

# North Texas Catholic

Bringing the Good News to the Diocese of Fort Worth

Vol. 23 No. 16

October 26, 2007



**GREETING POPE** — Bishop Kevin Vann (left) presents Father Allan Hawkins, pastor of St. Mary the Virgin Parish in Arlington, to Pope Benedict XVI at the Sept. 26 papal audience in St. Peter's Square. Bishop Vann and Fr. Hawkins were in Rome as participants in the Pastoral Provision Pilgrimage, which took place Sept. 22-29. For more information about this pilgrimage, read Bishop Vann's column on page 2. (Photo provided courtesy of L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO)

## Pope Benedict XVI names Archbishop DiNardo of Galveston-Houston as one of two new U.S. cardinals

Cardinal-designate DiNardo says his elevation recognizes church's growth in Southwest

By Erik Noriega

HOUSTON (CNS) — Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston called Pope Benedict XVI's decision to name him a cardinal "very humbling and surprising," but also said it illustrates the Vatican's recognition of the church's growth "in the Southern part of the United States."

The cardinal-designate, the first from a Texas diocese, made the comments at an Oct. 17 news conference in Houston.

Pope Benedict named 23 new cardinals, including the Texas archbishop and U.S. Archbishop John P. Foley, grand master of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

The announcement came at the end of the pope's weekly general audience Oct. 17. He said he would formally install the car-

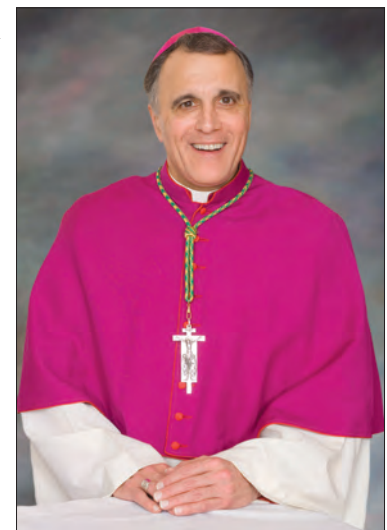
dinals during a special consistory at the Vatican Nov. 24.

"I am deeply grateful to the Holy Father for his kindness in

appointing me and for his trust in allowing me to be placed in the College of Cardinals," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said in his opening statement at the midday news conference at the downtown chancery.

"This is very humbling and surprising. I promise him my fullest communion, loyalty, and obedience," he said.

"I believe that the Holy Father is also honoring this local church of Galveston-Houston, its past and present bishops, priests, deacons, and religious, and faithful for their love and loyalty to Jesus Christ and their affection and communion with the see of Peter," Cardinal-



Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston was named a cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 17. He is pictured in an undated photo. (CNS photo/courtesy Archdiocese Galveston-Houston)

SEE CARDINAL-DESIGNATE..., P. 12

## Catholic leaders say veto won't end efforts to insure more poor children

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic leaders who had urged an expansion of the State Children's Health Insurance Program expressed disappointment at the House's Oct. 18 vote that fell short of overriding President George W. Bush's veto but said efforts to reach a compromise must not stop now.

The House vote was 273-156, 13 fewer than the two-thirds majority needed to override. The Senate had already passed the legislation by a veto-proof majority.

Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, decried the fact that "there were not enough House members willing to stand up for children and vote to override this ill-conceived veto of a bill that would have helped so many children without health insurance."

The veto and the 156 House members who supported it "put the health of many of our nation's children at risk," he said in a statement.

The legislation would have expanded funding for the program known as SCHIP by \$35 billion

over five years. Bush said the bill would have been a step toward socialized medicine and could have led many families to drop their private health insurance in favor of coverage by SCHIP.

But Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity who is president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, said it was tragic that the debate over the legislation "has been clouded by so many false assertions and misconceptions."

"While we welcome the intentions of President Bush and con-

SEE FR. LARRY SNYDER..., P. 6

## Young Adult Council: an opportunity for young adults to be more involved in life of local church

Michelle Bayes says that her commitment to her parish community — St. Michael's Church in Bedford — is what infuses her life with purpose and meaning. The 32-year-old financial analyst admits that she used to be "the person who would come to church on Sunday, listen to the homily, get my message, and go."

Now, as a leader within her parish young adult group for approximately three years, Bayes finds herself involved in young adult activities on the diocesan and regional level, as well. "I

have worked on the Theology on Tap committee for going on three years now, and I think that is so important," explains Bayes. "It's a ministry that brings young adults together from across the diocese to learn more about their faith and to have the opportunity to grow spiritually together."

Participation in other diocesan young adult activities, such as Flag Football for Charity and the recent regional conference held in Austin, gives her the opportunity to meet other young people with similar values, says Bayes.

"And because of those opportunities, I'm excited about the formation of our diocesan Young Adult Council," she adds. "The development of the council is important, so we can lay a foundation for even more young adults to become involved in the life of the church in our area."

The first diocesan Young Adult Council meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 1, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Holy Family Church, located at 6150 Pershing Avenue in Fort Worth. Kevin

SEE FIRST EVER..., P. 24



**UNITY AWARDS** — Tony Melendez performs Oct. 6 at the eighth annual Unity Awards in Phoenix. The Iowa-based United Catholic Music and Video Association sponsors the awards to recognize excellence in Catholic music and video. Melendez, a singer and guitarist who was born without arms, has traveled throughout the world sharing the gift of music and has performed many times in the Diocese of Fort Worth. (CNS photo/J.D. Long-Garcia, CATHOLIC SUN)

# As he calls us to shine the light of our faith on our culture, Bishop Vann reminds us to defend the life of each and all

Dear Friends in the  
Diocese of Fort Worth,

Late in  
the  
month of  
September, and  
early in the  
month of  
October,



Bishop Kevin W. Vann

I was in Rome on a week of pilgrimage, discussion, and prayer with about 140 people from around the United States (but mostly from here in Texas) who are part of the "Pastoral Provision."

These are priests and parishioners who had been formerly Episcopalian or Anglican and who had been received into the Church in the last 25 years under the auspices of the Pastoral Provision, established by the late beloved Pope John Paul II.

I was asked by Archbishop John Myers, Archbishop of Newark, a longtime friend of mine and the Delegate of the Holy See for the Pastoral Provision, to accompany him and Msgr. William

*Is our own call  
to conversion and  
holiness in front  
of us each day?*

Stetson of Houston for a time of prayer, reflection, and discussion among ourselves and with the Holy See regarding the experience of the Pastoral Provision over these past 25 years, and looking toward the future in faith.

We have been blessed here in our diocese with the lived experience and results of the provision, as other dioceses in Texas have as well. Three "personal parishes" of the Pastoral Provision were represented: Our Lady of Walsingham in Houston, Our Lady of the Atonement in San Antonio, and St. Mary of the Virgin in Arlington. It was a special blessing that Father Allan Hawkins could be with us for part of this pilgrimage.

We are near the end of the month of October and are rapidly heading toward November (the month dedicated to all of the Faithful departed). Along with the calendar year, the Church year is drawing rapidly toward its conclusion. Soon we will be hearing

the Gospel of St. Luke at Sunday Mass for the last time for three years and soon we will be hearing from St. Matthew. As the Church year draws near an end, and as the month of November dawns upon us, the themes of the liturgy will call us to seriously examine our lives, and reflect on our eternal destiny in Christ. In the Mass for last Sunday and this Sunday, the second reading (the Epistle) speaks of Faith, as well as the Gospel for last Sunday: For example: "Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed.... When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth? .... I have competed well, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith...." How integral is Faith in our lives and in our decisions? Do we put the light of Faith on culture, and not vice-versa? Is our own call to conversion and holiness in front of us each day? As we seek to be ambassadors for Christ, in caring for the poor or living the Gospel of Life, for example, all of this must be rooted in the call to holiness and virtue — keeping the Faith, remaining faithful to what is Truth, as challenging as that is at times.

In this month of October, dedicated to Life, the Secretariat for Pro-Life activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops reminds us of the call to holiness when it says that "And to some of us who are humble and lowly, God grants the privilege to be his instrument of bringing forth holiness from others. God loves, and wants us to love, the grandfather lying

unconscious in a hospital bed, the child with severe physical and mental impairments, the frightened teenaged mother, and the unplanned embryo nesting in her womb. Each of these vulnerable persons is given to us so we may learn to love as God loves ... generously, sacrificially, and unconditionally. May we never tire of proclaiming the dignity and worth of every human life. May we never tire of serving the vulnerable and their caregivers with generous hearts. And may we never cease to pray for the day when all people, and all societies, will defend the life of every human from conception to natural death."

We would also do well to take some reflective prayer time with the rosary in these last days of the month of the rosary. This ancient form of prayer, is a true form of contemplation and meditation, in which we ask the Mother of God to lead us to her Son, and always be open to his will for each one of us — especially in his time and way.

Finally, congratulations, prayers, and best wishes go to Cardinal-designate Daniel of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. I have known him for many years, and our state is truly blessed with this honor. The elevation of Cardinal-designate DiNardo, and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, is recognition of the history, life, and vitality of the Church in Texas, a major part of which is the Hispanic heritage of our state and its two ecclesiastical provinces.

God bless you always...

## Feeding the hungry is moral obligation, pope says for World Food Day

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Feeding the hungry is not simply a logistical and economic challenge, it is a moral obligation, Pope Benedict XVI said.

In a message for the Oct. 16 celebration of World Food Day, sponsored by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, the pope said that perhaps the failure to significantly reduce the rate of malnutrition in the world is due to the fact that too many people consider it a "technical and economic" problem.

Individuals and nations, he said, must give priority to "the ethical dimension of feeding the hungry. This priority relates to the feeling of compassion and solidarity that is part of being human, leading to sharing with others not only material goods, but also [sharing] the love all of

us need."

"Indeed, we give too little if we offer only material goods," Pope Benedict said in the message sent to Jacques Diouf, director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

The pope said studies of the situation of the world's 850 million hungry people demonstrate that a lack of food is not due only to natural factors such as drought, but is due "above all, to situations caused by human behavior," including wars that force people to flee their land and their homes.

"The goal of eradicating hunger and, at the same time, providing healthy and sufficient diets, requires specific methods and actions that would allow for an exploitation of resources in a way that respects the patrimony of creation," he said.

Pope Benedict called for scientists, researchers, and technology developers to work in conjunction with farmers, farmworkers, and the indigenous who know the "cycles and rhythms of nature" and have protected them for centuries.

The pope also called for strengthening school meal programs for the poor throughout the world.

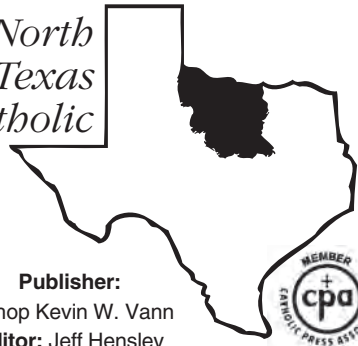
Children are "the first victims" of the tragedy of hunger and often suffer delayed physical and mental development because of malnutrition, he said. Many are forced to work or even are forced to enlist in armed militias in exchange for food.

Pope Benedict said school feeding programs not only provide food along with education for students, but they provide hope for the future for those children's communities.



16 Years in a Row

North  
Texas  
Catholic



Publisher:

Bishop Kevin W. Vann

Editor: Jeff Hensley

Associate Editor: Mary Martin

Secretary: Judy Russeau

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

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

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

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

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

## Texas bishops respond to Amnesty International

The Texas Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the bishops of Texas, issued the following statement Oct. 8 regarding Amnesty International:

We, the Bishops of Texas are instructing all parish and diocesan staff and other Catholic organizations to no longer support financially nor through publicity, nor participate in joint projects or events sponsored by the organization known as Amnesty International. This instruction is based on Amnesty International's decision to limit its human rights agenda by promoting abortion as a way to curb violence against women, especially women in developing countries. In promoting abortion, Amnesty divides its own members, many of whom are Catholics, and others who defend the rights of unborn children, and jeopardizes its support by people in many nations, cultures, and religions who share a consistent commitment to all human rights. Our assessment is that Amnesty International is now violating its original mission to protect human rights worldwide and has lost its moral credibility.

While no human rights organization should turn away from the suffering that women face daily in the form of sexual violence, it should not prioritize a mother's life above that of her unborn child. It is better to advocate advancing her educational and economic standing in society and resist all forms of violence and stigmatization against her and her child. Abortion is an act of violence against both the child and its mother. Any organization truly committed to women's rights must put itself in solidarity

with women and their unborn children.

Discontinuing participation with Amnesty International does not mean the Catholic Church in Texas will cease to protect human life and promote human dignity in all circumstances. We will continue to oppose the use of the death penalty, unjust incarceration, and the crushing effects of dehumanizing poverty in our state. We will continue to stand with refugees, migrants, and other oppressed peoples. But, we will seek to do so in authentic ways, working most closely with organizations who do not oppose the fundamental right to life from conception until natural death.

Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, stated that individuals and Catholic organizations must withdraw their support for Amnesty International if it continues with this new policy, because, in deciding to promote abortion rights, Amnesty International has betrayed its mission. This statement has been supported by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. We, therefore, call upon Amnesty International to act in accord with its noblest principles, reconsider its error, and reverse its policy on abortion. Until then, parishes, diocesan staffs, and other Catholic organizations should no longer work with Amnesty International. We also encourage the lay faithful to examine their consciences and prayerfully consider their personal involvement with Amnesty International.

For more information, visit [www.TXcatholic.org](http://www.TXcatholic.org).

## Sisters of St. Mary of Namur invite women to 'Come and See' Nov. 18

The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur will be hosting a "Come and See" program Sunday, Nov. 18, at OLV Center, 909 West Shaw Street in Fort Worth. Single women, ages 18 to 45, are invited to attend and to learn more about life as a religious sister. The day

will begin with Mass at 10:30 a.m. in the convent chapel, followed by dinner with the sisters, a presentation, and time for sharing.

For more information, contact Sister Margaret Miller, SSMN, at [smargm@airmail.net](mailto:smargm@airmail.net) or call her at (817) 429-4009.

*Responding to God's Call*

## Vocation awareness — Does anything good come from celibacy?

By Father Kyle Walterscheid

Other Christian denominations can't understand it. Catholics are often bewildered by it. Yet, celibacy remains as the norm for the priesthood and religious life.

In this second column on the subject of celibacy, I hope to continue to offer more positive benefits for the Church to maintain such a practice.

Contrasting marriage and celibacy, St. Paul speaks in a rather humorous tone about those who choose to marry, saying, "If you marry, however, you do not sin ... but such people will experience affliction in their earthly life, and I would like to spare you that" (1 Corinthians 7:28). Okay, married people, admit it: Marriage has its moments too!

But celibacy, in our Christian tradition, really gains its value in Christ himself. We can see how many great goods came from Jesus' choice to live a celibate life. First, it was a way of life Jesus was called to by his heavenly Father, and second, it permitted him to move from town to town freely to heal and to herald the Kingdom

of God without being impeded by the immediate concerns of raising a family. Thus celibacy was the channel by which Jesus and his Apostles were called to take care of the larger family of faith, the community, while marriage was the channel to which a husband and wife were called to take care for their immediate families, raising up a new generation of believers through their children. In other words, celibacy and marriage are meant to complement one another so as to make a tight-knit community of believers.

However, many Church opponents want to see celibacy washed away with the next ocean tide of popular culture. They are saddled with a warped view that celibacy for the priesthood was introduced in the Middle Ages to protect the Church's property and heritage, and that celibacy is therefore no longer needed.

This is very misleading, because celibacy was embraced by Christ himself and was clearly a part of the Christian leadership since its inception, with leaders like St. Paul numbered among the celibate. And a few centuries later, the Council at Carthage in 390 stated that continence (no sexual activity) was embraced by the Apostles and should therefore be the norm for all church leaders.

Should we not be elated that our Church has decided that its leadership, in imitating Christ, must come to empty themselves and take the form of a slave in order to humble themselves? (Philippians 2:7). Thus, the Church

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

Part 2 of 2

tests those who aspire to its pastoral leadership by offering them the challenge of a lifestyle of humility, compassion, and self-sacrifice. The result is that those found worthy by their free acceptance of celibacy, poverty, and obedience offer this sacrificial lifestyle as the common way to better ensure holy governance of the Church. More than a few Protestant pastors have told me that there is a lot to be valued in the Catholic Church's position.

As a priest, I enjoy living according to the Church's requirement of celibacy for the priesthood and religious life. It was a choice in life that I made. I felt God calling me to the priesthood, and I knew that our Lord always graces us with every blessing that we need in order to accomplish whatever he asks us to do. The choice of celibacy has brought me great stability, freedom from the destructive forces of a hyper-sexed culture, and a happiness found in giving myself fully to Christ in service to his people.

Jesus chose a celibate life to be able to give himself over completely to the Father as a holy sacrifice and to devote himself completely to the salvation of mankind through his ministry. Should we not expect our Church leadership to do the same?

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

## Subiaco Academy in Northwest Arkansas to accept 8th graders in fall 2008

Subiaco Academy, a Catholic Benedictine day/boarding college preparatory school for boys, recently announced that it will accept 8th grade students in the fall of 2008.

"In response to a great deal of public interest and after much discussion, the school administration, Board of Trustees, and

Monastic Council voted in July to begin the necessary preparations for this addition to the campus," stated an Oct. 10 press release. "Among the many reasons for the academy to expand its mission to the 8th grade is the desire simply to broaden the availability of a Catholic Benedictine education in our region," the statement said.

The academy, founded in 1887 by the Benedictine priests and brothers of Subiaco Abbey, is located in Northwest Arkansas near Fort Smith. The initial 8th grade enrollment will be limited to about 20 students.

"Competition for college entrance and scholarships is tough," noted Deacon Roy Goetz, the

academy's headmaster. "By starting here in the 8th grade, students will have a year to adjust to the challenges of our curriculum and residential life before they begin their high school careers with us. The foundation [that] we will give them ... in terms of study skills and social growth will help them succeed in high

school and pave the way to their success in college."

Visitors are always welcome, according to school administrators. Inquiries may be made by calling (800) 364-7824 or (479) 934-1034; or by e-mailing to [admissions@subi.org](mailto:admissions@subi.org); or by visiting the school's Web site at [www.subi.org](http://www.subi.org).

## Sacred Heart Parish to host study of Gospel of Matthew Nov. 10

Sacred Heart Parish, 714 North Main in Muenster, will host a one-day Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Community Center. Father John Robert Skeldon, parochial administrator of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Wichita Falls, will give the presentation.

The workshop is designed to give participants a greater understanding and appreciation of those readings from the Gospel of Matthew that will be heard at Mass in the upcoming liturgical year.

Lunch will be served. A \$6 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch. Reservations are requested. To make your reservation or for more information, contact Barbara Rohmer, parish director of religious education, at (940) 759-2511 ext. 16.

## Catholic recording artist Steve Angrisano to perform in Arlington Nov. 16

Nationally known singer, songwriter, and storyteller and former North Texan Steve Angrisano will perform at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 5819 W. Pleasant Ridge Road in Arlington, Friday, Nov. 16. The concert will begin at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary; handicap access is on the south side of the building, by the chapel. All are invited to attend the family-friendly event.

The event is sponsored by St. Vincent's youth ministries office. While there is no charge to attend the concert, donations will be accepted for the benefit of Arlington Pregnancy Center.

Steve Angrisano's unique blend of laughter, song, story, and audience interaction has made him a popular choice for leadership at parish missions, concerts, workshops, and youth events across the world, including multiple Life Teen and Steubenville youth conferences, five World Youth Days, and four National Catholic Youth Conferences.

Angrisano, who moved to Richardson as a high school student, attended All Saints Church in Dallas. After attending the University of Texas, Angrisano served as a youth minister at St. Mark Church and at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, both in Plano. Angrisano, who also served on staff at The Pines Catholic Camp in East Texas, moved to Colorado in 1998, where he currently lives with his wife and three children.

For more information about the concert, contact Diane Donahue at (817) 478-8206 ext. 216 or e-mail to ddonahue@svdpc.org.

## Singles Silent Retreat to be held at Montserrat Nov. 16-18

A silent retreat for singles will be held at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House, located at 600 N. Shady Shores Road, Lake Dallas. The retreat will begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, and will continue through lunch on Sunday, Nov. 18.

Father Nathan Stone, SJ, will serve as retreat master for the weekend. Ordained to the priesthood in 2000, he is an author and speaker and has been leading individuals and groups in the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for the past 10 years.

Participants in the retreat weekend will be given the opportunity for private prayer and reflection on topics offered by the retreat master. Mass, and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation will also be available.

The retreat is open to singles of all ages, including those who have been separated, widowed, divorced, or never married. Payment for the retreat is based on a sliding scale, and payment options are available. To make a reservation, call Montserrat at (940) 321-6020, or e-mail to retreat1@airmail.net. More information about Montserrat can be found online at [www.montserratretreat.org](http://www.montserratretreat.org).

## Marriage enrichment, validation program to be offered in two locations

A one-day marriage enrichment program, entitled "Today... Tomorrow... Forever," will be offered Nov. 10 at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, 600 Davey Drive in Burkburnett, and Nov. 17 at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth. The program, sponsored by the diocesan Family Life Office, will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at each location.

Topics to be discussed will include "Living the Sacrament of Marriage," "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, open to all interested married couples who wish to deepen their sense of mutual love and commitment, is also an opportunity for couples seeking to have their marriage validated within the Catholic Church.

To register for the Burkburnett session, call Marie King at (940) 569-1222. For more information or to register for the Fort Worth session, 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](http://www.fwdioc.org).

# People & Events

of Importance for the Church of Fort Worth



**MUENSTER LIFE CHAIN** — Approximately 30 parishioners of Sacred Heart Church in Muenster gathered Sunday, Oct. 7, to participate in the National Life Chain observance by lining up along U.S. Highway 82 to join in the hour of silent, peaceful protest against abortion. Other Cooke County residents gathered in Gainesville and Lindsay to take part in the pro-life event from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Life Chain is held each year on the first Sunday of October. Pro-life advocates of all ages met at over 1,200 Life Chain locations across the country this year. (Photo provided by Barbara Robmer)

## North Texas Catholic deadlines for submission

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

Items for the Nov. 9 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Oct. 31. Items for the Nov. 23 issue must be received by noon on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

## Lay Carmelites invite others to join twice monthly gatherings

"Would you like to deepen your relationship with Jesus and Mary?" ask the Third Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel (Lay Carmelites). The Lay Carmelites invite those in search of this deeper relationship to join them on the second and fourth Sundays of the month for a time of prayer and fellowship. The next scheduled gathering will be held Oct. 28.

Those interested are asked to gather at 1:45 p.m. in the rectory chapel of St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 W. Magnolia Avenue in Fort Worth. Formation will take place from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the school building. For more information, call Phyllis Poth at (817) 457-1746.

## Dr. Thomas Hilgers to speak at women's breakfast Nov. 17

Women for the Third Millennium will hold a women's breakfast Saturday, Nov. 17, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Cooper Guest Lodge-Berkley Room, 12230 Preston Road in Dallas. Registration will take place beginning at 9 a.m.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Thomas Hilgers, a medical doctor who serves as the director of the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and the National Center for Women's Health in Omaha, Nebraska. He will speak on "Infertility and Miscarriage: Real Solutions to Real Problems." Dr. Hilgers, who was appointed to permanent membership in Pontifical Academy for Life in 1994, has developed a natural procreative technology (NaPro) which relies on diagnostics, hormones, and surgery to identify and treat underlying causes of reproductive ailments in a manner faithful to Catholic Church teaching.

Women for the Third Millennium is an organization designed to promote and support the authentic dignity and femininity of all women.

