

## Blazing another trail

Members of Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School's Class of 2020 reflect on this unique moment in history and the four years of preparation they've had for it.

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# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

July 10, 2020 • Vol. 64 No. 1

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Pro-life setbacks call for prayer, vigilance



Members of St. Patrick parish in Laurie displayed these banners on the church grounds through May and June, along with 150 white crosses in memory the millions of pre-born babies who have been lost to abortion.

— Photo by Bob O'Bryan

### Missouri Catholic Conference, other groups pledge renewed efforts in light of developments likely to benefit abortion providers

By Jay Nies

Three recent developments that could lead to a resurgence in the number of abortions in Missouri highlight the danger of relying on lawmakers and judges alone to make everything right.

"It's a spiritual battle that requires us to work to change hearts and minds. That's the way it's always been," said Deacon Tyler McClay, executive director and general counsel for the Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC), public-policy agency for the state's four Roman Catholic dioceses.

"There are no shortcuts," he said. "We need to keep focusing on walking with moms in need and accompanying them and finding ways to encourage families to stay together so there are two parents to help raise these kids."

In separate but nearly concurrent developments:

- The U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Louisiana law that required abortionists to be doctors with admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of where the abortions take place.

This could affect a similar Missouri law, which is intended to ensure that women can receive timely, proper medical care if she is injured during an abortion.

- The Missouri Supreme Court overturned a provision in a state appropriations bill that would have kept Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid payments for family planning and other non-abortion services.

The federal Hyde Amendment,

See PRO-LIFE, page 15

## Denver Bishop: Servant of God Julia Greeley shows how love and mercy defeat hate, division

By Jay Nies

Fathomless and impenetrable is the inner life of the One and Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit — "an infinite love in all directions, that reaches everyone as a wonderful gift of Himself."

That love and that gift is what gave Servant of God Julia Greeley the power to endure unspeakable suffering in this life en route to never-ending communion with God in the next.

"This is the work of the presence of the Most Holy Trinity in a human heart," stated Auxiliary Bishop Jorge Rodríguez of Denver. "This is the way of the saints: the way of love to change things, to bring about healing and true service beyond prejudice and division."

He was offering Mass in the Denver's Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, where the earthly remains

of Miss Greeley, a former Missouri slave, await the Resurrection.

It was the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity and the 102nd anniversary of her death.

Throughout her difficult life, Miss Greeley fixed her gaze on Jesus's Sacred Heart and on directing His mercy toward people in need.

"Her secret was her love for Jesus and neighbor," Bishop Rodríguez proclaimed.

Celebrating the Mass with the bishop were Father Ronald Cattany, rector of the cathedral and custodian of Servant of God Julia's remains, and Capuchin Franciscan Father Blaine Burke, her biographer, who is actively promoting her saint-

See JULIA GREELEY, page 17

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## Pray for deceased priests

July 12 — **Fr. Henry J. Figge**, Immaculate Conception, Owensville (1978)  
 July 14 — **Fr. John P. Walsh**, St. Joseph, Westphalia (1992); **Msgr. Raphael P. Keyes**, St. Anthony, Camdenton; Our Lady of the Snows, Climax Springs; and St. Bernadette, Hermitage (2010)  
 July 24 — **Msgr. John F. Kenny**, St. Anthony of Padua, Folk (1981); **Fr. Joseph B. Boland**, Holy Guardian Angels, Brinktown (1998); **Fr. Arthur J. Mersinger**, St. Cecilia, Meta (2003)  
 July 25 — **Fr. Francis L. Kennedy**, St. Patrick, Jonesburg (1984)

## 'Summa Camp' in J.C.

**DATE:** August 3-7  
**TIME:** 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

The "Summa Camp," for grades Kindergarten through Grade 5, will take place at St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City from Aug. 3-7.

The camp will feature many engaging, challenging, and en-

tertaining activities.

The "Summa Camp" benefits Helias Catholic High School students traveling to Rome during the summer of 2021.

Hours for the camp will be 7:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.

Search online for "Ancient Rome Summa Camp Enrollment Form" to sign up.

## Position Openings



Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Jefferson City is EXPANDING our Pre-Kindergarten Program and is looking to hire for the following positions beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. Please send your resume to Mrs. Heather Schimpf if you are interested in any position listed below. ([hschimpf@icangels.com](mailto:hschimpf@icangels.com))

**Pre-Kindergarten Teacher:** Full-time position during the school year. Applicant must have certification in Early Childhood Education. Wages dependent on experience and qualifications.

**Pre-Kindergarten Teaching Aide:** Full-time position during the school year (9am-3pm daily). Experience in early childhood education is preferred. Wages dependent on experience.

**Pre-Kindergarten Aide/PreK After School Care:** Part-time position during the school year (3-5:30pm M/W/F & 1:30-5:30pm T/TH) Wages dependent on experience.

**Pre-Kindergarten Aide/PreK After School Care:** Part-time position during the school year (3-5:30pm daily). Wages dependent on experience.

# CHRISTpower retreat transformed into the #CHRISTpowerChallenge

By Jay Nies

Embers of past CHRISTpower retreats will ignite throughout the diocese and beyond the week of July 13-18, as former participants and others take up the #CHRISTpower Challenge.

This interactive observance is being held in lieu of the annual Catholic service and renewal retreat for high school teens.

"While we can't offer a traditional CHRISTpower experience this summer, we know that the Power of Christ is still alive and active in the Church," stated Joe Powers, who was helping to organize this year's retreat.

CHRISTpower alumni and all others who want to take part are invited to perform spiritual and corporal works of mercy in their homes and local communities and to share their work through the social media campaign, #CHRISTpower Challenge.

People who sign up at [diojeffcity.org/christpower](http://diojeffcity.org/christpower) will receive a specially-designed CHRISTpower T-shirt.

Participants will be able to sign up for specific acts of prayer, fasting and service in solidarity with one another throughout the week.

So far, pledges of fasting have included giving up certain meals or the use of electronic devices.

"We even have someone who's not a morning person, who will be fasting from sleeping in," he said.

CHRISTpower retreats combine service to and fellowship with people in need,

### The Catholic Missourian

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"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."  
 — Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight  
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camaraderie-building activities, prayer experiences and lively faith discussions.

This was to have been the diocese's 17th annual offering.

"Even though what we have this year may look different and the setting may be different, the core value of making Christ present to others through service cannot be cancelled," said Mr. Powers.

This year's CHRISTpower theme was to be: "Long live the Queen of Heaven and Earth!"

"Mary is a beautiful role model of service and of prayer, so she is our inspiration for the week," said Father Daniel Merz, spiritual director for CHRISTpower.

Mr. Powers is working a youth ministry internship with

the diocese and plans to pursue a master's degree in theology at Ave Maria University in Florida.

He hopes that in discerning a service project, participants will ask themselves: "In what ways will this make me better? In what ways can I really serve the people around me in my own community, in my own life, maybe even in my own home?"

All service, to some degree, is sacrificial.

"Our Blessed Mother, among many other things, is a perfect model of servitude," said Mr. Powers. "She was obedient to the will of God in all of the suffering that she knew it would entail.

"In that way, she is a model for all Christians, he said.

## Administrative Assistants Needed



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City is seeking two Administrative Assistant positions in their Jefferson City office at 2207 West Main Street.

An experienced Administrative Assistant is needed to support the **Vocations and Diaconate Offices** of the diocese. This position requires excellent skills in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.), with the ability to take meeting minutes. Office hours are typically Monday-Friday, however, occasional evening or weekend hours may be needed to assist with events and programs. This is a great opportunity to be involved with individuals who are discerning a call to Priesthood.

The **Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General** are seeking an accomplished Administrative Assistant to support their clerical needs. This individual must have excellent skills with Microsoft Office and the ability to prioritize and switch tasks as needed. This position is also responsible for training others, holds the key position for coordinating maintenance on office equipment and will serve as a back-up administrative assistant to the Bishop as necessary. Professionalism and confidentiality are essential.

Qualified candidates for either of these positions should email a resume to [HRDir@diojeffcity.org](mailto:HRDir@diojeffcity.org).

# Bishop McKnight's statement on updated list of credibly accused or removed from ministry in the Diocese of Jefferson City

*Bishop W. Shawn McKnight issued the following statement on July 2, 2020:*

Today, I am updating the list of priests and religious brothers who have served in the Diocese of Jefferson City and who have been credibly accused of actions that were in violation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

The update includes the addition of John Condit to the list, and the change in status of Robert Duesdieker and Mel Lahr, who are already on the list.

The addition of John Condit to the list is the result of an investigation by the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Condit, now deceased, was ordained a priest of the archdiocese in 1945.

On June 24 of this year, the archdiocese announced the finding of a substantiated alle-

gation of sexual abuse of a minor by Condit, which allegedly occurred while he was serving as a military chaplain overseas, and as a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

In 1973, Condit, a native of Jefferson City, came to the Diocese of Jefferson City and served as a priest here until his death in 1994.

