

North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

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CROSS MOVED — Construction workers Oct. 5 remove the 20-foot cross formed by steel beams that was recovered from the rubble after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks brought down the World Trade Center in New York. The cross was taken to nearby St. Peter's Church, where it will be stored as reconstruction on the trade center site continues (CNS photo/Chip East, Reuters)

Supreme Court won't hear case seeking to reverse landmark abortion ruling

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Supreme Court Oct. 10 declined to hear the appeal of Sandra Cano, the Georgia woman who hoped the court would reverse her 1973 victory in one of two decisions that legalized abortion.

Cano was the "Mary Doe" in the court's *Doe v. Bolton*, the companion case to the better known *Roe v. Wade* decision. *Roe* threw out most state restrictions on abortion, but the *Doe* decision permitted abortions through all nine months of pregnancy.

Without comment, the court rejected Cano's appeal of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in January that said federal district and appeals courts lacked authority to overturn the decision

in *Doe* or in *Roe*.

In petitioning the court, Cano's attorneys argued that although medical science and technology have advanced, by refusing to reconsider the validity of the *Roe* and *Doe* cases, the Supreme Court has "frozen abortion law based on obsolete 1973 assumptions and prevented the normal regulation of the practice of medicine."

Like the original plaintiff in *Roe v. Wade* — Norma McCorvey was later identified as "Jane Roe" in the 1973 case — Cano has said she never really wanted an abortion, but that attorneys looking for test cases about abortion laws pressed her into proceeding. McCorvey and Cano have

SEE SUPREME COURT..., P. 3

Churches grapple with what tax code allows regarding election issues

By Patricia Zapor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With another election looming, politicians, religious leaders, candidates, and the Internal Revenue Service are again contemplating a perennial American political question: Where is the line that divides the appropriate and inappropriate interplay of religion and politics?

As politicians try to reach voters by tapping into religious organizations, the efforts raise red flags with the IRS, which is wary of tax-exempt organizations that

may be endorsing candidates and political parties.

Meanwhile, priests, ministers, and rabbis seek to guide their congregations in how to apply the lessons of faith to politics, while steering clear of sometimes confusing IRS regulations for tax-exempt charities, lest they find themselves subject to lengthy investigations, legal challenges, and costly fines.

A 2004 homily intended to give guidance on voting to parishioners of All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, California,

still haunts that community.

This September, the rector of All Saints announced that the IRS had demanded a broad assortment of parish documents in an investigation into whether a sermon shortly before the last presidential election violated restrictions on political activity by tax-exempt organizations.

An administrative summons from the IRS requested 17 documents and other information related to an Oct. 31, 2004, sermon by guest preacher the Rev.

SEE CHURCHES..., P. 12

Pope canonizes four, says being a saint is not for the weak, fearful

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Presiding over the second canonization ceremony of his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI honored two women and two men who demonstrated that becoming a saint is not for the weak and fearful.

"The saint is that man, that woman who, responding with joy and generosity to the call of Christ, leaves everything to follow him," the pope said at the Oct. 15 canonization Mass in St. Peter's Square.

Political persecution, poverty, suspicion, and even opposition

from church leaders were not uncommon in the lives of the four new saints: Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia of Vera Cruz; Italian Father Filippo Smaldone; Italian Sister Rosa Venerini; and Mother Theodore Guerin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana.

Even in the midst of "trials and persecutions," the pope said, the new saints knew that following Jesus "truly guaranteed a happy existence and eternal life."

"The saints had the humility and courage to respond 'yes'

to Jesus Christ and renounced everything to be his friends," he said.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, who had cancer surgery in July, and Cardinal Salvatore De Giorgi of Palermo, Italy, were the main concelebrants at the papal Mass.

Five other U.S. bishops from Indiana and Illinois concelebrated the Mass, which was attended by some 125 Sisters of Providence, dozens of students from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, and 45 pilgrims from

SEE SAINTS PRAISED..., P. 6

U.S. bishops' anti-poverty program distributes nearly \$9 million in grants

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. bishops' domestic anti-poverty program, is awarding nearly \$9 million in grants this year to support local projects working to eliminate the root causes of poverty in the United States.

The grants totaling \$8,909,000 will be distributed to 326 projects in 47 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Timothy Collins, CCHD's executive director, said the agency is working with poor and low-income people to develop "creative,

SEE CCHD..., P. 15



SAINTS CANONIZED

— Mexicans Rafael De Jesus Barroso Santiago and his father, Enrique Barroso Ordaz, deliver the relics of Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia of Vera Cruz during his canonization ceremony in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 15. Pope Benedict XVI canonized four new saints Oct. 15, including Mother Theodore Guerin, a pioneer in Catholic education in Indiana in the 19th century. (CNS/Giampiero Sposito, Reuters)

November offers us a chance to reflect on what the saints can teach us about following Christ

Dear Friends in the
Diocese of Fort Worth,

As I write this column I have been taking some



Bishop Kevin W. Vann

time at the Jesuit Retreat House (Montserrat) near Lake Dallas, to have some quiet time to think, read, reflect, and pray. We are truly blessed in our Diocese to have such a facility and the presence and ministry of the Society of Jesus for retreats and spiritual direction.

In part of this day, I have been reading a wonderful new book entitled *My Life with the Saints* by James Martin, SJ. This reading has drawn me to think about our own

In the upcoming month of November, the saints are waiting for us to teach us how to be friends of Christ in this complex, challenging age where, in God's providence, we find ourselves. Some of the challenges they faced in living the Gospel are not much different than we experience.

Cathedral of St. Patrick, the time of the year, and what the saints must teach us about our own life with Christ.

Recently, our Diocese hosted the national convention for the Canon Law Society of America. This is no small effort, and thanks to the hard work and hospitality of our Tribunal staff, the Diocese of Fort Worth made a great impression on many visitors who are canon lawyers working in parishes, Tribunals, Chanceries, and parish and educational ministries throughout the country.

For many of the convention visitors, a highlight of the convention was the Mass celebrated this past Wednesday at the cathedral. Thanks to Msgr. Neu and the cathedral staff, our visitors had a wonderful impression of the cathedral. Thanks to Mrs. Kay Fiahlo, many of them

were treated to a thorough tour and explanation the history of the cathedral and all of its appointments, including all of the saints in the windows and the statues. I heard again and again how much the beauty of our cathedral impressed our visitors ... especially all of the depictions of the saints.

All of the saints in our cathedral remind us that life in Christ is no easy task, but it is possible. From St. Maria Goretti (chastity), to St. Elizabeth of Hungary (care for the poor), St. Oliver Plunkett (uncompromising Faith in an age of persecution), St. Charles Borromeo (love of Christ's Church and courage in reform), and all of the rest, we are taught how to be disciples of Christ, how to live all of the virtues, how to live lives of holiness, and how to live the Beatitudes. It would be well

to think of this now, since October is drawing to a close, and soon we will be celebrating All Saints Day and All Souls Day. This is a time the Church has for us every year, so that in the entire month of November (dedicated to all of the Faithful departed), we can reflect on the Communion of Saints and Eternal Life, and not only heaven, but the importance of the teaching of the Church on purgatory and praying for our beloved deceased.

In the final analysis, our goal is eternal life with Christ, so how do we prepare for that now? How do we live our lives now as response to the call of Christ to be his disciples?

I would highly recommend *My Life with the Saints*. In his introduction to the book, Fr. Martin says, "These reflections are not meant to be exhaustive, scholarly biographies of the lives of these spiritual heroes and heroines. Instead, they are meditations on the way that one Christian relates to these holy persons: How I came to know them, what inspires me about their stories, and what they've meant to me in my own life."

In the upcoming month of November, the saints are waiting for us to teach us how to be friends of Christ in this complex, challenging age where, in God's providence, we find ourselves. Some of the challenges they faced in living the Gospel are not much different than we experience. Visit our cathedral or do some reading about the saints. Our lives may never be the same!

Pauline Books introduces new translation of John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*

Boston — On Oct. 11, Pauline Books & Media launched a new translation of Pope John Paul II's ground-breaking work on the Theology of the Body, which author and theologian, George Weigel has described as a "theological time bomb."

Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body is a brand new translation of the late pontiff's work and is based on a previously unknown version of the pope's text discovered in Vatican Archives by acclaimed biblical scholar Michael Waldstein.

For this edition, John Paul's original system of headings, a crucial finding consisting of some 1,600 words, has been retrieved and is translated from Polish for the first time ever. Six additional catecheses, printed in the Polish edition, are also published for the

first time in English.

The event was held at the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations, in a building which Pope John Paul, himself, dedicated in 1995.

After an address by Archbishop Celestino Migliore — apostolic nuncio and permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations — the book's editor, Sister Marianne Lorraine Trouvé, gave a brief history of the original publication and how changes to the new edition came about.

Professor Michael Waldstein spoke to the audience about the influences in Pope John Paul's life that are apparent in the work, as well as Waldstein's own experience of how studying and teaching it has impacted his life and marriage. He spoke of the basic concept of "gift of self" running

through the pope's *Theology of the Body*, and addressed how the additional new material will help the reader more easily understand the pope's vision of the human person and conjugal love.

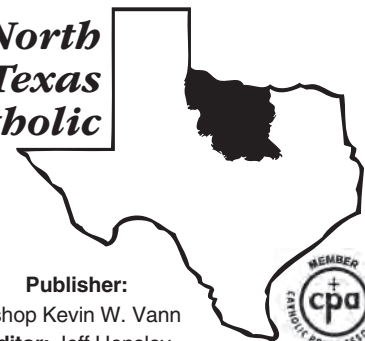
A short question-and-answer period followed the presentations.

Pauline Books & Media is the publishing house of the Daughters of St. Paul, also known as the Pauline Sisters, an international congregation of women religious whose mission is evangelization using the means of social communication. They operate 17 retail bookstores in North America and a publishing and distribution operation in Boston. Arriving from Italy in 1932, the Daughters of St. Paul will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of their founding in America in 2007.



15 Years in a Row

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Catholic



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Nolan Catholic students learn how to defend pro-life view

By Julie Greene
Correspondent

More than 1,100 students, faculty, and staff at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth received a lesson in the truth about abortion and how to defend a pro-life stance during an all-school presentation Sept. 27 in Hartnett Arena.

Their teacher? Scott Klusendorf, a nationally renowned pro-life speaker from the Life Training Institute in Colorado and founder of caseforlife.com. Klusendorf has previously written talking points for President George Bush's 2000 presidential campaign and has the backing of such pro-life groups as Priests for Life and Focus on the Family.

"It's important that young people know what's really going on," said Angela Walters, a 1977 alumna of NCHS who attended the talk in her role as director of Catholics Respect Life, a pro-life ministry in the Diocese of Fort Worth. "If they go into one of these abortion mills and someone tells them it's just a blob of tissue, they'll know it's not true."

In town for various pregnancy center fundraisers on the eve of Respect Life Sunday, Klusendorf's presentation at Nolan Catholic was designed to give



Pro-life advocate Scott Klusendorf speaks with Sue Laux (left), co-leader of Nolan Catholic High School's Lifesaver's Club, and Lauren Lutz, a Lifesaver's Club student leader, following his presentation Sept. 27. Klusendorf encouraged students, faculty, and staff at Nolan Catholic in Fort Worth to learn the facts about pro-life issues, so that they may effectively defend the pro-life position in the world.

with messages [that are not pro-life] in every form of media," said Laux. "It is a blessing that the students of Nolan Catholic have the opportunity to hear the truth. We need their support to stop this culture of death and the death of 1.3 million babies each year."

Corbett agreed. "As a Catholic Christian community, we have a responsibility to have presentations which speak to the teachings of the church, even when the topics evoke very mixed and complex responses," she said.

In her role as a member of the Fort Worth Youth for Life speaker's bureau, Lauren Lutz travels to churches to give pro-life talks.

"I have never had the opportunity to discuss the matter of abortion with a person my age who fully understood what they believed or why," Lutz explained. "After Mr. Klusendorf's talk, however, I had a few brief conversations with some of my friends, who I then convinced to come to our next Lifesaver's meeting to learn more about what it means to be pro-life. Mr. Klusendorf's talk made it easier to have these conversations.... People were much more willing to discuss it openly."

teens the tools to combat arguments in favor of abortion.

"When you leave this fine school that has taught you about the Gospel of Life and social justice, you will meet people that don't share your views and don't care what you think," he said. "You will not be given a pat on the back for being pro-life."

Using primarily scientific data rather than biblical arguments, Klusendorf said the case for life can be made by focusing on three key questions: "What is the unborn; is it human?" "What makes humans valuable?" and "What is our duty?"

From its earliest stage, the

unborn child is a distinctly whole human being, he said.

"The cells on my body contain my DNA; the same is true with the unborn," he said. "But often when people who are pro-choice are confronted by a superior argument, they will change the subject."

NCHS junior Lauren Lutz, a student leader of the school's Lifesaver's Club and member of Fort Worth Youth for Life, found Klusendorf's talk particularly effective because it focused on science.

"He presented us with numerous facts and details about why the unborn are in fact human be-

ings, and why, in turn, it is both immoral and socially unjust to kill a human being," Lutz said. "He led the audience through a series of facts and details, which led to an obvious conclusion that abortion is immoral," said Lutz.

The school's Lifesavers Club, led by Nolan Catholic parent Sue Laux and faculty member Toni Corbett, meets once a month after school and coordinates student involvement in community pro-life activities such as prayer vigils in front of abortion clinics, the March for Life in Dallas, retreats, and community service projects.

"Teens today are bombarded

Supreme Court to hear oral arguments on two partial-birth abortion cases in November

FROM PAGE 1

both become outspoken abortion opponents.

The Supreme Court last directly addressed what it called the "essential holding" of *Roe* in 1992, reaffirming *Roe*'s key provisions. Since then, the makeup of the court has changed. Only three justices who were in the majority in the 1992 case, *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, remain.

Chief Justice John Roberts just completed his first year on the court, after replacing the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist. Justice Samuel Alito joined the court earlier this year, replacing retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Justices Stephen Breyer and Ruth Bader Ginsburg also have been appointed to the court since 1992.

They were both on the court earlier in 2005, however, when the court rejected a similar petition from McCorvey.

Both Cano's and McCorvey's appeals asked the court to reconsider their cases under a federal court rule that allows relief from a judgment because there is new evidence or the previous decision "is no longer equitable."



CHIEF JUSTICE SPEAKS

— Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts is shown addressing a Washington conference on fair and independent courts Sept. 28. On Oct. 10, the Supreme Court declined to hear the appeal of Sandra Cano — the "Mary Doe" in the court's *Doe v. Bolton* decision — who sought to overturn the 1973 decision which permitted abortions during all nine months of pregnancy. The Supreme Court is still scheduled to hear oral arguments on two cases challenging the federal ban on partial-birth abortion in November. (CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec)

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court is scheduled Nov. 8 to hear oral arguments in two cases challenging the federal ban on partial-birth abortion. In the cases — *Gonzales v. Carhart* and *Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood* — the 8th and 9th U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals, respectively, said the 2003 federal law banning partial-birth abortion was unconstitutional.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is among the organizations that filed amicus, or friend-of-the-court, briefs urging the high court to uphold the ban and use the cases to reverse *Roe*.

To raise awareness about the partial-birth abortion cases, pro-life leaders launched a campaign entitled "Supreme Court Countdown: Partial-Birth Abortion" to "help remind the public and our elected officials how much is at stake," said Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

Each weekday leading up to the oral arguments, the campaign — part of the Second Look Project — was sending a fact or quote on partial-birth abortion to Congress, news media, and opinion leaders.



PRO-LIFE EFFORTS — Volunteers assemble yard signs and organize mailings and fundraising materials at the "Vote Yes For Life" campaign headquarters in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Oct. 5. The pro-life group is waging a campaign to uphold the state's abortion ban, which goes before voters Nov. 7. (CNS photo/Carey Gillam, Reuters)

Pope calls for 'dignified living conditions' for people in slums

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called for "dignified living conditions" for people living in slums and ghettos.

The pope reminded pilgrims gathered Oct. 1 in the courtyard of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo that Oct. 2 marked World Habitat Day. The United Nations established the day to highlight the importance of city management and a person's right to adequate shelter.

The pope said that dealing with the rapid growth of cities

and the increase of people moving into urban areas "represents one of the most serious problems that humanity of the 21st century is called to face."

He encouraged all those who work on urban management to help ensure that "people living in degraded neighborhoods be guaranteed dignified living conditions, the fulfillment of their basic needs, and the possibility of achieving their dreams," especially concerning family life and "peaceful coexistence" in society.

Fr. John Dear, SJ, to speak on 'Nonviolence of Jesus' Oct. 28

"Jesus, Bearer of God's Peace and Justice: A Workshop on the Non-violence of Jesus" will be presented Saturday, Oct. 28, by Jesuit Father John Dear at the Catholic Renewal Center in East Fort Worth. Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m., with coffee and pastries being served. The program will begin at 9 a.m., and the day will end with the celebration of the Eucharist at 4 p.m.

Fr. Dear, author of several books including *Jesus the Rebel: Bearer of God's Peace and Justice*, has served as director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a U.S. interfaith peace organization. According to a workshop brochure, he has traveled to war-ravaged zones around the world, been arrested some 75 times for various peace initiatives, and has given thousands of lectures on living a life of peace and justice.

"Father Dear will remind us of our call to discipleship as he shares with us his own journey of Gospel peacemaking," states the brochure. "Through our reflections and discussions, this workshop will invite us to transform our homes, workplaces, churches, communities, and, especially, our hearts into places where peace and loving justice will preside."

The program is being co-sponsored by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and the diocesan Office of Peace and Justice.

The cost is \$25, which includes lunch. Make check payable to the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, and send it to: John Dear Workshop, Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street, Fort Worth 76103.

For more information, call Sister Anselma Knabe at (817) 429-2920 or visit online at www.fwdioc.org.

White Mass for those in medical professions set for Oct. 24

A White Mass will be celebrated for medical and health professionals of all faiths Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at All Saints Church, 214 N.W. 20th Street in North Fort Worth. Bishop Kevin Vann will preside with Father Raphael Eagle, TOR, chaplain at Cook Children's Medical Center, serving as concelebrant. Music will be led by members of Remnant Catholic Apostolate.

The White Mass is traditionally held for medical and health professionals on or around the feast of St. Luke, patron saint of physicians. The Mass is sponsored by the newly re-established St. Luke's Guild, comprised of local members of the medical profession, and is co-sponsored by the local chapter of the Medical Association of Catholic Students (MACS).

All medical personnel are asked to wear their white coats to the Mass. For more information about the White Mass, contact MACS representative Ewa Oberdorfer at (817) 732-6720 or via e-mail to eoerberdor@hsc.unt.edu, or visit the MACS Web site at www.hsc.unt.edu/MACS/mac.html.

St. Joseph Covenant Keepers to present 'Fathering Amidst the Storm' Nov. 4

The St. Joseph Covenant Keepers, an international network of Christian men focusing on St. Joseph as an ideal role model, will host a program entitled "Fathering Amidst the Storm" at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller. Steve Wood, founder of the St. Joseph Covenant Keepers and host of the Eternal Word Television Network's "The Carpenter's Shop," will give the presentation, set for Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wood, a husband and father of eight, will offer key information for Catholic men about children, discipline, faith formation, teenagers, purity, marriage, and the media.

This event is for men only. The charge for admission is \$10. For tickets or for more information, call Andrew Hightower at (817) 490-8919.

'Catholic Perspectives on Islam' to be presented Oct. 22

A program on "Catholic Perspectives on Islam" will be offered Sunday, Oct. 22, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 861 Wildwood Lane, Grapevine. The presentation will be given by Steve Kellmeyer, director of adult formation at the parish.

The session will answer questions such as "What did Pope Benedict say that got so many people so angry?" and "How should Catholics react to the charges made about the Crusades?" Participants, according to information provided by the parish, will gain a deeper understanding of Catholic beliefs about Islam.

