

Dinner and fellowship for World Day of the Poor

St. Peter parish in Jefferson City marked a worldwide observance by opening its fellowship hall to the community for a meal and opportunities for encounter.

Page 7



Bethlehem in Moberly . . . Page 2
Archbishop Sheen. Page 3
Dominican priests Page 5
Reconciliation services . . . Page 6
Celebrating rural life. . . Page 10
MCC Messenger . . . Middle Pages

The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

November 29, 2019 • Vol. 63 No. 11

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Bishop urges students to invest their talents



Promotes hard work, attention to vocations during visit to St. Martin School

By Jay Nies

“For 65 minutes, the bishop belonged just to us.”

Principal Julie Clingman of St. Martin School in St. Martins spoke of Bishop W. Shawn McKnight’s Nov. 20 in-person response to an invitation from students.

“He put everything else on hold because 32 third-graders asked him to come and celebrate Mass,” she said. “I love that!”

He presided at the Liturgy for the students and faculty in St. Martin Church and then accompanied four third-graders on a tour of the school.

“We invited him because we wanted to celebrate with Jesus, the bishop and all the priests here today,” said Clara Haslag.

“We really wanted to see him,” said third-grader Olivia Kauffman. “Some of us never got to see him before. I only saw him on the news.”

Bishop McKnight called it a blessing and a privilege to be with the students and urged them to honor God by making the most of the unique gifts He has given them.

“You see, God has invested in each one of us,” said the bishop. “From your baptism forward, you were given gifts of the Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is the love of God Himself.

“And with the gifts of the Spirit come all sorts of charisms, qualities and talents,” said Bishop McKnight.

See INVEST, page 19

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight calls on a student while taking a tour of St. Martin School in St. Martins on Nov. 20. The school’s third-graders wrote to him, inviting him to offer Mass in church and visit them in school.

— Photo by Jay Nies

Sr. Kathleen Wegman SSND retires from diocesan post, receives papal honor

By Jay Nies

A wise mentor once “schooled” Sister Kathleen Wegman SSND on accepting gifts and giving gratitude.

“God’s Kingdom is not about earning and deserving,” the fellow School Sister of Notre Dame told her. “It’s about believing and receiving.”

That’s the spirit with which Sr. Kathleen retired from 50 years of full-time ministry, including the past 12 years in leadership roles in her home Diocese of Jefferson City.

“I’m deeply grateful for the many ways I have experienced God with and through the people of this place,” she stated.

Sr. Kathleen found particular satisfaction in helping parishes throughout the diocese embrace the Second Vatican Council’s ideal for collaborative ministry.

“But I’ve become keenly aware that I don’t have the energy

I once had, and it is time to move on,” she said.

She plans on resting up and recharging for a while before embarking on a less-consuming ministry in another diocese.

“You can retire from active ministry but you don’t retire from your vocation,” she said. “I’m a baptized Catholic and I will continue living out my baptismal call as a School Sister of Notre Dame wherever I am.”

“Service to the people”

Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos, who led the diocese from 1997 to 2018, invited Sr. Kathleen to return to the place of her upbringing in 2007 to serve as chancellor.

After prayerful discernment and with the approval of her

See SR. KATHLEEN., page 21

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11/29/19

Saturday Vigil Mass in St. James

Immaculate Conception parish in St. James now offers a Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Mass is also offered there at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Pray for deceased priests

Dec. 7 — **Fr. Stephen L. Lamping**, Church of the Resurrection, Wellsville (1995)

Dec. 9 — **Fr. Thomas L. Waickman**, St. Joseph, Louisiana; and Mary Queen of Peace, Clarksville (2010)

Dec. 13 — **Fr. Edwin J. Cole**, St. Patrick, Laurie (2009)

Dec. 14 — **Fr. Joseph W. Starmann**, Our Lady of the Snows, Mary's Home (2011)

Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry

A four-parish cluster (St. Mary's, West Point; St. Boniface, Farmington; St. James, St. Paul; and St. John, Houghton) in the southeast corner of the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa is seeking a Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry.

The objective of the Coordinator is to develop a relationship with families and youth, in order to provide them with a variety of resources and experiences so they may grow as Disciples of Christ, deepen their faith and fully participate in the life and work of the Catholic community.

This will be accomplished through a combination of parish, deanery, diocesan and national events and resources, including catechesis, service work and other faith opportunities. This position will report to the Parish Pastor(s).

Responsibilities and Duties

- Create, organize, teach and lead a variety of events to best serve our parish youth and families.
- Create monthly reports to the HTC school board and the 4 parish councils in regard to activities and events.
- Collect feedback from families to find the areas of need and access the parish's success in providing the necessary resources.

Qualifications & Skills

- Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing.
- Must demonstrate the understanding of, and support for, the Catholic Church's teachings, mission and values.
- Some ministry formation or catechetical training desired.
- Previous experience in youth ministry, family ministry or faith formation preferred.
- Must be able to communicate effectively with parishioners, staff and the Diocese through social media and other technology. Knowledge of Gmail and Google Calendar helpful.

Questions regarding this position can be directed to Rebecca Hannum at 319-837-6808.

To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to westpointstmarypa@diodav.org.

Seeking Christ for Our Nation

The next "Seeking Christ for our Nation" Masses will be celebrated on **Tuesday, December 3**, at 6:30 p.m. in St. George Church in Linn; and on **Tuesday, December 17**, at 6 p.m. in Our Lady of the Snows Church in Mary's Home.

"Journey to Bethlehem" in Moberly

DATE: December 13-14

TIME: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

St. Pius X parish in Moberly will stage a "Journey to Bethlehem" event on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 13 and 14, on the playground of St. Pius X School, 210 S. Williams St.

It will be open from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Visitors will travel in small groups by candlelight with shepherds through an outdoor replica of first-century Bethlehem in search of the newborn Savior.

They will retrace the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register in the census called for by the Roman emperor.

Participants will "experience the signs, sounds and smells of that first Christmas."

They will meet townspeople, innkeepers, soldiers, pilgrims, merchants, census takers, a carpenter, a tax collector, a rabbi, other shepherds, three wise men and angels *en route* to the birthplace of the King of Kings.

The story comes straight from Scripture, from the Annunciation to the birth of Christ.

Elaborate scenery will give

The Catholic Missourian

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— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
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Advent Vespers Sundays in Jefferson City

DATE: Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22

TIME: 6 pm

St. Peter parish in Jefferson City will hold Vespers (Evening Prayer) on each Sunday

evening in Advent.

It will held at 6 p.m. on Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22 in St. Peter Church, 216 E. Broadway, near the State Capitol.

It will include singing, Psalms and Scripture.

visitors the sense that they really have arrived in Palestine at the time of Christ's birth.

There will be 200 candles and a dozen kettles filled with burning firewood, and many, many people.

Real farm animals will share the spotlight.

Afterward, participants will gather in the gym for hot cocoa, cookies and performance of Christmas music by the parish's Joshua 24:15 contemporary worship ensemble.

There is no charge for the event, but donations of

canned goods and other non-perishable items are greatly appreciated and will benefit the Christos Center community outreach to people in need.

Monetary donations will be accepted to benefit the St Vincent de Paul Food Basket Program.

The entrance will be through the school gym on Williams Street.

Warm clothing is recommended, depending on the weather, because most of the journey takes place outdoors and may last about 20 minutes.

Immaculate Conception feastday moved to Dec. 9

Dec. 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on a Sunday this year.

The observance of the solemnity will be transferred to Monday, Dec. 9.

Although it will not be a holy day of obligation in the United States this year, the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass if possible and thank God for preserving the mother of Christ from the stain of Original Sin from the moment of her conception.

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

St. Peter parish in Marshall, Mo. has the following kitchen items for sale: Like new, Vollrath 4-well **cold food station**, model 38718, 60"l x 49"d x 35"h, \$1,950 OBO; 20-pan end-load nesting **sheet pan rack**, 6' tall, \$75 OBO. If interested, please call Jerry Hitt at 660-886-8400.

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Archbishop Sheen will be beatified Dec. 21 at Peoria's cathedral

Catholic News Service

Peoria, Illinois

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen will be beatified Dec. 21, Bishop Daniel R. Jenky of Peoria, Ill., announced late Nov. 18.

He said the Vatican had just notified him of the beatification and he was announcing the news "with great joy and thanksgiving."

Plans for the beatification are already underway, the bishop said. The ceremony will be at 10 a.m. local time at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria.

"This is the same cathedral where (Archbishop) Sheen was ordained a priest 100 years ago on Sept. 20, 1919," said a Peoria diocesan news release. "It seems entirely fitting that the beatification will take place at the end of this 100-year anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood."

The cathedral also is the current resting place for the archbishop, who is entombed in a marble vault next to the altar



where he was ordained.

The diocese planned to release more information about the beatification over the next few days. News about the beatification and the life of Archbishop Sheen can be found at www.celebratesheen.com.

In July, Bishop Jenky announced Pope Francis had ap-

proved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Archbishop Sheen, leading the way to his beatification.

The miracle concerns the healing of James Fulton Engstrom of Washington, Illinois, who was considered stillborn when he was delivered during a planned home birth Sept. 16, 2010. His parents, Bonnie and Travis Engstrom, immediately invoked the prayers of Archbishop Sheen and encouraged others to seek his intercession after the baby was taken to OSF HealthCare St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria for emergency treatment.

Just as doctors were preparing to declare that he was dead, James Fulton's tiny heart started to beat at a normal rate for a healthy newborn. He had been without a pulse for 61 minutes.

Despite dire prognoses for his future, including that he would probably be blind and never walk, talk or be able to feed himself, the child has thrived. Now a healthy 8-year-old, he likes chicken nuggets, "Star Wars" and riding his bicycle.

U.S. Archbishop Fulton Sheen is pictured in an undated file photo. Bishop Daniel R. Jenky of Peoria, Ill., announced June 27, 2019, that the remains of Archbishop Sheen, a candidate for sainthood, were being transferred from New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral to the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria.

— CNS photo/courtesy Pontifical Mission Societies

The decree of the miracle came about a week after Archbishop Sheen's remains were transferred from New York to Peoria's cathedral.

"It is truly amazing how God continues to work miracles," Bishop Jenky said in the statement about the papal decree on the miracle.

Archbishop Sheen had been

placed in a crypt below the main altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York after his death Dec. 9, 1979.

After protracted legal proceedings, his remains were brought to Peoria June 27 at the request of his niece, Joan Sheen Cunningham, and now rest in a new marble tomb in the Peoria cathedral.



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

DECEMBER

Dec. 2	Capital Region Medical Center Board of Governors Annual Meeting and Dinner, 5:30 pm, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City
Dec. 4	Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri Board of Directors Meeting, noon, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
Dec. 7	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, 10 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
Dec. 8	Visit to Moberly Correctional Center Protective Custody Unit and General Population followed by Mass and Sacrament of Confirmation, 8:15 am, Moberly
Dec. 9	Heliast Catholic Music Department Christmas Concert, 7 pm, Miller Performing Arts Center, Jefferson City
Dec. 10	Meeting of Deans of Diocese of Jefferson City, 11 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City; Presbyteral Council Meeting, 1 pm, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
Dec. 11	Pastoral Planning Task Force Training, 9 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
Dec. 12-16	Retreat Master for Diaconate Retreat, Diocese of Honolulu
Dec. 20	Bishop's Advent Luncheon with Diocesan Staff, noon, Catholic Center, Jefferson City; St. Andrew Dinner with Prospective Seminarians, 5 pm, Bishop's Residence, Jefferson City
Dec. 21	Christmas Mass and Luncheon with Hispanic Ministry Leaders, 11 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City

Bishop McKnight's December prayer intention for our Local Church

As we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Family, may our Churches and schools support parents in the raising of their children in the faith.

Intención del mes de diciembre del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Al celebrar el misterio de la Sagrada Familia, que nuestras Iglesias y escuelas puedan apoyar a los padres y madres de familia en la tarea de criar a sus hijos e hijas en la fe.



Please be so kind as to make this a part of your group and private prayer.

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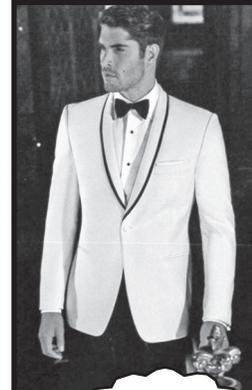
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Catholic

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Priestly invitations to put stewardship into action

Every Catholic in the Diocese of Jefferson City has been asked to support the annual Catholic Stewardship Appeal (CSA).

Pastors are encouraging this support as they talk about stewardship, responsibility, and the work of the diocese.

Here's what a few of those pastors are saying:

Sisters and Brothers ... we are better together. Bishop McKnight often says this and I agree



wholeheartedly! I wonder if the parish members have any idea how many times a day I (or the members of our staff) call the Chancery in Jefferson City for a myriad of reasons. I simply could not be your pastor if it were not for the tremendous support, resource and service the diocese provides to us. We could not have our parish school without their constant support, guidance and instruction. The list goes on and on.

**Fr. Matthew Flatley —
Vienna, Brinktown, Arygle
and Koeltztown**

To belong to God, says Paul, is to be "competent, equipped for every good work." God, who in His infinite wisdom created us for himself and for glory, has a plan. He invites each one of us to take up a unique and special role in that plan. When we answer "yes" to that invitation, we commit to sharing in the ministry of Christ's sav-

ing gospel. Our "yes" response is a commitment to go beyond ourselves; an acknowledgement that in the light of all I have received from God, I cannot simply be a spectator; I can, and I do have something to give.

Stewardship challenges us to recognize that God counts on us for the successful accomplishment of His great plan. In other words, without you, a part of God's plan simply withers; for there will never be another you. Our unique role in the ongoing work of salvation is not transferable. Christ, Who gave Himself for us, desires that we, in turn, "spend" ourselves for another for the sake of the Kingdom.

**Fr. Joseph Abah —
Fulton and Mokane**

In one way or another, our parish is in contact with the diocese at least three times in a week. The Vocation Office continues to seek candidates for Priesthood and religious life as well as support our nine seminarians in four different seminaries. The Youth Office provides training for our youth ministers and organizes the very successful and



youth from our parishes will travel with 475 youth from our diocese to be with 25,000 Catholic youth from across the USA.

We have used the assistance of the Finance Office frequently, and especially this year, as we are refining our parish accounting procedures. Sr. Sue and Mrs. Albus are often working with the Diocesan School Office. Deacon Mike Long's ongoing training and retreats are sponsored by the Office for the Diaconate. Our diocese is one of only two dioceses in the country that the Office of the Tribunal does not charge to

process an annulment.

**Fr. Gregory Oligschlaeger —
Monroe City and Indian
Creek**

Even today, we live in a world where our fear of scarcity of resources constantly haunts us. We are afraid to give because we are afraid to run out. If in the land of plenty and such wealth, we still experience this fear, imag-



ine how hard it was for Jesus' disciples—who lived with the constant fear of starvation, disease and violence with few resources to protect them—to trust in His word.

Jesus says to us, "Do not fear. Just go out and sow the seed. Sure, there will be rocks and droughts and weeds and people trampling the field under foot. But that one seed that makes it, the one seed that dies so that it might have new life, that becomes the great harvest to feed the multitude!"

**Msgr. Marion Makarewicz —
Lake Ozark**

Archbishop invites Church to join a year of service to pregnant women

By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

Baltimore

Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann sees the day that Catholic parishes can be one of the first places a woman facing an unexpected or challenging pregnancy can turn to for assistance rather than think of seeking an abortion.

To that end, the archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas, who is chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, invited his fellow bishops to devote a year of service to pregnant women starting in March.

In a presentation the first day of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' fall general assembly, the archbishop said Nov. 11 parishes could offer a variety of support services to women who may be thinking about whether to carry their child to term.

"Women facing challenging pregnancies should see the Church as a place where they can find help, especially with our myriad of social services and organizations dedicated to meeting the needs of people in crisis," he said.

"The challenges can be immense for women in difficult pregnancies, especially women in poverty," he said.

The archbishop cited statistics from abortion providers in 2014 that showed that 75 percent of women who chose abortion were poor, 60 percent were in their 20s and 86 percent were unmarried.

The year would begin March 25, 2020, the



**Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of
Kansas City, Kan., chairman of the
U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life
Activities, speaks during the fall
general assembly of the U.S. Conference
of Catholic Bishops in Baltimore Nov.
11, 2019.**

— CNS photo/Bob Roller

25th anniversary of St. John Paul II's encyclical "*Evangelium Vitae*" ("The Gospel of Life"). He called the year "Walking With Moms in Need: A Year of Service."

"The 25th anniversary year of '*Evangelium Vitae*' gives us a wonderful opportunity to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need," Archbishop Naumann told the as-

sembly.