The cost is \$30 per person, or \$28 per student. Religious and consecrated women may attend at no charge, but reservations are required. Reservations must be received by Nov. 12. To register or for more information, call Patricia Sherk at (214) 348-6191, or Helen McCleneghen at (972) 612-5978 or e-mail to [mcclenbea@hotmail.com](mailto:mcclenbea@hotmail.com). More information may also be found on the Web site at [www.womenthirdmillennium.org](http://www.womenthirdmillennium.org).

## Study series on the Mass to be offered at St. Andrew's

"Yes, I'm Catholic! The Mystery of Faith," a study series focusing upon the Mass, will be offered at St. Andrew Church, 3717 Stadium Drive in Fort Worth. Each Monday evening program will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

"Introductory Rites: We Gather as the Body of Christ," will be held Oct. 29 and will be presented by Bishop Kevin Vann. "Liturgy of the Word: We Come to Hear the Word of God," presented by Dr. Toni Craven, a professor of Hebrew Bible at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, will be offered Jan. 28.

"Liturgy of the Eucharist: We Come to Share in the Supper of the Lord," will be offered March 31 and will be presented by Mary McLarry, former director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Worth. "Concluding Rites and Review of the Series," led by Father Tom Stabile, TOR, associate pastor of St. Andrew Church, will be offered April 28.

Childcare is available 24 hours in advance; to reserve, call (817) 924-6581. To register for the series, call (817) 927-5383.

## Rachel's Vineyard retreat, Dec. 7-9, to offer post-abortion healing

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat, designed to offer healing for women and men struggling with the psychological and spiritual pain of abortion, will be held Dec. 7-9 in Fort Worth.

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

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

For more information or to register for a retreat, call the confidential help line at (817) 923-4757 or e-mail to [forgiven@racheltx.org](mailto:forgiven@racheltx.org).

## Calix support group meets monthly at Holy Family

Calix, a monthly support meeting for Catholics who are alcoholic and others who are struggling with addiction and seeking recovery, is offered the first Saturday of each month at Holy Family Church, 6150 Pershing Avenue in West Fort Worth. The next meeting will be held Nov. 3, 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.

## Cursillo Ultreya is planned for Nov. 10 at St. Bartholomew's

A Cursillo Ultreya is an occasion where Cursillistas (those who have attended a Cursillo) and others who are interested in the Cursillo movement gather together to celebrate Christ. An Ultreya (Spanish for "onward") will be offered in English Saturday, Nov. 10, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Bartholomew Parish, 3601 Alta Mesa in Fort Worth.

At the gathering, according to Cursillo information found online, members will share their life experiences based on the three tenets of Cursillo life (prayer, study, and action) or on a passage from Scripture. Local organizers indicate that there will be lively music, witness talks, group sharing, and plenty of food.

For more information, call Pamela Jones at (817) 291-3575.

## Youth Mass to be held in Vernon Nov. 18

A youth Mass will be held at Holy Family of Nazareth Church, 2200 Roberts Street in Vernon, Sunday, Nov. 18, at 4 p.m. The Mass will be followed by a social with refreshments. All are invited to attend.

According to Cheyenne Marrinan, volunteer coordinator of youth ministry at St. Mary Church in Henrietta, several youth ministers in some of the northwestern counties of the diocese have worked together since August to host monthly youth Masses, which have been well attended by area teens and their adult leaders. "So far we have had great success," said Marrinan, noting that, "We have youth [involved] in every aspect of the Mass."

For more information, call Cheyenne Marrinan at (940) 781-7648 or e-mail to [cmarrinan21@yahoo.com](mailto:cmarrinan21@yahoo.com).

## St. Philip's to host marriage enrichment seminar Dec. 1

All married couples are invited to attend a marriage enrichment seminar based on the book *The Five Love Languages* by Dr. Gary Chapman. The seminar, hosted by the Marriage Encounter ministry of St. Philip the Apostle Parish, will take place Saturday, Dec. 1, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the parish's Community Life Center, located at 1897 W. Main Street (at Kirkpatrick) in Lewisville. A catered dinner will follow at 6 p.m.

In the book, Chapman writes about the importance of being able to express love to one's spouse in a way that they can understand. Seminar presenters will be José and Marilyn Garcia of Austin, area leaders of World Wide Marriage Encounter.

The seminar fee is \$25 per couple, including the catered dinner. For those only attending the seminar, there is a \$5 per couple fee for materials. To register or for more information, contact Rick and Roberta Boitnott by e-mail to [rboitnott@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rboitnott@sbcglobal.net) or by calling (903) 796-8491; or Bill and Carol Louree by e-mail to [blouree@aol.com](mailto:blouree@aol.com) or by calling (972) 219-7994. The deadline for reservations is Nov. 17.

## Official Assignment

The following assignment has been made by Bishop Kevin Vann:

Rev. Polycarp M. Nguyen Duchthuan, CMC, upon the permission of his religious superior, has been appointed pastor of Vietnamese Martyrs Church, Arlington, effective Oct. 31.

## People and Events

### Former Episcopal priest to speak to interfaith group Nov. 4

Keith Garvin, a former priest of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, will speak to the semiannual meeting of the Parish Interfaith and Ecumenical Representatives (PIERs) Sunday, Nov. 4, at 2:30 p.m. at St. Rita Church, located at 5550 E. Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth.

Garvin, who is currently serving as family life coordinator of the Immaculate Conception Church in Denton, was received into the Catholic Church by Bishop Kevin Vann in early October. He was a celibate clergy member of the Dallas Episcopal Diocese. He will report on the ferment within the Episcopal Church, according to program materials, and advise PIERs and other interested Catholics on how to work with Episcopalians in the current climate.

PIER members are affiliated with the diocesan Ecumenical Commission, where they act as liaison between the commission, the bishop, and their parishes, reporting on ecumenical developments and managing parish ecumenical and interfaith events.

This meeting is open to all interested persons, especially pastors. For more information, contact Kathleen Esler at (817) 430-2454.

### Our Mother of Mercy Fall Festival set for Oct. 27

Our Mother of Mercy Church, located at 1001 East Terrell Avenue in Fort Worth, is gearing up for its annual fall festival, to take place Saturday, Oct. 27, beginning at 10 a.m. and continuing until 4:30 p.m. Because of the ongoing construction of the new school, the festival will be held at The Bethlehem Community Center (across the street from the church).

"Come out to take a look at the new school as well as enjoy all of the games, treats, and of course, the good barbecue dinners," say festival organizers.

For more information, call Betty Harris at (817) 429-9492 or call the parish rectory at (817) 335-1695.



**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS BUILD HOUSE** — Five members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas from St. Stephen Church in Weatherford were invited by the Wichita Falls CDA court to participate in the Habitat for Humanity building project sponsored by CDA courts from throughout the state of Texas. St. Stephen parishioners (*l. to r.*) Cathy Kosikowski, Cristina Guelda, and Ellie Plunkett are shown preparing pieces of house trim at the building site. Also participating were Rose Davis and Mary Reyes. Two Habitat homes were being built side by side — one for a Lutheran family and one for a Catholic family — and the CDAs from Stephenville helped out at both. A dedication ceremony was planned for Oct. 20.

### University Catholic Community at UTA to offer retreat Nov. 3-4

The University Catholic Community (UCC) at the University of Texas at Arlington will hold a retreat at the UCC Campus Ministry building, located at 1010 Benge Dr. in Arlington, will begin at 5 p.m. Saturday and will conclude after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Sunday.

The retreat, which will focus on the theme of "Love," will offer time for praise and worship, individual quiet time, music, workshops, and reflections from guest speakers. Retreat participants will also take part in a service project on Sunday.

Dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday will be provided. All are asked to bring a bedroll for an overnight stay.

To register or for more information, call the UCC at (817) 460-1155 or e-mail to [webmaster@utacatholic.org](mailto:webmaster@utacatholic.org). Online registration is available at [www.utacatholic.org](http://www.utacatholic.org).

### 'Spirituality of St. Therese' to be focus of CRC retreat Nov. 9-10

Brother Joseph Schmidt of the Sangre de Cristo Retreat Center in Santa Fe, New Mexico, will lead a retreat, "Welcoming Who You Are: An Introduction into the Spirituality of St. Therese," at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in East Fort Worth, next to Nolan Catholic High School. The retreat will begin Friday evening, Nov. 9, and will conclude on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Br. Schmidt, a member of the Christian Brothers, will introduce retreat participants to his new book, *Everything is Grace: The Life and Way of Therese of Lisieux*. "Therese's spirituality welcomes us to be who we are, as we are, and where we are," states program information. "This retreat will provide an opportunity to explore our lives, especially our difficult experiences, in the context of faith and prayer."

The cost for the overnight retreat is \$75, including accommodations and three meals. For more information or to make a reservation, call the CRC, Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at metro (817) 429-2920.

### Father Ivor Koch Charity Fundraiser to be held Oct. 27

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls will hold the 11th annual Father Ivor Koch Charity Fundraiser Oct. 27 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.

### St. George Harvest Dance to be held Nov. 3

The altar society of St. George Parish in Fort Worth will sponsor a Harvest Dance Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 p.m. to midnight. The event will be held at the National Hall, 3316 Roberts Cut-off Road in Fort Worth.

"Come join the fun," suggest organizers. Music will be provided by the Czech and Then Some Band. Activities will include a harvest fruit pull and cakewalk, and door prizes will be distributed. Klobase sandwiches, kolache pastries, and nachos will be available for purchase.

The cost is \$12.50 per person. For a reservation, call Joan at (817) 838-3106, Janet at (817) 232-8844, or Mary at (817) 838-8120.

### Mt. Carmel Center to offer morning of reflection Nov. 14

Mount Carmel Center, an institute of Christian spirituality located at 4600 West Davis in West Dallas, will host a morning of reflection Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. The program, entitled "All Carmelite Feast Day: Embracing the Treasure," will be led by Father Stephen Sánchez, OCD. The retreat will explore the Carmelite charism as exemplified by the saints of the order, including Elijah, Teresa of Jesus, John of the Cross, and Thérèse of the Child Jesus.

Participants must register prior to Nov. 7. The suggested donation for the program is \$25. For more information, call Vicky at (214) 331-6224 ext. 314.

### Sisters of Holy Family of Nazareth to offer vocation retreat Nov. 17

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth will host a Come and See Retreat Day for single Catholic women, ages 16 to 35, who are discerning a vocation to the religious life. The retreat will take place Saturday, Nov. 17, at the sisters' convent, located at 1814 Egyptian Way in Grand Prairie.

For more information or to register, call Sister Mary Paul Haase, CSFN, at (972) 642-5191 or e-mail to [smpaul@icgrandprairie.org](mailto:smpaul@icgrandprairie.org).



**HOLY SEPULCHRE INVESTITURE** — Newly invested members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem — Connie and Dr. Paul Meyer, of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Keller; Rosemary and Richard Endres, of Holy Family Parish, Fort Worth; and Mina and Tony Milburn, St. Patrick Cathedral Parish, Fort Worth — are pictured with Archbishop Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, grand prior of the order, who was recently named a cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI. The new members were invested at a special liturgy at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Lieutenancy, held Oct. 12-14 in Oklahoma City. Members of the order, bound in loyalty and service to the pope, pledge to lead lives of faithful witness and to help preserve the faith in the Holy Land.

### Women's tea, auction to be held at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Nov. 4

All women are invited to attend a benefit tea and auction Sunday, Nov. 4, 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 to 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.

Silent and live auctions are planned, and tea sandwiches and other refreshments will be served. Payment for all auction items is by check or cash only.

Admission is free. For more information, call the parish office at (817) 481-2685 or e-mail to [myc@stfrancisgrapevine.org](mailto:myc@stfrancisgrapevine.org).

### Sacred Heart in Seymour to host Polka Mass, Nov. 11

The Catholic community of Sacred Heart Parish, Seymour, welcomes all its neighbors to the celebration of a Polka Mass Sunday, Nov. 11, beginning at 10 a.m.

After the liturgy, a Czech Olde World Dinner with Bohemian sausage, turkey, and kolaches will be served at Sacred Heart's Mosler Hall until 1:30 p.m. An auction will begin at 1:30 p.m., 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.

### Holy Family School to celebrate fall festival Oct. 27

Holy Family School will host its 2007 fall festival Saturday, Oct. 27. The school invites children and family members of all ages to take part in the festivities on the Holy Family Parish grounds, located at 6146 Pershing Avenue in Fort Worth, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event's highlights will include an exotic animal petting zoo, theatrical performances, bounce houses, face painting, athletic challenges, games, and a variety of food items for purchase.

Tickets may be purchased at the festival. Prices range from \$5 for 10 tickets to \$18 for unlimited access to most games. Proceeds will benefit Holy Family School and its programs. For more information, call the school at (817) 737-4201.

### Viking Run set for Nov. 3 at Gateway Park in Arlington

Bring the entire family to the first annual Viking Run, to be held Saturday, Nov. 3, at Gateway Park in East Ft. Worth. The 1-mile timed run/walk will start at 8 a.m., with the 5K run/walk following at 8:30 a.m. A warm-up will take place at 7:30 a.m. An awards ceremony is planned immediately following the 5K Race.

The run will benefit Nolan Catholic High School Project Graduation. This program provides an alcohol- and drug-free set of celebrations for Nolan's graduating class.

Join us for food, music, and lots of fun, encourage organizers. Those interested in participating may register online at [www.vikingrun.com](http://www.vikingrun.com) or at the park on race day beginning at 6:45 a.m. Race information packets are available for pickup Nov. 1-2 at Luke's Locker, 1540 S. University Drive in Fort Worth, (817) 877-1448. For more information, contact Mary Berger by e-mail to [Mary@racetimeproductions.com](mailto:Mary@racetimeproductions.com).

### Skinner Memorial Run / Walk to be held Oct. 27

The 14th annual Judi K. Skinner 5K/1-Mile Fun Run/Walk will be held Saturday, Oct. 27, at St. Andrew School, 3304 Dryden Road in Fort Worth. The 5K will begin at 8 a.m., and the 1-mile run will follow at 8:10 a.m.

A pancake breakfast will be served in the school cafeteria at 8:30 a.m.

The race is a memorial to Judi K. Skinner, a dedicated parent who was instrumental in the development of the St. Andrew's Spirit Club.

For the 5K run, awards will be given to the winners of designated age groups as well as the overall winners. All participants in the 1-mile run will receive a ribbon.

Because the date of the event had originally been scheduled for Oct. 13, all previously received entry forms will still be valid for the Oct. 27 date. The cost is \$20 per person or \$50 per family. Entry forms are available through the St. Andrew School Web site at [www.standrewsch.org](http://www.standrewsch.org), or by calling the school office at (817) 924-8917.

### St. Jude Thaddeus Parish to host fall festival Oct. 28

The 42nd annual St. Jude Church Fall Festival will be held Sunday, Oct. 28, from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. The festival will take place in 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, includes an all-you-can-eat turkey and German sausage dinner with all the trimmings. The dinner will also be available on a carry-out basis; free delivery in Burkburnett can be arranged by calling the parish office at (940) 569-1222.

In addition to the meal, home-baked goods, a silent auction, and crafts will be featured at the festival.

Tickets to the festival are \$8 per adult and \$4 for children under the age of 12. Children under the age of five will be admitted free of charge. For more information, call the parish at (940) 569-1222.

# Diocesan / State

## Sister Maria Elena Gonzalez, Mexican American Cultural Center win Archbishop Flores Award for Leadership in Hispanic Ministry

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Mexican American Cultural Center and Mercy Sister Maria Elena Gonzalez, both of San Antonio, have been selected as the latest recipients of the Archbishop Patrick F. Flores Award Medal for Leadership in Hispanic Ministry.

The award, conferred by the U.S. bishops' Committee on Hispanic Affairs and announced in Washington, will be given to the winners at a Nov. 11 ceremony in Baltimore during the committee's meeting, which coincides with the U.S. bishops' fall general meeting.

Sr. Gonzalez recently stepped down after 14 years as president



Sr. Maria Elena Gonzalez, RSM

of the Mexican American Cultural Center. She also was the first woman chancellor for the

Diocese of Lubbock and one of the first U.S. women diocesan chancellors. She also served for eight years as a consultant to the bishops' Hispanic affairs committee.

She also has served on the Sisters of Mercy's leadership team, has been a missionary to Guatemala, a member of the *San Antonio Express News* daily newspaper's community advisory board, and served on the Census Bureau's race and ethnicity committee for the 2000 Census. Sr. Gonzalez has also received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross from Pope John Paul II and two honorary doctorates.

The Mexican American Cul-

tural Center, established in 1972, has developed pastoral materials to serve Spanish-speaking U.S. Catholics and has become a cross-cultural center for theology, pastoral ministry, study of the Spanish and English languages, and research and study of Hispanic life. Arturo Chavez is currently president of the center.

Committee chairman Bishop Placido Rodriguez of Lubbock said the award is given to recognize leadership in Hispanic ministry and to encourage high levels of leadership throughout the country. The honor is named for Archbishop Flores, who headed the San Antonio Archdiocese from 1979 until his retirement in 2004.

## Fr. Larry Snyder of Catholic Charities USA urges Congress, White House to work together to find agreement on SCHIP legislation

FROM PAGE 1  
gressional opponents of the bill to continue working for SCHIP reauthorization, we should begin those discussions by being clear and forthright about what the current legislation does and does not do," she said in a statement. "Continuing to obfuscate the issue is not the way to reach an agreement, much less the way to achieve the president's stated goal of ensuring health coverage for low-income children."

Sr. Carol said the vetoed legislation, which had been the result of a bipartisan compromise, represented "the best opportunity to ensure that millions of children remain covered under SCHIP and extend coverage to millions more who are eligible but not enrolled."

Although more than 6 million children currently are enrolled in SCHIP, another 6.5 million children in families making less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for SCHIP or Medicaid but are not enrolled. Funding for the program is due to expire Nov. 16.

Alexia Kelley, executive director of Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good, said in a statement that it was "truly sad that this great nation cannot ensure basic health care coverage to its

weakest and most vulnerable citizens."

"Ensuring that sick children receive adequate health care is a profound moral issue and essential to the common good," she added. "Congress and the president must end their partisan bickering and quickly pass legislation that reauthorizes SCHIP

and gives health care coverage to uninsured low-income children."

Fr. Snyder of Catholic Charities USA also called on Congress and the White House "to work together to find agreement on a bill that provides this critically needed coverage to more poor children."

**Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas-KJZT**  
1-888-253-2338

**Amazing Annuity & IRA Rates!!!**

**5.5%**

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

\*On deposits of \$4,001 or more. Rates subject to change.

**Donate That Vehicle!**

Toll Free 1-888-317-7837  
Have title in hand when you call

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

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

**Call me today to make sure your family is protected.**

Sean T. Farson, CIC, LUTCF  
(817) 498 0232  
1770 Rufe Snow Dr.  
Keller  
seanfaron@allstate.com

**Allstate.**  
You're in good hands.

Subject to availability and qualifications. Insurance offered only with select companies. Allstate Insurance Company. Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Company: Northbrook, Illinois. © 2007 Allstate Insurance Company.

**The College of St. Thomas More ROME**  
January 2-18, 2008  
Come Join us for the Epiphany of a Lifetime  
[www.cstm.edu/overseas/rome](http://www.cstm.edu/overseas/rome)  
817-923-8459

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)**

**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**

1. Publication Title: *North Texas Catholic*  
2. Publication Number: *0899-7020*  
3. Filing Date: *10-19-07*  
4. Issue Frequency: *Twice monthly except monthly in June, July + August*  
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: *21*  
6. Annual Subscription Price: *\$ 24*  
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®):  
*North Texas Catholic  
900 W. Loop 820 South  
Fort Worth, Texas 76108-2919*  
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):  
*Same as above*  
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):  
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address):  
*Bishop Kevin Vann  
900 W. Loop 820 South  
Fort Worth, Texas 76108-2919*  
Editor (Name and complete mailing address):  
*Jeff Hensley  
900 W. Loop 820 South  
Fort Worth, TX 76108-2919*  
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):  
*Same*  
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)  
Full Name: *Catholic Process of Fort Worth*  
Complete Mailing Address: *900 W. Loop 820 South  
Fort Worth, TX 76108-2919*  
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box  None  
Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Complete Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)  
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)  
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title: *North Texas Catholic*  
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: *Oct 12, 2007*

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)			
(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	12,887	8,012
(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	25,163	17,560
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		38,050	25,572
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	308	311
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	180	163
(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	550	550
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		1,038	1,024
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		39,088	26,596
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		275	275
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		39,363	26,871
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		97.3%	96.1%

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership:  
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the \_\_\_\_\_ issue of this publication.  
 Publication not required.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: *Jeff Hensley, editor*  
Date: *10/19/07*

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

## Diocesan / State

# Msgr. Gleissner memorialized in naming of hall at Texas A&M

Several relatives of Msgr. Gleissner, including those living in the Fort Worth Diocese, traveled to College Station to witness the Sept. 22 dedication of a residence hall named in honor of the priest who played a significant role in the church in Texas in the first half of the 20th century.

Relatives of Msgr. John Baptist Gleissner (1865-1953), a former Catholic chaplain at Texas A&M University, were present at a special dedication ceremony held at St. Mary Catholic Center in College Station on Saturday,

Sept. 22. The ceremony marked the dedication of Gleissner Hall, a Catholic dormitory named in honor of Msgr. Gleissner.

Msgr. Gleissner, a native of Burgkumstadt, Bavaria, studied for the priesthood at the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels in Niagara Falls, New York. He was ordained for the Diocese of Galveston July 10, 1889, by Bishop Nicholas Aloysius Gallagher. In 1900, while serving as pastor of St. Mary Church in Hearne, he became ill and was sent to Galveston's St. Mary's Infirmary, where he later survived

Msgr. John Gleissner appears at right in this historical family photo. The priest served as a chaplain at Texas A&M University, where a Catholic residence hall was recently dedicated in his honor. (Photo provided by Lois Sicking)



the devastating Galveston Hurricane of 1900.

Sent to St. Joseph Church in Bryan in 1904, where he spent nearly 50 years as pastor, then-Father Gleissner soon became acquainted with students from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, now known as Texas A&M University. Msgr. Gleissner's advocacy on behalf of the college students led to the building of St. Mary Chapel near the campus in 1926. Made an auxiliary chaplain during World War I, Msgr. Gleissner also ministered to soldiers during the flu epidemic of 1918.

Named a monsignor in 1931, the priest went on to serve as head chaplain at Bryan Army Air Field during World War II, while also serving approximately 6,000 German prisoners of war residing in a camp in Hearne. Msgr. Gleissner remained active in ministry at St. Joseph Church and at the university until his final, brief illness, and died Feb. 28, 1953.

Relatives present at the dedication of Gleissner Hall included several grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the beloved priest's sister, Margaret Gleissner O'Connor, and of his niece, Mary O'Connor Sicking. The keynote speaker at the ceremony, noted Catholic author and theologian



(L. to R.) Cliff and Cathy Sicking of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster, Mary Krahl Sicking of St. Mary's Parish in Gainesville, and Lois Sicking of St. Anthony Parish in Upland, California, gather in front of a chapel near the Texas A&M campus which, as the plaque (background) indicates, was dedicated in honor of their relative, Msgr. John Gleissner. The fondly remembered priest, who served as a chaplain at the university, was chosen as the namesake of a new Catholic residence hall on campus. Members of Msgr. Gleissner's family traveled to College Station for the Sept. 22 dedication. (Photo provided by Lois Sicking)

George Weigel, spoke of Msgr. Gleissner's legacy to young Catholics, and of the priest's commitment to helping young adults to develop a strong foundation of Catholic faith.