The parishes where he served — St. Francis Xavier in Taos, Ss. Peter and Paul in Boonville, St. Joseph in Fayette, and St. John in Bahner — were notified the weekend of June 27-28 of this information.

The Diocese of Jefferson City has never received an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor from a survivor in connection with Condit's service in the diocese.

The removal of Duesdieker and Lahr from the clerical state, commonly known as laicization, is the conclusion of a canonical process that includ-

ed an independent, internal review of our diocesan files, the consultation of the Diocesan Review Board, and an appeal to the Holy See for a formal decision.

These changes are the direct result of the responses to the initial publication of a list of credibly accused clergy in November 2018.

Because of this transparency, survivors of clerical abuse and their families felt safe to come forward and share their pain, several for the first time in decades.

Their courage allowed me to follow the Church's process to have Duesdieker and Lahr permanently removed from the clerical state.

This means they are no longer recognized as priests of the Catholic Church.

For too many survivors of sexual abuse, the pain of abuse is still present in their lives. The announcement of this updated list is another effort to assure survivors that they are being heard and that their healing is a top priority for me.

The updated list may be found on our website at [diojeffcity.org/clergy-removed-list-7-2-2020](http://diojeffcity.org/clergy-removed-list-7-2-2020).

As a Church, we are committed to a safe, healthy and holy environment for our children. If anyone is aware of any inappropriate behavior toward our children or vulnerable adults, please contact the

appropriate Missouri state hotline:

- The Missouri Child Abuse

at (573) 751-8791.

In addition, please contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator, a licensed professional counselor and a certified clinical trauma professional, Nancy Hoey. You may email her at [reportabuse@diojeffcity.org](mailto:reportabuse@diojeffcity.org) or call her at (573) 694-3199.

I pray this effort on our part provides some small measure of hope and opens an opportunity for healing to those immediately harmed

**PROMISE TO PROTECT**



**PLEDGE TO HEAL**

If you or someone you know has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, believe in the possibility for Hope, Help and Healing.

Please contact

- Victim assistance coordinator: Nancy Hoey at 573-694-3199
- Missouri Attorney General's office: <https://ago.mo.gov/other-resources/clergy-abuse-resources>
- The Missouri Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-3738
- The Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-0210
- Your local civil authorities

For information from the State of Missouri regarding reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, please visit <http://dss.mo.gov/cd/can.htm>

Diocese of Jefferson City 

& Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-3738.

- The Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-0210.

Abuse by a member of the clergy should be reported to the Missouri attorney general

by sexual abuse.

We are building momentum in ensuring our parishes are places where people can not only be safe from harm, but be centers of charity and mercy, places of growth in the Christian life.

**Bishop McKnight's July prayer intention for our Local Church**

For the unity of our country: that the God of truth may open our hearts to the truth of the Gospel, that peace may rule our hearts, and that justice may guide our nation of one people of many races.

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

**Intención del mes de julio del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local**

Por la unidad de nuestro país: que el Dios de la verdad abra nuestros corazones a la verdad del Evangelio, que la paz reine nuestros corazones y que la justicia guíe nuestra nación de un pueblo de muchas razas.





## Bishop McKnight's Calendar

**JULY**

*Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.*

The following appointments are tentative, depending on the pandemic:

**July 12** Installation of Reverend Jason T. Doke STL, 10:30 am, St. Martin Parish, St. Martins

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## Court ruling favors employer exemptions to contraceptive coverage

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

In a 7-2 ruling July 8, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Trump administration rules that give employers more ability to opt out of providing contraceptive coverage in their health plans.

The decision, written by Justice Clarence Thomas, said the administration had “the authority to provide exemptions from the regulatory contraceptive requirements for employers with religious and conscientious objections.”

Dissenting votes were by Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor.

The case examined if the expansion of the conscience exemption from the Affordable Care Act’s contraceptive mandate violated the healthcare law and laws governing federal administrative agencies.

It highlighted — as it has before when the Affordable Care Act’s contraceptive mandate has come before the high court — the Little Sisters of the Poor, the order of women religious who care for the elderly poor. The sisters were represented, as they have been previously, by Becket, a religious liberty law firm.

The oral arguments were the combined cases of *Little Sisters of the Poor Saints Peter and Paul Home v. Pennsylvania* and *Trump v. Pennsylvania*.

A recap of the sisters’ in-

volvement in this case goes back to 2013 when religious groups and houses of worship were granted a religious exemption by the Supreme Court from the government’s mandate to include contraceptive coverage in their employee health plans. Three years later, religious non-profit groups challenged the requirement to comply with the mandate and the court sent the cases back to the lower courts with instructions for the federal government and the challengers to try to work out an agreeable solution.

Then in 2017, religious groups were given further protection from the contraceptive mandate through an executive order issued by President Donald Trump requiring the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to write a comprehensive exemption to benefit religious ministries, including the Little Sisters of the Poor, from the contraceptive mandate. HHS provided this exemption in 2018, but several states challenged it, including California, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, saying HHS didn’t have the power to give this exemption.

Pennsylvania and New Jersey obtained a nationwide injunction against the rules protecting religious objectors from the contraceptive mandate; that injunction was then upheld by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, based in Philadelphia.



A demonstrator in Washington holds a large cross outside the U.S. Supreme Court July 8, 2020.

— CNS photo/Jonathan Ernst, Reuters

This is where the Little Sisters come back because they appealed the circuit court’s ruling and asked the Supreme Court to step in.

In one of the two consolidated cases, *Trump v. Pennsylvania*, the administration argued that the exceptions to the contraceptive mandate for religious groups were authorized by the healthcare law and required by the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act, known as RFRA.

Lawyers for Pennsylvania and New Jersey said the administration lacked statutory authority to issue such regulations and said the government did not follow proper administrative procedures.

The second case examines whether the Little Sisters of the Poor had the standing to appeal the 3rd Circuit ruling

since a separate court order had already allowed them to refuse to provide contraceptive coverage in their employee health plans.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops filed a friend-of-the-court brief siding with the Little Sisters of the Poor,

which stressed that the court needs to set the record straight, particularly with its interpretation of RFRA, which says “governments should not substantially burden religious exercise without compelling justification.”

The brief said there was a compelling need to review this case not only because the 3rd Circuit Court decision conflicts with other Supreme Court rulings on this topic in *Hobby Lobby* and *Zubik* decisions, but because its ruling “threatens to reduce one of America’s leading civil rights laws to virtual impotence,” referring to RFRA.

It emphasized that RFRA essentially hangs in the balance because the appeals court “adopted a grudging interpretation of the statute that will, unless reversed, too often deny protection for religious people and institutions.”

## Catholic schools have right to fire teachers, Supreme Court says

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

In a 7-2 ruling July 8, the Supreme Court said the California Catholic schools sued for job discrimination for firing teachers had acted within their rights in the recent firings.

The decision, written by Justice Samuel Alito, said: “What matters, at bottom, is what an employee does.”

He said that even though the elementary school teachers “were not given the title of ‘minister’ and have less religious training” than the teacher in the previous court case involving the ministerial exception, the court holds that the same rule applies.

“The religious education and formation of students is the very reason for the existence of most private religious schools, and therefore the selection and supervision of the teachers upon whom the schools rely to do this work lie at the core of their mission,” Alito wrote.

Dissenting votes were by Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor.

This case examined if courts can hear employment discrimination claims brought by teachers at Catholic elementary schools. It involved California Catholic school teachers who claimed they had been victims of job discrimination and the schools who fired them who said they were exempt from anti-discrimination laws due to ministerial exception spelled out in a previous Supreme Court case about a fired teacher at a Lutheran school.

The cases before the court were a combination of two cases, *St. James School v. Biel* and *Our Lady of Guadalupe School v. Morrissey-Berrum*, both schools in the Los Angeles Archdiocese.

At St. James School in Torrance, former fifth grade teacher, Kristen Biel, said she was fired after informing school administrators that she had breast cancer and would have to take time off for surgery and chemotherapy. She sued under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Biel died last

See PERSONNEL, page 18

## “Heal our land”

Red, white and blue bunting and candles adorn a pedestal holding an image of the Blessed Mother in the sanctuary of newly renovated St. Joseph Church in Westphalia July 5, during a prayer service for healing and holiness in the United States. Father Anthony Viviano, pastor of the Westphalia parish and of St. Anthony of Padua parish in Folk, led the service and preached the message. The theme was “Heal Our Land” (Chronicles 7:14).

— Photo from the St. Joseph Catholic Church, Westphalia, MO Facebook page



## Building relationships, partnerships in mission around the world

By Jay Nies

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and his delegation processed down the lane connecting the main road and the sprawling plaza outside the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary in Kunkuri, India.

They walked past schools, convents, novitiates, a hospital, an orphanage and other unmistakable manifestations of God's

churches, schools, roads, clean-water wells and other essentials in these priests' home dioceses.

