

North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

Vol. 22 No. 14

September 8, 2006



DEAF APOSTOLATE — Novice Derrick Elkins leads a song in American Sign Language as newly professed members of the Dominican Missionaries for the Deaf Apostolate follow along at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland, California, Aug. 27. Father Thomas Coughlin, deaf since birth, was instrumental in founding the new order. "I saw how badly we need a religious community of deaf priests and brothers dedicated to a deeper spiritual life and the deaf apostolate in the language of signs and the deaf culture milieu," he told the *Hawaii Catholic Herald*, newspaper of the Honolulu Diocese, in an interview by e-mail. At the liturgy, five men pronounced their vows before Oakland's Bishop Allen H. Vigneron. (CNS photo/Greg Tarczynski)

Pro-life official dismisses new stem-cell announcement as a sham

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Highly touted research claiming that human embryonic stem-cell lines can be derived without harming the embryos is a sham, according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"They didn't do anything like what the headlines are saying they did," said Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, in an Aug. 24 interview with Catholic News Service. "All

they showed was that you can kill an embryo at an earlier stage than they did before."

At the Vatican, Bishop Elio Sgreccia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life, said the new technique did not remove ethical objections and may increase them.

Advanced Cell Technology Inc., based in Alameda, California, and Worcester, Massachusetts, announced Aug. 23 that a team of its scientists had "successfully generated human embryonic stem cells using an

approach that does not harm embryos."

An article on the research was published Aug. 23 in the online edition of the science journal *Nature*.

The technique involves removal of a single cell from an early, eight-cell embryo called a blastomere. The researchers claimed that the method has been successfully used in more than 1,000 cases of preimplantation genetic diagnosis, in which one cell is removed to test for genetic

SEE NO EMBRYOS..., P. 21

Katrina's challenges, chances for renewal linger, says Biloxi Bishop Thomas Rodi

BILOXI, Mississippi (CNS) — Bishop Thomas J. Rodi of Biloxi said many people probably have mixed feelings about the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

"There is some wisdom in wanting to get on with our lives and not giving attention to Aug. 29," the day the hurricane made landfall in 2005, he wrote in the Aug. 18 issue of the *Gulf Pine Catholic*, Biloxi's diocesan news-

paper. "It may feel to some that we are giving the storm too much power over us if we recall and observe the day it hit."

But he also noted that there is a need to "pause and to remember," reflecting on all that was lost and destroyed by Katrina and remembering what was learned from the disaster.

He said the extensive losses from the storm caused many to reflect upon "what is truly impor-

tant and what is truly lasting."

"We have been reminded that people are more important than things. We have also been reminded how important it is to tell people we love them. We never know when we will be separated from them. Our priests and religious have been outstanding both in helping us to rebuild and to discern the greatest values in life," he said.

SEE 'WITH GOD'S HELP...', P. 14

Christ can be seen in faces of all people, pope says at sanctuary

MANOPPELLO, Italy (CNS) — All Christians should be on a never-ending search for Christ, who can be seen in the faces of all people, especially the poor and needy, Pope Benedict XVI said.

To be drawn and transformed by the splendor of Jesus' face is to live in God's presence on earth, the pope said during a brief visit Sept. 1 to the Sanctuary of the Holy Face in this small city some 120 miles east of Rome.

Some scholars believe the sanctuary houses "Veronica's Veil," the cloth used by Veronica to wipe Christ's face prior to his crucifixion and which, according to tradition, now contains the image of Christ's face.

"We will be filled with the presence of God" by imitating the lives of the saints who lovingly recognized the face of Jesus in

their brothers and sisters, "especially the poorest and those most in need," Pope Benedict said.

The pope flew by helicopter early in the morning from his summer home at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo to visit the church that houses the 7-inch-by-9.5-inch transparent veil that portrays the image of a male face with long hair and a beard. Studies have found no pigments or paints were used to create the image.

The two-hour stopover marked the first time a pope visited this small city of 6,000 people and its sanctuary.

In a speech to priests, religious, and pilgrims who packed the long, narrow church, the pope quoted Jesus, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."

SEE SEE CHRIST..., P. 14

Symposium examines Hispanics' contributions, leadership in U.S.

By Roxanne King

ALLENSPARK, Colorado (CNS) — The burgeoning growth of the Hispanic population in the United States is neither a problem nor a threat, a Vatican official told attendees at a conference held in the Denver Archdiocese.

Rather, he said, it's a blessing from God to give a renewed vigor

and "a more complete catholic synthesis" to the mission of evangelization in this country, said Guzman Carriquiry Lecour, undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

Carriquiry, a layman originally from Uruguay, was one of the speakers addressing Catholic

SEE ARCHBISHOP..., P. 21



SYMPOSIUM ON U.S. HISPANICS — Denver Archbishop Charles J. Chaput (far left) and San Antonio Archbishop José H. Gomez (center) listen as San Antonio businessman Lionel Sosa delivers an address at a symposium on Hispanics in the U.S. Aug. 19. Catholic bishops and business leaders gathered Aug. 18-20 at a mountain lodge near Denver to discuss the contributions and struggles of Hispanics in the United States and their responsibility to be leaders and to evangelize in today's society. (CNS photo/James Baca, DENVER CATHOLIC REGISTER)

As we begin our year of worship and imparting the Faith we are grateful for all who serve and for our new seminarians

Dear Friends in the
Diocese of Fort Worth,

I am writing the column for this week's *North Texas Catholic* on Labor Day, from Springfield, Illinois, where I celebrated a family wedding and had the chance to spend the weekend with some friends and my parents. My family and friends continue to be very grateful for the kindness and welcome of so many people of the Diocese of Fort Worth, especially at the time of the celebration for my 25th anniversary of priestly ordination.



Bishop Kevin W. Vann

We are now starting the fall months, a time when many parish religious education, liturgical, music, and other programs and our elementary and high schools begin to operate fully. These are months of grace and a time to be thankful for our priests, deacons, religious, and all involved in parish ministry who give of themselves so generously so that our Faith may be lived and Christ proclaimed. Not only does our church calendar give us some teaching and cues, but sometimes, nationally, the months do as well.

For example, Sept. 3 normally is the feast day of St. Gregory the

I would like to share the good news that this coming academic year, we will have 25 candidates for the priesthood enrolled in seminary formation programs in Texas and in other seminaries both in our country and overseas (in Rome at the North American College). I understand that this is the largest number in the history of the diocese.

Great. He was elevated to the Chair of St. Peter on Sept. 3, 590, and "proved to be a true shepherd by carrying out his office, helping the poor, spreading and strengthening the Faith. He wrote extensively on moral and theological subjects" (*The Liturgy of the Hours*). He stands as a model in balancing pastoral care with a strong life of prayer and devotion. His works on moral theology remind us of the importance of conversion of life and virtue. On Sept. 9, we celebrate the

feast day of St. Peter Claver. He was born in 1580 and died on Sept. 8, 1654. He was a member of the Society of Jesus and worked tirelessly in Colombia in meeting the spiritual and temporal needs of the slaves brought to Colombia in the slave trade. He actually vowed to be "their slave forever." His heroic work in a difficult age can cause us to examine our own attitudes toward racism.

Looking at the civil calendar, the month of September opens

with Labor Day. Although we tend to observe this as a last summer holiday, it calls us to be thankful for the work of our forbears who built up our country. But not only that, this could also be a time to reflect on the Church's social teaching and longstanding tradition on what could be called a Theology of Work. Thanks especially to Dan Luby, Ralph McCloud, and all who helped to prepare a day of reflection on this topic recently at Holy Family Church in Fort Worth. Our daily work is a place where we can, with the grace of God, grow in holiness and "Seek the Kingdom of God and his righteousness" (*Matthew 6:33*).

Finally, I would like to share the good news that this coming academic year, we will have 25 candidates for the priesthood enrolled in seminary formation programs in Texas and in other seminaries both in our country and overseas (in Rome at the North American College). I understand that this is the largest number in the history of the diocese. (Actually a number of dioceses in Texas and elsewhere are also reporting higher numbers of candidates this year!) Thanks to all for your prayers for vocations and encouragement of vocations, especially the Serra Club. Please keep this up! A special thanks also to all who have been involved in our seminary admissions process this past year. The encouragement of a culture where the call to serve the Lord as priests and religious is absolutely vital and necessary for all of us.

God bless you always!

Pope: Worried parents should take heart in St. Augustine's path

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said parents worried about the waywardness of their children should take heart in the circuitous spiritual path of St. Augustine.

After a youth spent in pleasure-seeking and self-indulgence, St. Augustine embraced the faith and went on to become one of the most important figures in the development of Christianity, the pope said Aug. 27.

Much of the credit belongs to his mother, St. Monica, who despite her son's "rebellious temperament" never gave up on him and accompanied him for years with "prayers and tears," he said.

"How many problems there

Much of the credit belongs to his mother, St. Monica, who despite her son's "rebellious temperament" never gave up on him and accompanied him for years with "prayers and tears."

—Pope Benedict XVI

are today in family relations, and how many mothers are anguished because their chil-

dren take the wrong road," the pope said.

"Monica, a wise woman and solid in her faith, invites them not to be discouraged, but to persevere in the mission of wife and mother, keeping firm trust in God and holding with perseverance to prayer," he said.

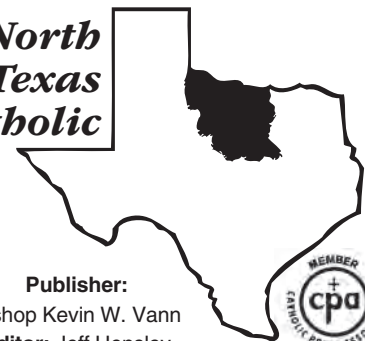
He said St. Augustine, despite his selfish behavior in his early years, dedicated his life to the search for truth. The saint's discovery of Christ came only after a long inner torment, he said.

The pope made the comments to several hundred pilgrims inside the courtyard of his summer villa outside Rome. The church celebrates the feast days of St. Monica Aug. 27 and St. Augustine Aug. 28.



15 Years in a Row

North
Texas
Catholic



Publisher:

Bishop Kevin W. Vann

Editor: Jeff Hensley

Associate Editor: Mary Martin

Secretary: Judy Russeau

Editorial Office: 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Texas 76108, (817) 560-3300; FAX (817) 244-8839.

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

NORTH TEXAS CATHOLIC (USPS 751-370) (ISSN 0899-7020) is published semi-monthly, except for the months of June, July, and August when it is published monthly, by the Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann, Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Worth, 800 West Loop 820 South. Subscription rates are \$20 for one year, \$38 for two years, \$55 for three years. Periodical postage paid at Fort Worth, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *North Texas Catholic*, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Texas 76108.

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

The appearance of advertising in these pages does not imply endorsement of businesses, services, or products. Readers must exercise prudence in responding to advertising in all media.

Diocesan

Men of Permanent Deacon Formation class are Called to Candidacy

Below: Bishop Kevin Vann, with assistance from Deacon Don Warner and Deacon Rubén Castañeda, leads a prayer service in which 35 men were admitted to Candidacy — a major milestone on their journey to the permanent diaconate.



STORY BY JUDY LOCKE,
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
PERMANENT DEACON FORMATION

PHOTOS BY WENDY PANDOLFO

Thirty-five men from parishes throughout the Fort Worth Diocese have been admitted by Bishop Kevin W. Vann as candidates to the diaconate. Their admission to Candidacy was celebrated in a special rite Aug. 19 at the MacGorman Conference Center on the campus of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. As part of the rite, Bishop Vann asked the consent of the wives of married candidates. Also in attendance were formation team members and priests.

The new candidates include: José Aragón and Bill Johnson, St. Joseph Parish, Arlington; Bill Archer, Sacred Heart Parish, Wichita Falls; Tom Bates, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Grapevine; Jim Bindel and Vincent Blake, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Wichita Falls; Jesús Cárdenas and Mauricio Hernandez, St. Stephen Parish, Weatherford; Marcelino Carranza and Reyes Tello Jr., Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Fort Worth; José Castañeda, St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Fort Worth; Pete Castillo, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Fort Worth; John Clark, Jim Crites, and Larry Sandoval, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Keller; Bruce Corbett and Walter Stone, St. John the Apostle Parish, North Richland Hills; Mike Darby, St. Joseph Parish, Cleburne; Tommy Diaz, Sacred Heart Parish, Comanche; Scott France, Holy Redeemer Parish, Aledo; Gelasio Garcia, St. Mary's Parish, Gainesville;



Above: Dr. Ann Healey, director of Permanent Deacon Formation, speaks with deacon candidate Jim Crites of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Keller.

Martín Garcia, All Saints Parish, Fort Worth; Wendell Geiger, St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Fort Worth; Eldon Gray, St. John the Baptizer Parish, Bridgeport; Terry Howard, St. Andrew Parish, Fort Worth; Juan Jasso and Matías Lagunas, St. Matthew Parish, Arlington; Pat Lavery, Good Shepherd Parish, Colleyville; Rigoberto Leyva, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mineral Wells; Simón Najera, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Fort Worth; John Ban Nguyen, Vietnamese Martyrs Parish, Arlington; Alfonso Ramirez, St. Thomas Parish, Pilot Point; José Piedad Sanchez, Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, Vernon; Barry Sweeden, Immaculate Conception Parish, Denton; and Sangote 'Ulupano, St. Michael Parish, Bedford.

"God entrusts us with the task of calling suitable and approved candidates," said Bishop Vann in his homily focused on the pastoral ministry of the deacon in the church, "and of consecrating them by a special seal of the Holy Spirit to the ministry of God and of



Above: Bishop Vann prays for the men who are being called to Candidacy.

Left: Betty Garcia, wife of deacon candidate Martín Garcia, participates in a group discussion. Wives of the deacon candidates play an important role in the formation process.



Above: Bishop Kevin Vann stands with the 35 men who were admitted to candidacy in a special rite Aug. 19 at the MacGorman Conference Center at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in South Fort Worth.

the church. Day by day, may [you] learn to live the life of the Gospel and deepen your faith, hope, and love."

The candidates have just completed aspirancy, the initial year of diaconal studies. Candidacy marks the beginning of three years of ongoing study toward ordination as perma-

nent deacons. The readiness of an individual for ordination is discerned by the church and by a candidate's teachers and directors, according to Dr. Ann Healey, director of Deacon Formation. "Ordination is not a right, and admission to Candidacy is not a guarantee of a call to orders," said Healey,

referring to Roman guidelines and the U.S. bishops' *National Directory for the Formation, Life, and Ministry of Permanent Deacons*. "Concentrated study of all aspects of our Catholic faith and extensive experience in ministry is required before a man is recommended to the bishop for ordination."

Father Robert Wilson to offer Centering Prayer workshops

Centering Prayer, often described as the "prayer of quiet," will be the focus of a Sept. 16 discussion led by Father Robert Wilson, pastor of Holy Redeemer Church in Aledo. The talk, which is sponsored by Contemplative Outreach-Fort Worth, will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Family Life Center at St. John the Apostle Church, located at 7341 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills.

In addition, Fr. Wilson will be presenting a beginning workshop on Centering Prayer Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish, 825 N. Weaver in Gainesville.

Centering Prayer, drawn from ancient prayer practices of contemplative spiritual leaders such as St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross, is based on the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, according to one of the movement's founders, Trappist Abbot Thomas Keating: "...But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you" (*Matthew 6:6*).

For the Sept. 16 program, Fr. Wilson will describe the practice of Centering Prayer and lead a 20-minute session of silent prayer prior to his talk. There will also be a question-and-answer period and a second 20-minute Centering Prayer session after the talk.

For more information about the Sept. 16 event, contact Kathleen Kelley at (817) 281-6218, or via e-mail at kkelley_2charter.net; or contact Tom Uhler at (817) 874-2894, or via e-mail at uhler@sbcglobal.net. For details about the Sept. 30 program, call St. Mary's at (940) 665-5395.

San Mateo Mission to celebrate feast of Triumph of the Cross

A two-day celebration of the feast of the Triumph of the Cross will be held at San Mateo Mission, 3304 Lovell Ave. in Fort Worth, beginning Sept. 13. Mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m. followed by the recitation of the rosary before the Blessed Sacrament. Father Robert Strittmatter will preside at the liturgy. During the service, the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem where, according to tradition, the true cross was found, will be remembered, as well as the anniversary date of the episcopal ordination of the late Bishop Joseph Delaney.

On Thursday, Sept. 14, a day of prayer, praise, and veneration of the holy cross will begin at noon with a procession from San Mateo to Trinity Park (north on University Drive, across from the Botanic Gardens). The rosary will be recited, beginning at 1 p.m., followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Chaplet of the Precious Blood, more recitation of the rosary, and songs of praise and prayer. A talk on the cross will be presented by Father Jim McGhee at 5:30 p.m., with veneration of a relic of the holy cross. Fr. Strittmatter will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation.

For more information, call Teresa Whitt at (817) 426-6379 or (cell) (817) 223-5346; or Georgia Dame-wood at (817) 657-1506.

St. Thomas Parish will launch Bible timeline study series Oct. 5

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Fort Worth will offer The Great Adventure Bible Timeline Study starting Oct. 5 in the parish hall, located at 2920 Azle Avenue. The weekly Thursday sessions will begin at 7 p.m. and will include small group sharing and a large group presentation. Each session will conclude at 8:55 p.m.

This series consists of 24 weekly sessions which will be offered in four groups of six sessions. The series is newly developed and presented on DVD by Jeff Cavins, a compelling speaker and insightful theological scholar, according to press materials.

The Great Adventure Bible Timeline Study focuses on 12 identifiable chronological periods in 14 books of the Bible which reveal God's plan for salvation. The series will help participants to understand the "big picture" of God's plan and to see how the people, places, and events of the Bible fit into this plan as a whole rather than as a collection of unrelated stories.

All are welcome to attend the series. Registration is available in the St. Thomas courtyard after all the Masses on the weekends of Sept. 10, 17, 24, or Oct. 1, or at the first session in the hall Oct. 5. The cost is \$36 for materials for all 24 sessions. For more information, or to make a reservation by phone, call C.J. Dowling at (817) 237-3622 or John Thome at (817) 236-8518.

Theology of the Body Series to begin Sept. 17

A series entitled "Sex and the Sacred City: Studying the Theology of the Body" will be offered in the parish hall at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 861 Wildwood Lane in Grapevine, beginning Sept. 17. The program will be presented by Steve Kellmeyer, director of adult formation at the parish and author of a book by the same title.

Each session of the series will be offered twice, once on Sundays from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. and repeated on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Session topics and the dates on which they will be presented are as follows: Sept. 17, 20, "Introduction: Why God? Why Me?"; Sept. 24, 27, "Discussion 1: What Sex Was Meant To Be"; Oct. 1, 11, "Discussion 2: How God Repaired the Break"; Oct. 15, 18, "Discussion 3: How We Can Live It Now"; Oct. 22, 25, "Discussion 4: What it All Means"; Oct. 29, Nov. 1, "Exploration 1: God is Love" (#1-11); Nov. 5, 8, "Exploration 2: God is Love" (#12-25); and Nov. 12, 15, "Exploration 3: God is Love" (#26-42). Whether choosing to attend a session aimed at discussion or exploration, participants are encouraged to attend all sessions within that portion.

Those attending can expect to gain a basic understanding of Pope John Paul II's teachings on the Theology of the Body and explore church teachings on human sexuality.

Reservations for the introductory session are encouraged but not required. Free childcare is available; call Carol at (817) 481-2685 ext. 21 for childcare reservations.

People & Events

of Importance for the Church of Fort Worth



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL — Zachery Tice gets a last hug from his mom, Lynn, before class starts on the first day of school Aug. 16 at St. John the Apostle School in North Richland Hills.

Ministry invites those distanced from church to 'Come Home'

Come Home ministry extends an open invitation for Catholics who are currently disconnected from the church to consider "coming home" to their Catholic faith. Sessions will begin Tuesday, Sept. 26, in the Pastoral Center at St. Andrew Church, 3717 Stadium Drive in Fort Worth. Participants will meet from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Tuesday evening through Oct. 24.

The parish's Come Home team is composed of parishioners, some of whom were themselves distanced from the church; parish staff, and members of the clergy. Contact Alice Curran at (817) 927-5383 or acurran@standrewsch.org for more information.

Cursillo weekends to be offered in October

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

A Cursillo weekend for men will be held Oct. 5 through Oct. 8, and a Cursillo weekend for women will take place Oct. 19 through Oct. 22. Both weekends (presented in English) will be held at The Cursillo Center, 2221 N.W. 26th Street in Fort Worth.

For more information, contact Mary Jean Nagy at mjanagy@fred-hall-dfw.com or (817) 226-1110.

Our Mother of Mercy Parish announces upcoming events

Our Mother of Mercy Parish (OMM) has announced three upcoming events with the OMM parish and school community. All are invited to attend the annual Our Mother of Mercy Carnival, a fundraising event and benefit for the OMM School. The carnival will be held on the parish grounds at 1001 E. Terrell Sunday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All are invited to also attend the annual Friends and Family Day, to be held Saturday Oct. 28, at the 10 a.m. Mass. Finally, the annual Gospelfest is scheduled to be held Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m.

The carnival, said OMM parishioner Joi Bernard, will offer an opportunity for alumni of the school to view memorabilia from the past and to celebrate the beginning stages of a new school building.

