. At St. Frances Cabrini Church in Granbury, he has been an altar server for seven and a half years and has participated in the Knights of Columbus Fish Frys. Community activities include Christmas in April, Christmas Angels, and Thank-A-Soldier. Nicholas is the son of Paul and Nancy Passalugo. He will attend Texas A&M University in College Station this fall.

## DUBLIN DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL



**Gera Lemke**  
*Salutatorian*

Gera Lemke, Dublin High School salutatorian, is a parishioner at St. Mary Church in Dublin, where she is active in youth ministry and Vacation Bible School as well as serving as a eucharistic minister and lector. In addition to her parish activities, she has participated in Camp Fort Worth, Christmas in Action, and the Life Chain Rally. The daughter of Tinker and Theresa Lemke, Gera will attend Temple College in Temple.

## FLOWER MOUND FLOWER MOUND HIGH SCHOOL



**Rolando Chapa Jr.**  
*National Merit Finalist*

National Merit Finalist Rolando Chapa Jr. is a member of St. Philip the Apostle Church in Lewisville, where he is an altar server, eucharistic minister, usher, and youth ambassador with the youth group. An Eagle Scout and a member of the National Honor Society, he has worked with a service program called Breakfast Buddies in which he eats breakfast with Spanish-speaking elementary students once a week. Rolando is the son of Rolando Sr. and Dareth Chapa. He will attend the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma.

*Love justice,  
you who  
judge the  
earth;  
think of the  
Lord in  
goodness and  
seek him in  
integrity of  
heart ...*

*Wisdom 1:1*

## FORT WORTH CASSATA HIGH SCHOOL



**Erin Michelle Newcomb**  
*Valedictorian*

Erin Newcomb, Cassata High School valedictorian, completed her high school education in just three years. A member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Fort Worth, she is the daughter of Luther and Kathleen Newcomb. Erin plans to study nursing at Tarrant County College in the fall.



**Virginia Patron**  
*Salutatorian*

Cassata High School salutatorian Virginia L. Patron credits her family — especially her mother, Linda, three sisters Renee, Gabrielle, and Andrea, and her grandmother — for helping her to achieve her goals, which include finishing high school a year early. She has danced with the dance company Ballet Folklorico Azteca since she was 11 years old. In addition to her full-time job at a law firm, Virginia has already begun continuing her education by taking summer courses at Tarrant County College.

## NOLAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



**Eric Louis Berce**  
*United States Military Academy, West Point*

Eric Louis Berce has been appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. He is a parishioner at St. Andrew Church in Fort Worth. A member of the National Honor Society, Eric has volunteered at Cook Children's Hospital, participated in the annual Christmas wrapping project, and has served as a Sunday school helper at First United Methodist Church. He is the son of Annie and David Berce.



**Richard James Bowling**  
*National Merit Finalist*

National Merit Finalist Richard James Bowling graduated from Nolan Catholic High School. A member of St. Andrew Parish in Fort Worth, he has devoted considerable time to the Stephen Breen Memorial Foundation and various service projects through Boy Scouts of America Troop 9, Longhorn Council. Additionally, he has served more than 200 hours over the past year at The Warm Place, a grief counseling center for children who have lost a parent or sibling. Richard is the son of George and Victoria Johnson. He will be attending the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma, this fall.



**Addison Anne Gumbert**  
*Marian Award*

Nolan Catholic High School graduate Addison Anne Gumbert received the Marian Award. A passionate volunteer, she founded "TeenAiders," a non-profit organization that raises funds for underprivileged children. She has served as a St. Andrew Bible School leader, volunteered at the Presbyterian Night Shelter, and devoted more than 100 hours as organizer and volunteer chair for the Stephen Breen Memorial Foundation and the Spirit Games. Addison has been recognized with numerous awards and honors in theater arts, community service, and music. The daughter of Jerry and Stacy Gumbert, she is a member of St. Andrew Parish in Fort Worth and will attend the University of Texas in Austin.



**Christopher M. McCauley**  
*National Merit Finalist*

Christopher M. McCauley, a Nolan Catholic High School graduate, is a National Merit Finalist. He has been involved as a tutor, a Project Graduation dance assistant, a Mayfest volunteer, and a participant in the Stephen Breen Youth Event. Christopher will attend Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, this fall. He is the son of Richelle and Michael McCauley.



**Michael Keith Britton**  
*Chaminade Award*

Michael Keith Britton, a parishioner at St. Michael Parish in Bedford, has been recognized with the Don Thompson Memorial Award and the Chaminade Award. A graduate of Nolan Catholic High School, Michael is the son of Judy and Charlie Britton. He will attend the University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



**Augustin Paulo**  
*United States Military Academy, West Point*

Augustin Paulo has been appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. A member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller, he has been active with Boy Scouts of America Troop 32, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Augustin is the son of Daniel and Suzanne Paulo.



**Matthew James Peterson**  
*Valedictorian*

Nolan Catholic High School valedictorian Matthew James Peterson is a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grapevine. He has been a Vacation Bible School leader, a baseball camp counselor, and has volunteered at Ronald McDonald House. The son of Joel and Lisa Peterson, Matthew plans to attend the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, this fall.



**Wade Benjamin Smith**  
*Salutatorian*

Nolan Catholic High School salutatorian Wade Benjamin Smith is a member of St. Rita Parish in Fort Worth, where he was an altar server for six years and participated in the BASIC program. Volunteer hours were spent as an assistant coach for the St. Rita School junior high soccer team and the 6th grade boys' basketball team. Wade will attend Texas A&M University in College Station. He is the son of Brad and Judy Smith.



**Eric Stradley**  
*National Merit Finalist*

National Merit Finalist Eric Stradley is a parishioner of St. Andrew Church in Fort Worth, where he is a lector and an altar server. He founded a peer tutoring group called SAIL and served on the planning committee for the Spirit Games 2007. Additional volunteer hours were contributed to Cook Children's Hospital, Camp Broncho, and school concessions. The son of Carrie and Scott Stradley, Eric will attend Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

*Go in  
peace  
to  
love  
and  
serve  
the  
Lord*



# Honored Graduates



**Stephen Sumcizk**  
United States  
Merchant Marine  
Academy

Stephen Sumcizk, a Nolan Catholic High School graduate, has been appointed to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York. At St. Michael Parish in Bedford, he was a religious education volunteer for the Vacation Bible School program and a participant in Teens Living in Christ. In addition to various parish service projects, he coached youth soccer. Stephen is the son of Ronald and Monika Sumcizk.

## OUR LADY OF GRACE HIGH SCHOOL



**Samantha Donohue**

Leadership Award

Samantha Donohue received the Our Lady of Grace High School Principal-Leadership Award for 2006-2007 (Salutatorian). She is a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Keller, where she is active in the pro-life group. Samantha is the daughter of Denise and Timothy Donohue. She will attend Ave Maria University in Naples, Florida, where she plans to study education.



**Katherine Sayler**  
Distinguished Student

Katherine Sayler has been recognized as the Distinguished Student for 2006-2007 (Valedictorian) for Our Lady of Grace High School. A member of Immaculate Conception Parish in Denton, she served as the youth representative to the pastoral council and was active with the pro-life group. Katherine is the daughter of Stephanie and Michael Sayler. She will attend Lexington College in Chicago.

## GRANBURY GRANBURY HIGH SCHOOL



**Hieu Xuan Tran**  
Valedictorian

Hieu Xuan Tran, Granbury High School valedictorian, is a member of St. Frances Cabrini Parish in Granbury, where he is an altar server, assistant religious education teacher, eucharistic minister, peer minister, youth council member, and a member of the Knights of Columbus. Outside of parish activities, he has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Christmas for Children, Wash for Life, Canned Food Drive, Tunes for Tots, Key Club, the United Way, and the National Honor Society. Hieu Xuan Tran is the son of Tu and Anne Tran. He will attend Texas A&M University in College Station.

## KRUM KRUM HIGH SCHOOL



**Aaron Joseph Word**  
Salutatorian

Krum High School salutatorian Aaron Joseph Word is a member of Immaculate Conception Parish in Denton, where he is a eucharistic minister. During the 2006-2007 school year he was co-captain of the varsity baseball team, vice president of the National Honor Society, a member of the UIL Academic Team, an elementary school mentor, and a Fellowship of Christian Athletes officer. The son of Wade and Audrey Word, Aaron plans to study biomedical engineering at Texas A&M University in College Station.

## LINGLEVILLE LINGLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



**Chelsea Borges**  
Salutatorian

Lingleville High School valedictorian Chelsea Borges is a member of St. Mary Parish in Dublin, where she has participated in the youth group, volunteered for the church picnic, and has served as a lector. Community projects outside of the church included several activities working with the elderly, refereeing pee-wee basketball tournaments, volunteering for Meals on Wheels, and recycling. Chelsea is the daughter of Joe and Mary Borges. She will attend Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

## MUENSTER MUENSTER HIGH SCHOOL



**Krystal Ann Wolf**  
Salutatorian

Krystal Ann Wolf, Muenster High School salutatorian, is a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster, where she has served as a eucharistic minister and is a member of the youth group. Membership in the National Honor Society and the student council has afforded her many opportunities for service including Keep Muenster Beautiful Trash Pick-ups, "Help the Elderly" Days, Texoma Regional Blood Drives, and numerous fundraisers. Krystal has also taught Red Cross swimming lessons and Vacation Bible School. The daughter of Cris and Sharen Aston, Krystal will attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

## SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL



**Stephanie Krawietz**  
Salutatorian

Stephanie Krawietz, salutatorian for the Sacred Heart graduating class of 2007, is an active member of St. Patrick Parish in Denison. She takes part in the Life Teen program and attends the events and retreats offered there. Activities outside of parish life include S.A.D.D. (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and ARTS (Always Ready to Serve). She also volunteers as the secretary/treasurer of the Texoma Soccer Referee Association. Stephanie is the daughter of Dennis and Jean Krawietz. She will attend Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord...*

Jeremiah 29: 11-14



**Taylor Torcellini**  
Outstanding Senior Award

Outstanding Senior Award recipient Taylor Torcellini was named Miss Sacred Heart. She is an active member of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster, where she is a eucharistic minister and a member of the youth group. She currently serves as vice president of Keep Muenster Beautiful, a community organization composed of town leaders that educates residents about recycling, holds trash pick-ups, and raises money for city repairs. Taylor's parents are Sandi and Tom Torcellini. She will attend Southern Methodist University in Dallas.