For more information or to arrange for childcare, call the parish at (817) 481-2685.

Program to help couples preparing for marriage validation

A day of preparation for couples seeking to have their marriage validated within the Catholic Church will be offered Saturday, Nov. 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by the diocesan Family Life Office. The one-day session, entitled "Today ... Tomorrow ... Forever," will be held at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth.

Topics to be discussed will include "Marriage as a Sacrament," "Commitment," "Communication," "Conflict Resolution," and "Intimacy." Time will be set aside for couples to strengthen their relationships with regard to these topic areas, as well as to focus upon their individual relationships. This program is a marriage enrichment opportunity and is open to all interested married couples who wish to deepen their sense of mutual love and commitment.

For more information or to register, call the diocesan Family Life Office at (817) 560-2452 ext. 304 or ext. 256 or visit the diocesan Web site at www.fwdioc.org.

People & Events

of Importance for the Church of Fort Worth



MSGR. SCHUMACHER HONORED — Msgr. Joseph Schumacher, former diocesan vicar general, was honored with a retirement reception at Immaculate Conception Church in Denton Oct. 1. Emilia and Richard LaBarbera are shown greeting Msgr. Schumacher at the event. Approximately 250 parishioners and friends from the Denton area and beyond came to express their thanks to Msgr. Schumacher for his years of service to the diocese and to Immaculate Conception Parish, where he served as pastor from 1969 through 1980.

St. Maria Goretti Parish welcomes participation in novena

A Holy Spirit Novena will be offered Oct. 25 through All Souls Day, Nov. 2, at St. Maria Goretti Church, 1200 S. Davis Drive in Arlington.

The novena will be prayed after the homily at the usual 8 a.m. weekday Mass and at an added 6:30 p.m. Mass to be celebrated each weekday evening of the novena. On Saturday, Oct. 28, an 8 a.m. Mass with special novena prayers will be offered as well.

Mass cards will be available after all parish Masses or in the church office for a requested donation of \$5. For more information, contact the parish office at (817) 274-0643 ext. 223.

Calix support group meets monthly at Holy Family

Calix, a monthly support meeting for Catholics who are alcoholic and others who are struggling with addiction and seeking recovery, is offered the first Saturday of each month at Holy Family Church, 6150 Pershing Ave. in West Fort Worth. The next meeting will be held Nov. 4, beginning at 10 a.m. in the chapel.

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

For more information, call Deacon Joe Milligan at (817) 737-6768 ext. 105 or Tim S. at (817) 735-1519.

St. Michael elder care series continues Oct. 23

For those dealing with elder care issues, St. Michael Church, 3713 Harwood Road, Bedford, is hosting a series of free informational seminars, designed to give participants practical information and tools to assist them in their roles as caregivers. The seminars, given in conjunction with the Area Agency on Aging of Tarrant County, are held at the church on Monday evenings at 7 p.m.

Upcoming topics to be addressed in the series include "Caregiver Basics," Oct. 23; "Housing Options," Nov. 6; "Managing the Holidays: Stress, Time, and Family," Nov. 20; "Safety and Independence 1," Dec. 4; and "Safety and Independence 2," Dec. 18.

Elder care seminars have been taking place at St. Michael Church since August, and organizers plan on extending the series through April 2007. Sponsored by the federal government and the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), the Area Agency on Aging of Tarrant County is committed to assisting older adults and their caregivers through education, resources, support, and services. The Area Agency on Aging of Tarrant County is one of 28 in the state of Texas and is part of a nationwide network of 670 agencies. The organization's Web site address is www.aatc.org.

For more information or to RSVP for one of the sessions, visit the St. Michael Web site at www.smcchurch.org, or contact Martin Peña, director of Social Outreach and Pastoral Care at (817) 283-8746 ext. 30.

Faith and Fiction group to discuss novel by Kim Edwards Oct. 26

"Faith and Fiction: Conversations on Spirituality and Imagination," a venue for discussing novels and films with themes that shed light on the journey of faith, will meet Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth. The topic of discussion will be *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, a novel by Kim Edwards.

Those planning to participate are asked to read the book, reflect on it in light of personal experiences, and come to the session with questions, insights, or observations to share. A potluck supper will be served at 6:15 p.m., and the discussion will take place from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Future meeting dates and the topics of discussion are as follows: Nov. 16, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, by James Joyce; Dec. 14, "The Remains of the Day," a film directed by James Ivory; Jan. 18, *The Brothers Karamazov*, by Fyodor Dostoevski; and Feb. 15, *Stones from the River*, by Ursula Hegi.

To ensure good conversation, space will be limited. To reserve a spot or for more information, contact Dan Luby at (817) 560-2452 ext. 259, or by e-mail at dluby@fwdioc.org.

Marriage program offered for military couples

The Military Marriage Enrichment Weekend, a private program designed to help married military couples deal with the readjustment process following return from combat, will be offered Oct. 27-29, from 6 p.m. Friday evening through 6 p.m. Sunday evening, at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center, located at 4501 Highway 360 South, MD 929, in Fort Worth. The center is an ADA-compliant facility.

According to program materials, the goal of the Military Marriage Enrichment program is to create strong families by building marriages able to withstand the challenges of life before and after deployment. Military Marriage Enrichment Weekends are conducted by a team of trained couples, most with military or combat experience, who share from real life situations. There are no group discussions.

The program is provided free to participants who are legally married; at least one spouse is a member of the military (active, reserves, Guard, or retired due to injury); recently combat deployed; returned from combat deployment at least six months (recommended); and have been wounded during deployment (seriously wounded are also accommodated).

The program includes two nights' lodging, six meals, and all supplies. Reservations and completion of a registration form are required. Space is limited to 10 couples. Priority will be given to wounded service personnel. For registration or more information, visit the Web site at www.marriagemanagement.org; e-mail to mmc1001@comcast.net; or call (817) 465-1001.

Workshop on 'How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk' set for Nov. 4 at Holy Family

The Singles Ministry at Holy Family Church will host a workshop on "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk/Jerkette (The Way to Follow Your Heart without Losing Your Mind)" Saturday, Nov. 4. The program will begin at 10 a.m. in the parish's Family Life Center, located at 6150 Pershing Ave. in West Fort Worth.

The session, to be presented by Deacon Dick and Kathy Stojak of the diocesan Family Life Office, will examine the five bonding elements of a relationship. "These dynamic elements," according to a workshop announcement, "are directly related to one another, must be developed in a specific order, and must be kept in balance." The workshop will tie Christian values to the process of forming friendships and dating.

For more details or to RSVP, contact Monica Molina via e-mail to mmolina@holymfamilyfw.org or call (817) 737-6768.

Women's tea, auction to be held at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Nov. 5

All women are invited to attend a benefit tea and auction Sunday, Nov. 5, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., sponsored by The Mothers with Young Children Ministry (MYC) of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 861 Wildwood Lane, in Grapevine. The annual event, which will be held in the parish's Family Life Center, enables MYC to provide Christmas gifts to local needy families and assist them in covering basic needs such as utility bills and groceries.

MYC is comprised of Christian mothers who share similar goals for their families and children. The group supports both recreational and pastoral activities that minister to its members, St. Francis Parish, and the community.

Asilent auction and a live auction are planned, and tea sandwiches and hot tea will be served. Auction items will include a two-night weekend stay at the Gaylord Texan, a two-hour romantic cruise on Lake Grapevine, and a party for 15 kids at KidzMuze Museum.

There is no admission fee. For more information, contact Wendy Cronin at (972) 906-9982 or e-mail to wendyacronin@comcast.net.

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. in Room 213 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, 2016 Willis Lane in Keller.

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.

People and Events

World Youth Day at Six Flags set for Oct. 29

On Sunday, Oct. 29, children and youth of the diocese, along with their adult leaders and family members, are invited to gather for the annual World Youth Day (WYD) celebration, to be held at the Six Flags over Texas theme park in Arlington. Bishop Kevin Vann will join Bishop Charles Grahmann of Dallas in celebrating the youth-oriented liturgy with the theme "Catholic to the Core." Thousands of Catholics from the dioceses of Fort Worth and Dallas gather each year for this World Youth Day celebration.

A special feature of this year's event will be a presentation by the Drum Café, a San Diego group with South African roots. The group will lead WYD participants in drumming activities designed to emphasize the use of drums as a means of communication and unity among people of all cultures. Those planning to attend the 5 p.m. youth Mass, to be held in the Music Mill Amphitheatre at the theme park, may enjoy a day of rides, food, exhibits, and fun from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the park. Local Christian bands will also perform throughout the day at the park's amphitheatre.

Discounted tickets and transportation opportunities are available through local youth ministers. For more information, contact Kevin Prevou, director of the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Adolescent Catechesis, at (817) 560-2452 ext. 261, or via e-mail at kprevou@fwdioc.org.

Correction:

In the diocesan accounting report for Catholic University special collection, which was published in the Oct. 6 issue of the *North Texas Catholic*, the dollar amounts for Holy Family Parish, Fort Worth, and for Holy Name of Jesus, Fort Worth, were incorrect. The report should have indicated that Holy Family Parish collected \$1,649.00 for Catholic University, and Holy Name of Jesus Parish collected \$0.00. We regret this error and apologize for any inconvenience it has caused.

Couple to Couple League to offer NFP class Oct. 29

The Couple to Couple League offers classes in the sympto-thermal method of Natural Family Planning. The group finds Natural Family Planning to be safe, healthy, and effective, and indicates that many couples who use NFP "grow in love and respect for one another as they learn to appreciate God's design for marriage."

A new class will begin Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 1305 Deer Park Road in Decatur. Because the class consists of four meetings at monthly intervals, engaged couples are encouraged to attend a class starting at least four months before their wedding.

For more information or to register, contact Kevin and Michele Vina at (940) 433-5664.

St. Rita Garden Club to host art sale Nov. 5

The St. Rita Garden Club has announced that it will be hosting an art sale Sunday, Nov. 5, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Formation Room (enter from the parking lot on the side) at St. Rita Church, 5550 East Lancaster Avenue in East Fort Worth.

Featured at the sale will be original oil paintings of Mary Shaw. There are 11 paintings in all, signed and framed and in various sizes, depicting landscapes, florals, and still lifes.

The Garden Club will provide refreshments and snacks during the art sale.

For more information, contact the parish office at (817) 451-9395.

Father Ivor Koch Charity Fundraiser set for Oct. 21

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls will hold the 10th annual Father Ivor Koch Charity Fundraiser Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. in the parish hall.

A live auction is planned, and a spaghetti dinner and soft drinks will be served at no charge.

Sacred Heart Parish is located at 1501 9th Street in Wichita Falls. For more information, call the parish office at (940) 723-5288.

Bishop Vann to lead young adult pilgrimage during Lent 2007

Bishop Kevin Vann and Father Michael Holmberg, associate pastor at St. Michael Church in Bedford, will lead a Rome pilgrimage designed especially for young adults March 10-18, 2007, during the Lenten season. The trip, sponsored by the young adults' organization of St. Michael Church, is described by organizers as a spiritual, educational, and cultural journey, with opportunities for worship at historical venues, tours guided by local experts to artistic and architectural treasures, and free time to explore Rome.

Participants will have the opportunity to visit numerous sites, including the catacombs, basilicas, and the Vatican museums. Bishop Vann will celebrate Mass in places such as St. Peter's Basilica and at the tomb of St. Francis in nearby Assisi.

All young adults of the diocese, their family members, and friends are invited to participate. The cost is \$2,500 per person for double occupancy. Space is limited. For program details or for registration forms, visit the pilgrimage Web site at www.travelillum.com/trc/hfw, or contact Barbara Boone at (817) 283-8666 ext. 55, or via e-mail to Boone@udallas.edu.

Sacred Heart in Seymour to host Polka Mass, Nov. 12

The Catholic community of Sacred Heart Parish, Seymour, welcomes all its neighbors to the celebration of a Polka Mass Sunday, Nov. 12, beginning at 11 a.m.

The liturgy will be followed by a Czech Olde World Dinner at Sacred Heart's Mosler Hall on North Cedar Street until 1:30 p.m. The cost of the meal, which will include Bohemian sausage, turkey, and kolaches, is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Carry-out meals are also available for \$8.

An auction will follow, and a country store will offer baked goods and crafts.

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.

All invited to attend Holy Family Fall Festival Oct. 28

The annual Holy Family School Fall Festival will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Festival organizers invite all to come "join the fun." A dunking booth, book walk, and obstacle course are just a few of the many games and activities to take place.

The festival will be held on the Holy Family School grounds at 6146 Pershing Avenue in West Fort Worth, one block north of I-30 at the Bryant Irvin exit.

For more information, call the school office at (817) 737-4201.



STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPS — The Lady Knights of Notre Dame School in Wichita Falls captured the 2006 TAPPS (Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools) 2A State Softball Championship in a come-from-behind double-overtime win over Sacred Heart School of Hallettsville. The state title was a first for the Notre Dame softball program. Displaying championship medals following the hard-fought 6-5 game in Belton, Texas, are (l. to r., back) Assistant Coach Mike Rivard, Tiffany Gonzales, Felicity McClure, Ashley Rivard, Mary Michelle Otto, Emily Otto, Camila Mendes, Coach Stan Mueggenborg, (front) Melissa LeRitz, Danielle O'Brien, Brenna Pohlod, Kalynn McElroy, and Carrie Toth.

IRPS Landregan Lecture to be presented Nov. 4

Journalist John Allen Jr. will present the annual Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies' (IRPS) Landregan Lecture Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. The lecture will take place at the Church of the Incarnation at the University of Dallas, located at 1845 E. Northgate Drive, Irving. The topic of the lecture will be "The Cross and the Crescent: The Relationship between the Church and Islam under Benedict XVI."

Allen is an author, a Vatican analyst for CNN, and a Vatican reporter for the *National Catholic Reporter* newspaper.

The Landregan Lecture was inaugurated in 1999 to honor Steven Landregan, a UD alumnus and former editor of the *Texas Catholic*. Previous speakers for the annual lecture have included Margaret O'Brien Steinfelds; Dr. Joseph Martos; Father Joseph Fitzmyer, SJ; and Archbishop Michael Sheehan.

The Landregan Lecture is free and is open to the public. For more information, call (972) 721-4118.

Texas A&M Catholic campus ministry is searching for alumni

St. Mary's Catholic Center, which provides campus ministry to the students of Texas A&M University in College Station, is in the process of trying to locate former students who are "Aggie Catholics." Aggies, their parents, or friends, or individuals just wanting to learn more about Catholic campus ministry at Texas A&M are invited to contact the center.

Those who make contact will be entered in a drawing for a "Football Surprise" package, which includes two tickets to a A&M-UT football game in Austin the day after Thanksgiving, motel accommodations, and a barbecue dinner.

For more information, call St. Mary's Catholic Center (888) 240-TAMU or visit online at www.aggiecatholic.org between Monday, Oct. 2, and Tuesday, Oct. 31.

St. Vincent de Paul Men's Club to host golf event Nov. 11

The St. Vincent de Paul Men's Club will sponsor a golf tournament Saturday, Nov. 11, at Mansfield National Golf Course, 2750 National Parkway in Mansfield. The tournament, to be played in a four-man Florida scramble format, will have a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

The cost is \$65 per person, or any donation will be accepted. According to an event press release, the tournament will benefit Holy Rosary School, Autism Speaks, and Harold Weidhaas.

All are welcome to join in the fun. To register or to make a donation, call Brian Murphy at (817) 451-9144 or e-mail to bkmurphy@sbcglobal.net; or call Pat Irwin at (817) 919-0485.

Patriotic Rosary to be held Oct. 24 at St. Patrick's

During this time of national elections and a lack of peace in the world, all are invited to participate in the praying of a Patriotic Rosary Tuesday, Oct. 24, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton Street in downtown Fort Worth.

Prayers for the nation will be offered, accompanied by the lighting of three symbolic candles, which will honor the nation and the church; veterans and military defending the country; and departed loved ones. Traditional prayers offered for the conversion of the United States and for the guidance of its leaders will form the framework of the Patriotic Rosary. Each decade of the rosary will be accompanied by a spiritual reflection by one of America's forefathers, and each of the 50 Hail Marys will be dedicated to a specific state in the union "and every soul in that state."

The evening prayer is being organized by The Queen of Peace Center. For more information, contact Gertie at (817) 244-7733 or Elizabeth at (817) 558-9805.

Deaf Ministry Program seeks CART reporters

Deaf or hard-of-hearing persons in the community who do not use sign language are able to participate more fully in the Sunday liturgy by means of CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) services. These services involve a court reporter listening to the spoken word during Mass and transcribing it onto a laptop computer. The transcription is then projected onto a screen where it may be read, thus enabling deaf or hard-of-hearing persons greater involvement in the liturgy.

The Deaf Ministry Program is in need of at least one more CART reporter who would be willing and able to share CART responsibilities at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass at Most Blessed Sacrament Church, 2100 North Davis Drive in Arlington.

Persons who have such skills and might be willing to assist with such an activity on a rotating basis are asked to consider sharing their time and talent with the church. Those interested are asked to contact Mary Cinatl, director of the Deaf Ministry Program, at (817) 284-3019 (TTY) or e-mail to mcinatl@fwdioc.org.

St. Jude Thaddeus Parish to host fall festival Oct. 29

The 41st annual St. Jude Thaddeus Church Fall Festival will take place Sunday, Oct. 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the parish hall, located at 600 Davey Drive in Burkburnett.

The event, which serves as the church's main fund-raising event of the year, will include an all-you-can-eat turkey and German sausage dinner with all the trimmings. The dinner will be available on a carry-out basis; free delivery in Burkburnett may be arranged by calling (940) 569-8116.

Home-baked goods will be available, and games for the children will be featured.

Tickets to the festival are \$7.50 per adult, and \$4 for children ages 5 to 12; children under the age of five will be admitted free of charge. For more information, call the parish at (940) 569-1222.



TWO-PARISH TALENT SHOW — The Catholic communities of St. Mary in Windhorst and St. Boniface in Scotland combined their talents and put them on display at a talent show, sponsored by the parishes' Whole Community Catechesis Committee. Keith, Aaron, and Lester Anderle of St. Mary's, shown playing their guitars, were one of 23 acts presented by a total of 35 adults and children. The program was met with such enthusiasm, event coordinators Keith and Nacole Anderle hope to make the show an annual event.

Saints praised for their 'yes' to Christ's call despite hardships

FROM PAGE 1

the newly renamed St. Theodore Guerin High School in Noblesville, Indiana.

Philip McCord, the facilities manager at the college, joined two Sisters of Providence in bringing offertory gifts to the pope during the Mass. The healing of McCord's right eye after prayers to the community's foundress was accepted as the miracle needed for her canonization.

In his homily, the pope said, "With great trust in divine providence, Mother Theodore overcame many challenges and persevered in the work that the Lord had called her to do. By the time of her death in 1856, the sisters were running schools and orphanages throughout the state of Indiana."

Speaking in French, St. Mother Theodore's native tongue, the pope said that in the Eucharist, in prayer, and in her "infinite trust in divine providence," she found the "strength and audacity" to carry out her mission.

The pilgrims who came to St. Peter's Square for the canonization Mass included dozens of young people from the United States.

Meggie Gallina, 16, entered the ninth grade in 2004 at Blessed Theodore Guerin High School in Noblesville.

Standing outside a Rome



SAINTS CANONIZED — Tapestries hanging from the facade of St. Peter's Basilica show four new saints canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican Oct. 15. From left, the tapestries show Italian Sister Rosa Venerini, Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia, Italian Father Filippo Smaldone, and Mother Theodore Guerin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. (CNS photo/Giancarlo Giuliani, Catholic Press Photo)

church Oct. 14 holding one side of a huge banner with the school's new name—St. Theodore Guerin High School—Gallina said her trip to Rome was "surreal."

"It is rare enough to get to go to a canonization, but to go to the canonization of your school's patron is amazing," she said.