Lois Sicking of Upland, California, whose grandmother was Msgr. Gleissner's niece, represented the Gleissner family in thanking university officials at the dedication ceremony. "Msgr. Gleissner served as a great role

model of a life well lived in Catholic faith," said Sicking. "He taught us to have respect for every individual regardless of their personal circumstance. He taught us to provide opportunities to youth to fully explore their skills and personal talents," she said. "He taught us to live a life of great personal integrity, with dedication to excellence, and with hope for a better future for all, by following our Catholic faith."

### Paid Advertisement



1882-2007

The Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal benefit society, was formed in 1882 to render financial aid to member families and foster Catholic values. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through service to educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works in nearly 14,000 councils in local parishes throughout the world. Members and their families contribute time and talents worldwide in service to countless local Catholic communities. Membership is open to practicing Catholic men age 18 or over. The history of the Order shows the foresight of our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, whose cause for sainthood is being investigated by the Vatican.

## Knights of Columbus

Membership • Insurance • Career Opportunity

The Order has helped families achieve financial security and stability through its life insurance, annuity and long-term care insurance programs since 1882. The Order's insurance program annually receives the highest possible ratings from both A.M. Best (A++, Superior) and Standard & Poor's (AAA, Extremely Strong), and is backed by an investment program that fully complies with Catholic social doctrine. Participation in the benefit program is limited to members, their spouses and children under age 18.

The Order's focus through its field agents is needs based planning services that help members achieve, maintain and preserve family and/or business goals. Field agents also assist members with charitable giving planning, as well as estate planning on a team basis with a member's legal and financial advisors or those alliances our agency maintains relationships with for referral.

John F. Regan, the managing local general agent with the Order since 1986, graduated from Dallas Jesuit in 1982, and Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama in 1986. John and his wife Colleen have five children,

and are parishioners of Prince of Peace Catholic Community, Plano, TX. To better serve the Order's membership, and field agents, John has attained the professional designations of Certified Financial Planner (CFP), Fraternal Insurance Counselor (FIC), Certified Life Underwriter (CLU) and Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC).

The Knights of Columbus offers a professional career opportunity with restricted territories to field agents representing our product portfolio of permanent life insurance, term insurance, annuities and long term care insurance products for members, their families and businesses.

If you would like to learn more about membership, our insurance benefits, a college internship or a professional career opportunity and have a background in sales or an entrepreneurial type business, in the Diocese of Fort Worth, please contact my office at 972.599.2803, Metro 817.265.2967 or send an e-mail to John.Regan@kofc.org.

Guadalupe Radio Network  
CATHOLIC RADIO  
for your soul  
KATH 910 AM / KJON 850 AM  
English Spanish

Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit.

Lady Margaret Roper  
The College School at  
St. Thomas More  
Grades 8 - 12 8:30 - 1:30 M-Th  
817-923-8459  
www.cstm.edu/lmr.html

### MARCH 2008 - SPECIALS FROM DALLAS/FT. WORTH

-FRANCE - Paris, Lourdes, Lisieux, Normandy - Mar 3-12 - \$2,199 with Ext 3 nights Belgium-Brussels, Holland-Amsterdam - \$ 599

+++++

-SPAIN - Madrid, Avila/Segovia, Toledo, Seville-Mar 3-12 - \$1,999 incl. Cordoba, Granada with Ext. Barcelona 3 nights - \$599

-SPAIN SPRING BREAK - MARCH 15-24, 2008 - \$2,199

Barcelona, Montserrat, Zaragoza, Madrid, Segovia, Avila, Toledo.

+++++

-CHINA - Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Suzhou March 7-18 - \$2,199

Prices per person double, breakfast/dinner daily + air/taxes from DFW

Call Michael or Sue Menof for all details/conditions/terms

GOLDEN WORLD TOURS - TEL: 972-934-9635

## TRIDENTINE MASS

LATIN INDULT MASS

5:30 P.M. SUNDAYS

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

509 W. MAGNOLIA, FORT WORTH

HIGH MASS SECOND AND FOURTH SUNDAYS

LOW MASS FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAYS



# Children attend holy hour to pray for peace

Photos by Francine Sustaita

*“Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”*

— Matthew 19:14

**Above:** Children sit before the altar rail at St. Patrick Cathedral, waiting to receive a blessing before the holy Eucharist.

**Top, left:** Brother Patrick Crowley, CFR, assists a young boy as he leads a decade of the rosary during the holy hour liturgy.

**Left:** Young children genuflect as they place roses before a pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The Worldwide Children and Youth Holy Hour was a way of marking the 90th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.

More than 300 children and their families — most from throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth and some from the Dallas Diocese — gathered at St. Patrick Cathedral in downtown Fort Worth Friday evening, Oct. 5, to participate in the local observance of the Worldwide Children and Youth Holy Hour. The local celebration coincided with similar gatherings at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. and other locations around the world.

The celebration, encouraged by Pope Benedict XVI as a way of marking the 90th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, was an opportunity for young children and their families to raise prayers to God, seeking peace in communities around the world. The pope granted an apostolic blessing to all who participated in the Oct. 5 event.

As the service began, a pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima was processed into the cathedral, followed by three children, Christina, Aric, and Ciara Nelson, dressed as the three children of Fatima. After the crowning of the statue by Bailey Huber, each child present brought in a rose to lay at the statue’s feet. General Worth Assembly #1089 provided an honor guard for the special evening.

Several members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal led the children in the eucharistic holy hour and recitation of the rosary. Each child received an individual blessing and prayer as Father Michael Kmiotek, CFR, of Fort Worth’s Sacred Heart of Jesus Friary, held before them a monstrance containing the Eucharist.

Five children — Peter Burke, Garrett Ball, John Burke, Sam Myers, and Leah Barton

— were called upon to each lead a decade of the rosary. Rosaries were made, donated, and sent from as far as Florida and Pennsylvania for all of the children attending the event.

The evening of prayer “was a wonderful opportunity to share with our children the closeness you can feel with Jesus through the Eucharist,” said parent Erica Knox.

Luke Bauer, 9, agreed, saying it was the “most fun-packed day” he had ever had in his life, and “the blessing I received was great!”

*For information in starting a children’s holy hour group, call Eileen Nelson at (817) 926-5399 or e-mail to nelson33@swbell.net, or call Kim Ball (817) 426-5085 or e-mail to jc-kim-ball@sbcglobal.net.*

*Contributing to this story was Kimberly Ball.*



**Above:** Boy Scouts listen to a dramatization of the lives of the saints and how the ideals to which they aspired can be applied to “Living the Scout Law.”

**Left:** Two Cub Scouts show their tight bond. Lifelong friendships can be forged by participating in Scout activities.

**Above:** Boy Scout servers prepare for the offertory procession during Mass at Worth Ranch. Father Anh Tran, diocesan Scouting chaplain, presided at the liturgy. (Photos provided by Richard Cureton)

Close to 300 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and adult Scout leaders gathered at Worth Ranch for the annual diocesan

## Catholic Scouting Retreats

Almost 300 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and adult Scouting leaders attended the annual Catholic Scouting Retreats at Worth Ranch, a Scouting facility near Palo Pinto, during the last weekend of September.

The Cub Scout Retreat, marking its 10th year, focused on vocations. The youngsters had the opportunity to work on their religious emblems and to participate in craft activities, games, songs, and storytelling.

The theme for the 47th annual Boy Scout Retreat was “Living the Scout Law.” During the Boy Scout Retreat, Catholic heroes, such as St. Joan of Arc, St. George, and St.

Ignatius Loyola, told their stories to demonstrate how they lived as examples of each of the 12 Scout Laws. The creation of a living Rosary was included among the many retreat activities.

Father Anh Tran, the diocesan Scouting chaplain and pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grapevine, was present to offer the sacrament of reconciliation. He also celebrated Mass for the Scouts, Scout leaders, and family members present for the retreat weekend.

More retreat photos and information about the Catholic Committee on Scouting are available online at [www.bsaccs.org](http://www.bsaccs.org).



# 'Google-generation' seminarians minister with MySpace and more

By Carol Glatz

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — An ocean away from family and friends, some U.S. seminarians at the Pontifical North American College in Rome are bridging the divide with online communities and digital means of communication such as Skype, instant messaging, Facebook, MySpace, and more.

But while it may have begun as simple e-mails and Web log, or blog, with entries meant to keep loved ones in touch, their notes from Rome to home have blossomed into a whole new way for these students who are preparing for the priesthood to share their spiritual journey with the rest of the world.

"It's a great witness when we share our stories, our experiences in [the] seminary" that include "our hopes, our joys, our fears, our anxieties about" the journey toward the priesthood, said Johnny Burns, 27, of Milwaukee.

Burns, Jacob Bertrand of San Diego, and Michael Bruno of Brooklyn, New York, took a break from their busy schedules as second-year theology students to speak with Catholic News Service about how some seminarians from today's so-called "Google generation" are helping other people find God and the church through the Internet.

"There's a lot of junk on the Internet, and we have to fix it," said Bertrand, 23, who seems the savviest of the group with a blog, accounts on two social networking sites on the Web — MySpace and Facebook — and plans for broadcasting practice homilies on YouTube, a video-sharing Web site.

"We need to integrate ourselves into these online communities and in a sense baptize the way these things work," he said.

"Everyone's opinion gets expressed and published, but nobody's opinion necessarily has any truth to it," the California native said.

Well-formed Catholics and church leaders have a golden opportunity to move into the World Wide Web like any new mission

territory and point people to the truth and to Christ, the seminarians said.

Bruno, 22, said one of the things he loves most about the networking power of Facebook is "I put down I am a Mets fan, that I follow Notre Dame football," as well as his favorite books and movies. Other young people may be drawn to his profile because they have a shared interest in the New York Mets baseball team or because they went to the same high school, but then they see that he is also a seminarian studying for the priesthood in Rome.

Very few people actually know a seminarian, and meeting one online and discovering he has many of the same interests as other young people can wipe away some preconceived notions about the kind of person who is drawn to a priestly or religious vocation, the three men said.

Being a presence in these online communities almost acts as a sort of accidental advertising for the Catholic Church.

On the one hand, some people may be drawn to vent their frustrations or anger about the church, but Burns said, "on the flipside it's also easier for a young man or young woman who's considering a vocation to the priestly or religious life to send a quick question or two or even enter into a relationship of counseling with a priest or a seminarian who can give some advice on the discernment process."

He said his answering questions and engaging people in reflection in these "electronic communities" have provided him with valuable opportunities to experience ministry work.

"We are ministering to these people in many ways, both in sharing our stories, in helping them along their way answering their questions, and providing them another avenue for their own personal faith exploration," the Milwaukee denizen said.

But while the three men see that they are helping people learn more about the church and Christ, they also see it helps strengthen their own love for God and priestly calling.

Bruno said often he is asked by curious online visitors what led to his decision to become a priest.

He tells them it wasn't something "abnormal like a lightning bolt coming down and throwing you on the floor" or a loud voice calling your name. The reasons, he said, were rooted in the people who raised, loved, and taught him throughout life.

"The vocation to be a priest is one that is nourished first in the family, but also in all your relationships, your friends, teachers, and parish priests," he said.

Bruno said relationships are crucial and are "the nourishment of one's vocation."

Now because of Facebook, instant messaging and Skype, he is able "to keep those relationships alive and vibrant" so that they continue to sustain him both as a person and as a future priest.

"So many people have the idea that the life of a priest is a lonely life, that it is without relationships. Well, that couldn't be farther from the truth," Bruno said.

On the one hand these young men are sent away from their families and friends to complete their studies and formation, but in the end, Bruno said, "we're also sent back to them to minister to them, to be a comfort, to be a guide, to be a priest to them."

All of them emphasized the aim of their online presence was not to point people to their site or to create a perfect or popular Christian community; it is to be a signpost of sorts to show people the way back to God and to a real physical community that involves human interaction, face to face.

Burns said online communities are "a helpful means of evangelization and can be a very successful tool for the church if, at the end of the day, it's bringing people to the sacraments and especially to the Mass."

"You cannot experience Jesus Christ on the Internet no matter what you do," Bertrand said; it has to be a "personal experience of Christ," and "they won't get that on the online community."



**SEMINARY ENROLLMENT** — John Michels (right) prays during Mass at St. John Vianney Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, in late September. Enrollment is at an all-time high, with 154 men from 28 dioceses, making it the largest college seminary enrollment in the United States. (CNS photo/Dave Hrbacek, CATHOLIC SPIRIT)

## North American College in Rome experiences enrollment boost

By Carol Glatz

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Pontifical North American College in Rome experienced an increase in its enrollment of seminarians as it welcomed a freshmen class of 52 students this year.

Now the total number of students enrolled in the U.S. seminary is 185, the most in the past 40 years, said Msgr. James F. Checchio, the college's rector.

While the upturn reflects U.S. national trends, the rector said enrollment also has been boosted because more dioceses are sending their men to Rome for preparation for the priesthood.

"There are 14 new dioceses that have men here that did not last year," including many dioceses from the Midwest and the South, he told Catholic News Service Oct. 16.

The college also has "a pretty good number," 74 priests, who are pursuing graduate degrees in Rome and living at its Casa Santa Maria, he said.

"A few years ago [that number] had been down to 57," he said.

Aside from boasting greater numbers, the college's higher quality students are also something he is proud of, Msgr. Checchio said.

The monsignor, himself a North American College alumnus, said that "the seminarians today are much more serious now I would say than even my

generation."

He said they are more committed to working hard, "making themselves holy, and more learned about the teachings of the church."

"They want to make a difference in people's lives and how people see the church, the mission of the church in modern society," he said.

The priest sex abuse scandals in the United States have meant that the kind of person stepping forward to pursue priestly life possesses a much greater degree of inner strength and dedication, he said.

With a tarnished image of the church in the media and the secularized world, "it requires more courage for a man to come forward so I think we're getting a better candidate based on that," he said.

Meanwhile, this was the first year the college has ordained a priest from Australia.

Several Australians are living and studying at the college this year, making "a nice addition to the community," Msgr. Checchio said.

Because the Australian bishops do not have a national college in Rome and they liked the American college's reputation, the Australian bishops asked permission from the U.S. bishops a few years ago to enroll their seminarians, he said.

## Fr. Lucien Deiss, liturgical music composer, dies at age 86

FRANKLIN PARK, Illinois (CNS) — Holy Ghost Father Lucien Deiss, a liturgical music composer and a liturgical consultant at the Second Vatican Council, died Oct. 9 in his native France. He was 86 years old.

A funeral Mass was to be celebrated Oct. 13 at Seminarie des Missiones in Larue, France.

News of Fr. Deiss' death was released by World Library Publications in the Chicago suburb of Franklin Park, which published

his earliest works in the United States.

Pope Paul VI chose Fr. Deiss to coordinate the Lectionary psalter following Vatican II.

Fr. Deiss' music was in the popular vanguard shortly after permission was granted for Mass to be celebrated in the vernacular in the 1960s. Among his compositions were "All the Earth," "Keep

in Mind," "Grant to Us, O Lord" and "Priestly People."

His music was among the first in World Library's collection to be made available for digital downloading on iTunes and similar services.

Among Fr. Deiss' many speaking engagements was the North American Conference on Cultural Awareness in Liturgy held in

1990 in Rome. At a 1972 seminar at St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania, he said ballet and other forms of dance have a rightful place in the liturgy, but they must be "a form of worship, not a performance."

His best-known compositions were compiled in a series of music books called Biblical Hymns and Psalms.

# Viewpoints

## Like the saints, we must stand as witnesses of authentic freedom in Christ

By Lucas Pollice

**O**n November 1, we celebrate the feast of All Saints, when the universal Church celebrates the lives of the men and women who displayed heroic virtue in following Christ and are for us a profound example of love and holiness.

The great lives of the saints provide a powerful witness to what it means to be fully human and to live in the freedom of Christ. The saints show us that true freedom is found not in doing whatever we want, but in using our God-given freedom to choose what we ought to do and what we were created for: to live in the goodness and love of the Father through Christ. This proper understanding of human freedom is oftentimes lost in our modern culture, but it stands at the heart of what it means to be human and at the foundation of what it means to truly live a life in Christ.

In fact, this profound reality of human freedom is revealed at the very beginning in the Garden of Eden. The first part of Genesis, chapter 3, reveals that Adam had the freedom to eat of all of the trees in the garden, thus his freedom is far-reaching and seemingly unlimited. However, there are two trees that are then specifically mentioned that play an important role. The first is the Tree of Life that is in the center of the garden. The other tree is the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, and it is the fruit of this tree that God specifically forbids Adam and Eve from eating. Why are these two trees so important? Is God just setting up Adam and Eve for failure? No! *God is revealing to us the reality of human freedom.* Let's take a look at these two trees and what they symbolize.

The Tree of Life is at the center of the Garden because it represents eternal life and the goodness and life that comes from being in communion with God. God has given us free will precisely to choose to love Him and live in his life, and it is only in choosing God and his goodness that we know and experience true human freedom. *Thus, true and authentic human freedom is only realized in accordance with God's wisdom and plan for the human family.* As long as Adam and Eve choose to live in communion with God, they enjoy true freedom and

### *The Tree of Life*

*is at the center of the Garden*

*because it represents eternal life*

*and the goodness and life that comes*

*from being in communion with God.*

*God has given us free will precisely*

*to choose to love Him and live in his*

*life, and it is only in choosing God*

*and his goodness that we know and*

*experience true human freedom.*

fullness of life.

On the other hand, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil reveals the reality that we can abuse the freedom that God gave to us and that because of our free will, we can choose to turn away from God and his goodness and thus know and experience evil and separation from God. Therefore, human freedom must halt before the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, as it belongs to God alone to determine what is good and what is evil. Our human freedom is not unlimited! By succumbing to the temptation of Satan and eating of the fruit of this tree, Adam and Eve abuse their freedom, choosing against God's goodness, and commit the first sin. This first sin of Adam and Eve was a sin of pride, a false sense of freedom, and by the act of choosing evil, their freedom, ironically, becomes enslaving. Human beings were not created to know evil, and evil entered the world only when God's creatures abused the gift of freedom and chose against God, who is all good. In answering this fundamental question about human freedom John Paul II beautifully writes:

*In the Book of Genesis we read: "The Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'You may eat freely of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you*

*eat of it you shall die'" (Genesis 2: 16-17). With this imagery, revelation teaches that the power to decide what is good and what is evil does not belong to man, but to God alone. The man is certainly free, inasmuch as he can understand and accept God's commands. And he possesses an extremely far-reaching freedom, since he can eat "of every tree of the garden." But his freedom is not unlimited: It must halt before the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil," for it is called to accept the moral law given by God. In fact, human freedom finds its authentic and complete fulfillment precisely in the acceptance of that law. God, who alone is good, knows perfectly what is good for man, and by virtue of his very love proposes this good to man in the commandments.*

— THE SPLENDOR OF TRUTH, 35

Unfortunately, our modern culture glorifies unlimited human freedom and sees man as autonomous in determining his own destiny. Moral laws and the teachings of the Church are often seen as limits to our freedom and a hindrance to our human potential. The knowledge of what is good and evil no longer belongs to God alone, but becomes a product of human freedom in which now man himself becomes a god who knows what is good and what is evil. This is the very source of the

moral relativism that is pervasive in our society. Sound familiar? It is the same sin of pride and the abuse of freedom that Adam and Eve chose in the first sin. Do we alone know what is good and what is evil? Does a child know what is truly good for him? Or does he need his loving parents to show him what is truly good? Only in choosing God and his goodness do we come to know true freedom and fullness of life! It is only living in accord with the truth that God reveals to us that we become truly free. Again John Paul II states:

*God's law does not reduce, much less do away with human freedom; rather, it protects and promotes that freedom. In contrast, however, some present-day cultural tendencies have given rise to several currents of thought in ethics which center upon an alleged conflict between freedom and law. These doctrines would grant to individuals or social groups the right to determine what is good or evil. Human freedom would thus be able to "create values" and would enjoy a primacy over truth, to the point that truth itself would be considered a creation of freedom. Freedom would thus lay claim to a moral autonomy which would actually amount to an absolute sovereignty.*

— THE SPLENDOR OF TRUTH, 35

Thus, the modern day moral relativism that we see throughout our culture really has to do with our misunderstanding of human freedom, and we literally forget that we are God's creatures and not the creators of truth. As Catholics we need more than ever to be living witnesses of this reality through the holiness of our lives and our faithfulness to the teachings of Christ. We must be effective witnesses to the fact that living a life in Christ is not a "no" to this and a "no" to that but a "yes" to true freedom and life! It is through this kind of witness that Catholics everywhere can be like the saints, living witnesses of hope that reveals to the entire world the power and freedom that Christ offers to all.



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

# Lying about 'safe' abortions

By Richard Doerflinger

The Guttmacher Institute, research affiliate of Planned Parenthood, has helped write a new study in a British journal called *The Lancet*, and the *New York Times* is excited:

*A comprehensive global study of abortion has concluded that abortion rates are similar in countries where it is legal and those where it is not, suggesting that outlawing the procedure does little to deter women seeking it. Moreover, the researchers found that abortion was safe in countries where it was legal, but dangerous in countries where it was outlawed and performed clandestinely (NYT, Oct. 12).*

Some news media tend to lose their critical faculties when presented with the opportunity for a breathless headline on abortion. In this case, the basic finding of the study is reported accurately (though without the skepticism that should greet abortion news from the abortion industry), followed by two conclusions that are "spin," not fact.

The *Lancet* study did find similar abortion rates in countries with anti-abortion laws and those without. However, the former countries tend to be Third World countries with grinding poverty, an unstable society, and an inad-

equated health care system, and these of course place enormous pressure on women. Within the United States, where abortion is legal for all women, abortion rates are much higher among low-income and racial minority women — not because they are less moral, or care less about the law, but because they are so seldom offered another choice.

This does not mean that abortion rates are unaffected by the law. The opposite has been proven again and again in the U.S., as even very modest laws (laws for parental involvement in the case of minors, bans on public funding, etc.) have significantly reduced abortion rates in recent years. So the second half of the *Times*' lead sentence is misleading and false.

Finally, the *Lancet* study did not find that legalizing abortion makes it "safe." That was not the subject of the study. The researchers found no reliable way to count "unsafe" abortions directly, so for purposes of the study they simply defined "safe" abortions as "those that meet legal requirements" in countries where abortion is generally legal. They never found legal abortions to be safe, but assumed this in order to study something else.

In effect, "safe" became a euphemism for "legal." A legal

abortion was counted as "safe" even if it killed the woman; an illegal abortion was called unsafe and "harmful" even if no woman was harmed. This is stated explicitly in the study, which the *Times* perhaps did not bother to read.

In fact, studies in this issue of *The Lancet* note that Peru, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka have all dramatically reduced maternal mortality in recent years, without changing their strong laws against abortion. Keys to success in Sri Lanka included an improved health system, skilled birth attendants, and improved status and literacy for women — factors long promoted by the Holy See at United Nations conferences. There are many ways to help women be "safe," without urging them to destroy their children.

The central finding of the *Lancet* study is actually that the total worldwide abortion rate, including "unsafe" (that is, illegal) abortions, went down between 1995 and 2003. Women globally are turning away from abortion, especially when they are offered better choices. You won't find that conclusion in the *New York Times*.



Richard Doerflinger is Deputy Director of the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

## (A)ssisted (R)eproductive (T)echnology and the Family

By Helen Alvaré

At the beginning of the 21st century, it is impossible to avoid news reports on the subject of the "changing American family" — high rates of cohabitation, out-of-wedlock parenting, same-sex marriage debates. One lesser-noted phenomenon, changing people's experience of family from the inside out, is the increasing use of assisted reproductive technologies ("ARTs"). In the United States alone, there are thousands of fertility clinics, sperm banks, egg brokers, and surrogate mothers annually producing about 10,000 children.