The outreach would focus on women "at the peripheries, both outside our parishes, as well as inside our parishes," the archbishop explained.

"Pope Francis has repeatedly challenged us to go to the margins and bring hope and help to those in need. It's what Catholics do. It's what Jesus expects of us," he told the assembly.

During discussion of the plan, Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of Yakima, Washington, explained how the three dioceses of Washington state — his diocese, the Spokane diocese and the Seattle archdiocese — are now in the fifth year of a program of outreach to pregnant women, offering services so that abortion is prevented.

He said the effort has involved more than half the parishes in the state and that the

See WOMEN, page 23

"As each one has
received a gift, use it to
SERVE ONE ANOTHER
as good stewards."

1 PETER 4:10



DIocese of
Jefferson City

Dominican priests to be reassigned from Columbia in 2020

By Jay Nies

The leadership of the Dominican Province of St. Albert the Great has announced that the priests at St. Thomas More Newman Center will be reassigned to ministries outside the Jefferson City diocese in 2020.

Dominican Father Joachim Culotta O.P. will move to St. Pius Priory in Chicago on Jan. 13.

Dominican Fathers Richard Litzau O.P. and Michael Ford O.P., who are pastor and associate pastor of the parish, will depart for new assignments yet to be determined on July 1.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight will appoint diocesan priests to succeed them.

"For 14 years, we have been blessed by the ministry of the Order of Preachers — the Dominicans — in our diocese, specifically at the St. Thomas More Newman Center in Columbia," said Bishop McKnight in a Nov. 17 statement.

"We are grateful for their presence and their service," he stated. "Please keep the Columbia Newman Center clergy, staff and people in your prayers as they prepare to transition to a new beginning."

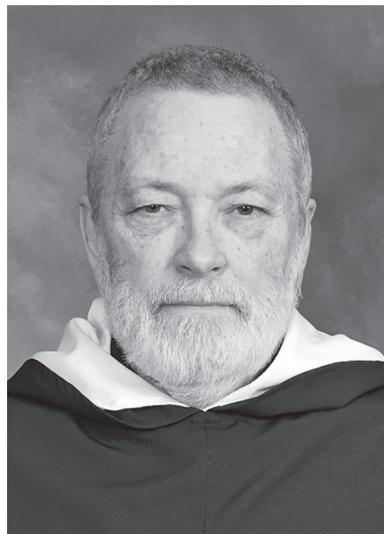
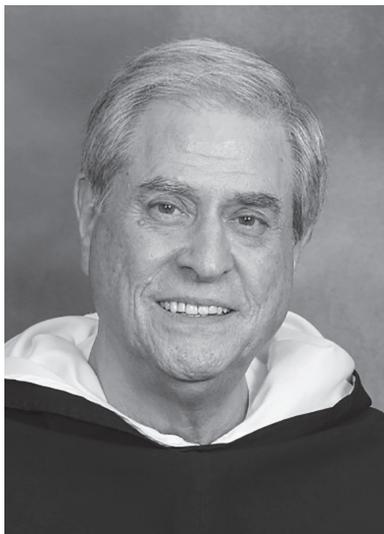
Dominican Father James V. Marchionda, prior provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Albert the Great, said the decision is the result of an intensive planning process the province undertook over the past two years.

He said a key priority that emerged from the process was a clearly expressed desire for larger Dominican communities, "where the friars could engage in a more robust common life while attending to the demands of their ministries."

"Friar" is Latin for brother, a common term for members of the Dominicans.

Since its founding, the Dominican Community of St. Raymond of Penafort in Columbia has seen fluctuations in its number of priests and religious brothers before reaching its current size of three members.

"To date, we have not been able to grow our ministries in Columbia to achieve this larger community model with the potential for a more robust



Father Joachim Culotta O.P., Father Richard Litzau O.P. and Father Michael Ford O.P., who are the members of the Dominican Community of St. Raymond of Penafort at St. Thomas More Newman Center in Columbia, will be reassigned to ministries outside the Jefferson City diocese in 2020, according to a decree from their provincial prior in Chicago.

common life," Fr. Marchionda said in a statement.

"Although this ministry has been rich and the province wishes to continue serving young adults, we have chosen to do so where cities can accommodate larger communities," he said.

"It is with true sadness we make the choice to move on to what our planning process has outlined for our future," he stated.

Shared vision

Dominicans traditionally wear white habits but have been referred to as the "Black Friars" because of the black *cappa* (cape) they wear on formal occasions.

Fr. Litzau wore his when he announced the Dominicans' upcoming departure at all Masses in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel on Nov. 17.

"A couple of people said they knew I was serious when they saw it," he said.

He noted that an important part of being a Dominican is holy obedience to authority.

"I like it here, so I'm sad about it," he said. "But I take my vow of obedience very seriously."

He believes the people and the Dominicans who have ministered in Columbia have benefited from each other.

"Since I became pastor in 2014, my goal for the Newman Center has been for us to make it a force to be reckoned with on campus and in the community," he said. "I think

we've done that."

He attributes Newman's success to the support of a strong staff and of a community that bought into the vision and said, "we want that, too."

"And hopefully, that won't ever go away," he said.

He noted that the Dominicans are formally known as the Order of Preachers for good reason.

He hopes he and the other Dominicans who have ministered in the diocese have helped people grow in their appreciation for fine preaching.

"We also want to leave behind a sense of what community looks like — not only as Dominican brothers but also the community at large," he said.

Like family

Headquartered in Chicago, the Province of St. Albert the Great is one of four Dominican provinces in the United States.

They are part of a worldwide order established by St. Dominic in 1216 to promote preaching the truth in order to combat destructive heresy.

Unlike diocesan priests, whose first commitment is to God through their parishioners and their bishop, the Dominican priests' first commitment is to God through their order.

Living in communities much like families, Dominicans take an emphatic vow of obedience. From that vow and the rule of St. Augustine and the Constitutions of the Dominican Order, flow the as-

ish.

"All I've ever wanted to be is a pastor," he said.

He noted that pastors are sent to parishes to serve as shepherds and stewards.

"Whoever arrives to minister after us is going to put their own stamp on the parish over time," he told parishioners at Mass. "But the reality is that no matter who comes, it's still your community. So, continue to be a community that's focused on Christ and on being of service to others."

He believes God is fast at work, bringing His plan to fruition in Columbia and throughout the world.

"Because for every bad thing we hear about, there are hundreds of good things going on that are holy and compassionate," he said.

"Deep affection"

Fr. Marchionda said the Dominicans are grateful for the trust given to them by Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos, who welcomed them to the diocese in 2006, and for the ongoing support of Bishop McKnight.

"I must assure you that friars who have served at St. Thomas More Newman Center parish have shared with me their deep affection for its students and parishioners, as well as the

See DOMINICANS, page 8



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Communal reconciliation services for Advent

Advent is a good time for an examination of conscience and to receive the sacrament of reconciliation in preparation for the celebration of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. Here is a partial list of Advent communal reconciliation services in the Jefferson City diocese. Any additional listings will be posted online at cathmo.com. Most services will include a short prayer service followed by individual confessions. Extra priests from neighboring parishes are typically present to help out. **All services begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise stated.**

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Bonnets Mill — Thursday, Dec. 5, St. Louis of France Church | Kirksville — Monday, Dec. 2, Kirksville Newman Center | Russellville — Wednesday, Dec. 11, St. Michael Church |
| Boonville — Thursday, Dec. 12, Ss. Peter & Paul Church | Lake Ozark — Wednesday, Dec. 4, Our Lady of the Lake Church | St. Anthony — Thursday, Dec. 5, St. Anthony of Padua Church |
| Brookfield — Sunday, Dec. 15, Immaculate Conception Church | Laurie — Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m., St. Patrick Church | St. Clement — Tuesday, Dec. 10, St. Clement Church |
| Brunswick — Tuesday, Dec. 17, St. Boniface Church | Linn — Wednesday, Dec. 18, St. George Church | St. Elizabeth — Sunday, Dec. 22, 4 p.m. St. Lawrence Church |
| California — Wednesday, Dec. 18, Annunciation Church | Loose Creek — Wednesday, Dec. 11, Immaculate Conception Church | St. James — Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church |
| Canton — Thursday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m., St. Joseph Church | Macon — Wednesday, Dec. 11, Immaculate Conception Church | St. Martins — Tuesday, Dec. 10, St. Martin Church |
| Columbia — Monday, Dec. 2, Our Lady of Lourdes Church; Thursday, Dec. 5, St. Thomas More Newman Center | Marceline — Monday, Dec. 16, St. Bonaventure Church | St. Robert — Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 p.m., St. Robert Bellarmine Church |
| Cuba — Wednesday, Dec. 18, Holy Cross Church | Marshall — Wednesday, Dec. 11, St. Peter Church | St. Thomas — Tuesday, Dec. 17, St. Thomas the Apostle Church |
| Edina — Tuesday, Dec. 10, St. Joseph Church | Martinsburg — Thursday, Dec. 19, St. Joseph Church | Salisbury — Sunday, Dec. 1, St. Joseph Church |
| Eldon — Thursday, Dec. 19, Sacred Heart Church | Mary's Home — Wednesday, Dec. 18, Our Lady of the Snows Church | Sedalia — Sunday, Dec. 15, 4 p.m., St. Patrick Chapel |
| Ewing — Thursday, Dec. 19, 6 p.m., Queen of Peace Church | Meta — Thursday, Dec. 19, St. Cecilia Church | Shelbina — Tuesday, Dec. 17, St. Mary Church |
| Fayette — Tuesday, Dec. 3, St. Joseph Church | Mexico — Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m., St. Brendan Church | Taos — Monday, Dec. 9, St. Francis Xavier Church |
| Frankenstein — Thursday, Dec. 12, Our Lady Help of Christians Church | Moberly — Wednesday, Dec. 18, St. Pius X Church | Tipton — Tuesday, Dec. 10, St. Andrew Church |
| Fulton — Wednesday, Dec. 4, St. Peter Church | Monroe City — Wednesday, Dec. 18, Holy Rosary Church | Vienna — Tuesday, Dec. 10, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church |
| Hannibal — Monday, Dec. 16, Holy Family Church | Montgomery City — Tuesday, Dec. 10, Immaculate Conception Church | Wardsville — Sunday, Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m., St. Stanislaus Church |
| Hermann — Thursday, Dec. 12, St. George Church | Osage Bend — Wednesday, Dec. 4, St. Margaret of Antioch Church | Warsaw — Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 p.m., St. Ann Church |
| Jefferson City — Tuesday, Dec. 17, Immaculate Conception Church; Wednesday, Dec. 18, St. Peter Church; Thursday, Dec. 19, Cathedral of St. Joseph | Owensville — Wednesday, Dec. 4, Immaculate Conception Church | Westphalia — Tuesday, Dec. 10, St. Joseph School Gym |
| Jonesburg — Sunday, Dec. 15, 6:30 a.m., St. Patrick Church | Palmyra — Friday, Dec. 20, St. Joseph Church | Wien — Thursday, Dec. 19, St. Mary of the Angels Church |
| Kahoka — Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m., St. Michael Church | Rich Fountain — Wednesday, Dec. 4, Sacred Heart Church | |
| | Rolla — Tuesday, Dec. 3, St. Patrick Church | |

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Advent discussion groups in parishes on "Joy of the Gospel"

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight is encouraging Catholics throughout the diocese to participate in a small-group faith study program for Advent, known as "A Steward's Way."

The four-session series includes materials provided by the diocese to facilitate discussions about "The Joy of the Gospel," Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation on the New Evangelization.

Bishop McKnight wants this to be part of the discernment process for a new pastoral plan for the diocese.

People who are already taking part in faith-sharing groups in their parish are encouraged to devote their sessions during Advent to "A Steward's Way."

People who aren't already in a small group are encouraged to contact their parish office to start a group

or join one that's being formed.

Virtual small-group sessions will also be offered in a closed Facebook group for people whose schedules don't allow them to attend the sessions in person.

Additional materials will be shared over the diocese's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds.

Visit www.diojeffcity.org/advent-2019 for information.

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Jefferson City parish observes World Day of the Poor by offering community meal, fellowship event

By Jay Nies

Having grown up in a large Italian American family, Father Charlie Pardee would speak of massive meals prepared with love and a great deal of hard work and sacrifice.

Kind of like the Last Supper, where Jesus bowed down and washed His disciples' feet.

"It's not just about the eating," Fr. Pardee, now deceased, once preached. "It's about the serving and the sacrifice."

That's why he vigorously promoted celebrating World Day of the Poor with a community meal

while he was pastor of St. Peter parish in Jefferson City.

Pope Francis in 2017 called for World Day of the Poor to be observed each year on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

The Pope visualized Christian communities seizing the occasion to "make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance."

"And so," Fr. Pardee wrote in response, "our parish will celebrate this day, celebrate the Gospel, celebrate evangelism — by reaching out to the poor and eating with them and letting them evangelize us, too."

He instructed the parish's conference of the St. Vincent de Paul society to organize the meal and spread the word throughout the city to places where people in need can often be found.

He asked parishioners to prepare side dishes to go with the main course.

Most importantly, he urged everyone to join their guests at the table, listen to their stories and recognize that Christ was there at the table with them.

The parish's World Day of the Poor tradition has continued, growing from about 120 people that first year to over 200 in this, the third.

The Nov. 18 gathering took place in the parish's recently



LEFT: St. Peter parishioners Jack Kramer (on stage), Chuck Rapp and Diane Struempf call off a winning number for a door prize during the parish's third annual World Day of the Poor community dinner in Jefferson City. **RIGHT:** Tables of givaway items for the guests line the walls of St. Peter parish's Selinger Centre during the event.

renovated Selinger Center gym.

To the end of the line

Around 30 people volunteered to help set up, serve the meal and clean up afterward.

About 15 women worked in the kitchen, keeping the side dishes heated and ready to serve.

Members of Knights of Columbus Fr. Helias Council 1054 prepared the pulled-pork entrée, which was provided by the parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society conference.

People started arriving well ahead of the 1 p.m. social hour.

Tables were filled with attendance prizes and gifts for the guests.

There were backpacks and school supplies, first-aid kits, new pairs of gloves and socks, prayer cards and rosaries.

Students at St. Peter Interparish School hand-made the placemats and stuffed "blessing bags" of personal-care items to give away.

Local restaurants and Huber & Associates donated gift cards to be raffled as door prizes.

"We kept drawing throughout the day," said parishioner Diane Struempf, co-chair of the event's organizing committee. "People were excited when they won."

Volunteers administered free flu shots and blood-pressure checks.

The Trolley Co. in Jefferson City donated the use of its trolley-shaped shuttle bus. Parishioner Mike Wiseman volunteered to drive it on a continuous loop to several locations and back to the church throughout the event.

The buffet meal occupied three tables, along with two additional tables of desserts.

Parishioner Jack Kramer served as master of ceremonies.

Father Jeremy Secrist, pastor of St. Peter parish, joined in the fellowship with the parishioners and the guests.

He called the parish's observance of the World Day of the Poor "a beautiful expression of many of the Corporal Works of Mercy."

"It was a more than just a community meal," he said. "It was a gathering in which parishioners were invited to recognize and encounter the Lord as He comes among us in those who are hungry, those who are in need," he said.

He noted that the readings and prayers for the last few Sundays of the liturgical year focus on the "final things," "the most important things" — namely, what happens after people die.

"My thoughts are drawn toward the end of St. Matthew's Gospel," he said, "in which Jesus calls us to consider the basis upon which we will be judged:

'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You?'"

Need to connect

St. Peter parishioners Judd and Sara Garner brought their children to help out.

"We want our kids to see how many opportunities there are out there to serve," said Mrs. Garner, a teacher at St. Peter Interparish School. "It's important to show support, especially when it's taking place here in our home parish."

This was the second year their daughter, Sabella, a third-grader at the school, helped fill drinks at the beverage table.

She said spending two hours on her feet was well worth it.

"We were helping people who need food and need help," she stated.

It felt good for her to do something good for other people.

She believes part of what God wanted her to learn from the experience was "putting other people before you and

not just thinking about yourself."

She wants to help out again and hopes her friends will join her.

Mrs. Garner noticed that the room was filled with smiling faces and warm conversations among parishioners and guests.

"I think we really need to connect with people versus just giving them something," she said. "This helps foster hope and lets them know we're here to support them in many different ways."

"Hard times"

"I decided to come because I need positive opportunities to know the community," one of the guests told a *Jefferson City News-Tribune* reporter. "And I got to ride a trolley. It was fun!"

The guest and her two children were smiling as they perused the tables of give-away items.

See FELLOWSHIP, page 17

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QUESTION CORNER

Still try to make converts? / Does Mass need a congregation?