Friends and Family Day, to be held the following weekend, said Bernard, gives all who have attended the parish or the school the opportunity to "come home" at a celebratory liturgy. "It is a wonderful time, because sometimes people come here even from other states, and they know that they are always welcome here," said Bernard. "We invite everyone to come."

Gospelfest, said Bernard, is "an opportunity for area churches and small community gospel groups to come together to praise the Lord together in song."

For more information about the carnival, Gospelfest, or Friends and Family Day at the parish, contact Joi Bernard at (817) 565-6717.

Rachel's Vineyard retreat, Sept. 15-17, to offer post-abortion healing

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat, designed to offer healing for women and men struggling with the psychological and spiritual pain of abortion, will be held Sept. 15-17 in Fort Worth.

Rachel's Vineyard retreats offer a safe, non-judgmental, and supportive environment to those struggling with abortion's aftermath. The retreat team provides the confidential support needed to help participants work through feelings of anger, shame, guilt, and grief, so that they may be open to experiencing the healing love and mercy of God.

Mothers, fathers, grandparents, and former participants in the abortion industry — anyone who has been hurt by abortion — are welcome to attend.

For more information or to register, call the confidential help line at (817) 923-4757; e-mail to forgiven@rachelvt.org; or visit the Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Workshop on marriage, divorce, and annulment set for Oct. 7

A workshop on marriage, divorce, and the annulment process, entitled "Until Death Do Us Part?", will be offered Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, at St. Andrew Church in the Pastoral Center.

The presenter for the day is Father Hector Medina, pastor of St. Matthew Church in Arlington. Fr. Medina has studied at the Catholic University of America and has given workshops for the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics at Notre Dame.

The workshop is described in promotional materials as an opportunity to explore the scriptural and traditional understanding of marriage, the reality of divorce, and the process of the declaration of invalidity. "In recognizing the pain of separation and divorce and knowing that we are called to peace, the church uses the annulment process to bring reconciliation to the deep hurt of a broken marriage," the material states. Those who seek to understand more about the annulment process or to serve as volunteers in the Tribunal ministry are invited to participate in the workshop.

Childcare is available by calling (817) 924-6581 at least 48 hours in advance. To RSVP by Oct. 2, contact Alice Curran at (817) 927-5383 or via e-mail to acurran@standrewcc.org.

Grapevine Magnificat Breakfast to be held Sept. 23

A Magnificat Breakfast, sponsored by the Grapevine Magnificat Chapter, is scheduled Saturday, Sept. 23, at 9 a.m. at the DFW Hilton Lake Executive Conference Center and Hotel, located at 1800 Highway 26 East in Grapevine.

The event will feature the music of Tatiana Cameron, a Croatian inspirational recording artist who performs spiritual music in nine languages. She will be performing "Struggles and Graces: My Journey of Faith."

Bishop Vann to preside at Mass for children who have died before birth

On Oct. 7, the feast of the Holy Rosary, Bishop Kevin Vann will celebrate a memorial Mass for children who have died before birth. The liturgy, to take place at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 West Magnolia in Fort Worth, will begin at 12:30 p.m. A light lunch will be served in the church hall following the liturgy.

"The intention of the Mass is to help the healing process for parents who have lost children through miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion," said Chuck Pelletier, president of the sponsoring organizations — Mother and Unborn Baby Care, and Catholics United for Life. "Close relatives and friends of these parents are also invited to attend," he added.

Flowers will be provided for parents to offer during the liturgy in memory of their children, should they wish to do so.

Reservations are requested but not required. For more details or to make a reservation, call (817) 738-1086, or e-mail to mubcare@charter.net, no later than Wednesday, Oct. 4.

Make plans to take part in National Life Chain Oct. 1

Each year, in more than 1,000 locations across the United States and Canada, people in support of pro-life causes gather along busy roadways to pray silently while holding printed signs with pro-life messages for passing motorists to see. They peacefully show solidarity in the Christian community for life and adoption rather than abortion.

Organizers are encouraging everyone to make plans to participate in this event, which takes place annually on the first Sunday of October, this year Oct. 1, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Traditionally, several communities in the Diocese of Fort Worth have formed Life Chains in their respective areas.

This year the Fort Worth location will move further north. Life Chain participants are asked to gather at 3900 South Hulen at Arborlawn, next to the McKinney Memorial Bible Church.

More information on this non-denominational stand for life can be found online at NationalLifeChain.org. Photos from previous years and partial listing of Life Chains can be found on the Web at LifeChain.net.

The Fort Worth contact for Life Chain is Julie Vecera, who can be reached at (817) 297-1557. More area contacts may be found online at LifeChain.net by clicking on the Texas link.

People and Events

Bishop Vann will celebrate Singles Mass Oct. 7 in Keller

The annual Diocesan Singles Mass will be celebrated at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller, Oct. 7. Bishop Kevin Vann will preside at the liturgy, which will begin at 7 p.m.

The annual Mass, sponsored by the Singles Council of the Diocese of Fort Worth, is open to Catholic singles of all ages, including those never-married, as well as those widowed, separated, and divorced. Singles are welcome to bring friends and family members.

A reception and dance will follow until midnight, with music provided by a DJ. The offertory collection at Mass will be used to support the after-Mass mixer, as well as continuing singles ministry efforts, such as mailings and outreach projects.

Those attending are asked to bring non-perishable food items for donation to the local food bank.

Singles are also invited to arrive early and take part in the parish fall festival.

For more information or to volunteer for Mass ministries or the reception following, call Mike Wuller at (817) 292-9169 or e-mail to fwdscmw@earthlink.net.

Bishop Vann to speak on Holy Orders at Scout event Sept. 16

Bishop Kevin Vann will offer a presentation on the sacrament Holy Orders Saturday, Sept. 16, at 10:15 a.m. in the gym at St. John the Apostle Parish, 7341 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills.

During the program, Bishop Vann will address questions and topics found in chapter 7 of the Ad Altare Dei Scout Manual. All candidates for the Boy Scout Religious Award are invited to participate in the discussion. Adult Scout leaders and all others interested in the topic are also welcome.

For more information, contact Charlie Levitt at (817) 498-9252.

Tea party to celebrate gifts of being female, Oct. 8

A tea party, offered especially for girls ages 10 to 13, and their mothers, grandmothers, or other female friends and relatives, will be held Oct. 8 from noon to 4 p.m. at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth.

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

The cost is \$12.50 per person. Space is limited, so reservations will be accepted on a first-call basis. To make a reservation call Kathy Stojak at (817) 773-8096 or Nancy Novak at (817) 656-9633.

St. Catherine of Siena's Autumnfest planned for Sept. 23

St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 1705 E. Peters Colony Road in Carrollton, will host its 20th annual Autumnfest Saturday, Sept. 23. The family-fun event with a carnival-like atmosphere will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For early risers, a 5K and a one-mile Fun Run will kick off the day, with registration to take place from 7:45 a.m. to 8 a.m. Later, all are invited to come enjoy games, arts and crafts, a silent auction, music, entertainment, and great food, according to festival organizers.

For more information, call the parish office at (972) 492-3237 or visit online at www.stcatherine.org.

St. Paul Church, Electra, to celebrate 100-year anniversary

On Sunday, Oct. 22, the community of St. Paul Church will celebrate 100 years of Catholic presence in the Electra area, in the northwest portion of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Former members of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Francis Xavier churches will join with past and current members of St. Paul Church for a special Mass, to be celebrated by Bishop Kevin Vann at St. Paul's at 8 a.m. A reception will follow, and a luncheon will be served at noon.

The parish communities of Mt. Carmel and St. Francis Xavier, established in 1907 and 1912, respectively, merged in the 1960s to form St. Paul Church in Electra.

Those who wish to participate in the Mass, reception, and noon meal are asked to make reservations by Oct. 1, by calling Chris Finch at (940) 495-2689.

Organizers are also requesting the loan of family histories, pictures from the early days of the parishes, and other memorabilia for display in the parish hall. Those wishing to contribute to this display may contact Nell Mengwasser at P.O. Box 575, Electra 76360.

St. Maria Goretti School to hold Kountry Karnival Oct. 7-8

St. Maria Goretti School in Arlington will hold its 31st annual Kountry Karnival Oct. 7-8. The festival, according to organizers, is a fun and exciting way to spend a fall weekend among friends and family.

There will be many activities to choose from, such as a variety of midway games for the kids of all ages, bingo, a plant nook, book sale, silent auction, cake walk, and giant inflatable attractions.

A world of food, including German bratwurst, Chinese specialties, Mexican favorites, and All-American fare such as hamburgers, hot dogs, and roasted corn, will be available throughout weekend.

The annual event, which attracts more than 10,000 people each year, benefits St. Maria Goretti School.

For information, contact the school office at (817) 275-5081 or the Kountry Karnival co-chairmen: Tom Braden at tabraden@comcast.net, Robert Nieto at nieto96@sbcglobal.net, or Charles Eller at c.eller@sbcglobal.net.

Sacred Heart, Seymour, to host 'Picnic in the Hall,' Sept. 17

The Catholic community of Sacred Heart Parish, Seymour, will host a "Picnic in the Hall," Sunday, Sept. 17, from noon to 4 p.m. at the parish's Mosler Hall on North Cedar Street. All are invited to bring a side dish or dessert and to join in the picnic fun.

Seymour is located two-and-a-half hours from Fort Worth, going 199 west to Jacksboro and then 114 west to Seymour. For more information, contact the parish office at (940) 889-5252.



WELCOMING TROOPS HOME — Youth and adults from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Arlington gathered at DFW Airport Aug. 3 to welcome home the troops serving overseas. Greeted by thunderous cheers, U.S. soldiers proceeded down a long line of appreciative families, veterans, firefighters, police officers, and citizens thanking them for their service and courage. The parish youth presented them with small bags filled with candy, thank you notes, and bottled water. "It was an incredibly moving experience, viewing [the soldiers'] youthful faces ... most very thankful to be home and overwhelmed at the outpouring of our love and support," said Diane Donahue, parish director of youth ministry. "We were proud to be a part of it!"

Msgr. Schumacher to be honored at ICC reception

Msgr. Joseph Schumacher will be honored at a reception to be held in the gymnasium at Immaculate Conception Church (ICC), 2255 North Bonnie Brae Street in Denton, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 1.

Msgr. Schumacher, who retired in July from his ministries as pastor of St. Matthew Church in Arlington and vicar general for the diocese, was the ICC pastor from 1969 through 1980. He will preside at the 8:30 a.m. and the 11:15 a.m. Masses at ICC Oct. 1.

All are invited to attend, especially former parishioners who remember Msgr. Schumacher's years of service at ICC.

For more information about the reception and plans made to honor Msgr. Schumacher, contact Elsa Camizzi in the parish office at (940) 565-1770 or by e-mail to elsa.camizzi@iccdenton.org.

St. Rita School to host annual garage sale Sept. 16

The faculty and staff members of St. Rita School, 712 Weiler Blvd. in East Fort Worth, will hold their annual St. Rita Teacher's Garage Sale Saturday, Sept. 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The sale will take place in parish center and gymnasium, located between the school and the church.

Proceeds from the sale will assist in sending faculty and staff members to the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in the spring.

Items for the garage sale will be accepted in the school gymnasium Sept. 12, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Sept. 13-15, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Due to limited storage, items will only be accepted on these specified dates. For more information or to arrange pick up service for heavy items, contact Diane Hutto in the school office at (817) 451-9383 or by Sept. 11.

Cub Scout, Boy Scout retreats planned for Oct. 6-8

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

The theme of this year's Boy Scout retreat is "Ave Maria." The retreat, to be held Oct. 6-8, will include both indoor and outdoor events. Father Anh Tran, chaplain for the Catholic Scouts of the diocese, will offer the sacrament of reconciliation and Mass during the weekend. The cost for the retreat is \$20 per person.

The ninth annual Catholic Cub Scout Retreat will be held at Worth Ranch Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cub Scouts will also have the option to stay overnight Friday and/or Saturday to participate in retreat activities which include a "Get to Know You" program; work on the religious awards available to Cub Scouts; a historical re-enactment; a craft activity; and hiking. The cost is \$12 for Cub Scouts without overnight accommodations; other options range from \$14 to \$20.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.bsaccs.org or call Tom Moore at (972) 539-0257 for information about the Boy Scout retreat; for information about the Cub Scout retreat, call Jeremy Stephens at (972) 436-8162.

St. Augustine Men's Purity Group meets weekly

The St. Augustine Men's Purity Group, a support group for men who struggle with sources of sexual impurity such as those found on the Internet, meets Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller, in Room 213.

For more information, visit the group's Web site at www.sampg.org or e-mail to Mark at seasmenspurity@yahoo.com or call the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish office at (817) 431-3857.

Judi K. Skinner Memorial Run / Walk set for Sept. 16

St. Andrew School will honor the spirit of Judi K. Skinner with its 13th annual 5K and one-mile run/walk Saturday, Sept. 16, at the school's campus, located at 3304 Dryden Road in Southwest Fort Worth. The 5K event will begin at 7 a.m., with the mile event following at 7:10 a.m.

The race is a memorial to Judi K. Skinner, a dedicated parent who was instrumental in the development of the St. Andrew's Spirit Club. Skinner lost her battle with aplastic anemia in 1993.

For the 5K run, awards will be given to the winners of designated age groups as well as the overall winners. All participants in the one-mile run will receive a ribbon. All entrants will receive a race T-shirt and will be served a pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following the race.

Entry fees are \$15 per person or \$45 per family. Entry forms are available through the St. Andrew School Web site at www.standrewsch.org, at area running stores, or by calling the school office at (817) 924-8917.

Knights council to host 12th annual charity golf tournament

The Knights of Columbus Council #11423, will hold its 12th annual charity golf tournament Sunday, Oct. 8, at Meadowbrook Golf Course, 1815 Jenson Road in Fort Worth.

The cost is \$65 per person. Entry fee includes green fees, golf cart, gratuities, and lunch. Awards will be presented for the first, second, and third-place teams in each flight, as well as for the longest drive and closest to the pin. Those interested may also take part in a hole-in-one contest.

All tournament proceeds will benefit local charities.

For more information or an entry form, contact Mike Goodenough at (817) 429-5217 or Ray Geisler at (817) 451-5539.



SUMMER READING — St. Rita School in East Fort Worth recently reported high participation in its summer reading program. Robin Bolliger, school library manager, opened the doors to the library each Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., allowing students to check out books and take Accelerated Reading (AR) tests. "This summer, we had a total of 121 students participate in our summer reading program," said Bolliger. "The students read a total of 780 books and earned 1,700 AR points." The three students who read the most books — (l. to r.) first grader Thalissa Villegas (32 books), second grader Viet Nguyen (40 books), and first grader Quang Nguyen (53 books) — were very faithful about coming to the library each week, added Bolliger. Accumulating the most AR points were fourth grader Michael Hernandez (129), fifth grader Isabel Wees (103), and eighth grader Stewart Gonzalez (72).

Diocesan



CATHOLIC MEDICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION — Elected officers of the Catholic Medical Students' Association for the 2005-2006 term are (l. to r., front) Denika Means, Ewa Oberdorfer, Kate Barron, (back) Jedd Raney, Joseph Oberdorfer, John Moreno, and Thomas Horn.

UNT Health Science Center students form Catholic Medical Students' Association chapter

Weekly rosary prayer meetings, special liturgies, fundraising activities, shared information, and hours of community service have created bonds and led to fellowship among Catholic medical school students at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. Joseph and Ewa Oberdorfer, a married couple who founded the Catholic Medical Students' Association in September of last year, are active as leaders within the group. Joseph serves as president.

"We are proud to say that in a matter of a few months our chapter has blossomed and formed relationships with our local diocese," wrote Ewa in a press release. "In September [2005], we started our rosary prayer group. We [also] had our first White Mass in October at St. Patrick Cathedral in Fort Worth. The ceremony was beautiful and very meaningful to the students and physicians who attended."

Noting that several donors have offered their support to the fledgling organization, Ewa also reflected on the assistance of the chapter's sponsors, Dr. Robert

Mallet, a professor at UNT HSC, and Sister Teresa Nasche, SHSp, who serves as the coordinator of hospital ministry for the Diocese of Fort Worth. "[Our sponsors] are extremely dedicated to our organization, and we are very happy to have them helping us through these first months of getting our organization off the ground," wrote Ewa.

The chapter, now consisting of several members, offers volunteer service to Catholic Charities in Fort Worth, often performing blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol checks. Ewa reported that in April, Tammy Oropeza, a Natural Family Planning instructor, spoke to the medical students over lunch. "We had a wonderful turnout, and many students stayed after to talk to Tammy," she said. "We know that this meeting gave much needed information about NFP in our school."

For more information about the Catholic Medical Students Association, visit the association's new Web site at www.hsc.unt.edu/MACS/macs.html or contact Ewa Oberdorfer at eoerberdor@hsc.unt.edu.

Families asked to observe national Family Day Sept. 25 by dining together

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University has announced that the sixth annual "Family Day — A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children," will be held Sept. 25. Bishop Kevin Vann encourages local families to share a meal together in observance of Family Day, according to a press release from the diocesan Family Life Office.

Launched by CASA in 2001, Family Day is a growing national effort to prevent substance abuse in young people by encouraging parental engagement and increased parent-child communication through shared family meals. CASA's research has shown that the more often children eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to engage in at-risk behaviors such as smoking, drinking, or drug use. Observance of Family Day, according to CASA, helps to remind busy families of the

invaluable role that parental involvement plays in steering children and teens away from cigarettes, drugs, and alcohol.

"America's drug problem is not going to be solved in courtrooms or legislative hearing rooms by judges and politicians. It will be solved in living rooms and dining rooms and across kitchen tables — by parents and families," says Joseph A. Califano Jr., CASA's chairman and president, and the former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. "'Parent Power' is the most potent and underutilized tool in preventing children from using substances or engaging in risky behavior."

According to CASA's The Importance of Family Dinners II report, teens who eat dinner with their families six to seven times a week are at almost half the risk of engaging in substance abuse as teens who eat dinner with their families twice a week or less. Ac-

ording to the report, teens who eat dinner with their families often are likelier to do well in school and are less likely than other teens to get into fights or be suspended from school. This pattern holds true regardless of a teen's sex, family structure, or family socioeconomic level.

Bishop Vann encourages all parishioners to celebrate Family Day by eating dinner together on Sept. 26 and as often as possible, says Deacon Richard Stojak, director of the diocesan Family Life Office. "More importantly," adds Deacon Stojak, "talk with your kids. During dinner, turn off the TV and let your answering machine record incoming calls. Involve the entire family in planning and cooking meals. If your schedules make it impossible to eat dinner together, try having breakfast together."

For additional information on Family Day, visit online at www.CASAFamilyDay.org.

First of three Ministry Formation Days to be held Sept. 23 in Wichita Falls

Ministry Formation Day, an enrichment opportunity for those involved in church ministry, will be offered Saturday, Sept. 23, at Notre Dame High School in Wichita Falls. The program, to be offered in English and Spanish, will begin with the opening of exhibitors' booths at 8 a.m., followed by registration and a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m.

The keynote address — first in English, at 10 a.m., and then in Spanish, at 11:15 a.m. — will be presented by Father Anthony Basil Taylor. Fr. Taylor serves at Sacred Heart Parish in Oklahoma City. A Fort Worth native, he earned his doctorate in biblical theology from Fordham University, New York. Bilingual in English and Spanish, he serves

a predominately Hispanic community.

During the English keynote address, a breakout session with Spanish-language workshops will be held, and while the Spanish keynote is offered, English-language workshops will take place. There also will be a second round of workshops in the afternoon, prior to the conclusion of the event at 2:30 p.m.

Workshop sessions will be offered on a variety of topics, including "Youth Ministry — Fun, Facts, Food, and Fellowship," "Making Sense of the Psalms in the 21st Century," "Transitioning from Youth Ministry to Young Adult Ministry and Campus Ministry," "Keeping Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults

Safe, Part I," "Moral Issues in Today's World," and "When a Family is Hurting — Resources to Help."

All involved in parish or school ministry, whether volunteer or paid staff, are welcome to attend. The cost, which includes lunch, is \$25 per person. Scholarship assistance is available.

For more information about the Ministry Formation Day in Wichita Falls, call Connie Vasquez at (817) 560-3300 ext. 257, or visit the diocesan Web site at www.fwdioc.org.

Two other Ministry Formation Days will be held Jan. 6, 2007, at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth, and March 3, 2007, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Mineral Wells.

Play Ball

PHOTOS BY MARK LENZ AND WENDY PANDOLFO



Father Joseph Scantlin, pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Arlington, was invited to throw out the first pitch at a Texas Ranger game June 20. Fr. Scantlin had more than a few fans (top right) in the stands, including Bishop Kevin Vann (bottom, right), who was able to attend part of the game.

Diocesan

585 combined years of faithful service

Sisters of St. Mary of Namur celebrate significant jubilees

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
KATHY CRIBARI HAMER
CORRESPONDENT

The homilist's humor was ideally suited to his congregation: a church full of traditional Catholics. In the assembly were Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, some of whom were celebrating significant jubilees, plus the colleagues, former students, and friends who support and love them.