Many people, including many Catholics, are unaware of the Church's moral responses to

these practices. Perhaps not surprisingly, many find it difficult to imagine that our faith would have moral objections to married couples "making babies" by any means. Yet the Church does firmly object. Church documents such as *Donum Vitae* and *Evangelium Vitae* explain the arguments against substituting a technological act for married love as the source of procreation. The ART industry tends to "commodify" children, and ART processes may also involve freezing, destroying, or donating (for experiments) embryos "left over" from clients.

Another Catholic perspective on ARTs concerns their effects

upon the family, and by extension, society. Parts of this teaching will appeal immediately to our common sense. Other parts require one to accept with good will that God's ways are not our ways — that there is holy mystery in God's choosing to bring human life into being in one manner and not another.

Catholic Social Teaching calls the family the "first natural community," society's first cell. As such, the family ought to be the prototype of a good society. At a very basic level, Catholic teaching holds that good social life requires every person to regard every other person as a gift from

SEE ALVARÉ, P. 26

Imagining vs. Knowing;  
In our mind's eye vs. Holding our hand

Now we see dimly,  
but then we will see  
face to face

By Kathy Cribari Hamer

"Before I had children, I had five theories about bringing up children..."

begins an embroidered sampler hanging in my kitchen.

The cross-stitched piece, fashioned by my friend Mary, was a gift on the occasion of my youngest baby's birth, and in addition to decorative words, it shows three girls and two boys, holding hands in a row.

They are neat, tidy, and identical — a requirement for children composed entirely of criss-crosses, outline stitches, and French knots — but these particular five children are so perfectly proportioned and arranged they could be Radio City Music Hall embroidered Rockettes. More significantly, none of their little faces is dirty; no one is screaming, pulling hair, eating the last piece of candy in the dish, or leaving shoes on the living room floor.

The sampler is lovely, tender, and serene, and its complete embroidered message is whimsical: "Before I had children I had five theories about bringing up children. Now I have five children and no theories."

Who among us had theories that survived? Who had workable preparation or even practical imagination sufficient for the reality of children? When our first baby was about to be born, I remember thinking, "Hmmm. I probably won't get to sleep late on Saturday mornings anymore." "Ha!" I laugh now, as I remember the me that was me then, who was innocent and definitely needed guidance from the current me.

I wish I'd been there to warn me.

I know now that anyone so recently familiar with the routine of sleeping late — any morning — is too young to have children. A parenthood prerequisite should stipulate: "Applicant must have lived a full decade past 'partying till dawn,' and should have no recollection of mid-Saturday slumber."

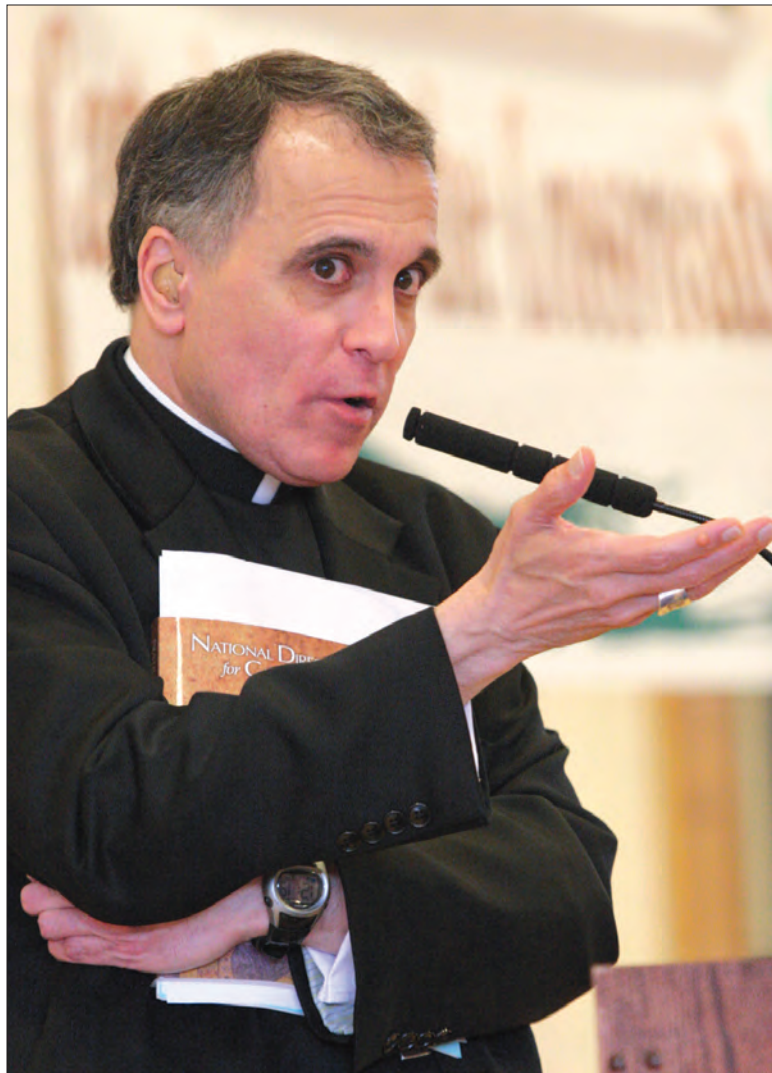
Before parenting, how could we have known what to theorize or anticipate? For example: I never expected my son John to climb out the window of his first-grade classroom. ("Someone got sick and the teacher said to leave the room, so I did.") I never expected Andrew to put a hot dog into the VCR. ("I wanted to see if it would fit.")

The hot dog experience would have been less painful if the VCR had not recently been serviced. The next day I took the unit back to the repair center — we were within the 30-day work warranty — and the owner said, "It seems greasy. Are you sure no one else has worked on it?"

"Never!" I assured him. "You'll find us to be doggedly faithful clients."

Life's expectations — child-related and otherwise

SEE HAMER, P. 26



Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston is shown in a March 2006 photo addressing participants between sessions of the catechetical conference of the Diocese of Rockville Centre at Christ the King Church in Commack, New York. He was one of 23 new cardinals named by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 17. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC)

## Elevation of Cardinal-designate DiNardo no surprise to his friends

By Patricia Zapor

WASHINGTON (CNS)—That the first cardinal named to a Texas diocese would be Galveston-Houston Archbishop Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, is no surprise to his friends in Pittsburgh, where he grew up and served in various capacities for 14 years.

"We've been predicting this, but we didn't think it would happen for maybe another five years," said Father Louis Vallone, pastor of St. John of God Parish in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, who has been friends with Cardinal-designate DiNardo since 1963, when both attended Bishop's Latin School in Pittsburgh.

Cardinal-designate DiNardo, one of 23 cardinals named Oct. 17 by Pope Benedict XVI, will receive his red hat in a Nov. 24 consistory at the Vatican.

A native of Steubenville, Ohio, born May 23, 1949, and raised just across the state line in Pittsburgh, Cardinal-designate DiNardo was ordained for the Pittsburgh Diocese in 1977.

He served there in various pastoral capacities before going to Rome, where from 1984

to 1990 he was a staff member of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops.

From 1990 to 1997 he held pastoral posts in the Pittsburgh Diocese, where he was named assistant secretary for education in 1991. He taught in the ongoing formation program for priests and was assistant spiritual director at St. Paul Seminary. He also was a member of the priests' council and the board of consultors for the diocese, as well as the diocesan theological commission.

He was named coadjutor bishop of Sioux City, Iowa, in 1997 and became the head of the diocese the following year.

In Sioux City, he was known for a strong focus on vocations, the strengthening of adult religious education programs, a continued emphasis on the value of Catholic schools, and the creation of safe environment programs for children.

Cardinal-designate DiNardo received bachelor's and master's degrees from The Catholic University of America in Washington, SEE CARDINAL-DESIGNATE..., P. 13

## Cardinal-designate DiNardo is humbled by pope's decision to name him cardinal

FROM PAGE 1

designate DiNardo said.

But he also said his elevation is a sign the Vatican is recognizing the growth of the church in the region.

"The growth of the Catholic population in the Southern part of the United States in recent years is something to be noted," he said.

Currently there are more than 1.4 million Catholics in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The explosive growth seen in the archdiocese has been partly driven by the Hispanic population, but there also has been steady growth in the numbers of other ethnic groups.

"I think what the Holy Father and the Holy See are saying is that the whole South and Southwestern part of the United States with its variety of people—obviously a major portion of whom are Hispanic—is a noteworthy and beautiful addition for the Catholic Church in the United States, and they wanted to recognize that," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said.

"What a great honor and joy it is for all of us here in Southeast Texas to be so recognized by Pope Benedict XVI," he continued. "Our great diversity and richness of peoples are matched by our unity of faith and love for the Lord and his church," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said.

He explained he had found out about his elevation the morning of Oct. 15 while in Oklahoma. He was surprised at the phone call and admitted he was still in "a state of shock."

"I've only recently become the archbishop here and, relatively speaking, I know we have to be careful in saying this, I'm relatively young being 58 years old," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said, drawing laughter from the media.

He was named coadjutor of Galveston-Houston in 2004; the diocese was elevated to an archdiocese in December 2004. He became head of the archdiocese in 2006 when Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza retired.

Cardinal-designate DiNardo said he expected he will have a few more responsibilities at the Vatican, "but my major responsibility remains being the archbishop of Galveston-Houston," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said.

He took a moment to thank Archbishop Fiorenza, who was at the press conference.

"For 20-plus years," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said, this "native son" was "a superb shepherd of this local church. He watched



Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston addresses chancery staff during an Oct. 17 afternoon reception to celebrate the announcement that he was one of 23 new cardinals named earlier that day by Pope Benedict XVI. (CNS photo/Erik Noriega, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD)

"I think what the Holy Father and the Holy See are saying is that the whole South and Southwestern part of the United States with its variety of people ... is a noteworthy and beautiful addition for the Catholic Church in the United States, and they wanted to recognize that."

— Cardinal-designate Daniel DiNardo

Galveston-Houston practically double in size and met that with excellent pastoral initiatives."

In an Oct. 17 press release, the Texas Catholic Conference congratulated Archbishop DiNardo, on his appointment as cardinal-elect.

"This appointment is wonderful news," stated Archbishop Emeritus Joseph Fiorenza. "Archbishop DiNardo is a hardworking wonderful bishop who is greatly appreciated both here in his diocese and in Rome. This appointment is a recognition of his wonderful priestly qualities, and is an important recognition by the Vatican of the Church of Galveston-Houston, of the South, and of the Southwest."

"Archbishop DiNardo's appointment is a particular joy to Texas, a state rich in Catholic history and presence," stated Bishop James Tamayo of the Diocese of Laredo, who chairs the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Hispanic Affairs.

In addition, Bishop Tamayo recognizes the importance of this appointment for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, an area with the second largest popula-

tion of Hispanics in the United States. "I am delighted that we are acknowledged by the Holy Father for our years of fidelity to the Church and the continued growth of the Church in the Southwest. I think it is a distinct honor for the Southwest part of the United States to have a Cardinal within our territory."

Bishop Kevin Vann also offered praise for his brother bishop. "All of the dioceses in Texas are very honored by the elevation of Archbishop DiNardo as a cardinal. I have known Archbishop DiNardo for years. His friendship and encouragement have been a personal blessing," Bishop Vann said. "We all rejoice in the Lord, and pray for him and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston these days."

At the conclusion of the Houston press conference, Cardinal-designate DiNardo added that while he will end up "wearing the red ... it belongs equally to priests, deacons, religious, and past shepherds, of whom Archbishop Fiorenza, to my mind, is a model." He added, "I'm a kid from Pittsburgh who happens to just be named [a cardinal], but I'm honored and humbled to be in such company."

Answering a question from the media, Cardinal-designate DiNardo expressed hope that perhaps his new title would inspire young men to pursue a priestly vocation.

"The more the merrier! If in fact any of my work or enthusiasm can inspire them toward the priesthood, I say blessed be God. I would love it," Cardinal-designate DiNardo said.

The newly-named cardinal also asked the faithful to keep him in their prayers in the coming days and years as he assumes more responsibility in the universal church.

*International / National / State*

# Amid the crowd in St. Peter's Square, Archbishop John Foley hears his name as a newly designated cardinal

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—U.S. Cardinal-designate John P. Foley, a Philadelphia native, was standing in the middle of St. Peter's Square among a sea of 30,000 pilgrims when Pope Benedict XVI named him a cardinal.

Though he knew the previous day he was going to be one of 23 people to receive a red hat, the Oct. 17 announcement was going to fall on the same morning he had a follow-up visit with his eye doctor.

"I didn't get back in time to be there at the beginning of the audience, and I didn't have my glad rags on," meaning his formal clerical dress, so he said he just snuck inconspicuously into the middle of the crowd.

He told Catholic News Service he never expected to be the second new cardinal listed after the senior Vatican prefect, Cardinal-designate Leonardo Sandri.

When the pope "started the list, there I was No. 2 on the list,

and that was a surprise," Cardinal-designate Foley said.

He said a pilgrim standing next to him asked him if he knew any of the men the pope had just named to be cardinal.

"I said 'Yes, I know quite a few of them.' And I said 'I am one of them.' Well, I don't think he believed me," he said, laughing.

**Editor's Note:** Cardinal-designate Foley, was featured in the Aug. 31 issue of the NORTH TEXAS CATHOLIC.

# After Nov. 24 consistory, United States will have 17 of world's 202 cardinals

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After the Nov. 24 consistory for the creation of new cardinals, 17 of the 202 members of the College of Cardinals will be from the United States.

Pope Benedict XVI expanded the U.S. contingent in the college Oct. 17 when he announced he would give the red hat to Archbishop John P. Foley, pro-grand master of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, and Archbishop Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-

Houston.

Of the 17 U.S. cardinals, 13 will be under age 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

The U.S. cardinals under age 80 will be: Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston; Edward M. Egan of New York; John P. Foley, grand master of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre; Francis E. George of Chicago; William H. Keeler, retired archbishop of Baltimore; Bernard F. Law, archpriest

of Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major and retired archbishop of Boston; William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles; Adam J. Maida of Detroit; Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington; Sean P. O'Malley of Boston; Justin Rigali of Philadelphia; and J. Francis Stafford, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary and former archbishop of Denver.

# Cardinal-designate DiNardo demonstrates care for God's people, say colleagues

FROM PAGE 12 where he is currently a member of the board of trustees. He also received a licentiate in theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and a degree in patristics, the study of the Fathers of the Church, from the Augustinianum in Rome.

During his time in Rome, he also served as director of Villa Stritch, the residence for U.S. priests working at the Vatican, and taught a theology seminar in methodology at Gregorian

University.

He has a twin sister, Margaret; an older brother, Thomas; and a younger sister, Mary Anne.

Vincentian Father David M. O'Connell, president of Catholic University, said in a statement Oct. 17 that the designation gives Cardinal-designate DiNardo "a new and privileged role in the universal church."

"As cardinal, His Eminence will now share in the pastoral governance of the church throughout the world," he said.

"In addition to leading the local church of Galveston-Houston, he now assumes special responsibilities as adviser to the pope and to his colleagues with whom he will, one day, elect his successor.

"Cardinal-designate DiNardo has consistently demonstrated both competence and care for the people of God in every task that has come before him in his distinguished career," said Fr. O'Connell. "In particular, his tireless commitment to evangelizing the faithful at every level of need marks him out as especially suited for this high honor within the church."

Contributing to this story was Regina Linskey.

Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston addresses the media during a press conference in Houston Oct. 17. (CNS photo/Erik Noriega, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD)



U.S. Cardinal-designate John P. Foley stands with his crozier as he celebrates Mass on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington Aug. 15. He was one of 23 new cardinals named by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 17. (CNS photo/Nancy Wiehcek)



**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR** — At left, a detail is shown of a replica document in which Pope Clement V absolved the Knights Templar of charges of heresy. Below, three seals are displayed on a portion of the replica document. The replica was made public in Rome Oct. 9. A reproduction of the Latin-language minutes of trials against the Knights Templar in 1308 is being published by the Vatican Secret Archives at the end of October. Only 799 numbered copies of the 300-page volume will be sold and are destined for top libraries and medieval scholars. The 800th copy was to be presented to Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 25. (CNS photos/Alessandro Bianchi, Reuters)



# Summer Mission Trips to Honduras prove life-altering for diocesan youth



Seventeen-year-old Tony Vu, a parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Arlington, described an event that took place while visiting St. Vincent's partner parish, San Jerónimo Church in Gualaco, Honduras. The experience, said Tony, was an epiphany that changed his life.

After working all morning to lay cement over the existing dirt floor in a small, remote rural home, members of the St. Vincent youth group lined up for lunch, along with the Honduran family who owned the home. As enchiladas were served, Tony realized that "the Honduran family ... was eagerly waiting for permission to eat. My whole structure crumbled right then and there, like the 9-11 twin towers. At that dismayed moment, I realized how I took things for granted and how much I had."

The memory of that "dismayed moment" stays with him each time he eats a meal, said Tony. "I'm not the same person anymore [since leaving Honduras]; I thank God every day for his wonderful gifts and blessings. After college, I'm going to dedicate my life to serving the poor, the lost, and forgotten.... Somebody has to help. I will be that somebody."

Tony was one of 53 teens and 17 adults who traveled to Honduras this past summer, representing the parishes of Good Shepherd in Colleyville, Holy Family in Fort Worth, St. Vincent de Paul in Arlington, and St. Francis of Assisi in Grapevine. Hundreds of Catholic adults and teens from the Diocese of Fort Worth have, in the past eight years, shared Tony's experience of spiritual awakening after traveling with parish and diocesan groups to the Diocese of Juticalpa, Honduras, within the province of Olancho. The Texan and Honduran dioceses formed a "covenant partnership" in 1998 in the

**Above:** During her youth group's stay in Catacamas, Holy Family parishioner Camille Ivy-O'Donnell teaches elementary school children how to brush their teeth. Teens from Holy Family brought backpacks filled with personal hygiene items, toys, and school supplies to share with Honduran children.

**Right:** Eighteen teens and five adult leaders from St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine join some young Honduran friends in swimming in the river near Culmi. The group had spent the morning laying concrete floors to replace existing dirt floors in small, rural homes, before heavy rains forced them to evacuate the area.

aftermath of Hurricane Mitch, which killed thousands and swept away farmlands across Central America, including Olancho, which is comprised of approximately 8,000 square miles of mountainous landscape.

Through the partnerships formed between several parishes in the Diocese of Fort Worth and the Diocese of Juticalpa, churches, retreat centers, and schools have been built in the devastated area, while food, medical services, and a wide variety of supplies are sent in a steady stream to the needy who reside in remote areas. In these isolated rural areas few have access to services such as a safe water supply, education, and primary medical care.

Teens from the Diocese of Fort Worth participate in parish fundraisers and work at part-time jobs in order to be able to join their youth groups on the journey to Honduras, sometimes making multiple trips throughout their high school years, said Jeff Crumly, coordinator of youth ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine.

"Once you go to Honduras and experience the people there, you're hooked," said Crumly. "Our parish has a partner relationship with Dulce Nombre de Jesús Parish in Culmí, and we bring toys, clothing, and school supplies to the people there, many of whom have almost nothing. Yet the care, support, and love that the people of Culmí show us is simply unbelievable, and their witness is much more valuable than the material goods that we bring to share with



them." Suzanne Fitzgerald, coordinator of youth ministry at Good Shepherd Church in Colleyville, agreed that the experience of traveling to Honduras is "life changing."

"We have taken three trips to Honduras, taking eight teens on each of the first two trips," said Fitzgerald. "Then, this past summer, we took 17 teens. Six of those youth had been at least once before." The difference in attitude, leadership, and commitment she witnesses in a young person after they have traveled to Honduras is "phenomenal," said Fitzgerald. "We live a very privileged lifestyle, and when these kids are taken totally out of their element, it is wonderful to see how that touches their hearts."

The Good Shepherd community has a special relationship with the vocational trade school located in Campamento, explained Fitzgerald. "It's so special to see our teenagers with the Honduran youth who are students at the school. It's kids just being kids together."

Their time in Honduras often means plenty of hard work for the North American teens, noted adult leaders, work which can include planting trees, laying cement floors, or assisting in the replacement of an aging convent roof. Less physically strenuous activities include teaching preschool students how to brush their teeth, giving English lessons to children residing in orphanages, and performing impromptu concerts for the elderly residents of nursing homes. According to several of the teen

**Below, background:** The rugged mountain terrain and unpaved roads within the Diocese of Juticalpa make travel to remote parishes difficult.

travelers, the most memorable aspect of a trip to Honduras can be the opportunity to form lasting, personal relationships with Honduran young people. "Cultural nights" are offered so that teens of both countries can talk, pray, sing, and play soccer together. Honduran youth teach the "Punta," a traditional Honduran dance, while the American teens show their new friends the steps to dances such as the "Electric Slide" and "Cotton-Eyed Joe."

Camille Ivy-O'Donnell, 16, a parishioner at Holy Family Church in Fort Worth, wrote that the most satisfying aspect of this summer's trip to Holy Family's sister parish, San Francisco de Asís in Catacamas, included the opportunity to partner with Honduran youth in serving as an evangelizing presence within San Francisco's parish community. Holy Family teens were invited to join Honduran teens in visiting the homes of both Catholic and Protestant families within Catacamas. The purpose of the visits was to invite all community residents to attend services at San Francisco, explained Camille, who speaks fluent Spanish.

"We all walked around with the youth from the community and prayed with the families, and I was really nervous when they asked me to say a prayer.... I think it turned out

okay," wrote Camille in a reflection on her time in Catacamas. "This really was an amazing experience that I don't think I am likely to forget."

For 18-year-old Theresa Hupf, a parishioner at Good Shepherd Church, her second trip to Honduras yielded new insights and a heightened sense of purpose. "One event touched me in a way that made my heart go out to the Honduran people," wrote Theresa, who participated in her youth group's task of delivering food to needy families in the Campamento area.

"We were visiting one of the houses ... [and] the two small children present had no clothes; the older boy told us that the mother was not home. However, as we were leaving, the mother came home [carrying] a huge bag on her head, and a sack full of what looked like trash. I realized that she had just come back from the trash dump. I did not realize how desperate these people were until I was standing right in front of someone who had to resort to digging through people's trash to feed her family."

That sobering experience, Theresa reflected, "has taught me compassion and that I am connected to those who live in poverty and need. I hope to live my life in a generous way, assisting those around me who need my help."

By Nicki Prevou  
Staff Writer



**Left:** Connor McGrath of St. Francis of Assisi Church presents a delegate from Dulce Nombre de Jesús Parish in Culmi with a bicycle provided by St. Francis parishioners. The Grapevine church raised more than \$4,000 to purchase 27 mountain bikes, which were loaned to trained Delegates of Word. The Delegates of the Word regularly travel to remote areas, where they lead Bible studies and conduct prayer services.



**Right:** Alex Salcido, a member of Good Shepherd Church in Colleyville, works with other teens from Good Shepherd and with Honduran students in weeding a garden at Fray Casimiro Cypher Center, a vocational trade school located in Campamento.