**Mitchell Sellers**  
Outstanding Senior Award

Mitchell Sellers received the Outstanding Senior Award for Sacred Heart Catholic School. A member of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster, he contributed several hours of service at the Thompson Foundation and at a community nursing home. He also volunteered in the decorating and un-decorating of Muenster for Christmas celebrations and participated in the Germanfest cleanup crew for three years. The son of Paul and Tracy Sellers, Mitchell will attend the University of Texas at Tyler.



**Paige Elizabeth White**  
Valedictorian

National Merit Finalist Sacred Heart Catholic School valedictorian Paige Elizabeth White is also a National Merit Finalist. She is active in her parish as a eucharistic minister, soup kitchen/parish food pantry volunteer, Parish Unity Committee member, and Parish Fellowship Committee member. In addition to her church activities, she participated in Students Against Destructive Decisions as vice president, Always Ready to Serve as vice president, National Honor Society, and accumulated more than 300 community service hours during high school. Paige is the daughter of Andy and Leslie White. She will attend Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania, this fall.

## SAN ANTONIO INCARNATE WORD HIGH SCHOOL



**Angela Teresa Schad**  
National Merit Finalist

National Merit Finalist and Notre Dame Scholar Angela Teresa Schad is a member of St. John Parish in Valley View, where she is a member of the choir and plays the violin. At Incarnate Word High School in San Antonio, she was active in the orchestra, the National Honor Society, president of the Math and Science Club, and a member of the International Thespian Society. Angela is the daughter of Elaine and E.J. Schad. She plans to attend Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, and study chemistry.

## SOUTHLAKE CARROLL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



**Ryan Joseph Rielly**  
United States  
Merchant Marine  
Academy

Carroll Senior High graduate Ryan Joseph Rielly has been appointed to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York. He is a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grapevine and has participated in Christmas Is For Children and the senior high mission trips. Ryan is the son of Paul and Shawn Rielly.

## WINDTHORST WINDTHORST HIGH SCHOOL



**Hailey Berend**  
Valedictorian

Hailey Berend, the daughter of Ronald Berend and Patti Robinson, achieved the honor of valedictorian for Windthorst High School. Service projects include Pennies for Patients, Candy Grams for Ringgold Fire Victims, and raising money for scholarships. A member of the National Honor Society, Hailey attends St. Mary Church in Windthorst. She will attend Texas Woman's University in Denton.

## TOLAR TOLAR HIGH SCHOOL



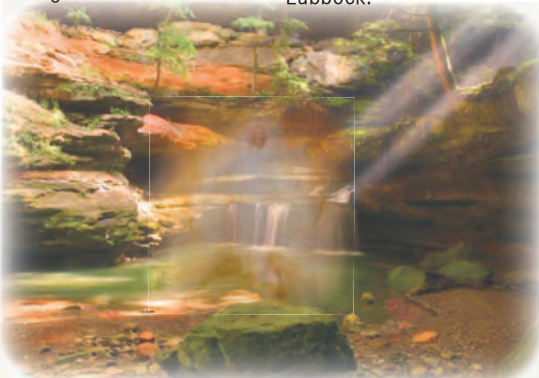
**Kristen Margaret Allen**  
Valedictorian

Tolar High School valedictorian Kristen Margaret Allen is a member of St. Frances Cabrini Church in Granbury. Her parish activities include participation in the youth group and youth council, serving as a eucharistic minister, assistant religious education teacher, and altar server. Kristen was an Adopt A Rattler mentor and took part in several community projects such as Relay for Life, the Granbury STOP Team, People Helping People, Car Wash for Life, and was a volunteer UIL coach for the 6th grade calculator team. The daughter of John and Margaret Allen, Kristen plans to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock.



**Waylon Wolf**  
Salutatorian

Waylon Wolf, Windthorst High School salutatorian, is an altar server at his home parish. He devoted 80 hours to helping build a high school baseball field. Additional service hours were spent setting up flags for a fallen Marine and raising money for a car accident victim. Waylon, the son of Lloyd and Pam Wolf, will attend Texas A&M University in College Station.



# Tuning in to God's Call

## Vocation Awareness Program

Story and Photos by Joan Kurkowski-Gillen

Oxford University student Tommy Heyne faces a life-altering decision. The 23-year-old is trying to choose between two very different careers. Joining the priesthood provides an opportunity to heal broken souls. Becoming a medical doctor would give him the skills to mend broken bodies. Both are worthy occupations that serve mankind.

"I'm trying to tune in to God's call, whatever that may be," says Heyne, a former Southlake resident who is studying church history in England. "Choosing between medicine or religious life isn't easy."

The Cistercian High School and University of Dallas graduate hoped a weekend spent in prayer and reflection would help him decide which path to follow. Heyne was one of 33 young men and women who attended "Come and See," a Vocation Awareness Program held July 13-15 at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving. The annual event, sponsored by local Serra Clubs, the Young Serrans, and the vocation offices of the Fort Worth and Dallas dioceses, is designed to give participants the chance to meet priests, brothers, and sisters, hear their stories, and learn more about the different ways they serve God.

Men and women between the ages of 18 and 40 are invited to attend the weekend after completing an applica-

tion and undergoing a screening process.

"We don't do any recruiting. This is a discernment process," explains Vocation Awareness Program director Tom Hightower. "Its cost is free for participants, and the Serrans enjoy doing it."

The schedule of activities includes keynote addresses, personal conference time, Mass, prayer, and social activities.

"It's based on a Houston program and has been very successful for a number of years," adds Hightower, who serves as secretary for the Fort Worth Serra Club. "But it's hard to know how successful. Many of the people who come to this weekend may not make a decision right away, or they may not stay in the diocese but join a religious order in another area."

Father Kyle Walterscheid, director of the Office of Vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth, says attending the Vocation Awareness Weekend is the first significant step many individuals take toward a religious vocation.



**Above:** Father Italo Dell'Oro, CRS, of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, explains the sequence of steps leading to priesthood to a participant in the weekend Vocation Awareness Program.

**Left:** Sister Yolanda Cruz, SSMN, (left) and Sister Elvira Mata, MCDP, share their personal experiences in discerning the call to religious life.

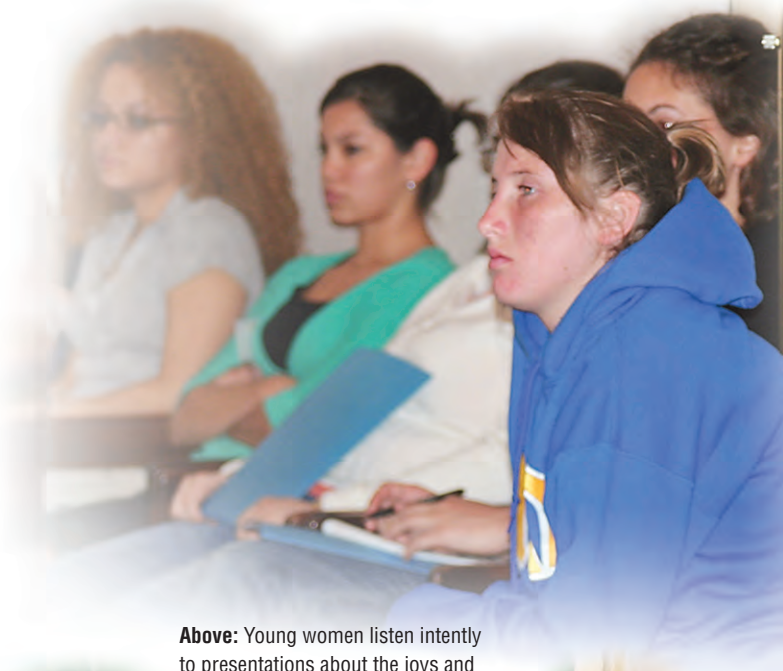
"It's a springboard forward," Fr. Walterscheid says of the small, intimate gathering that encourages open discussion and questions. "This is a key stage when people start opening doors and begin to reconsider what they want to do in life."

Sarah Ignascio decided to attend the Vocation Awareness Weekend after seeing it publicized on the diocesan Web site.

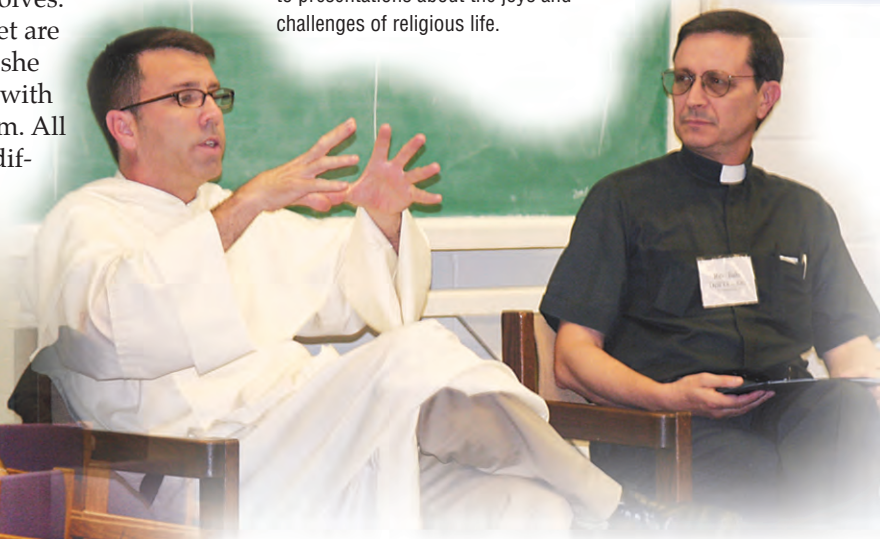
"I'm here to listen," says the Bronx, New York, native. "I'm drawn to a religious vocation, and I want to see if God wants to open that door for me."

The small group sessions and private chats gave the inquisitive young woman an idea of what religious life involves.

"All the sisters I've met are fun and down to earth," she adds. "It's exciting to be with them and learn from them. All their experiences are so different."



**Above:** Young women listen intently to presentations about the joys and challenges of religious life.



**Above:** Father Charles LaTour, OP, (left) director of vocations for the Southern Dominican Friars, answers questions from participants about the call to serve through life as a priest, as Fr. Italo Dell'Oro, CRS, director of the office of Ministry to Priests for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, looks on.



**Left:** Young men take the opportunity to ask questions and to discuss various aspects of life as a priest or vowed religious during one of the weekend's "question and answer" sessions.

# Safe Environment Advisory Council is formed to advise bishop on policies, resources which promote a culture of safety

FROM PAGE 1

the sexual abuse of minors within the church.