"As we gather here to celebrate with these sisters their combined 585 years of professed religious life and ministry," said Father Michael Olson, vicar general and great friend of the sisters, "in the presence of our bishop, of many priests, and of so many of their sisters and loved ones gathered here on this hot Saturday afternoon ... we cannot help but be tempted to ask one question: 'Does this Mass count for Sunday?'"

The laughter that filled the St. Andrew sanctuary was a harmonious guffaw, as like minds traced their collective history of Catholic rules and their interpretations.

When the giggles subsided, Fr. Olson made clear his real point: "I say tempted because the jubilarians with whom we celebrate today have, with their sisters, dedicated their lives to transforming such questions of convenience and mere obligation into a desire for love of God and his people, the Church."

Eight of the 10 Sisters of St. Mary of Namur celebrating jubilees gathered Aug. 12 at St. Andrew Parish in Fort Worth, as 400 people participated in a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin Vann. It was a demonstration of affection and respect from lives the sisters had touched.

Recognized during the jubilee Mass were Sister Alice Hunter, for her 70 years in the congregation; Sister Mary Michael Dittoe, for 65 years; Sister Louise Smith, Sister Mary Rose Lopresto, Sister Rita Claire Davis, Sister Francesca Walterscheid, and Sister Ann Vincent Kucirek, for 60 years; and Sister Mary Helen Fuhrmann, Sister Bernice Knapek, and Sister Charles Marie Serafino, for 50 years. Sr. Alice Hunter and Sr. Mary Rose Lopresto were unable to attend due to their fragile state of health.

The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, founded in 1819 in Bel-

Right: Sixty-year jubilarian Sr. Ann Vincent Kucirek greets a guest at the reception following the jubilee Mass.

Below: Sr. Rita Claire Davis, who celebrates 60 years as a Sister of St. Mary of Namur, is all smiles as she greets well-wishers at the jubilee reception.

Right: (L. to R.) Sr. Ann Vincent Kucirek, Sr. Mary Helen Fuhrmann, Sr. Bernice Knapek, and Sr. Charles Marie Serafino share a sign of peace.

Left: (L. to R.) Sr. Francesca Walterscheid, Sr. Louise Smith, Sr. Rita Claire Davis, all 60-year jubilarians; and Sr. Mary Michael Dittoe, a 65-year jubilarian, join the assembly in prayer.

Left: (L. to R.) Sr. Mary Helen Fuhrmann, Sr. Bernice Knapek, and Sr. Charles Marie Serafino — all 50-year jubilarians — hold hands during the Lord's Prayer.

Above: Bishop Kevin Vann, who celebrated the jubilee liturgy, greets Sr. Charles Marie Serafino during the sign of peace.

gium, pioneered Catholic education in Texas, and this group of jubilarians included extraordinary educators, according to Sister Joan Markey, SSMN, development director for the province. Sr. Alice Hunter, an outstanding educator who has more than 40 years experience in school administration, also served on the faculty at the University of Dallas, where she was an instructor in education. From 1968 to 1972, she was a consultant for the Dallas Diocesan Education Office, and she ended her career at St. Mary's School in Sherman, where she served as principal for 18 years.

"Sr. Mary Michael was one of our best music teachers," Sr. Joan said. "She was a regular classroom teacher, but also taught piano and singing lessons."

But music was not Sr. Mary Michael's only talent. Together with Sr. Rita Claire, she spent the past several years in Knox City and Crowell at the western edge of the diocese, where Sr. Mary Michael worked on catechesis, and Sr. Rita Claire tackled immigration issues. "If the nuns were there," Sr. Joan said, "there was a sense of continual presence. They were responsible for bringing many people into the church in North Texas."

"Sr. Francesca Walterscheid was an excellent principal and

teacher, and was also the life of the party," Sr. Joan described another of the 60-year jubilarians. The affirmation was echoed by Rosemary Hayes, a former student who eventually would found the Auxiliary of the Sisters of Our Lady of Namur. "Sr. Francesca and Sr. Mary Rose both taught me at Holy Name, and others taught me at Nolan," Hayes said. "I would never have survived without the nuns!"

The other three 60-year jubilarians included Sr. Ann Vincent, "an excellent teacher and principal," Sr. Mary Rose, who taught art, and Sr. Louise, who became music archivist with the University of London in Ontario, Canada.

Golden jubilarian Sr. Mary Helen, pastoral associate at St. Mary's Parish in Gainesville, is active in adult religious formation, and Sr. Bernice, former diocesan associate superintendent of schools, is principal at Holy Trinity School in Grapevine.

Sr. Charles Marie spent many years in the Congo and Rwanda, and, along with other sisters who worked in the missions, helps maintains that apostolate by speaking at parishes in the diocese. They tell the stories, and donations are sent to provinces in the Congo, Rwanda, Brazil, and Cameroon. Sr. Charles Marie

also teaches music at Our Lady of Victory School.

The jubilee celebration of 10 well-loved sisters was celebrated in prayer, (which Bishop Vann confirmed did not "count for Sunday obligation"), and it was also a party, when nearly every worshipper gathered in the parish hall for cake and conversation.

Especially busy at the reception were members of the auxiliary who served refreshments and paused to converse with the women whom they respected during their youthful years of formation, and loved during the adult years for which they were well prepared.

Instrumental in the day's events were Charmaine Crossley, auxiliary member and environment minister at St. Andrew, who created a massive long-stemmed rose arrangement for the church.

Food and drinks were provided by "the Abraham girls," Hayes said, including Virginia Abraham and her daughters Ginda and Monica, who have taken on the responsibility of donating food for all auxiliary events.

Hayes herself gives a big gift every Saturday morning, creating and delivering flower arrangements for at least five tables in the OLV Center dining hall. The project, a gift from the

auxiliary, "really peps things up," Hayes said. She visits with the sisters, going from table to table, and into the infirmary as well. "My family knows not to schedule anything on Saturday mornings, because I will be busy. The nuns are a part of my family too."

In his homily at the jubilee Mass, Fr. Olson addressed the influence the nuns had within the diocese and around the world. He commended their work, following the spirit of their founder, Father Nicholas-Joseph Minsart, and Mother Claire, who offered educational opportunities to young women who otherwise would have had no other access to an education.

Quoting from the story of the community's chapter, Fr. Olson said, "The call to evangelization compels us to discern how to speak and to serve so as to proclaim the Gospel in our time — to cast fire upon the earth today and tomorrow...."

The jubilee celebration was a great success, said Sr. Joan. "People came from all over — Muenster, Lindsay, Dallas, Knox City, Crowell. They respect what the ... sisters did for the people in their communities.

"We're very fortunate. Our older sisters really worked hard for this diocese," she said. "This was a tribute to our pioneer sisters."

Diocesan



DEAF MINISTRY ADVISORY BOARD — The Advisory Board for the Deaf Ministry Program gathered for a retreat over the summer to review the ministry's activities for the past year. Time was spent evaluating programs and setting goals in alignment with diocesan objectives for the coming year. Participants in the retreat included (l. to r., front) Beth White, Elizabeth Wilcox, (back) Paul Perez, Mary Jane Castrese, Leroy Terrio, and Steven Wanderscheid.

Religious formation classes for deaf, hearing-impaired are available throughout diocese

Religious formation classes for students who are deaf or hearing-impaired are offered at various parishes throughout the diocese by the Deaf Ministry Program.

Students may choose to be mainstreamed into a regular religious education class with an interpreter. In this case, they may enroll in their home parish's religious education classes and contact the Deaf Ministry Office for support services.

Other students may choose to participate in special classes taught by deaf adults or hearing adults who use sign language. In these special classes, consideration is given to techniques, learning styles, and culture aspects that help deaf children learn more readily. Young students will have the advantage of learning from deaf adults, who in many ways serve as role models for these students, sharing life experiences that only they could understand, according to Mary Cinatl, director of the Deaf Ministry Program.

Special classes for the deaf are offered Wednesday evenings at St. John the Apostle Church, 7341 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills, and at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 861 Wildwood Lane in Grapevine, Wednesdays or Sundays.

While deaf students attend religious education classes Wednesday evenings at St. John's, their parents and siblings are invited to join a sign language class that will be offered at the same time.

Christ-Centered Counseling
Diane McLeod, LPC
 Serving Adult Individuals, Marital, Pre-Marital Parenting, Women's and Men's Issues
 For an appointment call 940/453-3595

This beginning level class will focus on vocabulary development and conceptual signing. The prayers that the deaf students will be learning will be taught to the adults so they may all pray at home together as one family.

An RCIA class for deaf adults is also offered by the Deaf Ministry Program. Adults are encouraged to become involved in the deaf community liturgies held on the first Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel at St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

For more information about fall religious education classes for the deaf or other activities and programs of the Deaf Ministry Program, contact Mary Cinatl at (817) 284-3019 (voice and TTY), or visit the Deaf Ministry Web site at www.fwdioc.org — go to Pastoral Services, and then click on Deaf Ministry.

Dr. Catherine Kenney Carlton, a noted osteopathic physician, dies at age 90

Dr. Catherine Kenney Carlton, 90, a retired osteopathic physician who served within the Catholic community in the Diocese of Fort Worth, died Aug. 22. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 25 at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Fort Worth, with Msgr. Joseph Schumacher presiding. Interment was at Mount Olivet Cemetery in North Fort Worth.



Dr. Catherine Kenney Carlton

Born Oct. 20, 1915, in Laredo to Dr. Charles Kenney and Dr. Helen Larmoyeux Kenney, she and her family moved in 1919 to Fort Worth, where her parents established their medical practice. A graduate of Our Lady of Victory Academy, Catherine attended Incarnate Word College in San Antonio and the University of Texas at Arlington, and graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1938. She joined her parents' medical practice after her graduation.

One of the original staff members of the Fort Worth Osteopathic Medical Center, Dr. Carlton also served on the staff and

as a department head for Manipulative Medicine and Distinctive Osteopathic Principles at the University of North Texas HealthScience Center. She was a Thomas

L. Northup Memorial lecturer, as well as a Fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy.

An active member of St. Mary of Assumption Church in Fort Worth, Dr. Carlton's commitment to service was also evident in her participation and leadership in several organizations, including the National Council of Catholic Women, the National Council of Christians and Jews, the Fort Worth Serra Club, and the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem.

She and her first husband, Dr. Elbert Carlton, practiced medicine together in the building that originally housed her parents'

home and medical practice, located at the corner of Lipscomb and Magnolia. She remained at that location until her retirement in 2002. According to an article in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, Dr. Carlton spent about a quarter of her time treating low-income patients, charging them only what they could afford.

"My mother had a wonderful life," said her daughter, Cathy Landon. "She just loved her profession and her patients. She was a practicing physician for 64 years, and I once told her, 'Weren't you fortunate that for 64 years you were able to do exactly what you wanted to do every single day of your life — and not many people get to do that.'"

Dr. Carlton is survived by daughters, Cathy Landon and her husband, Steve; Helen McFall; and Jane Toone and her husband, John; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her memory may be honored with a donation to The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, 909 W. Shaw Street, Fort Worth 76110.

St. Joseph Hospital reunion set for Sept. 30

All former employees, physician staff, nursing and allied health students, volunteers, and friends of St. Joseph Hospital are invited to attend the annual reunion picnic Saturday, Sept. 30,

from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Arts Pavilion in Trinity Park in Fort Worth. Come "see old friends and share your experiences," suggest picnic organizers.

Participants are asked to bring

their own food and drinks, and a chair if desired.

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

Pedro Moreno to speak at DCCW meeting Sept 28

All women are invited to attend the quarterly luncheon meeting of the Central/East Deanery of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Sept. 28 at St. Jude Parish, 500 E. Dallas Street in Mansfield. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Pedro Moreno, a lay Dominican and the director of the Light of Christ Institute for the Diocese of Fort Worth, will speak on the Marian theology and devotion of Pope Benedict XVI. Moreno will use as a resource for this reflection the book *Mary: The Church at*

the Source, which was written by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger prior to his election as pope.

The cost is \$10. Reservations must be made by Sept 25 at noon. To make a reservation, call Mary Del Rio at (817) 838-8120 or Pat Coffey at (817) 657-2823.


GREEK ISLAND CRUISE, ATHENS, METEORA
\$2,199 per person - November 3 - 12, 2006 - Includes:
 Corinth/Ephesus (St. Paul preached here), Patmos, Santorini, Mykonos, Crete.
CHINA - BEIJING, XIAN, SHANGHAI
\$1,999 per person - March 9 - 18, 2007
ROME - ITALY - March 2007 Springbreak
\$1,899 per person - includes Papal Audience, Assisi, Florence & Rome Basilicas
SOUTH AFRICAN SAFARI/CAPETOWN - \$3,099 March 8 - 19, 2007
 Prices are per person double, fully escorted + breakfast & dinner daily, first class hotels + R/T air from DFW
Call Michael or Sue Menof for detailed flyers + terms
Golden World Tours - Tel: 972-934-9635

Products to Protect You & Your Family

- Whole & Term Life Insurance for Catholics
- Single Premium & Flexible Annuities
- Special Plans for Youth & Seniors
- Traditional & Roth IRA's

Contact a representative in your area for more information:
 Clara Miller (972) 875-8378 Elsie Marak (972) 878-5537 Theresa Plsek (254) 867-1973

Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas-KJZT
 PO Box 1884 Austin, TX 78767
 1-888-253-2338

TRIDENTINE MASS 
 LATIN INDULT MASS
 5:30 P.M. SUNDAYS
ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH
 509 W. MAGNOLIA, FORT WORTH
HIGH MASS SECOND AND FOURTH SUNDAYS
LOW MASS FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAYS

Donate That Vehicle!
 Toll Free 1-888-317-7837
 Have title in hand when you call



- Tax Deductible
- Free Vehicle Pickup
- Trucks, Cars & Vans
- Most Running & Non-Running Vehicles Accepted

Society of St. Vincent dePaul Vehicle Donation Program
 Proceeds benefit needy throughout North Texas

Diocesan

Special Collection: Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Parish Name	Parish Location	Home Mission April 2005	Home Mission April 2006
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	138.00	170.00
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	237.00	141.00
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	873.36	681.20
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	2,781.69	2,953.00
St. Joseph	Arlington	2,339.81	2,429.18
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	4,133.30	2,492.00
St. Mary the Virgin	Arlington	256.00	360.00
St. Matthew	Arlington	930.50	1,335.50
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	778.00	1,317.50
Vietnamese Martyrs Community	Arlington	1,090.00	2,068.00
Holy Trinity	Azle	500.00	446.00
St. Michael	Bedford	3,218.00	2,151.00
St. Jerome	Bowie	0.00	20.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	211.41	309.24
St. John the Baptizer	Bridgeport	341.50	387.00
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	370.00	301.00
St. Ann	Burleson	950.00	991.00
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	2,377.00	1,779.00
Holy Rosary	Cisco	69.00	108.91
St. Joseph	Cleburne	536.95	518.76
Holy Angels	Clifton	0.00	225.47
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	1,326.00	878.75
Holy Cross	The Colony	450.35	256.00
Sacred Heart	Comanche	60.00	88.00
St. Joseph	Crowell	34.00	0.00
Assumption/Blessed Virgin Mary	Decatur	621.00	816.27
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	104.15	97.00
Immaculate Conception	Denton	833.00	862.00
St. Mark	Denton	2,862.15	2,259.90
St. Mary	Dublin	457.00	381.00
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	36.00	74.00
St. Paul	Electra	30.00	20.00
All Saints	Fort Worth	1,280.70	695.00
Christ the King	Fort Worth	641.00	454.00
Holy Family	Fort Worth	2,301.00	2,073.00
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	92.00	144.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	1,884.07	1,445.00
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	0.00	1,832.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	2,636.00	2,772.00
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	229.00	430.00
San Mateo	Fort Worth	313.60	387.50
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	3,354.69	2,765.48
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	4,106.25	4,351.00
St. George	Fort Worth	582.00	641.00
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	2,054.00	2,705.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	804.25	0.00
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	3,879.00	3,714.82
St. Paul	Fort Worth	986.30	1,092.45
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	598.00	746.00
St. Rita	Fort Worth	198.00	181.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,443.00	1,320.03
St. Mary	Gainesville	344.00	713.00
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	89.69	163.18
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	0.00	0.00
St. Mary	Graham	384.71	0.00
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	1,215.00	1,305.00
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	1,696.00	1,898.20
St. Mary	Henrietta	0.00	115.00
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	606.59	458.23
Korean Martyrs	Hurst	0.00	0.00
Christ the King	Iowa Park	15.00	35.00
St. Mary	Jacksboro	80.00	83.10
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	4,265.00	4,102.05
Santa Rosa	Knox City	113.00	63.00
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	3,516.81	3,417.67
St. Peter	Lindsay	1,118.26	1,288.65
St. Jude	Mansfield	0.00	792.02
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	37.00	0.00
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	237.00	411.60
St. William	Montague	0.00	0.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	0.00	96.00
Sacred Heart	Muenster	1,638.56	1,354.26
St. Joseph	Nocona	0.00	292.00
St. Theresa	Olney	81.07	0.00
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	96.75	129.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	541.00	282.00
St. Mary	Quanah	53.00	137.00
St. Rita	Ranger	80.00	38.00
St. Joseph	Rhineland	213.00	386.00
St. Boniface	Scotland	40.00	95.00
Sacred Heart	Seymour	123.00	125.00
St. Brendan	Stephenville	83.00	409.14
St. John	Strawn	65.00	55.00
St. John	Valley View	0.00	95.00
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	324.33	265.50
St. Stephen	Weatherford	1,957.00	1,274.00
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	0.00	645.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	0.00	0.00
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	1,063.00	799.00
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	836.71	731.00
St. Mary	Windthorst	763.00	472.00

78,004.51 77,192.56

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

Catholic Scoutmaster George Perdue dies

George Perdue, 85, a mentor and leader within the Scouting community, died Aug. 19, in Keller. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 26 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller; interment was at Mount Olivet Cemetery in North Fort Worth.



George Perdue

Perdue, a longtime employee of Waples-Platter and resident of Haltom City, was a dedicated mentor and leader to several generations of Boy Scouts, serving as Cubmaster of Pack 34 at St. George Church in Fort Worth, and also on the Scout Committee for Troop 315, Troop 34, and Troop 32.

An active member of Troop 32 for over 65 years, Perdue organized the first deaf Scout troop in the United States, Troop 432, and was instrumental in beginning the Catholic Committee on Scouting (CCS) in the 1960s. He joined his own Scouting mentor, John Edward "Ole Man" Gillespie, in hosting the first Catho-

lic Boy Scout Retreat in the diocese in 1961. The retreat has been an annual event within the diocese for the past 46 years.

A longtime member of St. George Church in Fort Worth and a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller in later years, Perdue was also committed to the Knights of Columbus and served as Grand Knight for Council 759 and in many leadership positions. He became a Fourth Degree Knight in 2004.

"George continued the extraordinary legacy of leadership that was begun by 'Ole Man' Gillespie, a legend in the Scouting community," said John Ryan, assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 32. "He had a way of bringing harmony to the situations that might normally [lead to] conflict. He had a genuine interest in kids,

and he helped bring together the resources of the Knights and the needs of the young people in Scouts. He was one of many pillars supporting Troop 32 that influenced me and hundreds of other boys as we became men. He was a pillar of Christian charity," Ryan added.

A Web site containing information about George Perdue and his work may be viewed at www.angelfire.com/tx6/patch/GEO-perdue.html.

Perdue is survived by children Mike Perdue and wife, Phyllis Finnemore; Andy Perdue; Bill Perdue and wife, Vicky; Mary Gowins and husband, Geary; Pat Tye and husband, David; Anne Wehmeyer; Tom Perdue and wife, Karri; and Jane Weber. He is also survived by 23 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and his sister, Viola Smith. Memorials in his honor may be made to Troop 32, c/o Catholic Committee on Scouting, P.O. Box 1062, Colleyville 76034.

Golden anniversary celebration planned for Oct. 15

A diocesan celebration honoring couples blessed with 50 years or more of married life will be held Sunday, Oct. 15, at St. Francis of Assisi Church, located at 861 Wildwood Lane in Grapevine. Bishop Kevin Vann will preside at the special Mass which will begin at 2:30 p.m. in the church.

Couples who have been mar-

ried 50 years or more by the end of the year are invited to renew their marriage vows and to receive an anniversary blessing from the bishop. A reception with cake and punch will follow immediately afterward in the parish Family Life Center. Couples who were married prior to 1957 and want to be part of this special celebra-

tion are asked to call their parish office and to give their names, address, and date of marriage. Parishes are asked to submit this information to the diocesan Family Life Office.

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

NTC deadlines for submission

The *North Texas Catholic* is published twice monthly, except during the months of June, July, and August when it is published monthly. The deadline to submit information is noon on the Wednesday of the week before the paper is published. Items to be considered for publication in the Sept. 22 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Knights to sponsor ranch rodeo in Graham

The second annual Brazos Valley Fall Gathering will be held Sept. 24 through Oct. 1 at the Young County Indoor Arena on Highway 380E in Graham. All proceeds from the daylong event, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #9634 from St. Mary Parish, Graham, and St. Theresa Parish, Olney, will be donated to the Young County Rural Volunteer Fire Department.

The Cutting Horse Competition will begin at 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29. The Ranch Horse Competition will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, and will be followed by a Knights of Columbus Ranch Roping Competition at 2 p.m. There is no admission fee to attend the three events.