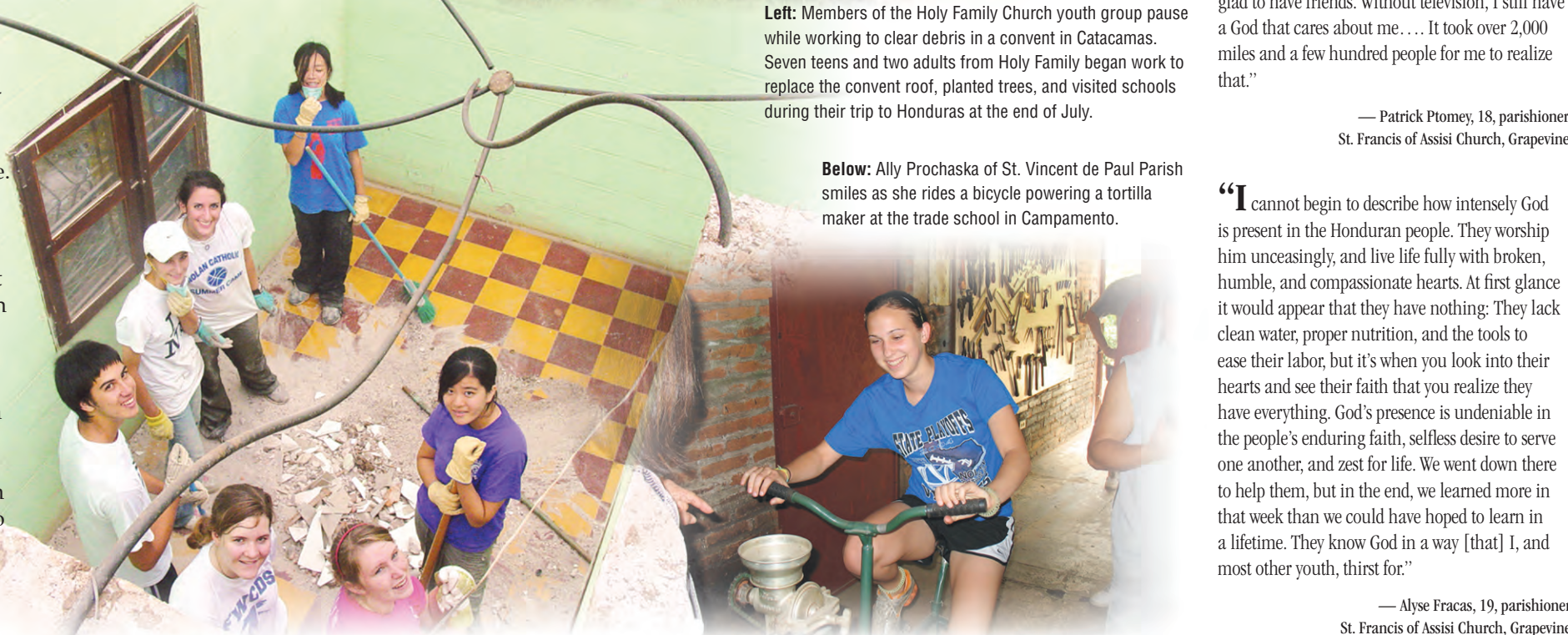
**Left:** Madeline Kepler (foreground) and Jimmy Ruth, Good Shepherd parishioners, are joined by Honduran students as the teens weed the garden at the Campamento trade school.

"This mission trip is something every youth should participate in if given the opportunity. The effect on your life is indescribable.... Seeing starvation, poverty, and unconditional love all come together was something I had never witnessed before. It took me a while to understand how people with so little, had so much hope and enthusiasm in their lives. I came to realize that a happy life does not consist of money, name-brand clothes, the newest technology, or even the nicest house in the neighborhood.... I realized that without my computer, I am still happy because I have my family. Without my cell phone, I'm still glad to have friends. Without television, I still have a God that cares about me.... It took over 2,000 miles and a few hundred people for me to realize that."

— Patrick Plomey, 18, parishioner St. Francis of Assisi Church, Grapevine

**Left:** Members of the Holy Family Church youth group pause while working to clear debris in a convent in Catacamas. Seven teens and two adults from Holy Family began work to replace the convent roof, planted trees, and visited schools during their trip to Honduras at the end of July.

**Below:** Ally Prochaska of St. Vincent de Paul Parish smiles as she rides a bicycle powering a tortilla maker at the trade school in Campamento.



"I cannot begin to describe how intensely God is present in the Honduran people. They worship him unceasingly, and live life fully with broken, humble, and compassionate hearts. At first glance it would appear that they have nothing: They lack clean water, proper nutrition, and the tools to ease their labor, but it's when you look into their hearts and see their faith that you realize they have everything. God's presence is undeniable in the people's enduring faith, selfless desire to serve one another, and zest for life. We went down there to help them, but in the end, we learned more in that week than we could have hoped to learn in a lifetime. They know God in a way [that] I, and most other youth, thirst for."

— Alyce Francis, 19, parishioner St. Francis of Assisi Church, Grapevine

More than 150 Catholics from across the northern areas of the diocese gathered at Notre Dame High School in Wichita Falls for a day of spiritual enrichment and professional development, otherwise known as

# Ministry Formation Day

**Below:** The opening prayer service, prepared by Sr. Ginny Vissing, SSMN, of Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) Church in Wichita Falls, included a re-enactment of the Scripture story of the woman who encounters Jesus at the well. Children from OLQP participated in the prayer service.

By Nicki Prevou  
Staff Writer

Ministry Formation Day (MFD), offered Saturday, Oct. 6, at Notre Dame High School in Wichita Falls, is an annual opportunity for volunteer and professional ministers to gather for spiritual enrichment, fellowship, and professional development. Sister Elvira Mata, MCDP, served as the diocesan coordinator of the Wichita Falls event, which drew over 150 participants and presenters representing many of the parishes within the North and Northwest Deaneries of the diocese.

"I think the day went very well, and there was a very good spirit as people came together to enjoy the keynote presentations, breakout sessions, the offerings of the exhibitors, and the entertainment that was provided," said Sr. Elvira. "I was fortunate to work with a wonderful team who worked hard to plan this event. The results of their collaboration and preparations were very evident."

Participants agreed that the day, with keynote presentations and workshops in Spanish and in English, was a success, noting that the opening prayer service — coordinated by Sister Ginny Vissing, SSMN, director of religious education at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Wichita Falls, with assistance from Huong Mai of Immaculate Conception of Mary Church in Wichita Falls — was effective in setting the reflective, yet interactive tone for the day.

"So many people commented on how meaningful the prayer was at the beginning of the day," said Evelyn Stokes, director of faith formation at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Wichita Falls, "and how everything flowed from the beautiful experience of having young children involved in the prayer."

"I always enjoy participating in the Ministry Formation

*The disciples of Jesus are scattered in the world as leaven.... The catechesis of children, of young people, and of adults has given rise to a type of Christian who is conscious of his faith and who acts consistently with it in his life. In such Christians this catechesis has encouraged:*

- a new and vital experience of God as merciful Father;
- a more profound rediscovery of Jesus Christ, not only in his divinity but also in his humanity;
- a sense of co-responsibility on the part of all for the mission of the Church in the world;
- a raising of consciousness with regard to the social obligations of the faith.

— From the General Directory for Catechesis (24)

**Above:** OLQP parishioner Vinnie Rock (back to camera) leads musicians and choir members in song at the opening prayer service. Most of the singers and instrumentalists serve as music ministers at the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass at OLQP.

Day events, and it's been really fantastic to have them held here in our area, because of the convenience and the availability for the people in the more rural part of the diocese," Stokes said.

Keynote presentations and workshops with the theme "Encountering the Living Christ," were offered in English by Father Nathan Stone, SJ, of Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Dal-

las and in Spanish by Jesús Lopez of the Viñador evangelization ministry in Los Angeles. Evaluations of both guest presenters were positive, said Sr. Elvira.

Barbara Rohmer, director of religious education at Sacred Heart Church in Muenster, agreed that "the keynote presenters are always really excellent at Ministry Formation Day.... I came away with all kinds of ideas and infor-

mation from the keynote talk and from the workshops I attended during the day."

Marilyn Putthoff, a teacher at Notre Dame High School and the director of religious education at Christ the King Church in Iowa Park, has served on the MFD coordinating committee for several years. "We always try to offer something for everyone," explained Putthoff, adding that a popular workshop option at this year's event was the session entitled "Dangers Children Face Online: Blogging, MySpace, and Online Journals," which was offered by Barry Macha, Wichita County's district attorney.

Workshops offered in Spanish included sessions on the spirituality of catechists, family relationships, and discipleship in a secular society.

"I hope Ministry Formation Day will continue to grow here in the Wichita Falls area," reflected Putthoff. "We are so excited when we see it being promoted in the

**Above:** Father Nathan Stone, SJ, offered a keynote presentation in English, entitled "Encountering the Living Christ." Fr. Stone is an author, speaker, and retreat leader who currently serves on staff at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Dallas. (Photo by Barbara Rohmer)

**Right:** Workshop presenter Monica Frazier, director of adult and youth formation at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, welcomes MFD participants to a session on planning multi-generational prayer services in homes and in parish settings. (Photo by Barbara Rohmer)

parishes, and we hope that the commitment to promoting this day of growth will continue to increase."

Evelyn Stokes, of Guadalupe Church, calls Ministry Formation Day "a huge boost" for those who attend. "It's something we all need, to help us continue to grow in our own faith and to go out there and teach that faith, to serve," she said.

"I think it really fills a need for the event to be held here in our area," Stokes continued. "It is difficult to ask our volunteers to travel two hours down the road and two hours back [to attend workshops in the Fort Worth area] on top of the time they are already taking to teach and to serve."

"I definitely see the benefits of continuing education through events like Ministry Formation Day," Stokes said. "It leaves us hungry to learn more about our faith, and it makes all of us even more eager to share that with our students."

eduardo verástegui

tammy blanchard



CHARIOTS OF FIRE  
ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL  
ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER

AMERICAN BEAUTY  
ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER

CROUCHING TIGER HIDDEN DRAGON  
ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER

HOTEL RWANDA  
ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE

THIS TIME THE WINNER IS... A LOVE STORY

# bella

TRUE LOVE GOES BEYOND ROMANCE



"The last film with 'Bella's' momentum was the 'Passion of the Christ.'  
'The Passion' shows how Christ died for us... 'Bella' shows how we should live for others."  
-Steve McEveety - Executive Producer of "Braveheart" and a producer of "The Passion of Christ"

"Powerful and moving... a true inspiration."  
-CNN - Ana Maria Montero

A METANOIA FILMS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ONE MEDIA AND M POWER WORLDWIDE "BELLA" EDUARDO VERASTEGUI TAMMY BLANCHARD MANNY PEREZ  
ANGELICA ARAGON JAIME TIRELLI AND ALI LANDRY COSTUME DESIGNER EDEN MILLER SUPERVISOR FRANKIE PINE MUSIC BY STEPHAN ALTMAN CASTING BY BETH BOWLING AND KIM MISCIA EDITED BY FERNANDO VILLENA  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER RICHARD LASALLE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREW CADALAGO SCREENPLAY BY PATRICK MILLION EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS J. EUSTACE WOLFINGTON MARCY WOLFINGTON ANA WOLFINGTON AND STEPHEN MCEVEETY  
PRODUCED BY DENISE PINCKLEY EDUARDO VERASTEGUI LEO SEVERINO AND SEAN WOLFINGTON WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ALEJANDRO MONTEVERDE

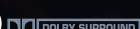
METANOIA  
FILMS

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED  
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN  
THEMATIC ELEMENTS AND BRIEF DISTURBING IMAGES

THE ONE MEDIA

www.BELLATHEMOVIE.com

IN THEATRES OCTOBER 26





## Scripture Readings



November 4, Thirty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time.  
Cycle C. Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 11:22-12:2  
Psalm 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14
- 2) 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2  
Gospel) Luke 19:1-10

By Dan Luby

On a sultry Indian summer night we are walking the dog of an ailing friend. Ordinarily we enjoy these little nocturnal jaunts, as our canine companion is altogether charming, and we are glad to get a little more exercise and a welcome opportunity to compare notes at the end of a busy day.

Tonight though, we are miserable. Not only are we tired and the air humid and hot, but recent plentiful rains have raised another bumper crop of mosquitoes. They fill the night with their predatory buzzing.

A neighbor watching from the air-conditioned

comfort of their living room might wonder if we are afflicted with some rare and particularly violent nervous disorder.

Shuffling jerkily along the darkened paths of the neighborhood, we wave our hands crazily in the dark. Our heads bob and weave like addled prize fighters battling ghosts. We slap our arms and the backs of our necks and even our faces. When we land a telling blow and slap one of these micro-vampires in mid sting, we show each other our blood-flecked hands with the grim pride of the doomed.

I hate mosquitoes, I think bitterly. At best, they're an intense irritant; at worst, vectors for yellow fever, malaria, avian flu, and a host of other life-threatening plagues. What was God thinking, I wonder, between slaps and jerks of the head.

In Sunday's first reading, the writer of Wisdom praises God: "You love all things that are, and loathe nothing that you have made."

I remember the mosquitoes. I remember the human aptitude for folly and cruelty, our vulnerability to ignorance and heartbreak. In those words of praise, I glimpse the vast difference between us and God, whose infinite capacity to see beauty and goodness in every created thing is cause for life-saving hope and heart-bursting joy.



**"But you spare all things, because they are yours, O Lord and lover of souls, for your imperishable spirit is in all things!"**

— Wisdom 11:26-12:1

### 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?

Copyright © 2007, Diocese of Fort Worth

## Pope calls for greater effort to reduce gap between rich and poor

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The extreme poverty in which millions of the world's people live is an offense to their human dignity, Pope Benedict XVI said at his weekly general audience.

The pope marked the U.N.'s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty Oct. 17, just moments before he announced the names of the 23 churchmen he would induct into the College of Cardinals Nov. 24.

Focusing on the problem of poverty, the pope said, "The disparity between rich and poor is becoming more evident and disturbing, even within the most economically advanced nations."

According to the United Nations, 980 million people live in "extreme poverty," struggling to survive on less than \$1 per day.

"This worrying situation calls on the conscience of humanity because the condition in which a great number of people live offends the dignity of the human person and consequently compromises the authentic and harmonious progress of the world



Pope Benedict XVI greets the faithful as he arrives at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 17. The pope named 23 new cardinals at the audience. (CNS photo/Alessandro Bianchi, Reuters)

community," Pope Benedict told the estimated 30,000 people at his general audience.

The pope asked people to "multiply efforts to eliminate

the causes of poverty and the tragic consequences that derive from it."

In his main audience address, Pope Benedict spoke about the

life and ministry of St. Eusebius of Vercelli, a fourth-century Italian bishop and theologian.

The pope said St. Eusebius, a strong defender of the church's

teaching that Jesus Christ was fully human and fully divine, was a strong evangelizer and a model bishop, concerned for all the people of his diocese, whether Catholic or not.

"The bishop of Vercelli governed his diocese with the witness of his life," fasting, praying, and living in community with his priests, the pope said.

The bishop and his priests "shared the problems of their fellow citizens and did so in a credible way, while at the same time cultivating a different citizenship, that of heaven," he said.

Pope Benedict said St. Eusebius managed to create a Christian community in which he and his faithful learned to live in the world, but not to follow the shifting trends of the world. They knew, he said, that earth was not their final dwelling place.

The pope ended his remarks about the saint by quoting an exhortation he had written to the people of Vercelli, encouraging them to "make every effort to preserve the faith, to live in harmony, and to be constant in the practice of prayer."

## Scripture Readings



Nov. 11, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time.  
Cycle C. Readings:

- 1) 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14  
Psalm 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15
- 2) 2 Thessalonians 2:16 to 3:5  
Gospel) Luke 20:27-38

By Jean Denton

I spent an hour walking through a war museum in Hanoi last summer. Some of the place names and battles depicted were familiar. It was interesting to read the descriptions of the American war from a Vietnamese perspective more than three decades later.

Typical of a war museum, the displays showed struggle, death, and heroism as well as cities and landscapes ravaged by firepower. But a room at the far end of the building silently “spoke” of something lasting.

Filled with photographs, the walls told the story of “the women of the war.” There were pictures of a few women who had served as spies or functioned in direct battle operations. However, most of the photos were of those who had lost husbands and children in the war.

As I went from picture to picture, the effect became palpable. “Her husband, father, and six brothers were killed,” read an interpretive sign

in old-fashioned type. “She is shown with her daughters — all of her sons died in the fighting,” explained another.

“She gave her husband and 14 sons in the war.” My mind could not accommodate the thought. Examining this woman’s strained face, I could only guess that she survived on the hope of resurrection.

That’s all some people have. I’ve known a few, and it seems they endure their days clinging to that thread. While others of us may have an easier time of it, we really ought to pay attention to these persons’ reality — because ours is connected to it.

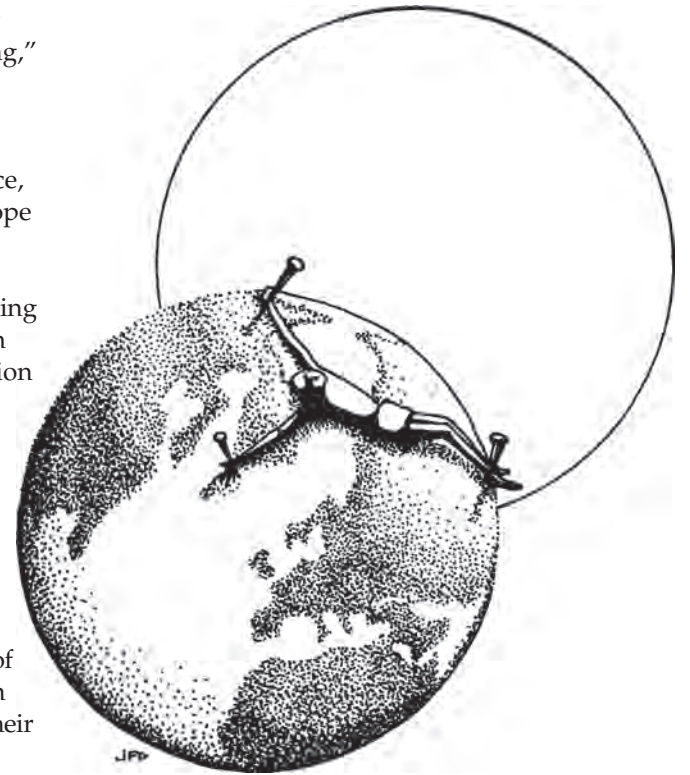
The hope and truth of resurrection is the message of this weekend’s readings.

The story in Maccabees is of a woman and her seven sons who were tortured by their oppressors. They endured the suffering in the belief that they would be raised up “to live again forever.” This Scripture speaks on behalf of countless victims of injustice throughout human history, and in the Gospel, Jesus confirms that their hope in the resurrection will indeed be realized.

Justice is the key. Jesus suffered and died as a victim of injustice and was resurrected “to live again forever” in the reign of love, peace, and justice. If we wish to participate in the resurrection with Jesus and all who lived and suffered for the sake of justice, we also must embrace the reality of that life.

### QUESTIONS:

Who is someone I have witnessed suffering for the sake of justice? How is my hope of resurrection tied to that of others, past and present?



**“I** in justice shall behold your face;  
on waking I shall be content  
in your presence.”

— Psalm 17:15

Copyright © 2007, Diocese of Fort Worth

## Looking forward to a happy ‘All Hallows-eve’?

By Jeff Hedglen

It is the time of year when the weather turns colder, and people busy themselves getting ready for a great holiday. Costumes are bought or made; candy is gathered for sharing; apples are readied for bobbing; and homes are prepared for parties. What is the occasion? You might be thinking of the traditional celebration of Halloween, but I was thinking of an even more traditional celebration — the Eve of All Saints!

The name Halloween comes from a shortening of “All hallow-even” which means All Saints Evening. Somewhere down through the ages the celebration for the faithful who have gone before us has been reduced to knocking on doors to ask for candy and exploring haunted houses.

The origins of this feast day go back to 373 A.D. when churches would celebrate the death of martyrs on the Sunday after Pentecost. The original feast celebrated all the martyrs and John the Baptist, but as time went by, the commemoration was

We might not think about it a lot, but we have a real connection with the people in heaven.

expanded to include all of the saints. Gregory III (731-741) consecrated a chapel in the Basilica of St. Peter to all the saints and made November 1 a permanent anniversary for this feast.

The Church has a long tradition of honoring the saints and a strong belief in our communion with them and all the faithful who have gained their eternal reward. The feast of All Saints, and the next day’s feast of All Souls, are expressions of these very beliefs.

The communion with the saints is not simply the fact that we cherish the memory of those in heaven; it is also a way the union

of the whole Church is strengthened (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 957). Thus, through our belief in the communion of the saints we remember those who are in heaven, but we also experience the reality of what it means to be Church — many members of the Body of Christ connected to each other more and more each day.

The *Catechism* goes on to say that exactly as Christian communion with those we know on earth brings us closer to Christ, so too our communion with the saints joins us to Christ (CCC 957). In other words, this connection we

have with all followers of Jesus exists, so we can grow closer to Jesus. This is equally true for the followers of Jesus still walking the earth as well as those walking the streets of heaven.

We might not think about it a lot, but we have a real connection with the people in heaven. We hear expressions of this belief when people say things like “I know my mom is watching me from above,” or “Little Johnny is an angel in heaven now.” These images might not be exactly what it’s like in heaven; after all, I’m not sure that heaven is actually “up.” Also, I don’t think we become angels when we die; rather we remain human and join the angels and the other heavenly hosts in praise of God.

These common ideas about life after death, while maybe not the most accurate, nonetheless reveal that trying to understand the connection we have with those in heaven is important.

The truth of what it is like in heaven is unclear because no one has gone there and come back with the video — if someone had, it would certainly be on YouTube

by now! The facts of what it will be like are really less important than the fact that it is our destiny.

Part of that destiny is realizing that heaven is not something we have to wait until we die to experience. The communion of the saints is a way we can connect with our future destiny every day.

For some, All Hallows Eve might be about ghosts and goblins, costumes and candy, and houses that are haunted, but for Christians it is about the celebration of the real connection those of us still on earth have with each other and with those who have gone where we hope to be. That is no trick; it is all treat!

Information for this column came from the *Catholic Encyclopedia* — to read more go to <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/index.html>.

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

# El Cardenal-designado dice que su ascenso reconoce el crecimiento de la Iglesia en el suroeste

Por Erik Noriega

HOUSTON (CNS)—El Cardenal-designado Daniel N. DiNardo de Galveston-Houston dijo que la decisión del Papa Benedicto XVI de nombrarlo cardenal es "muy sorprendente y humillante", pero igualmente ilustra el reconocimiento del Vaticano al crecimiento de la Iglesia "en el sur de los Estados Unidos".

El Cardenal-designado, primer cardenal de una diócesis de Texas, hizo estos comentarios en una rueda de prensa en Houston, el 17 de octubre.

El Papa Benedicto XVI nombró 23 cardenales nuevos, incluyendo al arzobispo de Texas y al arzobispo norteamericano John P. Foley, gran maestro de Los Caballeros Del Santo Sepulcro.

La noticia se anunció el 17 de octubre, al final de la audiencia semanal general. El Papa dijo que instalará formalmente a los cardenales durante un tribunal especial en el Vaticano, el 24 de noviembre.

"Estoy profundamente agradecido al Santo Padre por su amabilidad en nombrarme cardenal y por su confianza en permitir que me coloquen en el Colegio de Cardenales," el Cardenal-designado DiNardo comenzó en su declaración inicial durante la rueda de prensa al medio día en las oficinas del arzobispado del centro de la ciudad.

"Esto es muy sorprendente y humillante. Le prometo mi comunión total, mi lealtad y mi obediencia", comentó.

"Pienso que el Santo Padre también está honrando a la iglesia local de Galveston-Houston, sus obispos presentes y pasados, sus sacerdotes, diáconos y religiosos, y a los feligreses por su amor y lealtad a Jesucristo, al igual que por su afecto y comunión con la Santa Sede de Pedro", dijo el Cardenal-designado DiNardo.

Pero también repitió que su ascenso es una señal que el Vaticano está reconociendo el crecimiento de la Iglesia en la región. "El crecimiento de la población católica en el sur de los Estados Unidos en años recientes es algo que debe ser notado," dijo.