Mr. Seifert emphasized the importance for Catholic Christians not only to help people at home "but also the people of our sister dioceses in other nations."

"We create partnerships rooted in gratitude and the things that unite us," he said. "For in-

Who is Father of us all," he said, paraphrasing Ephesians 5.

### "Sharing our faith"

Mr. Seifert holds a degree in marketing from Lincoln University in Jefferson City and a master's degree in business administration (MBA) from William Woods College in Fulton.

He worked in the diocesan Stewardship Office from August 2008 to June 2012, then provided administrative and development support for Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri before becoming development director there.

Mr. Seifert has been serving as diocesan development director since July 2018. He accepted additional responsibilities of promoting the missions upon the retirement of longtime mission director Mark Saucier this February.

"When we help people beyond our own backyards, we are helping fulfill Jesus's Great Commission to make disciples of all nations," said Mr. Seifert.

"We are sharing our faith when we give in faith," he added. "It is evangelization. We are spreading the Word of God and making Christ's presence known among the poorest of the poor."

Mr. Seifert is grateful for Mr. Saucier's years of service and dedication in making the Mission Office what it is today. "Mark had a

great passion for working with our mission partners to help empower those living in poverty around the globe," said Mr. Seifert.

### Simple gifts

Mr. Seifert will always remember the time he spent in In-



Children attend the golden jubilee celebration for the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary in Kunkuri, India, in February 2020.

needs that still exist there.

"One thing that will always remain in my mind is how grateful and happy the local people were, even though they had very little," he stated.

Similar stories permeate all of the places touched by the diocesan missions — from Father Dandi Bermejo's mission to the sugar plantation workers in Negros Occidental in the Philippines to Father César Anicama's ministry in poor neighborhoods in Lima, Peru.

Mr. Seifert asked for continued prayerful and material support for the missions.

"Without prayer and without money, our ability to help is very limited," he said. "Only with a combination of prayers and donations will we be able to keep growing our mission partnerships and help spread the Good News to the ends of the earth."

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**The Diocesan Mission Collection will be taken up in parishes throughout the Jefferson City diocese the weekend of July 18-19. It benefits the Jefferson City diocese's mission partnerships as well as the worldwide initiatives of the Pontifical Mission Societies. The needs and opportunities are vast. Please give generously.**

unfailing love for His people.

They could see and feel the Church being built-up all around them.

"And when we got back home a few weeks later, sure enough, the Church was being built-up all around us here, too," stated Jake Seifert, director of development and missions for the Jefferson City diocese.

Such is the mutuality of mission.

Priests from faraway places that in previous generations were considered mission countries are now administering the sacraments and helping build-up the Church in dioceses all over Europe and the United States.

This includes the Jefferson City diocese, where 15 priests on mission from dioceses in Ghana, India, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda are helping care for the spiritual needs of the faithful.

They inject news kinds of energy and insight into their preaching and interaction with parishioners, fellow priests, and the public.

All the while, the diocesan Mission Office, with nearly 60 years of promoting and supporting overseas Catholic mission work, is helping to build

stance, we are comparably rich in terms of our earthly resources, which we are willing to share and invest in growing churches beyond our national borders."

They are comparably rich in priestly resources that they are willing to share in order to help spiritually sustain the people here.

"We give to each other," said Mr. Seifert, "which is what makes us mission partners!"

As mission director, Mr. Seifert sees his role as helping others recognize Christ at work with them and in them whenever they help people in need — at



**Hundreds line up for a Confirmation Mass with Bishop W. Shawn McKnight in St. Joseph Church in Tapkara, in the Diocese of Jashpur, India.**  
— Photos by Jake Seifert

home and around the world.

"Whenever we help the missions, we are helping the Church grow as a whole," he said.

It's essentially about building relationships and strengthening unity throughout the Church — "one Body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one God

## Congratulations and welcome!

The following people received sacraments of initiation this spring through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children. Additional names will be included on the People Page in future print editions of The Catholic Missourian as the information becomes available:

**“The hand of the Lord was with them and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.” — Acts 11:21**

**Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul** — Ryan Brooks, Mason Burnett, Kimberly Burnett, Scott Burnett, Daniel Gerke, Delaney Gerke, Elysium Jones, Isabelle Jones, Joshua Jones, Kimberly Jones, Larry Jones, Rhodes Leonard, Brantley Schuster, Clayton Schuster, Brayden Viertel, Ellie Viertel

**Camdenton, St. Anthony** — Isabella Sordillo

**Centralia, Holy Spirit** — Priscilla Dobbs, Neil Martin, Don McVay, Chris Parish, Rusty Parish

**Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes** — Jordan Gray, David Ladd, Sarah Ladd, Carly Ladd

**Cuba, Holy Cross** — Daniel Garbo, Jennifer Garbo, Mya Garbo, Henry Gibson, Miracle Gibson, Virginia Gibson, Donald Hudson, Marlene Karns, Abigail Schlueter, Lauren Wall

**Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians** — Benjamin Cook, Ashley Cunningham, Jeffrey Cunningham, Lilly Cunningham, Riley Cunningham, Bria Kempker, Jerica Kempker, Sara Mengwasser

**Fulton, St. Peter** — Crystal Atterberry, Pandora Walker

**Hannibal, Holy Family** — Virginia Collins, Oliver Davis, Kevin Hill, Sue Lane, Cole Painter, Dalton Powell, Brenda Rutherford, Ashley Ryan, Brent Taylor, Latrinda Taylor

**Indian Creek, St. Stephen** — Kelsie Meeker, Johnathan Watson, Aaron Whelan, Elaine Whelan, Emmett Whelan, Austin Whelan

**Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception** — Alyssa Biggs, Megan Brown, David Crenshaw, Molly Crenshaw, Amy Earl, Jeff Earl, Mabry Earl, Bodie Haller, Jen Haller, Addyson Heckman, Holly Heckman, Candy LeCuru, Hailey LeCuru, James Nelson

**Kirkville, Mary Immaculate** — Austin Baker, Judy DeLaney

**Laurie, St. Patrick** — Aaron Allen, Amber Ford, Gregory Ford

**Marshall, St. Peter** — Brian Miles, Aaron Wright

**Martinsburg, St. Joseph** — Delana Becker, Daniel Bosworth, Dustin Chism, Nick Larson, Kyle Norris

**Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows** — Crystal Hoover, Cindy McKenna, Jessica Thompson

**Moberly, St. Pius X** — Dawn Cross, Maura Dutton, Meghan Dutton, Ryder Dutton, Ross Dutton, Ross Dutton II, Sandy Dutton, Ashley Hagedorn, Abby Bartley Horstmeier, Amanda Johnson, Nick Richards, Tristin Prewitt, Aliza Prewitt, Christina Webster, Mallory Webster, Matt Webster

**Monroe City, Holy Rosary** — Amanda Cheely

**Montgomery City, Immaculate Conception** — Mathew Moore, Jessi Skaggs

**St. Anthony, St. Anthony of Padua** — Ryan Brauner, Austin Otto

**St. Clement, St. Clement** — Sherri Graham, Brittany Henke, Brenda Miller, Nichole Mollerus, Donald Moore, Kayla Parrish

**St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence** — Jessica Deardeuff

**St. Martins, St. Martin** — Haden Faris, Sean Faris, Chase Hewitt, Nolan Hewitt, Blake Scholl

**Salisbury, St. Joseph** — Ryan Niemeier

**Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul** — Ramon Alejo, Samantha Brooks, Chelsea Castillo, Luis Alain Carlos Diaz, Lisved Matacua, Katherine Paul, Daniel Gonzalez Talavera, Francisco Gonzalez Talavera

**Taos, St. Francis Xavier** — William Allen, Robert Eveler, Koreen LePage, Nathan Timmerman

**Vienna, Visitation** — Davis Beltz, Sloane Snodgrass



## Godson's confirmation a chance to reflect on God's good timing

*The following reflection by the director of religious education at St. Mary of the Angels parish in Wien is from Pentecost Sunday, when his godson received the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

**By Joe Bertsch**

Today, five of our youth celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is a very fitting day on the Solemnity of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church.

In the First Reading from the Book of Acts, we hear how there was a noise like a strong driving wind coming from the sky, and tongues of fire came and rested on each of those

who were staying in the Upper Room.

They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages.

We hear how people came out and formed large crowds and were amazed that each person could understand even though they spoke different languages.

Many were baptized with the Holy Spirit that day.

We might ask, why tongues of fire?

Fire gives us light, warmth, and energy and so does the Holy Spirit.

When the Holy Spirit came upon Peter and the others, it

gave them light to see things they never saw before, as well as wisdom to understand things they had seen but never understood.

Just as fire gives us energy to change raw food into cooked food for consumption, the Holy Spirit gave them energy to change their languages so that all who were gathered could understand them and hear the message they were proclaiming.