The WRCA-sanctioned Invitational Ranch Rodeo will begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening and will conclude at 2 p.m. Sunday. The event will feature bronc riding, team doctoring, team branding, team penning, and wild cow milking events.

Admission to the rodeo is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages five to 11. For more details, call Don Machenberg at (940) 549-7719.

SEMINARIAN WELCOME DINNER

OCTOBER 10, 2006 - 6 TO 10 P.M.

WESTIN PARK CENTRAL, DALLAS - LBJ & HWY. 75

RECEPTION, EVENING PRAYER, DINNER, AUCTION & PRIZES!



Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann

will offer an "Evening of Broadway," playing the piano after dinner in the winner's home as one of the auction packages! Consider a parish car-pool and come over to support our wonderful Seminarians!

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

* EVENING PRAYER * MSGR. MICHAEL DUCA'S "WINE PULL" OPPORTUNITY TO WIN FINE WINES * LIVE AUCTION "PRIEST PRIZE PACKAGES" * DINNER & CASH BAR AVAILABLE * 42" HDTV; FOUR SEASONS RESORT PACKAGE; IPOD w/HIFI; LOWE'S \$600W PORTABLE GENERATOR! * SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY PURCHASING A TABLE OF 10 TODAY!

TICKETS: \$75 EACH AND SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

For Reservations: 972-438-2212

Reservation Deadline: October 1, 2006

ONLINE CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS, DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP SIGN-UP:

[HTTP://WWW.HOLYTRINITYSEMINARY.COM](http://www.holytrinityseminary.com)

P.O. Box 140309, IRVING, TX 75014-0309

Viewpoints

Gathering of Directors of Religious Education reminds us of their important role in faith formation

By Dan Luby

The parking lot is filled. A steady stream of people flows down the sloping sidewalks and in the front doors. The high ceiling and shiny brick floor of The Catholic Center foyer ring with echoes of cheerful greetings and questions about who's here and where the restrooms are and how quickly can the caffeine addicts replenish their supply of coffee or tea or diet soda.

Push open the doors to the almost-refurbished conference room, and the noise level shifts to a more moderate buzz. Conversation floats up, past the empty ceiling grid awaiting new acoustical tiles, fading to silence in a funky silvery jungle of duct work and sheet metal. Here, at round tables, over coffee and rolls and fruit, initial greetings morph into continuing conversations among colleagues who may not have seen each other for months, and the beginnings of new friendships among



Initial greetings morph into continuing conversations among colleagues who may not have seen each other for months, and the beginnings of new friendships among those who've never met ... It is the annual gathering of parish directors and coordinators of religious education, dubbed by a clever colleague the "DRE Meet and Greet."

those who've never met.

An attentive observer standing in a corner of the big room can overhear queries about unfamiliar faces and exchanges of e-mail addresses and hip pocket reviews of catechetical materials and speculations about whether or not those booklets on the table are free or for sale.

Ordinarily, Tuesday mornings at my office are not much different from other mornings, but today marks the semi-formal launch of the new catechetical year in parishes throughout the diocese. It is the annual gathering of parish directors and coordinators of religious education, dubbed by a clever colleague the "DRE Meet and Greet."

Annually, for about 10 years, the Office of Children's Catechesis has hosted this event. The atmosphere is a mix between pre-game pep rally and the first day of school. Its aim is as much to honor the DREs and CREs who labor so selflessly in the service of passing on the authentic faith of the church to the next generation of Catholics, as to share in-

formation about training requirements and promote networking and collaboration among parishes.

The bulk of those meeting and greeting are veteran catechists — most of whom began as volunteers working with kids — who have heard a call to do more. Some have been at the work of catechetical leadership for decades; others are here for the first time, newly recruited by pastors, and filled with questions.

They have pursued catechist certification through the Light of Christ Institute and other formation processes. Many have enrolled in degree programs, often continuing to do the heavy lifting of running a parish program while taking graduate courses at the University of Dallas's Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies or the Loyola Institute for Ministry Extension program (co-sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Worth) or other colleges and universities.

Some have mostly studied on their own, as time and circumstances have allowed, reading carefully *The Catechism*

of the Catholic Church or *The General Directory for Catechesis*, consulting with their pastors and mentors, making application to their own parishes, their own lives.

All have moments of uncertainty and worry — will there be enough catechists willing to be trained; will parents support our efforts; will the programs being offered speak to the parish's adults? At the same time, they are filled with a love of Christ and his church made visible in the countless hours of dedicated, sometimes unheralded effort they make. Surveying the room from the back, I am awestruck by the faith and grace and generosity represented by the people gathered here. I pray in gratitude for these catechetical leaders, and all those who serve with them in our parishes and schools.

The weekend of September 16 and 17 marks the annual celebration of Catechetical Sunday in the dioceses of the United States. In parishes all over the country, and all over our diocese, catechists will be recognized and thanked for their generous service.

May all of us take that opportunity to make a conscious effort, now and in the days to come, to express our thanks and offer our support to each and every one of them.



Dan Luby is the director of Christian Formation for the diocese. In May, for the third time, his column received first place honors among regular columns on spiritual life in the Catholic press of the U.S. and Canada. Dan's column earned the same recognition in 2001 and again in 2003. Dan and his wife, Theresa, have two children, Kate and Peter.

Another look at illegal immigrants

By Jeff Hensley

There's a lot of noise being made about immigration right now and whether to take care of the immigrant population that is already among us, serving us, working alongside us, without the benefit of legal status.

The church argues from a justice point of view, repeatedly reminding us that we are, after all, an immigrant nation. And Scripture admonishes us to act with an even hand toward the immigrant, deserving of our charity and our just actions.

But less frequently do I hear arguments from a demographic perspective rooted in self-interest.

Seldom do you hear anyone telling the body politic that the 12 million or so illegal immigrants in this country are replacing

the much larger portion of our population lost to abortions in the past 30-plus years. Some set that figure at 30 million. Some use a higher number. If you want to throw in the number of children not born into smaller families resulting from all different manner of birth control, you add in multiple millions more who are not now present in our country.

And just who is going to be doing the work those tens of millions would have done? Who is going to be paying into Social Security so that those of us currently in the work force will have the ongoing income from withholding taxes to fund our benefits?

I can give you part of the answer. A good bit of that shortfall is going to come from the taxes paid by illegal immigrants who have become naturalized citizens. If we're smart, that is.

And just how much we do we want

them to be paying into the system? A little bit? The portion that minimum wages jobs or just above that level will provide? I'll bet not. I'll bet every last one of us wants these new citizens to be paying in what high-paying jobs will allow. I'll bet what we all really want is for these new immigrants and their children to have every opportunity we can provide, including better access to health care and education, so that they can earn well, live well, and pay into the system well.

Last issue of the *NTC*, I wrote about a hike I took in the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, up above Wichita Falls. It was a very hot day, and another car was parked at the trailhead. Thinking myself kind and provident, I packed in a little more water and a couple more fruit and grain bars than I thought I would need, so I might be able to help the occupants of that car, should I meet them

on the trail, and should they be in need of assistance. Little did I know I was packing for myself.

Well, guess what. We can see the trail ahead for the next 20 or 30 years, and there's a huge shortfall of monies flowing into the federal coffers. There's also a huge shortfall of labor to take care of the needs of our economy and our fast-growing body of elderly. Where will the provision for those needs come from?

I'm betting it doesn't take a genius to figure out that justice and self interest line up pretty nicely about now, or that failure to act justly and providently toward our illegal immigrant neighbors will have drastically bad consequences — for us — just down the road.

Best we cast our bread upon the waters, and act with generosity, allowing us to participate in the Lord's economy where giving comes first.

Amazing Encounters

of the avian kind

By Antoinette Bosco

In late summer I received an invitation from my friends, Sam and Wanda Rieger, to attend a breakfast reception so we could give our very best wishes to their son and his new bride. This was a very special time for these parents, for they never will have a wedding reception for a daughter. Their beloved Melanie was murdered by a deranged acquaintance in 1994.

The last paragraph of the invitation letter they sent really caught my attention. Sam told of an experience they had when leaving their hotel room in the state where the wedding took place:

"Wanda noticed that there was a bluebird in the hallway. It was very strange, as there were no open windows or doors through which the bird could have entered. In any case, the bird tried to get out by banging against the windows at that end of the hallway which do not open. ... I approached it, and it allowed me to catch and hold it in my hands. I walked to the door and let it go. It flew away. So, make of this what you wish."

I recalled a bluebird story told to me by one of my young reporters in the early 1990s when I was a newspaper editor. Her beautiful sister Lucy, who had the bluest eyes I'd ever seen, died from suicide. After the funeral, as the young reporter and her husband were

Numerous saints have been depicted as accompanied by a dove, including St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Gregory the Great. Whether we believe yes or no that birds are spiritual messengers, we can all agree that beautiful birds lift our spirits.

on a highway driving home, a bluebird suddenly flew across their windshield, crisscrossing several times. Was it a love message from Lucy? Who knows.

I had many amazing encounters with birds after my two beloved sons and my daughter-in-law died. I wrote about one of these amazing "visits" for Guideposts magazine and received dozens of letters from people telling me of their own personal experiences of being visited by birds after a loved one died. Each believed that the birds were a sign from God that life goes on.

I was told by a respected nun I loved, now deceased, that she once had a book published in France titled "The Spirituality of Birds."

Many people have read Victor Frankl's great book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, telling of what he learned from his imprisonment at Auschwitz in World War II. He speaks of the pain of being separated from his wife, who was killed, yet felt "she was present, that she was with me. The feeling was very strong that she was there. Then, at that very moment, a bird flew down silently and perched just in front of me, on the heap of soil which I had dug up from the ditch, and looked steadily at me."

For him, that bird was a messenger, helping him to transcend his hopelessness.

How do we explain what happened to then 17-year-old Nick Chirls, as he eulogized his mother, Catherine Ellen, who was killed Sept. 11 in the World Trade Center? As he eulogized his mother, a sparrow lit on his head, making him for a brief while something of a celebrity.

The stories about bird symbolism can go on and on. Numerous saints have been depicted as accompanied by a dove, including St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Gregory the Great. Whether we believe yes or no that birds are spiritual messengers, we can all agree that beautiful birds lift our spirits. And we all can agree with Emily Dickenson, who wrote:

"To hear an Oriole sing
"May be a common thing —
"Or only a Divine"



Antoinette Bosco is the author of a number of books, including *COINCIDENCES: TOUCHED BY A MIRACLE*, *THE PUMMELED HEART: FINDING PEACE THROUGH PAIN*, *CHOOSING MERCY*, *SHAKEN FAITH*; *HANGING IN THERE WHEN GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY*, and *A MOTHER OF MURDER VICTIMS PLEADS TO END THE DEATH PENALTY*, which received a 2002 Christopher Award. Her Web site has even more information about this remarkable writer who has worked as a writer and editor for more than 50 years: antoinettebosco.com.

Anger, loss, and sleeping on the train



By Kathy Cribari Hamer

The man was trying to find North Maywood, a Chicago neighborhood I had never heard of, and he said he had been on the trains since 8 p.m. the night before.

My silly son Andrew and I were on our way home from a Second City show, so we interacted with the man for a few minutes while we waited for the train. It was the red line.

In his hands, the man carried a map big enough to hold a paint-by-number reproduction of the Wrigley building. I wondered why, with all that information at his disposal, he could have been lost in the Chicago train system for 24 hours.

(These were smug thoughts, I realized, especially for a person who bypasses her own driveway every time she comes home after dark, unless there is lighted Christmas garland on the carport.)

The three of us got on the train, and the small, studious-looking man stood in back, brow furrowed and perusing his map as though it were a geography textbook on ancient Mesopotamia. He got off at the next stop. As far as we knew, he had still not found North Maywood.

During the rest of our ride, Andrew and I were people watching. Across from where we sat, we spotted a man who was asleep, his head tucked inside his sweatshirt, like a fat Tom turkey hiding on Thanksgiving. He slept deeply, like a relaxed cat, inhaling and exhaling in a soothing rhythm that belied the hurried nature of the train ride.

"The other day at work I was taking a nap during my lunch break," Andrew said, "I usually can't do that. Afterward, my friend Erika said, 'You can only sleep in a room if the people there are those you trust. Sleeping and faith go hand-in-hand.'"

"Do you ever sleep on the train?" I asked Andrew. He said he couldn't. "I always have my backpack clutched tightly," he said, "and I jar myself awake every few seconds.

"But it makes me feel bad," Andrew added, acknowledging a glistening gem of truth he had accidentally hit upon: "Homeless people sleep on the trains all the time. People who have nothing to lose have no reason not to trust."

Andrew told me the story of a homeless man he encountered one day. He was a large man, with curly, graying hair, an old T-shirt, and very few teeth in his mouth. The reason you could see that he had no teeth, Andrew said, was simple: He always smiled.

"The first time I saw him, we were getting on the brown line to Sedgwick, and he had found a nearly-full 12-pack of Diet Cokes. I had seen the carton a few minutes earlier, balanced on a trash can.

"He walked around the train passing drinks around," Andrew said, "and then took a can for himself. It seemed like he thought it was a drink he needed to shake before

SEE HAMER, P. 22

St. Catherine of Siena Parish celebrates 25 years as a diverse, vibrant community

STORY BY NICKI PREVOU / PHOTOS BY WENDY PANDOLFO

Anyone who entered the parish hall of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Carrollton the night of Aug. 19 heard it immediately: great peals of laughter rising above the sounds of clinking glassware, festive music, and the general sociable buzz of the large gathering. St. Catherine's parishioners — many of them "charter members" of the 25-year-old parish — shared memories and much hilarity as they recalled the earliest days of the vibrant faith community, located in the far northeast area of the Diocese of Fort Worth.

"I just can't believe I ever looked this young," chuckled one white-haired reception guest, as he pointed out photographs in an album to his young grandson. Parishioners gathered around video monitors, reacting with amusement as they viewed DVDs of themselves as earnest young adults with "big hair" and aviator glasses, leading religious education classes and attending parish picnics in the early 1980s.

"We just had so much fun," said former parishioner Joyce Seebock, who came from her current home in Georgetown, Texas, to attend the anniversary celebration. "We were just a lot of young families who wanted our own Catholic church in this area. We had a lot of social gatherings; I really think we jelled as a parish because of all those spaghetti dinners."

As the earlier celebratory Mass began, Bishop Kevin Vann, joined by St. Catherine's pastor Father Mathew Kavipurayidam, TOR; deacons, former pastors, and associate pastors; priests of the Northeast Deanery; and representatives of the parish's founding families, processed into the church, attended by an honor guard of Fourth Degree members of the Knights of Columbus.

"An anniversary is a time of grace and a time of reflection for us," said Bishop Vann, in his homily. "It is a time to celebrate the Lord's goodness and faithfulness to your parish community. It is a time to think of all those individuals — priests and parishioners — who sacrificed to begin your parish family and bring it to this day."

The anniversary Mass, held in the spacious church dedicated in the community's 22nd year, Nov. 16, 2003, represented the diversity, the energy, and the piety of the parish community, a community that has grown through the years from a group



Above: Bishop Kevin Vann, joined by current and former priests and deacons associated with the parish, as well as priests of the Northeast Deanery, celebrates the 25th anniversary liturgy at St. Catherine of Siena Church Aug. 19.



Above: Gloria Hesselgrave, a Lady Knight with Council 2857, San Juan Diego Assembly of Keller, joins in singing at the anniversary Mass with her young grandson, Cody. Gloria's husband, Mark Hesselgrave, served in the Fourth Degree Knights honor guard at the liturgy.



Left: Parishioners Sonny Cruz and Paul Braden look at the family tree textile, which was especially designed and created for the anniversary celebration. The names of all individuals and families of the parish are represented on leaves that were sewn by parish volunteers onto the fabric "branches" of the tree.

of approximately 140 families to nearly 2,000 families.

"The Lord God began a good work in our midst when he inspired a group of Carrollton Catholics to come together to form a community," wrote Fr. Kavipurayidam in a message to the parish community. "That community was a little plant in 1981, but it grew over the years to become a large tree with branches bearing leaves and fruits. Today we are a community of over 1,900 families, expressing our faith through worship, fellowship, evangelization, and service..." he wrote. "Our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude for the marvelous things which the Lord has accomplished in our midst."

The anniversary weekend, said longtime parishioner and staff member Rosemary Manganilla, was an opportunity for the parish community to reflect on its own rich history, while celebrating current ministries and accomplishments. "All in all, it has been an exciting few months," wrote Manganilla, in describing the elaborate plans for the anniversary weekend. A large leadership team worked to develop plans for the weekend's events, which included the liturgy and reception, an art contest, dinner dance, parish picnic, potluck breakfast,

a Friday evening prayer service, dramatic performance of the life of St. Catherine, and an ice-cream social.

One of the honored guests, the community's second pastor, Father Richard Weaver of the Diocese of Dallas, enthusiastically shared stories with dozens of old friends, as they gathered around him at the Saturday evening reception.

"The people of this parish always were very gifted leaders and developed a lot on their own," said Fr. Weaver, recalling his own years of leadership between 1986 and 1989. "There has always been a great parish staff here, and lots of volunteers for anything that needed to be done. When we had about 1,200 people attending church here, about half of them were extremely involved. That's considered an amazing percentage in any parish."

"I celebrated my first Communion here at this church," said Samantha Seebock Crowell, now of Brownwood. "Our family moved from Carrollton after I graduated from high school in 1989." Holding a photo album, her gaze swept the room, taking in the gathering of laughing people, chatting animatedly with each other. "It's nice to come home, just to remember."



Above: Prayers of the Faithful are read at the anniversary liturgy by parishioners representing a variety of cultures.



Left: Father Mathew Kavipurayidam, TOR, pastor of St. Catherine's since 2003, moves through the congregation at the anniversary Mass, blessing the assembly with holy water.



Right: Joyce Seebock, a founding member of the parish, is joined by daughter Samantha Seebock Crowell in looking at photographs at the reception held after the Mass. Mother and daughter traveled from Georgetown and Brownwood, respectively, in order to participate in the parish's 25th anniversary celebration.

A Brief History of St. Catherine of Siena Parish

- 1977 — Small group of North Carrollton Catholics gather for meetings.
- 1978 — CCD classes began with seven students at Holy Covenant Methodist Church; the first Mass was celebrated in May by Father Joseph Scantlin; Masses were celebrated at Woodlake Elementary School; the church was named a mission of St. Philip Church of Lewisville.
- 1979 — Land was purchased, and building began on the community's present education and fellowship buildings.
- 1981 — Father Bob Whitfill was named first pastor to the community; the parish was officially named St. Catherine of Siena.
- 1984 — The Community Center was completed and dedicated by Bishop Joseph Delaney March 17; the preschool program began.
- 1986 — Father Richard Weaver was named pastor; the tradition of the parish "Autumnfest" began.
- 1989 — Father Thomas Craig was named pastor; Father Jovian Lang became the priest in residence; the Youth Center was built.
- 1997 — Franciscan priests Father George Thennattil and Father Thomas Panickaruparampil joined the community. Construction began on the church.
- 1998 — The church was dedicated Jan. 16 by Bishop Delaney, and the Family Center of classrooms, reception areas, and offices was opened.
- 2002 — Father Antony Mathew became associate pastor.
- 2003 — A larger church building was dedicated Nov. 16 by Bishop Delaney.
- 2004 — Father Mathew Kavipurayidam, TOR, became pastor.

Diocesan

Sacred Heart Parish, Wichita Falls, expresses thanks to longtime pastor Father Ivor Koch upon his retirement, knowing that new opportunities await this man who has joyfully embraced his call to be . . .

Left: Father Ivor Koch speaks to the children at a Christmas service at Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls.

Priest

By Mary E. Manley, Correspondent

The evening of Tuesday, Aug. 29, proved to be festive — yet poignant — for Father Ivor Koch, longtime pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls, and 630 well-wishers who came to impart a fond farewell to the priest who led his flock for more than 17 years.



Above: Father Ivor Koch cuts the cake at his retirement reception, held at Wichita Falls' Multi-Purpose Event Center Aug. 29. (Photo by Mary E. Manley)

A surprise guest that evening was Bishop Kevin Vann. Shortly beforehand, he had rearranged his schedule to attend the dinner party at the city's Multi-Purpose Event Center. Bishop Vann gave the meal blessing and expressed kind regards for Fr. Koch. He joined Fr. Koch, emcee Dr. Tom Hoffman, with wife, Becky, and Jim McSorley, parish council president, at the head table.

Helping set a celebratory tone were a slide presentation of Fr. Koch's Sacred Heart ministry, the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Honor Guard procession, parish Boy Scouts posting colors, vivid table flowers, and an inviting dessert cake waiting to be cut by Fr. Koch.

Music provided by a city symphony string quartet and the Sacred Heart Chancel Choir — with an amusing, original rendition of "Thanks for the Memories" — further enhanced the catered celebration.

Toward the end of the night, gift presentations were made to Fr. Koch by parish service organizations, and a monetary gift for him from the overall parish was to be forthcoming.

Hoffman heartily welcomed the celebrants, which included several priests, chaplains, and deacons, along with representatives from the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and Sisters of St. Mary of Namur. Hoffman later extolled Fr. Koch for his 22 years of priesthood, commending him for answering his calling at age 54 and also overcoming numerous health obstacles to fulfill his ministerial duties.