By Father Kenneth Doyle

Catholic News Service



Q. At the Second Vatican Council, Catholics were told that we should accept non-Catholics as our “separated brethren” and that we shouldn’t be overly concerned if they don’t want to join the Catholic Church. But I was taught since childhood that the only way to salvation was through the Catholic Church. Why the change? (Texarkana, Texas)

A. It would be a misreading to think that Vatican II does not encourage bringing people to the Catholic faith. The church still honors Christ’s Great Commission (Matthew 28:19): to make disciples of all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

One need only look at the council’s Decree on Ecumenism, which states that “our separated brethren ... are not blessed with that unity which Jesus Christ wished to bestow on all those who through Him were born again into one body. ... For it is only through Christ’s Catholic Church, which is ‘the all-embracing means of salvation,’ that they can benefit fully from the means of salvation” (No. 3).

But that leaves the question as to how the Church should go about bringing those people into the Church. In March 2019, speaking in predominantly Muslim Morocco, Pope Francis rejected proselytism, which I would take to mean forced or pressured conversion, coupled with a lack of respect for the religious faith of others. In Morocco, Pope Francis quoted from a 2007 homily in which Pope Benedict XVI had said, “The Church grows not through proselytism, but through attraction, through witness.”

As for those who believe that only Catholics can be saved, that is not the Church’s teaching. True, all salvation does come through the death and resurrection of Jesus, but the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* clearly says, quoting Vatican II’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church:

“Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or His Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do His will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience — those too may achieve eternal salvation” (No. 847).

Q. When I attended parochial school, we were taught that a priest could not say Mass by himself and needed at least one other person as his “congregation.” But lately I have been told that priests are required to celebrate Mass every day, even if there are no other people present. Which is correct? (Milladore, Wisconsin)

A. Actually, neither statement is completely correct. Let me explain. As to whether a priest can celebrate Mass without a congregation, the Church’s *Code of Canon Law*, reflecting the fact that the Eucharist is primarily an act of public worship rather than a private devotion, says, “Except for a just and reasonable cause, a priest is not to celebrate the eucharistic sacrifice without the participation of at least some member of the faithful” (Canon 906).

Canon law further states: “Remembering always that in the mystery of the eucharistic sacrifice the work of redemption is exercised continually, priests are to celebrate frequently; indeed, daily celebration is recommended earnestly since, even if the faithful cannot be present, it is the act of Christ and the Church in which priests fulfill their principal function” (Canon 904).

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.



Papal Audience

November 27, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Yesterday I returned from my apostolic journey to Thailand and Japan. I thank the civil authorities and my brother bishops, and in particular the Thai and Japanese people, for their warm welcome. In Thailand, I met with the Supreme Buddhist Patriarch as a sign of esteem and of the importance of promoting respect and cooperation between the religions, and I encouraged the local Church’s support of the sick and poor at St. Louis hospital. Among the highlights of my visit were the meetings with priests, consecrated men and women, the bishops and finally a group of young people. In the two celebrations of Mass we saw clearly how the Gospel is being inculturated among the Thai people. In Japan, the motto for my visit was “Protect All Life”: a vital theme for a county that experienced the devastation of the atom bomb and more recent disasters. I was able to spend time in prayer at Nagasaki and Hiroshima, where I met with survivors and their families, and I repeated my appeal for the abolition of nuclear weapons. In my meeting with young people, I encouraged them to face the future without fear by opening their hearts to God’s love in prayer and in service of others. I ask you to join me in entrusting the people of Thailand and Japan to God’s loving providence. May He bless them with prosperity and peace.

I greet the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today’s audience, especially the groups from England, Australia, Canada and the United States of America. Upon all of you, and your families, I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless you!

Voices from the Vineyard

By Tate Mulligan

On the south-side of Belize City, the Cayetano House, resides next to a convenience store, about a block away from St. Martin’s de Porres Catholic Church.

Most people in the neighborhood know it as the big, white house with the mango tree in the front yard. This is my new house.

Most mornings, the rising sun, along with the chirping birds who live in the coconut tree outside my window, wakes me. If that doesn’t do it, my beeping alarm clock tells me to get out of bed. I go into the kitchen in my PJs, put the dishes up from the previous evening’s community meal, and am met by my housemate, Susie.

She begins her morning ritual: takes out the coffee grinder to make Guatemalan pour-over coffee, and listens to soft, alternative Spanish music to refresh her language school lessons.

I pull out the blender and whip up some kind of tangy, green concoction to jump-start the day.

Although there are various mixing noises coming from the kitchen appliances and spo-

radic sounds of the neighborhood awakening outside, there is still a sacredness in the air of the kitchen.

There is a stillness amidst the movement. There is no pressure for words but they are always welcome. As we begin the day, we gradually acknowledge all the chaos that the day could bring, but in our own way, this is our benediction.

A daily commitment that we will begin the journey of the day together.

An act of praise to be alive and healthy.

A request to the divine that we will have the strength to make it through all the challenges we might face and a prayer that we will all be back for dinner.

By the time the smoothies are made, the rest of our housemates are in the kitchen preparing breakfast, chatting about the day ahead and, shortly, we are all off getting ready to go to work.

It is in tiny moments, like these ones with Susie, that make my daily journey sacred. It is in this big, white house with the mango tree in the front yard I am learning to listen.

Mulligan is a Jesuit Volunteer serving in Belize (www.jesuitvolunteers.org).



DOMINICANS

From page 5

Diocese of Jefferson City,” Fr. Marchionda stated.

“We shall miss them all and wish God’s blessings on each of them and the wonderful ministry that is St. Thomas More Newman Center parish,” he continued.

“With prayer and humble gratitude to the people of St. Thomas More and to the diocese, we ask your understand-

ing and prayers at this challenging time of transition for all of us.”

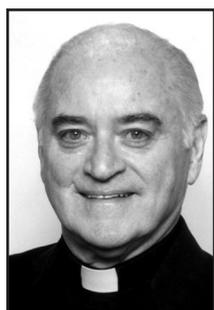
Bishop McKnight asked everyone to join him in thanking Fathers Culotta, Litzau and Ford for their dedication to the Church and to this diocese, “and in praying for an increase in vocations, especially to the ministerial Priesthood, which we desperately need.”

He challenged everyone to recognize the transition as an occasion for recommitment and growth.

“While we will deeply miss the Dominicans, this time can also be seen as an opportunity for us to encourage a deeper co-responsibility for our clergy and laity in ministry with the university community in Columbia,” he stated.

Rejoice in all circumstances

By Father John Catoir



To all my friends and loyal readers,

At 88, it is with much joy and sadness; I offer you my farewell column. After spreading the Joy of Jesus these many years the time has come for me to put down my pen

and retire from writing my syndicated column.

It has truly been my honor to spread the Joy of Jesus thru my various ministries. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all of your support over the years.

I will keep all of you in my daily prayers and hope that you pray for me too.

“Rejoice in all Circumstances,” I agree with St. Paul, because my Faith urges me to believe everything that JESUS taught. When I believe in God the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in His only begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, I believe firmly in the truth of His words, “I have come that your joy may be full, that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.”

I believe Jesus always told us the truth. Let’s ponder this together. Here’s how I approach this issue. Based on the words of JESUS, which were reaffirmed by St. Thomas: “The center of the personality is in the will.” Modern psychology agrees with both of them, so I have concluded that it is possible to put on the will to be grateful and joyful in all circumstances.

In spite of sad feelings we can choose

joy over sorrow even in emotionally down times. Mourning the dead can be done with the focus on the eternal joy of heaven. Many find this impossible, and I understand their doubts, but thoughts can really control feelings.

We can focus on the truth that heaven is a better place to be. In the long run, Joy prevails over sorrow. Of course, many lack the faith to rise above their feelings, but as I’ve mentioned so often, the will has the power to control our thoughts.

If we have any hope of being a person of honor and dignity, we must follow the path toward holiness.

Take a little time to think about this. The thoughts we think control the emotions we feel, which eventually control the actions we perform. We need to accept Christian ideals as worthy goals.

Of course, we are weak and sinful. Of course, we need Divine help and mercy. Mediocrity is the human condition but Christ called us to perfection; therefore, holiness is not only possible, but it is our destiny.

When Jesus said, “Love one another, as I have loved you,” He knew we could rise to the challenge with the help of His grace. Wherever there is love, there is service, and wherever there is service there is sacrifice, which often involves suffering.

Jesus died on a cross to save our souls for heavenly bliss. It’s all one-belief system.

I believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Give a gift of joy for Christmas

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP



I had just begun my initiation to religious life when a very kind Little Sister offered to share with me the secret to joy.

Of course, I wanted to know the secret, I responded!

JOY, she confided, is a matter of putting Jesus first, Other people second and Yourself last.

Her advice made a lot of sense and, for me, it has mostly proven true. When we pay more attention to God and other people than to ourselves, the result is usually a deep and imperturbable sense of joy.

Recently, someone suggested another acronym based on the word joy.

JOY, I learned, can stand for Jesus, Old and Young people coming together. To express it in mathematical terms, Jesus + Old + Young = JOY!

Pope Francis would love this equation, since he has often expressed his desire to see a new embrace between the old and the young. “The young are focused on the future and they face life with energy and dynamism,” Pope Francis wrote, adding that they are tempted to give little attention to their roots, especially the gifts transmitted to them by their parents, their grandparents and the society in which they live.

“Helping the young to discover the living richness of the past, to treasure its memory and to make use of it for their choices and opportunities, is a genuine act of love towards them,” Pope Francis suggested in *Christus Vivit*, the document he wrote after last year’s synod on young people.

“A genuine act of love” — helping young people to treasure their roots is a

beautiful gift we adults can give them — and there is no better time than Christmas to give this gift because the holidays naturally offer many opportunities to gather, reminisce and do things together!

Don’t despair if the youngsters in your family seem unwilling to disconnect from their mobile devices in order to partake in your family’s cherished Christmas traditions or stories. A recent survey cited in the *Wall Street Journal* found that more than 90 percent of teenagers and young adults are able to retell family stories when asked, even if they seemed uninterested while the stories were being told.

Young people absorb more from family stories than most adults think, especially if those stories are humorous or entertaining, or if they convey timeless life lessons. Such stories help the young to feel that they belong to a larger family or culture. Family stories help them to develop roots and a sense of identity, and they offer guides and values for living.

Another study found that children who were more aware of their family history were more resilient and experienced less anxiety.

A third study found that when parents related personal stories describing negative experiences and how they were able to overcome them their children had better social and academic skills.

In *Christus Vivit*, Pope Francis tells young people how important it is to be rooted in their family and cultural history. “It pains me to see young people sometimes being encouraged to build a future without roots, as if the world were just starting now,” he wrote. “It is impossible for us to grow unless we have strong roots to support us and to keep us firmly grounded. It is easy to drift off when there is nothing to clutch or hold onto.”

Sue Shellenbarger, the *Wall Street Journal* author who cites the studies I’ve

mentioned, offers suggestions for successful family storytelling: 1) think it through in advance and come up with

a few meaningful, interesting stories to tell during holiday gatherings; 2) choose

See VEIT, page 22

REFLECTION

A late-season rally

By Mark Saucier

It was a rare late November day, unusually warm and brightly lit — one that just begged for a walk.

Leaving the house, I encountered a small swarm of flies. They were flitting about, diving, circling and soaring in some agreed-upon space.

They intrigued rather than annoyed, as if they wanted one more romp before their winter disappearance.

Spindly shoots of grass stood in a bare spot in the yard. Like the little ones they were, they had no idea of the cold world that would descend upon them.

Somehow, though, they assured me they would still be there come March. Going down the hill, I saw patches of wild timothy across the street. Their leaves now brown and their tasseled heads bent low. Was it surrender or homage?

Up in the woods, the bare sycamores took center stage. They stood majestically against the dark backdrop of hickory and oak, their bone-white limbs stretched out in glory and/or praise.

I passed three students, walking and laughing. Their mood was contagious. One of the girls was singing into her phone, “I’ve been waiting for you my whole life.”

Considering their age, I’ve probably waited longer in the doctor’s office.

Up on the playground, a young father pushed his son in a swing. I wondered if that was something his father did with him or if he found ways of blessing his son that his father wouldn’t understand.

The creek trickled along, waiting for the one good rain that would wash away fallen leaves, leaving a smooth surface ready for a hard freeze and the sliding races of neighborhood kids.

On the bank, the scarlet berries of the possumhaw glistened as a last reminder of a warmer season.

Across the field, a big man and his cane alighted from a truck, followed by his German shepherd. The dog took off, waited for the man, then took off again.

I don’t know if the man was walking the dog or the dog was walking the man. It looked a lot like friendship.

The setting sun shimmered off windows up on the hill, brilliantly lighting its crest. How many sunsets have I missed, or worse yet, have I seen but not allowed myself the awe of standing in front of the Master’s art?

In Genesis, it says that Enoch “walked with God, and he was no longer here, for God took him.”

I think I had a taste of that.

Catholic Rural Life retreat invigorates two priests of the diocese

By Jay Nies

Fr. Matthew J. Flatley got back from Minnesota with a fire in his chest and dirt on his shoes.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight had sent him and Father Colin Franklin, members of the diocesan Presbyteral Council, to Buffalo, Minnesota, for a retreat sponsored by Catholic Rural Life (CRL).

The theme was “Thriving in Rural Ministry.”

Both priests serve in predominantly rural areas of the diocese.

Fr. Flatley is pastor of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish in Vienna, Holy Guardian Angels parish in Brinktown, St. Aloysius parish in Argyle and the St. Boniface mission in Koeltztown.

Fr. Franklin is pastor of St. Joseph parish in Edina, St. John parish in Memphis and the mission of St. Aloysius in Baring and chaplain of the Kirksville Newman Center.

Fr. Flatley said the retreat was inspiring and enlightening.

“It was crafted to provide spiritual refreshment, rural-ministry insights and support, individual leadership development, and fraternity with other priests serving in rural communities,” he said.

He believes it was successful on all fronts, especially in giving pastors ideas for helping revitalize the Church in rural communities.

“I came away with a renewed vision and passion of the vocation of rural ministry, both for priests and for those faithful Catholics who live in these communities,” he said.

“The biggest single factor”

Bishop McKnight was recently appointed to the CRL board of directors.

Father Edwin O’Hara, a son of Irish immigrants who had settled in rural Minnesota and worked the land, found-



CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE

Applying the teachings of Jesus Christ for the betterment of rural America

ed the organization in 1923.

He got the idea from ministering to people living in sparsely populated, agrarian areas.

“Fr. O’Hara came to believe that the Church is the biggest single factor in building up rural communities,” Fr. Flatley noted.

Although the Church and culture in this country have changed profoundly in past 97 years, Fr. Flatley maintains that Fr. O’Hara’s beliefs still hold merit.

“CRL strives to create a network of relationships with pastors serving rural communities who can encourage, sharpen and help one another,” Fr. Flatley noted.

“I believe this is crucial,” he added, “but most of all, I came away from the retreat with a passion to also make this same opportunity available for faithful, lay Catholics.”

He said Catholic laypeople in rural areas have the unprecedented opportunities to participate in the work of building up the Church.

To help them, CRL offers ideas and programs in areas of education, advocacy and inspiration.

It also provides resources and networking for rural ministry and outreach, along with ideas for rural-life celebrations.

“I came back here determined to see a celebration of an outdoor Eucharist — with the bishop’s permission of course

— along with a barn dance,” said Fr. Flatley.

“These precious gems”

Both priests are eager to share with fellow clergy what they learned on the retreat, so it can filter into parishes.

Fr. Flatley wants to make sure Catholic farmers in this diocese are equipped and ready to embrace the theology and

identity associated with “the Vocation of the Agriculture Leader.”

The key is to find new and improved ways to mix rural life and Catholic life in ways that strengthen both.

“Can both Church and

community thrive with our Catholic heritage being lived, proclaimed and celebrated proudly?” he asked.

“All the while, how do we best renew the faith of those who live the rural life in our diocese, in our time?” he continued.

He said the Church must celebrate and affirm Catholic farmers and the vital role they

play in providing food for our world.

“Who better than the women and men who work the land to teach us about the stewardship of creation?” he inquired. “Can we have workshops around the theology of *Laudato si’*, the second encyclical of Pope Francis?”