From the school's first semester, she said, students learned

about St. Mother Theodore, her call to leave France, and trip to Indiana in 1840.

"She was an amazing woman," Gallina said. "She relied so much on God, on providence. She came to a country, not speaking the language, and built schools, opened pharmacies, built hospitals—all of this was the work of one woman."

The students of the college St. Mother Theodore founded in Indiana felt the same pride.

Frannie Schalasky, a senior at "the Woods," said the students learn about the new saint from their first week at the college. She said they see her influence in "the Sisters of Providence and their ministries today" and in what they see as a great gift: education

at an all-women's college.

During his homily, Pope Benedict praised St. Rafael for his dedication to the poor and his commitment to preaching the Gospel and administering the sacraments despite being forced to flee the Mexican government's persecution of Catholics in the 1920s and 1930s.

Dozens of members of the Legionaries of Christ attended the canonization Mass to honor St. Rafael, the great-uncle of the Legionaries' founder, Father Marcial Maciel Degollado. The 86-year-old priest did not attend the Mass; earlier this year, after an investigation into charges of sexual misconduct, the Vatican told Father Maciel that he could no longer exercise his priestly ministry publicly.

Members of the Knights of Columbus also participated in the Mass in recognition of St. Rafael's membership in the Catholic fraternal organization.

St. Peter's Square also was filled with Italian pilgrims celebrating the canonization of St. Filippo, who lived from 1848 to 1923, and dedicated himself to ministry to the hearing-impaired, founding the Salesian Sisters of the Sacred Heart to assist them; and St. Rosa, the 17th-century foundress of an order, now known as the Venerini Sisters, to educate young women.

Mother Guerin's life, sainthood seen as summons to holiness

By Nancy Hartnagel

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The vice postulator of the sainthood cause of Mother Theodore Guerin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, sees her life and Oct. 15 canonization in Rome as a summons to holiness.

Providence Sister Marie Kevin Tighe, who was promoter and vice postulator for the completed cause, said she hoped that for each Sister of Providence, the canonization "would deepen her own understanding of the call to holiness in her life in imitation of St. Mother Theodore."

Beyond that, she told Catholic News Service in a phone interview Oct. 5, "I would hope that every person would understand the fact that God does not create just some persons to become saints." Everyone is called to holiness, she said, citing a chapter with that theme in the Second Vatican Council's *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*.

Sr. Marie Kevin also hoped "Catholics and others would realize that the most important

aspect of sainthood is the way the person lived life according to the Gospels, and that the miracles are secondary to that." In general, the church must confirm two miracles through the intercession of the sainthood candidate before canonization.

The Sisters of Providence foundress was born Anne-Therese Guerin Oct. 2, 1798, in Etables, a village in Brittany, the picturesque French peninsula jutting into the Atlantic. Her family's cottage near the ocean likely prompted her fondness for the seashore.

She had three siblings, two brothers who died in childhood in a fire and a sister, Marie Jeanne, who outlived her. Her father, a lieutenant in Napoleon's navy, was killed by bandits in 1813 while returning home from duty. Her mother, who taught the young Anne-Therese at home, never quite got over the loss of her husband and became an invalid.

At age 20 Anne-Therese wanted to enter religious life, but her mother refused permission. Five

years later, with her mother's consent, she entered the Sisters of Providence of Ruille-sur-Loir. As Sister St. Theodore, she made first vows in 1825 and perpetual vows in 1831. For eight years, she directed a school in Rennes, an industrial town, then was transferred to Soulaines, where she administered the school and studied pharmacy and medicine with a local doctor.

Meanwhile, in 1834 on the American frontier, Bishop Simon Brute de Remur, another native Breton, became the first bishop of the Diocese of Vincennes, Indiana, which is now the Archdiocese of Indianapolis but which at that time comprised all of Indiana and the eastern third of Illinois. People were pushing west from the Atlantic seaboard, and Bishop Brute saw a need for Catholic sisters to serve in the large diocese.

He sent a colleague to France to find a congregation willing to help. The superior of the Ruille community felt Sr. St. Theodore would be perfect to lead such a mission, but she was reluctant be-



ST. MOTHER GUERIN

— Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, along with members of the public and area school children, approach the remains of Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin for veneration Oct. 3 following their transfer to a new place in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. In anticipation of her Oct. 15 canonization, the remains of Mother Theodore, foundress of the Sisters of Providence, were moved to a place adjacent to the altar to allow for better visitation and prayer. (CNS photo/Karen Callaway)

cause of poor health. She had contracted smallpox as a postulant, and the treatment she received for it was believed to have damaged her digestive system.

But, after a period of prayer and discernment, she sailed from France with two other sisters and three novices July 27, 1840. They landed in New York Sept.

7, and arrived Oct. 22 at the forest clearing already named St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

Despite much hardship, the six sisters opened an academy for girls that became St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and began the foundation of a new religious congregation modeled on the one

SEE GUERIN... NEXT PAGE

New saint from Mexico 'one of us,' South Texas Catholics told

SAN ANTONIO (CNS)—One of the church's newest saints is truly "one of us," Archbishop José H. Gomez of San Antonio and retired Archbishop Patrick F. Flores told the Catholics of South Texas.

The two archbishops spoke at a press conference in San Antonio days before Pope Benedict XVI canonized Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia, who came to South Texas during his exile from Mexico because of government persecution of the Catholic Church.

"In this man of God we have a jewel — someone to pray to and to ask for his intercession," Archbishop Flores said. "My prayer is that the people get to know him."

Appointed bishop of Veracruz, Mexico, in 1919 by Pope Benedict XV, the new saint preached missions at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, as well as Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Austin.

At his Oct. 15 canonization, St. Rafael became the first bishop born in the Americas to be declared a saint.

Archbishop Gomez said that when he read the saint's biography in 2001 he saw in the life of the saint a "real source of inspiration" of how to live our Catholic faith, especially for bishops.

St. Rafael still has family living in the San Antonio area. Attending the press conference with the archbishops were Augustin Mora, the new saint's great-nephew, and Tito Guizar Jr., his great-great-nephew.

Archbishop Flores said the life

of St. Rafael has become a part of his own, since he now owns the episcopal ring that once belonged to the Mexican prelate.

Consecrated a bishop Jan. 4, 1920, St. Rafael sold his pectoral cross, ring, clothes, shoes, and more to provide for the needs of Catholics in his diocese affected by a major earthquake shortly after his consecration.

He was known as "the bishop of the poor" despite personal suffering brought on by diabetes, phlebitis, cardiac insufficiency, and extreme obesity.

Evangelization also became a major concern for St. Rafael. He rebuilt the seminary, which had been long closed because of anti-Catholic legislation in Mexico.

"A bishop can do without a miter, crosier, and even a cathedral, but he can never do without a seminary, because the future of his diocese depends on the seminary," he once said.

The seminary was moved to Mexico City, where it operated clandestinely for 15 years. When the persecution of the church ended, the number of priests in the diocese exceeded the number that were in the country prior to the start of the anti-Catholic period.

St. Rafael died June 6, 1938, and was buried in a simple casket. Twelve years later his casket was exhumed for interment in the cathedral of Veracruz. When laborers lifted the casket above the ground, they discovered the box was free of wood rot.

Upon removing the coffin's cover, the workers found the body of St. Rafael uncorrupted. His body remains in the Mexican cathedral in a glass casket.

McCord, the facilities manager at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, was accepted by the Vatican earlier this year.

Sr. Marie Kevin said she also hoped "that other young women would be touched by the story of the life of Mother Theodore and respond to God's call as women religious in our congregation." The mission of the Sisters of Providence today is "to promote God's providence by works of love, mercy, and justice," she said.

From that first academy, their teaching ministry spread across Indiana, and extended to Illinois, Massachusetts, California, Florida, Texas, and Oklahoma. They were the first U.S. women's congregation to establish a mission in China, and currently they serve in Taiwan, China, and the Philippines.



POPE PRESIDES AT CANONIZATION — Pope Benedict XVI waves to the faithful as he arrives for the canonization ceremony of Italian Sister Rosa Venerini, Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia, Italian Father Filippo Smaldone, and Mother Theodore Guerin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 15. (CNS photo/Giampiero Sposito, Reuters)

Mexican becomes first bishop born in Americas to be named saint

VERACRUZ, Mexico (CNS) — At an Oct. 15 papal ceremony at the Vatican, Blessed Rafael Guizar Valencia became the first bishop born in the Americas to be declared a saint.

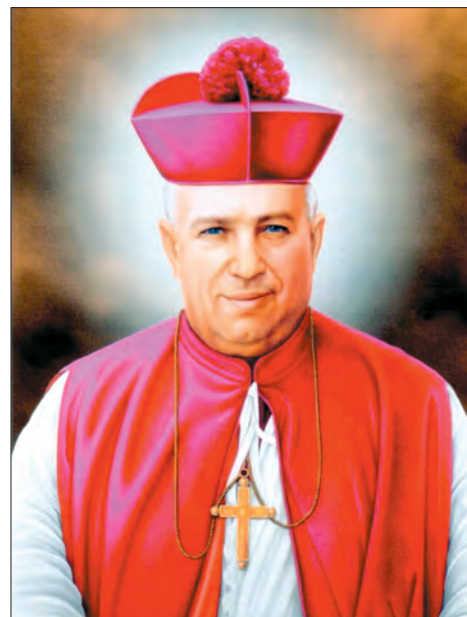
As a priest during the anti-clerical era that marked the start of the 20th century in his native Mexico, he often disguised himself as a junk dealer to bring the sacraments to both sides fighting the Mexican Revolution, which started in 1910.

After the revolution, when anti-clerical measures were adopted by the new government, he lived in exile in Cuba, Colombia, Guatemala, and the southern United States to escape persecution. He was ordained bishop of Veracruz in absentia in 1919 while living in Havana.

Blessed Rafael was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is the seventh Knight and the first bishop-member of the organization to be declared a saint. The Knights started forming councils in Mexico in 1905. The other six Knights who are saints are also Mexicans, martyred during the persecution of Catholics in the 1920s and 1930s.

"We welcome the canonization of our brother Knight, Bishop Guizar Valencia, and know that his life of courage and legacy of evangelization will be an inspiration to each of our 1.7 million members around the world," said Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson.

"He lived from 1878 to 1938, and actually survived the Mexican government's persecution of



ST. RAFAEL GUIZAR VALENCIA — This is a portrait of Mexican Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia who was canonized Oct. 15 at the Vatican. Born in 1877 to a wealthy family, he dedicated his life to preaching and ministering to the poor, despite government opposition to the church's activities. He used his family's money to establish schools for girls and boys. He died in 1938 in Mexico City and was beatified in 1995 by Pope John Paul II. (CNS photo/Archdiocese of Xalapa)

Catholicism — but only barely," Anderson said in a statement.

"One anecdote about him says he returned from a mission with bullet holes in his hat and clothing," said Anderson.

Blessed Rafael was born to a wealthy family in Cotija de la Paz in the Mexican state of Michoacan April 16, 1878. In 1894 he entered the seminary of the Diocese of Zamora and was ordained a priest for the diocese in 1901.

When the Mexican Revolution started, the Catholic Church was a target of rebel forces because it was considered one of the privileged institutions that dominated society under Mexican dictator Porfirio Diaz. The then-Father Guizar became a target because of his defense of the church.

After the successful revolution, the new government ordered Fr. Guizar shot on sight, and in 1915 he fled the country,

entering the United States. He then moved to Guatemala, Colombia, and Cuba.

Blessed Rafael returned to Mexico in 1920 as bishop of Veracruz and in 1923 joined the local Knights of Columbus council.

As church persecution continued, he founded a clandestine seminary.

"A bishop can do without a miter, a crosier, and even a cathedral, but never without a seminary, because the future of his diocese depends on the seminary," he said.

Persecution of the church forced Blessed Rafael to flee Mexico again in 1927. He returned in 1929, after the church reached an accord with the government.

He became known as "the bishop of the poor" and died of natural causes June 6, 1938. Pope John Paul II beatified him Jan. 29, 1995.

Guerin...

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
they had left in France.

Ill health accompanied Mother Theodore throughout adulthood. For many years she lived on broth and soft foods. She died May 14, 1856.

Her cause for sainthood was opened in 1909. After her life, work, and writings were examined in U.S. and French dioceses and at the Vatican, Pope John Paul II declared her venerable in 1992. She was beatified in 1998, once the Vatican accepted as miraculous the 1908 healing of Providence Sister Mary Theodosia Mug through Mother Theodore's intercession. A second miracle through her intercession, the healing of the right eye of Philip



MUENSTER FAMILY DAY — These youngsters are all smiles and excitement as they wait in line to choose flavors for their snow cones. The Unity and Fellowship Committee of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster sponsored a community-wide "Family Day in the Park" Sept. 24, where a variety of treats, such as snow cones, cotton candy, and kettle corn, provided the sustenance needed for taking part in activities such as a bounce house, obstacle course-slide combo, horseshoes, and volleyball. More than 400 people attended the event. "This is what our community is all about, having a good time together," stated committee member Betty Rose Walterscheid. (Photo by Janet Felderhoff, MUENSTER ENTERPRISE)

At state retreat, CDA members are reminded that sacrifice of Mass is not a private devotion

The five Texas state officers of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) recently hosted a fall retreat for all CDA members in the state of Texas. Carolyn Bachman of Scotland, Texas, representing the Diocese of Fort Worth, serves as first vice state regent. She was joined by Olga Samaneigo of El Paso, state regent; Sheila Martinka of Pasadena, second vice state regent; Carolyn Malik of Shiner, state secretary; and Peggy Rosales of Austin, state treasurer, in hosting the Sept. 22-24 retreat in the Diocese of San Angelo at Christ the King Retreat Center.

Father Chuck Gunti, a member of the San José Mission Friar community in San Antonio, served as retreat leader for the weekend program. He led the group of approximately 50 CDA members from all parts of Texas in reflecting on the retreat's theme of the Eucharist.

"Fr. Gunti made several important points about the Mass," noted Henriette Jalowy of East Bernard, CDA state public relations chair. "He said, 'The sacri-



CDA STATE RETREAT

— Father Chuck Gunti (left), a San José Mission Friar from San Antonio, served as retreat master for a state retreat of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Sept. 22-24 in San Angelo. He is pictured with Olga Samaneigo, CDA state regent, of El Paso.

fice of the Mass is not repeated. It is continued forever as we offer ourselves to obedience in our relationship to Christ in the Eucharist."

Fr. Gunti also encouraged CDA members to remember that Mass, the public worship of God, "is not a private devotion with him." Reminding the assembly that Christ preached in public and that his death was a public act, he said, "The Mass is what God has done and is doing for us. This is signified in the four parts of the Mass: the entrance, the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the exit, meaning the commission to take Christ — as he is revealed to us — into the community."

The September retreat was the

second state CDA retreat offered this year, according to Jalowy, with the earlier statewide retreat being held in January. The CDA members within the state of Texas will also gather in April 2007 in Dallas for a state convention. Carolyn Bachman will be installed as Texas state regent at the convention and will begin serving a two-year term.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, formed in 1903, has about 90,000 members in 1,400 courts throughout the world. Approximately 16,000 Catholic women are members of CDA within the state of Texas. For more information about the April convention or other state CDA news, visit the organization's Web site at www.cdatus.org.

Special Collection: Annual Collection for the Holy Father

Parish Name	Parish Location	Holy Father June 2005	Holy Father June 2006
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Abbott	166.00	203.00
Jesus of Nazareth	Albany	0.00	63.00
Holy Redeemer	Aledo	562.55	625.00
Most Blessed Sacrament	Arlington	3,027.25	2,829.44
St. Joseph	Arlington	2,828.74	2,130.77
St. Maria Goretti	Arlington	3,219.88	2,763.26
St. Mary the Virgin	Arlington	665.95	0.00
St. Matthew	Arlington	638.45	496.25
St. Vincent de Paul	Arlington	1,024.00	1,036.00
Vietnamese Martyrs	Arlington	2,412.00	3,832.00
Holy Trinity	Azle	439.00	1,094.00
St. Michael	Bedford	3,345.00	3,197.50
St. Jerome	Bowie	70.00	70.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Breckenridge	216.08	246.35
St. John the Baptist	Bridgeport	356.00	307.67
St. Jude Thaddeus	Burkburnett	334.00	276.00
St. Ann	Burleson	991.00	1,447.00
St. Catherine of Siena	Carrollton	2,017.00	2,454.00
Holy Rosary	Cisco	85.00	39.00
St. Joseph	Cleburne	623.17	41.00
Holy Angels	Clifton	0.00	358.00
Good Shepherd	Colleyville	1,599.00	2,051.00
Holy Cross	The Colony	347.50	0.00
Sacred Heart	Comanche	59.00	62.00
St. Joseph	Crowell	19.00	0.00
Assumption/Blessed Virgin Mary	Decatur	632.00	641.31
Our Lady of Guadalupe	De Leon	86.77	91.20
Immaculate Conception	Denton	761.00	804.00
St. Mark	Denton	3,369.35	3,623.66
St. Mary	Dublin	269.00	577.00
St. Francis Xavier	Eastland	93.00	12.00
St. Paul	Electra	0.00	15.00
All Saints	Fort Worth	1,382.46	975.05
Christ the King	Fort Worth	0.00	652.00
Holy Family	Fort Worth	2,312.00	2,556.00
Holy Name of Jesus	Fort Worth	267.00	208.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Fort Worth	1,744.50	2,478.00
Our Lady of Fatima	Fort Worth	0.00	836.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fort Worth	2,279.50	1,770.00
Our Mother of Mercy	Fort Worth	409.00	0.00
San Mateo	Fort Worth	350.00	255.00
St. Andrew	Fort Worth	3,454.99	4,213.58
St. Bartholomew	Fort Worth	4,225.12	5,027.32
St. George	Fort Worth	0.00	0.00
St. John the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,900.00	1,504.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Fort Worth	396.01	381.00
St. Patrick Cathedral	Fort Worth	4,460.80	4,698.61
St. Paul	Fort Worth	680.50	798.20
St. Peter the Apostle	Fort Worth	850.00	1,009.00
St. Rita	Fort Worth	151.00	0.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Fort Worth	1,505.37	1,482.15
St. Mary	Gainesville	282.00	319.00
St. Rose of Lima	Glen Rose	137.20	233.00
St. Francis of Assisi	Graford	0.00	65.00
St. Mary	Graham	669.97	798.62
St. Frances Cabrini	Granbury	1,316.00	1,283.00
St. Francis of Assisi	Grapevine	1,910.50	0.00
St. Mary	Henrietta	132.00	75.00
Our Lady of Mercy	Hillsboro	1,016.28	536.20
Korean Catholic Community	Hurst	0.00	0.00
Christ the King	Iowa Park	0.00	30.00
St. Mary	Jacksboro	66.00	106.70
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Keller	5,368.80	4,728.00
Santa Rosa	Knox City	110.00	64.25
St. Philip the Apostle	Lewisville	3,131.11	2,749.40
St. Peter	Lindsay	1,300.65	1,081.00
St. Jude	Mansfield	195.00	915.00
St. Mary of the Assumption	Megargel	35.00	75.00
Our Lady of Lourdes	Mineral Wells	0.00	0.00
St. William	Montague	0.00	0.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Morgan	98.10	96.80
Sacred Heart	Muenster	2,001.44	1,676.00
St. Joseph	Nocona	115.00	165.00
St. Theresa	Olney	67.00	125.00
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary	Penelope	101.00	143.70
St. Thomas Aquinas	Pilot Point	765.00	368.00
St. Mary	Quanah	85.00	0.00
St. Rita	Ranger	96.00	27.00
St. Joseph	Rhineland	150.00	210.00
St. Boniface	Scotland	94.00	58.00
Sacred Heart	Seymour	91.00	129.00
St. Brendan	Stephenville	178.00	338.08
St. John	Strawn	56.00	105.00
St. John	Valley View	51.00	0.00
Holy Family of Nazareth	Vernon	236.00	0.00
St. Stephen	Weatherford	2,079.00	1,577.00
Immaculate Conception of Mary	Wichita Falls	0.00	495.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wichita Falls	0.00	0.00
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Wichita Falls	972.00	773.91
Sacred Heart	Wichita Falls	1,048.00	1,069.00
St. Mary	Windthorst	467.00	402.00

81,045.99 81,047.98

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

THREE-DAY RETREATS

Thursday evening until Sunday lunch

Men:
Nov. 30, 2006
Jan. 11, 2007
Jan. 18, 2007
Mar. 15, 2007

Women:
Feb. 1, 2007
Feb. 22, 2007
Mar. 1, 2007

Men, Women, Couples:
Dec. 7, 2006

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Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Nov. 11 Seminario para Coros y Cantores
Fr. Nathan Stone, SJ

May 19 Discernment & Prayer
Fr. Joe Tetlow, SJ

June 16 Discernment & Decisions
Fr. Joe Tetlow, SJ

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WHEN ALL THE BODIES HAVE BEEN BURIED IN DARFUR, HOW WILL HISTORY JUDGE US?