Actualmente hay más de 1.4 millones de católicos en la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston. Su crecimiento explosivo ha sido debido en parte a la población hispana, pero también ha habido un crecimiento constante en los números de otros grupos étnicos.

"Creo que el Santo Padre y la Santa Sede están diciendo y que-



El Cardenal-Designado Daniel N. DiNardo de Galveston-Houston fue uno de los 23 cardenales nuevos nombrados por el Papa Benedicto XVI. Se ve aquí en una foto sin fecha. (FOTO CNS/ CORTESÍA DE LA ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

riendo reconocer que todo el sur y suroeste de los Estados Unidos, con su gran variedad de población —obviamente en gran proporción hispana— es una adición bella y digna de mención para la Iglesia Católica de los Estados Unidos", dijo el Cardenal-designado DiNardo.

"Qué honor y alegría para todos nosotros aquí en el sureste de Texas el ser reconocidos por el Papa Benedicto XVI", continuó. "Nuestra gran diversidad y riqueza de población armoniza con nuestra unidad de fe y amor por el Señor y su Iglesia", el Cardenal-designado DiNardo siguió.

Explicó que se había enterado de su ascenso la mañana del 15 de octubre, cuando estaba en Oklahoma. Se había sorprendido por la llamada y admitió que todavía estaba en "un estado de choque".

"Recientemente me hicieron arzobispo aquí y, hablando relativamente—sé que tengo que tener cuidado diciendo esto—soy relativamente joven, a los 58 años de edad", dijo el Cardenal-designado DiNardo, causando risa en la prensa.

El fue designado Obispo Coadjutor de Galveston-Houston en 2004; la diócesis fue elevada a arquidiócesis en diciembre del 2004. Luego lo nombraron la cabeza de la arquidiócesis en 2006 cuando el arzobispo Joseph A. Fiorenza se retiró.

El Cardenal-designado Di-

Nardo espera tener más responsabilidad en el Vaticano, "pero mi responsabilidad mayor sigue siendo ser el arzobispo de Galveston-Houston", repitió. Tomó un momento para darle gracias al arzobispo Fiorenza, quien estaba en la rueda de prensa.

"Por más de 20 años", dijo el Cardenal-designado DiNardo, este "hijo nativo" fue "un pastor magnífico para su iglesia local. El vio a Galveston-Houston prácticamente doblar en tamaño, afrontando el desafío con excelentes iniciativas pastorales".

En un comunicado de prensa de 17 de octubre, la Conferencia Católica de Texas felicitó al arzobispo DiNardo por su nombramiento como cardenal-electo.

"Este nombramiento es una noticia maravillosa", declaró el arzobispo emérito Joseph Fiorenza, también de la arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston. "El arzobispo DiNardo es un obispo trabajador y extraordinario, siendo muy apreciado tanto aquí en su arquidiócesis como en Roma. Esta designación es un reconocimiento de sus maravillosas cualidades como sacerdote, a la vez que un importante reconocimiento por parte del Vaticano a la Iglesia de Galveston-Houston, y del Sur y el Suroeste de los Estados Unidos".

"El nombramiento del arzobispo DiNardo es una alegría en particular para Texas, un es-

VEA DiNARDO, p. 23

## 'Proclamar a Cristo' o 'Promover la Cultura' No confundamos el fin con los medios

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

Cada documento sobre nuestras tareas pastorales necesita ser leído con suma atención. Entre estos documentos quisiera destacar el Directorio Nacional para la Catequesis. Este manual nos orienta sobre la mejor manera de implementar los programas de catequesis en el cumplimiento de nuestra responsabilidad de evangelizar. No podemos abandonar jamás nuestra responsabilidad de proclamar con toda claridad y especificidad la persona de Jesucristo. Este manual nos lleva con toda claridad por el camino del Cristocentrismo.

Una hora meditando sobre este documento y reflexionando sobre la importancia de esta proclamación de Cristo y su Buena Nueva en el mundo de hoy me ha dejado un poco melancólico. Me da un poco de tristeza el saber que en algunos lugares, no todos, se ha confundido nuestro fin, el traer a Jesucristo al mundo, con los medios para alcanzar ese fin.

La proclamación de Cristo es por medio de la cultura. Nuestro idioma, música, costumbres, valores sociales y familiares son distintos elementos de esta cultura que utilizamos como un medio a través del cual se comunica la persona y el mensaje de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y Redentor.

Tristemente me encuentro con algunas personas y grupos que, sin darse cuenta, utilizan a Cristo y su Iglesia como un medio a través del cual se promueven valores culturales. Sí, necesitamos cuidar de nuestra cultura y necesitamos evangelizarla y celebrarla, pues es nuestra herramienta principal en la evangelización del mundo, pero necesitamos también evitar los extremos.

Ustedes no deben malentenderme, yo sé que necesitamos cuidar y celebrar nuestra cultura pero me preocupa que exista más deseo de cuidar de la cultura que de cuidar al Evangelio y la clara proclamación de Cristo. Sí, tenemos que cuidar nuestra cultura, y hasta evangelizarla un poco más cada día, pues es a través de ella que podemos llevar a Cristo al mundo. La cultura es importante pero necesitamos cuidarnos de que no sea tan importante que Jesucristo, y su evangelio, caigan en un segundo o tercer lugar.

Recordemos siempre de que se puede caer en el extremo de solo utilizar a Cristo y la Iglesia como un medio para americanizar o hispanizar a otros. No podemos reducir a Cristo a un medio o una excusa para promover una cultura. La tarea principal de la Iglesia es anunciar a Cristo y su buena nueva. ¡Cristo es lo principal y solo Él es el número uno!

Ahora quisiera dejarles dos citas del Papa Juan Pablo II sobre esto de no confundir cual es el fin fundamental de la Iglesia: "Jesucristo es principio estable y centro permanente de la misión que Dios mismo ha confiado al hombre." (*Redemptor Hominis*, #11); "El cometido fundamental de la Iglesia en todas las épocas y particularmente en la nuestra es «dirigir la mirada del hombre, orientar la conciencia y la experiencia de toda la humanidad hacia el misterio de Cristo»." (*Redemptoris Missio*, #4).



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.

## Haciendo un llamado para iluminar nuestra cultura con la luz de la fe, el Obispo Vann nos recuerda de defender la vida de cada uno y de todos

### Queridos Amigos en la Diócesis de Fort Worth,

Tarde en el mes de septiembre, y temprano en el mes de octubre,



Monseñor Kevin W. Vann

estuve en Roma por una semana de peregrinación, discusión, y oración, con cerca de 140 personas de los alrededores de los Estados Unidos (pero sobre todo de aquí en Texas) quienes forman parte de la "Provisión Pastoral."

Éstos son sacerdotes y feligreses que antes fueron Episcopales o Anglicanos, y que fueron recibidos en la Iglesia Católica en los últimos 25 años bajo los auspicios de la Provisión Pastoral y establecidos por el último Papa, el muy querido Juan Pablo II. Fui invitado por el Arzobispo de Newark, Monseñor Juan Myers, un gran amigo mío de hace muchos años quien es el delegado de la Santa Sede para la Provisión Pastoral. Lo acompañé, junto al Monseñor Guillermo Stetson de Houston, para unos días de oración, reflexión y discusión entre nosotros mismos y con la Santa Sede, respecto a nuestra

*¿Cuán integral es la fe en nuestras vidas y en nuestras decisiones?*

*¿Ponemos la luz de la fe en la cultura, y no viceversa?*

experiencia de la Provisión Pastoral durante estos pasados 25 años, y para dar una mirada de fe hacia el futuro. Hemos sido bendecidos aquí en nuestra diócesis con la experiencia vivida y los resultados de la Provisión Pastoral, así mismo como otras diócesis en Texas también. Tres "parroquias personales", nacidas de la Provisión Pastoral, fueron representadas: Nuestra Señora de Walsingham en Houston, Nuestra Señora de la Expiación en San Antonio, y Santa María Virgen en Arlington. Fue una bendición especial que el Padre Allan Hawkins pudo estar con nosotros para una parte de esta peregrinación. Estamos cerca del fin de mes de octubre y nos estamos dirigiendo rápidamente hacia noviembre (el mes dedicado a todo los Fieles Difuntos). Junto con el año civil, el año de la Iglesia se está acercando rápidamente hacia su conclusión. Pronto oiremos el Evangelio de San Lucas en la Misa Dominical

por última vez hasta finales del 2010, dentro de tres años, y pronto comenzaremos a escuchar lecturas del Santo Evangelio según San Mateo. Así como el año de la Iglesia llega a su final, y como el mes de noviembre comienza, los temas de la liturgia nos llamarán a examinar seriamente nuestras vidas, y a reflexionar sobre nuestro destino eterno en Cristo. En la Misa del domingo pasado y del domingo próximo, la segunda lectura habla de la fe, así como el Evangelio del domingo pasado: Por ejemplo: "Sean fieles a lo que han aprendido y creen.... ¿Cuándo el hijo del hombre venga, encontrará fe en la tierra? ..... He competido bien, yo he acabado la raza, yo he guardado la fe...." ¿Cuán integral es la fe en nuestras vidas y en nuestras decisiones? ¿Ponemos la luz de la fe en la cultura, y no viceversa? ¿Le damos importancia cada día a nuestra llamada a la conversión y a la santidad? Al intentar ser embajadores de Cristo, al cuidar de los pobres o al vivir el Evangelio de la vida, por ejemplo, todo esto se debe arraigar en la llamada a la santidad y a la virtud — guardando la fe y siendo fiel a lo que es la verdad, aunque a veces sea un reto.

En este mes de octubre, dedicado a la vida, el Secretariado para las actividades Pro-Vida de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos nos recuerdan de la llamada a la Santidad cuando dice que "...y a algunos de nosotros, si somos humildes, Dios nos concede el privilegio de ser su instrumento para llevar adelante la santidad de otros. Dios nos ama, y nos quiere para amar, al abuelo que yace inconsciente en una cama del hospital, al niño con severo deterioro físico y mental, a la madre

adolescente atemorizada y al embrión no planificado que lleva en su vientre. Cada una de estas personas vulnerables se nos da a nosotros para que podamos aprender a amar como Dios nos ama — generosa, sacrificada e incondicionalmente. ¡Que nunca nos cansemos de proclamar la dignidad y el valor de cada persona! ¡Que nunca nos cansemos de servir al vulnerable y a quienes lo cuidan generosamente! ¡Y que nunca dejemos de orar por el día en que todas las personas y todas las naciones defiendan a cada ser humano desde su concepción hasta su muerte natural!"

También haríamos bien al tomar un tiempo de reflexión con el rezo del Santo Rosario en estos últimos días del mes del Rosario. Esta forma antigua de rezar es una forma de verdadera contemplación y meditación, en la cual pedimos que la madre de Dios nos conduzca a su hijo, y nos ayude a estar siempre abiertos a su voluntad: especialmente en el tiempo y en la manera de Dios.

Finalmente, las felicitaciones, oraciones y recuerdos van al Cardinal-designado Daniel de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston. Lo he conocido por muchos años, y nuestro estado ha sido bendecido de verdad con este honor. La elevación del Cardenal DiNardo, y de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston, es un reconocimiento de la historia, de la vida, y de la vitalidad de la Iglesia en Texas, una parte importante de la cual es la herencia hispánica de nuestro estado y de sus dos provincias eclesíásticas.

Que Dios los bendiga siempre...

## Causa de santidad abierta formalmente para el Padre Stanley Rother de Oklahoma, quien fue asesinado en Guatemala en 1981

OKARCHE, Oklahoma (CNS) — Los católicos de Oklahoma han lanzado formalmente la causa de santidad para el padre Stanley Rother, sacerdote de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City, que fue asesinado en 1981 en la villa guatemalteca donde era ministro de los pobres.

"Esta es la primera vez en la historia que un proceso de canonización ha sido iniciado aquí en Oklahoma", dijo el arzobispo Eusebius Beltrán, de Oklahoma City.

El arzobispo Beltrán comisionó un comité de canonización y nombró al diácono Norman Mejstrik, feligrés de la iglesia St. Philip

Neri, en Midwest City, como su coordinador.

"No hay duda en mi mente: él dio su vida por su fe", dijo el diácono Mejstrik. "Él sabía que sería asesinado y se quedó de todas formas".

Padre Rother, de 46 años de edad, murió de disparos el 28 de julio de 1981 en la rectoría de su iglesia en Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala. La policía en esos tiempos culpaba a la iglesia católica por las tensiones en el país y

proclamó que la iglesia lo llevó a su muerte.

Muchos sacerdotes y religiosos perdieron sus vidas y millares de civiles fueron secuestrados y asesinados en el país durante los años de opresión patrocinada por el estado.

En un momento padre Rother huyó de Guatemala, debido a las amenazas de muerte que recibió por su oposición a la presencia de la milicia guatemalteca en la zona.

El padre Stanley Rother se ve bautizando un niño en esta foto sin fecha. El 5 de octubre, la arquidiócesis formalmente lanzó la causa para la canonización del sacerdote, quien muchos creen fue martirizado por su fe. (CNS)



La madre de Juan Bautista saludó a María con las palabras que se ven en el cartel de este año, ¡Respete a la vida!

## ‘El niño saltó de alegría en mis entrañas’

En el otro extremo de la vida, también, los vínculos generacionales del amor se están estirando hasta casi romperse. Algunos doctores y éticos afirman que los pacientes con demencia o en el llamado “estado vegetativo persistente” no son realmente personas, y que las familias deben negarles hasta las formas básicas de alimentación y cuidado. Más, no importa lo débil y vulnerable que parezcan, estas personas tienen el asombroso poder de inspirar el amor heroico y sacrificado de sus familiares y de quienes velan por ellos — un poder que puede llevar a la santificación de aquellos que los cuidan.

A Dios no le importa si estamos conscientes de nuestra existencia o somos capaces de “pensamiento superior”. El valor de la vida no depende de si el intelecto funciona, sino del amor paternal de Dios por cada uno, creado a su imagen y semejanza. Su amor está presente mucho antes de que nuestras ondas cerebrales puedan medirse a las seis semanas de gestación y mucho después de que nuestra inteligencia deje de funcionar. Su amor está presente antes de que nuestro corazón empiece a latir 22 días después de la concepción y mucho después de que empiece a fallar. Su amor está presente en cada paso y desliz de nuestra vida.

Ya algunos de nosotros, si somos humildes, Dios nos concede el privilegio de ser su instrumento para llevar adelante la santidad de otros. Dios nos ama, y nos quiere para amar, al abuelo que yace inconsciente en una cama del hospital, al niño con severo deterioro físico y mental, a la madre adolescente atemorizada y al embrión no planificado que lleva en su vientre. Cada una de estas personas vulnerables se nos da a nosotros para que podamos aprender a amar como Dios nos ama — generosa, sacrificada e incondicionalmente.

¡Que nunca nos cansemos de proclamar la dignidad y valor de cada persona! ¡Que nunca nos cansemos de servir al vulnerable y a quienes lo cuidan generosamente! ¡Y que nunca dejemos de orar por el día en que todas las personas y todas las naciones defiendan a cada ser humano desde su concepción hasta su muerte natural!

\* \* \* \* \*

Al oír Isabel su saludo, el niño dio saltos en su vientre. Isabel se llenó del Espíritu Santo y exclamó en alta voz: “¡Bendita tú eres entre las mujeres y bendito el fruto de tu vientre! ¿Cómo he merecido yo que venga a mí la madre de mi Señor? Apenas llegó tu saludo a mis oídos, el niño saltó de alegría en mis entrañas. ¡Dichosa tú por haber creído que se cumplirían las promesas del Señor!”

(LUCAS 1:41-45)



Conocemos la historia. El Arcángel Gabriel anuncia a la Virgen María la invitación de Dios para convertirse en la madre del Mesías. Para mostrar que nada es imposible para Dios, la prima anciana de María, Isabel, a quien se creía estéril, también está esperando un niño: San Juan Bautista.

Los embarazos de Isabel y María, —a pesar de sus extrañas circunstancias— son causa de regocijo. Por el poder del Espíritu Santo, el niño Jesús, antes de nacer, anuncia su presencia a su primo Juan, también aún por nacer, quien salta de alegría, proclamando a su madre: “¡Mira! ¡El Cordero de Dios!” Isabel, a su vez, se llena del Espíritu Santo y reconoce a María como el tabernáculo sagrado de nuestro Señor y Salvador. Por el testimonio evangélico y el amor sacrificado de María, Jesús y Juan, comienza la obra de nuestra salvación.

El Antiguo y el Nuevo Testamento están llenos de este tipo de pasajes en que los niños son exaltados como regalos y bendiciones. Es descorazonador ver cómo nuestra cultura se ha ido alejando de este punto de vista.

La mayoría de los padres ama a sus hijos generosamente y sin condiciones. Hoy en día el valor inherente, que no tiene

precio, de cada niño — como individuo único, creado y amado por Dios — ya no es aceptado universalmente. Antes de nacer, el valor de un niño pareciera que depende solo de la actitud de sus padres hacia él. Un anuncio de Planificación Familiar ilustra muy bien esta idea: “Los bebés son ruidosos, apuestos y caros, a menos que se desee uno”.

Los niños nonatos son deshumanizados de forma rutinaria por la industria del aborto. El autor de un popular texto sobre técnicas abortivas describe el embarazo como una “enfermedad parasitaria”. Un columnista muy conocido dice: “Un pez dorado se parece más a un ser humano que un embrión humano”. Otro describe al ser humano por nacer como “basura protoplasmática”, un “trozo de carne”.

Un profesor de la Universidad de Princeton ha llevado este pensamiento hasta su conclusión lógica, para degradar al niño recién nacido: “Los bebés humanos no nacen conscientes de sí mismos, ni son capaces de comprender que existen en el tiempo. No son personas”. Por lo tanto “la vida de un recién nacido es de menor valor que la de un cerdo, un perro, o un chimpancé”.

Esta actitud ha ido calando en el sentir de la gente. Al parecer, muchos pasan

buena parte de su vida adulta tratando de evitar la molestia de tener hijos y no les gustan las sorpresas cuando las tienen.

Consideren esto: A pesar de los muchos riesgos y efectos colaterales dañinos, los contraceptivos hormonales exceden mundialmente los \$24 mil millones en ventas anuales.

La industria del aborto afirma que la mitad de los niños concebidos en Estados Unidos son “no deseados” y de estos se abortan la mitad, — más de 1,3 millones anualmente. La razón más usada para abortar es que la crianza de un niño puede interferir con la educación o carrera de los padres.

A menudo nos dicen cuán costoso es criar a un niño. La escasez de familias numerosas que hay entre las parejas adineradas y de ingresos medios sugiere que muchos de los que podrían permitirse el lujo de tener más hijos valoran otras cosas más que traer una nueva vida al mundo.

Por el contrario, algunas parejas que tienen dificultad para concebir pagarán miles de dólares para que una clínica de fertilidad cree un hijo para ellos. ¿Cuántos de esos padres se dan cuenta que por cada niño fertilizado “in vitro” (FIV) que nace, muchos más mueren en el proceso? Y que si ese embrión hecho “a la medida”, aún en el laboratorio, tiene un “defecto”, la clínica de inmediato recomendará desecharlo y encargar otro.

Lamentablemente, muchos científicos y políticos ven los embriones humanos vivos, creados en laboratorios — ya no deseados por sus padres biológicos — como materia prima que puede destruirse para la investigación de células madre. ¿Nos sorprende que algunos científicos quieran crear embriones humanos en el laboratorio, por fertilización o clonación, para matarlos por sus células madre? ¿O que esos esfuerzos continúan, a pesar de la existencia de alternativas moralmente aceptables, como las células madre de los cordones umbilicales y otras fuentes “adultas” que están ayudando a pacientes con 72 tipos de condiciones y enfermedades?

Es así como nos están instando a que dejemos de ver la vida humana como Dios la ve. Desde el momento de nuestra concepción, Dios no nos ve superficialmente como una célula microscópica no diferenciada. En cada niño, nacido o por nacer, Dios ve al individuo quien Él creó para amar y ser amado, por toda la eternidad.

Secretaría de actividades Pro-Vida (Pro-Life)  
Conferencia Episcopal de los Estados Unidos  
3211 Fourth Street, N.E. • Washington, DC  
20017-1194  
Tel: (202) 541-3070 • Fax: (202) 541-3054  
Website: www.usccb.org/prolife

Copyright © 2007, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C.

## El ascenso del Cardenal-designado no es sorpresa para sus amigos

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Que el primer cardenal nombrado a una diócesis de Texas sea el arzobispo de Galveston-Houston Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, no es gran sorpresa para sus amigos de Pittsburg, donde creció y sirvió en varias capacidades por 14 años.

“Hemos pronosticado esto, pero no pensábamos que pasara por otros cinco años más por lo menos”, dijo el Padre Louis Vallone, pastor de la parroquia San Juan de Dios en McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, quien ha sido amigo del Cardenal-designado DiNardo desde 1963, cuando los dos asistían a la *Bishop's Latin School*, en Pittsburg.

El Cardenal-designado DiNardo, uno de los 23 cardenales nombrados por el Papa Benedicto XVI el 17 de octubre, recibirá su mitra roja en la Cancillería Apostólica del Vaticano, el 24 de noviembre.

Nativo de Steubenville, Ohio, nació el 23 de Mayo de 1949, y fue criado al otro lado de la frontera estatal, en Pittsburg; el Cardenal-designado DiNardo se ordenó como sacerdote para la Diócesis de Pittsburg en 1977.

Sirvió allí en varios cargos pastorales antes de irse a Roma, donde estuvo trabajando en la Congregación para los Obispos del Vaticano entre 1984 y 1990.

Entre 1990 y 1997 llevó a cabo varios trabajos pastorales en la



El Cardenal-Designado Daniel N. DiNardo de Galveston-Houston se dirige a los medios de comunicación durante una rueda de prensa en Houston, el 17 de octubre. Ese mismo día, fue uno de los 23 nuevos cardenales nombrados por el Papa Benedicto XVI. (Foto CNS de Erik Noriega, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD)

diócesis de Pittsburg, donde fue nombrado secretario asistente para la educación en 1991. Enseñó en el programa de formación continua para sacerdotes, y fue director espiritual asistente en el seminario de San Pablo. Igualmente, era miembro del consejo de sacerdotes y de la mesa directiva de consultores para la diócesis, al igual que de la comisión teológica diocesana.

Fue nombrado obispo coadjutor de Sioux City, Iowa, en 1997,

y se convirtió en la cabeza de la diócesis el año entrante.

En Sioux City, se le conocía por su fuerte enfoque en las vocaciones, el fortalecimiento de programas de educación religiosa para adultos, un continuo énfasis en el valor de las escuelas católicas, y la creación de programas con un ambiente seguro para los niños.

El Cardenal-designado DiNardo recibió su licenciatura y maestría en la Universidad Católi-

ca de América, en Washington, donde actualmente es miembro del consejo de administración. Igualmente recibió una licenciatura en teología de la Universidad Gregoriana Pontificia en Roma, y otra licenciatura en patristica, el estudio de los Padres de la Iglesia, del *Agustinianum*, en Roma.

Durante su estadía en Roma, también sirvió como director de *Villa Stritch*, la residencia para sacerdotes norteamerica-

nos trabajando en el Vaticano, y enseñó un seminario teológico de metodología en la Universidad Gregoriana.

Tiene una hermana gemela, Margaret; un hermano mayor, Thomas; y una hermana menor, Mary Anne.

El Padre Vicentino David M. O'Connell, presidente de la Universidad Católica, dijo durante una declaración el 17 de octubre que el nombramiento le da al Cardenal-designado DiNardo “un rol nuevo y privilegiado dentro de la iglesia universal”.

