

# North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

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September 4, 2009

## Diocese announces launch of \$40 million *All Things Possible* 40th anniversary campaign



Bishop Kevin Vann has announced that the Diocese of Fort Worth, which marked its 40th anniversary as a diocese on Aug. 9, is launching a major campaign, *All Things Possible*, with the goal of raising \$40 million over the next four years. The \$40 million campaign is intended to meet a number of large identified needs and will strengthen the ministry of the Catholic Church in North Texas.

Although the campaign officially launched Aug. 29, early support for the campaign has yielded \$2 million toward the \$40 million goal, the bishop said. "I am humbled and exhilarated by the early support our campaign has received before its public launch. This sets a high barometer for success and shows our people are truly responding generously to carrying out the Gospel message," said Bishop Vann.

The campaign will be conducted in all 90 parishes and missions from August 2009 to June 2010. The plan calls for a series of receptions and a process of ongoing education, giving each Catholic household the opportunity to learn about the challenges facing the Catholic Church in North Texas.

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SEE CAMPAIGN, P. 12

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— Bishop Kevin Vann  
on the *All Things Possible*  
campaign

## Catholic Charities responds to NEW YORK TIMES article on health care reform

On Aug. 28, Catholic Charities of Fort Worth issued a press release about inaccurate news reporting of the positions of Catholic Charities USA and the Catholic Health Association, stating that "The *New York Times*, on Aug. 28 ... inaccurately reported that Catholic Charities and the Catholic Health Association have 'endorsed the president's plan without reservation.' This information is simply not true," the release goes on to say:

"In a letter to Congress, dated July 31, 2009, Catholic Charities USA President Father Larry Snyder, wrote: 'I am writing to clarify that Catholic Charities USA does not support any plan to reform health care and/or any proposed legislative provision that allows

or promotes the funding of abortions or compels any health care provider or institution to provide such a service. In fact, Catholic Charities USA will continue to work with the Catholic Health Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to ensure that any health care reform legislation will not include such provisions. Catholic Charities USA will continue to work to reform health care in a way that is consistent with the teachings of our faith.'"

"In a statement on its Web site, Catholic Health Association also states: 'CHA has not endorsed any of the health care reform bills, but our message to lawmakers is clear: health care reform should not result in an expansion of abortion,

and it must sustain conscience protections for health care providers who do not want to participate in abortions or other morally objectionable procedures.' (To read more from CHA, visit its website at [www.chausa.org](http://www.chausa.org).)"

On Aug. 29, the *Times* posted a correction to its Web site stating that the story published Aug. 28 had overstated the two national Catholic organizations' support for what the *Times* characterized as "the president's plans," ending the correction by stating, "The two organizations have not endorsed his proposals 'without reservation.'"

Catholic Charities of Fort Worth's Web site may be accessed at [www.CatholicCharitiesFortWorth.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesFortWorth.org).

## Monthly lecture series begins Sept. 29 John Paul II Institute kicks off with 'JPII and Pizza Too'

Douglas Bushman, STL, will kick off "JP II and Pizza Too!", a series of monthly presentations that delve into the writings and teachings of the late pontiff, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller. The series is sponsored by the Catechetical School of the Pope John Paul II Institute of the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Bishop Kevin Vann has invited Bushman, director of the Institute of Pastoral Theology at Ave Maria University in Naples, Florida, and a nationally known speaker and expert on the writings of Pope John Paul II, to present this series to celebrate the inaugural year



Douglas Bushman

of the diocesan Pope John Paul II Institute.

"It is the bishop's desire that all Catholics in the diocese may come to a greater understanding of the great legacy of teaching, wisdom, and spiritual insight that John Paul II has left the Church and how this can inspire our Catholic faith and our ability to live out our daily lives as Catholics," said Lucas Pollice, diocesan director of Catechesis.

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# Abortion has no place in health care bill, bishops' spokesperson says

By Dennis Sadowski  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The president of Planned Parenthood confuses authentic health care with access to abortion and all forms of artificial contraception, said Deirdre A. McQuade, assistant director for policy and communications in the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

Responding to a column by Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, that appeared Aug. 18 on the Huffington Post Web site, McQuade said health care reform pending in Congress should provide people with access to basic health care, not services that harm human life.

"Fundamentally, abortion is not health care," McQuade told Catholic News Service. "It should not be considered fundamental in any way to any health care reform at the federal or state level."

"She's shifting the language

*"Fundamentally, abortion is not health care. It should not be considered fundamental in any way to any health care reform at the federal or state level."*

—Deirdre A. McQuade  
USCCB spokesperson

around to say universal health care means coverage of every single legal medical procedure. Nobody's proposing that," McQuade said.

The bishops have called for any health care legislative measure to remain "abortion neutral," that

is, that existing laws and policies governing abortion and abortion funding be preserved. U.S. law does not allow the use of government funds for most abortions.

Richards challenged the bishops' position, saying that their view of universal health coverage would make women "second-class citizens" because they oppose the inclusion of abortion coverage in health care reform legislation.

"Does anyone else see the irony in the U.S. bishops wanting to define universal health care as covering everything except for what they don't support?" Richards wrote in response to an Aug. 17 story in *U.S. News & World Report* that outlined the bishops' position.

"Under this theory, I suppose women are supposed to wait and see just exactly how the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops comes down on a variety of health needs to understand what in fact

will be considered universal," she said.

Richards contended that access to abortion and contraception remain a fundamental health care need and be included in any health care reform measure adopted by Congress.

"The danger, of course, is not simply that the bishops are pushing to erode decades of legal access to contraception and abortion in America," Richards wrote.

The Planned Parenthood official also claimed the bishops' "hard-line opposition to women's rights" endangers women around the world who need access to universal health care.

"The effort to criminalize access to safe abortion endangers most women in the developing world, the very women that you would think the bishops would be concerned about," she wrote.

McQuade said the bishops' position has been consistent throughout the health care debate

since Congress began tackling the issue in June.

"The bishops have a very creative and kind of politically, I would say, beautiful and complex position which is that they're for authentic reform of health care, for universal coverage that is truly universal," McQuade explained. "(They've) got the most inclusive vision possible in that they call for authentic care of the unborn all the way through natural death."

"The bishops' vision is to authentically serve, especially those who are least served among us, to put them first. Who's more vulnerable than the unborn?" she said.

McQuade also refuted Richards' position that comprehensive access to artificial contraception would reduce unwanted pregnancies and lead to fewer abortions. "Greater access to contraception has never been shown to decrease pregnancy rates or abortion," she said.

# USCCB launches Web site to inform Catholics about Missal translation

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new Web site launched Aug. 21 by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was produced to educate Catholics about the forthcoming English translation of the new *Roman Missal*, the book of prayers used for Mass.

The site, [www.usccb.org/romanmissal](http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal), has background material on the process of development of liturgical texts, sample texts from the missal, a glossary of terms and answers to frequently asked questions.

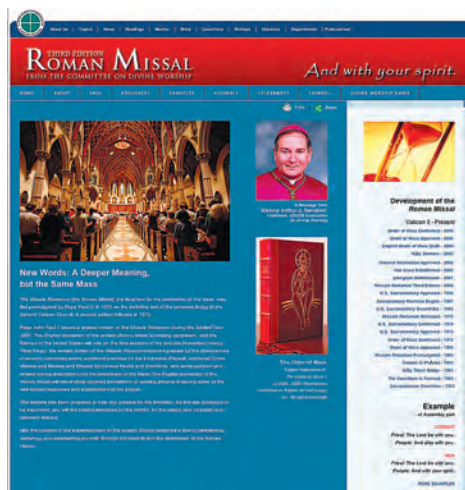
Content will be added regularly over the next several months, according to an Aug. 21 news release from the USCCB.

The bishops' Committee on Divine Worship hopes the site will be a central resource for those preparing to implement the new text, the release said.

In the years since the Second Vatican Council, "we have learned a lot about the use of the vernacular in the liturgy and the new texts reflect this new understanding," said the committee's chairman, Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, New Jersey, in a video that welcomes visitors to the site.

"The new texts are understandable, dignified, and accurate," he said. "They not only strive to make the meaning of the text accessible for the listener, but they also strive to unearth the biblical and theological richness of the Latin text."

After more than five years of consultation, study and reflection, the U.S. bishops are expected to



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched this new Web site, [www.usccb.org/romanmissal](http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal), to educate Catholics about the forthcoming English translation of the new *ROMAN MISSAL*, the book of prayers used for Mass. (CNS)

conclude their review and approval of the final portion of the translated texts at the end of this year. Final approval, or "recognition," of the text from the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments will be the last step before the publication of the texts for use in the liturgy.

Bishop Serratelli called the period between now and the final approval "a great opportunity" not only to learn about the changes and the revised texts, "but also to deepen our own understanding of the liturgy itself." He said, "We encourage priests, deacons, religious, liturgical ministers, (and) all the faithful to avail themselves of the information that we are making available."

The new Latin edition of the *Roman Missal* was released at the Vatican in March 2002. Since 2003 the bishops of the English-speaking world have been preparing an English translation of the missal.

Translations prepared by the

International Commission on English in the Liturgy are submitted to each participating bishops' conference, which is free to adopt or reject any text ICEL proposes. Once a bishops' conference adopts a text, it is submitted to the Vatican for approval.

In June 2006, the U.S. bishops meeting in Los Angeles approved the first section of the missal translation that involves the penitential rite, Gloria, creed, eucharistic prayers, eucharistic acclamations, "Our Father" and other prayers and responses used daily. In 2008, the Vatican gave final approval of those texts.

In July of this year the USCCB announced that the bishops had approved four more liturgical texts — prefaces for the Mass for various occasions; votive Masses and Masses for the dead; solemn blessings for the end of Mass; and prayers over the people and eucharistic prayers for particular occasions, such as for evangelization or ordinations. The next step


is Vatican approval.

The bishops' vote on the texts was completed in mail-in ballots nearly a month after their spring meeting in San Antonio.

In the fall the bishops will consider the *Proper of the Saints Gray Book*, the commons *Gray Book*, U.S. propers for the *Roman Missal*, U.S. adaptations for the *Roman Missal* and the *Roman Missal* supplement *Gray Book*. *Gray Books* are revised translations


proposed to the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL).

Last November during the bishops' fall general meeting, Bishop Serratelli said that, with the time needed for publishers to produce the new edition of the missal and for Catholics to receive proper catechesis about the changes in the Mass, the use of the new missal is not expected before Advent of 2012.



18 Years in a Row

**North Texas Catholic**





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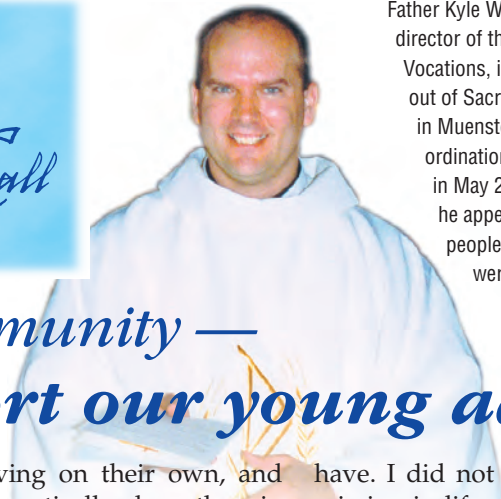
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## Diocesan

### Responding to God's Call



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.

## As a Catholic Community — We must support our young adults

By Father Kyle Walterscheid

Whether our sons and daughters are heading off to college, heading out into the workforce, or are already living on their own, they need a lot of help from the Catholic community.

It is a grave situation when young Catholic adults are not communicating with their parents, or their extended families, nor staying in touch with their parish leaders or frequenting the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation. They are

truly living on their own, and this automatically places them in grave danger! This is exactly what the devil wants! If the devil can separate them from their family and community, and then divide them from mutual support from their Christian peers, then he can pull them into darkness, deception, and grave sin! And the devil is lapping up the souls of many of our young adults who are caught in his invisible webs of relativism, confusion, abuse, hopelessness, self-righteousness, anger, folly, and many other destructive patterns. So, what can we do?

When I think back to those years of my life, I was a lot more confused about life than what I was willing to admit. First, I was afraid of trying to face the future by myself. I thought I knew right from wrong, but did not know how I got myself into so much trouble. As a Catholic Christian I did not know my faith as I should

have. I did not know what my mission in life was supposed to be. I did not know how to receive help, nor did I know how to be of help in the Christian community. I did not know how to date properly or how to maintain proper boundaries. I didn't even realize the dangerous life I was leading. In short, if I knew then what I know now, I would not have hesitated to reach out for help from family or church leaders. But then again, I did not see my Church or any of its organizations extending a helping hand either.

Older Catholics have an enormous amount of help to offer young adults. First, older adults are called to be constantly working on their faith to live a more perfect life through their life in Christ and his Church. With years of experience and wisdom about the many follies of life, older adults are able to journey with young adults to discuss things like the meaning of

life and the good of living according to the teachings of Christ and his Church. At the very hour that our young adults are straining the bonds with their parents, as often happens, it is the duty of the rest of the Christian community to help young adults develop new bonds to Christ and the Church, so they do not fall through the protective net provided by the Body of Christ. Sometimes that could be as simple as making a phone call to a student, corresponding with them via e-mail, or communicating regularly by cell-phone texting.

At the same time, young adult Catholics are finding ways of mutual support in the Church through regular gatherings like "The Shepherd's Café" ([www.TheShepherdsCafe.com](http://www.TheShepherdsCafe.com)) held once a month with a combination of Adoration and confession along with live entertainment and social time, all in the same night. Our young Catholics have also started many regular gatherings and support groups such as Theology on Tap, Bible studies, small church communities, retreats, sports outings, e-mail newsletters, networking on Facebook, and much more (visit [www.fwyam.org](http://www.fwyam.org)).

In addition, young adult Catholics have at their fingertips knowledge of the entire Catholic Church. With the Internet, one has access to everything Catholic from the local diocese, to the state, the country, the world, and even

the Vatican. One can learn about the many great saints, have questions answered about their faith, or learn about Catholic history or about the Bible. Yet with all these new advantages our young adults still need to be connected to their Church community and the sacraments.

All surveys seem to indicate that young Christians "feel" Catholic or Christian without going to church. Oh boy, we have another set of problems on our hands! Even if young adults are going to church on Sunday out of a sense of obligation or desire, they still need much more support to be a part of the community and to be living as Christ has taught us. In order to have a sense of belonging (and they all do belong with us) they must be active in their faith. Thus, church leaders and the many organizations associated with the Church ought to reach out to young adults to offer regular support and to have them consider becoming active participants in their ministries. In fact, as long as young adults have the disposition that they are working and living for themselves rather than at the service of Christ and his Church, then they are definitely at grave risk of being drawn away from salvation in Jesus Christ.

*Father Kyle Walterscheid is the director of Vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth. He can be reached by e-mail to [kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org](mailto:kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org).*

## Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth 2009-2010 Seminararians



**FIRST ROW:** (From left to right) Manuel Holguin, Nghia Nguyen, Ronald Mercado, Fernando Preciado, Joseph Keating, Vocations Director Fr. Kyle Walterscheid, Bishop Kevin W. Vann, Associate Vocations Director for the Hispanic Community Fr. Richard Flores, Associate Vocations Director Fr. Jim Pemberton, Denis Curran, Khiem Nguyen, Juan Carlos de Jesus, Maurice Moon  
**SECOND ROW:** (From left to right) Jesus Rey Trujillo, Eduwin Floriano, Stephen Hauck, Tom Kelley, Keith Hathaway, Daniel Cochran, Michael Galbraith, David Keith Garvin, Deacon Alfredo Barba, Donald Dougherty, Philip Petta, James Wilcox, Nicolas Gonzalez, Amado Vallejo, Michael Moloney, John Burton, Khoi Tran, Matthew Tatyrek, Michael Greco, Angel Herrera, Richard Kirkham, Justin Conover, Raul Martinez

## Divorce Care series to be offered at St. Paul's

St. Paul Parish, 5508 Black Oak Lane, Fort Worth, will offer a new Divorce Care series with a companion series, Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K). The program, distributed by Church Initiative, will begin Sept. 17, and will be held every Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. through Dec. 17 with the exception of Nov. 26.

Facilitators and helpers in both programs have been through divorce themselves, have been trained in the program, and attended "Keeping Children Safe." Each of the sessions is appropriate content oriented for the age group. DC4K is geared to children ages 5-12, and the adult series for age 13 and older.

There is no cost for this program, which addresses the recovery process. The program outcome is the realization that it is possible to recover from separation and divorce. Deacon Ron Aziere emphasizes, "The help generated through this seminar has no boundaries. We have helped persons divorced for over 15 years to get recovered, and in one case the couple reconciled a broken marriage. God's healing presence is visible by the end of the series. Although this program is a Scripture-based program, it is not a Bible study. There is input from professionals in pastoral care, entertainment, psychological, and social services featured in this seminar giving their personal and professional input to help the participant focus on the job of healing."

Pre-registration is preferred. For more information and to register, call St. Paul's at (817) 738-9925.

## Marriage Encounter weekend to be held Oct. 9-11 at CRC

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

Reservations are required. To make a reservation, e-mail [mereregistration@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mereregistration@sbcglobal.net). More information is also available online at [www.ntexasme.org](http://www.ntexasme.org).

## IWBS Sisters to host 'Come and See' weekend Sept. 19-20

The Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters will host a "Come and See" weekend Sept. 19-20. The weekend, for single Catholic women high school graduates through 50 years of age, will be held at Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.iwbsvictoria.org](http://www.iwbsvictoria.org), or call (361) 575-7111, or e-mail [iwbsvoc@yahoo.com](mailto:iwbsvoc@yahoo.com).

## Catholic Scripture Study to be offered at St. Mark's

Catholic Scripture Study (CSS), a doctrinally-based Catholic Scripture study program, will be offered at St. Mark Church, 2800 Pennsylvania Drive in Denton, beginning Sept. 14.

According to promotional materials for the program, CSS "has been formally endorsed by Bishop Vann, and has been a blessing to Catholics at over 200 parishes around the world." Participation in the sessions, according to event organizers, will help Catholics to "learn the Word of God from a uniquely Catholic perspective, [to] be able to defend your Catholic faith, and [to] develop friendships with like-minded believers."

CSS sessions will be held weekly and will include class discussion; program materials provide for daily reflection and questions. Weekly Monday sessions will begin Sept. 14 and will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Wednesday evening groups will begin Sept. 16 and will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information about CSS at St. Mark Parish, call Jim Hawk at (214) 552-8935. The CSS Web site may be found at [www.catholicscripturestudyinc.org](http://www.catholicscripturestudyinc.org).