Smith, who has been employed by the diocese since 1996 and has been working intensively with safe environment implementation efforts since the Charter was adopted in 2002, became director of Child and Youth Protection in the Diocese of Fort Worth in January of this year. She says that the hard work to protect vulnerable individuals in diocesan offices, parishes, and schools is having a positive effect.

"People who attend our Keeping Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults Safe seminar

are grateful for the information it provides," explains Smith. "We now have 316 trained leaders who are able to present the safe environment program in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese within their own parishes," she says, referring to the result of the diocesan "Train the Trainers" program, which has been in place since 2003. "We encourage our volunteer trainers to share what they learn about sexual abuse awareness with family members and others in the community. The more people who are aware, the more we can promote a culture of safety in the diocese."

And creating a blanket of

awareness extends beyond the world of adults. With the continued expansion of the diocesan safe environment program, specialized training is now offered to teen leaders within parishes and schools. Additionally, children attending religious education classes or youth ministry programs also receive training. Beginning in the spring of this year, approximately 25,000 children and teens received information designed to teach them about personal safety, recognizing inappropriate behavior, appropriate responses when boundaries are violated, and how to

report inappropriate conduct to the authorities.

"The Called to Protect for Youth program for middle school and high school religious education and youth ministry programs is based on the 3 Rs: recognize, respond, and refer," Smith says. "Students watch a 'youth-friendly' video and discuss the information presented with their trained leaders."

Story books, coloring activities, and an optional DVD help deliver similar, age-appropriate information concerning personal safety to elementary school-aged students. The safe environment program for religious education classes was completed in May. Sexual abuse prevention material is implemented in diocesan Catholic schools as part of the curriculum.

"The programs we offer are about promoting awareness and safety education in an effort to give guidelines to participants on how abuse happens," Smith points out. "No one sees when the actual abuse occurs, but we certainly can spot warning signs or boundary violations. With that training, any member of the church community can now report concerns for appropriate intervention."

Knowing and understanding what is acceptable behavior in schools, parishes, and ministry situations is the key to cultivating safety, she adds. To underscore the importance of understanding behavior guidelines, employees and volunteers within the Diocese of Fort Worth are required to sign a Code of Conduct each year and to attend a Keeping Children,



## SAFE ENVIRONMENT SEMINAR

— Safe Environment trainer Kathryn Blanchard makes a point during a seminar held at St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Lewisville Aug. 25. Safe environment seminars are held regularly at various locations throughout the diocese and are available in three languages — English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)



Randy Richard receives training on how to promote a culture of safety for children, youth, and vulnerable adults at the diocesan seminar in Lewisville Aug. 25. (Photo by Donna Ryckaert)

Youth and Vulnerable Adults Safe seminar every three years.

With thousands of employees, parents, volunteers, and youngsters now armed with the tools to help prevent sexual abuse, the diocese is developing strategies to ensure its safe environment program will keep up with changing needs and times. The diocesan office of Child and Youth Protection is now working with a newly-formed group, the Safe Environment Advisory Council for the Diocese of Fort Worth. The group of representatives from around the diocese — including priests, parish leaders, and Catholic school officials — advises the bishop on policies, programs, and resources that

promote a culture of safe and respectful conduct in all ministries of the church. The council, which will meet six times a year, had its first meeting in June, said Smith, explaining that the group is separate in mission and purpose from the already-existing and active Conduct Review Board.

"Promoting a culture of safety is not just for children; it's for everybody," Smith says. "The purpose of the advisory council is to offer advice to Bishop Vann on policies, programs, and resources that promote a culture of safe and respectful conduct in all ministries of the church. Promoting a safe environment is an ongoing process we want to keep improving."

## Immigration conference will be held Sept. 8 at Tarrant County College South Campus

The third annual "Conference on Immigration: Informing our Community on Themes of Immigration and Education" will be held Sept. 8 at the Tarrant County College South Campus, 5301 Campus Drive in Fort Worth. Registration will begin at 7 a.m., with the program getting underway at 8:30 a.m. The conference will conclude at 4:30 p.m.

The conference is an opportunity to learn about new changes and proposals in immigration law and education, with topics including family petitions, deportation cases, the citizenship application process, student visas, and much more. Guest speakers will include Lynden Melmed, chief counsel for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration

Services and Homeland Security, and Angela Barrows, district director for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Homeland Security.

For more information about the immigration conference, call Proyecto Inmigrante ICS at (817) 922-0280 or TCC at (817) 515-5186, or visit online at [www.proyectoimmigrante.org](http://www.proyectoimmigrante.org).

## Journalist Dawn Eden to speak at women's breakfast

Women for the Third Millennium will be holding a women's breakfast Saturday, Sept. 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Cooper Guest Lodge-Berkley Room, 12230 Preston Road in Dallas.

The guest speaker will be Dawn Eden, a journalist whose articles on rock music have appeared in *Mojo*, *New York Press*,

and *Billboard Magazine*. Exposed to destructive cultural behavior while working in New York City, Eden chose instead to embark "on a journey of self-discovery that would eventually lead her to embrace chastity and Catholicism," states an event press release. She chronicled her journey in a book published last December, *The*

*Thrill of the Chaste: Finding Fulfillment While Keeping Your Clothes On*. Eden is described as "a fresh voice at the leading edge of a new counterculture" which promotes "faith and fidelity as the route to authentic intimacy and joy."

To register, call Patricia Sherk at (214) 348-6191, or Helen McCleughen at (972) 612-5978.

## GULF COAST RECOVERY

— Workers unload a truck full of furniture and assemble desks in early July for the new St. Patrick Catholic High School, which opened Aug. 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi. Two years after Hurricane Katrina, Catholic schools and colleges in the Gulf Coast region are recovering, but enrollment figures have still not been restored to what they were prior to the storm. (CNS photo/Shirley Henderson, GULF PINE CATHOLIC)



## Diocesan

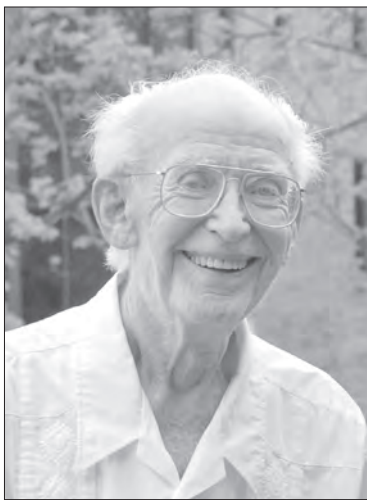
# Brother Daniel Sharpe, SM, former Nolan faculty member, dies at age 83

Brother Daniel Sharpe, 83, a member of the Society of Mary (Marianists) for 65 years and a former faculty member at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth, died in San Antonio July 23 of emphysema. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 26 at the Marianist Residence in San Antonio. Burial was at the Marianist cemetery on the St. Mary's University campus.

Br. Sharpe, a native of Chicago, was born Sept. 26, 1923, the only child of Daniel and Elizabeth (Becker) Sharpe. His parents shared their respect for education and their devotion to the Blessed Mother with their son, who became close to the Marianists while attending St. Michael High School in Chicago.

The young man entered the Marianist postulancy in St. Louis in 1939 and professed first vows in 1941 and final vows in 1945 at Marynook in Galesville, Wisconsin.

He began his nearly 50 years as an educator in 1943 as a student teacher at South Side Catholic High School in St. Louis. After receiving his bachelor's degree



Brother Daniel Sharpe, SM

in education from the University of Dayton in 1944, he went on to teach at Central Catholic High School in San Antonio, at Don Bosco High School in Milwaukee, and then at St. Mary's University in San Antonio until 1957, teaching religion, social studies, and Spanish. His fondness for Spanish prompted him to study in Mexico and to earn a master's degree in Spanish in 1952 from Notre Dame University; he also earned a master's degree in administration in 1964

from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

After teaching for almost 20 years and moderating activities such as football, basketball, track, golf, and sodality (CLC), Br. Sharpe went on to serve as an administrator in high schools in Milwaukee and Chicago, and also served at St. Mary's University as community director and vice president of student affairs from 1975-1979.

After serving on the provincial administration team of the former St. Louis Province from 1979 to 1987, Br. Sharpe returned to teaching and served at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth until 1991, when he went to Mexico and worked as a missionary in Apaseo and Querétaro, serving as a mentor to young Mexican candidates during their formation process. In 2001, due to health problems, Bro. Sharpe retired to the Marianist health care center in San Antonio. He had no immediate survivors.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Marianist Province of the United States, 4425 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

# Father Moses Nagy, former UD professor, dies at age 80

Father Moses Nagy, O. Cist., a professor at the University of Dallas for 43 years, died in Szekesfehervar, Hungary, Jan. 22 at the age of 80. The funeral Mass was celebrated in Szekesfehervar and burial was in Zirc, Hungary. Fr. Nagy had been ordained for 57 years at the time of his death.

Born in Dornesti, Romania, Jan. 5, 1927, one of 13 children born to parents Istvan and Emma Nagy, the young man moved to Hungary with his family and served in the Hungarian army. While in the army, he was captured and became a prisoner of the German army during World War II. Upon his release he returned home and began seminary studies. He traveled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to complete his studies and was ordained as a Cistercian Father in 1953.

Following his ordination, the young priest taught foreign languages at the University of Dallas in Irving. After earning his doctorate in Quebec,

Canada, in 1958, Fr. Nagy went on to earn a second doctorate and was later knighted by the French government.

According to longtime family friend Eloise Lievrouw, "Fr. Moses served in many churches on Sundays in Fort Worth and taught the catechism at Holy Family Church." Calling Fr. Nagy a "devoted priest who served the University of Dallas for many years," Lievrouw recalled that Fr. Nagy made arrangements for the Texas Boys Choir to have a papal audience in Rome in the early 1970s when the choir was on a European tour.

In 1968, Fr. Nagy helped to found the Paul Claudel Society, an organization of researchers, academics, and students with an interest in the Catholic poetry and prose of Paul Claudel. Fr. Nagy served as editor of the scholarly publication *Claudel Studies* for many years.

Fr. Nagy is survived by two sisters, a brother, several nieces and nephews, and many friends and former students.



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Thursday Evenings	Prince of Peace, Plano

#### Diocese of Fort Worth

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Ministry in the Church

## Aid is being channeled to quake victims as fast as possible, says Peruvian bishop

FROM PAGE 1

were damaged. But part of the problem, Skrocki said, seemed to be fed by political infighting over whether the central government or local and regional governments should oversee relief efforts.

"Unfortunately, it's a similar story [in] many other countries," said Skrocki, who has been involved in CRS disaster responses to Hurricane Stan in Guatemala in 2005, the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Ecuador in 2006, and flooding earlier this year in Bolivia.