President Bush: Genocide is happening right now in Darfur. You can end it.

400,000 people dead. 2.5 million displaced. Untold thousands raped, tortured and terrorized. Men. Women. Children. Ending the horror will take immediate action by a strong United Nations peacekeeping force. And that will take leadership from President Bush.

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Viewpoints

Created, Loved, Redeemed by God

An Invitation to Respect All Human Life

Most of us probably take for granted (at least some of the time) that we are created, loved, and redeemed by God. Yet, distracted as we are by the noise and activities of daily life, we need to make time to reflect on this central truth of life — and the answer to the universal human question: Who am I, and what am I doing here?

When our ancestors in faith lost their moral and spiritual bearings, Jesus took on human flesh to show us the radical nature of God's love. His love is far from being passive, generic, or abstract. It is not just a kindly feeling toward others. Jesus' love was personal, passionate, and self-giving.

He showed us by example, as well as through parables, what God expects of us. At the Last Supper, he told the apostles: "This is my commandment: Love one another as I love you" (*John 15:12*). Jesus was not speaking of affectionate feelings that we have for family and friends. The model of love by which we will be measured, according to the parable of the Last Judgment (*cf. Matthew 25: 31-46*), is that of the righteous who visited prisoners, and fed, clothed, welcomed, and cared for the needy and strangers. They were serving Christ in the needy and will "inherit the kingdom prepared for [them] from the foundation of the world" (*Matthew 25: 34*).

As Christians, then, each one of us is called, to the best of his or her ability, to be involved in:

- ❖ personal, concrete, and practical acts of kindness toward those whom God puts in our paths;
- ❖ organized charitable activities, through personal service and/or financial support;
- ❖ working toward a just ordering of society by taking part in public life to help ensure that laws and policies respect the lives and dignity of all, especially those who are most vulnerable (*Pope Benedict XVI, GOD IS LOVE*).

Most of us, even if we slip



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In this article that introduces the U.S. bishops' Respect Life! materials for 2006, the writer fits all our concerns for life and our obligation as Catholics to work for the common good into one small space — all joined together by what makes life sacred in the first place, the creative, redemptive love of God.

up more often than we care to admit, understand the importance of treating all with kindness. We understand the need to work with the church's charities serving those in need, whether we do so by donating our time or our financial support.

But we are called to do more. As the U.S. Catholic bishops explained in *Living the Gospel of Life*: "The common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights — for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture — is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition of all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination" (*no. 19, quoting Christifideles Laici, 38*). In other words, talk about the value of human life and the sacredness of human dignity can

become empty platitudes unless we act on our convictions.

Today the intentional destruction of human life at its beginning and at its end have become the preeminent threats to human dignity because they directly attack life itself.

- ❖ Well over a million children are aborted every year in the United States alone; some are killed by methods so brutal society would not tolerate their use against defenseless animals. The reasons given for undergoing abortion are overwhelmingly social reasons.

- ❖ Abortion harms women as well. Some die (not just the publicized deaths from RU-486), and others are scarred physically and emotionally. Increasing numbers of women are speaking out about the

years of grief and depression that followed their abortions.

- ❖ Scientists destroy human embryos to harvest their stem cells — perhaps convincing themselves that the killing is outweighed by potential cures. Some are trying to clone human embryos to use in research. These unethical efforts continue despite impressive medical successes in treating patients with adult stem cells, including those from umbilical cord blood, and despite the fact that potential cures from embryonic stem cells remain theoretical. Several states have even begun to fund unethical cloning and embryo research with taxpayer funds.

- ❖ Increasingly it is argued that assisted suicide and euthanasia are appropriate treatments for

the very old and for those with mental or physical disabilities. In the U.S., Oregon is the only state to have legalized assisted suicide, but other states are being urged to follow suit. Legal euthanasia and assisted suicide are spreading across Europe.

No amount of good social policy, such as programs that feed the hungry and shelter the homeless — as vitally important as they are — can make up for bad policies concerning the protection of life itself. Without the fundamental right to live, the right to not be killed, no other rights are meaningful. In fact, without life no other rights can exist.

Pope Benedict reminds us in *God Is Love* that, as Catholics, we are called to make God's love present in the world. He noted that the bishops "help form consciences in political life and stimulate greater insight into the authentic requirements of justice" (*no. 28*). But, he emphasized, it is the responsibility of the laity to work for a "just ordering of society" and "to take part in public life in a personal capacity" (*no. 29*).

In other words, it is up to Catholic laypeople to participate directly in public life, helping to enact laws and policies that respect the lives of all, especially those who have no voice — unborn children, human embryos targeted for destructive research, and those who are cognitively impaired, disabled, or dying.

Whether we are writing letters to elected representatives, voting, campaigning, or simply providing friends and colleagues with solid information about the grave moral issues of our day, our participation in American public life should at all times be guided by this fundamental truth: each one of us — including those with whom we strongly disagree — is created, loved, and redeemed by God. We, and they, are priceless in his eyes.

By speaking the truth about human life in love, we can help build a society that protects and respects every human life, born and unborn, and better reflects our status as children of God.

The Amish Teach Us forgiveness

By Father John Rausch

The story about the assault on 10 Amish girls at the West Nickel Mines School in Pennsylvania started with horror at the assailant, but continued with wonderment at the response of the Amish community.

Five children died, five were severely wounded, and the perpetrator committed suicide. Tragedy all around, yet the Amish parents almost immediately sent words of forgiveness to the family of the killer who took away their beloved daughters.

How could these families forgive so quickly, so unreservedly? Donald Kraybill, a professor at Elizabethtown College and authority on Amish life, explains that forgiving is woven into the life of the Amish. Their faith sees tragic events as having a divine purpose hidden from human sight. "The Amish don't argue with God," he writes.

The closeness of the Amish, community forged by a history of mutual aid like barn-raising, compels them to care for one another in times of tragedy. At a loved one's death, neighbors bring meals, milk cows, and do other chores for the grieving family.

The Amish faith takes seriously the life and teachings of Jesus who carried his cross without complaint, who prayed, "Father, forgive them..." on the cross, and who admonished his followers to turn the other cheek, love one's enemies, and forgive 70 times seven. Vengeance belongs to the Lord.

The Amish practice of Gospel forgiveness startled the world. Many columnists across the country wrote how the Amish were teaching a neglected lesson in the midst of tragedy, yet a few writers questioned whether forgiveness so

The Amish practice of Gospel forgiveness startled the world. Many columnists across the country wrote how the Amish were teaching a neglected lesson in the midst of tragedy, yet a few writers questioned whether forgiveness so easily dispensed makes sense.

easily dispensed makes sense.

On the individual level, forgiveness represents the only way to true inner peace. President Nelson Mandela, a political prisoner on Robben Island for 27 years, modeled forgiveness and reconciliation when he invited his white jailer to his 1994 inauguration, as an honored guest. Consistently, families of murder victims find peace, not through the execution of the murderer, but by letting go of hatred and revenge. They cast out thoughts of vengeance that would allow the murderer to live in their heads and victimize them further.

Robert Frost wrote in his poem, "The Star-Splitter": "to be social is to be forgiving." Without forgiveness, society would suffer continuous and ever-increasing fits of revenge. Yet, the human condition demands, not "forgive and forget," but "remember and forgive." A believer remembers a crime by pronouncing a moral judgment on the action (murder is wrong), then continues the process of healing by renouncing revenge, envisioning the criminal as a fellow human being, and striving to reconcile with the offender. This four-fold understanding makes forgiveness a personal and communal process requiring God's grace.

On the community level, an

innovative program dealing with the needed healing from violence focuses on the victim and community harmed by the crime. Restorative justice programs bring the victim and offender together in the presence of a mediator. The process helps the offender acknowledge the harm he has done and promotes rehabilitation through an apology and some appropriate restitution. By meeting their victims, offenders see and hear what their actions have done to the lives of other human beings.

On the international scene, truth and reconciliation commissions take the same approach.

"No peace without justice, no justice without forgiveness" — words of John Paul II on the World Day of Peace, 2002. The formula breaks the cycle of violence for a world community whose conflicts increasingly stem from ethnicity and religion.

Meanwhile, in Pennsylvania, the Amish community leaders established a fund for the widow and children of their daughters' assailant — as a final gesture of forgiveness.



Father John Rausch, a Maryknoll priest, is a social justice educator and writer who has devoted himself to working with the working people of Appalachia for more than two and a half decades.

Andrew Hamer's cell-phone image adapted

Are You Living Your Dream?

SOMETIMES 'THE WORDS OF THE PROPHETS' REALLY DO SEEM TO BE 'WRITTEN ON THE SUBWAY WALLS'

WITH APOLOGIES TO PAUL SIMON

By Kathy Cribari Hamer

The difference between generations can be condensed into a single word: sweatshirt.

One reason for that, as my friend Sherrie used to say, is that fleece will be the fabric we grow old in. While our parents and grandparents settled into house dresses and double-knit slacks, we'll jog into the sunset wearing exercise pants with elastic waists, and gray cotton zippered jackets with fluffy undersides.

Our sweatshirts may bear the name of our alma mater or a quip someone thought funny enough to purchase as a gift. Mostly, however, those jogging-lounging-working-in-the-garden clothes will boast only pulled threads and stretched cuffs that speak of life well lived. Wearing fleece in our adult years is not the only thing about sweatshirts that distinguishes generations from each other.

"Mom, I am wearing a sweatshirt today," my daughter will tell me, in mid-September, when we get a short blast of bearable air — a break from sweltering heat. (Somehow, with straight faces, weathermen refer to these as cold fronts.)

"Is it cool enough for a sweatshirt?" I'll ask. Sadly, I am not out driving children to school in the early morning, when Fort Worth's wind-chill factor has plunged to less than 85 degrees.

"Not exactly," Meredith will answer. "But when I left the house, the air conditioning had not clicked on, and there was a cloud cover. Well, there was a cloud."

"I am wearing a sweatshirt to encourage the fall," she will conclude.

Apparently Meredith is convinced that autumn — and by association, God himself — needs a nudge. "My sweatshirt lets the weather know it's time to be cold," she explains.

On those breezy, not-quite-fall mornings — the Texas equivalent of an early snowstorm — I ponder my daughter's enthusiasm for things to come, and conversely, my determination to stay in sandals whose color is not permitted past Labor Day.

Someday I'll likely appear in *Glamour* magazine's "Do's and Don't's" pages, while my daughter is quoted in *O* magazine on the virtues of positive thinking.

Meredith, in the post-collegiate, early parenthood world of having been called "Mom," but never "Ma'am," looks forward to climate changes — and the happy future they imply.

My son Andrew, who lives in Chicago, is less eager for sweatshirt season. In the Windy City for 17 months, Andrew has learned fall leads quickly to winter.

SEE HAMER, P. 22

At Red Mass, faith called 'cornerstone of American experience'

By Mark Zimmermann

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Addressing a congregation that included many government leaders, Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl said Oct. 1 at the annual Red Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral that religious faith forms part of the foundation of the American experience and has an important role to play in public life.

"Religious faith has long been a cornerstone of the American experience," the archbishop said at the Mass, traditionally held on the day before the Supreme Court opens its session. The Mass invokes God's blessings and guidance on the administration of law.

Archbishop Wuerl noted how faith helped shape both the Mayflower Compact and the Declaration of Independence. He said George Washington's farewell address "reminds us that we simply cannot expect national prosperity without morality, and morality cannot be sustained without religious principles."

And in looking at "religion's place in public life," the archbishop quoted Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est* (*God Is Love*), which noted that



Chief Justice John Roberts speaks with Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington (right) and Archbishop Pietro Sambi (center), the apostolic nuncio to the United States, after the Red Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral in Washington Oct. 1. The annual Mass is celebrated traditionally on the Sunday before the new Supreme Court session begins. (CNS photo/Joshua Roberts, Reuters)

"the two spheres are distinct, yet always interrelated."

"Politics, law, and faith are mingled because believers are also citizens," Archbishop Wuerl said in his homily. "Both church and state are home to the very same people."

The archbishop said that interrelationship helps people in public life seek the common good and work for justice by drawing on this nation's foundation of faith,

despite those in an increasingly secular world who seek to divorce religion from the public square.

"Tospeakout against racial discrimination, social injustice, or threats to the dignity of life is not to force values upon society, but rather to call our society to its own, long-accepted, moral principles and commitment to defend basic

human rights, which is the function of law," he said.

Dignitaries attending the Mass included four Catholic members of the Supreme Court of the United States: John G. Roberts Jr., the chief justice of the United States; and Associate Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy, and Clarence Thomas. Also attending the Mass were U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales and four other Cabinet

members, Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson, Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt, and acting Transportation Secretary Maria Cino.

Washington Mayor Anthony A. Williams and Maryland Lt. Gov. Michael S. Steele, a candidate for the U.S. Senate, also attended the Mass.

The 53rd annual Red Mass in Washington was sponsored by the John Carroll Society, a group of lay Catholic professionals.

The nearly 1,500 people at the Mass included judges, lawyers, and officials from all three branches of government. Concelebrants included Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, Virginia, and Auxiliary Bishop Richard B. Higgins of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services.

Archbishop Wuerl's homily pointed to the story in St. John's Gospel of the vine and the branches, and he used that as a metaphor for the importance of people relying on their foundation of faith in the public square.

"No one person, no part of our society, no people can become

isolated, cut off from its history, from its defining experiences of life, from its highest aspirations, from the lessons of faith and the inspiration of religion — from the very 'soil' that sustains life — and still expect to grow and flourish," the archbishop said. "Faith convictions, moral values, and defining religious experiences of life sustain the vitality of the whole society."

He said that people were gathered at the Red Mass to seek God's wisdom and to pray for an outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit because "cut off from the vine [of faith], we have only ourselves."

Archbishop Wuerl said it gave him hope to look out from the cathedral's pulpit and see so many young people.

In his homily, he noted, "Looking around, I see many, many young men and women who, in such increasing numbers, are looking for spiritual values, a sense of rootedness, and hope for the future. ... In spite of all the options and challenges from the secular world competing for the allegiance of human hearts, the quiet, soft, and gentle voice of the Spirit has not been stilled. He continues to touch hearts."

Churches, non-profit organizations must find delicate balance in following IRS code that prohibits political intervention

FROM PAGE 1

George Regas, former rector of the church. Rev. Regas criticized the war in Iraq and politicians who oppose abortion, among other themes. He argued that if Jesus debated President George W. Bush and U.S. Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, the Democratic nominee for president, he would question both men about how the United States treats the poor, for example.

The sermon prompted an investigation by the IRS into whether the church violated tax regulations by endorsing a particular candidate or party.

Eight months after last hearing from the IRS, All Saints received a request this July for documents including details of all instances between Jan. 1 and Nov. 2, 2004, when the church "distributed written or oral communication identifying one or more candidates," as well as "any other sermons identifying candidates for public office."

In a response to the IRS, the church's attorney, Marcus Owens, said such a broad request at the busy parish would encompass multiple events a day at which participants pray for political leaders. Documenting

all such references would be "an overwhelming task, and, we believe, irrelevant to the examination," he said.

Owens also questioned whether the timing of the query "may reflect an attempt to chill the church's discussions of fundamental religious issues with policy implications before the midterm elections and in a way that intrudes into core religious practice."

The IRS whittled down its requested information, but All Saints advised the agency that it would not be complying, Owens told Catholic News Service in an Oct. 9 phone interview.

That puts the ball back in the IRS's side of the court, Owens said. The agency now must decide whether to pursue the investigation through the Justice Department.

In a Sept. 17 sermon, the current rector at All Saints, the Rev. J. Edwin Bacon, described the church's stance.

"There is no objective basis for the IRS to have a reasonable belief that we have indeed participated in campaign intervention," Rev. Bacon said. "Furthermore, we would argue that this entire case has been an intrusion, in fact an

attack upon this church's First Amendment rights to the exercise of freedom of religion and freedom of speech."

Rev. Bacon said the IRS's position that religious organizations must remain neutral where political issues are concerned misses the point that faith groups "do not have a choice about whether or not to be neutral in the face of dehumanization, injustice, and violence. Our faith mandates that, always stopping short of endorsing or opposing political candidates, the church can neither be silent nor indifferent when there are public policies causing detriment to the least of these."

In a February report issued by the IRS on a review of tax-exempt organizations during the 2004 election cycle — the revenue service called this review the Political Activities Compliance Initiative — the IRS found that nearly three-quarters of the 82 organizations reviewed were engaged in some level of prohibited political activity.

The vast majority of charitable organizations do not engage in politicking, but there was "a disturbing amount of political intervention" during 2004, said

the report's press release.

Of those 82 cases, the IRS found nine cases in which charities, including churches, distributed materials encouraging votes for a particular candidate. In 12 cases, religious leaders used the pulpit to endorse or oppose particular candidates. Other cases involved charities endorsing or opposing candidates on their Web sites; distributing voter guides that encouraged voting for particular people; and giving preferential treatment to certain candidates by permitting them to speak at functions.

The report said many cases where political campaign intervention is alleged are difficult to document because events and statements are not recorded.

It also acknowledged that media coverage can create an impression of widespread non-compliance among the more than 1 million organizations designated as 501(c)(3), or nonprofit, and that the proper/improper dividing line can be difficult to ascertain.

"The activities that give rise to questions of political campaign intervention also raise legitimate concerns regarding freedom of speech and religious expression,"

it said. "The code contains no bright line test for evaluating political intervention; it requires careful balancing of all of the facts and circumstances."

The report also said the IRS code confuses some people, particularly the phrasing: "does not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office."

The report said, "Especially, though not exclusively, in cases concerning churches, the phrase has been interpreted to mean that the prohibition on political intervention by 501(c)(3) organizations was limited to expressly endorsing or opposing candidates.

"Thus the majority of the alleged acts of campaign intervention at church services or functions were not express endorsements," it said. "In fact, the circumstances often suggested that the pastor made a conscious effort to avoid an express endorsement, yet made an indirect endorsement clearly conveying a message on behalf of, or in opposition to, a candidate."

Diocesan

Crumbling stones and artifacts from the old St. Joseph Hospital facility find new life at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in its newly dedicated . . .

St. Joseph Garden

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KATHY CRIBARI HAMER, CORRESPONDENT

Relics from a historical Fort Worth institution became part of a church's renaissance in August, when a new St. Joseph Garden was dedicated on the grounds of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish near Fort Worth's downtown medical district.

The garden was created out of artifacts from the original St. Joseph Hospital, which has become the site for an expansion of Tarrant County's John Peter Smith Hospital. At the garden dedication Aug. 13, St. Mary's priest Father David Bristow told the congregation, "This garden is literally and figuratively dedicated to all the nurses and doctors who served the sick in the city of Fort Worth so well from 1889 to 1993." He prayed God's blessing on those people who had been faithful to Christ in serving their patients.