## Red Mass to be celebrated Sept. 28 at St. Patrick Cathedral

The third annual Red Mass for judges, public officials, attorneys and their spouses, as well as their staffs will be held Monday, Sept. 28. Bishop Kevin Vann will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton St. in downtown Fort Worth. A reception will be held immediately following the Mass at the Fort Worth Convention Center.

The Red Mass is offered to invoke divine guidance and strength while initiating the legal year. It is celebrated in honor of the Holy Spirit as the source of wisdom, understanding, counsel, and fortitude, gifts which should shine forth preeminently in the dispensing of justice in the courtroom, and in the individual lawyer's office.

The Red Mass has been traditionally identified with the opening of the Sacred Roman Rota, the supreme judicial body of the Catholic Church. The inauguration of the Red Mass in the United States occurred in New York City on October 6, 1928.

Free parking will be available in the parish parking lot next to the cathedral, on the parish lots between 12th and 13th Streets at the old Larry's Shoe Store on 13th St.; in the parish lot on Jennings St. immediately west of the old Larry's Shoe Store; and on the street. Paid parking is available in the new parking garage on Throckmorton St. across from the cathedral.

For more information regarding the Red Mass, contact Robert Gieb at (817) 336-5681.



## Study series on Evangelium Vitae to be offered at St. John's

The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Fort Worth will host a four-part study series on *Evangelium Vitae, The Gospel of Life*, by John Paul II beginning Oct. 7. The study sessions will take place each Wednesday night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Parish located at 7341 Glenview, North Richland Hills.

Each session will have a guest speaker, followed by small group discussions and time for fellowship and socializing. Each participant will receive a copy of *Evangelium Vitae* as well as the study guide. The cost of the series is \$5 per person.

For more information or to register, contact Chanacee Ruth-Killgore, director of Respect Life, at (817) 560-3300 ext. 257 or [cruth-killgore@fwdioc.org](mailto:cruth-killgore@fwdioc.org). Advanced registration is recommended, but not required.

## CRC to host retreat with Br. Joseph Schmidt

The Catholic Renewal Center will host a retreat featuring Brother Joseph Schmidt. "Praying Our Feelings with St. Therese of Lisieux" will be held Friday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Overnight accommodations are optional and meals will be provided. The cost for the retreat is \$100.

Program material states, "Social violence is destroying our world and feelings of hurt and violence are destroying our souls. Many saints have spoken in favor of Gospel peace, but St. Therese of Lisieux gives a way to peace with her life example. The retreat is designed to explore St. Therese's 'Way' that will help bring some degree of peace."

For more information and reservations, contact the Catholic Renewal Center at (817) 429-2920. The reservation deadline is Sept. 8.

## NTC publication deadlines

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. 18 issue must be received by noon on Sept. 9. Items for the Oct. 2 issue must be received by noon on Sept. 23.

## Catholic Scout retreat to be held Oct. 9-11

The 2009 Catholic Boy Scout Retreat will be held at Worth Ranch near Palo Pinto Friday, Oct. 9, through Sunday, Oct. 11.

The retreat theme for this year is, "God's Great Commandments." Scouts are invited to gather together and discover the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament, and the two greatest Commandments of the New Testament.

Check-in will be Friday evening after 6 p.m. Reconciliation and Mass will be held Saturday afternoon. The registration fee for the retreat is \$20 per Scout or adult Scouter. Class "A" uniform is required. BSA health forms and a copy of health insurance cards are required with the unit or individuals.

For more information, call Daniel Scott at (817) 293-4144 after 6 p.m. or e-mail [daniel.scott@alconlabs.com](mailto:daniel.scott@alconlabs.com)

## SHSp Sisters to host 'Come and See' weekend Oct. 9-11

The Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate ask, "Have you ever wondered what life in a convent is like and how the sisters live, work, and spread the Gospel?" In an effort to increase vocations to the religious life and to the community, the sisters will host a "Come and See" weekend Oct. 9-11 at their Motherhouse, 300 Yucca St., San Antonio.

Women, ages 18-45 will have the opportunity to experience life in a convent setting. During the weekend guests will participate in community prayer, small group sharing, discernment themes, personal reflection, Emmaus Walk, recreation, and other activities with the sisters.

Registration for the "Come and See" weekend is available on-line at [www.shsp.org](http://www.shsp.org), under "What's New?" or by contacting Sister Gabriel Hession, SHSp, at (210) 533-5149 or [sghession@hotmail.com](mailto:sghession@hotmail.com).

## 'Late Nite Catechism 2' to be presented at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Catholic Community in Colleyville will host a showing of the Off-Broadway comedy "Late Nite Catechism 2 - Sister Strikes Again" Saturday, Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Tickets are \$45 each and must be purchased in advance at Good Shepherd or online at the parish Web site, [www.gsc.net](http://www.gsc.net).

"Late Nite Catechism 2 - Sister Strikes Again" a witty performance about the myths and realities of Catholicism, features an irrepressible nun who teaches to a roomful of "students" (audience). All proceeds will benefit the Good Shepherd/Holy Trinity Catholic School Tuition Assistance Fund.

For more information, contact Ann LaBarge at (817) 251-2451 or [jalabarge@verizon.net](mailto:jalabarge@verizon.net). Good Shepherd Catholic Community is located at 1000 Tinker Rd., Colleyville.

## Purity youth rally will be held Sept. 19 at St. Francis

"Courage Under Fire, Power of Purity" will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, at St. Francis Church, 861 Wildwood Lane, Grapevine, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will include lunch. The rally, sponsored by the Northeast Deanery Youth Ministries and Youth For Life of Fort Worth, is open to high school and junior high school teens. All youth are welcome, but must have diocesan form A and form B to attend.

The program will feature nationally known speaker Stephanie Wood, Sunday Night Live Band from St. Maria Goretti Church, and Father Kyle Walterschied, director of Vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth.

There is no charge to attend this event. For more information, call (817) 481-2147.

## Richard Shafer, St. Francis parishioner, earns Eagle Scout Award



Richard Shafer

Richard Shafer from Troop 4 in Grapevine earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank offered through the Boy Scouts of America. Shafer was given the award at a ceremony Aug. 22.

As a Cub Scout, he earned the Arrow of Light, the only Cub award that can be worn on a Boy Scout uniform. As a member of Troop 4, he earned the Ad Altare

## Mother - Daughter Tea to be held Oct. 25

The Mother-Daughter Tea will be held Sunday afternoon, Oct. 25, from noon to 4 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 5819 W. Pleasant Ridge Rd., Arlington. All young ladies, ages 10-13, their mothers, grandmothers, or any other special woman in their lives are invited to enjoy and celebrate the gifts of being female.

"Join us for an afternoon in a tea house complete with tea pots and cups, a delicious lunch, and dessert," urge program organizers. "Other women will be your hostesses and speakers as we share our life experiences and the satisfaction of being female, as well as the special gifts and qualities we have received from our Creator to function in this role. This session will explain the physical, emotional, and psychological changes that occur in becoming a woman from a faith-based perspective."

The ticket cost is \$12.50 per person. Reservations can be made by calling Kathy Stojak at (817) 773-8096. Due to a limited amount of space available, reservations are being accepted on a first call basis.

## 'Wildcat Run' to be held at St. Andrew School Sept. 19

St. Andrew School invites all to participate in the Wildcat Run 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run event Saturday, Sept. 19, beginning at 7 a.m. The annual race is a continuation of the legacy of the Judi K. Skinner Run. Fees for the race are \$30 per person or \$75 per family Sept. 5 through race day. All fees include a commemorative T-shirt and a pancake breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus.

For more information, call the school office at (817) 924-8917. St. Andrew School is located at 3304 Dryden Rd., Fort Worth.

Dei and Pope Pius XII Religious awards. Shafer served as senior patrol leader for his troop, and as a leader for younger Scouts on an "Ad Altare Dei" tour that took them to several religious locations on the way to Philmont High Adventure Camp.

For his Eagle Scout project, Richard had 31 volunteers make more than 600 rosaries for his parish, with the request that they be distributed among soldiers stationed at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu. Richard also personally delivered 300 rosaries to the base's parish and handed them out to active-duty personnel.

Richard is currently on the Varsity Tennis team at MacArthur High School in Irving, where he is a senior, and is a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine. He is the son of Joe and Ann Shafer of Irving.

## People and Events

### Documentary on the Eucharist to be presented in Keller Sept. 10

"You Shall Believe..." a documentary film on the Eucharist will be presented at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Thursday, Sept. 10, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Discussion time with Australian journalists Ron Tesoriero and Mike Willesee will follow the film.

Mike, a senior investigative journalist, and Ron, a lawyer, have been researching claimed supernatural events in the Catholic Church for a number of years. Their work became the basis for the making of the Television Program broadcast internation-

ally on the Fox network in 1999, "Signs From God. Science Tests Faith." They are currently researching "the blood of Christ" through science and through history. What they have to say will touch the hearts and minds of all who hear them, according to program materials.

For more information, visit the Web site at [www.youshallbelieve.com](http://www.youshallbelieve.com) or contact the parish office at (817) 431-3857. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is located at 2016 Willis Lane, Keller.

### Deaf Ministry to offer Beginning Sign Language class at St. John's

The Deaf Ministry Program is offering a Beginning Sign Language class at St. John the Apostle Church in North Richland Hills, on Tuesday nights Sept. 15 through Oct. 27. The class will meet from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in room "B" of the Formation Center, 4101 Frawley Rd., North Richland Hills.

Classes are for adults and children 12 years of age or older. The instructor, Kathy Murphy, a leader in the Deaf Ministry Program, will engage students in small group

activities, games, and hands-on activities. Participants will learn basic vocabulary, rules of grammar, and cultural aspects of the deaf community.

The cost of the class will be \$55 (including registration and sign book) and will be collected the first night of class. Registration will be held at the beginning of class on the first evening.

For more information on this class and other Deaf Ministry Programs, contact Mary Cinatl at (817) 284-3019.

### Annual Life Chain will take place Oct. 4 at numerous locations

The 22nd annual Life Chain, a peaceful gathering of people praying for unborn children and publicly displaying pro-life messages, will take place at numerous locations in the Diocese of Fort Worth Oct. 4 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The designated areas and phone numbers for the Life Chain are as follows: **Azle**, Hwy. 199 at Pearson Ln., 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Pastor Joe Bruce (817) 594-7994; **Arlington**, Pioneer Pkwy. at Fielder Rd., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - John Gleason (817) 457-9564; **Burleson**, Alsbury Blvd. at Renfro St., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Gimarie Menchaca (817) 295-8139; **Carrollton**, Frankford at Josey, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Paul Kramer (972) 492-2029; **Cleburne**, West Henderson St. in front of Yellow Jacket Stadium, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Robert Battle (817) 556-3848; **Comanche**, Central at Austin St. 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Pastor David Browder (254) 893-3930 or (254) 592-9460; **DeLeon**, Hwy. 6 at Hwy. 16, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Pastor Ray Seckinger (254) 734-5146; **Denton**, 1200 University Dr. at the bank lot, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Cheryl Spooner (940) 594-8870; **Dublin**, Hwy. 377 at Hwy. 6, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Pastor Ray Seckinger (254) 734-5146; **Flower Mound**, Hwy. 2499 at Forest Vista, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. -

Myra Jean Myers (972) 539-6770; **Fort Worth**, 3560 Alta Mesa Blvd., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Julie Vecera (817) 297-1557; **Gainesville**, Grand Ave. at Belcher, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Catherine Bezner (940) 665-4364; **Keller**, Hwy. 377 between FM 1709 and Watagua, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Alana Demma (817) 337-1721; **Lewisville**, Main at I-35, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - John Lance (972) 436-2273; **Lindsay**, Hwy. 82 between Ash St. and Pecan St., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Stan and Stephanie Stofels (940) 727-8663; **Mansfield**, Hwy. 287 at Hwy. 157 (Cooper St.), 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Kathi Miller (817) 335-9258; **Mineral Wells**, Hwy. 180 at Garrett Morris Pkwy., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Sharon Walls (940) 325-8920; **Muenster**, Hwy. 82 at Muenster Park, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - John Bezner (940) 634-1434; **North Richland Hills**, Rufe Snow at I-820 (Chick-fil-A), 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Larry Stevens (817) 847-6376; **Southlake/Grapevine**, Southlake Blvd. (FM 1709) at Kimball Ave. and at Carroll Ave., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Mary Solis (817) 329-0402; **Wichita Falls**, Midwestern Pkwy. at Kemp Blvd., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Mike Bahr (940) 224-3221.

Additional information on the Life Chain can be found on the Web site at <http://lifecchain.net/>.

### Knights to recognize emergency responders at St. Philip Parish

Lewisville Knights of Columbus Council #9884 will hold their eighth annual Fireman, Police and Emergency Responders Appreciation Luncheon Saturday, Sept. 12, at St. Philip the Apostle Community Life Center to recognize the area's police and fire departments. Lunch will be served continuously between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Family members and off-duty personnel from Lewisville, Flower Mound, Double Oak, and Highland Village are invited to

attend at anytime during that period, according to Bob Dubek, Community Activities Director.

This annual appreciation luncheon is held to recognize the service provided to the communities by these professionals and to remember the first responders to the attack on America on September 11, 2001.

St. Philip Parish is located at 1897 W. Main St., Lewisville. For more information on the luncheon, contact Bill Louree at (972) 219-7994 or [blouree@aol.com](mailto:blouree@aol.com).

### Catholic Scripture study will be offered at Arlington Parishes

Catholic Scripture Study International will be offered at St. Vincent de Paul Parish Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. beginning Sept. 9 and Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 10, and at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish Thursday mornings from 9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. beginning Sept. 10 and Monday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 14.

CSSI is one of the fastest growing Catholic Bible studies in the Church today, according to promotional material. CSSI provides an in-depth study of one book of the Bible each year during a course of 25-28 lessons.

Each class consists of small group discussion of study questions and a video lecture given by a Catholic priest. Written by scholars such as Dr. Scott Hahn, Mark Shea, Steve Ray, and others, this year's study will focus on St. Paul's letter to the Romans.

For information on the classes to be offered at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 5819 W. Pleasant Ridge Rd., Arlington, contact: Rhea at (817) 466-2340; for classes at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, 2100 N. Davis Dr., Arlington, contact Eileen at (817) 265-4484.

To learn more about the CSSI program visit the Web site at [www.cssiprogram.net](http://www.cssiprogram.net).



THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL

# Catholic Pro-Life Banquet

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 5:00PM

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# Catholic Charities leads Tarrant County Infant Mortality Network

Network dedicates September as month of raising awareness

By Nicki Prevou  
Editorial Assistant

The Tarrant County Infant Mortality Network (IMN), a group of Tarrant County community organizations, held a two-hour morning rally Aug. 26 at the Tarrant County Public Health Department in Fort Worth.

The event marked the beginning of Infant Mortality Awareness Month in September, with the goal of raising awareness that children under the age of one year are dying at an alarming rate within Tarrant County each year.

"The Infant Mortality Network is a collaboration of local agencies, led by Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc., who are dedicated to reducing the infant mortality rate in Tarrant County through education and community outreach," said Heather Reynolds, CEO of Catholic Charities. "In Tarrant County, 189 babies die every year before they reach their first birthday,

and there are many pockets of our community that have higher infant mortality rates than some Third World countries. Our call to action is to change these statistics and give children a healthy start at life."

Participating officials in the rally included Reynolds; Lou Brewer, director of Tarrant County Public Health Department; Kathleen Hicks, city councilwoman for District 8 in Southeast Fort Worth; and Roy Brooks, county commissioner for Precinct 1 in Southwest Tarrant County.

According to statistics published in the Aug. 17 issue of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, the Fort Worth Women's Health Initiative assessed the health of women ages 18-44 in four local zip codes — 76104, 76105, 76112, and 76119 — which are among the nation's worst 25 zip codes in terms of infant deaths. Nearly 36 percent of the women interviewed in these zip codes had less than a high school education, and ap-

proximately 71 percent were not married. More than 69 percent of the women were overweight, and about 25 percent suffered from depression. More than eight percent had been physically abused within the past year.

"Most infant deaths are the result of poor maternal health," explained Reynolds. "In fact, one out of five women in Tarrant County get late or no prenatal care. Unhealthy mothers lead to premature and low birth-weight infants, and that means babies who never get a shot at a healthy life."

Reynolds urged members of the Diocese of Fort Worth to join in the work to educate women of childbearing age about the importance of prenatal health. "Involve your company, your church, and yourself in this issue," she said. "Please help babies to live in Tarrant County."

For more information and resources from the IMN, visit [www.babieswanttolive.org](http://www.babieswanttolive.org).

# Author of angelic-encounter books to speak at St. Mary of the Assumption Church Sept. 28

The Fort Worth Queen of Peace Center is sponsoring an evening with Joan Wester Anderson — also known as "The Angel Lady." She will speak at St. Mary of the Assumption Church at 509 W. Magnolia Ave. in Fort Worth at 7 p.m. Sept. 28. Her talk is entitled "An Evening with Angels."

Anderson will present the same talk the next day at St. Monica Church at 9933 Midway Rd. in Dallas.

Anderson is a mother of five and a nationally-recognized author of more than 15 books on angels including her first — *Where Angels Walk: True Stories of Heavenly Visitors* — that sold over 2 million copies while on the *New York Times* Bestseller list. She has appeared on numerous television programs, including *Mother Angelica Live*, *Good Morning America*, *20/20*, *NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw* and hundreds of radio talk shows throughout the country.

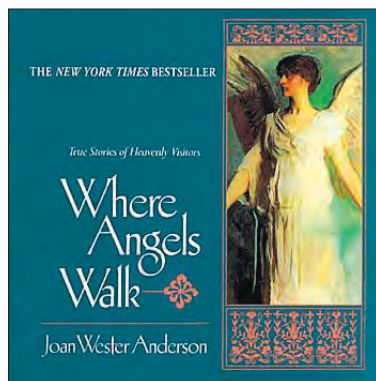
Joan will not only talk about her encounter with angels following a dramatic rescue of her son, but also how angels take many forms including healings,



Joan Wester Anderson

miracles, and heavenly visitations — "all events that convey a single, urgent, and loving message," say event organizers in a press release. "The stories told with her warmth and charm will reveal the care of a loving God who touches the most intimate parts of our hearts."

Some of Anderson's books will be available for purchase and she will be available to sign books. The evening will begin with a Rosary at 7 p.m. followed immediately by the talk. For more information, contact the Queen of Peace message line at (817)



A copy of Anderson's book, *WHERE ANGELS WALK: TRUE STORIES OF HEAVENLY VISITORS*, which sold more than 2 million copies while on the *NEW YORK TIMES* Bestseller list.