By Aug. 21, the situation had improved in Ica. Bishop Guido Brena Lopez of Ica told Catholic News Service by telephone that electricity had been restored and some shops and markets were open again.

In Pisco, however, where more than 80 percent of the houses were destroyed, there was still no electricity. The bishop said relief efforts were concentrated in the center of the city, making it difficult for people in more remote areas to get assistance.

Bishop Brena noted that in Pisco and Ica people are still very nervous because there have been

a lot of strong aftershocks.

"More aid is arriving through the church, and we are channeling it as rapidly as possible so that it reaches the outlying areas," he said.

Meanwhile, people are organizing themselves.

"One characteristic in Peru is that relatives and neighbors help one another," the bishop said. Many people, especially those with small children, are trekking north to take refuge with relatives in Lima, while southbound buses have carried a steady stream of people from Lima carrying food, blankets, and other supplies to family members in the affected cities.

On Aug. 18, government emergency agencies and international organizations such as CRS, the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Oxfam, and others set up a command center at the air force base in Pisco to exchange information and coordinate efforts.

"If a lot of agencies are involved and we don't organize well, it will only create more chaos," Cordoba said.

Security was the first obstacle. Shortly after the earthquake, looters struck, sometimes foraging for

necessities and sometimes raiding the rubble of people's homes for anything of value. Although tents and shelters have been set up in all three towns, many people have camped out in front of the ruins of their houses to protect anything that might be left.

"I saw people sleeping on the street," Skrocki said. "They took the couch out of their house, put up a couple of chairs and put a sheet over the top, and that's where they're living."

That worried Dr. Manuel Peña, director of the Pan American Health Organization office in Lima. In an interview with the Channel N cable TV station, Peña warned that if people stayed near their homes the lack of water and toilets could lead to the spread of disease.

On Aug. 20, the Health Ministry dispatched health brigades to the cities to set up portable toilets, assist with hygiene, and provide vaccinations against illnesses such as hepatitis.

The full extent of the earthquake's effects remained unclear. The CRS emergency team visited several rural communities where the facades of adobe houses showed only cracks, but back



**RESCUE EFFORTS** — Rescue personnel work at a destroyed church in Pisco, Peru, Aug. 16, after a major earthquake struck the evening before, killing hundreds of people, mainly south of Lima. (CNS photo/Mariana Bazo, Reuters)

rooms had collapsed. Cordoba worried that if inspectors make only a quick visual check of those communities, they will underestimate the damage.

CRS will work with Caritas Peru to provide essentials such as food, water, shelter, and medicine. Meanwhile, the agencies

will be planning for the long-range, painstaking task of helping people rebuild their homes and their lives.

Caritas Peru is the local affiliate of Caritas Internationalis, the international confederation of Catholic aid agencies. CRS is part of the Caritas network.

## Crossroads cross-country walkers mark 13 years of pro-life activism

By Mary Ann Wyand

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — They walk and pray and walk some more and pray again with one goal in sight.

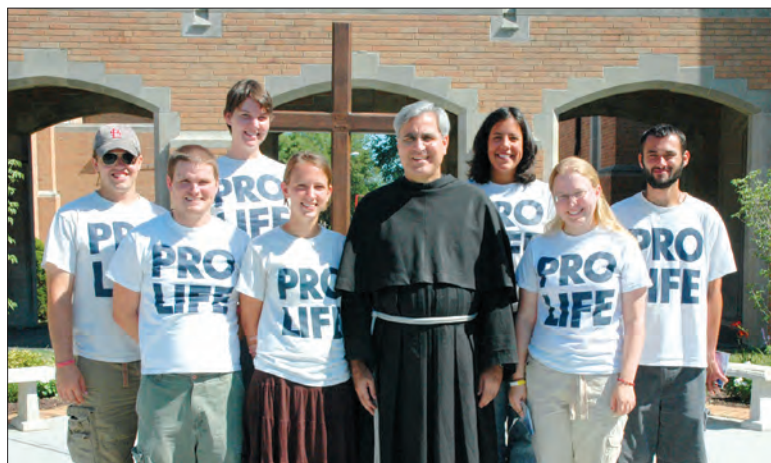
Their destination is the nation's capital, and their goal is expressed by their slogan of "saving lives one step at a time."

During the 13th annual Crossroads Pro-Life Walk Across America this summer, more than 50 young adults are trying to educate countless Americans about how abortion kills babies. They are walking on one of three 10-week, 3,200-mile, coast-to-capital pilgrimages and sharing their pro-life messages with an estimated 1 million people in dozens of cities.

Walking an average of 17 miles a day, each Crossroads volunteer will cover more than 1,200 miles by Aug. 11 when all three groups of pro-life pilgrims are scheduled to arrive on Capitol Hill in Washington for a prayer service.

Organizers of Crossroads said that since the first cross-country pilgrimage took place in 1995, the walkers have saved the lives of many unborn babies, and 10 former walkers have pledged their lives to God as priests or religious.

Franciscan Father Dan Pattee,



**CROSSROADS GROUP** — Posing for a group picture in Indianapolis are Crossroads Pro-Life Walk Across America participants, from left, Jason Spoolstra of Arlington; Jason Handcock of Sacramento, California; Beth Ann Flessner of Madison, Mississippi; Tina Hardy of Buffalo, New York; Franciscan Father Dan Pattee of Steubenville, Ohio; Cassandra Blanco of Deltona, Florida; Alzbeta Voboril of Wichita, Kansas; and William Tolsma of Niles, Michigan. They were at St. Michael the Archangel Parish July 21. (CNS photo/Mary Ann Wyand, THE CRITERION)

a native of South Bend, Indiana, and director of graduate theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, and seven young adults departed from San Francisco in May, following the pilgrimage's central route. They started at the same time that two other Crossroads groups left from Los Angeles and Seattle to follow a southern and a northern route, respectively.

Also, for the first year, a group of Canadian youths are walking from coast to coast in their country to promote the dignity

of human life. They left Vancouver, British Columbia, May 19, with plans to arrive in Ottawa Aug. 11.

"It's been a real joy in the journey," Fr. Pattee said July 21 in the midst of a weekend of pro-life activities in the Indianapolis Archdiocese.

"God slipped it into my heart," the priest said of his decision to join the nationwide pro-life walk at the invitation of several Franciscan University students.

"In October, I asked my superior, and he permitted me to go,"

Fr. Pattee said. "Then I knew it was the work of the Lord."

From the Pacific coast, walkers on the central route crossed the arid desert in Nevada and Utah, then snow-covered mountain ranges in Colorado and continued on through the Great Plains states on their way to the Midwest and eastward to the District of Columbia, walking in all kinds of weather and temperatures that ranged from 25 degrees to 110 degrees.

"I am inspired by each one of the walkers," Fr. Pattee told *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Indianapolis Archdiocese.

"For them, this [pilgrimage] is personal because they are post-1973 babies who were born after women had a choice and could be pro-death," he said, referring to the year the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion during all nine months of pregnancy.

"A lot of their peers have not made it into this world, and they feel that [loss]. To me, it's been a real lesson on just how motivated this generation feels when they come on to the truth of what abortion is doing to their generation," the priest said.

Central walk leader Jason Spoolstra, youth director of St.

Maria Goretti Parish in Arlington, was walking across the country for the second time.

"It's the small gestures from people that really mean a lot to us," Spoolstra said. "In 2005, I did part of the southern walk then the rest of the way on the central walk. I told myself, 'If God wills it, if God wants it, I'll walk again, and here I am.'"

Beth Ann Flessner, a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Madison, Mississippi, and a senior at the University of Dallas, joined the pro-life pilgrimage because she was born Jan. 22, 1986, the 13th anniversary of *Roe*.

Flessner said her birthday "always made me think that I was supposed to do something for the pro-life movement."

Prayer is an integral part of the pro-life movement for Tina Hardy, a member of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Buffalo, New York, and a recent graduate of Franciscan University.

"I wanted to do something pro-life after graduation," Hardy said. "There are days that are harder than others. It's important to get involved and pray. I think prayer is the most important thing you can do for the pro-life movement."

## U.S. bishops' annual Labor Day statement urges comprehensive immigration reform

FROM PAGE 1

points for a new discussion on immigration.

Bishop DiMarzio said, "There are some 12 million undocumented people among us, most of whom are workers. Our economy and communities depend on them. They bus our dishes, pick our vegetables, clean our offices and homes, and care for our children among other jobs." These, he added, were some of the "inescapable facts" about immigration.

"The immigration status quo is unacceptable and unsustainable. The 'system' is broken. We need far-reaching and comprehensive reform," he added. "There is no fence long enough or high enough that can wall out the human and economic forces that drive immigration."

He added, "Immigration reform cannot start or stop at our borders. U.S. policy must help overcome the pervasive poverty and deprivation, the violence and oppression that push people to leave their own lands. Policies on debt and development, foreign aid and global trade are essential elements of any effective immigration reform."

Immigration issues should not be used for "partisan advantage, a ratings boost, or a fundraising tactic," Bishop DiMarzio said. "We have to guard against policy disputes that encourage or excuse ethnic hostility or discrimination. We have seen the use of demeaning stereotypes, appeals to the worst in us, and one-sided advocacy pretending to be journalism."

Bishop DiMarzio said, "Human dignity is a gift from God, not a status to be earned. Fundamental rights to work, decent wages, safe working conditions, to have a voice in decisions, and



### LABOR DAY

— Workers harvest watermelons at Maple Creek Farm, an organic family farm near Detroit in August. Labor Day, honoring working people of America, is marked Sept. 3 this year. In the U.S. bishops' annual Labor Day statement, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio emphasized the need for comprehensive immigration reform. (CNS photo/Jim West)

the freedom to choose to join a union do not depend on where you were born or when you came to our nation."

In calling for nationwide reform, Bishop DiMarzio said, "Immigration policy should not depend on where in the United States you work or live. A patchwork of conflicting policies, punitive measures, and local disputes cannot fix a broken federal system."

Bishop DiMarzio praised the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, an organization of Florida tomato pickers that received funding from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, for their

"years of hard work" in reaching agreements with McDonald's and Yum! Brands — owners of Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, KFC, and other fast-food chains — to get higher pay for their work and a new code of conduct in the fields.

"They organized, protested, fasted, demonstrated, insisted, and would not be pushed aside. When no one gave them much of a chance, they stood up for their own lives, dignity, and rights," Bishop DiMarzio said. "This small but impressive sign of hope is worth celebrating. It offers a call to all of us to stand with vulnerable workers who deserve our support and solidarity."