As a seasoned Sacred Heart parishioner, Hoffman labeled his pastor as "Three Men in One." He elaborated these roles to be: 1) "Man of the Earth," because of his love of nature's beauty; 2) "Man of the Cloth," because of his love for people and selfless desire to help them; and 3) "Man of Vision," as exemplified in his commend-

able leadership in restoring, remodeling, and expanding the historic church and its parish hall, bringing the facilities into the new millennium.

Another testimonial was given by the Rev. Harold Elliott, 32-year chaplain for Arlington's police department. In honoring Fr. Koch, who is a local police chaplain, the Protestant minister declared his friend to be "a blessing in our life," adding, "I am delighted to know you and to celebrate this time as you go into retirement."

Fr. Koch offered gratitude to the Sacred Heart community for empowering him to make some significant strides during his almost two decades of leadership. He gave some humorous insights to offset stronger emotions involved in acknowledging his pending departure. At one juncture, he introduced Father Hoa Nguyen, formerly pastor of Burk Burnett's St. Jude Parish, as his replacement, effective Sept. 1.

Fr. Koch was born in What Cheer, Iowa, Nov. 5, 1930. Raised a Methodist, he converted to the Catholic faith in his 20s. Before ordination, his work positions included bartender, hometown mayor, divisional sales manager, and internal auditor, with major involvement in his family floral business. He has credited the latter as particularly useful in honing his business and people skills.

After study at the Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wisconsin, Fr. Koch completed his 1982/1983 seminary pastoral year at Sacred Heart Parish. On June 16, 1984, he was ordained a priest. Before returning to Sacred Heart Parish in January 1989 as its pastor, he undertook various diocesan assignments. Among the parishes he served were St. Vincent de Paul, Arlington; St. Michael, Bedford; Our Lady of Mercy, Hillsboro; St. Mary, Henrietta; St. Jerome, Bowie; St. William, Montague; and

St. Joseph, Nocona. Fr. Koch became a Knight Commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre in 1986.

In a parting sermon the last weekend of Fr. Koch's pastorate, he referenced himself with the words of the renowned military leader, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, by saying, "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away." Yet, from what Fr. Koch and loyal supporters have conveyed, this scenario may differ for him.

Now residing at a local retirement center, Fr. Koch has stated that he remains available for service. He will continue his chaplain affiliation with Knights Council #10998, as well as his role as moderator for the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Other pastoral opportunities are likely to occur for this man who freely admitted in his official goodbye to fully loving his vocation, with its many life rewards.

U.S. seminaries receive new Program of Priestly Formation

By Jerry Filteau

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new Program of Priestly Formation has been issued for use in all U.S. Catholic seminaries.

It places more emphasis on the human formation of seminarians, and especially on formation for celibacy, than did the fourth edition of the program, which had been in effect since 1992.

The 98-page revised version of the program, the fifth edition, has been posted on the Web site of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at www.usccb.org.

The Program of Priestly Formation has governed seminary formation in the United States since the bishops issued the first

edition in 1971.

The new version, reflecting the bishops' recent response to the scandal of clergy sexual abuse of minors, says explicitly for the first time that no seminary applicant is to be accepted if he has been involved in sexual abuse of minors.

It also incorporates stricter norms, adopted by the bishops in 1999, on evaluating an application for seminary admission from someone who previously left or was dismissed from a seminary or a formation program for religious life.

The bishops adopted the fifth edition of the program by a nearly unanimous vote, 231-3, at their

June 2005 meeting in Chicago.

Last November Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education, informed Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Washington, USCCB president, that his congregation had studied the new edition and approved it for a period of five years. Bishop Skylstad's decree promulgating the document was dated Aug. 4, the feast of St. John Vianney.

In his letter Cardinal Grocholewski wrote, "The text is most appropriate. Of special benefit, in fact, will be the increased requirements for philosophical studies to a minimum of 30 credits and the lengthening of the pre-theol-

ogy period to a minimum of two calendar years."

Fifty years ago most priesthood candidates entered the seminary in high school or college and received the philosophical and other academic prerequisites for graduate theological studies in a college seminary setting. In the past two or three decades, however, more and more seminary applicants have come in with college degrees that included little or none of those prerequisites.

As a result, pre-theology programs have become an increasingly important part of the academic programs of seminaries, and in fact many of those had already become two-year programs before

the new norms were adopted.

Like the 1992 edition, the new program speaks of four dimensions of formation that seminarians must develop and integrate as they prepare to become priests: intellectual, pastoral, spiritual, and human.

Those dimensions of formation were outlined by Pope John Paul II in his 1992 apostolic exhortation, *Pastores Dabo Vobis (I Will Give You Shepherds)*. Previous editions of the U.S. Program of Priestly Formation discussed the intellectual, pastoral, and spiritual development of priesthood candidates but did not specifically address issues of human development.

See Christ in others, pope encourages

FROM PAGE 1

In order to recognize Christ, especially in other people or in one's daily life, people must have "innocent hands and pure hearts," Pope Benedict said.

Having innocent hands means living one's existence "enlightened by the truth of love that conquers indifference, doubt, lies, and selfishness," he said. A pure heart, he added, is a heart that has been "captured by divine beauty" and houses Christ's very image.

It was only after Jesus' passion and resurrection that the disciples recognized him as the true Son of God, "the Messiah promised for the redemption of the world," said the pope.

"Looking for Jesus' face must be the yearning of all of us Christians," the pope said. For those who persevere in that search, he said, Jesus "will be there at the end of our earthly pilgrimage."

The pope also made an urgent appeal for greater respect for the environment. The church in Italy marked its first day of reflection and prayer for the protection of the environment Sept. 1.

The pope said nature was in great danger as it is "always ever more exposed to serious risks of environmental degradation" and must be "defended and



VERONICA'S VEIL — Pope Benedict XVI prays in front of "Veronica's Veil" at the Sanctuary of the Holy Face in Manoppello, Italy, Sept. 1. "Looking for Jesus' face must be the yearning of all of us Christians," the pope said. According to tradition, the veil portrays the image of Christ's face and no pigments or paints were used to create the image. (CNS photo/Max Rossi, Reuters)

safeguarded."

After arriving in this small city nestled in the mountains not far from the Adriatic Sea, the pope walked to the Sanctuary of the Holy Face and was met by local city and church officials. He greeted thousands of exuberant pilgrims who lined the streets as they cheered and waved small yellow and white Vatican flags.

Archbishop Bruno Forte of Chieti-Vasto told Vatican Radio Aug. 31 that, before his election to the pontificate, Pope Benedict, as Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, had hoped to visit and pray at

the shrine.

The visit was "a personal pilgrimage," the archbishop told Vatican Radio, "to highlight the importance of faith in looking toward the face of Jesus in life."

The archbishop, a close collaborator of the pope's through their work on the International Theological Commission, led the pope to the sanctuary.

A Capuchin friar unlocked and opened the protective glass case housing the icon above the church's altar. The pope spent several minutes venerating the relic.

still very attached to his Bavarian roots.

"He asked me about people he knew, how everyone is, and after his house," Rummel said. "He also stated how very much he was looking forward to visiting us in Pentling and seemed very much at ease speaking Bavarian dialect with us."

Rummel said he thought the pope would try to find a chance to greet his Pentling friends when he visits the village, just outside Regensburg.

Residents of Pentling, Germany, excited about pope's visit

PENTLING, Germany (CNS) — Residents of the village of Pentling, where Pope Benedict XVI still owns a home, are excited that their favorite son is returning Sept. 13, and some will even be at the airport when he arrives in Munich Sept. 9.

"We are going to send a delegation of 20 people to welcome the pope at the airport

when he first touches down in Bavaria," Pentling Mayor Albert Rummel told Catholic News Service Aug. 30. "To greet him, we will bring a banner that has been designed by the local kindergarten, which he himself has christened."

In mid-August, Rummel was in Italy to meet with the pope and said the German pontiff is

'With God's help, we will rebuild wonderful communities...,' says Biloxi's Bishop Rodi

FROM PAGE 1

The bishop also stressed that the hurricane demonstrated people's compassion especially as volunteers arrived from across the world to help out.

"It has been difficult at times to be on the receiving end of this generosity, but it has been a blessing to see so many people who wish to lend a helping hand to others. We are fortunate to be able to see so much goodness in the world," he added.

Bishop Rodi also noted that those directly impacted by the storm have had the opportunity to grow in faith even as they question why God would allow

bad things to happen.

"We have had the opportunity to learn that God is with us both in the good times and in the struggles of life," he said. "We have also had the opportunity to learn that God can bring good even out of the worst of times."

"If we open our eyes, we can see the hand of God guiding, helping, and strengthening us," he added. "We are not the same after Katrina, but we can each be better. God can lead us to grow in wisdom, compassion, and faith because of all we have and are enduring."

The bishop pointed out that many parishes and schools are

planting an oak tree to observe Katrina's anniversary as a memorial to those who have died and a tangible sign of "our commitment to continue to grow and together build a new future for our beloved Mississippi."

He said the trees will take time to grow, just as recovery takes time. "The road of recovery will be long and challenging," Bishop Rodi wrote. "With neighbor helping neighbor, with the assistance we are receiving throughout our nation and our world, and with God's help, we will rebuild wonderful communities with a great sense of place and a wonderful quality of life."

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

FDA permission to sell Plan B over the counter called unacceptable

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Food and Drug Administration's Aug. 24 decision, with the apparent support of President George W. Bush, to allow over-the-counter sales of Plan B, the "morning-after pill," to women 18 and older defies common sense and is "completely unacceptable," according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, urged pharmacists "not to confuse FDA approval with a right to access" and said they should "refuse to stock this potent drug for distribution on demand." Plan B uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. Over-the-counter sales of the drug were expected to begin before the end of the year. In its Aug. 24 announcement, the FDA said that, "when used as directed, Plan B effectively and safely prevents pregnancy." But McQuade said that ignores the "potentially abortifacient" effects of the drug.

Rules of war still apply even if one side ignores them, panelists say

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Even if terrorists or insurgents attack civilians and ignore other moral rules of warfare, those who are fighting back must still follow those rules, said experts at a round-table discussion of just-war issues five years after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The round table was convened by Catholic News Service Aug. 21 at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University in Washington. Panelists were just-war experts from The Catholic University of America and Georgetown University and a former chief of Navy chaplains who wrote his doctoral thesis on the requirements of moral conduct in waging war. Franciscan Father Louis V. Iasiello, now president of Washington Theological Union, said that before his recent retirement as chief of Navy chaplains he was twice asked to lecture at the U.S. war colleges on how the military should "fight an enemy that either ignores or exploits the rules of war for tactical, operational, or strategic gain." He said, "The answer may be found not in asking 'What should I do?' but 'Who am I?' ... If we're here to represent the constitutional values that we're willing to fight and die for, then we'd better be ready to put those same principles on the line in the field of battle. So I said [in those lectures] if you ask yourself 'Who are you?' you'll come to the realization of what you should do."

Make better health care coverage election priority, says CHA head

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Improving health care insurance coverage should be a major campaign priority in November's elections, said the head of the Catholic Health Association, noting that 46.6 million people in the U.S. are uninsured. "We hope that as the midterm election approaches, people across the country will demand that their candidates for office explain how they will work to expand coverage and access," said Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity. "No one should be denied the opportunity to pursue and achieve the American dream because they were sick and could not afford treatment. This great nation can do better. It must do better," she said. Sr. Carol, CHA president and CEO and former head of Providence Hospital in Washington, was commenting on 2005 figures released Aug. 29 by the U.S. Census Bureau. The bureau reported that 46.6 million people in the U.S. are uninsured. This includes 8.3 million children.

Sister Mary Luke Tobin dies; played role at Second Vatican Council

NERINX, Kentucky (CNS) — Loretto Sister Mary Luke Tobin, who played a leading role in the U.S. renewal of religious life and was one of a handful of female observers at the Second Vatican Council, died at the Loretto motherhouse in Nerinx Aug. 24. She was 98 years old. Sr. Tobin donated her body to science. A memorial service is to be held at the motherhouse Oct. 7. An ardent ecumenist and advocate of church renewal, peace, social justice, and women's rights in church and society, Sr. Tobin was president of her order from 1958 to 1970 and was head of what is now the Leadership Conference of Women Religious during Vatican II. She was one of only 15 women worldwide invited to attend the council's last two sessions as an auditor, and she was part of the commission that drafted *Gaudium et Spes*, the council's *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*. Only two other women were members of commissions that drafted council documents. Born in Denver May 16, 1908, Ruth Marie Tobin joined the Loretto community and took the religious name Mary Luke when she professed her vows in 1927.

Diocesan

With thanksgiving to God and gratitude for a nurturing family who supported his vocational call . . .

Father Walter McCauley, SJ, celebrates 50 Years of Priesthood

Story by Nicki Prevou

Below: Father Walter McCauley, SJ, and his mother spend time visiting at a reception following his first Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church in Toledo, Ohio. (Photo by Thomas Kuebler)

Left: A newly-ordained Fr. McCauley presides at his first Mass, celebrated June 17, 1956, in his home parish of Blessed Sacrament Church in Toledo, Ohio. Fr. McCauley attended Blessed Sacrament throughout his childhood and youth, attending the parish grade school and enjoying the friendship of Father Francis Gosser, who served as pastor at Blessed Sacrament from 1936-1958. (Photo by Thomas Kuebler)

Above: Fr. McCauley offers a blessing to a mother and child at the Benediction following his first Mass on June 17, 1956. Pictured are family friends Elizabeth Kuebler and her young daughter Karen. Karen Kuebler Witte is now a resident of Ennis. (Photo by Thomas Kuebler)

Walter Charles McCauley — a happy, baseball-playing, nature-loving youngster — grew up listening to the stories told in his home in Toledo, Ohio. The oldest of four young boys in a vibrant, loving household, he especially enjoyed the evenings spent sitting in his father's lap, hearing accounts of the elder Walter McCauley's months spent in France during World War I.

"As a little boy, I thought of my dad as the one who won the war, single-handedly," chuckles Father McCauley today. Now 80 years old and enjoying a year of celebrations marking his 50th year as a Jesuit priest, Father Walter McCauley is, himself, an accomplished storyteller and historian. His talents as a raconteur serve him well in his current ministry as a retreat master at Montserrat

Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Dallas.

"I could listen to him talk for hours," says his colleague and friend, Liz Moulin, who also directs retreats at Montserrat. "He has such a wonderful sense of humor, and he always tells the best stories!"

Over his past 63 years of ministry in Jesuit life, the affable, quietly articulate priest has served as teacher, administrator, professor, and pastor. He is modest about his accomplishments in each of these en-

deavors, which included stints as the assistant principal and principal at Jesuit High School in Dallas; as a visiting fellow at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey; service as the theology department chairman at Loyola College in Baltimore, Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, and in the Saint Louis University's School of Divinity. In later years, he served as pastor at Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish in New Orleans; as associate director at Jesuit retreat centers

in Georgia and Louisiana; and now, since 1990, he has served as a beloved spiritual director and retreat master at Montserrat in North Texas.

"I found moving into retreat work very natural," says Fr. McCauley. "In academic work, you're trying to improve people's lives, but they don't always appreciate being taught until a few years later. In retreat work, on the other hand, you see people with great needs, and you see them learning new ways to pray, new ways to deal with God. I find that very rewarding."

Fr. McCauley's early life gives clues as to how this priest came to embrace life as a Jesuit scholastic and then, as of June 13, 1956, as an ordained priest.

"Supportive family life and lived faith is what nurtures vocations to religious life," says Bishop Kevin Vann of the Diocese of Fort Worth. "Also, the opportunity to know holy and happy religious and priests who give good examples of happiness in their calling."

Fr. McCauley's own vocation to the priesthood, he says, was tended by a mother who attended daily Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church, in Toledo, just one block from their home. Active in the parish, young Walter also attended Catholic schools, and was particularly influenced by the example of an uncle, Jesuit scholastic John O'Connor.

"I and the other men in my ordination group were ordained priests by then-Bishop Thomas J. Toolen of the then-Diocese of Mobile," wrote Fr. McCauley in the program for his jubilee celebration, held July 30 in New Orleans. "We have learned over the years the limitless fidelity and love of almighty God toward all his people. . . . Our long life on this earth does teach us that God never forgets us."

Fr. Walter's firm belief in God's tender, redeeming love is his trademark, says Liz Moulin, and is "a blessing" to those who come to him for retreats and spiritual direction. "I've seen him ministering to others, and I've attended several retreats that he has given through the years," she says. "Fr. Walter really follows the Lord, and he truly listens to the Holy Spirit. We're so grateful for every day that he is here and for the way that he blesses everybody. Fr. Walter is my idea of a godly man."

Fr. Walter's vocation, he says, was nurtured through years spent in a happy, faith-filled home; within loving Catholic school and parish communities; and through close relationships with many dedicated religious and priests. Fifty years after ordination, the tender care he received from so many people of faith continues to enrich the lives of all who come to him at Montserrat.



Father Walter McCauley, SJ, (center) is joined by cousins and by two of his brothers and their families at the July 30 jubilee celebration held in New Orleans for Jesuits of the New Orleans Province. Family members surrounding Fr. McCauley are (l. to r.) Christine and Dan McCauley; Betty Lawless; Carol and Martin McCauley; Nancy and Jerry McCauley; and Mary Anne Hulse. (Photo provided by the Jesuits)



September 17, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Cycle B. Readings:

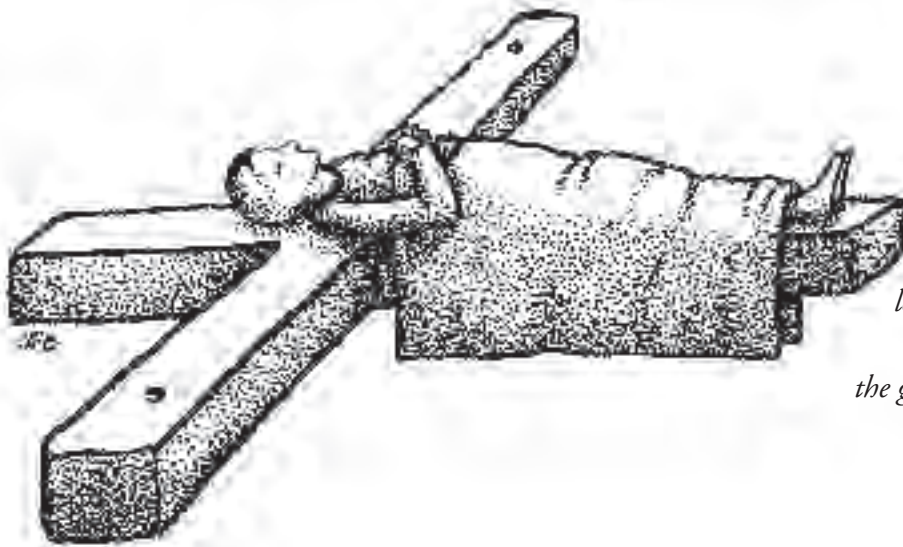
- 1) Isaiah 50:5-9a
Psalm 116:1-6, 8-9
- 2) James 2:14-18
Gospel) Mark 8:27-35

By Beverly Corzine

I see my friend lying in a bed filled with pillows, surrounded with a web of plastic tubing. The clicks and whirrs of medical machinery fill the otherwise silent hospital room. Years of suffering have elapsed, but now she is on the cusp of leaving us behind. Once she was a young bride, always a lover of Christ. Now she is wife, mother, and grandmother whose suffering has been horrific but whose faith has never wavered.

The night just passed has been filled with the struggle to breathe. Now the merciful drip flows through the plastic tubing to allow a respite from pain and to let her pass into the welcome realm of blessed sleep.

Standing quietly by her bedside is enough; I do not wish to make a decibel of noise. One of her relatives sits quietly in the corner. We exchange a familiar wave and nod that means, "I'll



"Whoever would preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will preserve it."

— Mark 8:35

tell her you were here when she wakes up."

At that moment my friend opens her eyes. "Beverly," she says. "I thought I was dying last night." Then she closes her eyes and falls asleep again.

During my next visit my friend's husband is the sentinel, sitting quietly in the corner, however, my friend is awake. The three of us share a lighthearted conversation. The deep love that these two have for each other is palpable in their gentle jokes that skirt the extreme situation that being a long-term resident on the oncology floor presents.

In Mark's Gospel we hear Jesus begin to reveal

QUESTIONS:

Whose suffering has reminded you of Jesus' promise of the way to salvation? Who do you know who is struggling and needs to hear his message of taking up one's own cross?

his identity to his disciples. He confirms that he is the long-awaited Christ, but he must suffer and die. To help Peter make some sense of this mysterious teaching, Jesus comforts them by saying, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me ... whoever loses his life for my sake ... will save it."

Leaving, I pass other doors on the oncology floor. I know that this teaching of Jesus is the bedrock of faith for my friend and countless others as they struggle to live or face the end of their lives with the promise of Jesus on their lips.

Copyright © 2006, Diocese of Fort Worth

Pope: Jesus excludes no one from his loving embrace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Jesus excludes no one from his loving embrace because he came especially to save sinners and social outcasts, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The good news of the Gospels consists precisely in Jesus' message that God offers his grace above all to those who seem furthest from being holy, the pope said Aug. 30 at his weekly general audience.