244-8191 or call (817) 244-7733 or (817) 558-9805, or visit the Queen of Peace Center's Web site at [www.queenofpeacecenterdallas.org](http://www.queenofpeacecenterdallas.org).



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## Diocesan

## Loreto House receives 4-D sonogram machine

By Nicki Prevou  
Editorial Assistant

**I**t was a powerful moment for the two women.

Charity Artiles, a professional sonographer, was viewing her unborn nephew for the first time. The baby's excited mother, Lanette Artiles, was also able to observe her son's beating heart, tiny hands and feet, and vigorous movements on the video screen. She saw her child during an ultrasound training session offered by Karen Dobbs, a training representative from Siemens Medical Solutions on Aug. 21 at the Loreto House pregnancy resource center in Denton.

While Lanette and her husband have eagerly anticipated their child's arrival from the first moment they knew he was in her womb, Charity and other volunteer sonographers are now offering their services at Loreto House so that women in crisis pregnancies can, thanks to "Gabriel," the center's new 4-D sonogram machine, see their unborn babies in colorful, live-ac-

tion images.

"This is another tool to save lives," said Randy Bollig, vice president for Loreto House's board of directors. Bollig said the new technology will not change Loreto House's mission, but supplement it, and be used as needed.

Ultrasonographer Shari Richard has written and lectured extensively, explaining her work to offer sonograms to women in crisis pregnancies and showing her video, *Ultrasound: A Window to the Womb*. She has testified before Congress, reporting that she has done more than 500 sonograms on abortion-minded women and that 90 percent of her patients choose not to have an abortion after seeing their baby on ultrasound.

During a sonogram procedure, a probe is placed on the mother's stomach by a trained technician. The probe emits harmless sound waves that hit and bounce off the baby, and the reflected waves are picked up by the probe and relayed to the machine's screen as an image.

The oldest of the prenatal sonogram technologies is called 2-D (two-dimensional) ultra-



Pictured with expectant mother Lanette Artiles are (from left to right) Karen Dobbs, a technician trainer with ultrasound manufacturer Siemens Medical Solutions, and Loreto House volunteer Charity Artiles, Lanette's sister-in-law. (Photo by Chanacee Ruth-Kilgore)

sound, which offers black and white images of the baby. 4-D images, however, now offer life-like, real-time, views inside the womb. Pro-life advocates say that such technology, offered to women considering abortion, is a powerful tool in helping them to choose life for their unborn children.

"The sonogram buys us time," Richard explains. "When a mom and dad see the baby's movement and heartbeat, there is no more powerful moment.

They bond. The baby becomes real." Curtis Harris, MD, a trustee with the Christian Medical Association, agrees, saying, "Several studies have documented a simple fact: Show a woman considering abortion an ultrasound picture of her unborn child, and she is far less likely to have an abortion. This has been used successfully by many pro-life pregnancy resource centers over the last decade to encourage a woman to give birth to her child, even

**"T**he sonogram buys us time. When a mom and dad see the baby's movement and heartbeat, there is no more powerful moment. They bond. The baby becomes real."

— Shari Richard,  
Ultrasonographer

if she decides later to give the child up for adoption."

"Gabriel," the new \$130,000 4-D ultrasound machine at Loreto House, was purchased through a grant from the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council in New Haven, Connecticut, and from funds donated by state and local Knights councils and various donors. To watch a video about the arrival of "Gabriel" at Loreto House, visit the center's Web site at [www.loretohouse.org](http://www.loretohouse.org).

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Fr. Deshotel will prepare and serve a Cajun dinner for six in their home kitchen



**Rev. Anthony F. Lackland**  
Mavericks Platinum sports suite package for ten people hosted by Fr. Lackland



**Rev. Michael F. Olson**  
Evening for nine at LaGrave Field with Fr. Olson and the Ft. Worth Cats – one guest will throw out the ceremonial first pitch



**Rev. Tom Cloherty**  
Fr. Cloherty hosts dinner for six at Dallas' five-star restaurant Abacus



**Rev. Kyle Walterscheid**  
Fr. Walterscheid will host a party of eight to ride The Grapevine Vintage Railroad, visit the stockyards, and dine at El Rancho Grande

## Diocesan

A group of teenage girls from St. Frances serves in Patzún, Guatemala, and learns the

# Meaning of Mission

In June a group of 11 high school girls and five adults from St. Frances Cabrini Church in Granbury, went to Patzún, Guatemala on a mission trip. The following is a compilation of the girls' journal entries.

Upon arrival we were greeted with open arms by the Carmelite sisters. After driving two hours through the majestic mountains, we arrived in the small village of Patzún, Guatemala, where the convent was located. We got settled into the new dorms, which were named after the founders of the Carmelite Sisters. Then to our surprise, we had a most delicious meal prepared for us: chicken, rice, carrots, and homemade tortillas followed by peaches for dessert.

Following dinner, we had our first nightly planning meeting at which we presented the 21 quilts made by the Blessed Stitches group of St. Frances Cabrini. The Blessed Stitches made a quilt for each dorm room and one for each of the five sisters. The sisters were delighted by this surprise and had a hay day picking the one that suited them the most. Over and over, Madre Anita told us that the quilting group of our church was a sacrament, and every time she would feel the warmth of the blanket, she would be reminded of the love put into the quilt. After our evening group prayers, we were off to bed ready to begin mission work the next day.

### DAY TWO

The first day of mission work began with a trip to El Sitio, the kindergarten through ninth-grade school our parish helps to fund. It was heartwarming to see the joy and appreciation the children had, even though they had to walk many miles early in the morning to be there. We celebrated their field day with them and presented them with treats afterwards. At snack time, the children in the kindergarten through third grade had a broth soup served by the school. For many of these children, this is their only meal of the day. The school only feeds the children through third grade because that's all they can afford.



Madre Ana María accepts the handmade quilts brought from Granbury as a gift to the convent.

Later, we walked several miles to visit a home where a widower and his six children lived in a one bedroom, mud-and-stick-built house. The mother had died in childbirth and now the 12-year-old daughter is helping to raise the children. She's never been to school and is responsible for all of the laundry, cooking, and childcare for the family.

### DAY THREE

The next morning the sisters hosted a celebration to dedicate the new dorm that our parish funded, in partnership with St. Rose of Lima Parish in Glen Rose. The construction of the 16 dorm rooms, small apartment, and dentistry office gave 24 families jobs for eight months and will allow more missionary groups to come help with medical and social work in the area. The workers and their families came to the blessing and Mass followed by a big celebration meal. It was such a pleasure to meet all of the men who worked on the dorms. Their families were so grateful for the work.

Later that afternoon, we were off to paint the house of a needy family. The father was an electrician in a good job when he was in a terrible accident and lost his legs and one of his arms. This family also has a daughter with a critical illness and two other children. Their home was in terrible disrepair, and the mother was overwhelmed with the burden of caring for the invalid father and daughter, in addition to all her other responsibilities. The family was grateful for the work we did in a short amount of time, and we were equally grateful to help them out.

### DAY FOUR

Thursday morning we woke up eager to celebrate the world-famous feast of Corpus Christi in the



ABOVE: The St. Frances Cabrini parishioners gather with the sisters in front of the Carmelite convent.

RIGHT: St. Frances Cabrini teens Michelle Behrens (left) and Sarah Pretz work together on a painting project at the convent.

BELOW RIGHT: The St. Frances Cabrini youth joined the crowds at the Patzún celebration of *Cuerpo de Cristo* (Corpus Christi).



streets of Patzún. At the Mass, pews were overflowing with people from all over, some of whom could not afford shoes, yet still gave their money to the collection.

The procession with the Eucharist was beyond beautiful. Different groups from Patzún created beautiful carpets out of vibrantly colored sand and sawdust for the Body of Jesus Christ to walk across. The faith shown by the people was unbelievable. As the Eucharist passed by, they fell to their knees in the cobblestone streets in prayer.

Upon our return to the convent that afternoon, we were given the task of painting the new dentistry offices and some of the dorm areas.

### DAY FIVE

Our final day in Guatemala, we went to Santiago to see the place where Father Stan Rother was murdered in 1981. Fr. Stan was a priest from Oklahoma who came to Santiago in 1968 with the heart and desire to help the poor. The government perceived his work as a threat to them and placed him

on a hit list. Reluctantly, he returned to Oklahoma ... Upon his return to Guatemala, military militia shot and killed him; later we found out that two of the sisters that were hosting us worked with him and were there when it happened. That evening, as Madre Ana María shared with us the events of those scary days, it touched us to realize what a sacrifice Fr. Stan made for the people of Guatemala. (Fr. Stan is currently a candidate for canonization.)

Overall this trip has touched our hearts in ways we didn't expect. Living in the United States, having iPods and cell phones, all the food and clothing we could possibly need, never prepared us for the life-changing experience we walked into in



Guatemala. The people we met make a wage of less than \$2 a day — when they can get work. There are no toys for the children. Many families have very little clothing and don't even have food to eat every day, yet there were smiles and laughter everywhere we turned. We will never forget the experience we had in Guatemala, and we strive to continue to pass on the blessings we had there by telling others of our experiences and striving to raise funds to help the people there receive the basic necessities of life.



St. Frances teens Martha Beardsley (left) and Melissa Rendeiro visit with a local family before helping to paint their home. The father (in wheelchair) was an electrician before losing his legs and arm in an accident.



St. Frances parishioner Alisha Hall teaches the first-graders of El Sitio how to play "Duck, Duck, Goose."



# Diocesan

## Special Collection: Easter Ministries and Holy Land

Parish Name	Parish Location	Holy Land March 2008	Holy Land April 2009	Easter Ministries March 2008	Easter Ministries April 2009
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	474.00	323.00	2,126.00	2,322.00
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	137.94	0.00	686.00	0.00
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	1,128.00	1,949.51	6,464.94	6,810.78
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	2,894.01	3,270.45	20,584.00	22,005.75
St. Joseph	Arlington	1,855.05	3,210.23	25,184.80	5,854.00
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	3,728.91	4,271.42	29,790.35	32,522.05
St. Mary the Virgin	Arlington	184.60	437.00	3,288.04	2,482.77
St. Matthew	Arlington	619.00	1,456.25	11,575.14	11,950.00
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	1,951.29	0.00	32,990.42	28,710.31
Vietnamese Martyrs Community	Arlington	2,509.00	2,291.00	14,121.40	9,757.00
Holy Trinity	Azle	1,066.00	1,186.00	3,842.00	4,910.00
St. Michael	Bedford	4,198.15	4,042.15	31,704.50	35,671.50
St. Jerome	Bowie	95.00	45.00	891.04	721.03
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	252.00	192.00	914.15	856.61
St. John the Baptist	Bridgeport	232.11	278.00	2,119.53	2,260.68
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	374.00	380.38	2,341.00	2,035.00
St. Ann	Burleson	1,057.00	1,188.00	8,984.00	12,900.61
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	2,762.00	2,823.30	22,004.44	22,173.15
Holy Rosary	Cisco	0.00	209.00	997.00	944.51
St. Joseph	Cleburne	398.00	0.00	6,639.39	0.00
Holy Angels	Clifton	313.20	285.00	2,105.05	2,281.60
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	3,186.77	2,569.00	36,777.44	40,132.31
Holy Cross	The Colony	971.71	1,387.00	10,733.24	11,242.13
Sacred Heart	Comanche	100.00	0.00	654.00	1,137.00
St. Joseph	Crowell	29.00	89.00	454.50	283.00
Assumption/Blessed Virgin Mary	Decatur	768.99	936.10	4,604.96	5,131.66
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	0.00	0.00	110.00	646.00
Immaculate Conception	Denton	1,960.33	1,171.12	22,085.55	27,041.03
St. Mark	Denton	2,313.76	2,436.06	16,513.50	15,369.12
St. Mary	Dublin	0.00	0.00	3,076.00	3,015.86
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	0.00	0.00	339.00	374.00
St. Paul	Electra	78.00	131.00	290.00	579.00
All Saints	Fort Worth	889.33	1,199.10	11,969.94	11,326.65
Christ the King	Fort Worth	718.00	1,180.00	6,328.00	9,128.00
Holy Family	Fort Worth	3,122.25	2,929.00	27,045.50	25,191.00
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	323.00	1,090.00	8,429.50	10,435.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	1,911.76	0.00	13,243.48	12,043.22
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	1,345.10	1,481.00	7,954.94	7,569.28
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	1,157.00	2,676.00	13,560.39	12,599.00
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	405.00	290.00	3,802.00	215.00
San Mateo	Fort Worth	0.00	4.00	1,977.25	2,019.00
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	3,239.11	3,723.38	30,933.75	44,782.04
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	2,733.57	2,727.09	19,626.69	21,178.06
St. George	Fort Worth	485.09	370.56	5,320.92	5,394.51
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,883.28	1,863.00	27,656.92	25,033.75
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	431.00	542.00	3,506.49	3,147.00
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	2,284.59	3,370.00	25,568.17	30,602.05
St. Paul	Fort Worth	1,050.75	917.00	102.00	7,283.05
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	2,118.81	1,319.00	14,911.66	15,003.40
St. Rita	Fort Worth	411.00	324.00	3,956.93	4,322.01
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,512.00	1,256.20	7,495.56	6,879.31
St. Mary	Gainesville	1,225.00	629.59	9,263.32	9,748.68
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	425.00	142.00	1,558.50	2,077.58
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	50.00	165.00	555.00	465.00
St. Mary	Graham	0.00	0.00	2,784.36	2,812.75
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	1,597.00	1,370.18	3,640.00	11,980.00
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	1,602.78	3,077.72	44,280.81	36,463.59
St. Mary	Henrietta	35.00	55.00	1,226.00	1,013.00
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	671.15	433.00	2,536.49	3,722.00
Korean Martyrs	Hurst	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christ the King	Iowa Park	65.00	152.00	369.00	553.00
St. Mary	Jacksboro	75.11	111.42	346.00	596.00
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	5,209.40	4,550.08	60,966.99	63,944.48
Santa Rosa	Knox City	0.00	49.00	457.00	763.00
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	1,623.75	1,553.00	17,283.81	19,248.70
St. Peter	Lindsay	1,822.39	630.00	6,730.85	7,077.87
St. Jude	Mansfield	1,309.00	0.00	14,449.90	16,774.50
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	0.00	20.00	180.00	574.00
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	40.00	40.00	2,265.77	571.00
St. William	Montague	0.00	0.00	1,173.08	1,842.30
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	143.60	0.00	961.95	1,098.30
Sacred Heart	Muenster	1,362.77	2,916.00	16,945.50	18,104.70
St. Joseph	Nocona	0.00	0.00	1,233.00	0.00
St. Theresa	Olney	0.00	0.00	1,015.60	681.00
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	112.00	63.00	820.52	931.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	418.65	274.00	6,724.47	7,502.93
St. Mary	Quanah	100.00	72.00	273.00	859.00
St. Rita	Ranger	0.00	97.00	702.50	334.00
St. Joseph	Rhineland	197.00	427.00	1,597.00	3,006.66
St. Boniface	Scotland	65.00	22.00	1,209.00	705.00
Sacred Heart	Seymour	410.00	448.00	1,055.51	1,714.50
St. Brendan	Stephenville	279.00	69.00	1,358.94	1,118.00
St. John	Strawn	0.00	69.00	586.00	700.00
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	589.00	410.00	2,805.50	1,991.00
St. Stephen	Weatherford	0.00	0.00	11,031.97	11,996.50
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	896.00	342.00	1,349.00	1,368.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	306.43	344.61	5,865.40	5,685.49
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	1,066.00	582.00	15,781.53	18,753.96
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	3,029.48	2,360.72	11,088.63	13,442.91
St. Mary	Windthorst	881.00	841.35	3,943.50	4,243.75

87,264.97    86,133.97    814,796.85    840,735.94

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



**CAMPUS MINISTRY MEETING** — Diocesan campus ministers met at the Catholic Renewal Center on Aug. 28 to share plans for the upcoming school year. Pictured, from left to right, are Debra Neely, of Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls; Janet Wolf, of the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University in Denton; Kevin Prevou, diocesan director of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry; Stephanie Milligan, recently appointed the new director of campus ministry at the University of Texas at Arlington; and Fr. Charles Calabrese, of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

## Sisters of St. Mary of Namur nuns celebrate golden, silver jubilees



Sisters Devota Sweeney (pictured, far left) and Margaret Rose Fee (middle) celebrated 70 years of religious life and Sr. Ines Meneses marked 25 years of ministry with the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur at their Jubilee celebration, held Aug. 15 at Our Lady of Victory convent in Fort Worth. Bishop Kevin Vann presided at the Jubilee Mass and is shown here with the honorees and with SSMN Provincial Sr. Patricia Ste-Marie at far right. (Photo by Sister Clara Vo, SSMN)

## Assistant director of Finance and Administrative Services named

Kevin O'Brien has been appointed assistant director of Finance and Administrative Services for the Diocese of Fort Worth.

"His primary focus will be on supporting parishes, schools, and other agencies in their temporal affairs," said Peter Flynn, director of Finance and Administrative Services for the diocese, in a memo released to priests, pastoral administrators, and principals Aug. 13. "He is excited to join our community and is eager to begin his ministry supporting you and your staff."

O'Brien has more than 10 years experience in financial and information services, said Flynn. His undergraduate degree is in information systems from the University of North Texas (UNT), and he is currently pursuing an MBA in corporate finance at the University of Dallas.

He has attended St. Rita Church in Dallas, All Saints Church in Richardson, and was active in youth and young adult ministry at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Carrollton and in campus ministry activities at UNT.

O'Brien and his wife, Wendi, have been parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller since 2005. They have two daughters, Madeline and Molly Anne. O'Brien may be reached at the Catholic Center at (817) 560-3300 ext. 150 or via e-mail at kobrien@fwdioc.org.



**Kevin O'Brien**

# Viewpoints

## Requirements and disciplines of priesthood are gifts to the Church

In this second part of the two-part series on Holy Orders, we will discuss the signs and effects of Holy Orders as well as celibacy in the priesthood and the reservation of ordination to men alone.

By Lucas Pollice

**T**he essential sign for all three degrees of Holy Orders is the imposition or laying on of hands by the bishop. This is a powerful sign of Holy Orders and confers the sacrament in two important ways.

First it calls down the Holy Spirit to fill the ordained with the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit, thereby enabling them to serve and minister in the name of Christ. In the case of a bishop or priest, this calling down of the Holy Spirit joins him to the ministerial priesthood of Christ and enables him to act in the person of Christ through the celebration of the sacraments.