Upon hearing this joyous message, the people wanted to

be baptized, to receive the Holy Spirit, so that they could see and understand these things too. In the Gospel from John, Jesus stood in the midst of the

**God doesn't always give us what we want or how we want it, but He is always working for good. Sometimes, we need to relax a little more and allow His purposes to work out.**

apostles and showed them His wounds, which reminds us of our sins.

But instead of making them feel bad about it, He says, “Peace be with you” — mean-

ing He had forgiven them their sins.

He again said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you.”

And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.”

This is where Jesus instituted the great healing Sacrament of Reconciliation.

See CONFIRMED, page 23

## In Laurie, priest urges pilgrims to prepare for death, eternity

By Jay Nies

Spiritual battle was the topic of a recent Saturday pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Mary Mother of the Church in Laurie.

Father Anthony Viviano took the role of field sergeant.

"I was asked to speak on 'Good or Evil, Jesus or Satan,'" said Fr. Viviano, pastor of St. Joseph parish in Westphalia and St. Anthony of Padua parish in Folk, who directed the pilgrimage.

"I added 'heaven or hell' to help drive home the gravity of the spiritual battle," he said.

About 20 people took part in the pilgrimage, which included mission talks and personal testimony from Fr. Viviano, in addition to Mass, Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, private prayer, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and lunch.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was available

throughout the day.

One hundred fifty first-class relics, under the watch of Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, were displayed for veneration and intercessory prayer with the saints.

"Fr. Viviano gave a great presentation and entertained us with his beautiful voice and guitar," said Laurice Stevens, a member of St. Michael parish in Russellville.

Dr. Gregory Mary Thompson, the pilgrimage's organizer, heard Fr. Viviano preach a homily one Sunday in Westphalia and knew he would be the one to set the tone for this event.

"I don't pull any punches," Fr. Viviano noted. "It's a great responsibility for a priest to speak the truth of the Church for the good of souls. I take it very seriously."

### Am I ready?

Fr. Viviano realized that to an extent, he was "preach-

ing to the choir," but he wanted to highlight "the seriousness that we're called to take in this life, to guard our souls."

Several times, he asked the pilgrims to consider: "Are we preparing ourselves for eternal life or eternal death?"

He said that's a practical rather than frightening question, because God gives His people everything they need to accept the eternal salvation Jesus accomplished on the cross.

"It's a pretty simple concept," the priest said. "Prepare yourself for eternal life."

He approved of the line of pilgrims that was forming outside the confessional after he finished his first talk.

"We need to run to that confessional," he pointed out. "We cannot receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist in a state of mortal sin."



Father Anthony Viviano

### Northward gaze

Fr. Viviano believes people are hungry for spiritual truth that resonates in their soul.

"Deep down, consciously or subconsciously, your soul is going to identify with the truth," he said.

He suggested reading about St. Pio of Pietrelcina, known

as Padre Pio, to learn more about the spiritual life and the salvation of souls.

Sharing some of his own experiences of conversion of reconciliation, he talked about the importance of everyone having a "North Star" — "a person who helps you find your way home when you've veered off course."

For Fr. Viviano, that person was his father, the late Joseph Viviano, who died two years ago.

### Challenging messages

Fr. Viviano also shared several hymns and faith-based songs he had written.

"The morning went by very quickly," one of the pilgrims stated. "Father is a great speaker and singer."

The pilgrim, who asked to remain anonymous, especially enjoyed the question-and-an-

See PREPARE, page 23

## Embraced by God's Love Join us in honoring our Jubilarians

### 80 YEARS

† Irene Kalapinski  
M. René Lorentz  
† Mary Regina Meyer

### 75 YEARS

Mary Eugene Braun  
† Miriam Therese Gill  
Marie Grellinger  
Miriam Saumweber  
† M. Francis Clare Schares  
Mary Gilda Sturino  
Mary Tacheny  
Mary Alice Wald

### 70 YEARS

Emma Buresh  
Theresa Marie Dietz  
Margaret Mary Dohms  
Paul Mary Draxler  
Ann Giese  
M. Lalande Hennen  
Anne Arthur Klinker  
Mariel Kreuziger  
Mary Arthur Kunze  
Anita Marie Lischwe  
Dorothy Maniscalco  
Theresa Mary  
Rebstock  
Marie Regine Redig  
Jane Resop  
M. Jacinta Simones  
Anton Marie Voissem  
Mary Julie Wambach

John Ann Zettelmaier

### 60 YEARS

Patricia Bauer  
Judith Best  
Barbara Boedeker  
Mary Joel Patrice Christy  
Maria Magdalena Cruz  
Sharon Maureen Driscoll  
Benet Dvorak  
Marie Dolorette Farias  
Janice Fennwald  
Christina Marie Frick  
† Laurette Haberberger  
Mary Gemma Therese Harvey  
Agnes Maureen Hornsby  
Marie Denice Houston  
Toni Marie Jendrasiak  
Marilyn Kesler  
M. Antoinette Kondo  
Janet Krautkremer  
Aida Lassonde  
Linda Maune  
Carol Jean Nishke  
M. Clara Obara  
Joanne Poehlman  
Helene Marie Robin  
Helen Roper  
Ivo Schoch  
Marianne Siegel  
Helen Marie Skierkowski  
Rose Mary Snaza  
Kathleen Stark

Diane Marie Turner  
Susan Von Bank  
Maureen Wada  
Johnette Marie Waguespack  
M. Agnes Watanabe  
Donna Marie Wermus  
Carol Marie Wildt  
Luella Willenborg  
Marie Antonice Zozaya

### 50 YEARS

Janise Berberich  
Ethel Marie Biri  
Frances Dotta  
Kathleen Drilling  
Marie Michelle Emmerich  
M. Rebecca Gabe  
Shelley Hogan  
Kathleen Kull  
Carla Marie Lusch  
Frances Cabrini Poglajen  
Maxine Pohlman  
Susan Renner  
Constance Schmidt  
Kathleen Wegman  
Richardé Marie Wolf

### 40 YEARS

Mary Kay Brooks  
Addie Lorraine Walker

† Deceased in 2020



Read Jubilarian profiles at  
[www.ssndcp.org/jubilee-20](http://www.ssndcp.org/jubilee-20)



School Sisters  
of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province



## QUESTION CORNER

## Limit on number of Masses?/ Burying urn without family

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



**Q. During the current pandemic, given the limitation on attendance imposed by civil authorities, we are planning to hold simultaneous Masses in our church and parish hall. We anticipate having to hold a total of 11 weekend Masses, but there are only two priests assigned to our parish, with another one coming to help on a regular basis. So my question is this: Can a bishop dispense from the limitation by which a priest may celebrate only two Masses on a particular Sunday? (San Jose, California)**

A. The governing statute in this regard is Canon 905 in the Church's Code of Canon Law. It provides that, in normal circumstances, a priest is permitted to celebrate Mass only once a day. However — directly to your question — that same Canon also says, "If there is a shortage of priests, the local ordinary can allow priests to celebrate twice a day for a just cause, or if pastoral necessity requires it, even three times on Sundays or holy days of obligation."

Also, of course, a Saturday afternoon or evening vigil Mass can be celebrated, which fulfills the Sunday obligation. And note, by the way, that many dioceses have now extended the dispensation from required attendance while the coronavirus pandemic persists.

So, in regard to your own parish, with three priests — and the bishop's permission — you should be able to cover the 11 weekend Masses. I will say, from my own experience, that such a schedule will be wearing on the priests involved, so I would hope it won't need to endure for very long.

**Q. Can the cremation place bury my ashes in an urn in the ocean without my relatives and friends present? (The people close to me plan on having a memorial Mass for me afterward, without my ashes.) (San Francisco)**

A. Burial at sea is permitted by the Vatican's 2016 guidelines, so long as the cremated remains are not scattered over the waters but buried in a dignified and well-protected container (such as the urn you mentioned.) There is no requirement that relatives and friends be present, but it would certainly be nice to have a religious context to your burial.

Do you suppose the "cremation place" could arrange for a chaplain to say some prayers at the ceremony? The Church's Order of Christian Funerals has a beautiful prayer written just for such occasions.

It reads: "Lord God, by the power of Your word You stilled the chaos of the primeval seas, you made the raging waters of the flood subside, and calmed the storm on the sea of Galilee. As we commit the body of our brother/sister N. to the deep, grant him/her peace and tranquility until that day when he/she and all who believe in You will be raised to the glory of new life promised in baptism."

It's very good that you are planning to have a memorial Mass celebrated later on, but might I suggest another possibility?

You could have a funeral Mass offered in church within a few days of your death, in the presence of the urn containing your remains. The urn would be placed on a small table near the altar — perhaps with a picture of you and some flowers, and sometime later the urn would be buried at sea.

If it were my own future at stake, I know that I would want to have a priest and congregation offering the Eucharist, the Church's most powerful prayer, for me at the earliest opportunity!