In front of some 8,000 pilgrims packed into the Paul VI Hall, the pope continued his series of audience talks about the apostles with a reflection on the life and Gospel of St. Matthew.

Matthew was a tax collector for the Roman occupiers in Israel and, therefore, like all the tax collectors at the time, was much hated by his fellow Jews, who considered him to be a public sinner.

But Jesus invited Matthew and other marginalized people to "follow me" and even invited them to eat with him, the pope said.

To those who were scandalized by Jesus associating with



Pope Benedict XVI kneels as he prays in front of "Veronica's Veil" at the Sanctuary of the Holy Face in Manoppello, Italy, Sept. 1. Archbishop Bruno Forte of Chieti-Vasto said the pope's visit was intended "to highlight the importance of faith in looking toward the face of Jesus in life." According to tradition, the veil portrays the image of Christ's face. (CNS photo/Max Rossi, Reuters)

occupation that had been his one sure source of income, but which was also often unjust and dishonest work, said the pope.

"Matthew understood that knowing Jesus would not allow him to continue an activity God disapproved of," he said.

"Even today it is not admissible to be attached to things that are incompatible with following Jesus, such as is the case with dishonest wealth," he said.

Just as Matthew decided to leave behind an immoral livelihood in order to follow Christ, the pope said all people are called to remove themselves from "a situation of sin" so as to embark on a new way of life and "follow Jesus completely."

At the end of the two-hour audience, the pope individually greeted and blessed a long line of physically disabled children and adults, including an African woman who left behind her wheelchair to walk resolutely up to the pope using crutches and two artificial legs.

After greeting other pilgrims, the pope returned by helicopter to his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, outside Rome.

the community's outcasts, the pope quoted Jesus as saying: "Those who are well don't need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

"Jesus excludes no one from his friendship," said the pope. Rather, he makes a special invitation to those who have humbly acknowledged their sins and are willing to leave their old ways

of life behind for a new life with Christ, Pope Benedict said.

For example, in St. Luke's account of the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, the humble sinner who begs God's forgiveness will be justified in God's eyes before the self-righteous person who proudly vaunts his or her moral perfection.

This seemingly paradoxical

teaching is also reflected in the figure of St. Matthew, the pope said, since the person who seems furthest from being holy can become the first to enter the kingdom of heaven and act as an example of God's welcoming mercy.

Matthew did not hesitate to answer Jesus' call even though it meant leaving everything behind, especially his job — an

Scripture Readings



September 24, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Cycle B. Readings:

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

By Jean Denton

My young friend Ryan was accepted by several highly selective universities last spring. I thought this must be quite an ego trip considering all the hype that surrounds college admissions these days. Plus he lives in a community that overly touts the achievements of its high schoolers.

Ryan seemed oblivious to all that. I'd known him for several years before I found out that he was a top-ranked student in the most difficult academic curriculum. All I knew was that his conversation about spiritual matters always ran deep and that a serious, mature relationship with God was at the heart of his love of social ministry projects.

So the prestigious Catholic university with its stimulating environment for intellectual, spiritually engaged young people seemed the perfect fit for Ryan. He turned it down. He couldn't



afford to go there. Instead he now attends a state university — not even a high-ranking one — that offered him full tuition and housing.

At first, I was dismayed that he was unable to go to the hotshot Catholic school, although Ryan himself didn't seem disappointed. Then I began to tell my husband about Ryan: Of course, he'll do extremely well at the college he's chosen. One thing about it that excited him is that it has a medical school, and he wants to study medi-

"If anyone wishes to rank first, he must remain the last one of all and the servant of all."

—Mark 9:35cd

cine, hoping to become a pediatrician. And he should, I told my husband. He's just the kind of person society needs as a doctor, compassionate, a servant-leader type — and he loves children! Also, he'll be happy in a large city where he can serve the poor through campus ministry. By the time I'd finished describing the whole imagined scene, I was excited that Ryan would be where he belongs.

The servant-leader and child-loving aspects of Ryan's character are what reminded me of him when I read this week's Gospel. Jesus' closest disciples were on a group ego trip about their individual accomplishments. Obviously embarrassed, they got a brief lesson on servant leadership. Then Jesus embraced an unassuming child in their midst — the one, he noted, who will bless those who accept him.

Ryan likely will hear these readings at Mass this Sunday. But he won't recognize himself. He'll be busy with the concerns of everyone else.

QUESTIONS:

What personal achievements tend to set you on an ego trip? How can you walk closer to Jesus to use your accomplishments to serve others, and who are those others?

Copyright © 2006, Diocese of Fort Worth

Because God is God, there is good & evil & God's good will prevail

OK, got that?

By Jeff Hedglen

As the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York and at the Pentagon arrives, I cannot help but wonder how the survivors are doing. I lost my mother to cancer in 1991, and I still miss her. I cannot imagine what it must be like to recover from the loss of a loved one by such senseless, tragic, unexpected, violent means. All I can do is pray for them and hope that the peace of Jesus is finding its way into their lives.

The anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001 also causes me to reflect on how many lives have been changed in the years since that fateful day. American, Afghani, and Iraqi orphans. Untold numbers of lives lost on both sides of the war on terror. Every one of these lives created in the image of God.

From these thoughts my mind is whisked away to the Uganda where children are being kidnapped by insurgents and trained to be soldiers. My mind swirls as the reality of poverty and hunger claims

This is why prior to being selected to be the successor to John Paul II, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said that we are "moving toward a dictatorship of relativism ... that recognizes nothing definite and leaves only one's ego and one's own desires as the final measure."

as many as 30,000 people a day — many in America. I am awash with images of how far way from the Garden of Eden

we have traversed. And the examples I have mentioned are just the tip of the iceberg.

It is pretty clear that ever since that bite was bitten from that forbidden fruit, suffering has followed. Many people assume that Eve ate an apple that day in the garden, but the actual fruit is never named, just the tree, and it is the name of the tree that might just shed some light on why there is all this suffering.

The tree was called "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." The reason God did not want us to eat from it is that he had already decided on what was good and what was evil, and he knew that anyone who eats from this tree could decide for themselves what is right and wrong.

If everyone can decide what is good and what is bad, there ceases to be any real standard, and every decision becomes relative. This is why prior to being selected to be the successor to John Paul II, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said that we are "moving toward a dictatorship of relativism ... that recognizes

nothing definite and leaves only one's ego and one's own desires as the final measure."

This relativism is all around us, and it takes many forms, like when people decide that it is okay for them to drink too much alcohol and then drive their 2,000-pound vehicle, or when people decide that they don't like the way a particular group of people live their lives and start a war over it, or when people decide, for whatever reason, other people are beneath them and thus ridicule and gossip about them, or when a young mother decides that the miracle of life she is carrying is a mistake and has an abortion, or even when a person is ill-prepared for an exam or presentation and they cheat to get by.

All of the above instances in one way or another bring death into the world. Obviously with abortion, war, and drunk driving the death is physical, but other times these relativistic decisions bring about a death that is more emotional or spiritual.

It's no wonder the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

All around us we see the destruction wrought by a world feasting on the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Yet through the darkness of relativism shines the light of the truth of God's love, mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and the doorway to eternal life.

When I think about all the evil in the world, I am often overwhelmed by it all, and I am tempted to give up hope. In moments like this I am happy I have done what my old Bible study teacher would challenge us to do — commit Bible verses to memory. The one that rescues me from doubt every time is John 16:33: "In the world you will have trouble, but have courage for I have overcome the world."

With this verse in mind I realize that while we may be surrounded by relativism, there is at least one absolute — God is in control.

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.com.

Mientras comenzamos este año de adoración e impartimos nuestra fe, reconocemos a todos los que brindan sus servicios y a nuestros nuevos seminaristas

Queridos amigos del Señor en nuestra diócesis,

Les estoy escribiendo esta columna en el Día del Trabajo y desde Springfield, Illinois, donde celebré



Monseñor Kevin W. Vann

una boda para miembros de mi familia además de tener la oportunidad para pasar el fin de semana con algunos amigos y mis padres. Mi familia y amigos siguen muy agradecidos por la amabilidad y la calurosa bienvenida que recibieron de tantas personas en Fort Worth, especialmente cuando celebré el vigésimo quinto aniversario de mi ordenación sacerdotal.

Ahora estamos comenzando los meses del otoño, la época en que los programas de la educación religiosa parroquial (Catequesis), además de los programas litúrgicos, de música, y otros programas de nuestras escuelas elementales y secundarias comienzan a funcionar de forma completa. Éstos son meses de gracia en la iglesia y es un tiempo para estar agradecidos por nuestros sacerdotes, diáconos, religiosos y religiosas, y todos los demás que están envueltos en los diversos ministerios de

Quisiera compartir las buenas noticias que en este nuevo año académico que comienza, tendremos 25 candidatos al sacerdocio enlistados en programas de formación sacerdotal en diverso seminarios en Texas y a través de la nación además de en Europa (Colegio Norteamericano en Roma). Entiendo que éste es el número más grande de seminaristas en la historia de la Diócesis.

la parroquia, que se entregan tan generosamente para que nuestra fe pueda ser vivida y proclamada. Nuestro calendario eclesial no es la única fuente de enseñanzas y señales importantes, sino que a veces, nacionalmente, los meses lo son también.

Por ejemplo, el 3 de septiembre es normalmente la fiesta de San Gregorio Magno. Lo elevaron a la silla de San Pedro el 3 de septiembre del año 590 y “demostró ser un verdadero pastor al desempeñar su oficio, ayudando a los pobres, promoviendo y fortaleciendo la fe. Escribió extensivamente sobre temas de moral y teología.” (Liturgia de las Horas). Él es un

ejemplo del equilibrio que debe existir entre el cuidado pastoral y una vida fuerte de oración y devoción. Sus obras de teología moral nos recuerdan la importancia de la conversión de vida y la virtud. El 9 de septiembre celebramos la fiesta de San Pedro Claver. Él nació en 1580 y murió el 8 de septiembre del 1654. Fue miembro de la Compañía de Jesús y trabajó incansablemente en Colombia resolviendo las necesidades espirituales y temporales de los esclavos que fueron traídos para vender a Colombia. Juró hacerse su esclavo para siempre. Su trabajo heroico en una época difícil nos puede llevar a examinar nuestras propias

actitudes hacia el racismo.

Mirando el calendario civil, el mes de septiembre comienza con el Día del Trabajo. Aunque tendemos a observar este día de fiesta como el final del verano, este día nos llama a ser agradecidos por el trabajo de nuestros antepasados que construyeron a nuestro país. Pero no solamente eso, ésta también podría ser una época para reflexionar sobre la doctrina social de la iglesia y la larga tradición de lo que se podría llamar una teología del trabajo. Quiero agradecerle de manera especial a Dan Luby, Ralph McCloud y a todos los que recientemente ayudaron a preparar un día de la reflexión

sobre en este tema en la Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia en Fort Worth. Nuestro trabajo diario es un lugar en donde podemos, con la gracia de Dios, crecer en santidad y “Buscar el Reino de Dios y de su justicia.” (Mateo 6:33).

Finalmente, quisiera compartir las buenas noticias que en este nuevo año académico que comienza, tendremos 25 candidatos al sacerdocio enlistados en programas de formación sacerdotal en diverso seminarios en Texas y a través de la nación además de en Europa (Colegio Norteamericano en Roma). Entiendo que éste es el número más grande de seminaristas en la historia de la Diócesis. (¡En realidad son muchas las diócesis en Texas, y otras partes, que están reportando un incremento en el número de seminaristas este año!) Gracias a todos por sus oraciones por las vocaciones y el estimular nuevas vocaciones, especialmente el Club Serra. ¡Sigán con sus esfuerzos! Gracias especiales también a todos los que han estado envueltos en el procesamiento de las nuevas admisiones al seminario durante este último año. Necesitamos estimular una cultura donde la llamada a servir al Señor como sacerdotes, religiosos y religiosas sea para todos nosotros algo absolutamente vital y necesario.

¡Que Dios los bendiga siempre!

En declaración sobre el Día del Trabajo se enfatizan las demandas y los derechos de los inmigrantes

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Con una cifra de inmigrantes que integran el 15 por ciento de los trabajadores de los Estados Unidos, las cuestiones a analizar a propósito de el Día del Trabajo es “considerar quiénes somos como nación, cómo se trata a todos los trabajadores dentro de nuestra economía, cómo les damos la bienvenida a ‘los extranjeros’ que están entre nosotros”, dijo el presidente del Comité de Acción Política Interna de los obispos de Estados Unidos en la declaración anual con motivo de la celebración de el Día del Trabajo.

“Las demandas de inmigración no solamente son exclusivamente en las fronteras, sino también en el mercado de trabajo”, dijo el obispo Nicholas DiMarzio de Brooklyn en una declaración dada a conocer

El simple hecho es que muchos sectores de la economía de nuestra nación han llegado a ser dependientes de los trabajadores inmigrantes.

—El obispo
Nicholas DiMarzio

el 23 de agosto, fecha adelantada a la celebración del Día del Trabajo, el 4 de septiembre.

“El simple hecho es que muchos sectores de la economía de nuestra nación han llegado a ser dependientes de los trabajadores inmigrantes”, dijo. La agricultura, las plantas procesadoras de carne y pollo, y las industrias de hoteles y restaurantes se mueven a base de la labor de trabajadores inmigrantes.

Sin embargo esta influencia ha sido incierta para muchas personas, dijo el obispo DiMarzio.

El obispo DiMarzio dijo que la situación actual le presenta muchas preguntas a la sociedad actual, que van desde “¿Cómo se puede definir lo que es un ‘americano’?” a “¿Cómo debemos manejar la realidad de que más de 10 millones de personas están aquí sin documentación legal, pero que, con algunas ex-

cepciones, llevan una vida que comparte nuestros valores de trabajo, familia y comunidad?” y “¿Cuál es nuestro punto de vista con respecto a algunos trabajadores, ciudadanos de Estados Unidos, que sienten haber sido dejados atrás o empujados hacia un lado? ¿Cómo debemos proteger nuestras fronteras de aquellos que tienen la voluntad de dañarnos?”

El obispo le pidió a la gente que meditara en esas preguntas a través de los ojos de:

— “Un padre de familia en México que no puede alimentar a su familia, o de un dueño de rancho cuya propiedad se ha convertido en camino peligroso donde transitan personas desesperadas, que amenazan su vida y su modo de vida.

— “Un trabajador que no tiene estado legal y que se dedica a cortar carne o a recoger fruta; o de un trabajador de los Estados Unidos que no cuenta con mucha educación y que tiene pocas habilidades y que está en busca de trabajo con salario decente.

— “Un agricultor o dueño de negocio que no puede encontrar suficientes trabajadores; o de un dirigente de sindicato laboral que trabaja a favor de trabajadores que son explotados y carecen de representación adecuada.

— “Un guardia fronterizo al que se le pide que haga lo imposible con limitados recursos; o de un legislador que tiene la difícil responsabilidad de tratar de reconciliar todas estas diferentes perspectivas en busca del bien común”.

La importancia de tener un corazón saludable, un corazón convertido

¡Cristo es el mejor cardiólogo!

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

En estas últimas semanas he estado reflexionando mucho sobre el corazón. Especialmente cuando nos referimos al mismo en diversas conversaciones. Frases como...

"Tengo una corazonada." "Mi corazón me esta diciendo..." "Estoy siguiendo a mi corazón." "Lo hice de corazón." "Cuando manda el corazón." "Lo que dije fue de corazón." etc., etc., etc.

Lo curioso es que la mayor parte de las veces cuando escuchamos una de estas frases, u otras parecidas, se cree que es algo bueno. Les tengo una sorpresa, no es necesariamente así.

Se pueden tomar decisiones del corazón que están equivocadas. Se puede seguir al corazón que nos lleva por mal camino. Se pueden seguir unas corazonadas que no dan pie con bola. En fin, solo porque algo sea "de corazón" no significa necesariamente que sea lo bueno, lo correcto o lo mejor. "De corazón", puede ser, una gran equivocación. Incluso, a veces se dice que algo es "de corazón" solo para engañar o tomar ventaja.

Tomemos algunos versos del Profeta Jeremías que nos ponen de aviso ante los peligros del corazón:

4:14: Limpia tu corazón del mal, Jerusalén, para que puedas salvarte.

5:23: Pero este pueblo, cuyo corazón es traidor y rebelde, me ha vuelto la espalda y se ha marchado...

13:10: Este pueblo malvado que no quiere escuchar mi palabra y se deja llevar por su corazón endurecido y va tras otros dioses para servirlos y adorarlos, quedará como el cinturón que ya no vale nada.

16:12: Y ustedes, sí, ustedes, han actuado peor que sus padres; pues cada uno de ustedes hace lo que le aconseja su corazón duro y perverso en vez de escucharme.

48:30: Conocemos su soberbia, su arrogancia, su insolencia y la altanería de su corazón.

En el evangelio de Marcos, en su capítulo siete, Jesús mismo nos pone de aviso sobre los peligros del corazón:

Verso 6: Este pueblo me honra con los labios, pero su corazón está lejos de mí.

Versos 20 al 23: Lo que hace impura a la persona es lo que ha salido de su propio corazón. Los pensamientos malos salen de dentro, del corazón: de ahí proceden la inmoralidad sexual, robos, asesinatos, infidelidad matrimonial, codicia, maldad, vida viciosa, envidia, injuria, orgullo y falta de sentido moral. Todas estas maldades salen de dentro y hacen impura a la persona.

Como podemos ver el "corazón" puede ser el punto de origen de errores y pecados. Pero así como lo que sale del corazón no es necesariamente bueno tampoco lo es necesariamente malo. La distinción es cuan lleno está el corazón de Dios. Un corazón lleno de Dios es un corazón convertido. El mejor ejemplo de un corazón lleno de Dios, de donde todos sus frutos son buenos es el Sagrado Corazón de Jesús. El es el mejor cardiólogo.

Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, haz nuestro corazón semejante al tuyo, un corazón saludable. Amen.



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

Jornada Juvenil invitan a todos los jóvenes a un retiro

Los jóvenes de la Jornada Juvenil, invitan a todos los jóvenes, 16 años a 35, a un retiro de fin de semana, en español. Los retiros tendrán lugar en el Centro de Cursillos de Fort Worth, 2221 N.W. 26th St., Fort Worth. El retiro para muchachas será de sept. 15, viernes, desde las 7 p.m., hasta el domingo sept. 17; y el de muchachos, de sept. 22, viernes, desde las 7 p.m. hasta el

domingo, sept. 24. Estos retiros son cerrados, y los jóvenes pasan el fin de semana en el Centro. Durante los retiros los jóvenes conviven con otros jóvenes, los dirigentes son jóvenes preparados para ello. Pláticas, juegos, dinámicas, música, convivio, oración y alegría reinan durante los retiros. Jóvenes, les

esperamos.

Para más información llamen a Manuel Saldivar (682) 552-4103 o Irene Saldivar (682) 552-2948, o al Centro de Cursillos (817) 624-9411. "Jóvenes, Jesús y nosotros les esperamos con los brazos abiertos y un montón de alegría," dice el Padre Francis X. Fernández, OFM Cap.

Retiro para parejas

Cordialmente invitamos a todas las parejas a una Jornada Familiar, es un fin de semana para toda clase de parejas, casadas por la iglesia o no. El retiro tendrá lugar en el Centro de Cursillos (2221 NW 26th St., Fort Worth) de Sept. 8, viernes, comenzando a las 7 p.m. hasta el domingo, Sept. 10, en plan cerrado. Este retiro es una gracia de Dios, y ayuda a todas las parejas a crecer en amor, fidelidad y paz. Para reserva u otra información, llame a Domingo y Norma Sanchez (817) 292-7170, o al Centro de Cursillos (817) 624-9411. "Le esperamos," El Padre Francis X. Fernández, OFM Cap.

Día de Formación Para Ministerios: "¿Quien dicen ustedes que soy yo?"

Acompañenos para un día de magníficos conferenciantes, oportunidades para compartir y establecer relaciones de amistad con otras personas que también ejercen ministerios como el tuyo. También tendremos actividades de grupos, exhibidores y mucho más...

Notre Dame
Catholic HS,
Wichita Falls



23 de
septiembre de
2006
8:30 to 3:00

Conferenciante Principal: Padre Tony Taylor

Inscríbese en: www.fwdioc.org Comuníquese con su parroquia o llame al 888-560-3370 extensión 257. Si no puedes llegar a Wichita Falls no dejes de asistir en Fort Worth el 6 de enero próximo o a Mineral Wells el 3 de marzo del año entrante.

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

el 29, 30 de septiembre y 1 de octubre
Catholic Renewal Center

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

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

Para mas información, comunícate con:

1 888/560-3370

Sr. Yolanda Cruz, SSMN Ext. 114

Padre Anh Tran Ext. 106

Sr. Elvira Mata, MCDP Ext. 273

Padre Kyle 817/366-0439

www.fwdioc.org

FORMA DE INSCRIPCION Fin de Semana Vocacional

Nombre: _____

Domicilio: _____ Ciudad: _____, TX Código Postal: _____

Edad: _____ Mujer: _____ Hombre: _____ Teléfono: _____ Otro: _____

Parroquia: _____ Ciudad: _____

Correo electrónico: _____ Selecciona uno: Soltero Casado Divorciado Viudo

Envía tu forma a:

Centro Católico / Attn: Hna. Yolanda Cruz, SSMN / 800 W. Loop 820 S. / Fort Worth, TX 76108

Simposio examina contribuciones, liderato de hispanos en los Estados Unidos

ALLENSPARK, Colorado (CNS)—El crecimiento rápido de la población hispana en Estados Unidos no es un problema ni una amenaza, dijo un funcionario del Vaticano a los asistentes a una conferencia realizada en la Arquidiócesis de Denver.