Second, the imposition of the bishop's hands is the handing on of the apostolic ministry and the authority of teaching, ministering, and governing in the name of Christ. This handing on of apostolic succession, present fully in the bishop, contains the unbroken line of authority in the Church that Christ established until the end of time. Thus, only a bishop can hand on apostolic succession and administer the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Bishops and priests are also anointed with the sacred chrism (oil) by the bishop. As also in the case of both Baptism and Confirmation, sacred chrism is consecratory in nature; in Holy Orders, it consecrates or sets apart one as belonging to Christ forever and sets him apart for a unique calling and service.

Finally, through Holy Orders, the man is given a permanent spiritual mark of belonging to Christ in a unique way — for priests and bishops, united to Christ the High Priest; and for deacons, united to Christ who serves all. In essence, his soul is conformed for all eternity to Christ in a unique and unchangeable way. This permanent spiritual mark can never be removed, and once a man is validly ordained, he remains ordained forever. While ordination can never be removed, a bishop, priest, or deacon may, for grave reasons, be discharged or removed from the functions, obligations, and responsibilities of his ordination, but he

*Finally, through Holy Orders, the man is given a permanent spiritual mark of belonging to Christ in a unique way — for priests and bishops, united to Christ the High Priest; and for deacons, united to Christ who serves all. In essence, his soul is conformed for all eternity to Christ in a unique and unchangeable way. This permanent spiritual mark can never be removed, and once a man is validly ordained, he remains ordained forever.*

still remains forever a bishop, priest, or deacon. In addition, Holy Orders can never be repeated.

### CELIBACY AND THE PRIESTHOOD

In the discipline of the Latin Rite, priests and bishops take a vow of chastity and celibacy as a way of dedicating their whole hearts and lives to the service of the Church. Virginitiy and celibacy have always been outward signs of one's total consecration to God. There is also a practicality to the Church's discipline of unmarried priests and bishops, for they are able to give total devotion and service to the People of God without also having the everyday obligations and concerns of family and secular life. In speaking on celibacy and the priesthood there are two important points that must be clarified:

**1** The Church's discipline of celibacy and the priesthood is exactly that, a discipline. It is a discipline that has changed and could be changed by the pope if in his wisdom he decided to do so. In fact, there are married priests in the Latin Rite who have converted from the Episcopal or Presbyterian tradition. In many of the Eastern rites, priests are allowed to be married (although bishops are celibate), and even many of the apostles themselves were married. Thus, the Church's discipline on celibacy and the priesthood could change and is not a part of Sacred Tradition or Divine Revelation itself.

**2** Those who are called to the priesthood embrace celibacy with love for the Church, because through celibacy they are able to give themselves totally to the Church. It is prevalent in our highly sexualized society to think that committing oneself to a life of celibacy is either impossible or unhealthy. Contrary to popular belief, this is not true. Through the sacrament of Holy Orders, God gives the grace of the Holy Spirit to be faithful to the life of celibacy. The Church is also careful in interviewing and forming those who are seeking to enter the priesthood to be sure they are able to freely and willingly enter the celibate state. If one is called by God to

the priesthood, He places in their hearts the desire to serve Him in this way.

### THE RESERVATION OF ORDINATION TO MEN ALONE

When it comes to the question of the ordination of women, we are then speaking about something that is not a discipline of the Church, but is a part of Sacred Tradition and Divine Revelation itself, and is not open to change. The Church has no authority to ordain women to the priesthood because Christ himself chose only men, and the example of the apostles and their immediate successors also witnesses this divinely instituted tradition. Christ certainly could have chosen women to be among the apostles, for many of the women showed greater faith and fidelity to Christ than even the apostles. Mary, his mother, was the perfect disciple and would have been the perfect apostle, but Christ did not choose women, nor did the apostles or their immediate successors. In addition, Christ showed that he was willing at any time to break with the social customs of the time, so that cannot be seen as simply the reason why Christ chose only men.

Christ chose men because God has chosen to fully reveal himself to us in a divine person who is a man. The apostles and their successors are to act in the person of Christ (*in persona Christi*) through *their* person — humanly speaking, only a man can act as a man. Does this degrade or lessen women in any way? No! Look at what God did with Mary. Mary is the perfect disciple, the Model of the Church. If we want to know how to love, follow, and be like Christ, Mary is the perfect model!

Even though women cannot be ordained, their role within the Church is indispensable. Motherhood is one of the holiest and most necessary roles in the Church. There would be no Church, no pope, no bishops, or priests without mothers! Men and women are different and have different roles in the Church, both of which are indispensable. Even in other ministries and activities of the Church, the roles of both men and women contribute to the mission and sanctification of the Church.

In order to respond to any confusion and to once and for all define the Church's position on the reservation of Holy Orders to men alone, Pope John Paul II forcefully states:

*Although the teaching that priestly ordination is to be reserved to men alone has been preserved by the constant and universal Tradition of the Church and firmly taught by the Magisterium in its more recent documents, at the present time in some places it is nonetheless considered still open to debate, or the Church's judgment that women are not to be admitted to ordination is considered to have a merely disciplinary force.*

*Wherefore, in order that all doubt may be removed regarding a matter of great importance, a matter which pertains to the Church's divine constitution itself, in virtue of my ministry of confirming the brethren (cf. Lk 22:32) I declare that the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church's faithful.*

— *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*, 4

The sacrament of Holy Orders is the sacrament through which Christ hands on the apostolic ministry and through which he ministers to his people. As Catholics, and especially in this Year of the Priest, we should always keep in our prayers the men to whom Christ has entrusted the Church that they may always be faithful to their calling and be the powerful witnesses of Christ's grace and love to the Church and the world. We must also constantly pray for men to respond to the call to the priesthood, so that the sacraments of the Church may continue to be the source of rivers of grace and mercy to the entire world.

Lastly, I need to make an important correction to my last article in regard to the diaconate. I mistakenly stated that deacons do not share in the apostolic ministry. While deacons do not share in the ministerial priesthood of Christ, they do indeed share in the apostolic ministry that is handed on in all three degrees of Holy Orders. (See the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 1536).



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

# Health Care Reform

## and death of section 1233

By Richard M. Doerflinger

**C**ongress's effort to enact health care reform legislation has sparked a vigorous debate. From a Catholic viewpoint the underlying issue is clear: Tens of millions of Americans lack basic health coverage; many more risk losing what they have as costs rise.

And this is a matter of justice. As Pope John XXIII said almost half a century ago: "Man has the right to live. He has the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life, particularly food, clothing, shelter, medical care..." (*Pacem in Terris*, no. 11). A society that does not ensure basic life-affirming health care for those in need is failing in a basic responsibility.

Since the right to health care is based on the right to live, it is also clear that what attacks life is not health care at all, and not a legitimate goal of health care reform. The Church insists that reform is too important and legitimate a goal to be hijacked by destructive agendas such as government-mandated abortion coverage.

But concerns have also been raised about the way health care reform may treat people at the other end of life, specifically through Section 1233 of the current House bill on "advance care planning consultations." Supporters say it is a harmless provision to ensure that elderly patients will have their wishes respected when they can no longer speak for themselves; some opponents see the ominous hand of government nudging grandma over the cliff.

The truth, I think, lies somewhere between. This section says that if doctors talk with

*A hint to supporters: If you want to calm concerns that the provision could promote euthanasia, don't boast that it is backed by groups promoting euthanasia. It now seems Section 1233 will have a quiet and dignified death, and we can continue trying to agree on how to cover people who lack any health care at all.*

Medicare patients about "end-of-life services and supports," the benefits of advance directives such as "living wills," etc., Medicare will reimburse them for their time.

One worry here is that government or doctors may have agendas in tension with patients' goals and interests. When a federal official first proposed that the government encourage seniors to sign living wills, in 1977, this was part of a memo on how to cut the government's health costs — earning a rebuke from Catholic bishops and others.

Another problem is the assumption that documents like the living will are a positive good no matter what they say. The evidence suggests they are imperfect instruments that do not always serve patients' interests (see the report *Taking Care* by the President's Council on Bioethics, [www.bioethics.gov/reports/taking\\_care/chapter2.html](http://www.bioethics.gov/reports/taking_care/chapter2.html)). The consultations will also promote whatever advance directive serves as a model in the patient's home state — and some states' documents do not make careful distinctions between ordinary and extraordinary means. Patients may not realize that signing some forms could prompt the denial of even ordinary care like nutrition and hydration during a chronic, non-terminal illness. (Section 1233 lists "artificially adminis-

tered nutrition and hydration" among the topics for discussion).

Such concerns have persuaded key drafters of the Senate health care reform bill to drop this provision — prompting a reaction from the nation's leading proponent of physician-assisted suicide, the Hemlock Society (now renamed "Compassion and Choices" to mask its zeal for poisoning the elderly). The group said it had "worked tirelessly with supportive members of Congress" to insert the provision, and lamented that it might be dropped due to "misinformation" that it would "promote euthanasia."

A hint to supporters: If you want to calm concerns that the provision could promote euthanasia, don't boast that it is backed by groups promoting euthanasia. It now seems Section 1233 will have a quiet and dignified death, and we can continue trying to agree on how to cover people who lack any health care at all.



Richard Doerflinger is associate director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Go

to [www.usccb.org/prolife](http://www.usccb.org/prolife) to learn more about the bishops' pro-life activities.

*People come into our lives, and we develop affection for them, and that's a good thing. And sometimes, we even learn to love the occasional*



By Kathy Cribari Hamer

**Y**esterday there was a gecko on my windshield wiper, driving with me to the post office.

I had backed out of the driveway and headed downtown when I realized he was there, clutching the wiper blade with what I sensed was more determination than strength.

It was not a windy day, although, to the gecko's consternation, a Mustang in motion pretty much makes its own wind. More importantly, it also wasn't a rainy day, which would have ended the gecko's windshield wiper afternoon drive, transforming it quickly into an afternoon flight.

Looking at the creature clutching the rubber blade, I recognized his "deer in the headlights" look. But the little lizard's big-eyed, non-blinking stare could have meant anything. He could have been looking at his own reflection, or trying to make out the lyrics from a song playing on the radio. Just because the gecko's eyes were wide and non-blinking doesn't necessarily mean he was afraid: geckos have no eyelids.

On our drive to the post office, I got used to the lizard, feeling affection normally reserved for the only reptile I like: the Horned Frog. I felt close to him. And when I pulled up to the curb, to fetch my mail, I knew I would never see him again.

Characters pass in and out of our lives constantly, but usually not while riding on our windshields. The longer you navigate the world, the more participants there are; some you recognize and remember, some you don't.

During the summer, my daughter Julie created custom ceiling tiles for our yearbook offices at Texas Christian University. Each tile caricatures a cover of one of the 17 TCU yearbooks I have supervised, and represents each yearbook staff, with students' signatures on tiles for all their years.

Reading those names is like traveling backward, clutching a memory thread more fragile than a rubber windshield wiper blade. I feel the good times, and grudgingly recall the bad ones.

At home we have a Thanksgiving tablecloth embroidered with the signatures of all our yearly holiday guests. Many of them are my children's friends — college roommates or fraternity brothers brought home to dine — and only a few are on the tablecloth more than once.

Such was Awesome Matt. "Awesome" was not his first name, just the way he signed it on Thanksgiving, because my daughter Abby introduced him that way. And he was awesome, indeed.

SEE HAMER, P. 22



A few of the 32 seminarians currently studying for the priesthood for the diocese and Michael Fronk, St. Patrick Cathedral sacristan, process from the altar following the 40th Anniversary Mass, Aug. 9 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. (Photo by Joan Kurkowski-Gillen)

## Campaign will strengthen ministry of our local Church

FROM PAGE 1

larger community of Fort Worth," said Bishop Vann. "With the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will be successful."

The campaign will address the present and future needs of the diocese, with special emphasis upon the endowment for the Bishop's Scholars Fund; Center-City schools capital improvements; the creation of a new ministry formation center; the education of seminarians; retirement and healthcare needs of priests; adult catechesis and faith formation; campus ministries; rural ministry initiatives; telecommunications; Catholic Charities, and a hospital in the Diocese of Juticalpa, Honduras.

An important aspect of the campaign is its commitment to strengthening the financial stability of each parish, say campaign officials, noting that each parish will receive a 25 percent return on all funds raised during the cam-

paigned up to their parish goal.

"When a parish exceeds their campaign goal, they will then receive 75 percent of funds raised over their goal," said Peter Flynn, director of Finance and Administrative Services for the Diocese of Fort Worth. "In this way, both the diocese and the parishes are benefiting from our mutual efforts to strengthen our local Church in North Texas."

The diocese has retained Guidance In Giving, Inc., a Catholic organization that works solely with dioceses and parishes, to assist with the campaign. The organization has conducted successful diocesan and parish campaigns throughout Texas, including the dioceses Beaumont, Dallas, Victoria, and Amarillo and the archdioceses of San Antonio, and Galveston-Houston.

For more information about the campaign, contact the campaign office at (817) 560-2452, ext. 170.

through Education.

Pollice, says that the casual and friendly atmosphere makes this series of presentations perfect for the ongoing formation of young adults and adults of all ages. The series is also perfect for Catholic schoolteachers, catechists, lay ministers, and parish staffs who wish to further their continuing education in the faith, he added.

The schedule for the evening includes a pizza dinner at 6 p.m. Bushman's presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by discussion and a Q&A session, with the conclusion of the evening expected at 9 p.m. There is a \$4 per person charge for adults who wish to participate in the pizza dinner. For more information, or to RSVP for the event, contact Lucas Pollice, at (817) 560-3300, ext. 260 or at lpollice@fwdioc.org.

# All Things Possible

## The campaign will make possible...

### SUPPORT OF LOCAL PARISH NEEDS...\$10,000,000

Various financial challenges face our parishes on a daily basis. In order to help every parish with their local needs, each will receive a 25 percent return on all funds raised during the campaign up to their parish goal. When a parish exceeds their campaign goal, they will then receive 75 percent of funds raised over their goal.

### ST. PATRICK CATHEDRAL...\$1,000,000

St. Patrick Cathedral, located in the heart of the Fort Worth business district and enrolled in the National Register of Historic Places, is the mother church of our diocese. The *All Things Possible* campaign will help local parishioners' efforts to preserve and archive the great history of our mother church, which impacts us all, no matter where we are in our local Church.

### SHARING IN MINISTRY APPEAL...\$4,000,000

Each year, the Diocese of Fort Worth conducts Sharing in Ministry, the annual diocesan appeal, which provides operating funds for numerous programs, services, and ministries, especially in rural areas throughout the diocese. Since we will be embarking upon this campaign in 2009-2010, the decision was made to incorporate the annual appeal into the campaign for two years.

### SEMINARY BURSE FUND...\$1,500,000

The cost to educate one seminarian is approximately \$30,000 annually. We are blessed with more than 30 seminarians, but with this blessing comes tremendous responsibilities dictating the need for growth in the fund.

### PRIEST CARE FUND...\$750,000

As the primary spiritual leaders of our parishes, our priests deserve our support during their active ministry, as well as in their retirement. This campaign will help us provide the necessary funds so that our priests can receive medical and long-term care as needed.

### PRIEST PENSION FUND...\$750,000

Many priests who have dedicated their lives to minister to the faithful are approaching retirement age or are already drawing upon their retirement benefits. This campaign will grow the Priest Pension Fund to a level that will enhance the benefits to our retired priests.

### CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY...\$750,000

In this campaign, 80 percent of the funds raised for Catholic Campus Ministry is designated to the University of North Texas in Denton and the remaining 20 percent used to enhance and expand the Catholic presence on campuses like University of Texas at Arlington, Texas Christian University, Texas Woman's University, and Midwestern State University.

### CENTER-CITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS...\$4,500,000

The Diocese of Fort Worth is firmly committed to supporting Catholic school education for students of every race and ethnic background. From this campaign, \$4,500,000 will fund necessary facility improvements, as well as technological upgrades to All Saints, Our Mother of Mercy, St. George Catholic School, and Cassata High School.

### BISHOP'S SCHOLARS FUND ENDOWMENT...\$10,000,000

In 2006, Bishop Vann initiated a long-range plan, which included a decision to move toward a cost-based tuition model, supported by need-based aid. By providing need-based financial aid through an endowment, we help to ensure that our schools are available, accessible and affordable to all who desire to attend.

### HOSPITAL IN HONDURAS...\$1,500,000

The Diocese of Fort Worth has partnered with the Diocese of Juticalpa in Honduras for nearly 10 years. At present, residents of Catacamas, Honduras must travel over an hour to the nearest hospital for access to adequate medical treatment and urgent care. With construction begun and Honduran government financial support in place, monies from the *All Things Possible* Campaign will be vital to completing and launching the hospital.

### RURAL MINISTRY INITIATIVES... \$2,000,000

Due to the vast geographic area of the diocese, rural parishes face challenges that are very different from larger parishes. This campaign will enhance existing ministries and provide opportunities for the creation of new and innovative ministries and outreach to our rural parishes.

### MINISTRY FORMATION CENTER...\$750,000

The former St. Theresa's Home for Children will be renovated to function as the Ministry Formation Center for retreats, conferences, and seminars.

### ADULT CATECHESIS & FAITH FORMATION...\$750,000

The Diocese of Fort Worth is embarking on a four-year journey to connect the richness of the Catholic faith to everyday life through a parish-based, catechetical process called *Why Catholic?* — A Pastoral Approach to Evangelization and Adult Faith Formation. In addition, a three-tiered series of training seminars for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will be funded by this campaign. This will strengthen and enhance RCIA throughout the diocese.

### TELECOMMUNICATION...\$750,000

From this campaign, \$750,000 will aid in the creation of a regional network throughout the diocese to better serve and teach individuals regardless of their location, thus enabling them to simultaneously take advantage of these valuable programs.

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES...\$1,000,000

The Diocese of Fort Worth has committed \$1,000,000 restricted to an endowment for the care and maintenance of their new facility located in South Fort Worth.

## Lecture...

FROM PAGE 1

This series of talks begins with the presentation on Sept. 29 and will continue with presentations on the third Tuesday of each month from October through April at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Bushman holds a Licentiate Degree in Theology granted by the Pontifical Faculty of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. His work in pastoral theology and the master's program he directs are recognized nationwide as faithfully developing the teachings of Vatican II, Pope John Paul II, and Pope Benedict XVI. In addition to appearing regularly on Catholic radio and television, he has written numerous articles in Catholic magazines, and is the author of several books, including *In His Image: Program of Renewal*

## Diocesan

# St. Andrew Church, Franciscan community mourn Father Carl Szura, TOR, 1944-2009

By Kathy Cribari Hamer  
Correspondent

Just a few of the people who loved Father Carl Szura, TOR, assembled to bid him farewell at his Mass of Christian burial Aug. 20. But that small group filled St. Andrew Church's sanctuary to capacity, and half-filled the parish hall.