“Como cardenal, su Eminencia ahora comparte en el gobierno pastoral de la iglesia a través del mundo”, dijo. “Además de conducir la iglesia local de Galveston-Houston, ahora emprende responsabilidades especiales como consejero del Papa y sus colegas, con quienes algún día elegirá a su sucesor”.

El Cardenal-designado DiNardo ha demostrado consistentemente ambos cuidado y competencia hacia el pueblo de Dios en toda tarea que se le ha presentado en su distinguida carrera”, dijo el Padre O'Connell. “En particular, su compromiso incansable con la evangelización de los fieles a cada nivel de necesidad lo marca especialmente como la persona ideal para este honor tan alto dentro de la Iglesia”.

## DiNardo...

DESDE PAGINA 20

tado rico en historia y presencia católica”, declaró el obispo James Tamayo de la diócesis de Laredo, quien es director del Comité sobre Asuntos Hispánicos de la Conferencia Episcopal de Estados Unidos.

Además, el Obispo Tamayo reconoce la importancia de este nombramiento para la arquidióce-

sis de Galveston-Houston, el área con la segunda concentración más grande de hispanos en los Estados Unidos. “Estoy feliz que el Santo Padre nos reconozca por nuestros años de lealtad a la Iglesia y por el crecimiento continuo de la Iglesia aquí en el suroeste. Pienso que es un honor distinguido para el suroeste de los Estados Unidos tener un cardenal dentro de nuestro territorio”.

El obispo Kevin Vann también elogió a su hermano arzobispo.

“Todas las diócesis de Texas se sienten honradas por el ascenso del arzobispo DiNardo a cardenal. Lo he conocido por muchos años; su amistad y apoyo han sido una bendición personal. Nos alegramos con el Señor, y rezamos por él y por la arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston en estos días”.

A la conclusión de la rueda de prensa en Houston, el Cardenal-designado DiNardo añadió que aunque él es quien terminará “vistiéndome de rojo... también

pertenece esto igualmente a los sacerdotes, a los diáconos y religiosos, y a los pastores pasados, de quienes el arzobispo Fiorenza, en mi opinión, es un modelo ejemplar”. Añadió, “Yo soy un chiquillo de Pittsburg a quien han nombrado (cardenal), y por eso me siento honrado y humillado de estar en tal compañía”.

Respondiendo a una pregunta de la prensa, el Cardenal-designado DiNardo expresó esperanza que tal vez su nuevo título

inspirará a jóvenes en su deseo por comenzar una vocación sacerdotal. “Mientras más, ¡mejor! Si de veras algo de mi trabajo o entusiasmo inspira a otros a buscar el sacerdocio, bendito sea Dios. Me encantaría”, terminó el Cardenal-designado DiNardo.

El recién nombrado cardenal también pidió a los feligreses que lo tuvieran en sus oraciones en los días y años venideros, mientras asume más responsabilidad en la iglesia universal.

## La Hermana María Elena González y el Centro Cultural Mexicano-Americano ganan Premio Arzobispo Flores de USCCB

WASHINGTON (CNS) — El Centro Cultural Mexicano-Americano y la Hermana de la Caridad María Elena González, ambos de San Antonio, han sido seleccionados como los últimos recipientes de la medalla del Premio arzobispo Patrick F. Flores, por su liderazgo en el ministerio hispano.

El premio, otorgado por el Comité de Asuntos Hispánicos de la Conferencia Episcopal de Estados Unidos, y anunciado en Washington, será entregado a

los ganadores en una ceremonia en Baltimore el 11 de noviembre durante su reunión periódica, que coincide con la reunión general de la Conferencia Episcopal de Estados Unidos este otoño.

La Hermana González recientemente terminó su asignación como presidenta del Centro Cultural Mexicano-Americano, luego de 14 años en el cargo. También ha sido la primera mujer nombrada canciller para la Diócesis de Lubbock, y una de las primeras cilleras diocesanas en los Estados

Unidos, además de haber servido por ocho años como consultora del Comité de Asuntos Hispánicos de la Conferencia Episcopal de Estados Unidos.

La Hermana González ha formado parte del liderazgo de las Hermanas de la Caridad, y ha sido misionera en Guatemala. También ha sido miembro de la junta de asesoría en asuntos comunitarios del periódico matutino Express News de San Antonio, y del Comité de Raza y Etnicidad de la Oficina del Censo durante el

censo del año 2000. La Hermana González ha recibido del Papa Juan Pablo II dos doctorados honorarios al igual que la cruz *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*.

El Centro Cultural Mexicano-Americano, establecido en 1972 y actualmente presidido por Arturo Chávez, desarrolla materiales pastorales en servicio de católicos norteamericanos de habla hispana, y se ha convertido en un centro transcultural para la teología, el ministerio pastoral, el estudio de los idiomas español e

inglés, y la investigación y estudio de la vida hispana en los Estados Unidos.

El obispo Plácido Rodríguez de Lubbock, del Comité de Asuntos Hispánicos, reiteró que otorgan este premio para reconocer el liderazgo dentro del ministerio hispano y promover altos niveles de liderazgo a nivel nacional. Este premio ha sido nombrado en honor al arzobispo Flores, quien dirigió la Arquidiócesis de San Antonio a partir de 1979 hasta su retiro en 2004.

## Fulbright Scholar Tommy Heyne hopes to use his advanced religious studies to create better understanding, serve others

By John English  
Correspondent

Tommy Heyne's desire to learn about different religions is surpassed only by his devotion to his own Catholic faith.

The Southlake native is wrapping up his master's degree in theology at Oxford University and was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study for nine months at the University of Granada in Spain.

"For the first semester, I will be auditing a few classes in Islamic history and theology," Heyne explained in an e-mail. "I will also teach English and church history at the seminary of Granada," where he will live while studying at the university, as it is close to the Granada campus. "For the second semester I will take a couple of classes, but I am not pursuing a degree; the Fulbright is more about cross-cultural dialogue and experience rather than research...."

A graduate of Cistercian Preparatory School, a Catholic school in Irving, Heyne received a BS in biology and a BA in history with a concentration in Medieval/Renaissance studies from the University of Texas at Dallas.



*Tommy Heyne pauses along the path of the garden/deer park of Magdalen College at Oxford University. The formal outfit he is wearing, which includes a white bow tie, black suit, and black gown, is called 'sub fusc.' It's the academic uniform required for exams, enrollment, graduation, and other formal occasions at Oxford.*

"I couldn't really decide between the humanities and science, so I chose both," Heyne said.

While there, he served as student body president, was named Outstanding Senior Male, and received the Faculty First Honors (highest GPA) and the Cardinal Spellman Award.

A Rhodes Scholar finalist when he initially applied to Oxford back in 2005, Heyne had already been accepted to a couple of medical schools, but opted to pursue a one-year master's from

Oxford because of his interest in church history.

"I had taken a course in patristics (studying the writings of the Church Fathers) at Dallas, and I had written my history thesis on the growth of papal authority in the first three centuries," Heyne said. "Basically, I enjoyed history and theology, and church history sounded interesting. I think you can learn a lot about a religious, political, or cultural movement by looking at its roots."

Heyne said he received his Fulbright Scholarship based

on academics, extracurricular activities, and a well-planned program of study, and said he chose Islamic studies at the University of Granada to try to obtain a better understanding of the religion.

"Islam is the most quickly growing faith in the world, and an obvious factor in world culture, politics, and economics," Heyne said. "Mark my words: The time will come when women with hijabs (Muslim head scarves) will be seen even in the grocery stores of Southlake.... To learn

about Islam I could simply read the Qur'an, but again there is the difficulty of interpretation. On the issue of jihad, for example, different texts seem to suggest different interpretations. What did Muhammad and his followers think about jihad? We would be wise to study the history books," Heyne said, to avoid making hasty judgments.

Heyne said he has also considered the possibility of becoming a Catholic priest, but is still undecided.

"Deep down, I want to serve others, to bring others closer to God," Heyne said. "Numerous professions do this in indirect ways, but only the religious [professional] or priest does it directly, so, at least on a logical level, the priesthood is quite attractive."

Heyne said that he is grateful for the opportunity to study in Spain and feels blessed with all that he has been given and feels obliged to use those gifts to help others.

"I figure if we don't use our gifts to help others, it's a bit of a waste, isn't it?" Heyne said. "In 500 years, we will be dust, but charity lasts forever."

## First ever Young Adult Council meeting is opportunity to bring together key leaders from every area of young adult ministry in diocese



Young adults representing several parishes within the Diocese of Fort Worth enjoy participation in the Catholic kickball event held June 7 at St. Michael Church in Bedford. (Photo by Mark Lewis)

FROM PAGE 1

Prevou, director of the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and Campus Ministry, asks that representatives from parish young adult groups, existing young adult ministry groups and committees, and campus ministry centers from across the diocese all plan to attend.

"This is a very important first meeting," says Prevou. "We will be continuing our work to develop a calendar of young adult trainings, retreats, and other events for the year ahead. We have several other agenda items to cover, as well."

The purpose of the council, notes Prevou, "is to bring together key leaders from every aspect of ministry with young adults within the diocese for strategic planning, the continuing development of young adult leadership, and networking of ideas, activities, events, and resources." Yet another important goal for the council meeting, he adds, is to share faith and fellowship.

"One of the most precious commodities that any of us has to share is our time," says Prevou. "We guarantee that those who make the effort to attend this first

council meeting will find that it is a worthwhile investment of their time and energy. We have so many gifted young adults in this diocese, and it's always exciting to experience their faith and their vision when they come together."

Michelle Bayes joins Prevou in urging young adults to consider involvement in the diocesan council. "By connecting with

other Catholic young adults, it helps me to continue to grow in my own faith and relationship with God," she says. "I want others to be able to make those connections, as well."

For more information about the Young Adult Council, contact Kevin Prevou at (817) 560-3300 ext. 261 or 255 or e-mail to [kprevou@fwdioc.org](mailto:kprevou@fwdioc.org).



Father James Flynn, associate pastor at Immaculate Conception Church in Denton, answers questions about Catholic beliefs and teachings at a Theology on Tap young adult gathering held April 17 at a restaurant in Denton. (Photo by Paul Combest)

## NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWSBRIEFS

### Speakers: Infertile couples have options other than hi-tech measures

ROME (CNS) — Married couples seeking help in overcoming infertility or recurrent miscarriages should know that there are less invasive and possibly more effective methods than assisted reproductive technologies, said a number of participants at a Rome conference on fertility. Costly methods such as in vitro fertilization and other high-tech reproductive technologies are not the only option out there even for non-Catholic couples desperate to have a child, they said. Some 13 specialists in gynecology, obstetrics, moral theology, and bioethics spoke at an Oct. 12 conference entitled "Fertility: Catholic Vision," sponsored by Rome's San Carlo General Hospital and the Pontifical Regina Apostolorum University's bioethics department. Many people mistakenly think just because the church does not condone artificial reproduction — methods that bring about reproduction outside the marital act — that it does little to help couples coping with infertility, said Dr. Mariavita Ciccarone, head of San Carlo's center for the study and prevention of infertility. But many Catholic doctors and institutes are at the forefront of offering ways to combat the underlying causes of infertility, making it "possible for couples to [improve] fertility in Catholic clinics and have results," she told Catholic News Service.

### U.S. archbishop says military chaplains must be voices of conscience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Military chaplains must be voices of conscience and defenders of the human rights of their own soldiers, enemy combatants, and civilians, said Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of Baltimore, who headed the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services for 10 years. Where there is an acceptance of the direct killing of noncombatants or where torture is justified to obtain information, the chaplain service is either absent or not doing its job, the archbishop told a Vatican-sponsored course for military ordinaries and chaplains. "The vicious and utterly barbaric treatment of individuals" in the U.S.-run Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq "leaves no doubt as to the barbaric extremes to which human beings can resort, especially in times of war," the archbishop told course participants Oct. 13. "It is significant, perhaps, that this prison did not have an assigned chaplain, though Army regulations required one," he said.

### Passage of bill on affordable housing called 'huge victory'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Passage by the House of Representatives of legislation to increase the nation's affordable housing stock is "a huge victory for housing advocates," said an official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, which passed by a 264-148 vote Oct. 10, would add 1.5 million affordable homes to the nation's housing stock in the next 10 years. It would require that at least 75 percent of the funds go to housing for households defined as "extremely low-income," those earning less than 30 percent of an area's median income. Thomas Shelabarger, a policy adviser in the USCCB Office of Domestic Social Development, said the USCCB and the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign have "been working since 2001 on the passage of legislation to establish a national housing trust fund."

### Sainthood cause formally opened for Oklahoma priest slain in 1981

OKARCHE, Oklahoma (CNS) — Inside Okarche's Holy Trinity Church, the same church where Stanley Rother was baptized two days after his birth on March 27, 1935, Oklahoma Catholics gathered Oct. 5 to celebrate the Eucharist and to again pray for the canonization of the beloved priest they believe was martyred for the faith. They witnessed the formal start of the sainthood cause for Father Stanley Francis Rother, a priest of the Oklahoma City Archdiocese who was brutally murdered in 1981 in the Guatemalan village where he ministered to the poor. "This is the very first time in history that a canonization process has been initiated here in Oklahoma," said Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran of Oklahoma City. "It is my hope and my prayer that almighty God will bring to a happy conclusion this good work which he has begun in us." Archbishop Beltran commissioned a canonization committee and named Deacon Norman Mejstrik, a parishioner at St. Philip Neri Church in Midwest City, as its coordinator. Carol Davito has been named assistant coordinator.

## Foundation says its pro-life ads are having effect on intended audience

By Mark Pattison

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Unless you're watching daytime talk shows or soap operas, late-night or late-late-night television or some of the most basic cable channels, you might not have seen commercials with a pro-life message sponsored by the Vitae Caring Foundation.

The foundation buys commercial time from local stations in selected U.S. cities for just short periods of time. But the impact of their ads on their intended audience — women who may be facing a troubled pregnancy — has been measurable in both the upsurge in calls made to local crisis pregnancy centers and the decline in the number of abortions performed in those areas.

The ads, in both English and Spanish, are generally shot with a soft focus and feature a woman who remarks about the gift of life she received and is able to pass on, or some fact about abortion designed to make the female viewer think about that fact's ramification in her own life. They include an 800-number for a pregnancy resource center.

Moral theologian Pia Solenni, who has been working since early 2006 with the Atlanta-based foundation on its TV ad campaign, said she had seen the ads before she started collaborating on them.

"I just loved the ads. They weren't shock-jock ads. They weren't graphic or in-your-face type ads. They were just very engaging ads," Solenni told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview from Philadelphia.

"I knew they put a lot of money into the research that generated the ads," Solenni said, adding, "I think nonprofits should be encouraged to spend their money

The impact of their ads on their intended audience — women who may be facing a troubled pregnancy — has been measurable in both the upsurge in calls made to local crisis pregnancy centers and the decline in the number of abortions performed in those areas.

as carefully as possible."

One ad shows a woman firefighter at the scene of a blaze, noting how her mother saved her life when she could have had an abortion, and now she is able to save others' lives in her job.

That ad, Solenni said, "is a little 'It's a Wonderful Life'" that raises the question of "what would life had been like if you had never been born? For a firefighter, [the question is] who would have been there to save that child?"

Because of the research conducted prior to the commercials' production, "these ads really resonate with the feelings these women are having. They call the 800 number, and they get connected with a pregnancy resource center," Solenni said. "One caller said, 'I felt just like the woman in that ad.'"

Thomas Grenchik, executive director of the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, can vouch for the ad campaign's effectiveness.

Years ago, when Grenchik was the director of the pro-life office in the Archdiocese of Washington, the Vitae Caring Foundation announced it would like to sponsor a series of ads on Washington-

area TV stations.

Grenchik said pro-life officials looked at the ads that were offered and suggested two of them to use for the campaign, but the foundation "had a donor" and in the end "the donor won," and two different ads were chosen.

One, he recalled, was acceptable, but "the other was so hokey, so soap 'opera-y,' we said that nobody would ever respond to it."

"But they had their research," Grenchik continued, "and they used that one ad. And it generated a gazillion calls."

The ad's target, he said, was African-American women who thought they might be pregnant. When it aired during the daytime soaps, "it flowed right in with the story line of the soap opera they were watching," Grenchik said.

Solenni told CNS that oftentimes "someone else sees the ads, and they call and get the information, and they pass it on" to a pregnant woman they know.

Solenni expressed amazement at "the long staying power of the ads. People were writing down the number when they saw it — the ad — and calling six weeks after the [ad] campaign finished."

For someone to "keep track of that piece of paper" weeks later, she said, shows "a kind of stick-to-itiveness" that "anybody who's behind this product would love."

She added the "overwhelmingly positive response" to the ads "really reinforces the fact that women who have abortions feel they have no choice. Most women don't even know they have options, resources within their own communities. They say we have more pregnancy resource centers now than abortion clinics."

## Vatican Nuncio Archbishop Migliore denounces military spending, depleted health care

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Funneling resources toward military spending rather than providing basic health care to all citizens is making an already "sad landscape" even bleaker, a top Vatican official told the U.N. General Assembly.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Vatican nuncio to the United Nations, said Oct. 9 that the world community "seems to have been losing focus on the need to ensure the right to basic health care for all," although studies have shown even simple medical prevention can effectively and successfully improve the health

and stability of society.

The Vatican released a copy of his text Oct. 10.

Archbishop Migliore said that "primary care is often neglected or replaced by more selective and even culturally divisive methods of health care."

"A saner health policy," he said, would cover basic health care needs for all members of society and would help nations achieve some of the Millennium Development Goals, which include setting targets for reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, and combating deadly diseases worldwide by 2015.

Unfortunately, the archbishop said, almost 10 million children under the age of 5 die every year "mostly from preventable causes."

"Such a sad landscape is made bleaker by the fact that as children die and generations lack even the basic necessities of life, we have continued to drift toward mutual and global destruction," he said.

Nations spend more than \$1 trillion a year on the military, he said. Such spending funnels talent and resources away from saving lives and instead creates technology that destroys lives and the planet, he said.



## Viewpoints

### Alvaré...

FROM PAGE 11

God — as a unique individual with his or her own talents and responsibilities, a person to be treated in accord with the dignity given by God himself.

Catholics recognize that human beings are destined to live socially. We are meant not only to live in community, but to find in service to others the very meaning of our life, just as Jesus' life was characterized and crowned by his complete service to others.

Families are to form human beings for this manner of social living. They do this in part when they form children by an act

of the most profound and intimate love between the parents. Children so conceived are, from their very beginning, the gifts and fruits of this love. Children so conceived may be desired but cannot be "demanded."

The ART industry is helping to blot out the notion that people ought to be accepted simply for who they are; rather, via ARTs, children's traits may increasingly be selected. More commonly, each year in the United States, thousands of paid donors possessing currently desired traits — height, certain levels of education, beauty, athletic or musical accomplishment, and ethnic type — sell their eggs or their sperm to fertility clinics to be purchased by individuals and

couples after reviewing their "donor profiles."

ARTs pose a second threat to building families who may serve as the prototype of a good society. Strong societies contain as many individuals as possible who are reared in stable, nurturing environments. Today, a vast amount of social science research indicates that the very best environment for children includes stable, married parents.

By their very nature, ARTs separate procreation from marriage physically. But they also accomplish this socially. Anyone — any individual or couple, single or married, young or old, heterosexual or homosexual — can buy sperm or eggs or even a custom-made embryo in the

United States. The ART industry, in other words, is regularly and deliberately placing children in situations known to cause problems for them and for society.

A second aspect of Catholic Social Teaching on the family is also directly contradicted by the practice of ARTs: that the family based on marriage is the sanctuary of life, the place where life can best be welcomed and protected. Some embryos produced through ARTs are directly killed if they are the "wrong sex," or have the "wrong genes" following pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, or simply don't seem to be growing as vigorously as their siblings in the Petri dish. Some embryos die while frozen, or upon being thawed. Some are aborted during the fetal stage if "too many" children begin to grow in their mother's womb. Some unused embryos are simply discarded once parents have reached their desired family or have given up trying to have a child.

Furthermore, we increasingly know that even those embryos who "make it" are subjected to serious risks. Very little testing was undertaken regarding the safety of in vitro fertilization and related practices before these were offered commercially. Scientific literature over the last several years has begun to document the high rates of disabilities suffered from multiple gestation births from ARTs; over 38 percent of all ART births are of multiples. This figure does not account for the many additional ART pregnancies that began as multiple but were "reduced" before birth. Even "singleton" ART children seem to have higher rates of some rare genetic disorders than

are found among natural births. These facts, coming to light only recently, underscore how ARTs may erode the notion of the family as the very sanctuary of human life.

Many people have difficulty understanding how an industry seemingly dedicated to providing children could run afoul of Catholic Social Teaching about the well being of families. Human beings naturally desire children. A married couple may easily come to think of procreation as a "right." Thousands of fertility services will do everything scientifically possible to produce children for them. But a closer look at the practices and values of the ART industry shows how deeply it contradicts the real goods of the family and of society.

The flawed values and practices in ARTs are less widely known and understood than they should be — especially among couples lured by the promise that the industry can give them "a child of their own." Spiritual strength and reverence for the mystery of God's plan for creation will need to sustain us at times when our merely human reason and strength are not enough to resist this temptation.

*Helen Alvaré is an associate professor of law at The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law in Washington, D.C.*

The full-length version of this article is posted at <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/alvare.pdf>

### Hamer...

FROM PAGE 11

— provide our lives with delectable variation, and, like garlic and hot pepper, they frequently bring interest and pleasure. They always bring enduring memories.

The first time I saw Paris, the sight of the enormous Eiffel Tower was overwhelming, and so far above expectation it seemed as though it were a prop. What if it were simply a backdrop that had been assembled in place during our trans-Atlantic flight, to be discovered only after we debarked the plane and looked — wide-eyed — from a taxi?

What if we had previously been backstage, I mused, behind temporary curtains (nobody gets in to see the Wizard.... not nobody, not no how) until the sights were in place and ready for us to view?

I have no idea what to expect about seeing God. God is spirit. God is love. God is unending. God is all powerful. Eternal.

Preparing your mind to comprehend the mystery of God is like the tourist's pre-conception of the Eiffel Tower or the Grand Canyon. When we see the wonders of the world, however, we realize we have at least been prepared

through textbook images. Even so, seeing their reality is like being dropped from the pages of those books to a place of unimaginable magnitude.

I acknowledge that my own mind may be as innocent as John's was when he climbed out the window of his first-grade classroom, and as that child I am able only to imagine God as a human being. So I surround myself with the knowledge that the personification of God is present. In my moments of fear and doubt, Jesus, my Lord, is standing right there, poised to be my protector, and yes, salvation.

"Here I am standing right beside you," one liturgical song reminds us. "Here I am; do not be afraid. Here I am waiting like a lover — here I am. I am here."

As we go through our lives, the days continue to be full of events for which we had no expectations, or our expectations were wrong. Those events bring excitement and optimism for some of us. My friend Bill says, "I love stability, and stability only comes through change. I can't wait to see what tomorrow brings and how I will have changed by next year."

For some of us, however, life's unexpected happenings bring fear and trepidation. As years advance, we are forced to consider hard-to-imagine

events — change that may not feel like adventure, but instead like tragedy. Illness. Loss of family and friends that is never timely. Ultimately we are forced to consider the magnitude of changes that will take place in our own lives.

But perhaps it is through visualizing changes, those that are fun and fanciful, those that bring stability, and those that are pure tragedy, that we gradually learn to recognize God.