En vez, dijo él, es una bendición de Dios para dar un vigor renovado y “una síntesis católica más completa” a la misión de evangelización en este país, dijo Guzmán Carriquiry Lecour, subsecretario del Consejo Pontificio Para el Laicado.

Carriquiry, laico originario de Uruguay, fue uno de los oradores que se dirigieron a obispos católicos y líderes empresariales reunidos en una casa de montaña cerca de Denver del 18 al 20 de agosto para discutir las contribuciones y las luchas de los hispanos de Estados Unidos y la responsabilidad de ellos de ser líderes y de evangelizar en la sociedad de hoy.

Copatrocinado por las arquidiócesis de Denver y San Antonio, el simposio fue la sesión de seguimiento a una conferencia inaugural realizada en el 2004.

Unas 30 personas participaron en el simposio. Los tópicos incluyeron la inmigración y las contribuciones económicas, culturales y espirituales de los hispanos a la sociedad y a la iglesia de América.

“Mi primera esperanza es que ustedes salgan de esta reunión determinados a ayudar a mover la discusión pública sobre la presencia hispana en Estados Unidos, apartándola de las consignas mal dirigidas sobre muros fronterizos y ‘deudores ilegales’ hacia a una búsqueda de



El Arzobispo de Denver, Charles J. Chaput, extremo izquierdo, y el Arzobispo de San Antonio, José H. Gómez, escuchan mientras Lionel Sosa, empresario de San Antonio, da una ponencia en un simposio sobre hispanos en Estados Unidos el 19 de agosto. Los obispos católicos y líderes empresariales se reunieron del 18 al 20 de agosto en una cabaña en las montañas cerca de Denver para hablar sobre las contribuciones y dificultades de los hispanos en Estados Unidos, y su responsabilidad de ser líderes y evangelizar en la sociedad actual. (Foto de CNS de James Baca, DENVER CATHOLIC REGISTER)

una verdadera asociación”, dijo el arzobispo Charles J. Chaput, de Denver, en su discurso de bienvenida.

El arzobispo Chaput exhortó a los participantes a reconocer que la fe católica de ellos está en el corazón de los dones que ellos traen a la sociedad, diciendo: “No pueden permitir perder su identidad católica. Si en algún momento la pierden, perderán lo que son. Perderán su alma. Y todos seremos más pobres con esa pérdida”.

Otros obispos que participaron en la conferencia fueron el arzobispo José H. Gómez, de San Antonio, ex obispo auxiliar de Denver que ayudó a iniciar los simposios, y el obispo Thomas

G. Wenski, de Orlando, Florida, director del Comité Sobre Política Internacional de la Conferencia Estadounidense de Obispos Católicos.

El Arzobispo Gómez habló sobre la espiritualidad del trabajo.

“A través de su ocupación, su estado en la vida, Dios les llama a ser líderes, como hombres y mujeres empresariales, como estadounidenses y católicos, y como modelos de virtud y carácter moral”, señaló. “Dado que el comercio es el motor de nuestro país, cada uno de ustedes tiene una posición única para hacer una diferencia real y duradera en cada aspecto de nuestra cultura y sociedad”.

“La autoridad y el poder no

provienen del rango social ni el dinero”, advirtió el prelado. “El verdadero liderazgo depende de sus relaciones personales con Jesucristo”.

El Arzobispo Gómez instó a los asistentes a leer el evangelio, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, el Compendio de la Doctrina Social de la Iglesia y la “Ecclesia en América”. Estos recursos no ofrecen soluciones para establecer directrices, indicó, sino “principios de reflexión, criterios de juicio y pautas para tomar medidas”.

Otro orador fue el empresario y artista Lionel Sosa, de San Antonio, socio de Sosa Consultation and Design y oficial ejecutivo en jefe de Mexicanos y Estadounidenses Pensando Juntos.

Carriquiry y Sosa destacaron la creciente presencia hispana en Estados Unidos y la responsabilidad subsiguiente que viene con eso.

“El 72 por ciento de los hispanos de Estados Unidos reclama ser católico”, dijo Carriquiry. “Los hispanos ya representan el 39 por ciento de los 64.2 millones de católicos estadounidenses. Ellos constituirán la mitad comenzando en el 2020. Y según la conferencia episcopal (de Estados Unidos) ellos serán el 86 por ciento de la población católica en el 2050. Es una tremenda responsabilidad católica”.

Ahora mismo, observó Sosa, los hispanos componen más de la mitad de los católicos en varios estados, incluyendo Colorado (61 por ciento), Nuevo México (83 por ciento), Texas (80 por ciento) y California (58 por ciento).

“Somos el liderato y tenemos una responsabilidad con el liderato”, declaró Sosa. “Los latinos son el crecimiento del catolicismo en Estados Unidos”.

A pesar de ese crecimiento las iglesias evangélicas están atrayendo grandes números de hispanos que se apartan de la fe católica y la asistencia general a la Iglesia Católica ha disminuido y no es debido al escándalo del abuso del clero, dijo Sosa.

“No tenemos un plan que se comunique y conecte con nuestra gente”, dijo él.

Sosa retó a los asistentes a ayudar a la iglesia a entender las causas de la asistencia en declive, a tener fe en su capacidad de dirigir y a ayudar los esfuerzos de evangelización eclesial mediante la mejor herramienta que hay: un plan de mercadeo.

Hagan mejor cobertura de servicios médicos prioridad eleccionaria, dice director de CHA

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Mejorar la cobertura de los seguros de servicios médicos debe ser una prioridad importante en la campaña de las elecciones de noviembre, dijo el director de la Asociación Médica Católica (CHA), señalando que 46.6 millones de personas en Estados Unidos no están asegurados.

“Tenemos la esperanza que según se acerca la elección de medio término la gente en todo el país exigirá que sus candidatos a puestos expliquen cómo trabajarán para ampliar la cob-

ertura y el acceso”, dijo la hermana Carol Keehan, miembro de las Hijas de la Caridad.

“A nadie se le debe negar la oportunidad de buscar y lograr el sueño estadounidense porque está enfermo y no puede costear el tratamiento. Esta gran nación puede hacer algo mejor. Tiene que hacer algo mejor”, dijo ella.

La hermana Carol, presidenta y oficial ejecutiva en jefe de la CHA y ex directora del Hospital Providence, en Washington, comentaba respecto a las cifras del

2005 emitidas el 29 de agosto por la Oficina del Censo de Estados Unidos.

La oficina informó que 46.6 millones de personas en Estados Unidos no tienen seguro. Esto incluye a 8.3 millones de niños.

Estos números representan “mujeres, hombres y niños que viven diariamente sin servicios médicos accesibles ni a precios módicos”, dijo la hermana Carol en un comunicado de prensa de la CHA del 29 de agosto. “Esto es intolerable”.

El número de personas sin

seguro aumentó en 1.3 millones desde el 2004 y la subida del porcentaje fue de 15.6 por ciento a 15.9 por ciento, según las cifras de la oficina.

La Oficina del Censo ofreció desgloses por grupos raciales, étnicos y minoritarios de la población que no tiene seguro.

La tasa de personas sin seguro, así como el número de personas sin seguro, permaneció sin cambios estadísticos del 2004 al 2005 entre los blancos no hispanos. Unos 22.1 millones de blancos — o el 11.3 por ciento

de la población blanca — no tiene seguro.

Las estadísticas para los afroamericanos que no tienen seguro también permanecieron virtualmente sin cambios en 7.2 millones, representando el 19.6 por ciento de la población negra.

La tasa de personas que no tienen seguro entre los hispanos era del 32.7 por ciento en el 2005, sin cambios desde el 2004. El número de hispanos que no tienen seguro aumentó de 13.5 millón a 14.1 millones.

No embryos survived new stem-cell retrieval technique, despite earlier reports

FROM PAGE 1

diseases and the embryo is implanted if no disease is found.

Up to now, stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos has taken place when the embryo is made up of about 150 cells.

But no embryo survived the research carried out by the Advanced Cell Technology scientists, Doerflinger said. Sixteen embryos were killed to retrieve 91 blastomeres, from which two stem-cell lines were derived, the research showed.

The scientists postulated that the single-cell technique used in preimplantation genetic diagnosis would carry over to stem-cell research and that the technique doesn't harm the embryos, "but we don't know that either is true," Doerflinger said.

It will take many years to determine whether children born following implantation after the single-cell removal technique are truly healthy, he added, noting that it was only after 1 million live births from in vitro fertilization that scientists felt they had a large enough sample size to test for abnormalities in those children.

Bishop Sgreccia told Vatican Radio Aug. 26 that removal of the single cell may damage the embryo. He said experimentation on animals was needed to exclude this possibility.

On a more general level, he

said the new technique represents an additional manipulation of the human embryo and is therefore unethical. It adds another layer of artificiality to an already artificial process, he said.

He said it was incomprehensible why scientists were continuing to focus on the production of embryos for stem cells, instead of using stem cells obtained from umbilical cords and other parts of the human body.

"One reason there is a big race to do these experiments on the human embryos is because funds are being made available. To obtain these funds, experiments are being exempted from ethical considerations, even when the outcome is uncertain and when, in my opinion, the ethical objections are multiplied," he said.

In a press release, Dr. Robert Lanza, vice president of research and scientific development at Advanced Cell Technology and the study's senior author, said the research "demonstrated, for the first time, that human embryonic stem cells can be generated without interfering with the embryo's potential for life."

William M. Caldwell IV, CEO of the company, said in the release that the research "should assuage the ethical concerns of many Americans." Ronald Green, director of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire,

and chairman of the company's Ethics Advisory Board, said it "appears to be a way out of the current political impasse in this country and elsewhere."

But Doerflinger disagreed, saying that even if the company had accomplished what it said it did, there is no way to assure the embryos would not be harmed.

"Embryos deserve the same protection from being used solely for the benefit of others that we all do," he said.

Research guidelines from the National Institutes of Health allow for only "minimal risk" — equal to the risk involved in a routine physical examination — for those who cannot consent, he said. But it stands to reason that there is great risk to the embryo in "cutting off an eighth of your body mass," he added.

A statement from the White House press office in response to the research announcement urged caution.

"Any use of human embryos for research purposes raises serious ethical concerns," the statement said. "This research does not resolve those concerns, but it is encouraging to see scientists at least making serious efforts to move away from research that involves the destruction of embryos."

Contributing to this story was John Thavis at the Vatican.



REMEMBERING 9-11 — A Mennonite woman stands next to a cross at a memorial outside Shanksville, Pennsylvania, Sept. 10 last year. Forty people died there in 2001 when a hijacked commercial plane went down in a field in the Pennsylvania countryside. This year marks the fifth anniversary of that day in which airplanes hijacked by terrorists crashed into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the Pennsylvania field. Father LaVerne Schueller, then an Air Force colonel, was at the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the west side of the building Sept. 11, 2001. In a recent phone interview with Catholic News Service, Fr. Schueller reflected on his experiences that day, spent trying to offer assistance at a temporary counseling center. The experience at the counseling center "was just wrenching," he said. "I think of some aspect of that day every day. For a long while after it happened, normal parts of life just seemed like nonsense by comparison." (CNS photo/Jason Cohn, Reuters)

Archbishop Gomez encourages business leaders to be 'models of moral virtue and character'

FROM PAGE 1

bishops and business leaders gathered at a mountain lodge near Denver Aug. 18-20 to discuss the contributions and struggles of Hispanics in the United States and their responsibility to be leaders and to evangelize in today's society.

Co-sponsored by the Denver and San Antonio archdioceses, the symposium was the follow-up to an inaugural conference held in 2004. Like the first event, it was held at St. Malo Retreat and Conference Center in Allenspark and used the late Pope John Paul II's *Ecclesia in America* as its foundational document.

The pope's 1999 apostolic exhortation calls on the church to consider the Americas as one continent in addressing issues such as evangelization.

About 30 people participated in the symposium. Topics included immigration and the economic, cultural, and spiritual contributions of Hispanics to society and to the church in America.

"My first hope is that you'll leave this meeting determined to help move the public discussion of the Hispanic presence in the United States away from misguided sloganeering about border walls and 'illegal dead-beats' to a search for real partnership," Denver Archbishop Charles J. Chaput said in his welcome address.

Archbishop Chaput exhorted the participants to recognize that their Catholic faith is at the heart of the gifts they bring to society, saying: "You can't afford to lose your Catholic identity. If you ever do lose it, you'll lose who you are. You'll lose your soul. And we'll all be made poorer by that loss."

Other bishops participating in the conference were San Antonio Archbishop José H. Gomez, former auxiliary bishop of Denver who helped initiate the symposiums, and Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Florida, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on International Policy.

Archbishop Gomez spoke on the spirituality of work.

"By your position, your state in life, God is calling you to be leaders — as businessmen and businesswomen, as Americans, and as Catholics, and as models of moral virtue and character," he said. "Because commerce is the engine of our country, each of you is uniquely positioned to make a true and lasting difference in every area of our culture and society.

"Authority and power doesn't come from social rank or money," warned the prelate. "True leadership depends on your personal relationship with Jesus Christ."

Archbishop Gomez urged the attendees to read the Gospels, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, and *Ecclesia in America*. These resources do not provide policy solutions, he said, but offer "principles for reflection, criteria for judgment, and guidelines for action."

Another speaker was San Antonio businessman and artist Lionel Sosa, who is a partner of Sosa Consultation and Design, and CEO of Mexicans and Americans Thinking Together.

Carriquiry and Sosa both highlighted the growing Hispanic presence in the United States — and the subsequent responsibility that comes with that.

"Seventy-two percent of the Hispanics in the United States claim to be Catholic," noted Carriquiry. "Hispanics already represent 39 percent of the 64.2 million American Catholics. They will constitute half starting at 2020. And according to the [U.S.] bishops' conference, they will be 86 percent of the Catholic population in 2050. It is a tremendous Catholic responsibility."

Right now, observed Sosa, Hispanics comprise more than half of the Catholics in several states, including Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and California.

"We are the leadership and have responsibility to leadership," declared Sosa. "Latinos are the growth of Catholicism in

the United States."

Despite that growth, evangelical churches are drawing large numbers of Hispanics away from the Catholic faith and overall Catholic Church attendance is down — and it's not because of the clergy abuse scandal, said Sosa.

"We don't have a plan that communicates and connects with our people," he said.

Sosa challenged the participants to help the church understand the causes of declining attendance, to have faith in their ability to lead, and to help church evangelization efforts via the hottest business tool around — a marketing plan.

The symposium included dialogue time, Mass, and panel discussions. Panel participants included Denver businesswoman Martha Rubi-Byers, publisher of *Paginas Amarillas de Colorado* (*Yellow Pages of Colorado*); Tina Griego, columnist for the *Rocky Mountain News* daily newspaper; and Christine Johnson, president of the Community College of Denver.

Diocesan

Sharing in Ministry helps make Christ present through a variety of ministries

FROM PAGE 24
 gelization programs, Catholic Charities, family life ministries, and needy parishes throughout the 28-county diocese. "Faithful Disciples in Christ" is the theme of 2006-2007 campaign. The campaign will be kicked off the weekend of Sept. 16-17 with a letter from Bishop Kevin Vann read at all weekend Masses.

"Having been here in the Diocese of Fort Worth just over a year now, I have seen firsthand how important the many apostolic efforts sponsored by Sharing in Ministry are to all of us here in the Church of North Texas," the bishop says. "Participation in Sharing in Ministry helps strengthen the bonds of the local church ... the 'communio,' as Pope John Paul II has said."

This year's goal is \$2,600,000, and every dollar contributed to the campaign will stay in the

diocese to fund a broad range of critically needed ministries, programs, and apostolates.

"Each gift is important — no matter the size — and shows your gratitude in a meaningful way to God for his many blessings," Bishop Vann adds. "It is a positive response to his call to be faithful stewards."

In past years, the generosity of parishioners has provided \$9.3 million in operating and capital grants to rural or inner-city schools and parishes. This financial resource has helped small, financially strapped faith communities make needed improvements, hire personnel, and provide services. Since 1990, 42 rural and central city schools and parishes have benefited from the availability of SIM grants.

"These funds are a hand-up — not a hand-out," explains John Honaman, diocesan director of

Stewardship and Development. "They supplement funds raised by each parish community to expand, renew, or maintain facilities."

Parishioners will have the opportunity to fill out pledge envelopes or make outright gifts to the campaign during Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 Masses. Online giving is also available by logging on to the diocesan Web site — www.fwdioc.org — and following the SIM prompts.

"Participation in the Annual Diocesan Appeal is a reflection of our response to God's blessings," Honaman continues. "He is the source of all we have, all we are, and all we will be. By extending a helping hand to our Catholic brothers and sisters in the diocese, we show our love to the Lord as his disciples."

Fr. Walterscheid is grateful the Vocation Office is targeted to

receive \$25,000 from Sharing in Ministry. Efforts to highlight the need for more vocations through the parish-based Chalice Program, special prayers, and school activities like the Fifth Grade Vocation Day are producing results. To assist those men now contemplating a vocation, the energetic priest started a discernment group, hoping the meetings would answer questions, assuage fears, and build community. Five of the candidates who attended those gatherings have entered the seminary.

"I think we're seeing the fruits of our work," Fr. Walterscheid says. "Now we have to show our seminarians they are being supported, and we need Sharing in Ministry to make that happen."

God calls people to serve him in many different ways, and money donated to the campaign also helps those who choose to marry and rear children. Helping couples in irregular marriages heal their pasts and return to the church led to the elimination of Tribunal fees for annulments in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

"Eliminating these fees will mean a considerable reduction in the diocesan budget. Nevertheless, if this leads to more Catholics returning to the faith, it will be well worth it," the late Bishop Joseph Delaney said, announcing the change in July 2001.

The new policy has prompted a significant increase in the number of annulment requests in the diocese. Funds from Sharing in Ministry will help the Marriage Tribunal process its growing number of cases.

Larry and Kaye Schaapveld

were married 20 years before having their union con-validated by the church in 2004.

"Life from that point on has been so much richer," explains Kaye Schaapveld, who gained a sense of closure and tremendous peace after a previous marriage was annulled. "Saying our vows inside St. Thomas the Apostle Church was a marvelous coming together of two people who loved each other dearly, but now had God at the center of the relationship."

Raised in Dallas as a Baptist, Schaapveld began attending the RCIA program with her husband, a cradle Catholic, during the annulment process. The couple's experience with RCIA and the Marriage Tribunal Office was so positive and affirming, they decided to help other families.

"We thought marriage tribunal work was a wonderful ministry, so we started training and attending seminars before our case was even completed," says the parishioner of Holy Trinity Mission in Azle, who now interviews witnesses, petitioners, and respondents as an auditor for the Marriage Tribunal Office.

The Schaapvelds view the annulment experience as a healing ministry. The no-fee policy — supported by Sharing in Ministry — shows applicants that the church cares about their personal struggles and is eager to welcome them home.

"Petitioners and respondents are people who are wounded and hurting," Kaye Schaapveld adds. "By working with them, we give back the healing that was given to us."

Hamer...

FROM PAGE 11

opening, so he did."

The man made an innocent mistake when he shook the carbonated beverage, Andrew said, and he was shocked when it sprayed on everyone sitting near him. He was embarrassed, but still smiling. So Andrew interacted with him, both of them uninhibited — one with the skill of a talented improviser, the other with the candor of a man who has nothing to lose.

"We had an ordinary conversation. We were laughing together, and I was challenging him. Everyone listened. Ordinarily no one would have had a casual conversation with him. He was dressed in rags, his hair and T-shirt were soaked with Coke, and he had no teeth."

I spent five days with Andrew, and we saw the smiling homeless man three times.

The last time was on our way to the airport. We were on the orange line.

The big, jovial, toothless man was asleep in a seat three rows ahead, on the other side of the aisle, facing us. He was not snoring, and his mouth was closed. It was the first time I

had seen him without his big toothless grin.

But it was the passenger behind the homeless man who caught our eyes. He was about 25 years old, well dressed, with glasses, khaki pants, and shiny shoes. Agitated, he mumbled to himself erratically, shaking his head, eyes down. When he was quiet, we thought he had relaxed, but he began again, scolding himself.

Suddenly the young man did something completely unexpected: he slapped his face several times. Then, he hit his leg as hard as he could, bringing his fist down with the force of a hammer — one, two three, four times. He must have bruised his own thigh, I thought. How strange. And sad.

Andrew and I watched like interlopers, eavesdroppers who had no right to observe. But what we both saw was uncanny. The young, pitiful, disturbed man demonstrated his pain by inflicting more on himself. I didn't know what he was thinking of, where he had come from, or where he would return. I felt such sorrow for him, and such powerlessness.

But in front of him, the jolly, toothless, homeless man curled in relaxed sleep, his head

tilted back against the seat and toward the distressed, tortured soul behind.