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

## Ruling in Montana case called 'welcome victory' for religious freedom

By Kurt Jensen  
Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

The consensus from religious liberty advocates following the June 30 Supreme Court ruling on public funds and sectarian schools is the Blaine amendments, a hated remnant of 19th-century anti-Catholic bigotry, are finally gone for good.

"The court should be applauded ... for stating clearly that laws like Montana's that treat people of faith like second-class citizens have no place under our Constitution," Carrie Severino, president of the advocacy group Judicial Crisis Network, said in a statement posted on Twitter. "The justices have gone a long way toward blotting out the stain of religious bigotry that has permeated so much of the law in this area."

The case, *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*, was brought by three mothers who had been sending their children to Stillwater Christian School in Kalispell with the help of a state scholarship program created in 2015. The Montana Department of Revenue issued an administrative rule a few months after the program started, saying the tax credit donations could only go toward non-religious, private schools.

In its 5-4 ruling the Supreme Court said this exclusion violated the U.S. Constitution.

Writing for the majority, Chief Justice John Roberts cited the Blaine amendments, a ban on government aid to sectarian causes or religious institutions that came out of an era in which official government hostility to Catholics was at its peak. Montana ratified a Blaine Amendment to its state constitution in 1889 and again in 1972. Thirty-six other states also have them.

"Many of the no-aid provisions belong to a more checkered tradition shared with the Blaine Amendment of the 1870s," Roberts observed. "That proposal — which Congress nearly passed — would have added to the federal Constitution a provision similar to the state no-aid provisions, pro-



The U.S. Supreme Court in Washington is seen in this file photo. The court ruled June 30, 2020, that religious schools cannot be excluded from Montana's school tax-credit program.

— CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn

hibiting states from aiding 'sectarian' schools."

Roberts called the Blaine amendments "born of bigotry," adding, "The no-aid provisions of the 19th century hardly evince a tradition that should inform our understanding of the Free Exercise Clause."

Kari Beckman, executive director of Regina Caeli Academy, a Roswell, Georgia-based program that combines tutoring with home schooling, told Catholic News Service that she hopes more future court rulings will be based on that clause of the First Amendment, including any upcoming appeals based on a new Supreme Court ruling expanding the definition of sex in the anti-discrimination provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"I'm hoping as these cases come up, (Roberts) will ... see more clearly now," she added.

Title VII is a federal law that protects employees against discrimination based on certain specified characteristics: race, color, national origin, sex and religion. In a 6-3 vote June 15, the Supreme Court expanded the definition of "sex" to include gay and transgendered people, saying they also are protected employees. Roberts sided with the majority in that opinion.

"The end of government discrimination against religious schools is a victory for all parents and students who choose to attend these schools, but especially for the many low-

income students who are educated by them," Susan Poyo, director of education at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, said in a statement.

The decision "is a welcome victory for religious freedom and countless American families," said Andrea Picciotti-Bayer, legal adviser for The Catholic Association, which had filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case. "This decision blots out a great stain on our history."

Michigan Catholic Conference president and CEO Paul A. Long, who has long argued against that state's Blaine Amendment as a form of state-sanctioned religious discrimination, praised the Supreme Court's decision.

"We're pleased with the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court and believe it is an important step toward bringing an end to 50 years of systemic and state-recognized discrimination and injustice against Michigan's non-public schools, students and families," Long told the *Detroit Catholic*, media outlet of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

"While the decision will require a full review for its impact in Michigan, it is clear that the court has handed down a path forward toward educational freedom and opportunity for all," he said.

Contributing to this story was the *Detroit Catholic*, the media outlet of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

## A habit to break: 'Doomscrolling'

By Brett Robinson  
Catholic News Service



A June 25 *WIRED* magazine article described a new and dangerous habit that has become part of popular technology practices. "Doomscrolling" refers to the pattern of scrolling through social media in the midst of a pandemic and social unrest and being flooded with morbid messages that elicit an almost physical discomfort.

Reports of mental illness, especially among the lonely and isolated, have risen dramatically in the past few months. Why do so many willingly engage in a

ritual that causes more mental anguish?

One line in the *WIRED* article really jumped out at me: "Each night ends the way the day began, with an endless scroll through social media in a desperate search for clarity." The sentence is telling.

"Each night ends the way the day began." Described this way, it seems the primary issue is not necessarily the troubling news we receive in vast quantities but the rituals and habits we practice on a daily basis to "stay informed." Doomscrolling is a choice and it has social consequences.

A Twitter user named @Almost\_Anna put it this way: "Every marriage has one person who doom scrolls and reads headlines out loud pre-coffee, and another person who is begging them to stop."

Our family has not been immune to this. Our morning conversations have been punctuated with questions like,

"Have you seen our local virus numbers today?" and, "Did you see that they pulled down the statue of St. Junipero Serra in California?"

Our children often witness these hybrid conversations that tack back and forth between practical questions like, "Have you seen my car keys?" to paranoid ones like, "Do you think this is the beginning of the apocalypse?"

It is extremely disorienting for children to witness adult conversations that take place in this manner. They are, in effect, conversations that are part human and part machine. To remedy the situation, my wife and I had to make a choice.

We have tried banning phone use in the house altogether and it simply doesn't work anymore. Every check of the weather or ding of the messaging app reels us back in for one more look. That leads to

looking at more. And more. And down the rabbit hole we go.

We recently adopted a new ritual to redirect our experience of each "night ending the way the day began" by praying the Divine Office — on our phones. In the morning, when our five kids file in to say good morning, we give them all hugs and then promptly pick up our phones to pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

The verses of the psalms pingpong back and forth between me and my wife in a kind of elevated morning conversation, one that includes God's voice. We do the same thing in the evening before bed.

Doomscrolling becomes contemplative scrolling. The news of the external world takes a backseat to interior stirrings

See ROBINSON, page 18

## New 'Directory for Catechesis': A timely invitation to renewal

By Jem Sullivan  
Catholic News Service



The long-awaited "Directory for Catechesis" from the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization arrives at a most timely moment as the universal Church seeks a renewal of Christian faith in local churches struggling through a pandemic-ridden world. Two papal phrases frame the text — "The Church exists to evangelize," of St. Paul VI and "I am a mission," of Pope Francis.

Keeping with the genre of catechetical directories that followed the Second Vatican Council, this updated "Directory for Catechesis" presents fundamental theological-pastoral principles for the age-old ministry of catechesis while responding to current social conditions and cultural forces that shape the Church's communication of the living mystery of God today.

In a perfect synthesis of old and new elements, the directory confirms the close link between evangelization and catechesis that unites the Church's faithful witness to the Gospel core, the *kerygma*, to ongoing formation and maturation of faith within a community of believers.

Witness to the *kerygma* in all catechetical activities is nothing less than the loving and joyful sharing of the Good News of the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus with the invitation to live a life transformed by faith in Jesus within the Church.

As the introduction notes, catechesis accompanies a dynamic process of internalization of the Gospel involving the whole person in his or her life experience, a spiritual action that is the original and

necessary form of inculturation of the faith.

Addressed primarily to those engaged in catechetical ministry, namely bishops, pastors, catechists, parents and teachers, the document invites the reader on a journey of reflection on the nature, purpose, tasks, content, methods and sources of catechesis in the contemporary world.

As a document of the universal Church, it encourages the drafting or revision of national directories that attend to local catechetical opportunities and challenges in particular churches.

In three major parts divided across 12 chapters, the new directory offers key elements that permeate all catechetical activities: witness, mercy and dialogue. Presented in dynamic continuity with the two catechetical directories that preceded it, namely the 1997 "General Directory for Catechesis" and the 1971 "General Catechetical Directory," this text affirms the perennial nature and purpose of catechesis.

Several new emphases are also proposed — the primacy of the *kerygma* in all catechetical activities; the dynamic process of evangelization and catechesis within it as a spiritual action above all; the pedagogy of God that inspires the pedagogy of the Church in catechetical tasks of initiation, education and ongoing formation in Christian discipleship; catechesis in a digital culture; the globalization of culture; bioethical issues that impact catechesis; the "way of beauty" in catechesis; and catechesis that accompanies with mercy the poor and people with disabilities, migrants and prisoners.

Drawing on a key theme in the 2012 world synod on the "new evangelization for the transmission of the Christian faith" and Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, "*Evangelii Gaudium*," this document brings to the forefront the elements

of a *kerygmatic* catechesis that is field-encompassing.

Catechists are to give qualitative priority to an evangelizing catechesis in which

the *kerygma* is the first, repeated and main announcement of catechesis to all

See SULLIVAN, page 18

### REFLECTION

## Warmth and light

By Mark Saucier

I've read that in Senegal, when an elder dies, they say, "A library has burned."

It is appropriate when you think about it. Every person blessed with many years has amassed an enormous collection of experiences, insights and wisdom.

In the finality of death, all this vanishes, and no longer can anyone wander through our stories in search of learning, amusement or just a guidepost for the path.