Mourners were there to celebrate the life of a priest who seemed ever-present because of his active participation in parish life. Young children remembered him dancing at Vacation Bible School, others remembered his Monday evening Rosaries for a teen suffering from cancer.

Fr. Carl endured his own suffering, having been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) in 1984. His death was attributed to complications of the MS and leukemia.

One of the first two Fran-

ciscan friars assigned to the Diocese of Fort Worth, Fr. Carl came to Fort Worth with Father Warren Murphy, TOR, in 1980. During the Franciscans' subsequent three decades here, Fr. Carl became a mainstay in pastoral work, and in a "mind-boggling number of ministries," according to Father Gerald Gordon, TOR, who was in seminary with him.

Fr. Carl was spiritual assistant to the Immaculata Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order, and a member of the Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care in Fort Worth from 2002 to 2008. He served as the coalition's president in 2009.

He was a Knight of Columbus, Boy Scout chaplain, and spiritual director for the RCIA team for youth and children. He participated in grief counseling for Rachel's Vineyard, and began an annual service for the unborn, for families who had lost babies to miscarriage or abortion.

He maintained a strong ministry to the homebound and the bereaved. "He had 25 years with MS," Fr. Gerald said, "and his personal time was always spent with ministries that serve."

One ministry Fr. Carl was known for and loved was decorating St. Andrew's liturgical space.

"He was a silent giant," said Charmaine Crosley, who worked with him on art and environment for eight years. "So many people loved him," she said. "He was everyone's priest. His heart was big enough to love a lot of people."

"Fr. Carl faced his death with dignity, class, and strength," Crosley said. "His faith was stronger than his illness."

In a letter read at Fr. Carl's funeral, Bishop Kevin Vann, writing from Rome, told of their first meeting, in 2005. The two were arriving at the same time for a Religious appreciation night, and as they approached, "someone thought he was the new bishop, and addressed him as such," Bishop Vann said. "That was a great starting point for our relationship. From that day forward I often kidded and called him Bishop Szura."

Bishop Vann closed his letter with Gospel words from the Rite of Ordination: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Fr. Carl's vigil and Mass of Christian Burial were influenced by the Franciscan tradition, as were his final days and hours.

The night before his death, after a call from Father Tom Stabile, TOR, St. Andrew's pastor, the friars, with Fr.



Father Carl Szura, TOR

Carl's family and close friends, gathered at his hospital bedside to pray. "Everyone kept watch," said Christina Alves, St. Andrew's liturgy and music director. "Fr. Tom started the prayer for the dying, and as we prayed the Litany of the Saints, you could see Fr. Carl's lips moving along with us: 'Pray for me. Pray for me.'"

"When we sang the 'Salve Regina,'" she said, "it was such a graced moment — Fr. Carl was singing the words with his brothers."

In his funeral Mass homily, Fr. Tom said, "We celebrate life because life is what he wanted and did. Like Francis we recognize that we have to go through death to get to that

other, more abundant life. But like Francis, something we have to recognize is that death is not our enemy. Once it was, but not after Christ, not after his resurrection."

The afternoon of his death, Crosley, Fr. Warren, and Brother Paul McMullen, TOR, were present, and one told a story of Fr. Carl's childhood dislike for vegetables. One night at home he did not finish them, instead hiding them in his pocket. He discarded them later, throwing them out the window of his room, not realizing they were bouncing off the roof and hitting his mother, standing below.

As the story went, his mother called out, "Carl, you are not going to the circus!!" At that point in the story, Crosley described, "it looked like Father straightened and tried to laugh." His breathing slowed and a few minutes later he died.

"It sounded like a sigh of relief," Fr. Warren told worshipers at the vigil service, "He looked like peace flowed into his whole body."

"Later," Crosley said, "I thought, maybe he wasn't trying to laugh, when he straightened up right before he stopped breathing."

"I don't know that he didn't have a glimpse of heaven."

## Bishop Vann joins Fulton J. Sheen Foundation's Episcopal Advisory Board

The Archbishop Fulton John Sheen Foundation has announced that Bishop Kevin Vann has joined the Episcopal Advisory Board for the Cause for Beatification of the Servant of God Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

Bishop Vann joins bishops from around the United States in supporting the cause. Fulton Sheen (1895-1979) was a universally popular evangelist, radio and television personality, writer, and missionary. In 2002, his cause for beatification and canonization was officially opened by the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois, Sheen's birthplace. The Sheen Foundation is the official promoter of the beatification cause.

"I watched *Life is Worth Living* when I was younger," Bishop Vann said. "Archbishop Sheen impacted a generation of Catholics in a way that has not been

done since."

Bishop Vann said he offered to join the board since he was from Illinois.

According to its Web site, the Sheen Foundation's purpose is to "make known the life, works, and thoughts of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, to educate people in the values that he taught, to assist the missions to which he dedicated his life, to assist others in seeking his intercession, and to undertake and pursue all acts ancillary thereto, including, but not limited to, the advancement of the Cause of Canonization of Archbishop Sheen in the Catholic Church, according to the process prescribed in the Code of Canon Law under the supervision of the bishop [Daniel Jenky] of the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois."

For more information, visit the foundation's Web site at [www.archbishopsheencause.org](http://www.archbishopsheencause.org).



Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen is pictured from the 1950s, when he hosted his Sunday evening program geared toward family life, the seven capital sins, and other religious themes. (CNS file photo)

## Bishop Vann kicks off Fall '09 Theology on Tap



Bishop Kevin Vann speaks about "Being Catholic in the Bible Belt" at the first Theology on Tap of the Fall 2009 series Sept. 1 at Buffalo Wild Wings located at 5601 S. Hulen St. in Fort Worth. Theology on Tap will continue at the same location on Tuesday nights in September. The remaining dates, speakers, and their topics include:

**Sept. 8** — Father Carmen Mele, OP, director of the School of Lay Ministry on "Going Forth (Prepared) to Evangelize";

**Sept. 15** — Dr. Nadia Lahutsky of the TCU Religion Department on "Ecumenism: Dialogue Between Denominations";

**Sept. 22** — Donna Ryckaert, a professional photographer with mission experience, on "The Mission and Ministry of Our Diocese in Guatemala."

For more information, visit the Fort Worth Diocese Young Adult Council Web site at [www.fwyam.org](http://www.fwyam.org).

## NATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

### Mercy sister serving in Idaho diocese is 2009 Lumen Christi recipient

TWIN FALLS, Idaho (CNS) — If you ask Mercy Sister Rose-Mary Boessen how she has managed, in her ministry, to run a group home for girls, move a church to Nevada and currently operate a legal assistance office for immigrants hoping to become U.S. citizens, the response is pretty much the same. “God knows how to find answers through me,” she told the *Idaho Catholic Register*, Boise’s diocesan newspaper. Sr. Boessen is the recipient of the 2009 Lumen Christi Award from the Catholic Church Extension Society, recognizing her lifelong efforts in this mission diocese. The honor, announced Aug. 13, brings with it \$50,000 to be split between the recipient and the diocese. It is the second time in the 32-year history of the award that someone from Idaho has won it. In 2002, Anthony and Evelyn Messuri, foster parents from Caldwell, were recognized. In nominating her, Boise Bishop Michael P. Driscoll noted that Sr. Boessen had “dedicated her life to the people of southern Idaho, developing religious education programs, establishing a foster home for teenage girls, ministering to prisoners, and supporting and empowering the growing Hispanic population in the area.”

### Catholic schools urged to prepare for potential swine flu outbreak

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As Catholic schools begin their fall classes amid threats of flu outbreaks, hand sanitizers are going to be more of a staple than ever and school officials will be urged to follow large doses of common sense. At many schools, more than the usual cleaning up took place over the summer as desks and chairs were scrubbed with bleach in an effort to sterilize classrooms and rid them of possible germs associated with the H1N1 virus, known as swine flu. But despite schools’ best efforts to stay germ-free, flu outbreaks are still anticipated. If students at Catholic schools are diagnosed as having the H1N1 virus, school officials are advised to follow the same protocol as public schools — to close the school only as a last resort and instead make sure those who are ill stay home until they are no longer contagious. This advice was announced Aug. 20 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Education. Marie Powell, executive director of Catholic education for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, sent notices during the summer to Catholic school officials urging them to be aware of government guidelines for handling the flu and advising them to make the necessary preparations.

### Archbishop Aymond, native of New Orleans, installed to head home archdiocese

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — As a native New Orleanian, Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond had walked through the front doors of venerable St. Louis Cathedral hundreds of times as a seminarian, priest, and auxiliary bishop. But as applause erupted inside a packed cathedral Aug. 20, he suddenly realized he was walking not only into the cathedral but also into history. Archbishop Aymond, 59, became the first New Orleans native to be installed as archbishop in the 216-year history of the local church since the formal establishment of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas in 1793. Afterward, Archbishop Aymond was at a loss for words. “It’s just overwhelming,” he said in the cathedral rectory after the Mass. “I still can’t believe that I am the archbishop of New Orleans, but I think I am.” Inside the rectory, there was another equally amazing sight: The four living archbishops of New Orleans stood side by side, trading quips with each other. New Orleans is believed to be the only U.S. diocese ever to have four living archbishops: Archbishop Philip M. Hannan, 96, who served from 1965 until he retired in December 1988; Archbishop Francis B. Schulte, 83, 1989-2002; Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes, 76, 2002-09; and Archbishop Aymond.



Supervisory U.S. Border Patrol Agent Paul Du Bois opens a gate leading to a dirt road as he searches for illegal immigrants in the desert of Pima County, Arizona, Aug. 17. U.S. President Barack Obama and his administration want to see comprehensive reform of the nation’s immigration system “happen sooner than later,” according to a Catholic immigration advocate. (CNS photo/Joshua Lott, Reuters)

## Advocates hope immigration reform will be in place by end of 2010

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama and his administration want to see comprehensive reform of the nation’s immigration system “happen sooner than later,” according to a Catholic immigration advocate.

“I would be surprised if this wasn’t taken care of by the end of 2010,” said Mark Franken, executive director of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc., known as CLINIC.

Franken, who made the comments in an interview with Catholic News Service, was part of a group of immigrant advocates, faith leaders, and labor, business, and law enforcement officials who met in a closed-door meeting on immigration in Washington Aug. 20.

The meeting was the first in a series of conversations aimed at getting input from those who have a stake in the issue, according to Franken.

Representatives from the White House and the Department of Homeland Security participated in the discussion hosted by Secretary Janet Napolitano. Obama arrived at the end of the meeting to reiterate many of Napolitano’s points, including the need for increased efforts to push immigration reform.

Franken told CNS the meeting demonstrated the president’s commitment to the issue as well as the administration’s need to hear from constituents and people who are educated about reform. Franken said he expected a certain degree of what he called “demagoguery,” referring to impassioned people rattling off incorrect information, so he said it was paramount that well-informed stakeholders voice their views in Washington.

Reform is in a brainstorming stage, Franken said, and the

administration asked meeting participants questions about effective enforcement strategies and how to encourage immigrants currently living in the United States illegally to step forward and register for legal status.

The group did not generate unanimous answers, but Franken said he was surprised how often people did agree. Everyone recognized the need for reform, he said, but in addition they all supported a generous legalization program and fair, enforceable immigration laws.

Many of those at the gathering urged Napolitano to take more ownership of the immigration debate, according to Shaina Aber, associate advocacy director for the U.S. branch of the Jesuit Refugee Service.

Aber told CNS she thinks Napolitano understood that message and would communicate more with immigrant advocates in the future.

In a statement issued after the meeting ended, Napolitano said the gathering “was an important opportunity to hear from stakeholders and build on the significant time I’ve spent on the Hill meeting with members of Congress on this critical subject.”

Napolitano did not explicitly promise to help generate a bill that would come before Congress this fall, Franken said, but he expected a measure would likely be introduced before the end of the year.

He noted that Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has urged the Obama administration to finalize reform and push for passage of a measure that could be signed into law before the beginning of 2010, but Franken said he does not think that is a realistic target.

In June Cardinal George wrote on behalf of the bishops to urge Obama and Congress to enact comprehensive reform before the end of 2009.

Franken and Aber both blamed the current health care reform debate for some of the delay on immigration reform.

In a teleconference call Aug. 21 with five speakers who attended the meeting with Napolitano, Arturo Rodriguez, president of the United Farm Workers, said he doesn’t want immigration efforts to take the stage while officials continue to debate health care because he thinks that will take energy and focus away from immigration reform.

The speakers said they didn’t expect the debate on immigration reform to reach the intensity the health reform debate has, and suggested it may be less “chaotic” and “confusing” than health care discussions because Americans are already familiar with the issue.

Though a comprehensive immigration reform bill has yet to be introduced, individual bills already have been introduced to address other immigration issues in the meantime.

Known as the Agricultural Jobs, Opportunity, Benefits, and Security Act, or AgJOBS, and the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, or the DREAM Act, both bills may advance through Congress before a comprehensive bill does.

The bills deal with agricultural workers and students without legal status who came to the country with their parents.

Aber said she is particularly interested in seeing the DREAM Act passed, because it would protect children “who shouldn’t be punished for the decisions of their parents.”

INTERNATIONAL  
NEWSBRIEFS

A boat overflowing with migrants who had survived a violent storm arrives in late March at the port of Tripoli, Libya. Prompted by a sea tragedy involving the apparent deaths of dozens of Eritreans trying to reach Italy in a rubber raft, the Vatican and Italian bishops urged authorities to guarantee rescue, medical help, and respect to migrants in trouble. (CNS photo/handout via Reuters)

## Vatican, bishops urge respect, help for migrants fleeing Africa

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Prompted by a sea tragedy involving the apparent deaths of dozens of Eritreans trying to reach Italy in a rubber raft, the Vatican and the Italian bishops urged authorities to guarantee rescue, medical help, and respect to migrants in trouble.

On Aug. 20, Italian maritime border police rescued five Eritreans off the Sicilian island of Lampedusa. The survivors recounted that more than 70 others had died of hunger and thirst during a three-week voyage from Libya, and said that no passing vessels had stopped to save them, although some fishermen had given them some food.

Archbishop Antonio Maria Veglio, president of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers, said in an interview with Vatican Radio Aug. 23 that such tragedies call for a “strong and farsighted policy of international cooperation.”

He said that while governments have the legitimate right to regulate immigration “there is nevertheless the human right to be rescued and given emergency help.” He said this right is even more necessary in extreme situations, “such as being adrift in the middle of the sea.”

Archbishop Veglio referred to the recent encyclical by Pope Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth*, which said that “every migrant is a human person” who “possesses inalienable fundamental rights.”

“Our so-called civil societies in reality have developed feelings of refusal toward foreigners, that come not only from a lack of knowledge about others, but

*An editorial in AVVENIRE the newspaper of the Italian bishops’ conference, said the indifference to the plight of Africans who risk their lives fleeing poverty and war was comparable to the lack of public opposition as the Holocaust unfolded in Nazi Germany.*

also from a selfishness in which one doesn’t want to share what others don’t have,” Archbishop Veglio said.

Since 1988, he said, 14,660 migrants have died trying to reach Europe.

An editorial in *Avvenire*, the newspaper of the Italian bishops’ conference, said the indifference to the plight of Africans who risk their lives fleeing poverty and war was comparable to the lack of public opposition as the Holocaust unfolded in Nazi Germany. It criticized tough new Italian legislation, which includes sending back the rickety boats to Libyan coasts, as “the law of not seeing.”

“Certainly, the people then

didn’t know; but those long trains, the voices, the screams in the train stations — did nobody see or hear? Then, it was totalitarianism and terror that closed people’s eyes. Today, no. There is a quiet, resigned indifference, if not an irritated aversion, that has fallen over the Mediterranean,” the editorial said.

The position of Church leaders has put them at odds with some members of the Italian government, which has defended the new laws as necessary to halt a steady flow of illegal immigration.

Reforms Minister Umberto Bossi, the founder of the anti-immigrant Northern League party, said, “the Vatican should open its own doors” to refugees and “give a good example.”

The Italian government defended its handling of the situation, saying that it rescued the five Eritreans when no one else would.

Roberto Calderoli, another government minister from the Northern League, said that Archbishop Veglio’s comments to Vatican Radio should not be considered representative of the Vatican or the Italian bishops’ conference.

Archbishop Veglio replied in a communique that as head of the pontifical council he was authorized to comment in the name of the Holy See and that he had never been contradicted by the Holy See or the Italian bishops’ conference.

“My comments came from a solid, tragic fact: the deaths of many people, without accusing anyone, but calling everyone to take responsibility,” he said.

### Italian researchers develop heart-repair method with adult stem cells

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Italian researchers have developed a method to repair a damaged heart using adult stem cells, and said it confirmed that the adult cells were more therapeutically useful than embryonic stem cells. “The adult stem cell is already prepared to differentiate in the tissue we want to repair. And it is certainly more productive, less wasteful and less dangerous — beyond the ethical aspects — to work with adult stem cells instead of embryonic stem cells,” said Settimio Grimaldi, an expert at the Institute of Neurobiology and Molecular Medicine in Rome, which carried out the research. Grimaldi spoke Aug. 15 to Vatican Radio, which hailed the published results as an important advance in stem-cell therapy. The Italian team developed a new method of isolating cardiac stem cells, cultivating them and injecting them in such a way that they replace damaged tissue; after testing on animals, the researchers hope to apply the method on humans in about three years. Grimaldi said the method should be able to help people who have suffered heart attacks lead a fairly normal life, including work and sports activities.

### Vatican economist says Christians must put ethics back into business

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The current global economic crisis shows that capitalism without ethical grounding doesn’t work, and Christians should keep this in mind whether they are business people, policymakers, or simply consumers, a top Vatican economist said. Thomas Han Hong-soon of the Vatican Prefecture for Economic Affairs said that “the root of this crisis is a moral deficit” and that when it comes to business, Christians have not always followed the principles of charity and justice found in the Gospel. “Let’s start by honestly recognizing that the spirit of capitalism doesn’t agree with that of the Gospel. The heart of Christianity is love for others. The nucleus of capitalism, rather, is competition, which is the opposite of love,” Han told the Vatican newspaper *L’Osservatore Romano* Aug. 22. A radical overhaul of the capitalistic system is not very realistic, he said, considering that alternatives, such as communism, have not worked out historically. But better rules for governing the free market are needed, he said. “It’s clear that as Christians we can’t only pursue the notion of the highest profit at the lowest possible cost,” he said.