## Respect life materials available from USCCB

FROM PAGE 1

es some of the current threats to life and the programs aimed at restoring respect for life. Among the topics of the articles and their authors are:

— Assisted reproductive technology and the family, by Helen Alvaré,

— "Peter's Story: Discovering Hope and Love After an Adverse Prenatal Diagnosis," by Mary Kellett,

— "The Person With Mental Illness: Bearing God's Image," by Father Richard Gill,

— Abortion and Catholic social teaching, by Father Thomas D. Williams,

— "The Prevention Deception:

How Not to Reduce Abortions," by Richard M. Doerflinger,

— The link between abortion and breast cancer, by Dr. Angela Lanfranchi,

— Caring for aging loved ones, by Monica and Bill Dodds,

— "Project Rachel: In the Heart of the Church," about an international Catholic organization dedicated to post-abortion reconciliation and healing, written by staff members of the pro-life secretariat.

In addition to the articles, the Respect Life package includes a liturgy guide for Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 7 in 2007; a day of prayer and penance for life, Jan. 22; prayers for life throughout the

year; a novena for life leading up to the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, May 31 in 2008; and a rosary for life focusing on the joyful mysteries.

A compact disc included with the Respect Life package includes all the articles, the brochure, the liturgy guide, a poster, clip-art quotes, and a catalog, all in English and Spanish.

**Editor's Note:** Respect Life packets may be ordered from the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities by calling toll-free (866) 582-0943. Downloadable copies of Respect Life materials are posted in English and Spanish online at [www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rfp](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rfp).

## NATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

### Stem-cell research still a hot topic in U.S. Congress, states pro-life official

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As the U.S. Senate considers whether to try to override the presidential veto of a bill permitting federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research, a new bill in the House of Representatives would promote stem-cell research and clinical trials that do not involve the destruction of human embryos. The Patients First Act, introduced by Republican Rep. J. Randy Forbes of Virginia and Democratic Rep. Dan Lipinski of Illinois, is supported by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, according to Richard M. Doerflinger, deputy director of the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, because "it will promote stem-cell research that is helping patients now in clinical trials, or showing real benefits in animal trials. The hype and public debate over embryonic stem cells has unfortunately diverted attention away from medical research that is already working, using stem cells that pose no moral problem," he added.

### Twenty years of stats show religious retirement needs still great

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Despite steady support by American Catholics for the national Retirement Fund for Religious over the past 20 years, the unfunded liability for the care of elderly U.S. men and women religious continues to grow, according to a new report. Annual national collections since 1988 have raised more than \$529 million for the needs of retired religious, with more than \$507 million being distributed to more than 500 religious congregations, the June statistical report of the National Religious Retirement Office showed. But a December 2006 survey of 527 women's institutes and 154 men's institutes showed that only 11 percent of women's congregations and 12 percent of men's congregations reported being "adequately funded" for the retirement needs of their members, based on designated assets and the reported cost of care. By contrast, 26 percent of the women's institutes and 19 percent of the men's said their funding for retirement needs came to between 0 percent and 20 percent of the amount needed. At their June 2006 meeting in Los Angeles, the U.S. bishops approved extending the yearly collection until 2017. It had been due to expire in 2007.

### Long-lasting 'Christopher Closeup' show to end its 55-year run

NEW YORK (CNS) — "Christopher Closeup," the television show sponsored by the organization that says it's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness, will no longer be broadcast after the end of the summer. "Christopher Closeup" enjoyed a 55-year run on TV — exceeded only by CBS' evening newscast, NBC's "Meet the Press" and "Today," and the CBS soap opera "Guiding Light." "It was a very difficult decision," said a statement by Christophers president and CEO Dennis Heaney, the show's host, "but given the evolving media landscape, we think it's the right opportunity to focus our resources on emerging technologies like podcasts and webcasts, as well as reinforcing our presence on broadcast and satellite radio." Heaney added, "We take pride in the fact that we had such an outstanding run in a fickle TV universe where 10 years is considered a long time." In its heyday in the 1970s, "Christopher Closeup," a syndicated half-hour public affairs program, reached 200-300 TV stations.

### Catholic leaders praise Congress for votes on children's health care

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Thanking the Senate and House for their approval of legislation reauthorizing and expanding the State Children's Health Insurance Program, known as SCHIP, the heads of the Catholic Health Association and Catholic Charities said they hoped partisanship could be set aside to get a final bill to President George W. Bush quickly. "The time for partisan bickering is over — it is now time for united support on behalf of children's health coverage and a more solid foundation for our nation's future," said Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity who is CHA president and CEO, in an Aug. 3 statement. "We applaud the Democrats, Republicans, and independents in Congress who have come together to support and strengthen this program," said Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, in a separate statement Aug. 3. The House voted 225-204 late Aug. 1 in favor of the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act, known as CHAMP, which would provide health insurance for at least 3 million children currently uninsured and reauthorize funding for the more than 5 million children already covered by SCHIP. The program is due to expire Sept. 30. The Senate approved a different version of the legislation by a 68-31 vote Aug. 2.

Knights of Columbus' 125th national convention

## Cardinal Bertone says he'll personally work on cause of Knights' founder

By Andy Telli

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (CNS) — Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the second highest ranking official at the Vatican, told members of the Knights of Columbus that he is taking a personal interest in the beatification process for the order's founder, Father Michael McGivney.

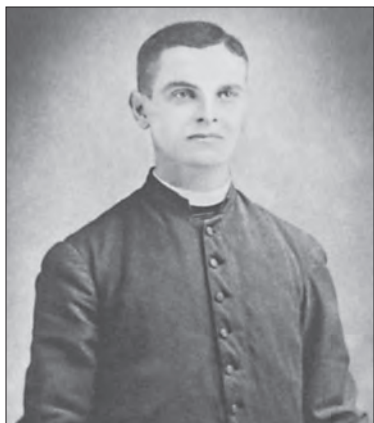
"I hope this recognition [of sanctity] will arrive soon, and I'll personally work on this, so that this day will come soon," Cardinal Bertone said during his homily, delivered in Italian, at the Aug. 7 opening Mass of the Knights of Columbus' 125th annual national convention at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville.

Cardinal Bertone's comments on the sainthood cause of Fr. McGivney were met with applause from the Knights attending the Mass.

"I was thrilled," Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Connecticut, the supreme chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, said of Cardinal Bertone's comments.

"I think he appreciates what it would mean for parish priests in the United States and around the world, to have one of their own canonized a saint," Bishop Lori said in an interview on Eternal Word Television Network, which was broadcasting several events from the convention.

Fr. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882. The fra-



Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, is pictured in an undated file photo. (CNS)

ternal order for Catholic men has grown to become the largest lay Catholic organization in the world with more than 1.7 million members around the globe.

Cardinal Bertone, who celebrated the Mass in Latin, used his homily to praise the work of Fr. McGivney, who died in 1890 at age 38.

Referring to the story of Christ walking on water in the midst of a ferocious storm, which was the Gospel for the Mass, Cardinal Bertone said: "In many respects the storm-tossed boat on the Sea of Galilee seems an apt image for the situation of the local church at the time of Fr. McGivney, when the plight of Catholics in America was far from easy.

"This holy priest, however, like Peter in the Gospel story, found the faith and the courage to walk steadfastly toward Christ, and to inspire others by

his leadership," added Cardinal Bertone.

"He recognized the need to promote the mutual support and solidarity of the Catholic community, and nothing would deter him from pursuing this noble goal," he continued. "May your founder's faith and courage serve as an inspiration to all of you as you devote yourselves to the pursuit of your apostolate."

Like Peter in the Gospel, Cardinal Bertone said, Fr. McGivney answered God's call when he became a priest.

"He also helped others to recognize the call that Christ addressed to them, and to respond generously," Cardinal Bertone said. "This was the key to his apostolic vision in founding the Knights.... He knew that it is not only priests and religious who have a vocation, but that every Christian is called by Christ to carry out a particular mission in the church.

"He left a lasting legacy in the organization that he founded which has continued to provide opportunities for countless lay Catholics to play their part in building up the kingdom of God," the cardinal said.

The process for canonization for Fr. McGivney was launched in December 1997 by the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut. Fr. McGivney was ordained as a priest of the then-Diocese of Hartford.

The archdiocesan phase of the



**KNIGHTS' CONVENTION** — Knights of Columbus fourth-degree members get into formation for the procession at the end of the Aug. 7 opening Mass of the Knights of Columbus' 125th annual national convention at Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. (CNS photo/Rick Musacchio, TENNESSEE REGISTER)

canonization process has been completed and the case has been presented to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes.

A miracle connected to Fr. McGivney has been reported to the congregation, but there has been no ruling on it yet. The details of the miracle have not been released. Generally for sainthood, the church must accept two miracles attributed to the intercession of the prospective saint, one occurring before beatification and one occurring after beatification.

Cardinal Bertone continued his comments on Fr. McGivney, as well as on the theme of the convention, "Witnessing to the 'Yes' of Jesus Christ," in his address during a special gala banquet in his honor Aug. 8.

The cardinal said Fr. McGivney "had a deep appreciation for the special characteristics of the lay vocation as being thoroughly immersed in the spheres of the family, civil society, and public life. He made it his goal to develop practical ways of ensuring that faith could be put into concrete action."

But, the cardinal added, Fr. McGivney understood that good works lose their deeper meaning "if they are not rooted in faith."

The laity face many obstacles to living a life of faith, Cardinal Bertone said. "It is no surprise then that Christians often encounter resistance, opposition, and even persecution in the world," Cardinal Bertone said. "Pope Benedict reminds us that the only possible response for a Christian in the face of rejection is love.... The universal call to holiness is about patiently, deliberately, and 'programmatically' sharing this love with the world."

Cardinal Bertone noted that during Pope Benedict's recent pastoral visit to Brazil, he called on Catholic leaders in politics, the media, and academia to bring their "ethical and religious convictions" to their fields of endeavor.

"In short, being a Catholic in

the world today takes courage," Cardinal Bertone said, "yet it takes no more courage than it did when Jesus called his first disciples in Galilee."

Cardinal Bertone said the church in America was active and vital. "We should be proud to belong to this church," he urged the bishops, priests, and Knights attending the gala.

The Aug. 7-9 convention in Nashville drew more than 2,600 Knights and their families.

Nearly 100 cardinals, archbishops, and bishops participated in the Mass, making it the largest gathering of church hierarchy in Tennessee's history.