The juxtaposition was harmonious and dissonant at the same time, because from our perspective, the young man sat in the curve of the older man's head and shoulder. One was tortured, and the other seemed to be comforting him.

The younger one, though not homeless, was hopeless. And the older, simpler, humbler man had nothing — not even a Diet Coke.

"When you sleep in front of people it is a sign of faith," Andrew's friend had said.

The sleeping man seemed to be that sign.

Or was it more like the presence of God?

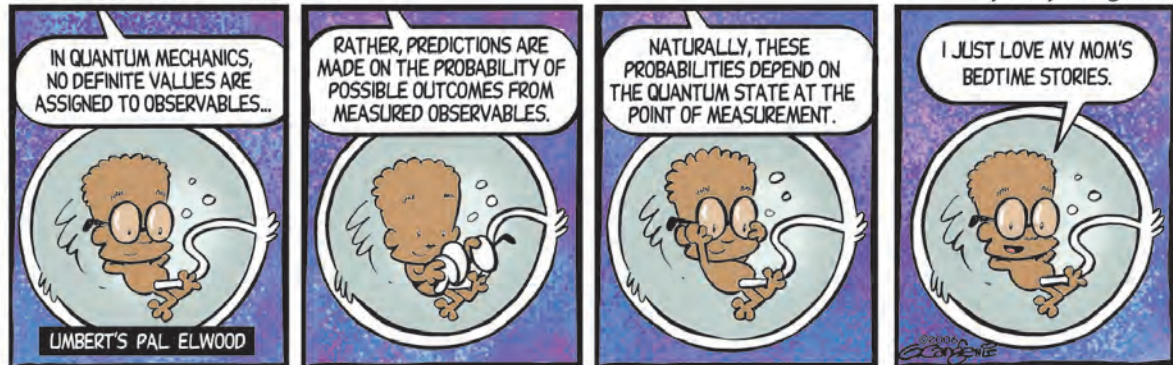
I don't know. But that was what it looked like to me.



Kathy Cribari Hamer, a member of St. Andrew's, has five children, Meredith, John, Julie, Andrew, and Abby. Her column is syndicated in a number of the best Catholic diocesan newspapers across the U.S. In May of 2005, her column received the first place award for best family life column by the Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada.

Umbert the Unborn

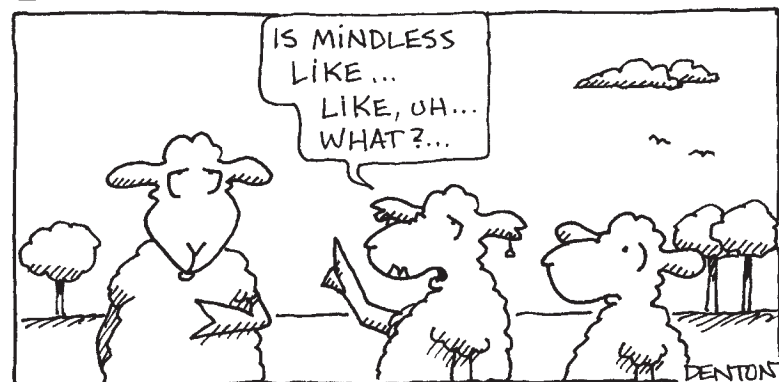
by Gary Cangemi



The FLOCK

By Jean Denton

Copyright © 2006, Jean Denton



Calendar

PRO-LIFE BANQUET

The Bishop's Annual Catholic Pro-Life Banquet, benefiting Catholics Respect Life, will be held Oct. 21 at Embassy Suites Outdoor World, DFW, 2401 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine. The evening will feature Father Bernard Murphy, CFR, as the keynote speaker, a silent auction from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Ticket options include, Shepherd Table of 10 — Bishop Kevin Vann or Dallas Bishop Charles Grahmann, \$3,000; Speaker Table of 10 — Father Bernard Marie Murphy, \$3,000; Angel of Life Table of 10, \$400; Individual, \$45. Reservation deadline is Oct. 9. Make checks payable to Catholics Respect Life, and mail to Catholics Respect Life, P.O. Box 1806, Keller 76244. For more information, call (817) 623-2430.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat, designed to offer healing for women and men struggling with the psychological and spiritual pain of abortion, will be held Sept. 15-17 in Fort Worth. For more information or to register, call the confidential help line at (817) 923-4757; e-mail to forgiven@racheltx.org; or visit the Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

UNBORN BABY MASS

A memorial Mass for children who have died before baptism will be celebrated at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 West Magnolia, Fort Worth, Oct. 7. Mass will begin at 12:30 p.m. and will be followed by a reception in the church hall. A light lunch will be served. The intention of the Mass is to help the healing process for parents who have lost children through miscarriage, still birth, or abortion. Reservations are requested, but not required. This event is being sponsored by Mother and Unborn Baby Care of North Texas and Catholics United for Life of North Texas. For more information and reservations, call (817) 738-1083, e-mail to mubcare@charter.net, or mail to 3704 Myrtle Springs Rd., Fort Worth 76116. Reservations should be received no later than Oct. 4.

GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

Beginning Sept. 21, St. Frances Cabrini Church, 2301 Acton Highway, Granbury, will begin the fall session of Starting A New Life. This is a grief support group to help widowed, divorced, and separated persons work through their loss, and learn about how to go through the grieving process. This program is open to all faiths, and will meet every Thursday evening for 10 weeks, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the education center. For more information, contact Phillis and Bill Brewer at (817) 573-8915 or by e-mail to bbrewer@hcnews.com.

ANNULMENT WORKSHOP

A workshop on the healing ministry of the annulment process will be presented by Father Hector Medina Oct. 7 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at St. Andrew Church's Pastoral Center, 3717 Stadium, Fort Worth. Fr. Hector is pastor of St. Matthew Church in Arlington and works for the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of Fort Worth. He has studied at the Catholic University of America and has given workshops for the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics at Notre Dame. Childcare will be available by calling (817) 924-6581 48 hours in advance. To RSVP by Oct. 2, call Alice Curran at (817) 927-5383 or e-mail to acurran@standrews.org

MINISTRY FOR GAYS / LESBIANS

The Fort Worth Diocesan Ministry with Lesbian and Gay Catholics, other Sexual Minorities, and Their Families will offer an evening of prayer and conversation for lesbian/gay persons, their families, and friends on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth. Father Warren Murphy, coordinator of the ministry, encourages those interested to join together for prayer and sharing. For additional information, contact Fr. Murphy at (817) 927-5383, Deacon Richard Griego at (817) 421-1387, or Dottie and Hank Cummins at (817) 861-5772.

To Report Misconduct

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

- Call **Judy Locke, victim assistance coordinator**, (817) 560-2452 ext. 201 or e-mail her at jlocke@fwdioc.org
- Or call the **Sexual Abuse Hotline** (817) 560-2452 ext. 900
- Or call **The Catholic Center** at (817) 560-2452 ext. 107 and ask for the vicar general, Father Michael Olson.

To Report Abuse

Call the **Texas Department of Family Protective Services (Child Protective Services)**
1 (800) 252-5400

SVDP RETREAT

The Fort Worth Diocesan Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will hold its third annual retreat at The Catholic Center, 800 W. Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Sept. 30. Father Joseph Pemberton will present a reflection on the Gospel of Mark. Participants are asked to bring a Bible. The retreat will begin at 9 a.m. Mass will be celebrated at noon. The retreat will end after a barbecue lunch, which will be served after Mass. The cost is \$5, paid at the door, for supplies and lunch. Call Tony Blanco at (817) 249-2884, for reservations prior to Tuesday, Sept. 26. All members and non-members are welcome.

Would the following person call
Sandra Leighton at
(817) 560-3300 ext. 200.

Jerry Wayne Hamm

CURSILLO WEEKENDS

A Cursillo is a short course in Christianity consisting of a series of talks and meditations examining one's life in relation to Jesus Christ. Many who have gone through this experience have found it helpful in developing a deeper Christian spirituality. An English Cursillo weekend for men will be held Oct. 5-8. The women's Cursillo will be held Oct. 19-22. Both weekends will be held at The Cursillo Center, 2221 N.W. 26th St., Fort Worth. For more information contact, Mary Jean Nagy at mjnagy@fredhall-dfw.com or (817) 226-1110.

ST. PAUL, ELECTRA

The community of St. Paul Church will celebrate 100 years of Catholic presence in the Electra area Oct. 22. This event will include a reunion of former members of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Paul. A special Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Kevin Vann at 8 a.m., followed by a gathering in the parish hall and a meal served at noon. For more information, contact Chris Finch at (940) 495-2689. Reservations for this event are requested by Oct. 1. The centennial committee is collecting family histories, pictures from the early days of the parishes, and other memorabilia. Individuals wishing to share such items may contact Nell Mengwasser at P.O. Box 575, Electra 76360.

Catholic Pilgrimages From DFW

Fatima-Lourdes-Italy-Poland-Mexico-Medjugorje and more. Accompanied by a priest with daily Mass and rosary

Call Renaissance Pilgrimages at 1 (866) 295-8687 (toll-free) or visit www.renpilgrim.com.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home

Their comfort is our first priority. Up to 24-hour care.

Hygiene asst., meals, light housework, companionship, custom care plans
Visiting Angels®
www.visitingangels.com/fortworth

(817) 224-9700

CART SERVICES NEEDED

The Deaf Ministry Program provides CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) services at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass at Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Arlington, each second through fifth Sundays. This support service allows hearing impaired persons, or late-deafened, non-signing persons, to have access to the spoken word at Mass each week. The Deaf Ministry Program is currently seeking CART Record-ers who are willing and able to rotate this accommodating service to the deaf community. Although someone who is Catholic themselves would be the best candidate for the Sunday liturgy service, the ministry is willing to work with others who might be called to use their gifts to help this special population. Anyone interested in filling this need is asked to contact Mary Cinatl at the Deaf Ministry Office, (817) 284-3019, for more information. In-service as well as a modest stipend can be given for providing such service.

ADULT FORMATION PROGRAM

"Sex and the Sacred City: Studying the Theology of the Body" will be presented by Steve Kellmeyer, director of Adult Formation at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grapevine. Introductory sessions will be held Sept. 17 from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and Sept. 20 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The series will continue each Sunday and Wednesday through Nov. 15 at the parish hall, 861 Wildwood Lane, Grapevine. Sunday and Wednesday sessions are identical and participants are welcome to attend either or both. Reservations for the introductory session are encouraged but not required. Free childcare is available by calling Carol at (817) 488-3169 ext. 21 for a reservation. For more information, call Steve Kellmeyer at (817) 481-2685, fax at (817) 488-3169 for by e-mail to skellmeyer@stfrancis-grapevine.org

ST. RITA GARAGE SALE

The faculty/staff at St. Rita School will hold their annual Teachers' Garage Sale Sept. 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parish center/gym (located between the school and church) at 712 Weiler Blvd., Fort Worth. Proceeds will be used to help fund the faculty/staff's attendance at the National Catholic Education Association Convention in the Spring. Donated items will be accepted in the gym Sept. 12 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Sept. 13, 14, and 15 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For pick-up service, contact Diane Hutto at (817) 451-9383 by Sept. 11.

BRAZOS VALLEY GATHERING

The second annual Brazos Valley Fall Gathering will be held Sept. 29 through Oct. 1 at the Young County Indoor Arena on Hwy. 380E in Graham. The event, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #9634, St. Mary Parish in Graham, and St. Theresa Parish in Olney, will include cutting horse, ranch horse, and ranch roping competitions and a two-day Ranch Rodeo. Admission is free to all spectators for Saturday's competitions. The invitational ranch rodeo will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Admission to the rodeo is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages five years to 11 years. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Young County Rural Volunteer Fire Department. For more information, call Don Machenberg at (940) 549-7719.

Adrian's Floor & The Tile Dentist Tile Sales & Installation

• Floors • Walls • Decorative Tiles

Tile & Grout

• Cleaning • Sealing • Repairs • Re-grouting/Recalculking of floors, tubs, showers & more

New Sales & Installation

• Wood • Laminates • Carpet • Vinyl • Tile

(817) 913-5579

www.adriansflooring.com

DCCW MEETING

All women are invited to attend the quarterly luncheon meeting of the National Council of Catholic Women Central/East Deanery at St. Jude's Parish, 500 E. Dallas St., Mansfield Sept. 28. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Pedro Moreno, director of the Light of Christ Institute for the Diocese of Fort Worth, will reflect on the Marian theology and devotion of Pope Benedict XVI, reflecting from the book *Mary: The Church at the Source*. The cost for the meeting and lunch is \$10. Reservations must be made by noon, Sept. 25, by calling Mary Del Rio at (817) 838-8120 or Pat Coffey at (817) 657-2823.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Knights of Columbus Council #11423 will sponsor its 12th annual charity golf tournament at Meadowbrook Golf Course in Fort Worth Oct. 8. The \$65 entry fee includes the green fee, golf cart, gratuities, and lunch. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each flights as well as the longest drive and closest to the pin on par threes. For more information and an entry form, call Mike Goodenough at (817) 429-5217 or Ray Geisler at (817) 451-5539.

SACRED HEART PICNIC

Sacred Heart Parish in Seymour will host a "Picnic in the Hall" Sept. 17 from noon to 4 p.m. at Sacred Heart's Mosler Hall on North Cedar St. in Seymour. Sacred Heart Parish is located two-and-one-half hours from the Fort Worth area going 199 west to Jacksboro and then 114 west to Seymour. All are welcome.

MAGNIFICAT BREAKFAST

The Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic Women, will host a breakfast Sept. 23 at 9 a.m. at the DFW Hilton Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 Hwy. 26 East, Grapevine. The breakfast will feature Tatiana performing "Struggles and Graces, My Journey of Faith." Deadline for ticket purchase is Sept. 20. For more information and tickets, call Lucy Gonzales at (972) 393-2518.

OMM FALL EVENTS

Our Mother of Mercy Parish invites all to attend the annual Our Mother of Mercy Carnival, to be held on the parish grounds at 1001 E. Terrell Oct. 22 and the annual Friends and Family Day, to be held on Oct. 28, at the 10 a.m. Mass. The annual Gospel-fest will be held Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. For more information about the carnival, Gospel-fest, or Friends and Family Day at the parish, contact Joi Bernard at (817) 565-6717.

AUTUMNFEST

All are invited to St. Catherine of Siena's 20th annual Autumnfest from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 23. Admission is free. Registration for the 5k run and 1-mile Fun Run will be held from 7:45 a.m. to 8 a.m. For more information, call the parish office at (972) 492-3237 or visit the Web site at www.stcatherine.org.

MSGR. SCHUMACHER RECEPTION

Msgr. Joseph Schumacher will be honored with a reception from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Oct. 1. The reception will be held in the gymnasium at Immaculate Conception Church, 2255 North Bonnie Brae Street in Denton. Msgr. Schumacher was the ICC pastor from 1969 to 1980, and he will be the celebrant at the 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. ICC Masses that morning. All are invited. For more information, contact the parish office at (940) 565-1770.

SEAS FALL FESTIVAL

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, located at 2016 Willis Lane, Keller, invites all to join in on the fun and festivities at the SEAS Fall Fest 2006. The festival will take place Oct. 7 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at The SEAS Ranch in the barns on the western edge of the SEAS church property at 1907 Whitley Road. Bishop Kevin Vann will be the special guest. For additional information, contact the church office at (817) 431-3857.

JUDI K. SKINNER RUN

St. Andrew School will honor the spirit of Judi K. Skinner with its 13th annual 5K and 1-mile run/walk Sept. 16 at the school's campus, located at 3304 Dryden Rd. in Southwest Fort Worth. The 5K event will begin at 7 a.m. with the mile event following at 7:10 a.m. All entrants will receive a race T-shirt and will be served a pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following the race. Entry fees are \$15 per person or \$45 per family. Entry forms are available through the St. Andrew Web site at www.standrewsch.org, area running stores, or by calling the school office at (817) 924-8917.

'KOUNTRY KARNIVAL'

St. Maria Goretti School, 1200 South Davis Dr., Arlington, will celebrate its 31st annual Kountry Karnival Oct. 7-8. For information about this event, contact the school office at (817) 275-5081 or Tom Braden at tabraden@comcast.net, Robert Nieto at nieto96@sbcglobal.net, or Charles Eller at c.eller@sbcglobal.net

Classified Section

DIRECTOR POSITION

The Catholic Community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Plano is seeking a strong advocate to direct our Office of Peace and Social Justice. This position is responsible for inspiring and organizing our parish into acting on the church's social mission to build a just community and influence the greater society by responding in an organized way to societal and individual human needs. An applicant should be well versed in Catholic social doctrine, exceptional in teaching and organizing, and have a background in direct service to families in need. A degree, certification, or work experience in this or a related field is required. Our benefits package is exceptional. Send a resumé to Tony Fleo, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 2701 Piedra Drive, Plano 75023 or fax to (972) 985-7573 or e-mail to tfleo@seton.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

St. Francis of Assisi Church in Frisco is seeking a full-time youth ministry coordinator. This person will assist the director of youth ministries in developing all aspects of youth ministry programs. St. Francis is a fast-growing parish with a strong vision for the future. Eligible candidates must be able to work with a ministry team to serve the mission of the parish and to work with young people in a variety of environments to build them up in their faith. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in youth ministry or a related field required. Some experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits offered. Send resumé and salary requirements to David Utsler, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 8000 El Dorado Pkwy., Frisco 75034 or by e-mail to dutsler@sfofrisco.org.

YOUTH MINISTER

St. Patrick Cathedral has an opening for a person to direct junior and senior high programs, including confirmation preparation, retreats, and youth activities. This person should be well formed in the faith, possess good organizational skills, and have experience teaching or working with this age group. Those who qualify should send their resumé and salary expectations to the Religious Formation Office, 1206 Throckmorton St., Fort Worth 76102. For more information, call (817) 338-4441.

HOME CAREGIVERS

Visiting Angels, a non-medical home-care service, is seeking experienced caregivers for on-call positions, PT to live-in. Great supplemental income. Call (817) 224-9701.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Topsoil, sand, gravel, washed materials, driveways, concrete, backhoe, and tractor services. Custom mowing lots and acres. Call (817) 732-4083.

Good Newsmakers

Sharing in Ministry helps create the 'Communio' of the local Church

By Joan Kurkowski-Gillen
Correspondent

The average person doesn't relish spending more time at work, but Father Kyle Walterscheid views his job a little differently than most folks. As associate director of vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth, monitoring and counseling a growing list of seminarians is a challenge he welcomes.

"We have more men than ever studying for the priesthood, and it's likely the numbers will increase," suggests the young priest who was ordained in 2002. "If our projections are correct, I'll be making a lot more semester visits to seminarians over the next few years."

There are currently 25 men studying to serve as priests for the Diocese of Fort Worth



There are currently more seminarians studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Fort Worth than at any other time in the history of the diocese. Sharing in Ministry provides a substantial part of the funding to make their seminary education possible. **Front Row, L. to R.:** Isaac Orozco, John Pacheco, Jonathan Wallis, Bishop Kevin Vann, Tom Kennedy, Raymond McDaniel, Luis Miguel Vargas. **Back Row, L. to R.:** Father Kyle Walterscheid, Julian Carter, Michael Greco, Tom Kelley, Jack McCone, James Wilcox, Stephen Hauck, Nghia Nguyen, David de la Paz, Christopher Frerich, Keith Hathaway, Philip Petta, Tommy Nguyen, Richard Kirkham, Michael Roger, Eric Clarkson, Father Anh Tran. Not pictured are Khien Nguyen, studying at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio and Raul Martinez, Angel Herrera, and Ernesto Castillo, all studying at Guadalupe College Seminary in Mexico City. (Photo by Tom Nguyen)

in three different seminaries in the United States. Fifteen candidates began the formation process in the past 13 months.

To meet the demands of an

increasing workload, the Office of Vocations will receive needed financial help from Sharing in Ministry. Educating new priests to serve the 400,000

Catholics living in the diocese is just one of the ways the Annual Diocesan Appeal helps carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in North Texas.

Since its inception 23 years ago, money donated to Sharing in Ministry has assisted Catholic schools, faith formation and evangelization. **SEE SHARING, P. 22**

Whether the need is for a Catholic presence in the rural areas of the diocese or for funding for scholarships in our Catholic schools, Sharing in Ministry helps make it possible for the church to be present in the lives of its people. **Below, Left:** Father Gil Pansza greets parishioners at St. Mary

Church in Jacksboro. **Center:** students at Our Lady of Victory School in Fort Worth, follow along in a textbook. **Below, Right:** Father Karl Schilken celebrates Mass at St. Rita Parish, Ranger, assisted by pastoral administrator Deacon Rubén Castañeda.



Inside... This issue of the NTC

The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur celebrated a jubilee Mass at St. Andrew Parish recently. Their combined service totalled 585 years, ranging from 50 to 70 years each. **7**

God's people in St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Carrollton celebrated 25 years as a parish community, remembering, laughing, and sharing the love of God with each other. **12**

Father Walter McCauley's love of a good story — the telling and the hearing — has been a hallmark of his 50 years as a Jesuit priest, and a real asset in his work as a retreat master. **15**

MAILING LABEL: Please enclose label with address change or inquiries concerning mail delivery of your paper. Thank you.