### Celebrations begin for centennial of Blessed Mother Teresa’s birth

CALCUTTA, India (CNS) — The Missionaries of Charity have launched a year of programs celebrating the 2010 centennial of the birth of Blessed Mother Teresa, the religious order’s founder who dedicated her life to serving some of India’s poorest people. “Mother Teresa’s birth centenary begins today,” said retired Archbishop Henry D’Souza of Calcutta Aug. 26 during a Mass marking what would have been the 99th birthday of the devoted caretaker at the congregation’s motherhouse chapel, according to the Asian church news agency UCA News. Sister Mary Prema, the congregation’s superior general, said the celebrations would conclude Aug. 26, 2010. During the centennial year, “the best gift we can all prepare for Mother’s 100th birthday is our sincere endeavor to be channels of God’s love and peace to the poor,” she told a gathering at the motherhouse. Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu Aug. 26, 1910, into an ethnic Albanian family in Skopje, in present-day Macedonia. She came to Calcutta as a member of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto nuns) in 1929 and founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950. She died in 1997 and was beatified in 2003.

## Scripture Readings



September 13, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.  
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 50:5-9a  
Psalm 116:1-6, 8-9
- 2) James 2:14-18  
Gospel) Mark 8:27-35

By Jean Denton

I had to practically sit on my hands to keep from sending a check. My grown daughter had just been laid off from her job at the same time her apartment lease was up and her roommate moved away. She called “to vent,” she said, but she wasn’t asking for financial help.

Nevertheless, throughout her brief lament I kept thinking it wouldn’t faze my bank account to send a little money, and it would ease her burden considerably. Just a slight boost to buy her a little time would save a lot of stress. She’d pay it back later, and I wanted to think the pain and worry, really, weren’t necessary.

Of course, I simply didn’t want her to have to suffer — even a little bit — if I could help it.

Luckily a cooler head prevailed: hers.

“Don’t worry, Mom,” she assured me. “It’s an-

noying. But I’ll figure it out. I’ll be fine.”

Sure enough, after months and months of temporary employment, several unsatisfactory living arrangements and a meager pantry, things worked out. In the meantime, she was fine.

She understood that struggle is a necessary part of life, and through it she learned a great deal about the strength and gifts with which God had endowed her. Also, she experienced God’s grace through helpful, loving friends and found joy even while enduring difficulty.

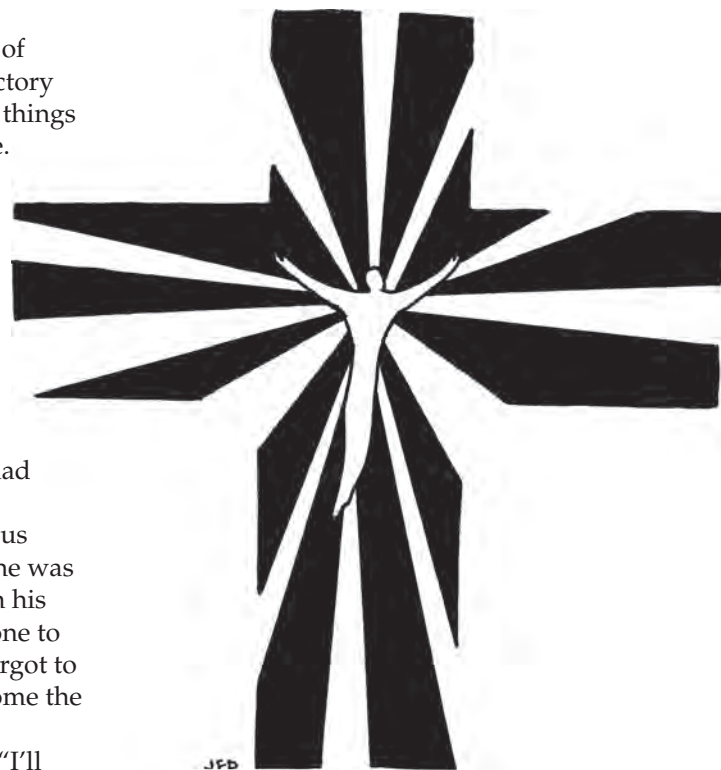
She more than survived. She grew — beyond what she could have if I had intervened to “save” her from discomfort.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Peter tells Jesus that he knows he is the Christ. He knows he was endowed by God to bring salvation. But in his human heart Peter didn’t want his loved one to have to suffer. For a brief moment Peter forgot to believe in God’s almighty ability to overcome the suffering and anguish of this world.

Jesus set him straight, saying, in effect, “I’ll be fine.” Then he told his disciples that to follow him they too must endure necessary hardship with trust that God will save them and give them a life greater than the one they will surely lose in the process.

### QUESTIONS:

When have you had to stand by and watch a loved one endure hardship in order to grow in strength and spirit? How did you witness God’s grace in the process?



“**Y**ou are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

— Mark 8:33

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## Well-prepared priests essential for new evangelization, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Without well-prepared priests, “the new evangelization” of society will be just a slogan, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“Today we see a need for each priest to be a witness of the infinite mercy of God with a life completely conquered by Christ and for them to learn this from the very first years of their preparation in the seminary,” the pope said.

During his weekly general audience Aug. 19, the pope spoke about St. John Eudes, the 17th-century founder of the Eudists, a religious congregation dedicated to training diocesan priests. The French saint’s feast day is Aug. 19.

An estimated 3,000 people gathered in the courtyard of the papal villa at Castel Gandolfo for the audience. Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien of Baltimore was seated in the front row.

Pope Benedict said the training of seminarians and priests is crucial for ensuring that “the new evangelization is not just an attractive slogan, but that it becomes a reality.”

A priesthood candidate’s time in the seminary, he said, must be like the time the disciples spent alone with Jesus after being called to follow him and before being sent out to preach the Gospel.

The pope said that, like today, the 17th-century in France, where St. John Eudes lived and ministered, was a time of great



Pope Benedict XVI greets the crowd from the balcony of his summer residence during his weekly general audience in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Aug. 19. (CNS photo/L’Osservatore Romano via Reuters)

social, political, and religious upheaval. “It was the time of the Thirty Years’ War, which devastated not only a large part of Central Europe, but it also devastated many souls,” he said.

Yet even as “contempt for the Christian faith was spreading,” he said, the Holy Spirit gave rise to a spiritual renewal with holy men and women, including St. John Eudes.

In the 16th century, the Council of Trent issued norms for the erection of diocesan seminaries and for priestly formation

because the council members “were well-aware that an insufficient preparation of priests had an impact on the whole crisis of the Reformation; priests were not correctly prepared for the priesthood intellectually and spiritually,” he said.

St. John Eudes saw that the reform had not been instituted in France and he noted “the serious need for spiritual assistance people were experiencing precisely because of the inadequacy of a large portion of the clergy,” the pope said.

“The journey of holiness he followed and proposed to his followers had its foundation in placing trust only in the love God revealed to humanity in the priestly heart of Jesus and in the maternal heart of Mary,” he said.

Pope Benedict asked people to pray for priests and for seminarians, “that they may spiritually enter into the heart of Jesus, becoming men of true love, humility and patience, renewed in holiness and pastoral zeal.”



## Scripture Readings



September 20, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.  
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
Psalm 54:3-6, 8
- 2) James 3:16 to 4:3  
Gospel) Mark 9:30-37

By Sharon K. Perkins

When we first got our now 7-year-old cat we named him "Mischief," and for good reason: he loved to chew things and caused frequent damage to blanket fringe, Venetian-blind cords and shoelaces when we weren't looking. It was an irritating quirk, but one that we learned to live with by protecting our belongings from his reach.

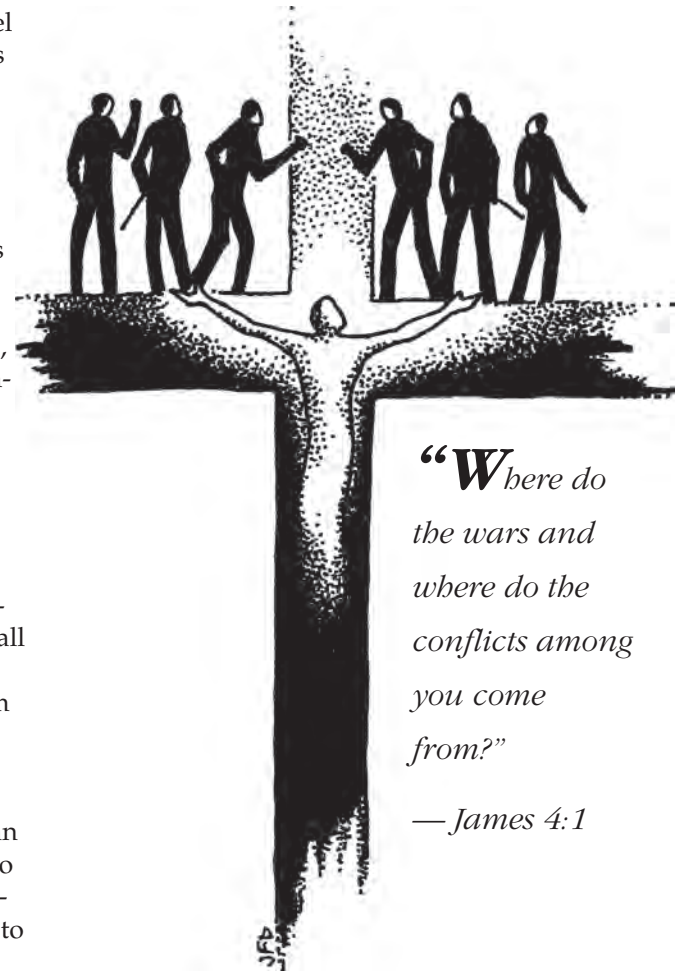
More antagonistic cat traits eventually surfaced when we had to leave Mischief alone in the house for extended periods of time. He "retaliated" by leaving us "surprises" where we couldn't fail to find them — usually where we sat or walked. For a while, it seemed as though we were at war with our cat until we recognized

that his behavior was directly related to his level of separation anxiety. The hostilities between us lessened as soon as we responded compassionately and stabilized his environment.

In some ways, people aren't that much different from cats. Even well-trained, well-meaning folks can get cranky when exhausted or be callous toward others when anxious. Historians have written volumes about the recurrent patterns of war and bloodshed that occur when fear-based ideologies and severe levels of stress, influence entire peoples to act against their common humanity.

Today's readings illustrate but a few of a gamut of passions that are responsible for such human carnage: resentment toward those who would point out our faults, jealousy, "selfish ambition," covetousness and lack of trust. The Gospel of Jesus provides a simple but paradoxical antidote: "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Putting those words into action, Jesus carried this axiom to its ultimate conclusion when he carried his cross to Calvary.

Demonstrating compassion toward another human being can often be more challenging than showing mercy to one's cat. The same Jesus who died and rose for all of us impassioned, conflicted people gives us both the means and the will to be servants to one another.



*"Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from?"*

—James 4:1

### QUESTIONS:

What human passion is most at the root of your unkindness to others?

To whom do you need to demonstrate Christ's compassion today?

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## There are no easy answers for dark night of the soul

By Jeff Hedglen

Lately many of the books I am reading and things my friends are saying have to do with spiritual darkness. For some it is a total losing of faith, for others it is journeying into whole new areas of faith and self-discovery, for others it is a longing to hear something, anything, from a seemingly silent God. Darkness comes in many forms, and when it does, it can feel like God has taken a vacation from us.

I wish there was a tidy Scripture verse or quaint saying that I could dole out lickity split on this page to answer the question of why this happens, or at least give comfort to those in darkness, but there is no easy answer to this spiritual dilemma. Many of the great saints have suffered a similar fate.

It seems strange that some of the strongest and most faith-filled among us would be the ones feeling so far from the God they love so deeply, yet it appears to be a common experience. Recently in the book *Come Be My Light, The Private Writings of the Saint of*



In short, when we feel this way, we

are in good company. If it is good

enough for Moses, Jeremiah, Jesus,

John of the Cross, and Mother Teresa,

I suppose it is good enough for us.

*Calcutta*, it was revealed that even Mother Theresa went through a long period of time where she did not feel the presence of God.

When the news broke that this spiritual giant may have had doubts about God, it was quite shocking. Upon reading the book that reveals her private writings, I encountered the woman I knew from her books and had seen in videos, a woman of great determination, deep devotion,

unparalleled work ethic, and spiritual discipline. But I also met a woman of simple faith who simply wanted to be cherished by her Lord, but was not experiencing Him like she had hoped to.

For a reason known only to God, Mother Teresa spent many years without hearing from or feeling close to the Jesus she saw in the poor whom she served. Her writings offer little by way of explanation, but she does bare

her soul on the subject.

The Bible is full of stories of faith-filled people feeling lost and forsaken. The Jews wandering in the desert wondered where God was. Generations later they were sent into exile, and the Temple was destroyed and they never felt more alone. And of course we have the image of Jesus on the cross crying out that He has been abandoned by God.

After the Resurrection and Ascension the apostles huddled in a room unsure of what to do without Jesus with them, and through the centuries many followers of Jesus continue to feel alone and unsure of what God is doing.

In short, when we feel this way, we are in good company. If it is good enough for Moses, Jeremiah, Jesus, John of the Cross, and Mother Teresa, I suppose it is good enough for us. This does not take the pain and longing away, but for me it lets me know I am not crazy, nor am I a bad Christian for having doubts from time to time.

When I was 20 years old I was what you might call "on fire" for Jesus and my faith. I remember

thinking then "if I feel this close to God now, what will it be like when I am 25?" Well five years later I felt nowhere near how I felt at 20. In fact I had very little "feeling" about my faith. It was explained to me that as we grow in our faith the feelings often fade, and this is when our faith really takes over, for now we follow God not because it feels good, but because we decide to.

Spiritual darkness does not mean that God has gone away, just that our emotional experience of God is not as strong. It can be very hard to continue believing in God when we do not feel a connection, but when we persevere we discover a new level of faith.

Mother Teresa combatted her darkness with blind faith in her heart and a smile on her face. With grace from God, may we be able to do the same.

Mother Teresa, pray for us!  
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).

## Proponentes tienen esperanza que reforma de inmigración esté instaurada para fin del 2010

WASHINGTON (CNS) — El presidente Barack Obama y su administración quieren ver que la reforma abarcadora del sistema de inmigración de la nación “suceda más temprano que tarde”, según un proponente católico de inmigración.

“Me sorprendería si esto no se atendiese antes del final del 2010”, dijo Mark Franken, director ejecutivo de la Red católica de inmigración legal, inc., conocida como CLINIC.

Franken, quien hizo los comentarios en entrevista con Catholic News Service, fue parte de un grupo de proponentes de inmigración, líderes de la fe y funcionarios laborales, empresariales y de aplicación de ley que se juntaron en una reunión a puerta cerrada en Washington el 20 de agosto.

La reunión fue la primera en una serie de conversaciones orientadas a obtener comentarios de parte de aquellos que tienen intereses en el asunto, según Franken.

Representantes de la Casa Blanca y del Departamento de

*La administración les planteó a los participantes preguntas acerca de estrategias eficaces de aplicación, y cómo animar a los inmigrantes que actualmente viven ilegalmente en los Estados Unidos a progresar para inscribirse y solicitar el estado legal.*

seguridad vacional participaron en la discusión, cuya anfitriona fue la secretaria Janet Napolitano. Obama llegó al final de la reunión para reiterar muchos de los puntos de Napolitano, incluyendo la necesidad de mayores esfuerzos para impulsar la reforma de inmigración.

Franken dijo a CNS que la reunión demostró el compromiso del presidente con el asunto, así como la necesidad de la administración de escuchar a los constituyentes y

a las personas que están educadas sobre la reforma. Franken dijo que esperaba cierto grado de lo que él llamó “demagogia”, refiriéndose a la gente apasionada que vocifera información incorrecta, así que dijo que es primordial que aquellos que tienen intereses que estén bien informados expresen sus opiniones en Washington.

La reforma está en una etapa de aportación de ideas, dijo Franken, y la administración les planteó a los participantes preguntas acerca de estrategias eficaces de aplicación, y cómo animar a los inmigrantes que actualmente viven ilegalmente en los Estados Unidos a progresar para inscribirse y solicitar el estado legal.

El grupo no generó respuestas unánimes, pero Franken dijo que le sorprendió cuán a menudo las personas estuvieron de acuerdo. Todos reconocieron la necesidad de la reforma, dijo, pero además todo ellos apoyaron un amplio programa de legalización y leyes de inmigración justas y aplicables.

## A la iglesia de México le faltan donaciones para hacerle frente a gastos médicos de sacerdotes enfermos

CIUDAD DE MÉXICO (CNS) — Con la disminución de colectas de domingo, la arquidiócesis de León, México, se ha quedado imposibilitada de pagar cuentas de gastos médicos de sus sacerdotes enfermos, dijo el arzobispo José Martín Rábago, e hizo un llamado para que se continúe el apoyo financiero, a pesar de la crisis económica.

El arzobispo Martín les dijo a los periodistas, el 23 de agosto, que la arquidiócesis sufrió un déficit de \$18,000, en la primera mitad de este año 2009. Y dijo que los pronósticos financieros indican que el déficit aumentará hasta algo más de \$85,000 para finales de año.

El arzobispo negó que la iglesia esté rebosante de recursos financieros, como algunos medios de difusión lo presentaron.

“No hay prosperidad, a pesar de lo que se haya dicho”, afirmó.

El arzobispo no está solo al enfrentarse a asuntos difíciles de presupuesto causados por la caída en las donaciones. Colectas menores los domingos y menos donaciones han dejado a la Iglesia en México sin poder pagar gastos



El padre José de Jesús Aguilar, director de radio y televisión de la arquidiócesis de la Ciudad de México, fotografiado el 24 de agosto, dijo que las donaciones para la Iglesia Católica han disminuido un 50 por ciento este año. (Foto CNS/David Agren)

como nóminas, mantenimiento de edificios, e incluso prestaciones para sacerdotes.

Los ecónomos han comparado la situación a algunas de las peores crisis de décadas pasadas que devastaron a familias de medianos y bajos ingresos.

El gobierno mexicano ha anticipado que la economía bajará un 7

por ciento en este año 2009 y dijo que la baja se vio agravada por el brote del virus llamado H1N1 en el pasado abril.

Entre tanto, el Banco de México informó que el valor de envíos de dinero enviados a México por los emigrantes que viven fuera del país bajó cerca de un 18 por ciento en los meses de mayo a agosto.