Prelates at the convention included Cardinals Francis E. George of Chicago, Edward M. Egan of New York, Sean P. O'Malley of Boston, Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, Adam J. Maida of Detroit, Jaime Ortega Alamino of Havana, and Juan Sandoval Iniguez of Guadalajara, Mexico. Other Vatican officials included U.S. Cardinals Edmund C. Szoka, former president of the commission governing Vatican City State, and J. Francis Stafford, head of the Vatican's Apostolic Penitentiary.

Also in attendance were Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington, Coadjutor Archbishop Fouad Twal of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

As head of the Nashville Diocese, Bishop David R. Choby was the host bishop.

Cardinal Bertone also received the Gaudium et Spes Award from the Knights during the convention's States Dinner Aug. 7.

It is the highest honor presented by the Knights of Columbus and recognizes individuals for their exemplary service to the church and humanity in the spirit of Christ as articulated by the work of the Second Vatican Council. Gaudium et Spes is the Latin name of Vatican II's *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*.

## Growing number of young men are joining Knights of Columbus college councils

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As the Knights of Columbus celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, a growing number of young men have been joining its ranks through councils on their college campuses.

Whether they are attracted by the group's dedication to volunteer service, the camaraderie of other young Catholic men, or the chance to become leaders in their local church communities, these young councils are constantly replenished by recruiting freshmen each year.

College councils are able not only to develop fresh ideas for ministry projects and service trips, but to implement them as well, said Stephen Walther, coordinator for the college councils for the Knights of Columbus.

"This is a hands-on kind of organization, which I think college students are very into," he



Supreme Knight Carl Anderson poses with college members of the Knights of Columbus at the March for Life in Washington in January. As the fraternal organization celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, a growing number of young men have been joining its ranks through councils on their college campuses. (CNS photo/courtesy of Knights of Columbus)

said. "When they see a hands-on thing they can do and not necessarily send money somewhere and hope it gets to somebody, but they can actually go out and change society themselves, they can relate to that."

Even with members grad-

uating and leaving their college councils to serve elsewhere, the net gain of these councils' membership has been more than 6,000 in the last five years. The number of college councils around the world has grown from 162 in 2003 to 215 in 2007.

## Scripture Readings



September 9, Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time.  
Cycle C. Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 9:13-18b  
Psalm 90:3-6, 12-17
- 2) Philemon 9-10, 12-17  
Gospel) Luke 14:25-33

By Dan Luby

**H**yperbole — it's a 50-cent word for a figure of speech that most of us have used a million times. We express the intensity of our convictions, the importance of our insights, or the urgency of our needs by extreme exaggeration. So we might say that a toothache is killing me or the freeway's a parking lot or the new baby is the most gorgeous child on the planet.

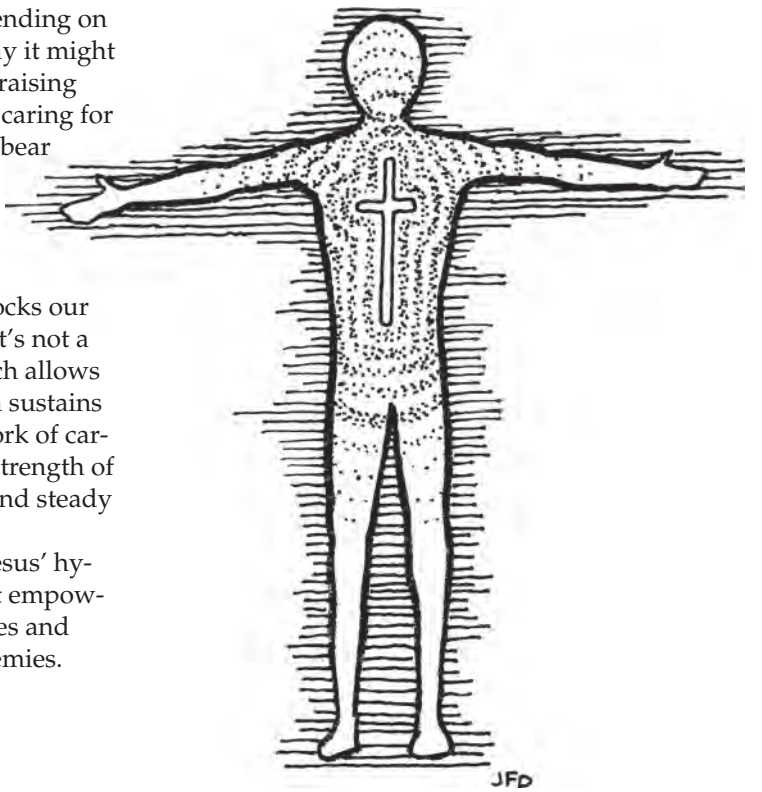
When Jesus tells us in Sunday's Gospel that we can't be his disciples without hating our family members, he is not contradicting his law of love. He is speaking in hyperbole to heighten the urgency of his insight: Commitment to Jesus must take priority over everything else — even commitments as important and valuable as family — if the love we share with others is to be authentic.

Make no mistake: This level of commitment is costly. Jesus likens it to carrying a cross. It's a

cross that appears in many forms, depending on the circumstances of our lives. Yesterday it might have been shaped like the demands of raising children; today it may take the form of caring for failing parents; tomorrow the cross we bear could be the burdensome weight of an unpopular but necessary challenge to power.

The severity of this standard seems impossible to attain, and if hearing it rocks our confidence in our ability to change, that's not a bad thing. Because the confidence which allows us to persist in the Christian life, which sustains us in the transformative but painful work of carrying the cross, does not reside in our strength of will. Our confidence rests on the sure and steady bedrock of Christ's love.

In spite of the jarring harshness of Jesus' hyperbole, it is communion with him that empowers us to truly love, not only our families and friends and strangers, but even our enemies.



**"F**or the deliberations of mortals are timid ... For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns."

— Wisdom 9:14-15

### QUESTIONS:

What do my actions in daily living suggest my priorities are? What's one specific way I might seek help in carrying my current cross more peacefully?

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## Pope says to follow Christ, show charity, solidarity with suffering

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Charity and solidarity with the suffering are indispensable signs of truly following Christ, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Citing the teaching of St. Gregory Nazianzen on charity at his Aug. 22 weekly general audience, the pope again appealed for international assistance for the victims of the Aug. 15 earthquake in Peru.

"Once again I want to remember with great affection and spiritual closeness the beloved Peruvian people, so tried in these days, asking for gestures of Christian solidarity," he said.

The pope returned briefly to the Vatican from Castel Gandolfo for the weekly audience and continued a talk he began Aug. 8 about St. Gregory, the fourth-century doctor of the church.

Pope Benedict told the estimated 8,000 people gathered in the Vatican audience hall,



Pope Benedict XVI is greeted by people outside his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Aug. 15. The pope celebrated Mass on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the local church. (CNS photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters)

"Gregory reminds us that as human persons, we must be in solidarity with each other.

He wrote, 'We are all one in the Lord, rich and poor, slave and free, healthy and sick,

and one alone is the head from which all derives — Jesus Christ.'"

Referring to the obligation to help the sick and the poor, the pope said St. Gregory taught that "'this is the only salvation for our bodies and souls: charity toward them.'

"Gregory emphasized that man must imitate the goodness and love of God, and so he recommends that 'if one is healthy and rich, he must alleviate the needs of one who is ill and poor.'"

St. Gregory also emphasized the importance and necessity of prayer, the pope said.

"He affirmed that 'it is necessary to think of God more often than taking a breath' because prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with our thirst. God thirsts for us to thirst for him," said the pope.

Pope Benedict said that in prayer "we allow our masks to drop" and present ourselves honestly to God as an offering to be purified and transformed.



## Scripture Readings



September 16, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.  
Cycle C. Readings:

- 1) Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14  
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
- 2) 1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Gospel) Luke 15:1-32

By Jean Denton

I rummaged through closets and drawers trying to make as little noise as possible because I knew I was indulging in obsessive behavior. But my grown son, visiting from out of town, heard me.

"Mom!" he called from downstairs. I heard the familiar mix of amusement and mild irritation in his voice. "Are you still looking for my sunglasses? Stop. I'm just going to get another pair."

Really, I know I have this obsession — spending way too long and hard looking for lost things. Maybe it's that son's fault. My memory is etched with the experience of a week when he, as an infant, lost his pacifier — the one and only that would, well, pacify him. It was "The Longest Week" as we tried numerous replacements to no avail and much wailing. Somehow we all survived, but I think it left me a little weird about going out of my way to find lost things.

However, that primal need for security is in all of us. It's not so surprising that we constantly search for the ultimate security of being loved. The God of love placed that desire in us, reflective of his own desire for our love.

The Gospel parable of the lost coin could just as easily be for me the parable of the sunglasses. It tells me that just as I am irrationally driven to find this lost item, God can't help but go out of his way to try to retrieve even one lost soul. In the vast eyes of God, not one of us can be replaced — so his desire and his effort to bring back the lost cannot be dissuaded.

Completing the parable of the sunglasses, imagine them falling from a car's roof into the street where they are smashed under the wheels of a van then swept into a storm drain. Then imagine obsessive me finding one intact lens and following a trail of plastic bits into the storm drain and picking through the mud to find every last piece and miraculously (this would be me being God) restoring them to their original condition of infinite coolness — the basic quality of sunglasses.

That's a distant approximation of God's desire to have us always with him.



"In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

— Luke 15:10

### QUESTIONS:

What experiences of loss speak to you about the joy of reunion with a loved one? When have you recognized God going out of his way to bring you, or someone close to you, back into his loving presence?

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## Imagining yourself into the Bible

By Jeff Hedglen

Because the Bible was written so long ago, it can sometimes be difficult to make a real connection with the Word of God. A while back I was blessed to be able to take a trip to the Holy Land. On that trip I had an experience that brought the Scriptures alive in an unexpected way.

My first night in Israel was in a hotel by the Sea of Galilee. When we checked in, we were told that our hotel room key also opened a gate to a private shore line on the sea. Because of jet lag I was wide awake at 4 a.m., so I decided to take advantage of the opportunity and have my morning prayer as the sun came up over the Sea of Galilee.

In the dark I made my way through a windy garden and down some slightly unstable steps until I was on the rocky shore line. After some exploring I found a big rock to sit on and began my prayers just as the sky was getting light to the East.