Rows of St. Mary's parishioners processed out to the garden area after the 10 a.m. Mass to participate in the dedication. There they stood in the hot August sun to observe the results of what Fr. Bristow told them was "a work in progress, like all gardens."

Included in the space, which sits behind the rectory and west of the church, are a cross that has been repaired and refurbished with gold trim; a three-part granite monument — a low, squat obelisk — that eventually will be topped with a cross; and a new statue of St. Joseph that will be repositioned as the garden project continues.

Designed by members of the parish and some outside volunteers, the area landscape also includes latticework built by Austin Rose, a new member of the church, who received

Above: St. Mary's parishioners make the sign of the cross as Father David Bristow sprinkles them with holy water Aug. 13, on the occasion of the garden's dedication.

the sacraments at the 2006 Easter Vigil. Zoran Radan, who works in parish maintenance, volunteered his time to build a long porch on the building that borders the west side of the property.

Plans for the porch area, as well as the garden itself, include a place for summer breakfasts — coffee, donuts, and fellowship. "I like people to stay and visit," Fr. Bristow said, "and that always [takes place] around food." The parish already enjoys post-Mass breakfasts during the fall, winter, and spring months.

Appropriately, the first event celebrated in the garden area was the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, when parishioners gathered for an ice cream social. "Eventually we will install new lights and electrical outlets in the porch area," Fr. Bristow said. "I also would like to add garden lighting in the trees and landscape."

One major and meaningful addition to the area will be the cornerstone from the original St. Joseph Hospital. Matthew Ross, 15-year-old grandson of Fr. Bristow, a married, former Anglican priest, has adopted

the garden as his Eagle Scout project, building a sign for the entrance on the west side of the church. Designed by Fr. Bristow and Matt, the sign will identify the garden and will include a bronze plaque memorializing the nurses and doctors from St. Joseph. There also will be an area where the cornerstone is encased.

In addition to outfitting the garden space itself, St. Mary's large flower pots on each side of the front entrance to the church; and slated for refurbishing in phase two, are a bench and a large fountain.

"People are pleased with the project," Fr. Bristow said. "We had been talking about it for a long time, but there were other things we had to do first. For example, the entire air conditioning system was recently replaced." It is a source of pride for parishioners that St. Mary's paid cash for that project.

"For years we have been taking a second collection for our 'renaissance fund.' Most of the restoration and repairs are not as romantic as the new garden," Fr. Bristow said, "but they have to be done."

Clockwise from Top Left:

- A refurbished statue of St. Joseph graces the newly planted garden on the grounds of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish.
- A large Celtic cross and garden planters lie in disrepair on the grounds of the old St. Joseph Hospital in March 2005.
- A father and son gaze upon the restored Celtic cross in the new garden at St. Mary's.

Below: In March 2005, Fr. Bristow is shown pointing out an engraving on a stone monument retrieved from St. Joseph Hospital.

Above: A stone marker sits in the parish office, waiting for its placement in the new garden. Dedicated in 1889 under the name of St. Joseph's Infirmary, the facility was renamed St. Joseph Hospital in 1930.

Right: Austin Rose (left), a new member of the church, receives thanks from Fr. Bristow for his volunteer efforts in providing latticework for the garden area.

Above: St. Mary's parishioners brave a hot August afternoon to participate in the blessing of St. Joseph Garden.

USCCB head Bishop Skylstad presses Bush to veto bill on border fence

By Patricia Zapor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Extending the fence along the U.S.-Mexican border will lead to more deaths and violence, warned the president of the U.S. bishops' conference in a letter urging President George W. Bush to veto the Secure Fence Act.

The bill, passed by Congress in the waning days of the session before the October campaign break for midterm elections, "could lead to the deaths of migrants attempting to enter the United States and increases smuggling-related violence along our border," said Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Washington, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop Skylstad said the 700-mile fence authorized in the bill also "would send the wrong signal to our peaceful neighbor to the south, Mexico, as well as to the international community." The letter, dated Oct. 10 and released by the USCCB Oct. 11, said the fence also will not solve the problem of illegal immigration.

Meanwhile, Mexico's foreign secretary said his nation is considering taking the issue of the fence to the United Nations.

Bishop Skylstad cited a Government Accountability Office report showing that the number of deaths of those crossing the bor-

der has doubled since 1995, when the U.S. government launched enforcement campaigns at official ports of entry and points where people have traditionally entered the country illegally. Nearly 3,000 people have died in that period in remote parts of the southwestern United States, he said.

"The erection of a border fence would force migrants, desperate to find employment to support their families, to seek alternative and more dangerous ways to enter the country, contributing to an increase in deaths," wrote Bishop Skylstad. It also would drive people who feel they need to cross into the United States to seek help from smugglers, some of whom would exploit them and place them in dangerous situations, he said.

The construction of a 700-mile fence also "would send a signal to Mexico and other countries in

the hemisphere that the United States is not willing to work cooperatively to address the problem of illegal immigration," the letter said. "It could harm our relations with these countries and inhibit bilateral progress on mutual interests."

He pointed out that nearly half of all the illegal immigrants in the United States arrive legally and overstay the terms of their visas.

The Catholic Church "is a universal organization" that witnesses the conditions in countries such as Mexico that lead people to choose to immigrate illegally, Bishop Skylstad said, and as such believes a fence will not deter people who are desperate to escape poverty.

He recommended that efforts instead go toward global economic and trade policies aimed at developing jobs that pay a living wage.

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NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

Pope schedules 2008 Synod of Bishops on Bible in life of church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has scheduled a meeting of the world Synod of Bishops for 2008 and has decided the synod will focus on the Bible in the life of the church. A brief announcement issued Oct. 6 said bishops from around the world elected to represent their peers will meet at the Vatican Oct. 5-26, 2008, to discuss the theme, "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." During the last synod, the 2005 gathering focused on the Eucharist in the life of the church, participants elected members to a council to follow up on the synod and prepare for the next session. Participants at the 2005 synod also offered Pope Benedict suggestions for topics to be treated; the importance of the Bible was one of the most popular topics. The synod council will prepare an outline and list of questions for bishops' conferences and individual bishops to consider, then use the responses in drafting a working document for the 2008 meeting.

South Korean religious groups express concern over nuclear test

SEOUL, South Korea (CNS) — South Korean religious leaders expressed deep concern over North Korea's nuclear test but said economic and military sanctions would not be a good response. Father Paul Han Jung-kwan, executive secretary of the Committee for the Reconciliation of Korean People of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Korea, called the Oct. 9 nuclear test "an act that destroys world peace and order, and is against the Gospel." In an Oct. 10 interview with UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, Fr. Han said sentiment against North Korea may spread within the church. He said he believes the church in South Korea will face difficulties in its humanitarian work with North Koreans. He said he expects North Koreans to become more isolated from the international community and suffer from a lack of food and basic goods. For this reason, he added, the South Korean church needs to establish a long-term plan to help its northern neighbors.

Pope offers thanks for witness given by committed Catholic couples

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI offered thanks to God for the witness given by Catholic couples whose commitment to each other in marriage remains strong in both joy and sorrow. "God himself is the author of matrimony," the pope said Oct. 8, commenting on the day's Mass readings, which recounted the creation of man and woman, and Jesus' statement that "what God has joined together, no human being must separate." Speaking to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the midday recitation of the Angelus, the pope said the readings caused him to offer special prayers for Christian spouses. "With them, I thank the Lord for the gift of the sacrament of matrimony, and I exhort them to remain faithful to their vocation in every season of life, 'in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health,' as they promised during the sacramental rite," he said. The pope prayed that Catholic couples, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament, would "build a family open to life and able to face together the many and complex challenges of our age."

Diocese of Davenport, Iowa, files for bankruptcy protection

DAVENPORT, Iowa (CNS) — The Diocese of Davenport is now the fourth Catholic diocese in the United States to file for bankruptcy protection because of sex abuse lawsuits it faces. On Oct. 10, the diocese filed a petition for Chapter 11 reorganization in the Iowa District of U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The action came 22 days after a jury awarded \$1.5 million to a Davenport man who claimed he was sexually abused by a diocesan priest nearly five decades ago. Demands for settlement of that lawsuit and 25 claims that exceeded \$7 million prompted the diocese's decision to go to trial for the first time rather than settle out of court. The possibility of bankruptcy had been looming large in the diocese since October 2004, when it announced an agreement to settle 37 sexual abuse claims and lawsuits for \$9 million. In the past two years the diocese has reached settlements totaling more than \$10.5 million. The jury's award Sept. 18 left diocesan leaders with no other option, they said.

Father John Nagle Jr., SAC, former pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, dies

Father John Joseph Nagle Jr., SAC, a longtime pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes (OLL) Church in Mineral Wells, died Oct. 4 at the age of 85 at his Possum Kingdom Lake home. A funeral Mass was celebrated Oct. 9 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church with Bishop Kevin Vann presiding and Father Michael Olson, vicar general for the Diocese of Fort Worth, offering the homily. Interment was at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

John Joseph Nagle Jr. was born March 17, 1921, in Kearny, New Jersey, the son of Irish immigrants John Joseph Nagle Sr. and Mary (Phelan) Nagle. As a young man, John Nagle decided to join the Pallottine Fathers' religious order because one of his mother's brothers was a Pallottine priest. A student at Pallottine College in Thurles County, Ireland, Fr. Nagle was ordained June 8, 1947, at St. Patrick Cathedral in County Tipperary, Ireland.

After serving in Catholic parishes in New Jersey and Nevada, Fr. Nagle came to St. Stephen Church in Weatherford to serve as an assistant pastor in 1953, when Catholic communities in Mineral Wells, Stephenville, and Dublin were considered missions of St. Stephen's. He was named administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes in Mineral Wells in 1958 and was officially named the first pastor of OLL in 1960, where he served until his retirement in 1998.

Loved and admired by his parishioners and by the people across the counties represented by the Southwest Deanery, Fr.

Nagle was known, according to current OLL pastor Father Jeff Poirot, as a "totally dedicated priest, with a deep love for the people of Mineral Wells. He had a desire to really build the kingdom of God and the Catholic Church in Mineral Wells," added Fr. Poirot, recounting Fr. Nagle's commitment to the poor of the community. "He had such compassion, and he reached out to people in so many ways."

Fr. Nagle continued to serve the community by visiting hospital patients and nursing home residents, even after his retirement, said Fr. Poirot. "He concelebrated Mass at St. Francis Church in Graford with me each Saturday evening, and I would see him praying the rosary each week when I would come into the church," recalled Fr. Poirot, adding that a memorial Mass will be said in Fr. Nagle's honor at St. Francis.

Father John Casey, a fellow Pallottine priest who serves as pastor at St. Stephen Church in Weatherford, had known Fr. Nagle for 25 years, he said. "He was always very welcoming to the poor, and he made himself available to people of all faiths, as well," Fr. Casey reflected. He noted that the funeral Mass was packed with Fr. Nagle's friends and former parishioners, many of whom came from great distances to pay their respects to the man they had considered a dedicated leader and a caring neighbor.

Don Crawford, a longtime OLL parishioner and member of

the parish finance council, was a young husband and father when he came to the parish in 1973. "Fr. Nagle tapped me to start teaching high school CCD; 27 years later, he finally let me off the hook!" said Crawford. "The great thing about Fr. Nagle was that he cared so much about everyone who crossed his path. He had a special concern for the Hispanic community. He would do the noon Mass in Spanish each Sunday in his New Jersey accent."

Deacon Don Warner, calling Fr. Nagle a leader "with the heart of a servant," recalled that the priest presided at his wedding, the baptism of his wife, Candy, and the baptisms of both of their children. "We worked together to start a food bank," related Warner in a personal tribute written in honor of Fr. Nagle. "The first Saturday of the month, people would begin to line up outside Casa Maria at about six in the morning. At seven



Father John Joseph Nagle Jr., SAC, longtime pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Mineral Wells, died at the age of 85 at his Possum Kingdom Lake home Oct. 4. In this 1997 file photo, Fr. Nagle is pictured celebrating his 50th anniversary as a priest at a reception at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. (Photo by Kathy Cribari Hamer)

we would open the doors and give anyone who came a sack of groceries and diapers for those with infants."

"He cared greatly for the people of Mineral Wells," added Deacon Warner. "He made first Friday visits to the homebound, was always at the hospital, and even drove a van to the outlying towns to pick children up for CCD classes. He was a familiar sight in town in the Our Lady of Lourdes van with his Notre Dame baseball cap. He had open arms

for the Hispanic community.... [People] came from all over the diocese to have their babies baptized — everyone knew that Fr. Nagle would never turn them away.

"His example of service to the community and to the least among us, is an example that I have always tried to follow," concluded Deacon Warner. "He will be greatly missed."

Fr. Nagle is survived by sister Rita Belbey of Florida and brother Thomas Nagle of Chicago.

In online survey, NAPM seeks opinions on what makes Catholics sing in church

SILVER SPRING, Maryland (CNS) — The National Association of Pastoral Musicians has started an online survey asking Catholics what prompts them to sing in church.

The online survey, available at the organization's Web site at www.npm.org, lists a baker's dozen of possible motivations to sing at Mass — plus the ubiquitous "other (please

specify)."

Among the choices given are "something I can sing by heart," "familiar melody," "easy to sing," "enthusiasm of the congregation," "leadership of cantor or director," "contemporary song," and "traditional song." Survey respondents can choose more than one.

Votes will be taken through Dec. 31. The results will be avail-

able in early 2007 both on the organization's Web site and in its membership journal, *Pastoral Music*.

Last year, the National Association of Pastoral Musicians conducted an online survey asking Catholics to name their favorite liturgical song. "On Eagle's Wings" was the top choice of the 3,000 people who took the poll.

CCHD announces distribution of close to \$9 million in grants

FROM PAGE 1
practical, long-term solutions to their concerns."

In a Sept. 25 statement announcing the grants, he stressed that the needs of the poor continue to be great, especially in light of a recent report from the U.S. Census Bureau which showed that 37 million people in the United States, or 12.6 percent of the total population, are living in poverty.

The funds CCHD distributes come from Catholics who donate to a nationwide church collection that takes place in dioceses each year, usually in the fall. One-quarter of the local collection stays in the diocese, and the rest is distributed nationally by the CCHD office in Washington.

Last year, the Diocese of Fort Worth collected \$77,543.07 for the campaign; \$19,385.77 of that amount stayed within the diocese to meet local needs. "CCHD

helps individuals to build community and to break out of poverty," explained Ralph McCloud, diocesan director of Peace and Justice Ministries. "When we help CCHD, we become partners with the poor, helping them to advance their goals of self-help and development," said McCloud, who expressed gratitude for the generosity of the people of the diocese who contribute to the campaign year after year.

Nationally funded CCHD projects undergo a thorough review process and are selected based on need, without regard to religious affiliation.

For the last several years, the total amount of CCHD's annual grants has been in the \$9 million to \$10 million range.

Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, New York, chairman of the U.S. bishops' CCHD committee, said the total grant amount allows the organization to make

grants to hundreds of grass-roots groups throughout the country. However, he said, the agency is able to fund only 65 percent of the requests it receives, and the money that is distributed represents 47 percent of the requested dollars. The average grant is \$27,550.

Among groups receiving CCHD national grants this year were:

— Food Works at Two Rivers Center in Montpelier, Vermont, \$20,000 to encourage consumers to buy locally produced food products, create a regional communications network, and fund an annual working retreat for local farmers, school personnel, and chefs who prepare meals for seniors. The group was founded more than 20 years ago to combat the root causes of childhood hunger.

— Childspace Cooperative Development in Philadelphia, \$20,000 to help child-care work-

ers, many of whom are low-income women, lift themselves out of poverty and strengthen their businesses and personal finances. The development organization has helped establish worker-owned child-care cooperatives, an independent child-care union, and a matched savings program.

— The Quitman County Development Organization in Marks, Mississippi, \$35,000 to help open a local branch of a federal credit union committed to alleviating poverty by providing financial services that clients need to meet basic needs. The organization offers programs in small business development, low-income housing rehabilitation, youth educational development, and leadership training in the sparsely populated rural area.

— The Jane Addams Senior Caucus in Chicago, \$35,000 to help seniors find affordable

housing, home care, and health services.

— The Los Angeles Community Action Network in California, \$20,000 to protect the rights of low-income and homeless individuals by preventing displacement and advocating for the residents of low-income hotels.

— Esperanza del Barrio in the East Harlem neighborhood of New York City, \$30,000 to fund programming, training, and workshops. The organization, founded by Latina street vendors, helps Latino immigrants and their families work together to develop economic opportunities and end discriminatory treatment.

The U.S. bishops established the CCHD in 1970. It is one of the largest private funders of self-help programs initiated and led by poor people in the United States.

Scripture Readings



October 29, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalm 126:1-6
- 2) Hebrews 5:1-6
Gospel) Mark 10:46-52

By Jean Denton

I wonder if Bartimaeus ever had second thoughts about asking for sight. We know today's Gospel is not simply about a man being physically healed of blindness but about seeing in a new way — with eyes of faith. It's what spiritual scholars call discernment, being able to differentiate God's will from our own human will.

If the Scripture was only about Bartimaeus' physical blindness, I wouldn't wonder, but I do know that seeing with a "God's eye view" likely will lead to some difficulties.

A case in point: Once when I was at a high school PTA board meeting, homecoming activities were being discussed. Someone proposed that the PTA could sell mums and cash in on the school tradition in which

boys bought giant mum corsages for their homecoming dates. Everyone knew that over the years the corsages had become more and more ornate — and expensive — with an unspoken competition for double and triple mums decorated with multiple "add-on" trinkets.

The conversation ran too long as board members gabbed about a son's \$50 tab last year or how the teddy bear had fallen off a daughter's "triple." Finally, one somewhat agitated member stopped everyone cold when she asked, "Why are we talking about selling \$40 mums, when fully one-third of our student body won't be going to the dance because they can't afford a tux or even a ticket?" Judging by the stares she got, I was glad no one had a gun.

It takes time and practice to recognize God's will in everyday decisions. It starts with knowing the heart of God by studying Scripture, being active in a faith community, and following the life and message of Jesus. Then it's a matter of keeping the eyes of faith open and watching carefully for the way of Jesus in the midst of the corrupted ways of human beings.

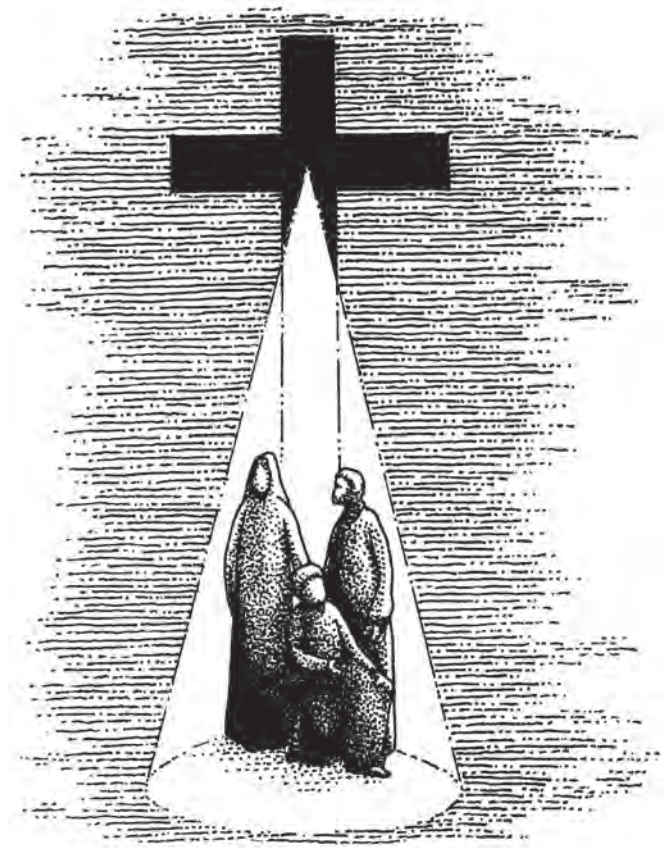
Finally comes the hard part — doing something about what we see.