VISITANTES RODEAN LA BIBLIA DE GUTENBERG EN LA BIBLIOTECA DEL CONGRESO EN WASHINGTON — En la Gran sala el pasado verano, algunos visitantes se pueden ver rodeando la vitrina que contiene la Biblia de Gutenberg, débilmente iluminada, en la Biblioteca del congreso de Washington. La masiva colección de Biblias de la institución se ha aumentado con muestras de alta tecnología interactiva que les llevan a los visitantes las páginas de las Escrituras en forma viva. (Foto CNS/Nancy Wiehceh)

## Representantes de la USCCB y del CELAM firman un acuerdo de publicación de Biblia general para Latinoamérica

WASHINGTON (CNS) — La Conferencia de obispos católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB por sus siglas en inglés) y el Consejo episcopal latinoamericano (CELAM, por sus siglas en español) han dado otro paso para el desarrollo de una traducción de la Biblia en lengua general española, destinada para los católicos hispanohablantes de las Américas.

El padre Sidney Fones, subsecretario general del consejo del CELAM, y monseñor David Malloy, secretario general de la USCCB, firmaron un acuerdo de publicación el 25 de agosto.

En el proyecto se utilizarán fondos de la colecta anual de la USCCB para la Iglesia en Latinoamérica, y se ha hecho el compromiso de contribuir con \$1 millón distribuido durante 10 años, dijo el padre oblat Andrew Small, director de la Oficina para Latinoamérica. Y él mismo enfatizó que el proyecto de traducción de la Biblia es “respaldado por las personas de los Estados Unidos”

por medio de la colecta.

El padre Fones dijo que la nueva traducción servirá para la mayoría de los católicos hispanohablantes que no pueden entender las actuales traducciones de la Biblia al español, debido a que se fundamentan en la tradición lingüística de España.

“Muchas de las traducciones han sido hechas en España, y por eso para la gente de acá es muy difícil entenderlas”, le dijo el padre Fones al Catholic News Service. “El hecho de que sea una traducción latinoamericana es muy importante, y eso es significativo para la gente de acá”.

Algunas secciones de la nueva traducción deberán estar terminadas para principios del próximo año, y la traducción completa se finalizará para el año 2015.

Durante cuatro años, el CELAM y la USCCB han estado organizando un equipo de 30 expertos latinoamericanos que traducirán la Biblia.

### Mecanismos para reportar la conducta sexual inapropiada

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

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

jlocke@fwdioc.org

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

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

### Mecanismo para reportar abuso

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



El Papa Benedicto XVI saluda a los pueblos, desde el balcón de su residencia de verano, durante su audiencia general semanal en Castel Gandolfo, Italia, el 19 de agosto. (Foto CNS/L'OSSEVATORE ROMANO VÍA Reuters)

## Sacerdotes bien preparados esenciales para nueva evangelización, dice el Papa

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italia (CNS) — Sin sacerdotes bien preparados “la nueva evangelización” de la sociedad será sólo un lema, dijo el Papa Benedicto XVI.

“Hoy día vemos una necesidad que cada sacerdote sea testigo de la misericordia infinita de Dios con una vida completamente conquistada por Cristo. También deben aprender esto desde los primeros años de su preparación en el seminario”, dijo el Papa.

Durante su audiencia general semanal del 19 de agosto, el Papa habló sobre San Juan Eudes, fundador durante el siglo 17 de los eudistas, congregación religiosa dedicada a entrenar sacerdotes diocesanos. El día de fiesta del santo francés es el 19 de agosto.

Un estimado de 3,000 personas se reunió en el patio de la villa papal en *Castel Gandolfo* para la audiencia. El arzobispo Edwin F. O'Brien, de Baltimore, estaba sentado en la fila delantera.

El Papa Benedicto dijo que el entrenamiento de seminaristas y sacerdotes es crucial para asegurar que “la nueva evangelización no

seas sólo un lema atractivo, sino que se convierta en una realidad”.

El tiempo de un candidato al sacerdocio en el seminario, dijo, debe ser como el tiempo que los discípulos pasaban a solas con Jesús después de ser llamados a seguirlo y antes de ser enviados a predicar el Evangelio.

El Papa dijo que, como hoy día, el siglo 17 en Francia, donde San Juan Eudes vivió y ministró, era una época de gran agitación social, política y religiosa. “Era la época de la *Guerra de treinta años*, la cual devastó no sólo gran parte de Europa Central, sino que también devastó muchas almas”, dijo.

No obstante, aunque el “desprecio por la fe cristiana se esparcía”, dijo, el Espíritu Santo dio lugar a una renovación espiritual con hombres y mujeres santos, incluyendo a San Juan Eudes.

En el siglo 16 el *Concilio de Trento* emitió normas para la erección de seminarios diocesanos y para la formación sacerdotal porque los miembros de concilio “estaban bien conscientes que una preparación insuficiente de

sacerdotes tenía un impacto en la crisis completa de la Reforma; los sacerdotes no estaban correctamente preparados para el sacerdocio intelectual ni espiritualmente”, dijo.

San Juan Eudes vio que la reforma no había sido instituida en Francia y notó “la seria necesidad de ayuda espiritual que las personas estaban experimentando precisamente debido a las insuficiencias de una gran porción del clero”, dijo el Papa.

“La travesía de la santidad que siguió y propuso a sus seguidores tuvo su fundamento en poner confianza solamente en el amor de Dios revelado a la humanidad en el corazón sacerdotal de Jesús y en el corazón maternal de María”, dijo.

El Papa Benedicto pidió que el público orara por los sacerdotes y los seminaristas, “para que ellos puedan entrar espiritualmente en el corazón de Jesús, convirtiéndose en hombres de verdadero amor, humildad y paciencia, renovados en la santidad y en el celo pastoral”.

## En alerta sobre los medios de difusión: el Papa toma un acercamiento cauteloso ante la explosión de los medios de comunicación

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — Hacia el final de su encíclica llamada *Caridad en la verdad*, el Papa Benedicto XVI incluyó un análisis, breve pero con palabras enérgicas, sobre “la presencia invasora constante” de los medios modernos de comunicación y de su fuerza para servir intereses buenos o malos.

Las dos páginas sobre comunicación apenas fueron notadas en una encíclica que se enfocó sobre asuntos económicos, pero enfatizaron el acercamiento cauteloso y crítico del Papa hacia la revolución de los medios de difusión de hoy en día.

En particular, el Papa centró su atención en la conjetura popular en el Occidente que la penetración de los medios de difusión contemporáneos en los países del mundo que se encuentran en estado de desarrollo llevará inevitablemente la ilustración y el progreso.

“Solamente porque las comunicaciones sociales aumentan la posibilidad de conexión recíproca y diseminación de las ideas no significa que promueven la libertad o internacionalizan el desarrollo y la democracia para todos”, escribió el Papa.

La crítica del Papa se pueden destacar los siguientes puntos:

— Los medios masivos de comunicación no son moralmente “neutros”. Están con frecuencia subordinados a “un intento de intereses económicos de dominar el mercado” y a intentos de “imponer modelos culturales que están al servicio de agendas ideológicas y políticas”, dijo.

— Los medios de difusión tienen un enorme papel de modelar actitudes, papel que se ha amplificado mediante la globalización. Eso requiere una reflexión cuidadosa sobre su influencia, especialmente cuando se trata de cuestiones éticas y de la dimensión de “solidaridad”

“Solamente porque las comunicaciones sociales aumentan la posibilidad de conexión recíproca y diseminación de las ideas no significa que promueven la libertad o internacionalizan el desarrollo y la democracia para todos.”

—el Papa Benedicto XVI

del desarrollo, dijo el Papa.

— Los medios de difusión tienen un efecto civilizador cuando “están dirigidos hacia una visión de la persona y al bien común que refleja valores verdaderamente universales”. Y eso significa que deben enfocarse en la promoción de la dignidad humana, deben estar “inspirados por la caridad y puestos al servicio de la verdad”, dijo.

¿Inspirados por la caridad? Eso habrá de sonar demasiado idealista para los que están familiarizados con algunos de los programas más populares de radio o del Internet estos días.

El arzobispo Claudio Celli, presidente del *Consejo pontificio de comunicaciones sociales*, dijo recientemente que el Papa no es ingenuo con respecto a lo que se transmite por esos medios de comunicación.

“El Papa sabe perfectamente lo que circula en la gran red de información. Por eso es que dice que necesitamos reflexionar con respecto a la distribución de palabras e imágenes que degradan la persona humana, y poner un alto a cualquier cosa que aliente el odio y la intolerancia, o a cualquier cosa que hiera la belleza y la intimidad de la sexualidad humana”, dijo el arzobispo.

## Vaticano, obispos piden respeto, ayuda para migrantes

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — Impulsado por una tragedia en el mar involucrando las aparentes muertes de docenas de refugiados de Eritrea que intentaban llegar a Italia en una balsa de caucho, el Vaticano y los obispos italianos pidieron a las autoridades garantizar el rescate, la ayuda médica y el respeto para los migrantes en aprietos.

El 20 de agosto la policía fronteriza marítima italiana rescató a cinco eritreos frente a la costa

de la isla siciliana Lampedusa. Los sobrevivientes contaron que más de 70 otros habían muerto de hambre y de sed durante un viaje de tres semanas desde Libia, y dijeron que ninguna nave, al pasarlos, se había detenido para dar auxilio, aunque algunos pescadores les habían dado un poco de alimento.

El arzobispo Antonio María Veglio, presidente del *Pontificio consejo para la pastoral de los migrantes e itinerantes*, dijo en

entrevista con *Radio Vaticana* el 23 de agosto que tales tragedias llaman a “una política fuerte y a largo plazo de cooperación internacional”.

Dijo que aunque los gobiernos tienen el derecho legítimo a regular la inmigración “está, no obstante, el derecho humano a ser rescatado y recibir ayuda de emergencia”. Dijo que este derecho es aun más necesario en situaciones extremas, “por ejemplo estar a la deriva en medio del mar”.

Desde 1988, dijo, 14,660 migrantes han muerto intentando llegar a Europa.

Un editorial en *Avvenire*, el periódico de la conferencia episcopal italiana, dice que la indiferencia a la situación apremiante de los africanos que arriesgan sus vidas huyendo de pobreza y guerra es comparable a la falta de oposición pública, según se desarrolló el Holocausto en la Alemania nazi. Éste critica la nueva fuerte legislación italiana que incluye

devolver hacia las costas libias los botes raquíticos, conocida como “la ley de no ver”.

“Ciertamente, la gente entonces no sabía; pero esos largos trenes, las voces, los gritos en las estaciones ferroviarias, ¿nadie vio u oyó? Entonces era el totalitarismo y el terror lo que cerraban los ojos de la gente. Hoy día, no. Hay una tranquila y renunciada indiferencia, si no una aversión irritada, que ha caído sobre el Mediterráneo”, dice el editorial.

## Una hermana de la Merced que ha prestado servicios en la diócesis de Idaho es la ganadora del premio *Lumen Christi* de este año, 2009

Por Mike Brown  
Catholic News Service

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — Si uno le pregunta a la hermana de la Merced RoseMary Boessen cómo se las arregla, en su ministerio, para dirigir un grupo de casas para muchachas, trasladar una iglesia a Nevada y actualmente dirigir una oficina de asistencia legal para inmigrantes que esperan convertirse en ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, la respuesta es casi la misma.

“Dios sabe encontrar respuestas mediante mi medio”, le dijo al *Idaho Catholic Register*, periódico de la diócesis de Boise.

La hermana Boessen es la ganadora del premio *Lumen Christi* (*Luz de Cristo*) de este año 2009, otorgado por la *Sociedad de extensión de la Iglesia católica*, en reconocimiento de sus esfuerzos de por vida en la misión de la diócesis. El honor, anunciado el 13 de agosto, trae consigo la cantidad de \$50,000 que será dividida entre la ganadora y la diócesis.

Esta es la segunda ocasión en 32 años de la historia que el premio se le otorga a alguien que pertenece a la diócesis de Idaho. En 2002, Anthony y Evelyn Messuri, padres sustitutos de Caldwell, fueron los ganadores.

La elección de la hermana Boessen, hizo notar el obispo de Boise, Michael P. Driscoll, se debe a que ella “ha dedicado su vida para la gente del sur de Idaho, en el desarrollo de programas de

**L**a elección de la hermana Boessen, hizo notar el obispo de Boise, Michael P. Driscoll, se debe a que ella “ha dedicado su vida para la gente del sur de Idaho, en el desarrollo de programas de educación religiosa, en el establecimiento de hogares sustitutos para jóvenes adolescentes, en el ministerio de prisioneros, y en el apoyo y la dirección para que ganen fuerza las personas que forman la creciente población hispana de la región”.

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El padre John J. Wall, presi-

dente de la *Sociedad de extensión de la Iglesia católica*, que tiene sus oficinas centrales en Chicago, dijo que estaba impresionado por los hechos contados por el obispo Driscoll en su carta de apoyo a la solicitud de la hermana Boessen.

“La hermana verdaderamente ha podido tener éxito en hacer que la gente trabaje junta en algo que es especial para todos y cada uno”, dijo el padre Wall.

“A través de los Estados Unidos, a donde quiera que uno vaya, en las comunidades más pobres, uno encuentra la presencia de la Iglesia Católica”, dijo, refiriéndose a la hermana Boessen y a otras muchas personas como “los héroes y heroínas escondidos”.

El premio *Lumen Christi*, que trae consigo \$25,000 para la hermana Boessen y otra suma igual para la diócesis, será entregado durante una Misa y cena en honor de la hermana, el 7 de octubre, en Twin Falls.

La hermana Boessen dijo que espera usar ese dinero de varias formas en *La posada*, que es en donde se centra su ministerio de extensión para los hablantes hispanos. Parte de la suma de dinero iría al establecimiento de una fundación para asegurar su viabilidad de largo tiempo. Por de pronto, parte del dinero permitirá que la *Dispensa de la merced* en el establecimiento *La posada* permanezca con subsistencias necesarias.

## Un capellán militar describe cómo llevarles la fe a las tropas que están en el frente

Por Scott Alessi  
Catholic News Service

TRENTON, Nueva Jersey — La celebración de la Misa, la dispensación de los sacramentos y dar guía espiritual son actividades comunes para la mayoría de sacerdotes católicos; pero para algunos selectos, ser sacerdote puede incluir pasar tiempo en la línea de tiro de granaderos o participar en los ejercicios de campo con hombres y mujeres del ejército de los Estados Unidos.

Aunque eso no es una vida fácil, el padre Paul Halladay, capellán católico y reclutador apostado en *Fort Meade*, Maryland, le llama a eso una vocación llena de bendiciones y recompensas.

Como capellán militar, un sacerdote debe enfrentarse a numerosos obstáculos que un sacerdote de parroquia no encuentra con frecuencia, como trabajar en cualquier condición posible de tiempo meteorológico y hacerlo en largas y agotadoras horas de servicio.

Pero el padre Halladay, sacerdote de la arquidiócesis de Mobile, Alabama, dijo que tales condiciones llevan también a un vínculo más profundo entre el sacerdote y las personas a quienes sirve.

“Con frecuencia se ve uno en el campo, junto a jóvenes que están en su entrenamiento militar”, dijo el sacerdote. “No es una relación en la cual solamente vienen a Misa los domingos o tienen a sus hijos en la escuela y uno los encuentra en el estacionamiento del plantel. Al contrario, el capellán ve a los que sirve que están hombro con hombro cada día con él”.

**A**unque eso no es una vida fácil, el padre Paul Halladay, capellán católico y reclutador apostado en *Fort Meade*, Maryland, le llama a eso una vocación llena de bendiciones y recompensas.

Como resultado de las estrechas relaciones de trabajo entre soldado y capellán, un sacerdote que está en el ejército puede servir como guía espiritual personal a los que constituyen su rebaño, ayudándoles a que continúen a pesar de los obstáculos y tensiones de la vida militar.

“Uno termina pasando gran parte del tiempo como consejero matrimonial y mucho tiempo dando consejo a los soldados para que superen sus dificultades personales”, le dijo el sacerdote a *The Monitor*, periódico de la diócesis de Trenton, en una entrevista de teléfono.

Y él mismo explicó que la mayoría de los capellanes tienen dos trabajos distintos. Se les asigna para que dirijan los programas religiosos de un batallón, que puede estar formado de 300 a 900 soldados de varias denominaciones religiosas. Muchos también prestan sus servicios como capellanes católicos en una instalación militar.

## Campaña de oración y ayuno, en preparación para la próxima reunión del *Grupo de los 20* en la cumbre

PITTSBURGH — El obispo de Pittsburg, David A. Zubik, ha exhortado a los católicos de la localidad a que den la bienvenida y ofrezcan hospitalidad y oraciones, cuando en la ciudad se lleve a cabo la reunión en la cumbre del *Grupo de los 20 países*, que se realizará el 24 y el 25 de septiembre, y cuyo tema de estudio será la recesión económica.

Dos hermandades, una *the Catholic Men's Fellowship of Pittsburgh* (la *Hermandad de hombres católicos de Pittsburgh*) y la otra, *the National Fellowship of Catholic Men* (la *Hermandad nacional de hombres católicos*) se preparan para tomar parte en una campaña internacional de oración y ayuno durante el

tiempo que dure la reunión.

Los dirigentes de las dos organizaciones les pedían a los católicos de todo el mundo su apoyo y/o participación en la campaña, cuyos detalles se pueden encontrar en el sitio de la red electrónica de la hermandad [www.cmfppitt.org](http://www.cmfppitt.org). El ayuno de 40 días empezó el 15 de agosto para durar hasta el 23 de septiembre.

Patrick Molyneaux, codirector de la *Hermandad de hombres católicos*, señaló que los países del mundo desarrollado se alejan rápidamente de los valores judeocristianos, en nombre de “la economía”; y (por eso) la gente debe dejar que el Espíritu Santo inspire a los cristianos a que se

unifiquen en oración para pedir por las personas responsables de tomar decisiones sobre la economía mundial.

“Podemos lograr cambios por medio de la oración y del sacrificio”, le dijo al *Pittsburgh Catholic*, periódico de la diócesis. “Pittsburg está bien enraizado en valores cristianos. Tenemos una buena oportunidad como cualquier otra ciudad de servir de conducto de la gracia de Dios para los dirigentes mundiales, el 24 y el 25 de septiembre”.

El grupo de los 20 países, que se conoce brevemente en inglés como *G-20*, es un foro que no es convencional, y en el que se promueve la discusión

entre representantes de países industriales, y otros de mercado emergente, sobre asuntos clave relacionados con la estabilidad de la economía mundial. En el grupo se incluyen representantes de 19 países y de la Unión Europea; además de representantes que son miembros “ex-oficio” (por sus funciones en todo el mundo) del *World Bank* (*Banco Mundial*) y del *International Monetary Fund* (*Fondo monetario internacional*).