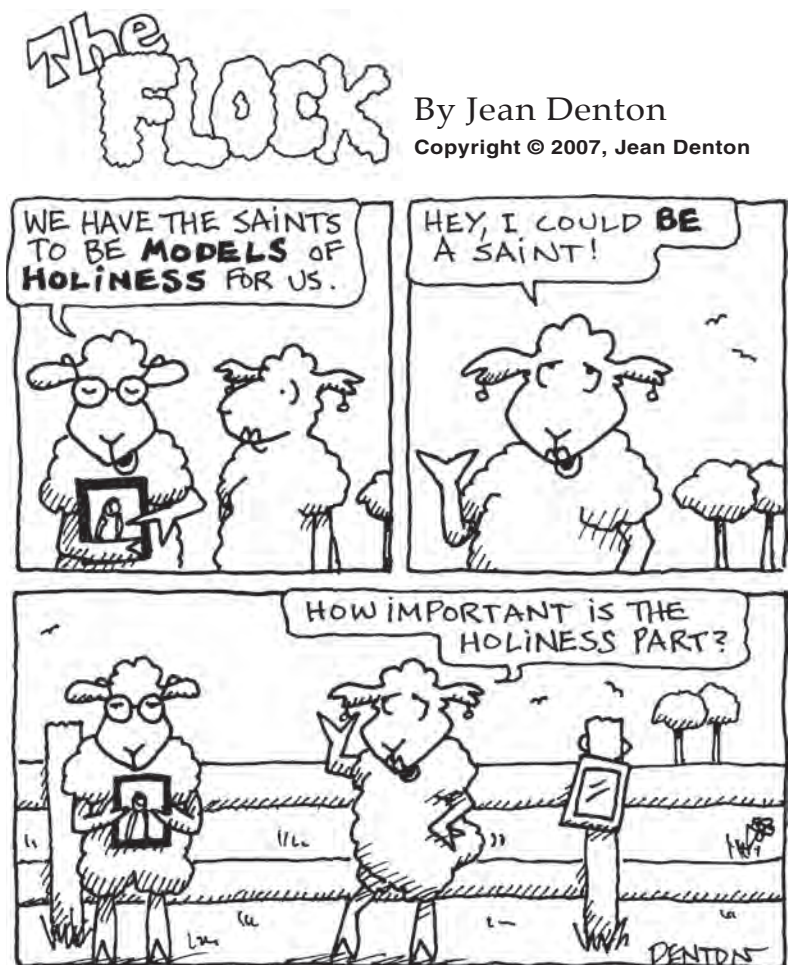
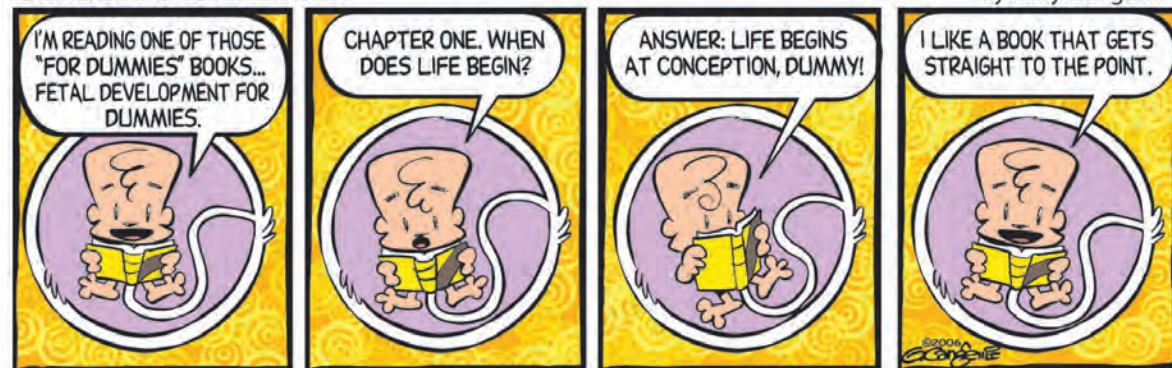
If we walk through life with Jesus beside us, and we know he is there, (waiting like a lover), we can feel safe that all life's changes will be manageable. At the end of our lives, then, we will open our eyes to a scene that is not out of a textbook or out of imagination, but reality. Not a backdrop. Not a prop. And definitely not out of a VCR.

That day, I expect, is when we will know what God looks like.



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

### Umbert the Unborn



# Calendar

## MUENSTER BIBLE STUDY

Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster will host a one-day Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew presented by Father John Robert Skeldon. The liturgical readings for 2008 will include the Gospel of Matthew; this workshop is designed to give participants a greater understanding and appreciation of those readings. The workshop will be held Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Community Center, located at 714 North Main, Muenster. Lunch will be offered during the workshop. A \$6 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch. For more information and to make a reservation, contact Barbara Rohmer, at (940) 759-2511 ext. 16

## CURSILLO ULTREYA

A Cursillo Ultreya is an occasion where Cursillistas (those who have attended a Cursillo) and others who are interested in the Cursillo movement gather together to celebrate Christ. An Ultreya (Spanish for "onward") will be offered in English Nov. 10, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Bartholomew Parish, 3601 Alta Mesa in Fort Worth. For more information, call Pamela Jones at (817) 291-3575.

## UCC RETREAT

The University Catholic Community (UCC) at the University of Texas at Arlington will hold a retreat the weekend of Nov. 3-4. The retreat, to be held at the UCC Campus Ministry building, located at 1010 Benge Dr. in Arlington, will begin at 5 p.m. Saturday and will conclude after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Sunday. The retreat, which will focus on the theme of "Love," will offer time for praise and worship, individual quiet time, music, workshops, and reflections from guest speakers. Retreat participants will also take part in a service project on Sunday. Dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday will be provided. All are asked to bring a bedroll for an overnight stay. To register or for more information, call the UCC at (817) 460-1155 or e-mail to webmaster@utacatholics.org. Online registration is available at www.utacatholics.org.

## WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Women for the Third Millennium will host a "Breakfast With Thomas Hilgers, M.D." Nov. 17 at Cooper Guest Lodge Hotel, Spa, Conference Center — Berkley Room, 12230 Preston, Dallas. Dr. Hilgers, the director of the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and the National Center for Women's Health in Omaha, Nebraska, will speak on "Infertility and Miscarriage: Real Solutions to Real Problems." The cost for the breakfast is \$30 person; \$28 for student (ID required), and \$280 for table of 10. Tickets for religious and consecrated women are free with a reservation. The deadline for reservations is Nov. 12. Checks may be made payable to LCPS and mailed to Helen McCleneghen, 2701 Regatta Dr., Plano 75093. For more information, call Patricia Sherk at (214) 348-6191 or Helen McCleneghen at (972) 612-5978, or e-mail to Helen at mcclenbea@hotmail.com. More information regarding the Women for the Third Millennium may be found online at www.womenthirdmillennium.org.

## RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Rachel's Vineyard of Fort Worth will host a weekend retreat Dec. 7-9 for healing following an abortion. This program helps those who struggle with grief, guilt, and pain following an abortion to find hope and healing. The retreats are open to all who feel the pain of post-abortion trauma. For more information or registration, call the confidential help line at (817) 923-4757, or e-mail to forgiven@racheltx.org.

## ST. AUGUSTINE GROUP

The St. Augustine Men's Purity Group, a ministry for men who struggle with sexual impurity issues on the Internet and other sources, meets regularly in Room 213 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, located at 2016 Willis Lane, Keller, and at 1301 Paxton (Padre Pio House) in Arlington. For additional information, visit the Web site at www.samprg.com, 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 jlocke@fwdioc.org
- **Or call the Sexual Abuse Hotline** (817) 560-2452 ext. 900
- **Or call The Catholic Center** at (817) 560-2452 ext. 107 and ask for the vicar general, Father Michael Olson.

## To Report Abuse

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

## ECUMENICAL SPEAKER

Keith Garvin, a former priest of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, will speak to the semi-annual meeting of the Parish Interfaith and Ecumenical Representatives Nov. 4 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Rita Church, 5550 E. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. Bishop Kevin Vann received Garvin into the Catholic Church in early October, and Garvin is currently serving as family life co-coordinator of the Immaculate Conception Church in Denton. This meeting is open to all interested persons, especially pastors. For more information, contact the parish office at (817) 451-9395.

## MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

A one-day marriage enrichment program, entitled "Today ... Tomorrow ... Forever," will be offered Nov. 10 at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, 600 Davey Drive in Burkburnett, and Nov. 17 at The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South in West Fort Worth. The program, sponsored by the diocesan Family Life Office, will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at each location. Topics to be discussed will include "Living the Sacrament of Marriage," "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, open to all interested married couples who wish to deepen their sense of mutual love and commitment, is also an opportunity for couples seeking to have their marriage validated within the Catholic Church. To register for the Burkburnett session, call Marie King at (940) 569-1222. For more information or to register for the Fort Worth session, 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.

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

• Floors • Walls • Decorative Tiles

### Tile & Grout

• Cleaning • Sealing • Repairs •

Re-grouting/Recalculking of floors, tubs, showers & more

### New Sales & Installation

• Wood • Laminates  
• Carpet • Vinyl • Tile

**(817) 913-5579**

www.adriansflooring.com

## Now Your Parents Can Live At Home

*Their comfort is our first priority.*

Up to 24-hour care.  
Hygiene asst., meals,  
light housework, companionship,  
custom care plans  
*Visiting Angels®*  
www.visitingangels.com/fortworth

**(817) 224-9700**

## SINGLES SILENT RETREAT

A silent retreat for singles will be held at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House, located at 600 N. Shady Shores Road, Lake Dallas. The retreat will begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, and continue through lunch on Sunday, Nov. 18. Father Nathan Stone, SJ, will serve as retreat master for the weekend. Participants in the retreat weekend will be given the opportunity for private prayer and reflection on topics offered by the retreat master. Mass and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation will also be available. The retreat is open to singles of all ages, including those who have been separated, widowed, divorced, or never married. Payment for the retreat is based on a sliding scale, and payment options are available. To make a reservation, call Montserrat at (940) 321-6020, or e-mail to retreat1@airmail.net. More information about Montserrat can be found online at www.montserratretreat.org.

## CATHOLIC RENEWAL RETREAT

"Welcoming Who You Are: An Introduction into the Spirituality Of St. Therese" will be presented by Brother Joseph Schmidt Nov. 9 and 10 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge St., Fort Worth. Br. Schmidt, an international author, teacher, and retreat director, will introduce participants to his new book: *Everything Is Grace: The Life and Way of Therese of Lisieux*. This retreat will provide an opportunity for individuals to explore their lives, especially in difficult experiences, in the context of faith and prayer. The cost for the retreat is \$75, which includes overnight accommodations with breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday. For more information or to make a reservation, call the Renewal Center at (817) 429-2920 Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## DCCW MEETING

The second quarterly meeting of the Central and East Deaneries of the Fort Worth Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will be held Nov. 15 at St. Peter the Apostle Church, 1201 S. Cherry Lane, Fort Worth. Father Jerome Ward, chaplain at the Naval Reserve Air Station at Carswell in Fort Worth, will speak on "Spiritual Life in the Navy." All women of the diocese are invited. The service project for this month will be the Thanksgiving food drive for parish food pantries. Everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable or canned food item for this project. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and breakfast-type refreshments. The meeting will start at 10 a.m., and Mass will be celebrated at noon followed by lunch. The cost of lunch is \$10. Reservations for the meeting may be made by calling Mary del Rio at (817) 838-8120 or Dorothy Lopez at (817) 838-9618. The deadline to register is 5 p.m. Nov. 12. Reservations may be cancelled by noon Nov. 13.

## MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

All married couples are invited to a Marriage Enrichment seminar based on the *The Five Love Languages* by Gary Chapman. José and Marilyn Garcia of Austin, area leaders of World Wide Marriage Encounter, will present the seminar, hosted by the Marriage Encounter ministry of St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Lewisville Dec. 1. The program will be held in the Community Life Center from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., with a catered dinner following at 6 p.m. The seminar fee is \$25 per couple, including the dinner. For anyone wishing to attend only the seminar, there is a \$5 per couple fee for materials. To make a reservation, contact Rick and Roberta Boitnott at rboitnott@sbcglobal.net or (903) 796-8491, or Bill and Carol Louree at blouree@aol.com or (972)-219-7994. The deadline for reservations is Nov. 17. St. Philip the Apostle Church is located at 1897 W. Main Street (at Kirkpatrick) in Lewisville.

## WESTERN EUROPE CRUISE

Deacon Patrick Burke, pastoral administrator of Christ the King Parish, Iowa Park, will host a 13-day Western Europe Cruise aboard the Norwegian Jade July 10-26, visiting London, Normandy, Ireland, Scotland, Amsterdam, and Brussels. Starting price is \$3,199. For a tour brochure, contact Deacon Burke at (940) 691-7893 or e-mail to pjburke47@yahoo.com.

## CHARITY FUNDRAISER

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Parish in Wichita Falls will hold the 11th annual Father Ivor Koch Charity Fundraiser Oct. 27 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.

## ANNUAL TEA / AUCTION

St. Francis of Assisi's Mothers with Young Children Ministry will host its annual Tea and Auction Charity event Nov. 4 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event, to be held at St. Francis of Assisi in the Family Life Center, will feature a silent and live auction, tea sandwiches, refreshments, and desserts. All proceeds from the auction will benefit adopted Christmas families, Outreach, CDC, The Youth Scholarship Fund, and Catholic Charities. Payment for auction items is to be made by cash or check only. For more information, contact Vicky Garza, Kathy McDowell, Valerie Miller, Heather Moran, or Suzie Solmon at myc@stfrancisgrapevine.org. St. Francis Church is located at 861 Wildwood Lane in Grapevine.

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Natural Family Planning is safe, healthy, and effective, according to the Couple to Couple League. Many couples who use NFP find that they grow in love and respect for one another as they learn to appreciate God's design for marriage. The 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 Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at St. Peter the Apostle Church, 1201 S. Cherry Lane, Fort Worth, contact Bill and Mary Kouba at (817) 370-9193.

## VIKING RUN

All are invited to the first annual Viking Run Nov. 3 at Gateway Park in East Fort Worth. The 1-mile timed run/walk will begin at 8 a.m., and the 5Krun/walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a warm-up at 7:30 a.m. Participants may register at www.Vikingrun.com or beginning at 6:45 a.m. on race day. Race packets will be available for pick-up Nov. 1-2 at Luke's Locker, 1540 S. University Dr., Fort Worth, (817) 877-1448. The awards ceremony with refreshments and music will follow the 5K race. All proceeds from the run will benefit Project Graduation, a program that provides an alcohol and drug-free set of celebrations for Nolan's graduating class. For race information, contact Mary Berger at Mary@racetimeproductions.com.

## CSFN DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth will host a Come and See Retreat Day for single Catholic women, ages 16 to 35, who are discerning a vocation to the religious life. The retreat will take place Saturday, Nov. 17, at the sisters' convent, located at 1814 Egyptian Way in Grand Prairie. For more information or to register, call Sister Mary Paul Haase, CSFN, at (972) 642-5191 or e-mail to smpaul@icgrandprairie.org.

## COURAGE SUPPORT GROUP

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

## LAY CARMELITE GATHERING

"Would you like to deepen your relationship with Jesus and Mary?" ask the Third Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel (Lay Carmelites). The Lay Carmelites invite those in search of this deeper relationship to join them on the second and fourth Sundays of the month for a time of prayer and fellowship. Those interested are asked to gather at 1:45 p.m. in the rectory chapel of St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 509 W. Magnolia Avenue in Fort Worth. Formation will take place from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the school building. For more information, call Phyllis Poth at (817) 457-1746.

## OMM FALL FESTIVAL

Our Mother of Mercy Church, located at 1001 East Terrell Avenue in Fort Worth will host its annual fall festival Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Due to the ongoing construction of the new school, the festival will be held at The Bethlehem Community Center (across the street from the church). All are invited to view the new school as well as enjoy all of the games, treats, and barbecue dinners. For more information, call Betty Harris at (817) 429-9492 or the rectory at (817) 335-1695.

## BURKBURNETT FESTIVAL

The 42nd annual St. Jude Church Fall Festival will be held Oct. 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event, which is St. Jude's main fund-raising event of the year, will include a turkey and German sausage dinner with all the trimmings. A drive-through for carry-out dinners and free delivery in Burkburnett will be available by calling (940) 569-1222. In addition to the all-you-can-eat meal, the event will feature home-baked goods for purchase and a silent auction. The ticket price for this event is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages five to 12, and children under five years of age will be admitted free. For more information, contact Hilda McGuire at (940) 569-3399. St. Jude Parish is located at 600 Davey Dr., Burkburnett.

## HARVEST DANCE

The St. George Altar Society Harvest Dance will be held Nov. 3 from 8 p.m. to midnight at the National Hall, 3316 Roberts Cut-off Rd., Fort Worth. Music will be provided by the Czech and Then Some Band. The festivities for the evening will include the "Harvest Fruit Pull" and a cakewalk. The kitchen will be selling Klobase sandwiches, kolache pastries, and nachos. The cost for the event is \$12.50 per person. For more information and reservations, contact Joan at (817) 838-3106, Janet at (817) 232-8844, or Mary at (817) 838-8120.

## SVDP CONCERT

The youth ministry at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 5819 W. Pleasant Ridge Rd., Arlington, will host a concert by nationally known artist Steve Angrisano Nov. 6. at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a free-will donation concert and any proceeds will benefit Arlington Pregnancy Center. Angrisano's unique blend of laughter, song, story, and audience interaction have made him a popular choice for many parishes, according to promotion material. For more information, contact Diane Donahue at (817) 478-8206 ext. 216 or by e-mail to ddonahue@svdppcc.org.

## SEYMOUR POLKA MASS

The Catholic Community of Seymour will celebrate with neighbors Nov. 11 beginning with a special 10 a.m. Sunday Polka Mass at Sacred Heart Church on North Cedar Street in Seymour. Following the Mass, a Czech Olde World dinner with Bohemian sausage, turkey, and kolaches will be served at Sacred Heart Mosler Hall until 1:30 p.m. An auction will begin at 1:30 p.m. A country store of baked goods and crafts will also be a highlight of the event. Sacred Heart Church is located two-and-one-half hours from the Fort Worth area into the country going 199 west to Jacksboro and then 114 west to Seymour.

## Classified Section

### HOME CAREGIVERS

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

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

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

## Good Newsmaker

Mercy Sister Suzanne Toolan tells how a student's appreciation rescued

# 'I Am the Bread of Life'

from the trash can

By Mark Pattison  
Catholic News Service  
Washington

**A**n unsolicited comment from a high school girl kept one of the most popular hymns of the Second Vatican Council era, "I Am the Bread of Life," from meeting an untimely fate.

Mercy Sister Suzanne Toolan, who composed the song, said she had been asked to write a song for an event in the Archdiocese of San Francisco — possibly a eucharistic event, she recalled — and was writing on deadline.

At the Catholic girls' high school in California where she was teaching in 1966, Sister Suzanne used an unoccupied room next to the school infirmary to finish what became "I Am the Bread of Life."

"I worked on it, and I tore it up. I thought, 'This will not do,'" she told Catholic News Service in an Oct. 16 telephone interview from her order's convent in Burlingame, California. "And this little girl came out of the infirmary and said, 'What was that? That was beautiful!' I went right back and Scotch-taped it up."

The rest, as they say, is history. But history takes time.

Sr. Suzanne said the song was "not particularly well received" in San Francisco, but she credited "a very gifted Sulpician" named Father John Olivier at a seminary near the Burlingame convent with helping get the word out about her songs.

"He would come to our convent on Saturdays, so we'd have a decent homily every week," she said. "He began to hear some of my things, and he took it back to the seminary. And that's how I think most of my things got out."

"I Am the Bread of Life" is not only in all manner of Catholic hymnals, but also is in the official hymnbooks of the Episcopal, Lutheran, and Method-



Cover of the new book *I Am the Bread of Life*, by Mercy Sister Suzanne Toolan with Elizabeth Dossa. (CNS)

ist churches. "People keep giving me copies of it when they go to Europe or Asia, even," Sr. Suzanne said. "It's in different languages. It's thrilling."

She alluded to "the problem some critics have allowing the congregation to sing words that Jesus has spoken."

She left the phone to scurry to find a copy of a column from one of those

critics, Catholic press columnist George Weigel. "Weigel calls it 'that — I can't even pronounce it! — hymn,'" she said, spelling the word "ubiquitous."

"My answer is: Do we really think we're saying 'I am the bread of life' and that 'I' is the assembly? I don't see why we can't use that as a prayer," she said.

Mercy Sister Suzanne Toolan, who is pictured in an undated photo, composed "I Am the Bread of Life," one of the most popular hymns from the Second Vatican Council era. (CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF SISTERS OF MERCY)

Sr. Suzanne sees another problem inherent in the hymn, though: "It's a hymn that really shouldn't work for the congregation. It's too low. It's too high. I often ask myself: Why does it work so well, then? I think it's the Scripture. The Scripture is so strong."

She took it upon herself to make the lyrics more inclusive, including changing the original "I will raise him up" in the chorus to "I will raise you up."

"I did that a long time ago, but other people have done it, too," she said. "As soon as that awareness [about inclusive language] came in, I couldn't live with it [the original] anymore."

Sr. Suzanne, who celebrated her 80th birthday Oct. 24, is not only a liturgical music composer, but now an author as well, getting credit as a co-author with Elizabeth Dossa, communications officer for the Mercy Sisters in Burlingame, for a book titled *I Am the Bread of Life*.

"I have a hard time with ... being the subject of it," Sr. Suzanne said, adding that when Dossa first sat her down to interview her on her life and ministry, she thought it was for some other purpose. "It's kind of dumb of me, but I didn't know I was writing a book," she said.

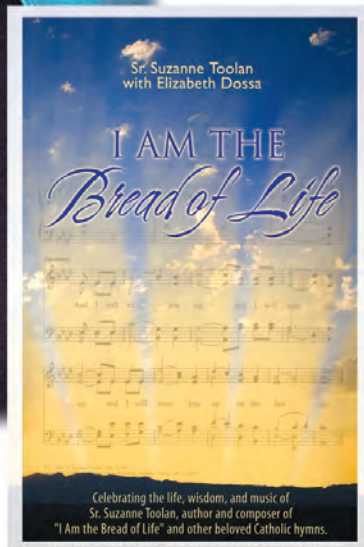
Dossa came back to Sr. Suzanne the next week, "so I thought she was looking for some more quotes," she added. "Finally dodo," she said, referring to herself, "realizes what's going on."

Sr. Suzanne called Dossa "a lovely, a gorgeous person and a very fine writer."

Born Gloria Toolan in Lansing, Michigan, she took her sister Suzanne's name when she entered religious life 57 years ago, because "I hate" Gloria, she noted.

Sr. Suzanne said she holds a unique record among Sisters of Mercy. "I'm the only one in the community who's always stayed here in the mother-house," she said. "It's a beautiful, wonderful property. When they made the [assignment] changes, I'd always hide."

Her call to religious life, she said, "came pretty early on, even in first grade. We had this kind of strange but wonderful nun" — a Mercy sister — "who used to play the organ," she recalled. "I thought, 'Gee, I want to be a nun, and I want to be an organist.'"



## Inside... This issue of the NTC

When A&M's new Catholic dormitory was dedicated in honor of Msgr. John Gleissner, a number of his relatives, some from Muenster, were on hand to recall his accomplishments. **7**

Youth from Arlington, Grapevine, Colleyville, and Fort Worth were among those traveling in mission to Honduras this past summer — and being transformed in the process. **14-15**

Ministry Formation Day in Wichita Falls Oct. 6 brought together more than 150 participants and presenters for spiritual enrichment, fellowship, and professional development. **16**

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