Even knowing this, our faith calls us to continue asking to see, and once we've been healed, to go and help heal our world.

QUESTIONS:

What unexpected discoveries have you made by seeing with eyes of faith?

What complications arose from your insight and how were they resolved?



"Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way."

— Mark 10:52

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Pope says Christians must not let politics, social status divide them

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians are called to form a united community of faith where social status and politics do not divide them and where dialogue with the world does not mean hiding the truths of the Christian faith, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Certainly the path of understanding and dialogue, which the Second Vatican Council happily undertook, must continue with firm constancy," he said Oct. 11 at his weekly general audience.

"But this path of dialogue, which is so necessary, must not lead us to forget our obligation to recall and demonstrate with the same energy the principal elements of our Christian identity, which cannot be renounced," he said.

During the audience, the pope focused on the figures of Sts. Simon and Jude, continuing his series of talks about the Twelve Apostles.

Simon, identified in the Gospel of St. Luke as a zealot, a member of a nationalist movement, obviously had very different political and religious views from Matthew, the tax collector, the pope said.

The two disciples are an



Pope Benedict XVI waves to the faithful as a Swiss Guard stands watch during the pope's weekly audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 4. Security was increased in the square for the audience. (CNS photo/Alessandro Bianchi)

"obvious sign that Jesus calls his disciples and collaborators from the most diverse social and religious groups," the pope said. "He is interested in people, not social categories or labels."

Despite the difficulties they would have in living and working together, the disciples find com-

plete unity in Jesus, he said.

"This clearly is a lesson for us, since we often are inclined to underline our differences and even our oppositions, forgetting that in Jesus Christ we have been given the strength to overcome our conflicts," Pope Benedict said.

The pope told the estimated

35,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square that the Twelve Apostles were meant to be a model of the church and, therefore, demonstrate that in the church "all gifts, peoples, and races — all human qualities — must have a space and find their unity in communion with Jesus."

In turning to St. Jude, the pope focused on the very brief New Testament letter attributed to him.

The Letter of Jude warns the young Christian communities to be on guard against those who pretend to love God, but are sowing division with their erroneous teachings.

The letter, which uses harsh language to condemn the false teachers, "tells us something important given all the temptations and trends present in modern life: We must preserve the identity of our faith," he said.

While being open to dialogue with others, the pope said, Christians must have "the strength, clarity, and courage" to proclaim the truths of their faith.

At the end of his general audience, Pope Benedict joined German Cardinal Joachim Meisner of Cologne in blessing a statue of St. Edith Stein.

The statue of the Carmelite nun, a Jewish-born convert to Catholicism who died in the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz, Poland, in 1942, was placed in a niche on the exterior of St. Peter's Basilica.

Scripture Readings



November 5, Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Cycle B. Readings:

- 1) Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Psalm 18:2-4, 47, 51
- 2) Hebrews 7:23-28
Gospel) Mark 12:28b-34

By Dan Luby

The encounter begins with a trick question, like asking a coach at a team meeting to name her best player or a parent at Sunday dinner to pick a favorite child. It's an "either-or" question, and I imagine an edge in the scribe's voice as he asks it, a smirk on his face, glancing at his clever friends.

But if the scribe's opening gambit seems aggressive, Jesus' answer reflects confidence and peace and wisdom.

He answers, but not in the narrow categories of the questioner, not ceding the rules of engagement to his prickly opponent. He answers instead in a way that both disarms his challenger and invites consideration of a new perspective

on truths the scribe thought he already grasped.

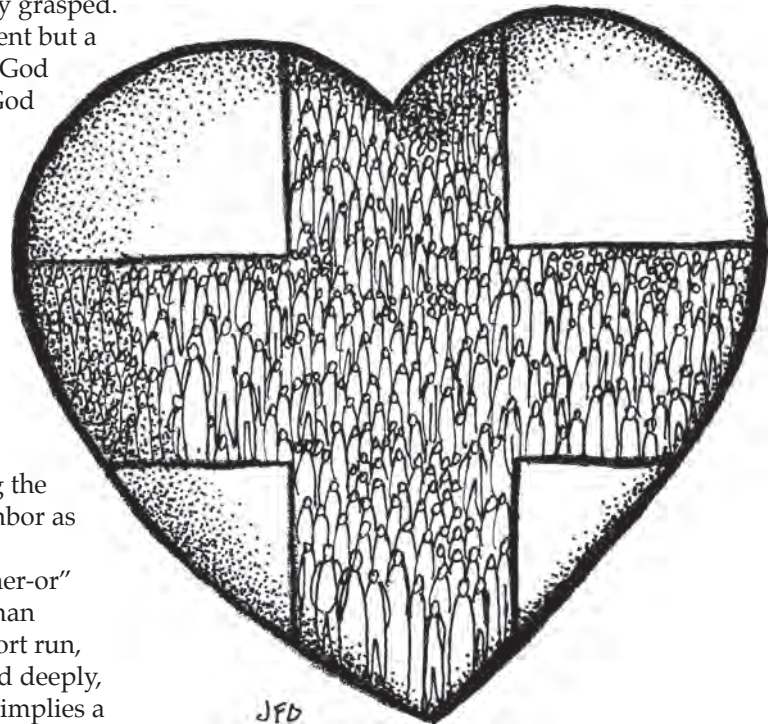
Jesus' first response is not a statement but a prayer: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! ... Love the Lord your God with all your heart...."

The Shema, so called for its opening Hebrew word, "Hear!" would have echoed familiarly in the ears of Jesus' listeners. Devout Jews recited this prayer three times daily, both as a reminder of God's sovereignty and as a call to fidelity to his gracious covenant.

The scribe asks for only one commandment, but Jesus gives him a second, thus deepening and clarifying the meaning of the first: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

The impulse to division, to an "either-or" approach to wisdom and life and human community, while clarifying in the short run, proves too small for Jesus. To love God deeply, with passionate commitment, always implies a similarly deep and courageous love of our sisters and brothers.

The measure of our love for God, and the fruit of authentic worship, is the depth and generosity of our love for each other, demonstrated in our imitation of Christ, God's love made flesh.



"Which is the first of all the commandments?"

— Mark 12:28

QUESTIONS:

Who is a person in my life to whom I can demonstrate love more clearly? How? What are some concrete ways I can cultivate in my heart a deeper love for God?

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Learning to pray for 'something better'

By Jeff Hedglen

I think that most of us would agree that prayer is an important part of every Christian's life. We believe that God listens to our requests and that God desires to share his plan for our life with us.

There are a lot of places in the Scriptures that speak to us about prayer. Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you besides." Luke 11:9 says, "Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you."

But, what about the times when our prayers are not answered in the way we planned, or we seek and do not find, or the door seems to remain closed? Is God fickle and inattentive? Are we praying wrongly? Or is there some other way to explain the unanswered or apparently unsatisfactorily answered prayers?

These are big questions that are rather scary to ask. Who

The retreat master said he ends his prayers of petition with these words: "Father, grant me these things ... or something better."

am I to question God? If I do dare to question the Almighty, do I risk a flash of lightning aimed at my behind? It's my experience that sometimes the questions get so loud that they must be asked. Furthermore, I believe that God can handle

any question or doubt we can throw at him.

Who among us has seen a friend or relative suffer and has not, at least for a moment, questioned the wisdom of God? Haven't we all somewhere deep inside wondered where God is when it seems like our cries for help go unanswered? This is natural, and I believe that, even in the questioning, God is there somewhere.

There are basically three answers we can expect to any request we have of God: "yes," "no," and "not right now." We obviously have no problem with the "yes" answers. It is the other two that cause us fits. In my life it seems like I get a lot of "not right now." I tend to not have a lot of patience, and this might be God's way of teaching me some. The "no" answers often are harder to take. I do not like being told "no," and to hear it from God is hard to understand.

Recently while on retreat I heard something that has changed the way I pray. The

retreat master was explaining that his prayer includes a lot of intercessory prayer. He said he ends his prayers of petition with these words: "Father, grant me these things... or something better."

That simple little phrase rocked my prayer world. So much said with so few words. It says that, even though we have expressed our desires to God, what we really want is God's will to be done. It also acknowledges that sometimes God says "no" to our prayer. Most importantly it points out that if God is saying no, it is only because he has something better in mind.

As my mind reeled from the implications of that phrase I realized how short-sighted my questioning of God has been. Somewhere inside, probably right next to my doubt in God's care for me, was a deep belief in the mercy-filled providence of God.

I really do know that God always wants my best, but sometimes my vision of what is best tends to cloud my ability to see

things God's way. If I were to remember all the stories of God coming through for those he loves, I would doubt less and focus, not so much on the 40 years in the desert, but the reality that the Chosen People of God, did indeed make it to the Promised Land.

From the first day of creation when everything was good, to what seems the worst day on earth that we call Good Friday, all things that encounter God find their way to being good. Sure, it may take a while to see the other side of our Jordan River, but the journey will be so much more bearable if we can remember that God will, at the very least, grant us everything we ask for in his name. But if we are lucky, he will give us something even better.

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

Noviembre nos ofrece la oportunidad de reflexionar en lo que los santos pueden enseñarnos acerca de cómo seguir a Cristo

Queridos amigos en la
Diócesis de Fort Worth,

Abirles esta columna me encuentro tomando unos días de reflexión, oración, lectura y meditación en la Casa de Retiro de los Padres Jesuitas, Montserrat, cerca de Lake Dallas. Es una verdadera bendición para nuestra Diócesis el tener estas facilidades y la presencia y ministerio de la Compañía de Jesús para retiros y dirección espiritual.

Como parte de las actividades de este día he estado leyendo un nuevo libro, *Mi Vida con los Santos* (My Life with the Saints) escrito por James Martin, SJ. Esta lectura me ha llevado a reflexionar sobre nuestra Catedral de San Patricio, la época del año, y lo que los santos nos tienen que enseñar sobre nuestras vidas con Cristo.

Recientemente, nuestra Diócesis fue el anfitrión de la convención nacional de la Sociedad de Derecho Canónico de América. Esto no es un pequeño esfuerzo, y gracias



MONSEÑOR KEVIN W. VANN

En el último análisis, nuestra meta es la vida eterna con Cristo, por lo tanto, ¿Cómo nos preparamos para esto ahora? ¿Cómo vivimos nuestras vidas ahora como una respuesta al llamado de Cristo para ser sus discípulos?

al trabajo arduo y la hospitalidad del equipo de trabajo de nuestro Tribunal Diocesano, la Diócesis de Fort Worth dejó bien impresionados a nuestros visitantes que, como abogados especializados en derecho canónico, sirven a través de la nación en parroquias, tribunales, cancillerías y diversos ministerios educativos.

Para muchos de los visitantes de la convención, un momento importante fue la Misa celebrada este pasado miércoles en la Catedral. Gracias a Monseñor Neu y a todos los que sirven en la Catedral pues dejaron a nuestros visitantes muy impresionados. Gracias a la Sra. Kay Fiahlo, muchos de

nuestros visitantes disfrutaron de una pequeña gira dentro de la Catedral. Ella les explicó la historia de la Catedral y de todos los sacerdotes que han sido asignados a ella además de relatar la historia de todas las imágenes y vitrales en el templo. Volví a escuchar una y otra vez sobre cómo nuestros visitantes estaban tan conmovidos con la belleza de la Catedral y de manera especial con todos sus santos.

Todos los santos en nuestra Catedral nos recuerdan que la vida en Cristo no es una tarea fácil, pero es posible. Desde Santa María Goretti (castidad), a Santa Isabel de Hungría (cuidar de los pobres), San

Oliver Plunkett (una fe fuerte en tiempos de persecución), San Carlos Borromeo (amor por la Iglesia de Cristo y la valentía durante la reforma) y todos los demás. Ellos nos enseñan como ser discípulos de Cristo, como vivir vidas virtuosas, como vivir vidas de santidad y como vivir las Bienaventuranzas. Nos viene bien pensar en todo esto ahora pues al terminar octubre estaremos celebrando las fiestas de Todos los Santos y la Conmemoración de los Fieles Difuntos. Esta celebración anual de la Iglesia es para reflexionar sobre la Comunión de los Santos, la vida eterna y además del cielo reflexionar sobre la importancia de las

enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre el purgatorio y el orar nuestros seres queridos ya difuntos.

En el último análisis, nuestra meta es la vida eterna con Cristo, por lo tanto, ¿Cómo nos preparamos para esto ahora? ¿Cómo vivimos nuestras vidas ahora como una respuesta al llamado de Cristo para ser sus discípulos?

Les recomiendo leer libros sobre los santos. En la introducción del libro que estoy leyendo ahora el Padre Martin nos dice que "Estas reflexiones pretenden ser biografías exhaustivamente académicas de la vida de estos héroes y heroínas espirituales. En cambio, son meditaciones sobre el modo en que un cristiano se relaciona con estas personas santas: Es la manera en que yo los llegué a conocer y lo que a mí me inspira sobre sus historias y el significado que tienen en mi propia vida."

En el próximo mes de noviembre los santos nos están esperando para enseñarnos como ser amigos de Cristo en esta época tan compleja y llena de retos. Algunos de esos retos que experimentaron los santos no son tan distintos de los que tenemos hoy día. Visiten nuestra Catedral o simplemente lea algo sobre los santos. ¡Puede ser que nuestras vidas no vuelvan a ser iguales!



**Católicos rezan en
basílica brasileña
en un día popular
de fiesta Mariana**

Católicos rezan en la basílica catedral de Aparecida, Brasil, durante una fiesta popular local mariana el 12 de octubre. El papa Benedicto XVI tiene planes de asistir a la Quinta Conferencia General de Obispos Latinoamericanos que se reunirán en ese santuario en mayo del año 2007. (Foto CNS/ PAULO WHITAKER, REUTERS)

RETIROS EN EL CENTRO DE CURSILLOS

Día de retiro en español, Nov. 5 La vida después de la muerte

Lo que la Biblia, la Iglesia y nuestra tradición nos dicen sobre la muerte, el infierno, el juicio y la resurrección de los muertos. Día de reflexión, diálogo y oración en el Centro de Cursosillos, 2221 NW 26 St. Fort Worth. Habrá Misa y oportunidad para confesarse. Todos los adultos cordialmente

invitados. Registración: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.; retiro 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Nov. 5. Donación por persona \$25.

Para más información llame a Moises Minero (817) 834-0536; Norma Cerritos (817) 343-7573; Marta Galvan (817) 922-9514; Centro de Cursosillos (817) 624-9411.

Jornada Familiar, Retiro Matrimonial Nov. 17-19, el Centro de Cursosillos

Todas las parejas cordialmente invitadas: casadas por la Iglesia o no. Vengan a un retiro matrimonial que iluminará toda su vida matrimonial y familiar. Pláticas, diálogo, Misa, confesión y consejería. Viernes Nov.

17, 7 p.m. a domingo Nov. 19, 6 p.m. Donación por pareja \$80. En el Centro de Cursosillos, 2221 NW 26 St., Fort Worth. Para registración y reserva, llame a Sergio y Dulce Morataya (187) 921-9271.

Días más frescos y hojas amarillentas cayendo de árboles

El otoño como metáfora de nuestro existir

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

Múltiples días con temperaturas cerca de los cien grados ya no se verán hasta el año próximo. El sol no sale hasta después de las siete y media de la mañana y ya para antes de las siete de la noche se ha puesto el sol en el horizonte dándonos días más cortos. Las hojas en muchos árboles ya dejaron a tras su verdor intenso y tienen un color amarillento y con cada brisa fresca que sopla se las va llevando todas poco a poco. No cabe duda de que el otoño está aquí.

Otoño es la época representativa de los comienzos de un final, y me refiero a un final en varios sentidos. El primer sentido es el de la naturaleza pues los árboles, aunque todavía con un poco de vida, están en pleno proceso de comenzar el final de su ciclo de vida. Están por comenzar un periodo de dormición que se extenderá e intensificará durante el invierno.

Para los países al norte de la línea ecuatorial el otoño nos deja saber que, además de estar ya próximo el invierno, ya se acerca el final del año vigente.

Otoño también puede representar cercanía con, sin haber alcanzado todavía, la tercera edad. Muchos comparan la tercera edad con haber llegado al invierno de sus vidas, yo prefiero decir que se ha alcanzado la madurez. Invierno representa la época donde la vegetación, y los seres vivientes que no se resguardan, mueren.

Dios me introdujo al otoño de mi vida de una manera directa y donde no hay lugar para dudas. Hace un mes tuve un pequeño episodio donde se me detuvo el corazón. Ya estoy bien y el marcapasos artificial que implantaron esta funcionando a la perfección pero la experiencia fue una que todavía me tiene reflexionando un mes después. Ya sé que estoy en mi otoño y debo estar listo pues nadie sabe cuando le llega su invierno.

Yo pensaba que esto era tema para otro día, no para ahora. Pero Dios en su bondad me dio un pequeño jalón de oreja y me "invitó" a pensar con mayor intensidad en el hecho de que la vida eterna no es aquí. La vida eterna se alcanza por medio del paso inevitable de la muerte y nadie sabe ni el día ni la hora. Tenemos que preguntarnos aquí y ahora, ¿Estamos listo para dar ese paso tan importante?

Hermanos y Hermanas, ¿Estamos realmente conscientes de la posibilidad de que nuestra opinión de que solo estamos viviendo la primavera, verano o el otoño de nuestras vidas puede estar bien equivocada? ¿Estamos conscientes de que, desde la perspectiva de Dios, podríamos estar casi al final del invierno de nuestras vidas?

Después de pensar en esto asegúrense de que estemos en mejores condiciones que las hojas amarillentas que caen para ser recogidas y descartadas para siempre. Amén.



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.

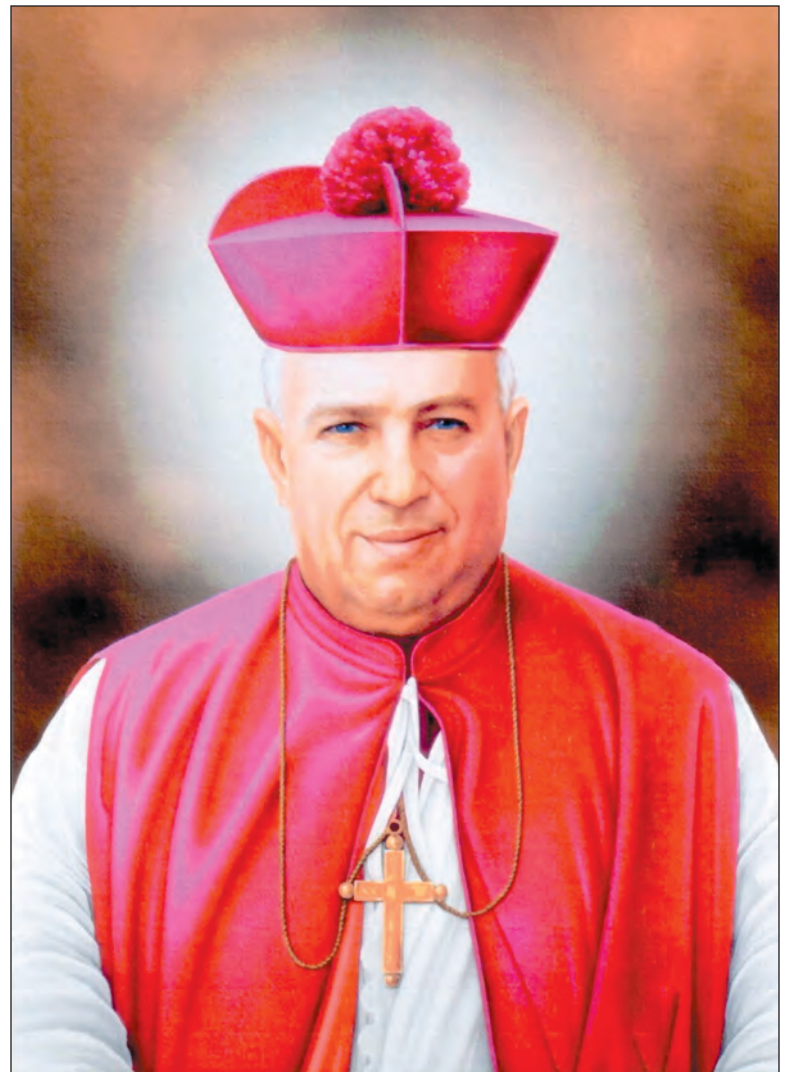
Mexicano se convierte en primer obispo nacido en Américas nombrado santo

VERACRUZ, México (CNS) — En una ceremonia papal el 15 de octubre en el Vaticano, el beato Rafael Guízar Valencia está programado para convertirse en el primer obispo nacido en las Américas en ser declarado santo.