Se celebrarán cuatro actos de devoción durante el tiempo de la reunión del G-20.

El 24 y el 25 de septiembre, se tendrán 40 horas de adoración eucarística en el seminario de San

Pablo en Pittsburgh. El obispo Zubik empezará la adoración con una Misa matinal el 24 de septiembre. La adoración eucarística se cerrará con la bendición del Santísimo Sacramento la noche del 25 de septiembre.

Los organizadores de la campaña de oración y ayuno dijeron que las personas que no puedan asistir al seminario durante los dos días de adoración eucarística podrían participar en una hora santa, en la iglesia más cercana a ellas. Los organizadores esperan que se lleve a cabo la adoración eucarística en, por lo menos, los países que tienen representantes en la reunión del *Grupo de los 20*, ó *G-20*.

## The Vatican

# Media watchdog: Pope takes wary approach to communications explosion

By John Thavis  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY—Toward the end of his encyclical *Charity in Truth*, Pope Benedict XVI included a brief but strongly worded analysis about the “increasingly pervasive presence” of modern media and their power to serve good or immoral interests.

The two pages on communications were barely noticed in an encyclical that focused on economic issues, but they underscored the pope’s cautionary and critical approach to today’s media revolution.

In particular, the pope zeroed in on the popular assumption in the West that the penetration of contemporary media in the developing world will inevitably bring enlightenment and progress.

“Just because social communications increase the possibilities of interconnection and the dissemination of ideas, it does not follow that they promote freedom or internationalize development and democracy for all,” the pope wrote.

The pope’s critique made sev-

eral important points:

— The mass media are not morally “neutral.” They are often subordinated to “economic interests intent on dominating the market” and to attempts to “impose cultural models that serve ideological and political agendas,” he said.

—The media have a huge role in shaping attitudes, a role that has been amplified by globalization. That requires careful reflection on their influence, especially when it comes to questions of ethics and the “solidarity” dimension of development, he said.

— Media have a civilizing effect when they are “geared toward a vision of the person and the common good that reflects truly universal values.” That means they need to focus on promoting human dignity, be “inspired by charity, and placed at the service of truth,” he said.

Inspired by charity? That may sound overly idealistic to those familiar with some of the more popular talk-radio shows or blogs these days.

Archbishop Claudio Celli,

president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, said recently that the pope is not naive about what’s out there.

“He knows perfectly well what’s circulating on the great networks of information. That’s why he says we need to reflect on the distribution of words and images that are degrading to the human person, and put a halt to whatever fuels hatred and intolerance, or whatever wounds the beauty and intimacy of human sexuality,” the archbishop said.

Archbishop Celli, who has pioneered some of the Vatican’s new media initiatives, said that while the pope wants to affirm the opportunities of the media explosion he will voice concern when needed. One example is the concept of friendship: The pope believes it’s an important element of the digital age, but risks being trivialized.

“It would be sad if our desire to sustain and develop online friendships were to be at the cost of our availability to engage with our families, our neighbors, and those we meet in the daily

reality of our places of work, education, and recreation,” the pope wrote in his annual message to communicators earlier this year.

Pope Benedict faces a challenging task when it comes to communications. The 82-year-old pontiff is definitely old school, preferring books to videos and expressing his most important ideas in documents that he writes out longhand.

At the same time, his aides have gone to great lengths to portray the pope as a friend of new media, featuring him in text messages, YouTube videos, and podcasts. Yet Pope Benedict’s teaching style is not easily reduced to sound bites or video clips. Even his off-the-cuff remarks come across as carefully reasoned.

Moreover, the pope has found that his core message — the importance of faith in God and the power of the Gospel to change lives — often fails to make the news ticker. Media interest perks up when there’s a Vatican controversy, but not when the pope talks about the need for saints in

modern society.

Even the pope’s long-awaited encyclical on economic justice, timed for release as the world’s leaders were meeting to tackle the global financial crisis, was bumped off network newscasts and relegated to the inside pages of newspapers by an event “too big to ignore”: the massive memorial service the same day for Michael Jackson.

It’s doubtful any of this surprises Pope Benedict. Several years ago, he commented on the Church’s relationship with the media in his book *Salt of the Earth*.

“The convictions and modes of behavior that hold the Church together are located at a deeper level than the forms of expression and behavioral patterns that are imposed on us by the mass media,” he said.

That’s no sound bite, either, but it reflects the pope’s caution against presuming that today’s media culture is on the church’s wavelength. It also implies that the media themselves should be a major target of modern evangelization.

# War and remembrance: Vatican highlights Pope Pius XII’s peace efforts

By John Thavis  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Like much of Europe and the world, the Vatican was marking the 70th anniversary of the start of World War II with an act of remembrance.

In the Vatican’s case, though, the remembering has focused largely on the dramatic and unheeded warnings issued by Pope Pius XII to world leaders in the weeks and days leading up to the war’s outbreak.

The late pope’s sense of alarm came through loud and clear in the radio message he delivered Aug. 24, 1939, as German troops were massing on the Polish border. His voice full of urgency, the pontiff told the world’s powerful that “empires not founded on justice are not blessed by God.”

“Today, when the tension of spirits has reached a level that makes the unleashing of the tremendous whirlwind of war appear imminent, in a spirit of paternity we make a new and heartfelt appeal to governments and peoples,” the pope said.

“To governments so that, laying aside accusations, threats, and the reasons for reciprocal mistrust, they try to resolve present differences through the only suitable means, that is, sincere joint agreements; and to peoples so that in calm and serenity, and without unbecoming agitation, they will encourage efforts for



*Pope Pius XII gives a blessing at the end of a radio message Sept. 1, 1943. The pontiff made several calls for peace over the radio during World War II. (CNS file photo)*

peace on the part of their leaders,” he said.

The pope added, “Along with us, the whole of humanity hopes for justice, bread, and freedom, not the iron that kills and destroys.”

Parts of the audio recording were replayed in late August on Vatican Radio, which called the message “a milestone in the Church’s service to peace.” Likewise, the Vatican newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, printed the text of this and other papal warnings against war, depicting Pope Pius as a prophetic figure who was ignored by those in power.

A week after the pope issued his appeal, German troops invaded Poland, setting off six years of unprecedented warfare. When it was over, an estimated 60 million

people — most of them civilians, including more than 5 million European Jews — were dead, cities lay in ruins, and millions were homeless or displaced.

The role of Pope Pius during the war has been much debated in recent years. Against the accusations of indifference to the plight of Jews and inaction on other fronts, the Vatican has stepped up its defense of the wartime pontiff.

In early August, the Vatican newspaper published a sharply worded critique of Allied governments for failing to help European Jews despite having detailed information about the Holocaust. It said U.S. and British inaction contrasted with the quiet efforts undertaken by Pope Pius to save as many Jews as possible.

More recently, the Vatican has spotlighted Pope Pius’ public and private moves to dissuade key countries from crossing the line into war. An able diplomat, he followed the international turn of events carefully, and in May 1939 made a quiet push for negotiations through apostolic nuncios in Germany, Italy, France, Britain, and Poland.

Speaking to the world’s cardinals in June of that year, the pope briefed them on his diplomatic offensive and even expressed some optimism at the response it had generated among the governments involved.

In the subsequent weeks, however, those hopes slowly vanished and the pope’s disappointment was palpable. As he said in a talk two months later, “we have tried

and done what was in our power to stave off the danger of war,” a war that he predicted would be unprecedented in its “physical and spiritual destruction.”

In a front-page article Aug. 24, the Vatican newspaper recalled all this and argued that Pope Pius and his aides never stopped working for peace throughout the conflict. The article, signed by the newspaper’s editor, Giovanni Maria Vian, said Pope Pius “helped the persecuted, without distinction,” in Rome and inside the Vatican, throughout Italy and in other European countries.

Vian said the Church had symbolically closed a chapter of reconciliation over the war with the elections of the Polish Pope John Paul II in 1978 and the German Pope Benedict XVI in 2005 — two figures who suffered the war’s effects personally, “sons of nations which were then opposed,” and who have both strongly praised Pope Pius.

What was interesting about the Vatican’s latest, forceful defense of Pope Pius’ record was that there was no mention whatsoever about his pending sainthood cause. Faced with a unanimous recommendation in favor of Pope Pius’ beatification last year, Pope Benedict put the cause on hold and put out the word that both critics and supporters should stop pressing the issue — something Vatican officials seem to be taking seriously.

# First Hispanic U.S. Ambassador to Vatican arrives in Rome, hopes to deepen 'special relationship' between two states

By John Thavis  
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) — The new U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, Miguel Díaz, arrived in Rome and said he was eager to help expand the "special relationship" between the United States and the Holy See.

Díaz, a 45-year-old Catholic theologian, arrived with his wife and four children at Rome's

Fiumicino airport Aug. 27, six days after he was sworn in as ambassador in Washington. He was expected to present his credentials to Pope Benedict XVI at a ceremony later this summer.

"I look forward to the coming weeks as my family and I put down new roots in Rome. I will be honored to serve President (Barack) Obama and the American people in my new role, and

it will be a unique honor to meet his holiness, Pope Benedict XVI," Díaz said in a statement released by the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See.

"I welcome the opportunity to deepen and expand upon the special relationship that has evolved between the United States and the Vatican over the past 25 years of formal diplomatic ties," he said.

The embassy said it would work with the Vatican to establish a date as soon as possible for Díaz to present his credentials letter to the pope. The pope was residing at his summer villa outside Rome until the end of September, and maintaining a reduced schedule of official meetings.

The formal presentation of credentials offers the pope and the new ambassador a chance to give speeches that touch on relations between the two states.

Díaz, a professor at St. John's University and the College of St. Benedict in Minnesota, is the first Hispanic and the first theologian to represent the United States at the Vatican.

A native of Cuba who came to the United States as a child with his parents, he was the first of his



Ambassador Miguel Díaz

family to attend college. He is a former president of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians and a board member of the Catholic Theological Society of America. He is fluent in Italian, Spanish, and French.

## Hamer...

FROM PAGE 11

He was intelligent, with character, sense of humor, and a happy smile. He became one of my favorite TCU students, one of my children's favorite friends, so, predictably, Awesome's name appears on our Thanksgiving tablecloth multiple times.

Last summer I travelled to San José to watch Julie coach her figure skating team in a world competition. We stayed at a Marriott, where our car was valet-parked, and daily loaded and unloaded with whatever Julie needed for her skating students.

The valets were kind and funny, but not usually familiar and affectionate, until late one night when we returned from the rink. The car door opened, someone said the name "Kathy," and when I looked up it was Awesome. I was shocked.

As though it were a surprise birthday party, I found myself looking around, wondering who planned this trick, and where had Awesome borrowed the uniform and nametag. I didn't know he lived in San José, didn't know he was moonlighting as a valet, and certainly not in the hotel we had chosen.

Like my gecko — but much more likely to be hugged — Awesome had dropped into my life. Again.

"Some people come into our

lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts, and we are forever changed." (Anonymous.)

Three weeks ago two deaths rocked our parish. Father Carl Szura, associate pastor, maintained a vibrant presence so constant that both the sacristy and parish hall were needed for all who came to his funeral Mass. At his services, people spoke of his humor, compassion, and devotion to ministry.

Another man, Jim Clark, died the same day as Fr. Carl, and people lauded the same characteristics in him. He was always present to help in funeral ministry. He worked with the sacristan. He sang in the choir for decades. He managed the microphones and sound system.

My tiny part of Jim's life was the detail of a music-stand light, which he brought to church whenever our bell choir played, because he knew I couldn't see my music without it. He was a tenderhearted man with what his eight children kiddingly described as a grouchy exterior.

As I thought about these two deaths, realizing how much they affected me, I was struck by the fact that their connection with me was miniscule compared to their connection with a vast number of others. Jim's wife, children, and grandchildren would live out their lives with the emptiness of his loss, only partly assuaged by the blessing of having once had him.

Fr. Carl's sister, brother-in-law, and nephews, his Franciscan brothers and the thousands of people he touched through ministry, would recognize, as his friend Charmaine said, that he had left "not just a hole, but a crater."

On the evening of Fr. Carl's vigil service, I was asked to tape his funeral Mass the next morning. Sitting in the church that night, I contemplated the video project ahead, wondering how I could connect to the church's audio system to get a clearer sound track.

Then I realized there was one person who could help me with the sound at Fr. Carl's funeral. It was Jim Clark, whose funeral would be two days later.

People drop in and out of our lives. Their presence is never coincidental. Our interaction with them is as critical as the grip of a tiny gecko on a moving car.

We should hang onto them as long as we can. Appreciate them. And love them while they are here.



Kathy Cribari Hamer, a member of St. Andrew Parish, has five children, Meredith, John, Julie, Andrew, and Abby. In May, her column received the second place award for best family life column by the Catholic Press Association for the second time in two years at the Catholic Media Convention in Anaheim. In 2005, Kathy's column was recognized with the first place award in the same category.



Catholic theologian Miguel Díaz is sworn in as ambassador to the Vatican in the Benjamin Franklin room at the State Department in Washington Aug. 21. Assistant Secretary of State Phil Gordon administered the standard governmental oath of office. (CNS photo/courtesy of the State Department)

## The Flock

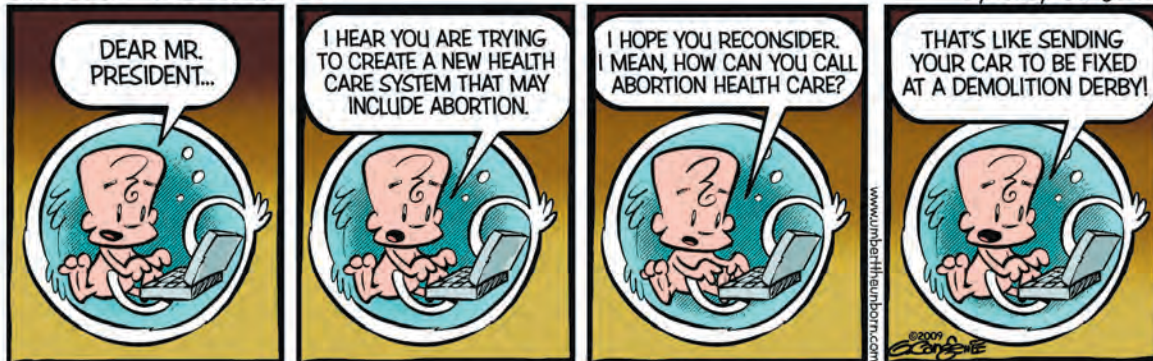
By Jean Denton

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## Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





## Good Newsmaker

Tennessee parish farmers' market supports ministries with a

## Bountiful Harvest

Story and Photos by  
Theresa Laurence  
*Tennessee Register*  
Catholic News Service  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

St. Rose of Lima parishioner Larry Wise stood, sweat-soaked by the August sun, drawing in Mass-goers like a midway barker, encouraging them to "get your fresh, homegrown vegetables right here."

Franciscan Father James Kallarackan, OFM, pastor, stood nearby handing out plastic shopping bags and trying to persuade his parishioners to take a chance with the fiery hot peppers he grew in his own garden.

People stopped and perused the offerings at the St. Rose farmers' market, scooping up handfuls of green beans, marveling at the squat purple and white eggplants, and carefully picking out the ripest red tomatoes.

Wise, a longtime gardener who raised six children on homegrown vegetables, started the farmers' market last year as a way to share the bounty of his and other parishioners' gardens, and to build community at the parish.

The thought was that, "if God's been that good to us, let's give something back," Wise explained.

Wise, a leader in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program at St. Rose, also thought the farmers' market



Mykbanh Nguyen and her daughter, Katelyn, shop for homegrown green beans at the farmers' market at St. Rose of Lima Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Aug. 8.

would be a good way to get new Catholics involved with parish life, "beyond one time a week Catholics," he told the *Tennessee Register*, newspaper of the Nashville Diocese.

This year, Kurt Potter, who completed the RCIA last spring, is in charge of the market.

Potter, who also is a Knight of Columbus, said the Knights have "helped out a lot" with the market, which serves as a gathering point for all people of the parish. "A lot of good fellowship comes out of it," Wise said of the market.

Although he has only been a backyard gardener for two years, Potter was preparing to can some of his surplus produce and still had enough to donate to the market. An organic gardener who does composting, Potter said what he's doing is "straightforward, common-sense stuff."

The father of two St. Rose School students, Potter said his home garden is an important way to "teach kids what growing vegetables is all about

and where food comes from." His children like to help pick tomatoes and especially enjoy "planting them and peeking in on them every day" early in the season to monitor their growth, Potter said.

The concept and logistics for the market are simple, and Wise says they could be replicated at other parishes.

Gardeners bring their produce to St. Rose each Sunday morning and volunteers arrange it on the tables outside the parish's fellowship room. Even if they don't have a vegetable garden, parishioners can donate baked goods or fresh flowers to the market. Parishioners take what they want and leave a donation of any amount in the jar.

The proceeds are donated to the parish to be used for a variety of ministries, including youth ministry, the Haiti Parish Twinning Program, and others. Last year, in a four-week period, the market raised about \$1,000 for the parish.

The spirit of the market is "if you have something, you con-



Larry Wise (right) is pictured Aug. 8 with Franciscan Father James Kallarackan, OFM, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, who founded the parish farmers' market last year. Parish gardeners bring their surplus produce to the church on Sunday mornings in August and parishioners take what they want and leave whatever donation they can. The money is then divided among parish ministries.

tribute," said Fr. Kallarackan. "If you need it, take it."

Fr. Kallarackan, who comes from a farming family in Kerala, India, grows hot peppers, beans, squash, eggplant, and melons in his St. Rose garden.

Dr. Bob Dray, one of the biggest contributors to the market, farms about one acre on his 50-acre lot. Besides St. Rose, Dray and his wife Debbie sometimes stop by construction sites and hand out fresh produce to the workers. "We give it away because we just enjoy growing

it," he said.

Dray, St. Rose parish council chairman, said when he was growing up his family always had a garden, and he is happy to continue the tradition. He also is glad to see the St. Rose parishioners' bounty helping other causes.

"I think this parish has a lot of good community outreach," Dray said. "Father knows there are needs outside the church walls" and encourages this creative approach to social justice action.

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## Inside... This issue of the NTC

What happens when you introduce 11 high school girls from St. Frances Cabrini Parish in Granbury to mission work in Guatemala? Read what they say they learned from their mission trip. **8**

Franciscan Father Carl Szura touched many, many people through his multiple ministry involvements as a priest. His obituary captures some of his service and his joy in the priesthood. **13**

Columnist Jeff Hedglen, admits there are no easy answers to those who are experiencing the dark night of the soul, but he points to Jesus and saints who also continued toward the light. **17**