I have a friend whose library is ablaze. The ashes may smolder for days or weeks, but the fire will take it all, from its history of a Louisiana kid of German immigrants to the Wednesday evening "meetings" he has hosted for nearly 20 years and will do so until he is too weak to raise a glass.

A library is an apt metaphor for my friend. His life spans 95 years, and he still possesses an eidetic memory of most of its moments. He remembers events, names and dates, even the weather, with a clarity that most of us didn't have even before we forgot.

He is still sharp by nature, but he has also been a well-schooled student of hard work, occasional failure, and do-overs until he succeeded.

A member of "the Greatest Generation," nothing came easy for him. A child of foreigners in a "Jim Crow" South, his first friends were black because the whites ridiculed his accent and his poverty. He married for love but soon found his beloved scourged by schizophrenia. He lost a young daughter in a horrible scene.

He could be demanding, brusque, even seemingly rude, but I think that may have been more nurture than nature. He had to be father, mother and breadwinner. Everything had to run on schedule. If you had a job, you were supposed to do it and do it right. Excuses never solved anything.

But here is part of his enigma. For all his need to control, he was faith-filled, faithful and faith-driven. He found solace and strength in his spiritual practice. He trusted in a God he could neither see nor understand, but was somehow always there.

That trust eventually led him to a woman he adored, to years together serving hungry children and sight-challenged poor in Mexico, and to a daily commitment to her during her dementia and death.

And now it is his turn. It is sad to see this library burn. It had a huge section on history, but an entire wing dedicated to generosity and friendship.

# 63 Tolton Catholic graduates eager to claim their place in history

By Jay Nies

Haley Kartheiser quipped that her class should receive the grand prize for mastering change.

"COVID-19 changed our world and us," she told her fellow graduating seniors the evening of Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School's Baccalaureate Mass. "Little did we know how fast a major change would play a vital role in our lives."

All 63 members of the Class of 2020 gathered in the school commons in Columbia June 26 to worship God together before graduating the following day.

"We would not be here without 'adjusting our sails,'" Miss Kartheiser insisted, "nor without the love of our parents, extended family, Tolton faculty and staff, and all of us supporting each other."

Dressed in slate-blue gowns and mortarboards, the seniors sat six feet from one another after spending two months apart.

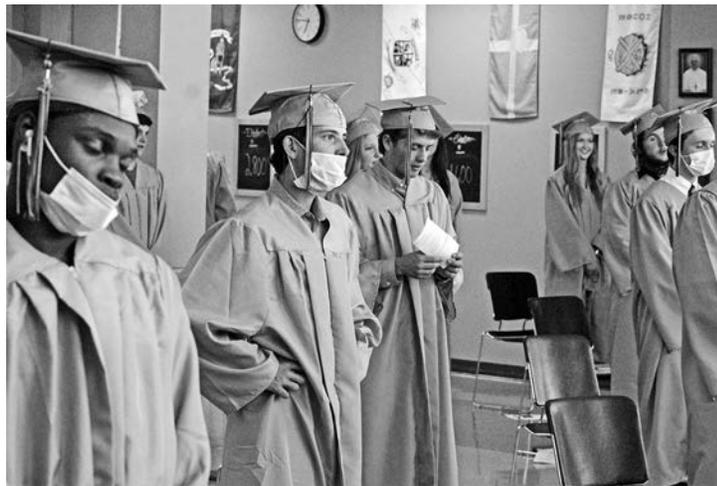
Not only had their classes gone from in-school to at-home on a day's notice and all of their spring sports and events been cancelled, their "No. 1 fan" had undergone major surgery and begun aggressive cancer treatments less than two weeks before graduation.

"Father Mike (Coleman) is unable to join us in person, but he's very much here in person," noted Father Paul Clark, a fellow school chaplain, who presided at the Baccalaureate Mass.

Fr. Clark pointed out that God is creating a story in each of the graduating seniors.

"Many opportunities lie ahead of each and every one of you," he told them. "And what you have learned in this past year especially plays into that story."

He noted that their parents and educators had helped them build a secure foundation



**LEFT: Members of Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School's Class of 2020 assist at the celebration of their Baccalaureate Mass on June 26. RIGHT: Haley Kartheiser addresses her graduating classmates after Mass. BELOW: Father Christopher Cordes and Father Paul Clark process into the School Commons at the beginning of Mass.** — Photos by Jay Nies



for their future.

It's now important for them to continue building on that foundation with "what you've learned about love, about willing the good of another above yourself, about the importance of service."

"The world needs trailblazers right now," he told them. "We need the witness of authentic love, of service to our neighbors. We need each of you to be a light to the world."

He relayed a message he had received from Fr. Coleman who was watching the Mass by livestream:

"After cancer surgery, I am now down to one lung, but I still have my heart, and it is full of love for each of you. I will love you forever. God is good

ist attacks and graduating during an international pandemic.

She shared a thought from singer and entrepreneur Jimmy Dean: "I cannot change the directions of the wind. But I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

She shared her joy of being initiated into the Catholic Church at an all-school Mass at during her freshman year at Tolton and receiving her First Holy Communion from Fr. Coleman.

She called for a moment of silence for the late Thomas Bacon, their classmate who died in April of their sophomore year.

## Part of history

Graduating senior Emily Konrad reminded her classmates of their parents' endless love and encouragement.

"We are truly grateful for the sacrifices they have made to give us all of the opportunities we are so blessed with," she stated.

She said their teachers' genuine care for them was reflected in the classroom, "where they motivated us, challenged us and thankfully had patience with us."

She believes the circumstances surrounding senior year will help make her and her

classmates better.

"Because we've seen the things we've seen and learned the things we've learned, we know what it will mean to be better sons, daughters, sis-

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

ters and brothers, to be better Christians, to be the next great leaders, the next great doctors, nurses, teachers, lawyers and entrepreneurs of the future," she said.

## "Great model"

Jill McIntosh, the school's interim president, congratulated the seniors on behalf of the administration, faculty and staff.

"We hope you know how proud we are of each of you," she said. "We know you will accomplish wonderful things in the years ahead."

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, in a recorded message, reminded them that the Way of the Cross is the way to sainthood.

"In times of distress, we learn more about ourselves and others," he said. "We are given the opportunity to sacrifice for a good greater than ourselves."

He said those with ties to Tolton Catholic have a shared spirit for life, charity, faith and service.

He pointed out that the school's namesake, Venerable

Father Augustus Tolton — a former slave who endured racial discrimination while and after becoming the Roman Catholic Church's first recognizably black priest in the United States — took risks and endured hardships so that people after him could have a better life.

"Fr. Tolton's Christian way of overcoming adversity with faith and hope serves as a great model for you," the bishop said.

## High honors

Among the awards presented to the seniors were:

- The St. Paul Service Award to Wyatt Cooley, who documented 207 hours of service over the past four years;

- The Fr. Coleman Award to Katie Williams and Silas Glaude, for exemplifying the spirit of Tolton Catholic;

- The Bishop Gaydos Award to Brooke Hendrick and Emily Konrad, and the school's highest honor, the Fr. Tolton Award, to Jill Zulovich. Both awards are for exemplifying the school's mission.

## "Still a community"

Graduating senior Grace Brownfield plans to pursue a nursing degree at the University of Missouri in the fall.

She said the Tolton Catholic community has been like a second family to her.

"It breaks my heart that I have to leave, but I'm excited for what comes next, and I can always come back to visit," said Miss Brownfield, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes parish.

See TOLTON CATHOLIC, page 20



all the time. ... Praise the living God, now and forever. Amen!"

## Sails aloft

Two graduating seniors addressed their classmates after Mass.

Miss Kartheiser spoke of the uniqueness of being born in the shadow of the 2001 terror-

## Franciscan Sister Donna Eggering, jubilarian cherishes memories of her 27 years in this diocese

By Jay Nies

Sister Donna Eggering could never have dreamed of all the things she would do as a Franciscan Sister of Oldenburg, Indiana.

Now, after 60 years of religious life, including 27 in the Jefferson City diocese, she dreams about it all the time.

"It was such a privilege to serve among the people in Missouri, and I really miss it," she said. "I still dream of the people. I dream of all the things that we did and that can still be done."

She grew up in a large Catholic family in Old Monroe, near the juncture of the St. Louis archdiocese and the Jefferson City diocese.

Her teachers at Immaculate Conception School in Old Monroe were Oldenburg Franciscans.

Thinking young Donna might be called to religious life, her eighth-grade teacher told her about the juniorate, a program allowing girls to go to high school at the Motherhouse while seeing how the sisters lived.

"I asked my mom and dad," Sr. Donna recalled. "They said, 'Sure.' So at age 14, I came to live here in 1957 without ever having seen it before."

Sr. Donna officially entered religious life on Feb. 2, 1961, although some of her classmates entered the previous September.

"We're all considered part of the 1960 class," she said.

### "You run the place!"

Sr. Donna earned a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in learning disabilities.