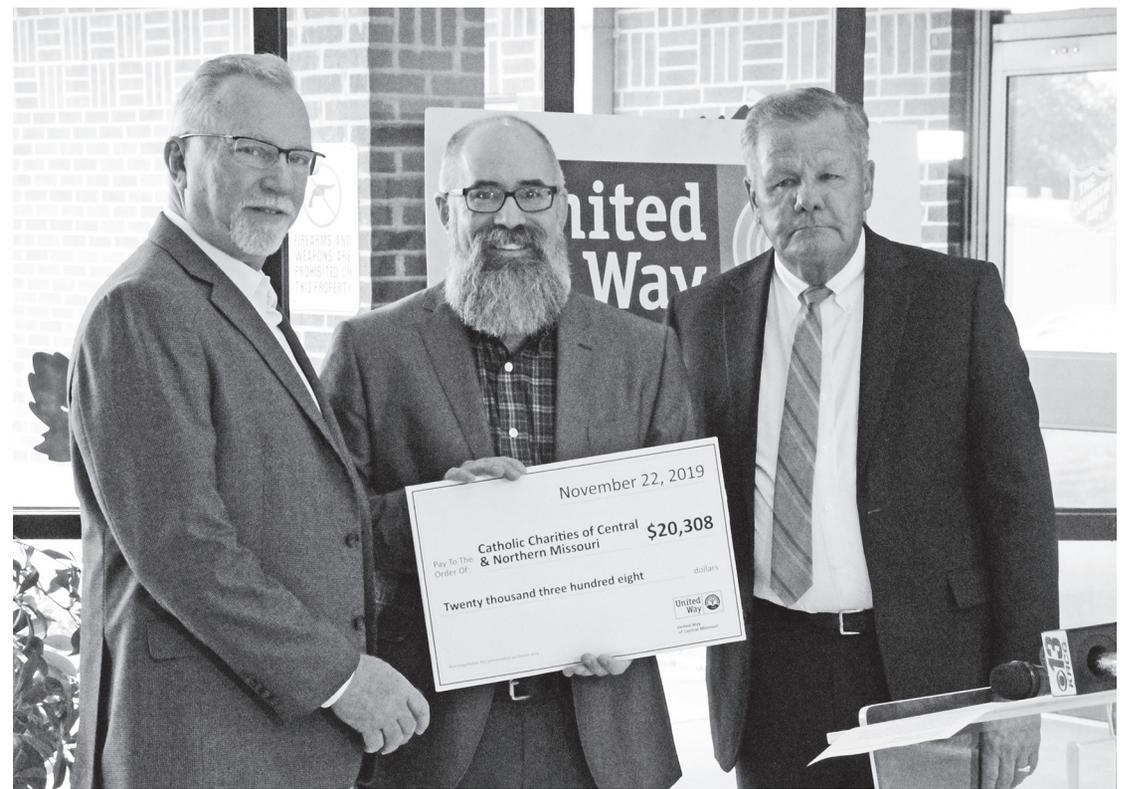
It all begins with praying together, learning from one another and joining in a chorus of praise and thanksgiving.

“We need to be celebrating our Catholic faith and our incomparable faith traditions and heritage in the rural life,” said Fr. Flatley.

“Let us place these precious gems high on the lamp stand and let them shine brightly on our world today!”

www.catholicrurallife.org

United in Charity



Dan Lester (center), executive director of Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCNMO) accepts a \$20,308 disaster recovery grant from the United Way of Central Missouri on Nov. 22 — six months after an EF-4 tornado severely damaged portions of Jefferson City, Eldon and points between. Making the presentation at the Salvation Army Center of Hope Shelter in Jefferson City is Chip Webb, chairman of the United Way of Central Missouri Board of Directors, and Phil Freeman, chairman of the United Way of Central Missouri Foundation Board. According to the United Way press release: “Catholic Charities has been instrumental in helping our community begin recovery

through their knowledge and expertise in disaster response. Their staff assisted with the Multi-Agency Resource Center the week after the tornado to bring immediate assistance to disaster survivors; assisted with planning and implementation of the Short Term and Long Term Recovery Committees, and most importantly immediately began providing case management to disaster survivors. United Way provided just under \$20,000 to Catholic Charities immediately after the tornado to assist with case management; and has awarded an additional \$20,308 through this Disaster Grant process to assist with staffing and costs incurred as the new Donation Site Managers.” — Photo by Jay Nies

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Starkenburg holiday concerts

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Mezzo-Soprano Carrie Kirchhofer-Tilly will join or-

ganist Jonie Loehnig and the 1860 Pfeiffer pipe organ for three "The Spirit of Christmas at Starkenburg" concerts.

They will be at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday through Satur-

day, Dec. 5, 6 and 7, in historical St. Martin's Church and Museum, 197 Highway P in Starkenburg, near Rhineland.

Each concert will include sing-a-longs.

The cost per person is \$7 for adults, \$3 for 18 and under.

Refreshments and a country store will be available from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in nearby Valentine Hall.

For bus tours and groups of eight or more, contact Jennifer Davis at (573) 486-0466 or Tours@VisitHermann.com.

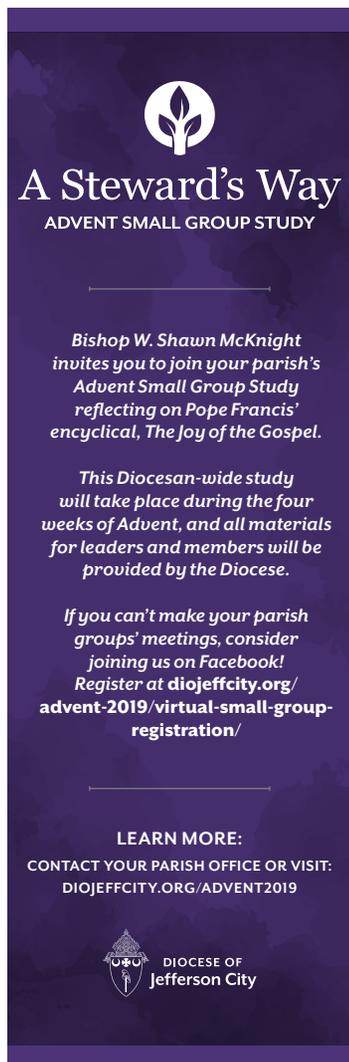
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This Diocesan-wide study will take place during the four weeks of Advent, and all materials for leaders and members will be provided by the Diocese.

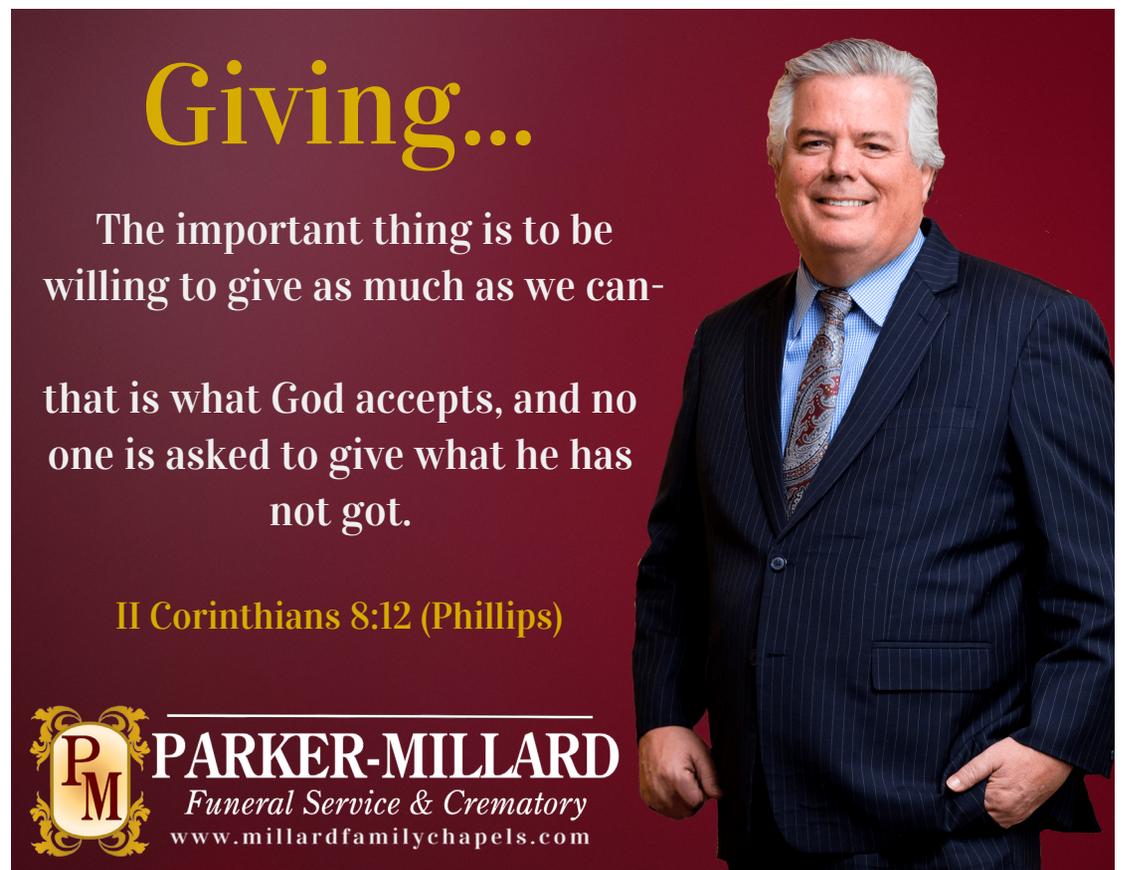
If you can't make your parish groups' meetings, consider joining us on Facebook! Register at diojeffcity.org/advent-2019/virtual-small-group-registration/

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II Corinthians 8:12 (Phillips)

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Catholic Charismatic Renewal: an answer to prayers from Popes

This is the first installment of a two-part article on the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Jefferson City diocese:

By Deacon Kenneth Berry

Just as Pope Leo XIII prayed for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit in 1901, Pope St. John XXIII prayed in 1962 for “a new Pentecost.”

In preparation for the Second Vatican Council, he prayed for God to “renew Your wonders in this our day, as by a new Pentecost.”

An answer to this prayer happened in this country as a retreat for college students from Duquesne University at The Ark and The Dove Retreat Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in February 1967.

The students had spent much of the weekend in prayer, asking God to allow them to experience the grace they had received both in baptism and confirmation.

They did not plan for what God would do during their retreat, but one evening while praying before the Blessed Sacrament, God simply sent them the gift of Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

That is to say, they experienced a personal outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

That event has become known as the Duquesne Weekend. Those students had a powerful and transforming experience of God, which came to be known as “baptism in the Spirit.”

The account of the weekend and the experience of the Spirit quickly spread across the campus, then to other colleges throughout the country.

The Spirit at work

The Charismatic experience soon moved beyond colleges and began to have an impact on parishes and other

Catholic institutions.

Loose organizations and networks were formed. Catholic Charismatic conferences began to be held, drawing more than 30,000 at The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, in the mid-1970s.

Earlier in that decade, the Renewal arrived in the Jefferson City diocese, when Father William Forst, now deceased, established the first Charismatic prayer group at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Other leaders, including Dr. Loraine Piesner, aided in the spread of the Renewal.

A group from this diocese attended the 1972 conference at the University of Notre Dame.

By the mid-1970s, Charismatic prayer groups were being established at various parishes throughout the diocese.

Growth and milestones

In 1975, the president of what is now the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops established the bishops’ ad-hoc committee on the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, under the chairmanship of the bishop of Lafayette, Louisiana.

A member of that committee suggested that it would be helpful for each bishop to appoint someone in his diocese to serve as his representative to the Charismatic Renewal movement.

Deacon Kenneth Berry has been serving in that role for this diocese since 1999.

As prayer groups began to spring up in the diocese, a Charismatic Service Team was formed. Each parish Prayer Group was asked to send a representative to serve on the Service Team.



Deacon Kenneth Berry prays over Jim “Butch” Murphy, president of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS), before Mr. Murphy gives the keynote presentation at a 2017 diocesan celebration in Marshall to mark the 50th anniversary of Catholic Charismatic Renewal.
— Photo by Jay Nies

Over the years, the Service Team has planned and sponsored an Annual Day of Renewal, featuring nationally known speakers, Charismatic Masses, diocesan-wide Prayer Meetings, and Life in the Spirit Seminars.

In September of 2017, a large weekend Conference celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Renewal was held in Marshall in partnership with the Hispanic stream of the Renewal.

It is now estimated that more than 130 million individuals worldwide have received the grace of being baptized in the Holy Spirit since the Duquesne Weekend.

The Pope’s desire

Four years ago, in June 2015, Pope Francis wrote to the presidents of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services and the Catholic Fraternity, asking them to work to form a single service for the current of grace of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

After four years of working with those that Pope Francis had appointed, and with the support of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service,

baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Several thousand Catholics belonging to the Charismatic Renewal gathered in Rome the weekend of Pentecost Sunday in 2018. At that time, the Vatican officially launched a new international service to aid the ministry in its commitment to communion and service.

One of the reasons Pope Francis called for the creation of CHARIS was his desire for the whole Church to come experience the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

He has always expressed very clearly this desire for a new Pentecost for the Church and the world.

Deacon Berry assists the pastor of St. Joseph parish in Edina and is the diocesan representative and liaison to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

The second part of this series will focus on the experience of the Charismatic Renewal among Hispanic Catholics in this diocese.

(CHARIS), was formed.

CHARIS’s main purpose is communion, formation, and advice. It also has a doctrinal and canonical commission, which can study and give information on things such as

Enduring symbol



Gerald Witthaus, a member of Immaculate Conception parish in Montgomery City, built this Advent wreath for his parish 25 years ago. “I am rewarded by its continued use and symbolic meaning for preparation of Christmas,” he said. It remains in use each year during the Church’s season of preparation for Christmas. Advent begins Dec. 1.

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A quarterly publication by the Missouri Catholic Conference

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In pursuit of life



Pro-life advocacy in Missouri & the nation in 2019

Prompted by recent appointments to the United States Supreme Court, state legislatures across the country passed new pro-life laws in 2019. These laws were meant to restrict abortion and, in some instances, potentially be a vehicle for the Supreme Court to reconsider its prior abortion decisions. Many states passed “heartbeat bills” which prohibit abortions when a fetal heartbeat is detected, as early as the sixth week of pregnancy. Missouri made headlines this year when it passed the “Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act”, a comprehensive pro-life bill that contained heartbeat and numerous other pro-life provisions. However, other states, such as New York and Illinois, ventured in the opposite direction, passing legislation meant to protect and expand abortion rights in the event that the Supreme Court overrules or weakens its decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

In this issue of *Messenger*, we will provide an overview of state abortion laws passed this year and provide the current landscape of abortion laws in our country. In particular, we will focus on those laws that would attempt to ban all abortions after a certain point in the pregnancy, as many states are adopting this legislative approach. However, to understand the current state of pro-life laws, it’s important to understand the Supreme Court decisions that currently guide (and restrict) our abortion laws.

Background

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a constitutional right to abortion that has impacted every state abortion law since. In *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court found that a woman has a fundamental right of privacy to obtain an abortion. However, that right must also be weighed by the State’s interest in protecting the mother and in protecting the “potential” life of the unborn child. Because of a woman’s right to privacy in this matter, the Supreme Court ruled that a state cannot prohibit abortion before “viability” — the time that the unborn child could survive outside of the womb. In most cases, viability will occur around 22 weeks post-fertilization, although medical advances

continue to push the point of viability to an earlier gestational age.

The *Roe* court also used a trimester framework to set limits on the State's ability to regulate abortion. The Court held that in the first trimester, the State may not restrict access to abortion for any reason, including to protect the life of the unborn child. In the second trimester, the State may regulate abortion only for the purpose of protecting the life of the mother. After viability, the Court held that the State may regulate and even prohibit abortion, unless an abortion is necessary to protect the life and health of the mother. *Doe v. Bolton* (1973), decided on the same day as *Roe*, clarified that the health of the mother was to be broadly interpreted to include any aspect of the mother's well-being, including physical, emotional, psychological, and mental health. When taken together, these cases held that states may prohibit abortions after viability as long as there are exceptions for the life and health of the mother, with health being broadly defined to include both physical and mental health.

In *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992), the Court recognized that the State had a substantial interest in the potential human life, but ultimately upheld *Roe*. The Court eliminated the trimester framework of *Roe* and provided a new test -- an abortion law is unconstitutional if its purpose is to place an "undue burden" (defined as a "substantial obstacle") upon a woman seeking an abortion prior to fetal viability. So while states have some ability to regulate abortion prior to viability, these rulings still prohibit any outright ban on abortions before a child is viable.

In 2019, 12 states enacted an abortion ban, while six states protected or expanded abortion access. (More info on p. 16)

Gestational Age Bans

Many of the pro-life bills passed in 2019 sought to ban abortion at a specific point in pregnancy. Nine states enacted such bans, with the majority of those banning abortions conducted before a fetus is viable. During its most recent legislative session, Alabama passed a total ban on abortions with some limited exceptions. Lawmakers in the state have expressed their hope that the new law would lead to a challenge of *Roe v. Wade*.