Como sacerdote durante la era anticlerical que marcó el comienzo del siglo 20 en su México natal, él se disfrazaba a menudo como distribuidor de chatarra para llevarle los sacramentos a ambos lados que luchaban en la revolución mexicana, que comenzó en 1910.

Después de la revolución, cuando las medidas anticlericales fueron aprobadas por el nuevo gobierno, él vivió en el exilio en Cuba, Colombia, Guatemala y el sur de Estados Unidos para escaparse de la persecución. Él fue ordenado en ausencia obispo de Veracruz en 1919 mientras vivía en La Habana.

El santo Rafael era miembro de los Caballeros de Colón. Él es el séptimo caballero y el primer miembro-obispo de la organización declarado santo. Los Caballeros comenzaron a formar concilios en México en 1905. Los otros seis caballeros que son santos son también mexicanos martirizados durante la persecución de católicos en las décadas de 1920 y 1930.



Este es un retrato del obispo mexicano Rafael Guízar Valencia, quien será canonizado el 15 de octubre en el Vaticano. Nacido en 1878 en una familia rica, él dedicó su vida a predicar y ser ministro de los pobres, a pesar de la oposición gubernamental a las actividades eclesíásticas. (Foto CNS/Arquidiócesis de Xalapa)



Los mexicanos Rafael De Jesús Barroso Santiago y su padre, Enrique Barroso Ordaz, entregan las reliquias del obispo mexicano Rafael Guízar Valencia, de Veracruz, durante su ceremonia de canonización en la Plaza de San Pedro, en el Vaticano, el 15 de octubre. El papa Benedicto XVI canonizó a cuatro santos nuevos el 15 de octubre, incluyendo a la Madre Theodore Guerin, pionera en la educación católica en Indiana en el siglo 19. (Foto CNS/Giampiero Sposito, Reuters)

“Acogemos la canonización de nuestro hermano caballero, el obispo Guízar Valencia, y sabemos que su vida de valor y su legado de evangelización serán inspiración a cada uno de nuestros 1,7 millones de miembros en todo el mundo”, dijo el caballero supremo Carl A. Anderson, quien planificaba asistir a la ceremonia de canonización del 15 de octubre.

“Él vivió desde 1878 a 1938 y en realidad sobrevivió la persecución del catolicismo por el gobierno mexicano, pero sólo apenas”, dijo Anderson en una declaración.

“Una anécdota sobre él dice que él regresó de una misión con agujeros de bala en su sombrero y ropa”, dijo Anderson.

El santo Rafael nació en una familia rica en Cotija de la Paz, en el estado mexicano de Michoacán, el 16 de abril de 1878. En 1894 él entró en el seminario de la Diócesis de Zamora y fue ordenado como sacerdote para la diócesis en 1901.

Cuando la revolución mexi-

cana comenzó, la Iglesia Católica era objetivo de las fuerzas rebeldes porque era considerada una de las instituciones privilegiadas que dominaban la sociedad bajo el dictador mexicano Porfirio Díaz. El entonces padre Guízar se convirtió en objetivo debido a su defensa de la iglesia.

Después de la exitosa revolución el nuevo gobierno ordenó que padre Guízar fuera asesinado instantáneamente y en 1915 él huyó del país entrando a Estados Unidos. Él entonces se mudó a Guatemala, Colombia y Cuba.

El santo Rafael regresó a México en 1920 como obispo de Veracruz y en 1923 se unió al concilio local de los Caballeros de Colón.

Ya que la persecución de la iglesia continuó, él fundó un seminario clandestino.

“Un obispo puede funcionar sin mitra, sin cayado y hasta sin catedral, pero nunca sin un seminario porque el futuro de

VEA EL SANTO, P. 20



Los tapices que cuelgan de la fachada de la Basílica de San Pedro muestran a los cuatro nuevos santos, canonizados por el Papa Benedicto XVI el 15 de octubre en el Vaticano. De izquierda a derecha muestran a la Hermana Italiana Rosa Venerini, al Obispo Mexicano Rafael Guizar Valencia, al Padre Italiano Filippo Smaldone y a la Madre Theodore Guerin, fundadora de las Hermanas de la Providencia de la Provincia de St. Mary-of-the-Woods en Indiana. (CNS foto/Giancarlo Giuliani, Catholic Press foto)

El Santo Rafael...

DESDE, P. 19

su diócesis depende del seminario", dijo él.

La persecución de la iglesia obligó al santo Rafael a huir

de México otra vez en 1927. Él regresó en 1929, después que la iglesia llegó a un acuerdo con el gobierno.

Él llegó a conocerse como "el

obispo de los pobres" y murió de causas naturales el 6 de junio de 1938. El papa Juan Pablo II lo beatificó el 29 de enero de 1995.

Nuevo santo de México es 'uno de los nuestros', dicen a católicos del sur de Texas

SANANTONIO(CNS)—Uno de los más nuevos santos de la iglesia es verdaderamente "uno de los nuestros", dijeron el arzobispo José Gómez, de San Antonio, y el arzobispo jubilado Patrick Flores a los católicos del sur de Texas.

Los dos arzobispos hablaron en conferencia de prensa en San Antonio días antes que el papa Benedicto XVI canonizara al obispo mexicano Rafael Guizar Valencia, quien vino al sur de Texas durante su exilio de México debido a la persecución gubernamental contra la Iglesia Católica.

"En este hombre de Dios tenemos una joya, alguien a quien orar y a quien pedir su intercesión", dijo el arzobispo Flores. "Mi oración es que la gente llegue a conocerlo".

Nombrado obispo de Veracruz, México, en 1919 por el papa Benedicto XV, el nuevo santo predicó misiones en la iglesia Immaculate Heart of Mary y en la Catedral San Fernando en San Antonio, así como en la iglesia Our Lady of Guadalupe en Austin.

Él era conocido como "el obispo de los pobres", a pesar del sufrimiento personal traído por la diabetes, la flebitis, la insuficiencia cardiaca y la obesidad extrema. La evangelización también se convirtió en una preocupación importante y él reconstruyó el seminario, que había sido cerrado hacía mucho tiempo debido a la legislación anticatólica en México.

En su canonización el 15 de octubre, San Rafael se convirtió en el primer obispo nacido en las Américas en ser declarado santo.

San Rafael todavía tiene familia viviendo en la zona de San Antonio. En asistencia a la

conferencia de prensa con los arzobispos estaban Agustín Mora, hijo del sobrino del nuevo santo y Tito Guizar Jr., nieto de su sobrino.

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San Rafael murió el 6 de junio de 1938 y fue sepultado en un ataúd simple. Doce años más tarde su ataúd fue exhumado para ser internado en la catedral de Veracruz. Cuando los trabajadores levantaron el ataúd sobre la tierra descubrieron que la caja estaba libre de putrefacción de la madera.

Al remover la cubierta del ataúd los trabajadores encontraron el cuerpo no corrompido de San Rafael. Su cuerpo permanece en la catedral mexicana en un ataúd de cristal.

Presidente del episcopado de EEUU presiona a Bush para que vete proyecto de ley de muro fronterizo

WASHINGTON (CNS) — El desplegar el muro fronterizo entre los EEUU y México no conduciría sino a más muertes y violencia, previno el presidente de la conferencia de obispos de los EEUU en una carta en la que exhortaba al presidente George W. Bush a vetar el Decreto del Muro de Protección.

El proyecto de ley, aprobado por el Congreso en los últimos días de sesiones antes del descanso de la campaña de octubre para las elecciones parciales, "podría conducir a la muerte de inmigrantes que intenten ingresar a los Estados Unidos y aumentaría la violencia relacionada con el contrabando en la frontera", dijo el obispo William S. Skylstad de Spokane, Wash., presidente de la conferencia de obispos católicos de Estados Unidos.

El obispo Skylstad decía que el muro de una extensión de 700 millas, autorizado en el proyecto de ley, también "enviaría una señal equivocada para nuestro pacífico país vecino del sur, México; y al mismo tiempo para toda la comunidad internacional". En la carta, fechada el 10 de octubre y dada a conocer por la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los EEUU el 11 de octubre, se decía también que el muro no resolvería el problema de la inmigración ilegal.

Mientras tanto, el secretario de Relaciones Exteriores de México dijo que su nación considera la posibilidad de presentar el asunto ante las Naciones Unidas.

El obispo Skylstad citó un informe de la Oficina de Inspección del Gobierno en el que se demuestra que el número de muertes de personas que hicieron el intento de cruzar la frontera se ha doblado desde el año 1995, cuando el gobierno de los Estados Unidos lanzó campañas de coacción en los puertos de entrada oficiales y en los puntos en donde la gente tradicionalmente entraba al país ilegalmente.

Cerca de 3,000 personas han muerto en ese periodo de tiempo en partes remotas del suroeste de los Estados Unidos, dijo.

"La construcción de un muro forzaría a los inmigrantes, desesperados por encontrar trabajo para mantener a su familia respectiva, a buscar formas alternativas y más peligrosas para entrar al país, contribuyendo esto al aumento de posibles muertes", escribió el obispo Skylstad. También esto empujaría a la gente que siente la necesidad de cruzar hacia los

El obispo Skylstad decía que el muro de una extensión de 700 millas, autorizado en el proyecto de ley, también "enviaría una señal equivocada para nuestro pacífico país vecino del sur, México; y al mismo tiempo para toda la comunidad internacional".

Estados Unidos a que buscaran la ayuda de los llamados "coyotes", algunos de los cuales explotarían a los inmigrantes y los colocarían en situaciones peligrosas, dijo.

La construcción de un muro con extensión de 700 millas "también enviaría una señal a México y a otros países del hemisferio de que los Estados Unidos no tienen la voluntad de trabajar cooperativamente para resolver el problema de la inmigración ilegal", se decía en la carta. "Esto podría dañar nuestras relaciones con estos países e inhibiría el progreso bilateral en nuestros mutuos intereses".

El obispo Skylstad decía que como "la más grande democracia y única superpotencia" del mundo, los Estados Unidos "deberían abordar el asunto de la inmigración ilegal sin recurrir a la construcción de muros o barreras".

La Iglesia Católica "es una organización universal" que atestigüa de las condiciones en países como México, las cuales empujan a la gente a decidirse a inmigrar ilegalmente, decía el obispo Skylstad; y como tal, está convencida de que un muro no le evitará a la gente que está desesperada por escapar de la pobreza.

El obispo recomendó que esos esfuerzos se dirijan, por el contrario, hacia políticas de acción de economía global y comercio enfocadas al desarrollo de trabajos que remuneren lo suficiente para vivir, y que le permitan a la gente permanecer en su propio país y mantenerse ellos mismos y a su familia respectiva.

Missouri Catholics urged to lead way in defeating stem-cell, cloning proposal

By Jay Nies

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri (CNS) — Catholics have a moral obligation to treat the least among them the way they would treat Christ himself, Missouri's Catholic bishops said in a pastoral letter calling for defeat of a proposed state constitutional amendment on embryonic stem-cell research and cloning.

The amendment, slated for the Nov. 7 ballot, would take away state and local governments' authority to regulate and ban human cloning and embryonic stem-cell research. Such research always results in the killing of innocent human life.

"The stage of human life at which the killing takes place makes no difference," the bishops said in the letter, released Sept. 30 during the Missouri Catholic Conference's annual assembly at the Capitol in Jefferson City.

"No matter how big or small we are, we all begin our unique journey of life as a human embryo," they said. "Killing is killing, no matter how young or old the victim. And no human life, at any stage of its development, may ever be taken for the sake of someone else's gain."

Signing the letter were Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of St. Louis; Bishops Robert W. Finn of Kansas City-St. Joseph, John R. Gaydos of Jefferson City, and John J. Leibrecht of Springfield-Cape Girardeau; Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Hermann of St. Louis; and retired Bishop Raymond J. Boland of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The bishops stated that "our least brethren" and Christ himself were depending on Catholics to help defeat the amendment.

"We must vote, and we must vote 'no,'" the bishops said. "In

the United States, the least of our brothers and sisters are the unborn children threatened by abortion and the human embryos artificially produced to be destroyed as mere objects of research."

The bishops predicted that the outcome of the Nov. 7 vote on the amendment — which would require a simple majority for passage — will have national implications. Other states are watching closely how Missouri voters react to the amendment.

The bishops said the amendment is deceptively worded, stating that it bans human cloning, when it only bans cloning for the sake of human reproduction. The amendment actually would prevent lawmakers and their constituents from banning or regulating the cloning of human embryos for research.

They also said that, in addition to the grave sin involved in the killing of innocent human life, embryonic stem-cell research, which has yet to produce a single lifesaving cure or therapy in humans, takes limited resources away from the much more promising research and therapies of stem cells from nonembryonic sources such as bone marrow or umbilical-cord blood.

"Adult stem-cell research ... has shown itself to be extremely successful in treating dozens of human illnesses, and shows promise even for conditions such as spinal cord damage, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, and Parkinson's disease," they added. "These cells can be obtained without any harm to the donor and without any violation of the moral law."

The bishops said the promise of embryonic stem-cell research has been consistently overstated

by people who support the amendment.

"When pressed for honest answers, many scientists now admit that the hope for cures from human cloning is very remote, and that the means to get there are highly impractical," they said. "The plain fact is that, despite years of concerted effort, embryonic stem-cell research has never yet helped a single human patient, and even worldwide efforts to obtain stem cells from cloned human embryos have been mired in failure and fraud."

At the annual assembly, a physician who co-founded the St. Louis Center for Bioethics and Culture used simple illustrations and comparisons as he sought to equip his audience to "understand and discuss this issue."

"It's up to us as a community of faith to get the word out," said Dr. Richard Chole, a professor at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

In addition to promoting human cloning for research while pretending to do otherwise, the amendment would lead to the exploitation of low-income women of childbearing age, require taxpayer funding for embryonic stem-cell research, and eliminate legislative oversight of such research, Chole said.

Although the amendment's supporters say state tax dollars would not be spent on the research, the amendment states: "State or local governments cannot eliminate, reduce, deny, or withhold any public funds ... to a person [who] ... lawfully conducts stem-cell research."

"I think this opens the treasury of the state of Missouri to payment for unethical research in our state, with our tax dollars," Chole said.

He noted that 27 countries have banned all forms of human cloning, as have several U.S. states, including Iowa and Michigan. The U.N. General Assembly has passed a resolution banning human cloning.

"And biotech companies have basically given up, because there's much more promise in adult stem-cell technology," he said.



SOCCER CHALLENGE — A local Youth Soccer Challenge was conducted by the Lewisville Knights of Columbus Council 9884 and the Greater Lewisville Area Soccer Association Oct. 7 for youngsters ages 10 to 14. Players were asked to demonstrate their skill with the penalty kick. Ten-year-old Morgan Bookout (above), who is attempting to repeat as state champion in her age group, is shown demonstrating her kicking technique. Other winners included: Girls Division: age 11, Madison Stidham; Boys Division: age 10, Cole Hanson; age 11, Brandon Austin; age 12, Alex Hollingshad; age 13, Darren Jones; and age 14, Evan Vosburgh. The same challengers prevailed in the district competition, held later that afternoon, and will go on to a regional competition Nov. 4.

Save dates for College of St. Thomas More lecture series

The College of St. Thomas More in Fort Worth recently announced dates for its annual College of St. Thomas More Lectures Week Nov. 11-18.

Tom Key, known for his one-man play "C.S. Lewis on Stage" as well as his celebrated musical "Cotton Patch Gospel," will present the Lewis-Tolkien Lecture Nov. 11. His topic will be C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*.

The topic of the annual Cardinal Newman Lecture, Nov. 18, will be "Why Do Catholics

Eat Fish on Friday? The Catholic Origin to Just About Everything," given by author and lecturer Michael Foley.

The Lewis-Tolkien Lecture is still to be held at Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas. The Cardinal Newman Lecture will take place at St. Mary the Virgin Church, 1408 N. Davis Drive in Arlington. More details concerning times will follow.

For more information, call the college at (817) 923-8459 or visit online at www.cstm.edu.

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NTC deadlines for submission

The *North Texas Catholic* is published twice monthly, except during the summer 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 Nov. 3 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Oct. 25. Items for the Nov. 17 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Nov. 8.

The Diocese

online

Don't miss out on the opportunities available throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth! Stay informed through the diocesan Web site. Visit the "Calendar" online to learn about exciting events happening throughout the diocese.

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Diocesan

Life Chain event organizes people of many faiths to oppose abortion publicly

FROM PAGE 24
to Solis, is that it is one of the most ecumenical events she has ever been involved with. "It's such an uplifting thing for the whole community," she explained.

A pastor representing one of the other denominations participating was the Reverend Coy Quesenbury, pastor of Lonesome Dove Baptist Church in Southlake, who came dressed in his Sunday best. "Pastor Quesenbury has been coming out without fail for 13 years," Solis said. "He feels so strongly about this issue. Sometimes he'll have a few members of his

congregation with him, but if not, he still comes."

Each year's demonstration brings a new story, related Solis, explaining that a Jewish man had stopped by to talk during last year's event. He said that he had driven past the previous year's chain with his family, which had raised questions from his two adopted daughters as to the meaning of the signs. The couple used the event to spark a discussion about the difference between abortion and adoption.

Most of the vehicles that passed by did so without acknowledging the chain's pres-

ence, but a few drivers honked or gave the thumbs up sign.

Jonathon McIntosh, a member of Colleyville Presbyterian, stood a few feet closer to the curb than the others. He said he was there to remind people to consider something that is easy to forget in their daily lives. "This is something our nation needs to wake up to," he insisted. "It can be eclipsed by the fact that our country is at war."

Jonathon's wife, Annie, stationed herself and their two children half a block away. She said she and her husband "want our children here so

people can see what a blessing they are from the Lord. Even in the womb they are made in God's image."

St. Francis parishioner Tom Pruitt and his young adult daughter, Anna, were joyful despite the heat. "We're in the heat, but we're trying to save lives..." Tom said with a smile.

Angela Walters, director of Catholics Respect Life, was approached by a couple curious about the demonstration. They wondered if an abortion clinic would be built along this busy road. "Thank God, no!" Walters told them. She indicated that because the chain in this loca-

tion was even larger last year, the group from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church chose to start a chain closer to their parish in Keller.

There was no shade along the portion of Southlake Blvd. where the Life Chain participants had gathered. After a half hour, the sun began to feel hotter, and many feet, still dressed in Sunday-best shoes, began to tire. By the hour's end, a Knight's offer of cold water was very welcome. But despite the uncomfortable conditions, most of these people will return again for next year's Life Chain.

Hamer...

FROM PAGE 11
One day last year, as cool winds kicked in, Andrew had worked all night at his "day job" in a computer store. "I was a zombie walking home from work this morning," he said. "It was cold when I plopped down on the bench waiting for the train.

"I pulled my collar up, leaned back, and out of the corner of my eye, saw something written on the wall behind me. In the spirit of subway graffiti, I wasn't really expecting much," he said. "It was just Sharpie-penned handwriting.