She taught for 17 years in Catholic schools in Indiana, Missouri and Ohio.

By 1980, she had given everything she had to teaching and was burning out.

She asked the leadership council if she could put her gifts to a different kind of use.

"They discussed it and wound up telling me that I could do something different if I found my own job," she said.

Her network of sisters,

friends and fellow educators helped her find an opening for a parish director of religious education (DRE) at an inner-city parish in St. Louis.

"It was my first foray into African American culture, and I loved it!" she said.

A year later, she moved to another part of the city to help combine two neighboring parishes into one.

She helped plan the ceremony to mark the closing of one of the parish churches, culminating with the planting of a tree that her father had brought from Old Monroe.

For nine years, Sr. Donna worked closely with parishioners, visiting people who were homebound and preparing children and adults to receive the sacraments.

She worked with Oldenburg Franciscan Sister Mildred Ann Reckamp, who walked the streets of the parish, wearing her religious habit and talking to people, showing them God's love.

"She did wonderful work there," Sr. Donna recalled. "The Lord was with us all the time."

Missionary Servant Sisters of the Holy Spirit, known as "Blue Sisters," also canvassed the neighborhoods and invited people with no church home to become Catholic.

Sr. Donna would then help the people prepare to enter the Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

She would also drive people to doctor's appointments and other errands.

When the time came for her to move on, a custodian told her, "You can't leave! You run the place!"

### "To give spiritual gladness"

From there, she left for a sabbatical and to pursue a master's degree in pastoral studies at Loyola University of Chicago.

That's what opened the door to her work in this diocese.

Bishop Michael F. McAuliffe of Jefferson City, now deceased, hired her to serve as pastoral administrator of



Franciscan Donna Eggering peruses a parish history book during the 150th anniversary celebration for Immaculate Conception parish in Brookfield in 2009. — Photo by Jay Nies

St. Michael parish in Russellville.

That position is now referred to as parish life collaborator.

The parish had no resident pastor, so she was responsible for carrying-out the administrative functions.

She also oversaw the spiritual outreach and day-to-day life of the parish.

"I relied heavily on the people," she said. "I told them, 'This is your parish. I'm here to help.'"

She made St. Francis of Assisi's motto her own: "to lead people to spiritual gladness."

She visited people who were sick and homebound, often giving them Holy Communion, and helped children and families prepare for sacraments.

"And just being with them in sickness and health," she said. "They allowed me to do that."

The people were gathering in the parish hall and using folding chairs for Mass each Sunday. And they were running out of room.

"We needed to build a church," she said. "We needed a holy space."

Through years of planning, information-gathering, consulting with professionals, soliciting input from parishioners, fundraising and praying, she and the parishioners kept moving toward that goal.

The theme for their capital

campaign was: "St. Michael Parish: Messengers for the Next Century."

The result was a 7,200-square-foot, 350-seat, church of brick, concrete and heavy timber.

Bishop John R. Gaydos of Jefferson City, now retired, dedicated the completed church in June of 2002.

Sr. Donna designed an art-glass window for the church, depicting God's Word and hymns of praise.

For years, she served as president of the Russellville Ministerial Alliance, made up of ministers and representatives of the city's nine churches.

### "God did that"

After 13 years in Russellville, Sr. Donna moved to Immaculate Conception parish in Brookfield to serve in a similar capacity.

She would remain there for 14 years.

"The list was long of things that needed to be done, and we did them together," she

said.

They painted and re-carpeted the inside of the 1894-vintage church, replaced eight deteriorating stained-glass windows and repaired the rest of them.

Sr. Donna designed the new windows with an artist from Art Unlimited.

"We never had to borrow any money," she said. "We did them one by one. We'd pay for one, then we'd start another."

Her favorite memories are of the times she got to lead people to Christ.

"The highlights for me were the years of attending family gatherings and just being with people," she said.

On Thursdays and Fridays, she would take Holy Communion to people who were elderly or homebound.

"That was a real privilege," she said.

On Sundays, she would welcome people to Mass and serve in some liturgical function.

One man who she helped bring back to the sacraments cried when she gave him Holy Communion one Sunday.

"He said, 'You gave my

See SR. DONNA, page 14

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## Archbishop Gomez: Truth of St. Junipero Serra's ministry is his respect, loving care of indigenous people

Catholic News Service

Los Angeles

Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez has asked Catholics of the archdiocese to invoke the intercession of St. Junipero Serra "for this nation that he helped to found."

He also urged prayers especially for "an end to racial prejudice and a new awareness of what it means that all men and women are created equal as children of God."

"In this hour of trial in our

nation, when once again we are confronting America's shameful legacy of racism, I invite you to join me in observing St. Junipero's feast day, July 1, as a day of prayer, fasting and charity," Archbishop Gomez said in an open letter to Catholics.

The letter appears as his June 29 column "Voices" in English and Spanish in *Angelus*, ([angelusnews.com](http://angelusnews.com)), the online news platform of the Los Angeles archdiocese.

He addressed the recent

controversies in California surrounding public monuments to St. Junipero Serra, "the Apostle of California." On June 19 a statue of the saint in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park was toppled and desecrated. Archbishop Gomez also said a Serra statue in the plaza outside the archdiocese's first Church, Nuestra Senora Reina de los Angeles, in downtown Los Angeles also was torn down.

"Up and down the state, there is growing debate about



A statue of St. Junipero Serra in Sacramento, Calif., is seen in this 2015 file photo. It was torn down by a group of demonstrators late July 4, 2020. — CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec


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removing Serra memorials from public lands," he wrote. "Ventura officials have announced that they will hold a public hearing July 7 to debate whether to take down his statue from in front of Ventura City Hall.

"Faced with the possibility of vandalism, we are taking increased security precautions at the historic missions located in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Unfortunately, we will probably have to relocate some statues to our beloved saint or risk their desecration," Archbishop Gomez wrote.

He said these developments sadden him. "I have been thinking and writing about Junipero Serra for many years now."

"I understand the deep pain being expressed by some native peoples in California. But I also believe Fray Junipero is a saint for our times, the spiritual founder of Los Angeles, a champion of human rights, and this country's first Hispanic saint," the archbishop said, noting that he was "privileged" to concelebrate the Spanish Franciscan's canonization Mass with Pope Francis in 2015 during the pontiff's pastoral visit to Washington.

"I rely on his intercession in my ministry, and I am inspired by his desire to bring God's tender mercy to every person," the archbishop added.

Known for spreading the Gospel in the New World during the 18th century, the Franciscan priest landed in Mexico, then made his way on foot up the coast of Mexico and to California, where he established a chain of missions that are now

the names of well-known cities such as San Diego, San Francisco and Santa Barbara.

He was the first president of the California mission system, and personally founded nine of the state's 21 missions. It is estimated that during his ministry, St. Junipero Serra baptized about 6,000 native people.

In 2015, some people objected to the canonization of the Spaniard, like critics did of his beatification in 1988, because of questions raised about how Fr. Serra allegedly treated the native peoples of California and about the impact of Spanish colonization on native peoples throughout the Americas.

"The exploitation of America's first peoples, the destruction of their ancient civilizations, is a historic tragedy," Archbishop Gomez wrote. "Crimes committed against their ancestors continue to shape the lives and futures of native peoples today. Generations have passed and our country still has not done enough to make things right."

In the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, "we have worked hard to atone for past errors and wrongs and to find the path forward together," he said.

"We honor the contributions that native peoples made to building the Church in Southern California and we cherish their gifts in the mission of the Church today."

Archbishop Gomez said over the years he has "come to understand how the image of Fr. Serra and the missions

See ST. JUNIPERO, page 14

# St. Louis archdiocese responds to calls for removal of statue

*The Archdiocese of St. Louis issued the following statement June 29, in response to a petition and demonstrations calling for the removal of the statue of St. Louis IX, King of France, from its prominent location in Forest Park:*

The history of the statue of St. Louis, the King is one founded in piety and reverence before God, and for non-believers, respect for one's neighbor. The reforms that St. Louis implemented in French government focused on impartial justice, protecting the rights of his subjects, steep penalties for royal officials abusing power, and a series of initiatives to help the poor.

King Louis IX's renowned work in charity helped elevate him to Sainthood. His daily suppers were shared with numerous beggars, whom he invited to the royal table.

On many evenings, he would not let them leave before he washed their feet. He personally paid to feed more than 100 poor Parisians every day.

His care for the sick was equally moving; St. Louis frequently ministered to lepers.

He also created a number of hospitals, including one for the

blind and another for ex-prostitutes.

For Catholics, St. Louis is an example of an imperfect man who strived to live a life modeled after the life of Jesus Christ.