While Alabama sought to ban all abortions, the majority of bans passed in 2019 came as a result of "heartbeat bills". These bills would ban abortions when a fetal heartbeat has been detected. Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Ohio each banned abortion at six weeks of pregnancy, the earliest point a fetal heartbeat can be detected. Missouri passed a ban at eight weeks, but also included bans at other stages of pregnancy in case the eight week ban was ruled unconstitutional. The Missouri bill, HB 126, was also unique in that it included roughly 50 findings of fact detailing various markers at each state of human development, including the existence of a heartbeat and brain waves early in development and the capacity of the unborn child to feel pain.

Arkansas and Utah each passed laws prohibiting abortions after 18 weeks, or roughly midway through the second trimester. In addition, Missouri passed the "Late-Term Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" as part of HB 126. This provision would ban abortions at 20 weeks, the time at which the unborn child can feel pain. **The map on p. 15 shows where the U.S. stands as of Nov. 1, 2019 on gestational abortion bans.**

"Dismemberment Abortion" Bans

Indiana and North Dakota each passed a law prohibiting dilation and evacuation (D&E) abortions. Also known as "dismemberment abortions", D&E abortions involve the use of surgical instruments to dismember and then extract the fetus from the mother. While not a specific age ban, D&E abortions are the typical method used for surgical abortions starting around the 14th week of pregnancy.

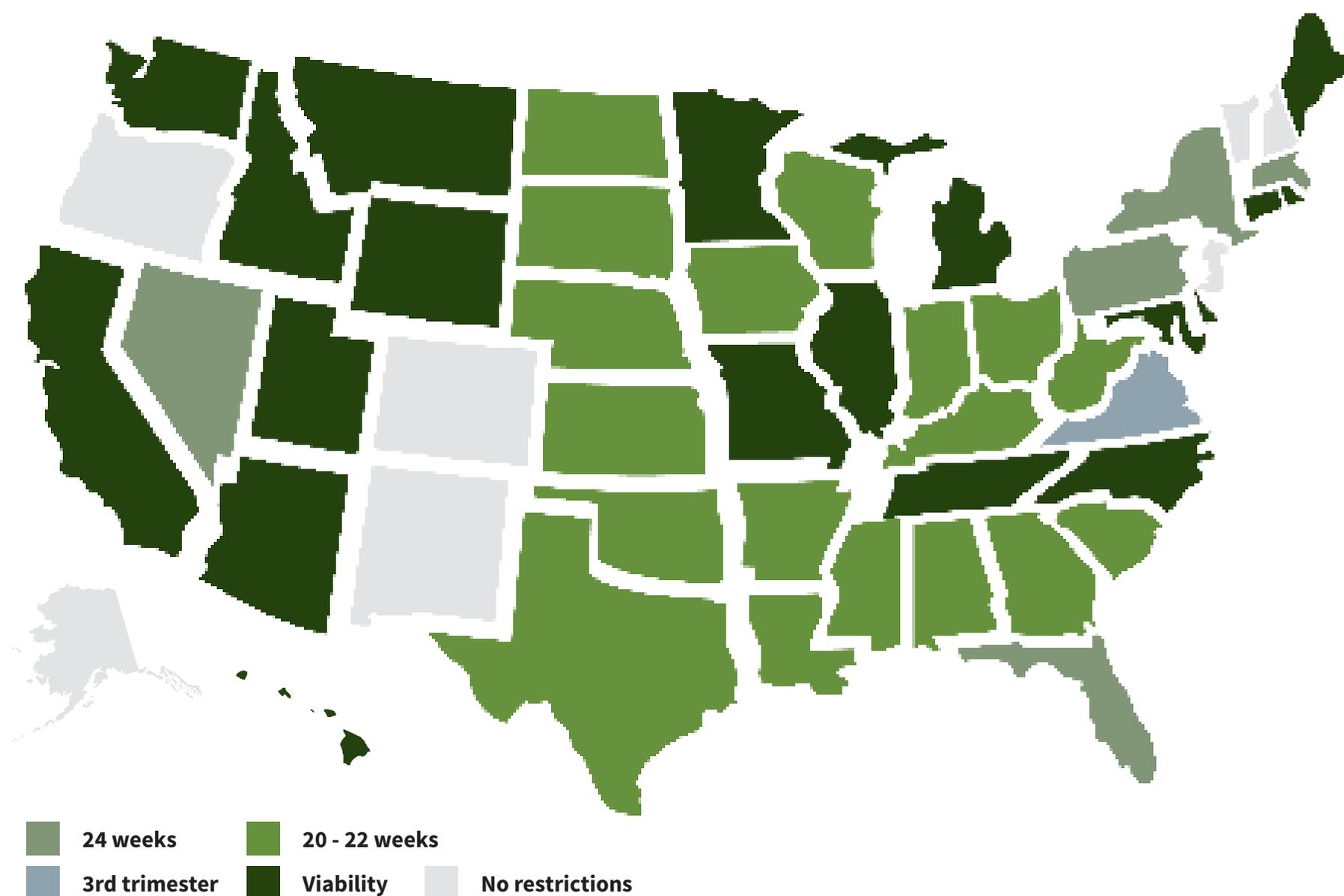


"Trigger Bans"

Many states also passed "trigger bans" in 2019. Missouri, along with Arkansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee passed legislation this year that would protect unborn children from the moment of conception except in the case of medical emergency. These provisions would go into effect -- or be "triggered" -- when *Roe v. Wade* is overruled or the states are otherwise authorized to fully regulate abortion. These four states joined Louisiana, Mississippi, North Dakota, and South Dakota, which already have laws in place to ban most abortions in the event *Roe* is overturned.



The legal status of pro-life laws at the close of 2019



Data sourced from the Guttmacher Institute

Though many states made great strides in passing pro-life laws this year, many have been blocked from going into effect. As discussed earlier, lower courts have consistently found themselves bound by *Roe*, *Doe*, and *Casey* when reviewing bans on abortion prior to viability. Even those district and appellate courts that have seemingly been sympathetic to reconsidering *Roe* have pointed out that lower courts are bound to follow the Supreme Court (As the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals stated in *West Alabama Women's Center v. Williamson* (2018), "there is only one Supreme Court, and we are not it").

In line with the cases discussed above, all nine gestational age bans passed in 2019 have been temporarily blocked by the courts. In Missouri, Planned Parenthood of St. Louis filed suit to halt the eight, 14, 18, and 20 week bans, as well as a separate ban on abortions based solely on the race or sex of the unborn child or a pre-natal diagnosis of Down

Syndrome. Planned Parenthood's request was granted, and these provisions have been blocked from going into effect. In addition, Indiana's dismemberment abortion ban has also been temporarily blocked. North Dakota's dismemberment ban was passed with a "trigger" provision, so it is technically not in effect and has not been challenged, because it will not go into effect until *Roe* is struck down.

The map above shows the current abortion bans in effect in each state, regardless of more restrictive bans that might have been passed. With its recently-passed gestational age bans blocked, Missouri joins 23 other states in banning abortion at viability. One state, Virginia, currently has a ban starting in the third trimester. Seventeen states have been successful in passing a ban at 22 weeks, and one state has a ban at 20 weeks.

The future status of these bans is unclear. Missouri, through Attorney General Eric Schmitt, has appealed the preliminary

2019 abortion laws continued

injunction against the gestational age and discrimination bans passed as part of HB 126 in 2019. It is likely that many of the other states that passed pre-viability bans will also appeal. Pro-life supporters hope one of these bans will make it to the Supreme Court and become the vehicle that ultimately leads to the end of *Roe*. However, there is no guarantee that even with its current makeup, the Court will use one of these cases to revisit its past abortion decisions. The Supreme Court has recently agreed to take a case dealing with a Louisiana law requiring any doctor performing an abortion to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital. While this case does not address gestational age bans, it could still be a vehicle for the Court to reconsider *Roe*.

Regardless of what happens in the next couple of years, pro-life advocates should be encouraged by this legislation. As Archbishop Joseph Naumann, Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, recently stated, "The trend of states passing pro-life legislation is a very encouraging move toward ensuring that our society cherishes unborn children and their most basic right to life." Archbishop Naumann also reminds us that ensuring unborn children are recognized and protected by the law is not the only objective of the pro-life movement. The other is to make sure that abortion becomes unthinkable. "As we celebrate these pro-life legislative victories, we reiterate our commitment to supporting all mothers with the care and resources they need. The Church stands ready to help and welcome them."

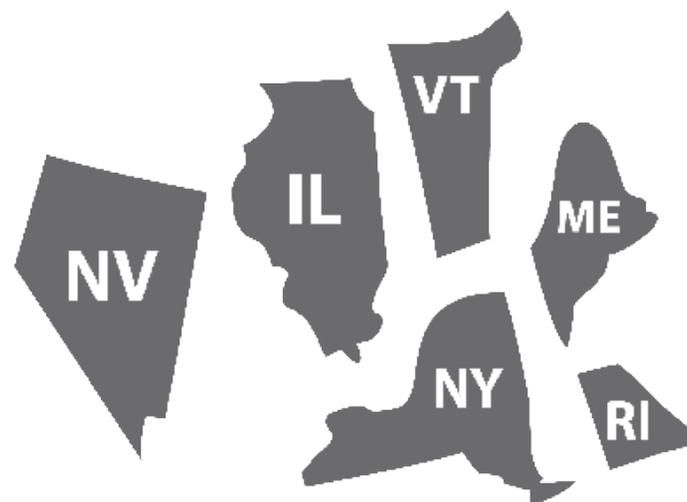
The MCC will continue to work with Missouri lawmakers to protect and defend unborn life. You can join us in our efforts by signing up to be a member of MOCAN by calling us at 1-800-456-1679 or by visiting our website, mocatholic.org.

continued from p. 14

States that Expanded Abortion Protections

While states such as Missouri were passing stronger pro-life protections, other states sought to protect and expand abortion rights out of fear that the Supreme Court could weaken *Roe* in the next few years. The most publicized of these was the Reproductive Health Act (RHA), passed in New York, which sought to incorporate the *Roe v. Wade* abortion protections into state law. The RHA affirmed the right to an abortion up to the point of viability and, in line with *Roe* and *Doe*, after viability when a woman's life or health is at risk, including her mental and emotional health.

Closer to home, Illinois also passed a sweeping law meant to protect abortion rights. The Illinois Reproductive Health Act removed previous abortion restrictions, including a repeal of the state's Partial-birth Abortion Ban, and established that "a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus does not have independent rights under the law of this State." Nevada, Vermont and Rhode Island also passed abortion expansion bills in 2019.



Join the Missouri Catholic Advocacy Network! (MOCAN)

Join the 10,000+ Catholic Missourians who make up the team of advocates who help the Catholic voice ring through the halls of the Missouri State Capitol. If you want to stay updated on pro-life legislation — or any of the many other legislative priorities the MCC advocates for — you will not want to miss the opportunity to join MOCAN.

If you're already a member, encourage your family, friends, and fellow parishioners to join! As MOCAN grows, so does the Catholic voice in Missouri's Capitol. Visit mocatholic.org or send us an email at mocatholic@mocatholic.org for details.

Monroe City Daughters of Isabella celebrate the century

Monroe City
Msgr. Connolly Circle No. 105 of Daughters of Isabella held a Mass and a banquet to celebrate its 100th anniversary Oct. 12 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Monroe City.

Ventriloquist Michelle Todd of Hannibal provided the entertainment for the banquet.

Servant leadership

Regina Miskell, the circle's recent, said the 114-member circle continues to be active and growing.

Established in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1897 to promote the ideals of unity, friendship, and charity, the Daughters of Isabella is one of the largest Catholic women's organizations in the world, with a membership of more than 60,000 women from the United States and Canada.

It is named for the 15th-century queen of Spain who is credited with promoting and preserving Christianity in her country and helping Christopher Columbus un-

dertake his voyage to what came to be known as the New World.

The Msgr. Connolly Circle was formed Oct. 12, 1919, with 52 members.

They elected Alma Pierceall (Welch) as their first regent, and Monsignor Edward Connolly as chaplain.

He wound up serving the circle for 54 years.

A century of charity

Through the years, members of the Monroe City circle have performed many acts of charity, including establishment of Holy Rosary School's first hot lunch program in 1948.

Members continue to offer support to the school and provides the courtesy award to one graduating eighth-

grade boy and girl each year.

Other activities include visiting homebound and nursing home residents and financial support of welfare and civic projects.

Members also maintain a prayer chain and a spiritual bouquet of prayers for ill and deceased members.

They provide funeral dinners, leading a monthly rosary, and many other activities to promote camaraderie and fellowship among parishioners.

Members continue to uphold the values of unity, friendship and charity set forth by the founding members 100 years ago.

Strong commitment

The circle paused during the celebration to recognize longtime members at the banquet, as well as Pauline Quinn and Juanita Yates, who died this year.

Veronica O'Connor, 100, is the oldest living member.

Father Gregory Oligschlaeger, pastor of Holy Rosary parish and of St. Stephen parish in Indian Creek, serves as chaplain.

Other honorees included:

- Emma Jo Mudd, Margaret Hays and Rusty Adams, 70 or more years;

- Janice Kendrick and Cathy Tonsor, 60 or more years;

- Mary Sue DeWald, Delores Davis, Kathryn "Toddy" Burditt, Mary Jo Davis, Lorena Crowe, Rose Shuck and Ruth Purol, 50 or more years;

- Anne Gander, Vida Greening and Mary Hudnut, 40 or more years;

- Rosemary Evans, Rita Jo Kendrick, Pat Kendrick, Diane Kunce, Shirley Lorenson and Veronica O'Connor, 30 or more years;

- Melanie Albus, Lisa Bichsel, Phyllis Campbell, Ellie Couch, Kathy Dean, Margie Hays, Henrietta Hughes, Connie Kendrick, Marie Little, Tina Long, Donna Long, Therese Long, Marilyn Miles, Janet Painter, Marie Purol, Denise Saunders, Rose Shinn, Dorothy Shively, Becky White, Monica White, Madeline Williams, Dolores Wilson and Michelle Williams, 20 or more years.

www.daughtersofisabella.org



Officers of the Msgr. Connolly Circle No. 105 Daughters of Isabella during the circle's 100th anniversary include (from left) Tara Elliott, Rose Ellen Mudd, Audrey Fuemmeler, Betsy Barnes, Chaplain Father Gregory Oligschlaeger, regent Regina Miskell, Charlotte Schneider, Rose McNally, Dorothy Moss and Laurie Assell.

FELLOWSHIP

From page 7

Another guest told the *News-Tribune* reporter: "We've hit some hard times and it's always nice when the community reaches out to help those in similar situations."

"He's carrying you"

Mrs. Struempf helped organize the event with parishioner Betty Schrimpf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

"It was really a neat experience just being able to share with people in need," said Mrs. Struempf, "because there were several families with children, not just adults, who came."

She was amazed at how grateful the people were for the food and hospitality.

"One man came back three times just to say thank you to the volunteers," she said.

Mrs. Struempf said that before volunteering with the local Building Community Bridges organization, she couldn't fathom how extensive the needs are in and around Jefferson City, especially since the May 20 tornado.

"You wouldn't believe!" she said. "And there are some people who will never even ask for

help because they're afraid they'll have their children taken away from them."

Nonetheless, she's convinced that God is present through all of it.

"He's always with us," she said. "You just have to have faith and trust."

"It's kind of like the 'Footprints in the Sand' poem. At the hardest time for you, He's carrying you through it."

Giving thanks

Before going to bed, Mrs. Struempf thanked God for a successful event and for all the people she got to meet that day.

"And please be with the people who came to spend time with us," she prayed. "Help those who are without a roof over their heads stay warm. Help us to do whatever we can to help."

Contributing to this article was Gerry Tritz, a reporter for the Jefferson City News-Tribune. Excerpts from his article, published Nov. 19, are included here with permission.



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Fr. Peckman interview on podcast of EWTN radio program

Father William Peckman, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul parish in Boonville and St. Joseph parish in Fayette, can be heard in an interview on the online podcast of EWTN Radio's "The Good Fight" program with Barbara McGuigan.

To listen to the podcast, go to www.ewtn.com/radio/shows/good-fight and select the Nov. 23 program.

In the hour-long interview, recorded on Nov. 21, Fr. Peckman answers questions about the Priesthood; the growing

influence of watered-down Christianity in Western societies; pro-life and eugenics issues; and vocations.

Fr. Peckman is a frequent online commentator on Facebook and in his "Ramblings of a Country Pastor" blog (www.ramblingsofacountrypastor.blogspot.com).