"But I turned to look, and it read, 'Are you living your dream?'"

"I took a picture of it," Andrew said, "and made it the wallpaper on my cell phone."

"You are living your dream," I told him.

"Sure," he laughed. "Working until 7 a.m., and installing RAM on MacBooks."

"And learning comedy in the city that's famous for it," I reminded him. "It's a good dream."

When I told her about it, Meredith laughed. "My dream," she retorted, "is having it be cold in Texas."

Andrew continued taking

classes at Second City, commuting to work, and exercising his creative nature. But, as weather changes, so does the climate of life, and months later, Andrew lost his job.

"It was my dream job," he said, sadly, that same day. "And it was my own fault I lost it."

I felt sadness for Andrew, and the sense of loss was as sincere as my own distress at time passing or kids growing up. Andrew had stepped into the world and met disappointment. I could do nothing for him. None of us can prevent our children from potential failure.

A week later he found another job, enrolled in new classes, and began writing, extending himself creatively, fulfilling the dare he'd answered when he left warm, comfortable Texas.

The difference between generations shows itself in the ways we joust with life, and the armor we wear. Some of us stick with seasons past, and fear stepping into new years. Others, like Meredith in a sweatshirt on a nearly-fall day, look ahead and smile, "Hey world, follow me!"

This evening I phoned Andrew and asked about the sign at the train stop last year. "Did you ever see it again?"

"No," he said. "The one time I saw it: 'Are you living your dream?' I thought it meant I was in the right place doing the right things. But the day I lost my job, I went to the same train stop, sat on the same bench and looked for that sign. It wasn't there anymore. When it wasn't there, I interpreted something completely different than when I saw it. Maybe I hadn't been following my dream after all. Maybe I was too busy, and other things were holding me back. Maybe I wasn't brave enough. Maybe I had lost sight of my original dream.

"I'm trying harder now." I always tell Andrew there is a hopeful future for him. But it is all of us who are challenged to throw on sweatshirts and look for changes in climate. We have a future full of hope too.

God has told us he has great plans for us. We should believe him.



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.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton forms first Keller Life Chain

On Oct. 1, 135 members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish lined a half mile of Highway 377 from North Tarrant Parkway south to North Park Drive for what organizers said was the first peaceful demonstration for life ever held in Keller.

Respect Life parish coordinators Michael and Alana Demma said St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishioners joined many other Catholic parishes who participated in Life Chains in over 100 cities in Texas and over 1,000 cities across the United States.

The Demmas organized the Keller Life Chain af-

ter participating in the Southlake Life Chain last year.

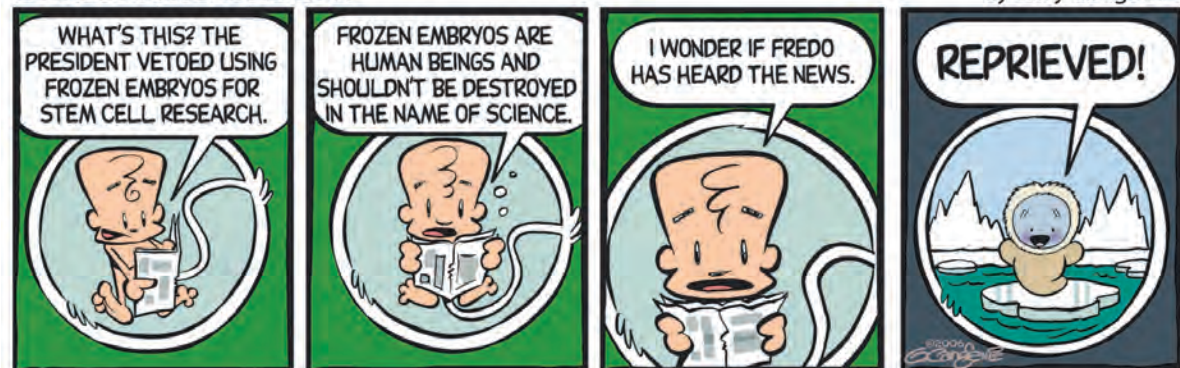
According to Michael Demma, support by Keller motorists and local citizens was overwhelming. Passersby would wave, smile, and give words of thanks and appreciation to the Life Chain members, he said. In the one-hour vigil, approval was 10 to one over those who showed signs of disapproval. The Life Chain was approached by one of the businesses in the area who welcomed them and expressed gratitude for what was being done.

The FLOCK

By Jean Denton
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Umbert the Unborn



by Gary Cangemi

Calendar

REMINDER

The Feast of All Saints, which is a holy day of obligation, falls on Wednesday, Nov. 1. All Catholics in the Fort Worth Diocese are obliged to attend Mass on that day.

WHITE MASS, OCT. 24

A White Mass, sponsored by MACS and the St. Luke Physician Guild of Fort Worth, will be held at All Saints Church Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. The principal celebrant will be Bishop Kevin Vann, with Father Raphael Eagle, TOR concelebrating. Participants are asked to wear a white coat as a symbol of the medical profession. For more information about the White Mass, contact MACS representative Ewa Oberdorfer at (817) 732-6720 or via e-mail at eoberdor@hsc.unt.edu.

CART REPORTERS NEEDED

Deaf or hard-of-hearing persons in the local community who do not use sign language are able to participate more fully in the Sunday liturgy by means of CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) services. These services involve a court reporter listening to the spoken word during Mass and transcribing it onto a laptop computer. The transcription is then projected onto a screen where it may be read, thus enabling deaf or hard-of-hearing persons greater involvement in the liturgy. The Deaf Ministry Program is in need of at least one more CART reporter who would be willing and able to share CART responsibilities at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass at Most Blessed Sacrament Church, 2100 North Davis Drive in Arlington. Persons who have such skills and might be willing to assist with such an activity on a rotating basis are asked to consider sharing their time and talent with the church. Those interested are asked to contact Mary Cinatl, director of the Deaf Ministry Program, at (817) 284-3019 (TTY) or e-mail to mcinatl@fwdioc.org.

COURAGE

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

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 Thursday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m. at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth. Father Warren Murphy, TOR, 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.

CALIX MEETING, NOV. 4

Calix, a monthly support meeting for Catholics who are alcoholic and others who are struggling with addiction and seeking recovery, is offered the first Saturday of each month at Holy Family Church, 6150 Pershing Ave. in West Fort Worth. The next meeting will be held Nov. 4, beginning at 10 a.m. in the chapel. Calix meetings focus on enhancing spiritual growth through sharing Eucharist, discussion, and fellowship. For more information, call Deacon Joe Milligan at (817) 737-6768 ext. 105 or Tim S. at (817) 735-1519.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S GROUP

St. Augustine's Men's Purity Group, for men who struggle with sexual impurity issues on the Internet and other sources, meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The meetings are held in Room 213 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, located at 2016 Willis Lane, Keller. For additional information visit the Web site at www.sampg.org, or e-mail to Mark at seasmenspurity@yahoo.com.

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 jl Locke@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

SINGLES MINISTRY WORKSHOP

Holy Family Church and Singles Ministry will host the presentation, "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk/Jerkette (The Way to Follow Your Heart without Losing Your Mind)," Nov. 4 at 10 a.m. in the Family Life Center. The session will examine the five bonding elements. These dynamic elements are directly related to one another, must be developed in a specific order, and must be kept in balance. The session, to be presented by Deacon Dick and Kathy Stojak of the Family Life Ministry for the Diocese of Fort Worth, will bring in Christian values in the process of forming friendships and dating. For more information and to make a reservation, contact Monica Molina by e-mail to mmolina@hollyfamilyfw.org or by phone at (817) 737-6768

'NONVIOLENCE' WORKSHOP

"Jesus, Bearer of God's Peace And Justice," a workshop on the nonviolence of Jesus, will be presented Oct. 28 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street, Fort Worth. Co-sponsored by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and the Office of Peace and Justice for the Diocese of Fort Worth, this workshop with feature Father John Dear, a Jesuit priest, pastor, peacemaker, retreat leader, and author. Based upon his book, *Jesus the Rebel: Bearer of God's Peace and Justice*, Fr. Dear will draw participants to reflect upon several stories of Jesus' life journey. Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. The workshop will follow at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. with the celebration of the Eucharist. For additional information, contact Sister Anselma Knabe, SSMN, at (817) 429-2920 or the visit the diocesan Web site at www.fwdioc.org.

TEXAS A&M ALUMNI

St. Mary's Catholic Center, which provides campus ministry to the students of Texas A&M University in College Station, is in the process of trying to locate former students who are "Aggie Catholics." Aggies, their parents, and friends, or individuals just wanting to learn more about Catholic campus ministry at Texas A&M are invited to contact the center. Those who make contact will be entered in a drawing for a "Football Surprise Package." For more information, call St. Mary's Catholic Center at (888) 240-TAMU or visit online at www.aggiecatholic.org by Oct. 31.

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HOLY SPIRIT NOVENA

The Holy Spirit Novena prayers will be prayed following the homily at each Mass Oct. 25 through Nov. 2 at St. Maria Goretti Church, 1200 S. Davis Dr., Arlington. An evening Mass with novena prayers will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. each weekday in addition to the 8 a.m. Mass. Saturday, Oct. 28, Mass with novena prayers will be celebrated at 8 a.m. The novena will end Nov. 2, All Souls Day. Mass cards for the Holy Spirit Novena will be available after all the Masses or in the St. Maria Goretti Church office for a donation of \$5.

'TODAY, TOMORROW, FOREVER'

A day of preparation for couples seeking to have their marriage validated within the Catholic Church will be offered Nov. 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by the diocesan Family Life Office. The one-day session, entitled "Today ... Tomorrow ... Forever," will be held at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth. Topics to be discussed will include "Marriage as a Sacrament," "Commitment," "Communication," "Conflict Resolution," and "Intimacy." Time will be set aside for couples to strengthen their relationships with regard to these topic areas, as well as to focus upon their individual relationships. This program is a marriage enrichment opportunity and is open to all interested married couples who wish to deepen their sense of mutual love and commitment. For more information or to register, call the diocesan Family Life Office at (817) 560-2452 ext. 304 or ext. 256 or visit the diocesan Web site at www.fwdioc.org.

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

St. Patrick Cathedral will host a Patriotic Rosary and prayers for the United States during this time of national elections and lack of peace in the world. The prayers will be accompanied by the lighting of three symbolic candles: the first honoring the nation and church, the second for all veterans and military defending this country, and the third for departed loved ones. The Patriotic Rosary is in the framework of traditional prayers said for the conversion of the United States and guidance for its leaders. Each decade of the rosary is accompanied by a spiritual reflection by one of America's forefathers. Each of the 50 Hail Marys is dedicated to a specific state in the union and every soul in that state. The prayer service will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton, Fort Worth, Oct. 24 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call (817) 244-7733 or (817) 558-9805.

ST. JUDE FESTIVAL, OCT. 29

The 41st annual St. Jude Thaddeus Church Fall Festival will be held Oct. 29 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event, which is St. Jude's main fundraiser of the year, will include a turkey and German sausage dinner with all the trimmings. The all-you-can-eat dinner will be served in the parish hall, located at 600 Davy Drive in Burkburnett. In addition, there will be home-baked items for sale and games for the children. There will also be a drive-through for carryout dinners as well as free delivery in Burkburnett by calling (940) 569-8116. Tickets are priced at \$7.50 for adults and \$4 for children 5 to 12 years of age. Children under the age of 5 will be admitted free. For more information, call (940) 569-1222.

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POLKA MASS

Sacred Heart Catholic Community in Seymour will celebrate with neighbors Nov. 12 beginning with a special 11 a.m. Sunday Polka Mass at Sacred Heart Church on North Cedar Street in Seymour. After Mass a Czech Olde World Dinner, featuring Bohemian sausage, turkey, and kolaches, will be served at Sacred Heart's Mosler Hall until 1:30 p.m. An auction will follow at 2 p.m. There will also be a country store full of baked goods and crafts for purchase. 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.

IRPS LANDREGAN LECTURE

Journalist John Allen Jr. will present the annual Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies' Landregan Lecture Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. The lecture will take place at the Church of the Incarnation at the University of Dallas, located at 1845 E. Northgate Drive, Irving. The topic of the lecture will be "The Cross and the Crescent: The Relationship between the Church and Islam under Benedict XVI." The Landregan Lecture is free and is open to the public. For more information, call (972) 721-4118.

'COVENANT KEEPERS' SEMINAR

The St. Joseph Covenant Keepers will host a seminar for men entitled, "Fathering Amidst the Storm," Nov. 4 with Steve Wood, founder of the St. Joseph Covenant Keepers and host of EWTN's "The Carpenter's Shop." In a series of three talks, Wood, will offer key information for Catholic men regarding children, discipline, faith formation, teenagers, purity, marriage, and the media. The seminar will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 2016 Willis Lane, Keller, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Admission is \$10. For more information or tickets, call Andrew Hightower at (817) 490-8919.

NEWMAN LECTURE SERIES

The Cardinal Newman Institute continues its fall lecture series to which all are invited. Dr. Thomas D. Watts, of the University of Texas at Arlington, will present "End of Life Issues and the For-Profit Social Policy Sector: A Troublesome Ethical Mixture," Oct. 20 in the cafeteria of St. Maria Goretti Church, located at 1200 S. Davis Dr., Arlington. Dr. James Patrick, chancellor of the College of St. Thomas More, Fort Worth, will speak on "Venerable John Henry Cardinal Newman: An Exemplar Witness for Truth and a Man for Our Time" Dec. 9 at St. Mary the Virgin Church, located at 1408 N. Davis Dr., Arlington. Each session will begin at 7 p.m. with a small reception. Donations are gratefully accepted.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

The annual World Youth Day at Six Flags is scheduled for Oct. 29. Bishop Kevin Vann will join Bishop Charles Grahmann of Dallas in celebrating the youth-oriented liturgy with the theme "Catholic to the Core." Discounted tickets and transportation opportunities are available through local youth ministers. For more information, contact Kevin Prevou, director of the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Adolescent Catechesis, at (817) 560-2452 ext. 261, or via e-mail at kprevou@fwdioc.org.

ST. RITA'S ART SALE, NOV. 5

St. Rita's Garden Club will host an art sale Nov. 5 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will feature original oil paintings by Mary Shaw and will be held in the formation room of the church building, located at 5550 E. Lancaster, Fort Worth. For more information, call the parish office at (817) 451-9395.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Natural Family Planning is considered safe, healthy, and effective. Many couples who use NFP find that they grow in love and respect for one another, according to the Couple to Couple League. CCL offers classes in the sympto-thermal method of NFP. Since the class consists of four meetings at monthly intervals, engaged couples are encouraged to attend a class starting at least four months before their wedding. For more information or to register for a class starting Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 1305 Deer Park Rd., Decatur, contact Kevin and Michele Vina at (940) 433-5664.

SVDP GOLF TOURNAMENT

St. Vincent de Paul Men's Club Golf Tournament benefiting Holy Rosary School will be held Nov. 11 at Mansfield National Golf Course, 3750 National Parkway, Mansfield. There will be a 1 p.m. shotgun start. The price of \$65 per person includes golf and range balls. To sign up for the tournament or to make a donation, contact Brian Murphy at (817) 451-9144 or by e-mail to bkmurphy@sbcglobal.net, or call Pat Irwin at (817) 919-0485.

ROME PILGRIMAGE

Bishop Kevin Vann and Father Michael Holmberg, associate pastor at St. Michael Church in Bedford, will lead a Rome pilgrimage designed especially for young adults March 10-18, 2007. The trip is described by organizers as a spiritual, educational, and cultural journey. All young adults, their family members, and friends are invited to participate. The cost is \$2,500 per person for double occupancy. For details, visit online at www.travelillum.com/trc/hfw, or call (817) 283-8666 ext. 55.

Classified Section

DIRECTOR OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

The Diocese of Fort Worth is seeking applicants for the position of Diocesan Director of Child and Youth Protection. The director is responsible for developing, implementing, and maintaining the diocesan response to the USCCB's "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" for training, compliance, and reporting. The director is also responsible at the diocesan level for the coordination, communication, implementation, and support of compliance with the Safe Environment Program (Keeping Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults Safe). The director will manage the staff and volunteers of the Safe Environment Program. Qualified candidates will hold a BA or equivalent in theology, pastoral ministry, social work, or a related field. Extensive training experience and administrative skills are required. Applicants must be practicing Catholics and have prior work experience in the Catholic Church relating to child protection or child advocacy. Proficiency in Spanish is a plus. Contact Steve Landon at slandon@fwdioc.org or (817) 560-2452 ext. 154 for a required application. Applications will be accepted until Nov. 7.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Prince of Peace Catholic Community, located in Plano, is currently seeking an organist/choir director to continue and expand a well-developed music program. Full time with excellent benefits. Prince of Peace Church has a weekend Mass attendance of 2,600 with five Masses in a 1,000-seat church with an Allen digital organ. The community also supports a school with 830 children. Send résumés to Maritta Zwartynski at marittaz@popplano.org. For more information, visit the Web site at www.popplano.org.

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Good Newsmakers

Life Chain in Northeast Tarrant County helps make clear a happy ecumenical fact:

RESPECT FOR LIFE

Story and Photos
by Wendy Pandolfo
Correspondent

It's not just for Catholics anymore



Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine and St. Michael Church in Bedford were among an ecumenical group of 126 people from five congregations in the Southlake/Grapevine area lined up along Southlake Blvd. for one hour on Oct. 1 to take part in Life Chain. The peaceful, silent demonstration in Southlake was one of five such gatherings along roadways in Tarrant County cities that day. Life Chain, which takes place on the first Sunday of October each year, is an interdenominational, peaceful pro-life demonstration which began in 1987.



Top: Brian Shirley, with the youth group from Grapevine Church of God, points out the location where his group will stand.



Above: Johnathon McIntosh of Colleyville Presbyterian Church stands a bit closer to the street, offering silent witness.



Above: The signs conveyed a variety of pro-life messages.

Above: Members of Knights of Columbus Council #7099 turned out to witness to life and to provide cold water for those who braved the 94 degree heat.

Mary Solis is in her fifth year as the area coordinator, but is marking her 13th year of involvement. She greeted this year's participants with bottled water and plastic bins filled with signs proclaiming, "Adoption the Loving Option," "Abortion Kills Children," "Jesus Forgives & Heals," and "Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation."

a decade, Solis explained, "We are all joined together for this common issue. I'm so very pro-life. I want to get the message out."

Her offerings of water were welcome on the 94-degree day. Even though it's fall in North Texas and the temperatures are dropping, they are "always back in the 90s for Life Chain Sunday," Solis said.

Serving as marshals for the event were Knights of Columbus members from St. Francis Council # 7099. Some joined the participants by holding signs along the busy boulevard and others handed out water. Last year a participant passed out from heat exhaustion, so the Knights were also there to look after the safety of the volunteers.

When asked why she has participated in Life chain for more than

One of the things that makes Life Chain so special, according to **SEE LIFE CHAIN, P. 22**



Right: Young people were part of a broad spectrum of witnesses ranging from babies to the elders of the community. All joined together for an hour to publicly witness to the sanctity of life and to pray that our nation would protect the unborn.

Left: Annie McIntosh from Colleyville Presbyterian Church braved the heat with Emma (3) and Beatrice (18 months, outside the frame of the photo).



Barbara Higdon stands with her granddaughter Emily Higdon.

Inside... This issue of the NTC

Respect for Life helps determine Catholics' whole approach to charity and participation in society, but all rights flow from the right to life, the right to be born. **10**

Kathy Hamer's son, Andrew, the one studying comedy at Second City in Chicago, has a meaningful encounter with subway graffiti — and there's no punch line to this story. **11**

Creation of St. Joseph Garden, honoring the heritage of St. Joseph Hospital, is part of the renaissance of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish on Fort Worth's South Side. **13**

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