As I was sitting there, it

*As I was sitting there, it occurred to me that the rocks on the shore were probably not there when Jesus was here .... but the hills on the other side of the sea in modern day Jordan were there, and the sun coming up over them was there. It was then that I realized that I was seeing with my eyes something Jesus saw with his eyes countless times. It was an amazing moment that I will never forget.*

occurred to me that the rocks on the shore were probably not there when Jesus was here, and the exact molecules of water in the sea in front of me were probably not here when Jesus was here, and the neon beer sign on the pier next to me was certainly not here when Jesus was here, but the hills on the other side of the sea in modern day Jordan were there and the sun coming up over them was there. It was then that I realized

that I was seeing with my eyes something Jesus saw with his eyes countless times. It was an amazing moment that I will never forget.

While I was contemplating this, a small fishing boat being rowed by two men came around a bend in the shore. They began to pull their nets out of the water, and, believe it or not, the nets were empty. I remember thinking — "Hey I know this story!" I wanted to

yell: "Try the other side of the boat!" but since I don't know Arabic, all I could do was stare in wonder at the biblical images that had just come to life before my eyes.

Granted, trips to the Holy Land are not typical, but having the Bible come alive can be a daily experience. With a little practice, patience, and imagination the stories from the Bible can be reenacted when we pray.

With a few simple steps, the time-tested practice of Scripture meditation can take pretty much any story from the Bible and transform it into a movie playing in our mind's eye.

The first step is to choose a story (The Prodigal Son or The Call of the Apostles are good ones). Then read the story through. Now it's time to enter the story. Choose a character from the story to be or choose to be a bystander who sees it all. Next put your imagination to work. Imagine the weather. Is it sunny or overcast? Is there a breeze or a chill in the air? What are the smells and sounds in the scene? Now begin to read

the story again. It is important that you take your time here. Pause often to imagine what is happening. Really listen to the dialogue. Remember, take your time and enjoy the journey.

When you have finished your Scripture meditation it's a good idea to journal about the experience. You might want to write about why you chose who you chose to be in the story. Was there anything that surprised you? What did you hear God saying to you in the story?

With a little practice you can take a trip to the Holy Land whenever you want. These simple steps can transport you back 2,000 years where you can enter the Scriptures and encounter Jesus. As a bonus you won't need a passport or plane ticket, just your imagination and an open heart.

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](mailto:jeff@stbartsfw.org).

# La fe siempre deberá ser nuestro punto de partida... 'creer para entender'

Queridos Amigos en Cristo en la Diócesis de Fort Worth,

Al escribir estas palabras en el día 28 de agosto, estoy reflexionando



Obispo Kevin W. Vann

sobre el hecho de que este día es la fiesta del gran San Agustín de Hippona, quien a menudo es llamado el "Doctor de la Gracia."

Yo (y muchos de mis compañeros de estudios y contemporáneos en el Seminario de Kenrick en St. Louis, Missouri) tenemos un gran respeto y amor por su vida y escritos, gracias a una de mis profesoras en el Seminario, la Hermana Zoe Glenski D.C.

Sus escritos y reflexiones clarificaron lo que creemos sobre la gracia, el pecado original, la divinidad de Cristo y la naturaleza humana creada a imagen y semejanza de Dios. La historia de su vida, nar-

**S**i nuestro punto de partida en todas las cosas es la fe, entonces podremos ver la presencia de Dios en todos los momentos de nuestra vida, y sabremos que el poder de Dios nos acompañará, nos guiará y nos sostendrá.

rada en su libro *Las Confesiones*, nos ofrece una gran esperanza para todos nosotros, pues sus luchas con la fe, con sus defectos, fracasos y pecados, lo llevaron a la gracia de Dios y al amor de Cristo. Él también nos recuerda que con la ayuda de Dios, es posible vivir una vida de fe en tiempos de grandes cambios y conmoción. El ambiente de su

tiempo, al caer el Imperio Romano, fue en cierta manera una época no muy distinta a la nuestra.

Uno de sus refranes, que es uno de mis favoritos, es "No intenten entender para creer, sino crean para entender (De Magistro 11:37)." Esto es parecido a las palabras del Papa Benedicto en su más reciente obra, *Jesús de Nazareth*, cuando nos dice que la lectura y estudio de las Escrituras debe tener como punto de partida la convicción de la fe con la ayuda de la metodología histórica... (Prólogo). Yo compararía estas palabras a una serie de lentes [los lentes de la fe] con que nosotros debemos ver y entender todos los acontecimientos de nuestra vida. La fe siempre debe ser nuestro punto de partida... "creer para entender."

Si nuestro punto de partida en todas las cosas es la fe, entonces podremos ver la presencia de Dios en todos los momentos de nuestra vida, y sabremos que el poder de Dios nos acompañará, nos guiará y nos sostendrá. La fe nos traerá la luz de Dios a todos los momentos y retos de la vida, y nos ayudará a entender hacia donde nos dirigiremos en este mundo, tanto personalmente, y en comunión con el vivo Cuerpo de Cristo, al igual como somos dirigidos hacia la vida eterna. ¡Y, entre otras cosas, nos enseñará a ser agradecidos!

Con eso, quisiera decir algunas

palabras de agradecimiento a todos aquellos que ayudaron y estuvieron envueltos en las ordenaciones de nuestros cuatro nuevos sacerdotes este pasado verano.

Este fue un gran día de esperanza para nuestra Iglesia local. Demos gracias también a todos los que estuvieron envueltos en los programas parroquiales de educación religiosa durante este pasado verano. La presencia del Señor está en todos estos momentos.

Quisiera dar unas gracias muy especiales a Mary McLarry y Dan Luby por sus años de servicio a nuestra Iglesia local y por su amabilidad y ayuda para mí personalmente. Ofrecámosle nuestros mejores deseos y oremos por ellos mientras comienzan una nueva época en sus vidas, donde el Señor los ha llevado.

Al entrar en el umbral de un nuevo año escolar y académico, seamos agradecidos por todos los que estarán envueltos en nuestra fe y vida espiritual a través de los diversos programas y esfuerzos que se acercan. Todos estos esfuerzos son para que podamos creer, y "creer para entender."

(¡Más sobre creer para entender el próximo mes!)

Que Dios los bendiga siempre,  
+Kevin W. Vann  
Obispo de Fort Worth

## 'Jesus te invita al sacramento del matrimonio'

Renovando el amor matrimonial / bendiciendo su unión

"Jesús te invita al sacramento del matrimonio" es un programa de preparación matrimonial para parejas que quieren bendecir su unión, libre o civil, con el sacramento del matrimonio. Parejas ya casadas pueden asistir para enriquecer y fortalecer su matrimonio. El objetivo de este programa es que las parejas lleguen a conocerse y comprenderse más profundamente, y así hacer crecer su amor. El programa consiste de seis semanas, empezando el domingo, 7 de octubre, de las 2:30 p.m. a las 5 p.m., en el Centro Católico, 800 W. Loop 820 S., Fort Worth. Es muy importante que se registren lo más pronto posible. Si desean más información llame a Suzanna Ordóñez al teléfono (817) 560-3300 ext. 256.

## Clases del método natural para la planificación familiar

El método natural para la planificación familiar es un método seguro, natural, de bajo costo, y altamente confiable para evitar un embarazo, lograr un embarazo, espaciar el tiempo entre cada nacimiento, o para aceptar y respetar su fertilidad, de modo que no comprometa su salud o sus valores personales. Las

clases en español empezarán el domingo, 30 de septiembre, a las 10:30 a.m. en el salón parroquial de la Iglesia All Saints, 214 N.W. 20th St. en Fort Worth. Es muy importante que se registren lo más pronto posible. Si desean más información llame a Suzanna Ordóñez al teléfono (817) 560-3300 ext. 256.

## Clases de ingles ofrecidas en la parroquia de San Francisco de Asís en Grapevine

Habrán clases de ingles ofrecidas en la parroquia de San Francisco de Asís en Grapevine, comenzando el 18 de septiembre. Las clases son los martes y jueves de 6:30 a 8:30 p.m. y durarán 12 semanas. Después, dependiendo del interés, se volverán a ofrecer en enero. Habrá varios niveles disponibles, y todos entrarán al nivel que más les conviene. No hay costo para las clases, ya que son dadas por Caridades Católicas de Dallas y LIFT (Literacy Instruction For Texas), y tienen el apoyo

de la parroquia. Se enseñará a hablar, leer y escribir en inglés. No se requiere ningún documento ni calificación para participar. Las inscripciones serán el 11 y el 13 de septiembre a las 6:30 p.m. en la cafetería de la parroquia. Para más información, favor llamar a Nicole Ruiz al (817) 481-2685 ext. 23 o por e-mail a nbernal@stfrancisgrapevine.org La dirección de la iglesia es 861 Wildwood Lane, Grapevine, TX 76051 o se puede sacar un mapa del sitio <http://www.stfrancisgrapevine.org/>



El 7 de agosto los miembros de los Caballeros de Colón comienzan la formación para la procesión al final de la Misa de apertura de la 125ta convención nacional anual de los Caballeros en Nashville, Tennessee. (Foto CNS/Rick Musacchio, Tennessee Register)

## Un nuevo credo en un nuevo siglo Para católicos que viven entre muchos protestantes

Por Pedro A. Moreno, OPL  
Director, Instituto Luz de Cristo

Nuestros hermanos de otras comunidades eclesiales a veces niegan verdades esenciales. Lo que hace más daño es cuando proponen "medias verdades", que invitan a los oyentes a seguir caminos que se desvían de la verdad total y plena. Este nuevo credo puede ser una ayuda en tal situación.

*Siete verdades que nos llevan a la plenitud, y abundancia, de la vida, la verdad y el amor junto a Dios.*

**1. CREO EN UN SOLO DIOS, LA TRINIDAD**, que se da a conocer tanto en la Biblia como en la Tradición de la Iglesia. (2 Tesalonicenses 2:15 — Existe un mandato bíblico de guardar las tradiciones; Juan 20:30, Juan 21: 25, 2 de Juan verso 12 y 3 de Juan 13 — No se puede encontrar todo lo revelado por Dios en la Biblia.)

**2. CREO EN JESUCRISTO COMO EL ÚNICO SALVADOR**, la plenitud de los medios para alcanzar esa salvación se encuentra en la Iglesia Católica. (Hechos 13:47, 1 Timoteo 2:3 y 4 — La Iglesia es el instrumento que trae la salvación de Cristo al mundo.)

**3. CREO EN EL ESPÍRITU SANTO**. Que guía a la Iglesia Católica, la única fundada por Cristo. Ella es el fundamento de la Fe y la Verdad, no la Biblia interpretada al margen del Magisterio. (Mateo 16:18 — Esa Iglesia no morirá; Juan 21:15 — Pedro vuelve a recibir autoridad; 1 Timoteo 3:15 — La Iglesia es el fundamento de la verdad; 2 Pedro 1:20 — La Biblia no debe ser interpretada en forma privada; Hechos 8: 30-31 — La Biblia siempre debe ser leída a la luz del Magisterio de la Iglesia.)