Several of his musings get reposted on the ChurchPOP Christian culture site (www.churchpop.com).

Having asked for prayers ahead of time, he said he felt

the effects of the prayer support throughout the interview.

"The nervousness went away," he said. "She's a good interviewer, so I was at ease. The hour went by quickly."

Fr. Peckman recently wrote that it's time for Catholics to "quit making excuses and cowering to fear."

"We must be bold, brave, Holy Spirit-filled warriors, ready to take every inch of territory lost to the devil and his minions," he wrote.



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INVEST

From page 1

He said children go to school to learn how to use those gifts in order to “make a profit for God and the Kingdom.”

He spoke of Jesus’s Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), in which a demanding master returns from a trip.

The master rewards the servants who had invested the gold coins he had given them and made a good return. But he dealt severely with another servant who, out of fear and resentment, had buried and hidden what he had been given.

“When you give of yourself, when you use your talents, when you train your minds, when you learn in your studies, you are making a profit for God,” said Bishop McKnight. “You are using the gifts and talents that He has given you for a good cause, a good purpose.”

He emphasized that what actually matters to God is not multiplying money but increasing love.

He said the gold coins in the parable represent each person’s vocation — the specific way God intends each individual to live.

“God has given you a vocation!” said Bishop McKnight. “So what are you going to do with it? Are you going to just sit there and hold it and not do anything with it? That’s not going to make God happy.”

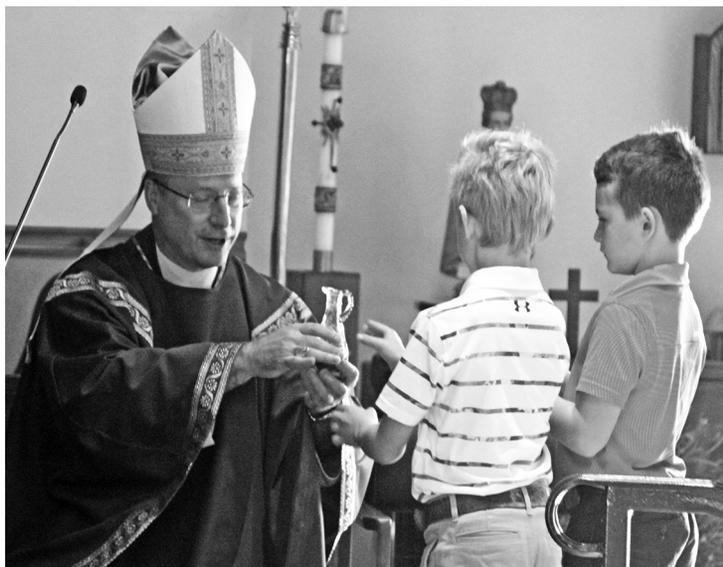
“But if you trust God enough and you cooperate with His grace, He can make many fantastic and wonderful things come about in your life,” the bishop said.

He told them that the greatest reward for working hard and living right “is to know that we are accomplishing God’s will for us. There is no greater peace than to know that you’re doing what God has created you to do.”

He pleaded with the children not to be afraid to respond to God’s will for them in their lives.

“God never leaves us alone,” the bishop assured them. “If we cooperate with His grace, He is always here for us.”

Joining Bishop McKnight at that altar were Father Stephen Jones, administrator of St. Martin parish; and Father



Third-graders at St. Martin School in St. Martins carry out various liturgical roles at an all-school Mass with Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, whom they invited to visit their school.

Basil Eruo, a visiting priest from Nigeria who ministered in this diocese and is becoming an Air Force chaplain.

Third-graders served as lectors, song leaders and bearers of the offertory gifts.

The whole school practically rattled the stained glass

served that they’re very quiet and well behaved.

“Are you always like this? Do you always do what your teacher asks you?”

“Mostly,” one of them responded.

In another classroom, he joked about the visiting volun-



Third-graders at St. Martin School in St. Martins say goodbye to Bishop McKnight and thank him for visiting.

while singing the recessional hymn, “10,000 Reasons” by Matt Redman.

Upper-grade students chose that rousing anthem for a Mass where they led the singing earlier this year.

“I didn’t teach the eighth-grade boys that song,” said Rosemary Bardwell, their teacher. “They taught it to me!”

“Right this way”

A group of third-graders gave the bishop a tour of the school after Mass.

Popping in on Angie Hodge’s first-graders, he ob-

teer story-teller — a plush turkey — sitting on a chair.

Third-grade teacher Leann Higgins talked about loving the windows in her classroom, and the view out to the playground.

The bishop talked to Kelly Boeckman’s second-graders about preparing for their First Holy Communion in the spring.

Across the hall, he talked to Janice Smith’s second-graders about their collection of bright-colored birds and their self-contained colony of ants. They did share that only a



couple of ants have gotten out since school started.

Eighth-grade art students told him they were working on a rough draft of their entries in the Knights of Columbus Poster Contest. The theme is “Keeping Christ in Christmas.”

Looking out a window at the recess venue, he asked his tour guides which playground equipment is their favorite.

“Maybe he’s got a playground at his house that he can play on,” third-grader Henry Woehrer later surmised.

“We’re the sheep”

Annie Donovan’s class of third-graders said they enjoyed their time with the bishop.

“It was fun and exciting because we don’t usually have a bishop here,” said Sophia Schulte.

“It was really great to have him over,” said Clara Haslag.

“It was nice,” said Emmett Bybee. “He’s never been here before and I hope he liked it.”

“I never saw him, and we wanted to learn more stuff about him,” said Weston Higley.

“He has a lot to do, so I was surprised he had time to come,” said Alice Holt.

“I was hoping he’d come, and I’m glad he did,” said

Khloe Jacobs.

“He had a big hat,” she added, referring to the pointed mitre that bishops wear during parts of the Mass.

Cole Sturm said he could tell the bishop is important because he had a priest there to help him at Mass.

He was referring to Father Joshua Duncan, the bishop’s master of ceremonies.

“I’ve never seen him in my life,” said Grayson Atterbury. “And we’re the sheep, so we can do stuff with him like walk him around the school.”

“I felt kind of nervous because we were hosting Mass, and I’m still kind of new here,” said Nicki Frank, who came to St. Martin School this year.

But everything went well and she was happy he came.

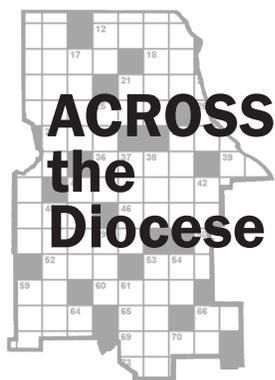
Ethan Heberle felt “excited and a little nervous because this was the first time I’ve ever seen him.”

J a c e B o e s s e n was also “a little nervous because I didn’t want anybody to like mess up while they were

reading or anything.” Both said their worries were unfounded.

“I’m a little sad that he went home,” said Jace. “It was fun having him here.”

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian’s* online edition, www.cathmo.com. Select “Photo Galleries” from the “Multimedia” tab on the menu bar.



By Father Don Antweiler

ACROSS

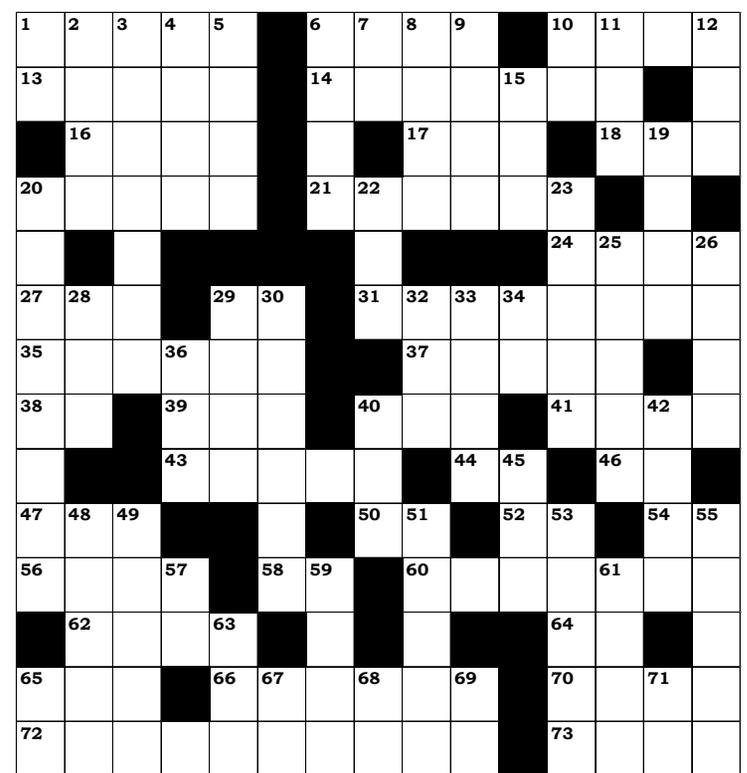
1. With all the attention on animals reintroduced or who have made a comeback in Mo. (e.g., turkey, deer, bear and elk), it's easy to overlook a resident who has lived here for 70 million years, since the time of the dinosaurs, the ____ opossum.
6. Opossums, despite being roadkill-prone, are not dim-witted and ____ as is often thought but are as smart or smarter than other animals, including dogs and cats.
10. Sound from the sty.
13. Sneeze sound.
14. "Thus ____ came, and morning followed — the first day," (Genesis 1:5).
16. Opossum facts: they are resistant to rabies; have a prehensile (capable of gripping) tail to ____ from trees; are nocturnal; are incapable of body fat and so must consume food frequently.
17. Car club.
18. My insurance denied my claim calling it an ____ of God.
20. Cuban dance.
21. Some couples found each other on an online ____ website.
24. Lyft competitor.
27. Sin against the eighth commandment.
29. "Ain't Nobody Home but ____ Chickens," —1946 Jump blues/jazz song sung by Louis Jordan and His Tympany Five.

31. Opossums are North America's only marsupial (i.e., raising babies in a pouch); its nearest relatives are the ____ and koala; studies indicate that North America is the center of origin of all living marsupials.
35. More opossum facts: they are shy, harmless and non-aggressive but might bite if cornered; are immune to the venom of poisonous snakes; are one of the world's ____ mammals.
37. "Nothing runs like a ____," —ad slogan for a tractor company.
38. The letters for the Acura ____ stand for refined luxury.
39. ____ Lingus; Ireland's national airline.
40. Young opossums (pouch potatoes?) crawl from their pouch at 60 days and ride atop ____, their mobile home, until about 100 days when they can fend for themselves.
41. Proofreaders shorthand for remove from a text.
43. ____ or treat!
44. Letters after a Dominican's name standing for Order of Preachers.
46. Prefix for code or part.
47. Bagnell, for example.
50. ____-da!
52. Doggone ____!
54. Original 12-step program.
56. Persian Gulf country bordering Saudi Arabia and Yemen.
58. Letters for extended play, a CD/album with 4-6 songs as opposed to a LP, which has 10-14.
60. Opossums live throughout Mo.; the lowest numbers are in the northwest and southeast ____ of our State.
62. "I only have ____ for you," —1973 song by The Flamingos.
64. Short for church.
65. "...and the two became ____ body," (Genesis 2:24).
66. A cheer.
70. "Where is the newborn ____ of the Jews?" (Matthew 2:2).
72. The Mo. Wildlife code classifies opossums as ____ and so has a hunting & trapping season. The fur is used mainly to trim inexpensive cloth coats.
73. "As ____ as a person

gives place to the devil in his life, the devil has this person hooked," —Sunday Adelaja, a Ukrainian preacher.

DOWN

1. ____-di-da!
2. Eight in Madrid.
3. He really ____ out a lively tune on that old guitar.
4. With its ____ sneering snout, with its hairless tail, ears and feet, with its scruffy coat and lumbering gait, the opossum might seem a bit off-putting. But, it is a surprising and fascinating animal.
5. My sister says ____ is not only a good stretching exercise but helps her to quietly meditate as well.
6. When an opossum is threatened it: (1) flees; (2) if cornered will try to intimidate by drooling and baring its 50 teeth (the most of any Mo. animal); or (3) finally just play ____ (i.e., "play possum").
7. Ultra violet (____) rays can cause cancer.
8. "Playing possum" is not an act. An overstressed opossum will fall over into a semi-conscious state, become stiff, emit a smell like spoiled _____. Its heartbeat and breathing is nearly undetectable. This can last from 4 minutes to 4 hours. It usually works, except with cars.
9. ____ B'rith; oldest Jewish org. (1843) in the world.
10. "____ the Road Again," —1998 Willie Nelson song.
11. Grocery chain.
12. Christopher "____" Bond: Mo.'s Governor (1981-85), U.S. Senator (1987-2011). The Federal Courthouse in Jefferson City is named for him.
15. Suffix for electric or Christ.
19. Cleopatra to her friends.
20. Julia Greeley was a black slave born in Hannibal in the early 1800's; freed by the Mo. Legislature in 1865, she migrated to ____; joined the Catholic Church in 1880; received Holy Communion daily; was known for her charitable works.
22. The container which housed the Ten Commandments during the 40 years in the desert was called the ____ of the



- covenant (Deuteronomy 10:4-5, 8).
23. Having a pouch enables mama opossum to stay mobile (i.e., no need to return to or ____ a den); she carries her den with her.
25. Opossums don't live long, 3 year olds are rare; because of their short lives they ____ 7 months after birth and have from 6-20 babies. Their 12-week pregnancy is the shortest of any North American mammal.
26. Because of its strong Catholic identity and being the mother of many dioceses in the Midwest, the Archdiocese of St. Louis was often referred to as "The ____ of the West."
28. I don't see how he can live with himself with all his ____-gotten gains!
29. Many computer programs don't seem ____ friendly to me.
30. If it's not a ____ then it must be a ball.
32. "Much ____ about Nothing," —comedy by W. Shakespeare, written in 1598.
33. Captain of the Nautilus.
34. The conglomerate General Electric (____) is 18th on the Fortune 500 list.
36. Opossums will ____ almost anything (i.e., garbage, pet food, decaying animals, insects, fish, fruit, grains, etc.).
40. Short for the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad, affectionately called the
- Katy. The roadbed through Mo. is now the Katy Trail.
42. "Jack Sprat could eat no fat, this wife could eat no ____..." —English nursery rhyme.
45. Source of #10 ACROSS sound.
48. I asked the waiter for ____ (2 wds.).
49. Oscar ____ Wiener Co.; noted for catchy tunes in its ads and its famous Wienermobile.
51. "Hey" he shouted sarcastically, "let's keep it down to ____!" (2 wds.)
53. Opossums are welcome consumers of slugs, ____, and other outdoor and garden bugs and pests. But unwelcome visitors to garbage cans or attics/garages. Prevention: spray garbage cans with ammonia/water combo; in attics/garages, simply wait until midnight when they are out and block their entryway.
55. "Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: Ask for ____ from the Lord, your God..." (Isaiah 7:10-11).
57. Cornhusker State (abbr.).
59. Contented cat sound.
61. State with "hi" in the middle.
63. Ship pronoun.
65. "____ Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck, 1937, about Great Depression era.
67. Letters for United Airlines.
68. Prefix for mind or bar.
69. Short for high school.
71. Nein in New York.

ANSWERS on page 23

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SR. KATHLEEN

From page 1

religious provincial, she accepted.

In addition to her canonical role of properly maintaining records for the diocese, she would help manage the Chancery offices while serving as director of pastoral services.

That would include facilitating the smooth and effective functioning of parish pastoral and finance councils, and serving as a liaison between the bishop and Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri and its affiliated agencies.

She would be the bishop's delegate to sisters and brothers who are members of religious communities, and as chairwoman of the Diocesan Review Board, which advises the bishop on general policy and specific allegations of abuse under the Charter for Protection of Children and Young People.

She would also serve for 18 months as diocesan associate interim director of Catholic schools.

In addition, many would find comfort and inspiration from the retreats and days of recollection she led.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight succeeded Bishop Gaydos in 2018.

He intensified her focus by appointing her director of pastoral and charitable services, making her the diocese's liaison to Catholic healthcare, primarily the SSM St. Mary's Hospitals in Jefferson City and Mexico, and to Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri.

Upon her retirement, he was quick to thank her for a job well done.

"What an honor it is," he stated, "for our local Church to have you as one of us — a consecrated woman of faith who has spent her life in service to the Church, in service to people."

At Bishop McKnight's request, Pope Francis bestowed on Sr. Kathleen the prestigious *Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* ("Cross for the Church and



Sister Kathleen Wegman displays the *Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* ("Cross for the Church and Pontiff") pin and medal she received from Pope Francis upon the occasion of her retirement, during the praying of Evening Prayer as part of her retirement celebration.

Pontiff") award.