**4. CREO EN LA PRESENCIA REAL DE CRISTO** en la Eucaristía y el perdón de los pecados en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación. Los sacramentos promueven la comunión con Dios a través de la vida de la gracia. (Mateo 26:26, Marcos 14:22, 1 Corintios 11:24 — Estos dos sacramentos son encargados a sus escogidos; el nombre de ellos hoy día: obispos y sacerdotes; Juan 20:23 — El perdón de los pecados por hombres.)

**5. CREO EN LA NECESIDAD DE ACEPTAR Y CREER** en todas las verdades enseñadas por Cristo a través de la Iglesia Católica; no solo las que más me agradan o las que son más cómodas para mí. (Mateo 28:18-20 — El mandato a enseñar todo lo recibido del Señor; John 6:66 — Desde la época de Jesús han existido discípulos que no han estado de acuerdo con algunas de las enseñanzas del Señor; Hechos 20:29 y 30, 1 Timoteo 1:3-17 — Siempre han habido y habrán falsos profetas.)

**6. CREO EN LAS OBRAS** de caridad, justicia y misericordia, como esenciales en la vida del discípulo de Cristo. (Mateo 25:31-46, 7:21-23 y Santiago 2:17 — La fe sola no basta. Manifestamos la fe por medio de obras.)

**7. CREO EN LA VIRGEN MARÍA**, llena de gracia, como nuestra madre espiritual. Debemos venerarla. (Lucas 1:42-48 y 2:51 — Todas las generaciones la llamarán bienaventurada.)

Este Credo me comprometo a estudiar mi fe y leer la Biblia a la luz del Magisterio. Después de conocer mejor nuestra fe nos debemos comprometer a compartir estas verdades como acto de amor. Amen.



Pedro Moreno es director diocesano del Instituto Luz de Cristo. Sus escritos espirituales han recibido múltiples premios de la Asociación de Periodismo Católico de los Estados Unidos y Canadá. Vive en el noroeste de Fort Worth con su esposa Maria Mirta y sus tres hijas Maria, Patricia y Mirangela. Pedro es Laico Dominicano.

## El 6 de Octubre será el Día de Formación en Wichita Falls

"Encontrando a Cristo Resucitado" es el tema del Día de Formación. Este día se llevará a cabo el sábado 6 de octubre en Notre Dame High School, 2821 Lansing Blvd. en Wichita Falls. Este acontecimiento es una oportunidad para el enriquecimiento de todos los servidores y ministros de la diócesis, además de ser una oportunidad para compartir con compañeros y compañeras de la Iglesia diocesana. El Día de Formación es también una oportunidad para el desarrollo de habilidades y destrezas prácticas para la Evangelización en las diversas parroquias de la Diócesis.

Este Día de Formación, que será ofrecido tanto en inglés como en español, comenzará a las 8 de la mañana con la oportunidad de visitar a los diversos exhibidores de libros y materiales católicos. Inscripciones y un desayuno seguirá a partir de las 8:30 de la mañana hasta las 9.

Mientras la comunidad Hispana participa de diversos talleres en español a las 10 de la mañana se ofrecerá la conferencia principal en inglés por el Padre Nathan



Stone, SJ, de la casa de retiro de los Padres Jesuitas, Montserrat. El Padre, quien es nativo de Texas, pasó varios años como maestro voluntario en Chile. El modelo ignaciano lo inspiró, y entró a la Compañía de Jesús en 1992. Después de varios años de formación, fue ordenado sacerdote en el año 2000, como miembro de la provincia chilena.

La conferencia principal en español será a las 11:15 de la mañana y será presentada por Jesús López de Los Ángeles. López trabaja a tiempo completo en el ministerio del evangelización en la comunidad hispana de Los Angeles. Nacido en Michoacán México, López ha ofrecido conferencias,

cursos, y retiros a través de los Estados Unidos, México, Perú, El Salvador, y Guatemala. López y su esposa Araceli, son los padres de tres niños.

Después del almuerzo habrá una segunda ronda de talleres que comenzará a la 1:30 de la tarde. Varios de los temas serán "Jesús ya hizo su parte, ahora te toca a ti..." y "Los jóvenes también necesitan atención..." entre otros. Después de los talleres se ofrecerá una última oportunidad para visitar a los exhibidores y todo concluirá a las 3 de la tarde.

Todas las personas que participan ahora, o estén pensando en ofrecer sus servicios a la parroquia en el futuro, pueden asistir. El costo, que incluye almuerzo, es de \$20 por persona si se inscriben antes del 24 de septiembre; después de esa fecha, el costo es \$25. Hay becas disponibles. Para más información, llame el Centro Católico al (817) 560-3300 o visite nuestra página Web en [www.fwdioc.org](http://www.fwdioc.org).

## Dios te llama ¿Estás escuchando? El Obispo Kevin Vann te invita a un fin de semana Vocacional

el 19 al 21 de octubre  
Catholic Renewal Center

Todo joven soltero o soltera entre los años de 18-35 que tiene alguna inquietud sobre la vida sacerdotal o religiosa está invitado.

El fin de semana se llevará a cabo en español. Cupo limitado.

Fecha limite: 1 de octubre

Para más información, comunícate con:

1 (888) 560-3370

Sr. Yolanda Cruz, SSMN Ext. 114

Sr. Elvira Mata, MCDP Ext. 273

Padre Kyle (817) 366-0439

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# Panel: Cambio de inmigración requerirá activar estadounidenses de corriente principal

Por Patricia Zapor  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Encuesta tras encuesta dice que el público estadounidense apoya un enfoque abarcador para arreglar los problemas de inmigración, pero los líderes de esfuerzos para aprobar tal ley federal reconocen que un mensaje opuesto está impulsando el debate.

Con un proyecto abarcador de ley de inmigración probablemente fuera de la mesa hasta después de la elección presidencial del año próximo, los defensores de los inmigrantes dijeron en teleconferencia del 3 de agosto que su estrategia ahora tiene que convertirse en lograr que más de esa mayoría del público se involucre en luchar por lo que ellos dicen que creen y desactivar el poder que los “restriccionistas” de inmigración han obtenido.

Parte de eso es conseguir que más líderes religiosos tomen una posición, dijo Kevin Appleby, director de política de emigración y refugiados para la Conferencia Estadounidense de Obispos Católicos.

“Necesitamos contrarrestar las voces de la radio hablada”, dijo Appleby. “Bastante honestamente, las iglesias, incluyendo la Iglesia Católica Romana, necesitan hacer un mejor trabajo de educar a la gente sobre las realidades de la inmigración... ponerle una cara humana a la discusión”.

Cecilia Muñoz, vicepresidenta de investigación y representación en el Consejo Nacional de La Raza, dijo que según tomó que la corriente principal estadounidense hablara abiertamente para ayudar a traer las leyes de los derechos civiles de la década de 1960, más del público debe involucrarse en apoyar la reforma de inmigración.

“Tenemos que hacer más difícil que la gente se quede parada en las líneas laterales”, dijo ella.

Muñoz se refirió a un discurso de Janet Murguía, presidenta de La Raza, en la conferencia anual del consejo en julio, en la cual ella describió lo que ha sucedido en la discusión sobre la inmigración como “odio e intolerancia. Pensamos que estábamos teniendo una discusión sobre la política de inmigración. Pero esta era verdaderamente una discusión sobre quién decide lo que significa ser americano”.

Murguía dijo en el discurso que una “minoría vocal, empujada por una turba enojada, ayudada e incitada por conocidos locutores chocantes de la radio hablada, hizo el Senado de Estados Unidos

— el cuerpo deliberativo más grande del mundo — su peón”.

En la teleconferencia del 3 de agosto Tom Snyder, director político de UNITE HERE, acrónimo de un sindicato internacional de trabajadores de vestimenta, textiles, servicios de alimentos y hospitalidad, dijo que el “enorme grupo en el medio” debe tener un

liderato fuerte para movilizar a la gente para que responsabilicen a sus líderes políticos con cambiar las leyes y políticas actuales. Él dijo que ha sido más fácil para los políticos dejar que el status quo permanezca que trabajar para un cambio.

Appleby describió el ambiente actual para la política de inmi-

gración como tóxica y “un frenesí de alimentación” que ignora los seres humanos, cuyas vidas, empleos y familias están en riesgo.

Cuando 1,000 familias han tenido sus padres separados de sus niños por redadas en los lugares de trabajo estos últimos meses, dijo Muñoz, “ellos están poniendo una luz en lo que significa ver-

daderamente tener una política de inmigración hostil”.

Los sindicatos como UNITE HERE, las organizaciones de los derechos civiles como La Raza y las iglesias están trabajando para lograr que los inmigrantes se hagan ciudadanos y conseguir que ellos voten, dijeron los panelistas.

*Un hombro fuerte para apoyarse  
en un momento difícil.*

Estimado Caballero Supremo:

Cuando mi esposo se hizo Caballero de Colón, nos presentaron a nuestro agente de seguros, Mike Walter, e inmediatamente nos dimos cuenta que Mike se ocupaba de su carrera como si fuera un “ministerio” en vez de un cargo de ventas. Nunca me imagine en ese entonces lo que ese ministerio habría de significar para mí.

Durante nuestras reuniones, no fuimos fáciles de persuadir. Mike nunca se dio por vencido y siempre buscó la forma como demostrarnos que la necesidad existía. Nos ayudó hasta que por fin pudimos comprender el valor de contar con la protección de un seguro de vida.

Mi esposo murió repentinamente el otoño pasado. Su muerte fue un golpe para todos nosotros. Aunque desde el punto de vista médico no debería haber sucedido, me imagino que Dios pensó que había cumplido con su labor en esta tierra. Pude contar con Mike de inmediato. Estuvo en el velorio, asistió al funeral y permaneció a mi lado para ayudarme en cuanto fuera posible. Lloré por mi esposo igual que yo.

En este mundo en donde todos se preocupan sólo de las ganancias, presencie lo que los Caballeros son verdaderamente capaces de hacer. Pude contar con ellos cuando más lo necesité.

— Amber Díaz\*



\*Basada en una carta verdadera. Los nombres se han cambiado para que se mantengan anónimos.

Para localizar un agente de Caballeros de Colón, visite [KOFc.org](http://KOFc.org) y haga clic en “Encontrar un agente”, o bien llame al 1-800-345-5632.

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