Bishop McKnight and Bishop Gaydos affixed the pin and medal to her lapel during a Nov. 20 prayer service.

Sr. Kathleen thanked them both for the honor. She said she'd like to share it with the people of this diocese, "with whom I grew up and who helped form me," and with the international congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, "who continue to form and support me."

The world over

Sr. Kathleen recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of her profession in the SSND congregation.

Since entering religious life in 1967, she served as a teacher, principal and diocesan elementary-school director in Missouri and Illinois and as provincial councilor and provincial leader of the SSNDs' former St. Louis province.

She was a director of elementary schools for the St. Louis archdiocese from 1981-83; provincial councilor from 1983-91; and provincial leader from 1991-99.

She taught in Nepal for a semester in 2000, and taught English in Japan's largest Catholic school from 2002-04.

She has lived and spent time in various cultures in the United States and many other countries, including Honduras,



Bishop W. Shawn McKnight (left) and Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos present Sister Kathleen Wegman SSND the proclamation that came with an award she received from Pope Francis on the occasion of her retirement from full-time ministry.

— Photos by Jay Nies

Guatemala, Peru, Japan, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Italy.

The long way home

Upon returning to Jefferson City, Sr. Kathleen quickly recognized that God had been guiding her back to this place after equipping her with an array of helpful experience.

"One skill God has given me," she said, "is the ability to recognize the potential in people, call it forth and challenge them to put it to good use in strengthening the Body of Christ."

"That's how you grow the

Church," she stated. "That's how you grow a community of faith."

At the Chancery, she met individually with staff members to learn about their responsibilities, needs, desires and strengths.

"Part of my task was to help the staff continue to grow into a working, vibrant community of professionals," she said.

She discovered among the diocesan personnel "an incredible sense of service, creativity and zeal to serve a very rural, geographically vast diocese."

"There was this sense that if it's gonna' happen, we're gonna' make it so," she added.

She also tuned in to "a deeper desire for community of faith and unity — and we set out to help them move in that direction."

Likewise, she worked with pastors to help broaden people's vision for collaborative gover-

and to quickly seek forgiveness whenever necessary.

United in mission

The beginning of her tenure coincided with the first wave of priests arriving on mission from India, Nigeria, the Philippines and several other countries to minister in parishes here.

Based on her own experience as a missionary, she realized how hard it would be for many of these priests to minister here without some solid cultural preparation.

"I realized that I had spent time in many of their home countries when I was in congregational leadership," she recalled.

She and Father Joseph Corel, who was then the diocesan vocation director, set about organizing a series of classes and panel discussions to help the arriving priests understand important aspects of U.S. culture.

From modest beginnings, that grew into a wide-ranging orientation program for priests from overseas as well as the parishes that welcome them.

Father Roberto Ike, a priest from Nigeria who is administrator of St. Andrew parish in Holts Summit, now oversees the program as the diocese's moderator for international priests.

Fully rely on God

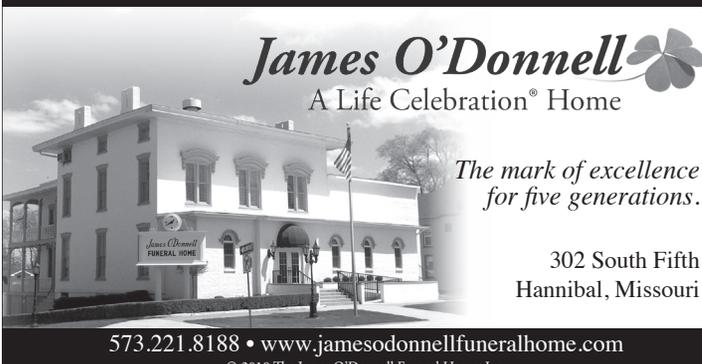
Throughout these 12 years and more miles than she could keep track of, Sr. Kathleen has been astonished by people's "incredible holiness and love of the Church."

"At a time when our values are being exceedingly challenged, I have found the People of God here to be all the more strong and committed," she said.

She hopes the Catholics of

See RETIRE, page 27

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, www.cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.



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Fundraisers & Social Events

Nov. 30

Starkenburg, Sounds of Starkenburg concerts, 1, 3:30 & 7 pm, St. Martin Church

Nov. 30-Dec. 1

Wien, Old Franciscan Monastery Tour at St. Mary of the Angels parish, Sat 6-8 pm, Sun 2-4 pm

Dec. 1

Vienna, K of C breakfast, 7:30-11 am

Dec. 3 & 5

Jefferson City, Helias Sader Shop Christmas Sale, 3:30-5:30 pm both days, Helias Catholic High School

Dec. 5, 6, & 7

Starkenburg, The Spirit of Christmas at Starkenburg concerts, 2:30 pm each day, St. Martin Church, with refreshments & country store in Valentine Hall

Dec. 6

Hermann, St. George School Christmas bazaar, 5-9 pm

Dec. 6-7

Columbia, Sacred Heart parish annual Christmas bazaar, Fri. 3-7 pm, Sat. 8 am-3 pm, Activity Building

Dec. 7

Fulton, St. Peter home & school trivia night, 6 pm; **Wardsville**, St. Stanislaus home & school Winter Market, 9 am-3 pm

Dec. 7-8

Columbia, St. Thomas More Newman Center parish Christmas resale, 8 am-1 pm, Multi-purpose Room; **Jefferson City**, St. Peter PSR poinsettia sale, after Masses; breakfast Sun. 7:30-11:30 am; **Wien**, Old Franciscan Monastery Tour at St. Mary of the Angels parish, Sat 6-8 pm, Sun 2-4 pm

Dec. 8

Belle, St. Alexander parish breakfast, 7-11 am; **Freeburg**, Holy Family parish fall supper, 11:30 am-6 pm; **Laurie**, K of C pancake breakfast, 9 am, St. Patrick parish; **Martinsburg**, St. Joseph parish breakfast, 8 am-noon, K of C hall

Dec. 15

Linn, K of C/St. Ann's Sodality breakfast buffet & bake sale, 7:30-11:30 am, St. George parish hall

Dec. 31

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows NCYC New Year's Eve dance

Meetings & Conferences

Dec. 1

Columbia, Post-Cursillo Area Wide Ultreya, 3-5 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes parish

Dec. 3

Moberly, Area Ultreya for Cursillo, 6:30 pm, St. Pius X parish undercroft, for info visit diojeffciv.org/cursillo

Dec. 5

Columbia, Area Ultreya for Cursillo holiday gathering, 6:30 pm light refreshments & cookie exchange, 7 pm Ultreya, Flanagan Hall, Our Lady of Lourdes parish, for info visit diojeffciv.org/cursillo

Dec. 12

Columbia, Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program Orientation, 5:30-7 pm, 916 Bernadette Drive

Dec. 26

Columbia, Cursillo School of Leaders, 7-8 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes parish

Jan. 9

Columbia, Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program Orientation, 5:30-7 pm, 916 Bernadette Drive

Jan 22-25

Washington DC, Annual March for Life pilgrimage, for info call Kris Hartman at (573) 635-9127 or email khartman@diojeffciv.org

Liturgical

Dec. 1

Mexico, Mass in Latin in the extraordinary form, noon, St. Brendan Church; **Novinger**, Sung Mass in the extraordinary form for the First Sunday of Advent, 6-8 pm, followed

by reception, St. Rose of Lima Church

Dec. 3

Lake Ozark, Taize Prayer, 5:30-6 pm, Our Lady of the Lake Church; **Linn**, Seeking Christ for our Nation Mass, 6:30 pm, St. George Church

Dec. 10

Starkenburg, Second Tuesday Mass, noon, Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows

Dec. 11

Lake Ozark, Taize Prayer, 7:30-8 pm, Our Lady of the Lake Church

Dec. 17

Mary's Home, Seeking Christ for our Nation Mass, 6 pm, Our Lady of the Snows Church

Dec. 21

Mexico, Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form, 11:15 am, St. Brendan Church

Retreats & Spiritual Renewal

Dec. 2

Lake Ozark, "Advent by Candlelight," women's ministry event, 6:30 pm, Bestgen Hall, Our Lady of the Lake parish, for info visit diojeffciv.org/womens-ministry/

Dec. 8

Jefferson City, "Advent Hope," afternoon of prayer & song, 2-3:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Church

Dec. 10

Jefferson City, "Hope, Faith, Peace, Joy," Advent reflection morning for women, 8 am, Oscar's Classic Diner, for

info visit diojeffciv.org/womens-ministry/

Jan. 3-5

Moberly, Engaged Encounter Weekend, St. Pius X Church, for info or to register, visit diojeffciv.org/marriage-preparation/ email preinkemeyer@diojeffciv.org or call (573) 635-9127

Youth & Young Adults

Dec. 13-14

Quincy, IL, Great River Quest #88 weekend (for grades 8-10), Franciscan Retreat Center of Quincy University, for info visit greatrivertec.org

Dec. 21

Mexico, Young adult Day of Recollection, for ages 18-35, by the Institute of Christ the King, 10 am-4 pm, St. Brendan Church

Jan 22-25

Washington DC, Annual March for Life pilgrimage, for info call Kris Hartman at (573) 635-9127 or email khartman@diojeffciv.org

Health & Wellness

Dec. 10

Loose Creek, Blood drive, 1:30-5:30 pm, Community Center

Dec. 14

Kirkville, Creighton Model FertilityCare introductory session, noon, Mary Immaculate parish center, to register call 660-665-2466 or email NEMOfertilitycare@gmail.com

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VEIT

From page 9

stories that are relevant to youngsters' current lives and struggles; 3) keep stories light and entertaining; 4) reframe old stories to find new meaning in them; and 5) include the actors' viewpoints and emotions in your narratives.

I'll add a suggestion of my own: I've found that self-deprecating humor is endearing, especially with teens and young adults. I think it makes us more approachable and allows others to admit their vulnerability.

Finally, as you prepare for family gatherings during the upcoming Christmas season, ask Our Lady of the Visitation to inspire you. During her own Advent, Mary visited her older cousin Elizabeth, who was also miraculously with child. While Mary brought Elizabeth the joy of Christ's presence and helped her with household tasks, I am sure that Elizabeth offered Mary the gifts of a listening ear, encouragement, wise counsel and the affirmation of her special vocation.

Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Anniversaries

California, Annunciation
Arturo & Maria Arellano, 35 years

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph
Bernard & Jean Schanzmeyer, 67 years

Jefferson City, St. Peter
Jim & Darlene Brenneke, 57 years
Dennis & Kay Hood, 50 years
Steve & Bev Cearlock, 47 years

Jonesburg, St. Patrick
Jeff & Barb Turpin, 39 years

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake
David & Annette Miller, 30 years

Martinsburg, St. Joseph
Bill & Jean Aulbur, 53 years
Henry & Kathleen Borgmeyer, 23 years

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows
Rance & Lisa Renn, 20 years

Moberly, St. Pius X
Raymond & Helen Skinner, 58 years

Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus
Roman & Vicki Miller, 49 years

Montgomery City, Immaculate Conception
Steven & Debbie Williams, 44 years
Walter & Debbie Heideberger, 40 years
Anthony & Michelle Mathews, 34 years
Mike & Vicki Oden, 28 years

Russellville, St. Michael
Glenn & Jackie Steenbergen, 45 years
Larry & Judy Thompson, 45 years
Robert & Maricel Tripp, 13 years

St. James, Immaculate Conception
John & Margarete Jacquin, 50 years

Vandalia, Sacred Heart
Jarred & Heather Jones, 20 years

Vienna, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Don & Gloria Brunner, 61 years
Adam & Kay Wieberg, 56 years
Greg & Laura Stratman, 40 years
Art & Connie Sandbothe, 38 years

Names for the People Page

Information for the People Page comes from parish correspondents and individual parishioners, as well as bulletins and newspapers. Submissions for anniversaries (10 years or more), birthdays (90 years or more), and baptisms, deaths, marriages and initiations of local parishioners may be e-mailed to editor@diojeffcity.org; FAXed to (573) 635-2286 (please designate *The Catholic Missourian* as the recipient); or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, P.O. Box. 104900, Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900.

Baptisms

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Sahlem Menghisteab, William Richmond**

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Brexton Alphonse Reeves**, son of Bradley & McKenzie Reeves

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Benjamin Lee Schaben**, son of Bryan & Elaine Schaben

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Henry Darin Watson**, son of Trent & Amber Watson

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Maxton Thomas Johnson**, son of Marty & Lauren Johnson

Macon, Immaculate Conception — **Adalyn Yvette Walker**, daughter of Zane & Marissa Walker

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Patrick Lee Adrian**, son of Andy & Sarah Adrian; **Emerson Phuong Schulte**, daughter of Brandon & Victoria Schulte

Montgomery City, Immaculate Conception — **Nate Austin Taylor**, son of Michael & Molly Taylor

Novinger, St. Rose of Lima — **Benjamin Almos King**, son of Andrew & Alicia King

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Cole Stephen and Brody Michael Sincavage**, sons of Casey & Meghan Sincavage; **Whitney Elizabeth Schwartze**, daughter of Kevin & Amanda Schwartze

Slater, St. Joseph — **Amelia Grace Rezabek**, daughter of Kevin & Elizabeth Rezabek

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Stella June Gawf**

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Kayson Grismore**, child of Jason & Kayla Grismore

WOMEN

From page 4

outcome has inspired participants and families.

Such collaborative efforts are exactly what the Committee on Pro-Life Activities has in mind in introducing its year of service, Archbishop Naumann said, adding, "We want to learn from what you are doing and share that with other dioceses."

The pro-life activities committee's effort began with a survey of parishes and Catholic charitable agencies to better understand what services to pregnant women were being offered.

"We know that more than 500,000 pregnant women are helped each year through a network of more than 2,700 pregnancy help centers, where many of our people volunteer," he said. "Well over 150,000 low-income mothers deliver their babies at our Catholic hospitals each year. Many tens of thousands of pregnant and parenting moms are helped each year through our Catholic Charities programs and help agencies. These are very encouraging numbers. Yet we also see that there are significant gaps."

He suggested that broader work is necessary to communicate the services currently offered.

The pro-life activities committee is developing educational, pastoral, and action-oriented materials for parish use during the year of service.

All materials will be posted in English and Spanish on the committee's website: www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities

Birthdays

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Helen Schanzmeyer**, her 90th on Dec. 8

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Eunice Welschmeyer**, her 92nd on Nov. 17

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Fred Mormann**, his 98th on Dec. 4

Meta, St. Cecilia — **Florentine Hagenhoff**, her 92nd on Nov. 27

Rosati, St. Anthony — **Josephine Marcus**, her 96th

Rhineland, Church of the Risen Savior — **Margret Bahr**, her 90th

Russellville, St. Michael — **Therese Schepers**, her 90th on Nov. 24

Marriages

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Maggie Fachtel & Daniel Cunningham**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Lila Backes & John Biggs**

Linn, St. George — **Brittany Bexten & Garrett Haslag**

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Garrett Rush & Samantha Knaebel**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Hannah Mefford & Rico Hernandez**

Indian Creek, St. Stephen — **Amanda Spalding**, chair; **Doug Orf**, vice chair; **Carol Hagan**, secretary; **Lee Anderson Eric Keller, Darin Underhill**, members, of the parish pastoral council

Elections

Diocesan Presbyteral Council — **Father Colin P. Franklin**, chairman; **Father Matthew J. Flatley**, vice chairman; **Father John J. Schmitz**, secretary

Deaths

California, Annunciation — **Kenneth J. Imhoff, Dorothy A. Scheidt**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Sahlem Menghisteab, William Richmond**

Cuba, Holy Cross — **J. Harold Chapman**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **William D. Stockman**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Bradley J. Brester, Phyllis N. Rusbult, Martha A. Wieberg**

Kahoka, St. Michael — **Ione Gilbert**

Linn, St. George — **Jesse M. Bish**

Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception — **Sylvester W. Muenks, Mary L. Nilges**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Stephen J. Rieth**

Palmyra, St. Joseph — **Barbara Merkel**

Rich Fountain — **Paul M. Filla**

Russellville, St. Michael — **Marie E. Campbell**

St. Anthony, St. Anthony of Padua — **Bernard "Ben" Engelmeyer**

St. Clement, St. Clement — **Lorraine "Bee" Meyer**

St. Martin, St. Martins — **Leander A. Bax, Teresa J. Bennett**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Deanna Wilbers**

Initiations

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Phyllis N. Rusbult**, who was received into the Catholic Church on Nov. 17



Crossword puzzle answers

N	O	S	S	R	E	R	V	A	R	B	R	E	R	O
G	K	K	H	V	R	H	H	N	E	N	O			
I	H	C	O	U	S	E	L	E						
S	O	G	E	F	P	N	V	M	O					
V	A	L	I	V	K									
E	D	P	K	C	R	I	R	L	V					
L	E	D	M	O	M	R	V	E	R	L				
M														
O	R	V	N	A	K	S	U	E	T					
R	B	R												
I	V	N	I	V	I	V	G	N	O					
L	C	V	V	V	V	G	N	O	H					
I	G	N	I	V	A	O	O	H	C					
K	N	B	E	A	O	L	V	T	W	O				

Prayers and blessings for vets



Students at Immaculate Conception School in Loose Creek pray over military veterans in their parish during a luncheon and student assembly the Friday before Veterans Day.

— Photo by Jessica Braun

Saints preserve us!



Third-graders at Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School in Columbia celebrate All Saint's Day by dressing up as their favorite saint for Mass.

— Photo by Elaine Hassmer

Fellowship divine



Students at St. Pius X School in Moberly dress are dressed up as their favorite saints for All Saints Day.

— Photo by Jill Head

“Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity.”

— 1 Timothy 4:12

For God and country



Seventh- and eighth-graders at St. Peter School in Fulton lead a Veterans Day service in St. Peter Church. Veterans were recognized by branch of service and honored with musical performances, poetry readings and a slide show. A continental breakfast and reception followed.

— Photo by Wendi Barr

Daniel tells a king the meaning of his dreams

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic News Service

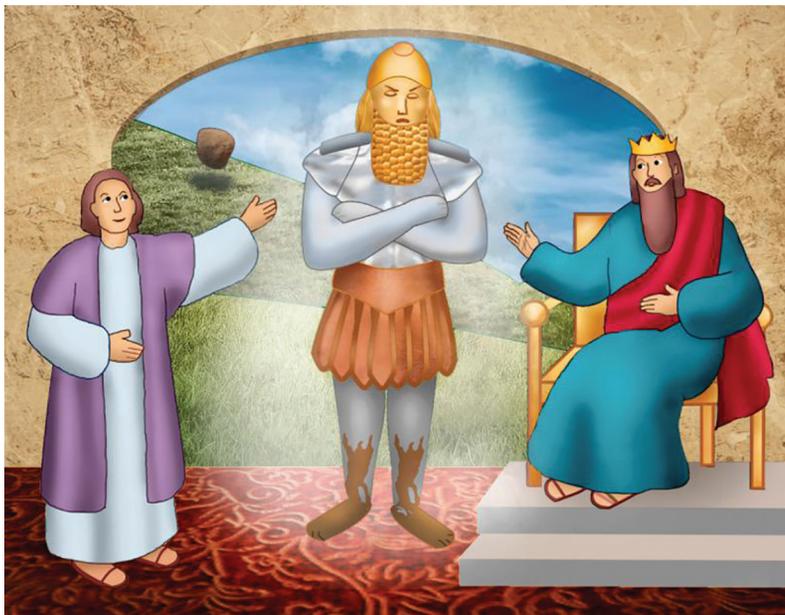
One day, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon wanted his dream interpreted.

He summoned all of the city's enchanters, sorcerers, magicians and Chaldeans. Nebuchadnezzar expected these men to know what his dream was without being told and then interpret it correctly.

The king became angry when the men said they could not do so, and he ordered all of Babylon's wise men to be put to death.

Daniel, an Israelite who had been taken to Babylon to serve Nebuchadnezzar after the king's siege of Jerusalem, heard what was going on.

God had blessed Daniel with knowledge, wisdom and the understanding of visions and dreams. So Daniel asked



for time from the king so he could interpret the dream.

During the night, God gave Daniel a vision in which the king's dream and its meaning were revealed.

Daniel praised God and asked to see the king.

"There is a God in heaven Who reveals mysteries, and He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what is to happen in the last days," he said.

He described the king's dream, which was about a very large and bright statue.

The statue's head was made of gold; its chest and arms were made of silver; its belly was made of bronze; its legs were made of iron; and its feet were part iron and part tile.

"While you looked at the statue, a stone which was hewn from a mountain without a hand being put to it, struck its iron and tile feet, breaking them in pieces. The iron, tile, bronze, silver and gold all crumbled at once. ... But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth," Daniel told the king.

Daniel explained that the statue's head represented Babylon, and the other parts

represented different kingdoms that would take Babylon's place. And the stone that struck the statue's feet and made the entire thing crumble represented the kingdom that God would create that would put an end to the other kingdoms and would not be destroyed.

The king was so pleased that he made Daniel ruler of the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men.

Read more about it... Daniel 2

1. Who wanted his dream interpreted?
2. Who revealed the dream's meaning to Daniel?

Bible Accent

In Genesis 41, we read another story of how God helped a man successfully interpret dreams.

Joseph's jealous brothers had sold him into slavery in Egypt, where Joseph was imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit. During that time, God gave Joseph the correct interpretations of the dreams of two fellow prisoners, Pharaoh's chief

cupbearer and chief baker.

Two years later, Pharaoh dreamed of seven fat cows being eaten by seven gaunt cows, and also dreamed about seven healthy ears of grain being swallowed by seven thin and scorched ears of grain.

Pharaoh summoned Egypt's magicians and sages, who could not interpret the dreams.

Pharaoh's chief cupbearer,

who was back in the king's service, remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

Pharaoh sent for Joseph, who explained that the fat cows and healthy grain represented seven years of abundance, while the gaunt cows and thin, scorched grain represented seven years of famine.

Joseph said that God was telling Pharaoh what was to come and suggested that a wise man be put in charge of collecting and storing food during the years of abundance so the Egyptians would survive the coming famine.

"Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one as discerning and wise as you are," Pharaoh said as he put Joseph in charge of all of Egypt.

Puzzle

Using the hints provided, answer the following questions about Daniel and Joseph.



1. What was Daniel's name changed to when he was taken to Babylon? (Daniel 1:7)
2. Where did King Darius cast Daniel? (Daniel 6:17)
3. Who was Joseph's father? (Genesis 37:3)
4. How many sons did Joseph have? (Genesis 46:20)



Answers: 1. Belshazzar; 2. in a lion's den; 3. Israel (Jacob); 4. two.

Trivia

What food did Daniel and his friends eat when they were being trained for the king's service? (Hint: Daniel 1:12)

Answer: Vegetables.

Saint Spotlight



St. Francis Xavier was born in 1506 in present-day Spain. He was among the first seven Jesuits, who were ordained to the Priesthood as a group in 1537. From 1541 until he died shortly after arriving on the Chinese coast in 1552, Francis was a missionary who evangelized in such countries as India, Malaysia, Japan, Sri Lanka and Mozambique. We remember him on Dec. 3.



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Authors approach end-of-life care from two separate angles

In the Mystery's Shadow: Reflections on Caring for the Elderly & Dying by Susan H. Swetnam. Liturgical Press (Collegetown, Minnesota, 2019). 156 pp., \$14.95.

The Crisis of U.S. Hospice Care: Family and Freedom at the End of Life, by Harold Braswell. Johns Hopkins University Press (Baltimore, 2019). 267 pp., \$54.95.

Reviewed by Kathleen Finley
Catholic News Service

For many facing the death of a loved one, the hospice movement in the U.S. has been a tremendous resource in the last generation or two, with many families wishing in retrospect they had been connected with hospice services sooner.

These two books offer us rather different and yet helpful perspectives on the important experience of hospice care for the dying.

In *In the Mystery's Shadow*, author Susan Swetnam offers us an up-close look at the care of those at the end of their lives.

A former college English professor, she found herself in retirement learning massage therapy and working with those who were aging and dying.

Her book is a gentle and thoughtful reflection for those working regularly with the aging or those experiencing this dynamic for the first time with

a relative.

She is clear and specific, for example talking about the importance of respect:

"A smile and a greeting offered to a stranger encountered by chance in the hallway of a nursing facility can improve mood, increase appetite and decrease anxiety. ... 'Spatial respect' is also desirable: sitting on the same level vs. towering over patients when speaking to them, offering a them a choice of seating if possible, providing services in a quiet, private setting."

When it comes to the observation often heard by those working with the dying that "I could never work with those who are going to die," she comments, "This is hardly the first time I've heard this sentiment, and as usual I resist the temptation to point out that everybody whose occupation involves dealing with human beings does exactly that all the time.

"Yes, sometimes it can be hard, I concede," she writes. "But end-of-life care is nevertheless one of the most inspirational, uplifting things I've ever done."

And Swetnam explains well both the risk and the gift: "The nature of the work (of caregiving) means also that all such ministers will also sooner or later be invited to undertake challenging self-examination. Working with the suffering and the dying has a way of

bringing out weaknesses and fears, venial self-protective tendencies, and character flaws. Caregivers will inevitably be brought — perhaps as few other occupational groups are — to acknowledge their common membership in the imperfect, sinning human race."

The second book takes a considerably different approach to the topic of hospice care, examining the more systemic issues of policy and politics as it impacts the hospice system.

The author, a professor of health care ethics, is exploring the topic professionally as well as personally, having cared for, as she was dying, the grandmother who raised him.

His introduction is especially helpful, making a distinction between the role of the family at the end of life as love, at which it is skilled, and labor, at which it is not.

Braswell argues, "Our hospice system requires a level of familial caregiving that is beyond the abilities of most families in the country. The result is the systemic undermining of hospice delivery."

And again, "Inadequate familial caregiving at the end of life is not primarily a personal failure. It is, rather, a failure of the political structure of (this) country. ... The high percentage of services paid for by Medicare makes individual hospices dependent on Medicare certification. ... Medicare thus determines the ability of U.S. hospices to function and determines the kinds of caregiving that they can — and cannot — afford to provide."

He suggests that, rather than supporting family care for the dying, the current system depends on family care, to the detriment and lack of freedom of all.

"The system claims to support the dying family," he

Movie Ratings



Adults and Adolescents

The Addams Family (PG)
Arctic Dogs (PG)
A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG)
The Divine Plan (not rated)
Frozen II (PG)
Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (PG)
Playing With Fire (PG)



Adults

Black and Blue (R)
Charlie's Angels (PG-13)
Countdown (PG-13)
The Current War: Director's Cut (PG-13)
Ford v Ferrari (PG-13)
The Good Liar (R)
Harriet (PG-13)
Lucy in the Sky (R)
Midway (PG-13)
Motherless Brooklyn (R)
Terminator: Dark Fate (R)



Limited Adult Audience

Doctor Sleep (R)
By the Grace of God (not rated)
21 Bridges (R)



Morally Offensive

Jexi (R)
Zombieland: Double Tap (R)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit www.usccb.org for current reviews.

writes. "In reality, it keeps the family so busy managing the dying person's needs that it denies both them and dying people the ability to collectively mourn. This denial or mourning is a denial of freedom, the ultimate restriction of what the dying person can do."

At times this reviewer, whose contact with hospice is firsthand both as a volunteer and a family member during a recent death, had trouble following and agreeing with his arguments, but he argues for the expansion of hospice services so that as a culture we're more focused on the end of life instead of just its beginnings.

He also mentions Rose Hawthorne Lathrop and her community as an excellent model of compassionate caring for the dying. As Mother Mary Alphonsa, Rose was foundress of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne.

Whether or not an expansion of hospice services is in the near future, both these books give us plenty to consider as we and our loved ones approach the ultimate frontier of death

with loving care and support.

Finley is the author of several books on practical spirituality, including Building a Christian Marriage: Eleven Essential Skills; Prayers for the Newly Married; and The Liturgy of Motherhood: Moments of Grace, and previously taught in the religious studies department at Gonzaga University.

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RETIRE

From page 21

this diocese will continue finding new ways to pour that personal holiness out in service to people who are in greatest need in their communities.

“Jesus spent a lot of time with poor people,” she noted. “I think He preferred being with them because they know their need for God.”

“I think we need them to evangelize us,” she stated.

Sr. Kathleen asks for continued prayers for her faithfulness to God’s calling, and for the free-



dom and courage to say “yes” to wherever that may lead her.

At the same time, she plans to pray “for the people of the Jefferson City diocese to always continue to be open to the action of God in their lives, have the grace to recognize it, and live with gratitude.”

“I always think a sign of God’s Spirit and holiness is gratitude, to live gratefully,” she said. “I certainly will live much more gratefully, because of my experience here.”

“Cross for the Church and Pontiff”

The Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (“Cross for the Church and Pontiff”), which Pope Francis awarded to Sister Kathleen Wegman SSND, is bestowed in recognition of distinguished service to the Church and papacy.

The award is a medal carrying a modern image of a square-

shaped, gold Greek cross and likenesses of St. Peter and St. Paul. At the base of the cross is the Latin name of the reigning Pope and the papal coat of arms.

Pope Leo XIII established the award on July 17, 1888, to mark the 50th anniversary of his own priestly ordination.

Although Pope Leo originally intended it to be his specific mark of honor, his successors continued to bestow the award. It became a permanent distinction in 1898.

The current cross was designed by Pope St. Paul VI, who reigned from 1963-78.



Sister Bernita Wasinger, Sister Anne Boessen, Sister Mary Ruth Wand, Sister Francine Koehler, Sister Jean Dietrich, Sister Julie Brandt, Sister Barbara Neist and Sister Mary Helen Stokes — who are all School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSNDs) — gather in the chapel of the Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center in Jefferson City with Sister Kathleen Wegman SSND (fourth from right) at a celebration for her retirement from full-time ministry.

— Photos by Jay Nies

ST. MARTINS

From page 19

“They understand”

Mrs. Clingman, the principal, said having the children and Bishop McKnight worship together at Mass and visit with

one another at school was a hopeful sign.

“It’s kind of awesome to see the bishop walking around school with the future leaders of

our Church, isn’t it?” she stated.

She said children are always refreshingly genuine and honest.

“They understand that God is everywhere and that God is

Daily Readings

Sunday, Dec 1

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is. 2:1-5
Ps. 122:1-9
Rom. 13:11-14
Mt. 24:37-44

Monday, Dec 2

Is. 4:2-6
Mt. 8:5-11

Tuesday, Dec 3

St. Francis Xavier, priest
Is. 11:1-10
Lk. 10:21-24

Wednesday, Dec 4

St. John Damascene, priest, doctor of the Church
Is. 25:6-10a
Mt. 15:29-37

Thursday, Dec 5

Is. 26:1-6
Mt. 7:21, 24-27

Friday, Dec 6

St. Nicholas, bishop
Is. 29:17-24
Mt. 9:27-31

Saturday, Dec 7

St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church
Is. 30:19-21, 23-26
Mt. 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday, Dec 8

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is. 11:1-10
Ps. 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Rom. 15:4-9
Mt. 3:1-12

Monday, Dec 9

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Gn. 3:9-15, 20
Ps. 98:1-4
Eph. 1:3-6, 11-12
Lk. 1:26-38

Tuesday, Dec 10

Is. 40:1-11
Mt. 18:12-14

Wednesday, Dec 11

St. Damasus I, Pope
Is. 40:25-31
Mt. 11:28-30

Thursday, Dec 12

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
Zec. 2:14-17 or Rv. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Lk. 1:26-38 or Lk. 1:39-47

Friday, Dec 13

St. Lucy, virgin, martyr
Is. 48:17-19
Mt. 11:16-19

Saturday, Dec 14

St. John of the Cross, priest, doctor of the Church
Sir. 48:1-4, 9-11
Mt. 17:9a, 10-13

The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for December:

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

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love,” she said.

She hopes spending time with children in a faith-filled environment was a calming, refreshing experience for the bishop.

“You can feel the presence of God in a Catholic school,” she said, “because children are innocent. Children want to have fun. Children are always looking for the next thing to do.”

“I hope he saw the goodness of the young flock he leads and that it gave him a glimpse of the Kingdom of God,” she stated. “It’s thriving here in the

diocese!”

She encourages the children and adults of St. Martin School to pray for the bishop and their priests — “for strength, courage, perseverance, and in the words of Father Bill Debo, ‘to be kind, to be kind, to be kind.’”

She asked for prayers for God to grace the children at St. Martin School with the virtues they will need to answer their calling from God and live holy lives.

“Pray for us to grow holy habits and use those holy habits to answer our vocation,” she said.



FARM TOY SHOW

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Holts Summit Advent parish mission

DATE: December 9-12
TIME: 7 pm

Father William Casey of the Fathers of Mercy will lead an Advent parish mission for St. Andrew parish in Holts Summit from Monday through Thursday, Dec. 9-12.

Mission talks will be given at 7 p.m. each evening in St. Andrew Church, 400 St. Andrews Drive, off Center Street.

All are invited to attend any or all of the talks.

"During the mission, Fr. Casey will challenge us to make a stronger, deeper personal commitment to Christ and His Church," organizers stated. "We invite everyone to join us as we

prepare during Advent for the coming of Christ at Christmas."

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