For St. Louisans, he is a model for how we should care for our fellow citizen, and a namesake with whom we should be proud to identify. The sword on his statue is not raised for warfare, but rather is held with the blade down — a symbol of peace. In his recent statement on "Racism, Justice and Peace," Robert J. Carlson, apostolic administrator for the archdiocese, said, in part:

"... Scripture tells us to turn our swords into plow shares. Let us turn our guns into metal. May that metal someday be the statue in our community that stands as a reminder that here, in the Greater St. Louis Region, we chose justice so that there would be peace. ..."

Peace is what St. Louisans hoped for in the new 20th century when they erected the statue of St. Louis the King—and peace is what St. Louisans still strive toward in this cen-



This photo of "Apotheosis of St. Louis," the statue of St. Louis, King of France, is by Lisa Johnston, staff photographer of the St. Louis Review.

belief — is created in the image and likeness of God.

As such, all should be treated with love, respect and dignity.

We should not seek to erase history, but recognize and learn from it, while working to create new opportunities for our brothers and sisters.

ture.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis is encouraged by the winds of change that are at hand, but believes that this energy of change should be focused on programs and policies that will dismantle racism and create a more equal society for all races and religions.

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## SR. DONNA

From page 11

Church back to me,” she recalled. “I said, ‘It was God Who did that.’”

### “Everybody has something”

Sr. Donna started dealing with cyclical bursts of back pain in 2010 but continued to work through them.

“I didn’t want to retire,” she said. “I had a major surgery in 2018 and I wasn’t recovering as well as when I had surgery in 2012.”

She returned to Indiana two years ago and now helps in ministry at the Motherhouse.

It took a while to get used to living in such a large place with so many other people.

“There are 125 sisters living here at the Motherhouse,” she said, “including our care center for our sisters who are sick.”

She continues working to regain her health.

“I’m still fighting back pain,” she said. “But it’s okay, because everybody has something. You just get up and deal with it and move on like everybody else.”

The sisters began sheltering in place in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have not had any visitors except for people who work there.

“We have not had a case here at all, but we’re all vul-

nerable,” she said. “I don’t think anybody here is in their 60s anymore, and we have some in their 90s. So if it gets in here, it could spread like wildfire.”

Sisters who are still out on mission have not been able to visit the Motherhouse for months.

“It’s given us all a lot of time to think, to pray,” said Sr. Donna. “We’re praying for the whole world that’s suffering in any way and asking God to have mercy on His world.”

They especially offer prayers for people affected by the pandemic, for migrants and immigrants and people detained at the border.

### “Good things are happening”

The Oldenburg Franciscans plan to honor Sr. Donna and 10 other jubilarians at a July 26 celebration at the Motherhouse.

Morning Prayer, dinner, the Jubilee Mass and a reception are planned for the celebration.

In the meantime, Sr. Donna asks for prayers for better health and inner peace.

She noted that there were about 900 Oldenburg Franciscans when she entered the congregation.

“We have 161 sisters now,” she said. “We do have a few

prospects, so pray that we as a community can continue to serve, wherever we are.”

She stays in touch with her friends in the Brookfield and Russellville parishes.

“Good things are happening in both places,” she said.

She enjoys reading about a renewed emphasis on service and charitable outreach in the

diocese.

She treasures the memories of her time here.

“The most wonderful part,” she stated, “was the people and the privilege — and I want to stress the privilege — of being with them in all circumstances and helping to lift them up and have them know that the Church was there for

them always, and they could count on the Church, even if I had to go out on a limb.

“I never in my life dreamed of what I would be able to do as a sister,” she said. “Never in my entire life!”

[oldenburgfranciscans.org/oldenburgfranciscans.org/associates/](http://oldenburgfranciscans.org/oldenburgfranciscans.org/associates/)

## Prayer for a Communion of Desire

My Jesus, I believe You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, renew my heart now with the power of Your Spirit. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Unite me more closely to Your Body, the Church. And never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## Oración para la Comunión de Deseo

Jesús mío, creo que estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento. Te amo por sobre todas las cosas y deseo recibirte en mi alma. Como no puedo recibirte en este momento sacramentalmente, renueva mi corazón con el poder de tu Espíritu. Te recibo y me uno completamente a ti. Úneme más a tu cuerpo, la Iglesia y nunca permitas que me separe de ti. Amén.

## FR. JUNIPERO

From page 12

evokes painful memories for some people,” and for that reason, he said, he feels the protests in California and around the country over historical monuments are important.

“Historical memory is the soul of every nation. What we remember about our past and how we remember it defines our national identity — the kind of people we want to be, the values and principles we want to live by,” he said.

“But history is complicated. The facts matter, distinctions need to be made and the truth counts,” he explained. “We cannot learn history’s lessons or heal old wounds unless we understand what really happened, how it happened and why.”

Archbishop Gomez said U.S. society might reach a consensus on not honoring St. Junipero Serra or other figures from the past, but “elected officials cannot abdicate their responsibilities by turning these decisions over to small groups of protesters, allowing them to vandalize public monuments.”

“This is not how a great democracy should function,” he said.

“Allowing the free expression of public opinion is important,” Archbishop Gomez added. “So is upholding the rule of law and ensuring that decisions we reach as a society are based on genuine dialogue and the search for truth and the common good.”

He praised the city of Ventura for planning a public hearing and how it is approaching the debate by involving civil authorities and indigenous leaders, and representatives of the Catholic Church and the community at large. This could be “a model for thoughtful and respectful discourse,” he said.

Those who are attacking St. Junipero Serra’s good name and vandalizing memorials to him

“do not know his true character or the actual historical record,” Archbishop Gomez said, adding that decades ago activists started “revising” history to make Junipero the focus of all the abuses committed against California’s indigenous peoples.”

“But the crimes and abuses that our saint is blamed for — slanders that are spread widely today over the internet and sometimes repeated by public figures — actually happened long after his death,” he said, noting that a genocidal war waged against the Native Americans took place in 1851, and the saint died in 1784.

“The real St. Junipero fought a colonial system where natives were regarded as ‘barbarians’ and ‘savages’ whose only value was to serve the appetites of the white man,” Archbishop Gomez said, yet in online petitions today the saint “is compared to Adolph Hitler, his missions compared to concentration camps.” No serious historian would accept this, he added.

The saint lived and worked alongside native peoples, defended their humanity and protested crimes against them; he celebrated their creativity and knowledge; and he learned their languages and their ancient customs and ways, the archbishop said.

“I like to think that his deep reverence for creation was influenced by his conversations and observations among this land’s first peoples,” Archbishop Gomez said. He also said the saint “did not impose Christianity, he proposed it.”

“Pope Francis called Junipero ‘one of the founding fathers of the United States. He recognized that the saint’s witness anticipated the great spirit of human equality and liberty under God that has come to define the American project.’”



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## PRO-LIFE

From page 1

which prohibits the funding of abortion through Medicaid, remains unchanged with this ruling.

•In May, Missouri's Administrative Hearing Commission (AHC) overruled the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' (DHSS) decision to not renew Planned Parenthood's license to perform abortions at its St. Louis clinic.

At issue were failed abortions discovered by DHSS investigators, and non-cooperation by some of the providers involved in the abortions.

Because of the decision, the department on June 25 renewed Missouri's only operating abortion clinic's license through 2021.

The MCC noted that very few abortions are being performed at the clinic, with most Missouri women seeking abortions in neighboring Illinois and Kansas.

### "For the long haul"

Deacon McClay observed that Missouri now faces the prospect of more abortion clinics opening within its borders.

"The combination of court rulings makes that more likely," he stated.

The Catholic Church has long upheld the objective universal truth that all human beings have a right to life from the first moment of their existence.

As the MCC has done in the past, it will continue looking for ways to protect the health and wellbeing of mothers and help them avoid going to abortion clinics in the first place.

"We're in this for the long haul," Deacon McClay noted. "You're going to have victories you're going to have losses. We don't stop witnessing to Christ because we lost one battle."

He pointed out that in the Louisiana decision (*June Medical Services v. Russo*), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states can impose regulations, so long as they don't present an "undue burden" to women seeking an abortion.

He noted that the court's latest ruling does not change the standard for what constitutes an undue burden.

The MCC works to ensure state support for Alternatives to Abortion (ATA) programs that offer real choices to pregnant mothers.

"It's part of our work to recognize and promote the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death," said Deacon McClay.

That's why the MCC supports social programs for mothers and families in need, as well as wider access to Medicaid, which would allow them to receive medical care while working to support their families.

### "Grace abounds"

Good laws and public policies are always helpful, but creating an abortion-free society will also require fervent prayer, sacrifice, one-on-one advocacy, direct assistance to abortion-minded mothers, targeted communication of lifesaving information, and a united commitment to cherish and welcome society's most vulnerable members.

Participants in the Columbia 40 Days for Life campaign have witnessed many victories and disappointments since they began praying on the sidewalk outside the Columbia Planned Parenthood abortion clinic 11 years ago.

"One thing that we all have seen is that God is always with us and that grace abounds more when evil is present," said Kathy Forck, co-coordinator of Columbia 40 Days for Life.

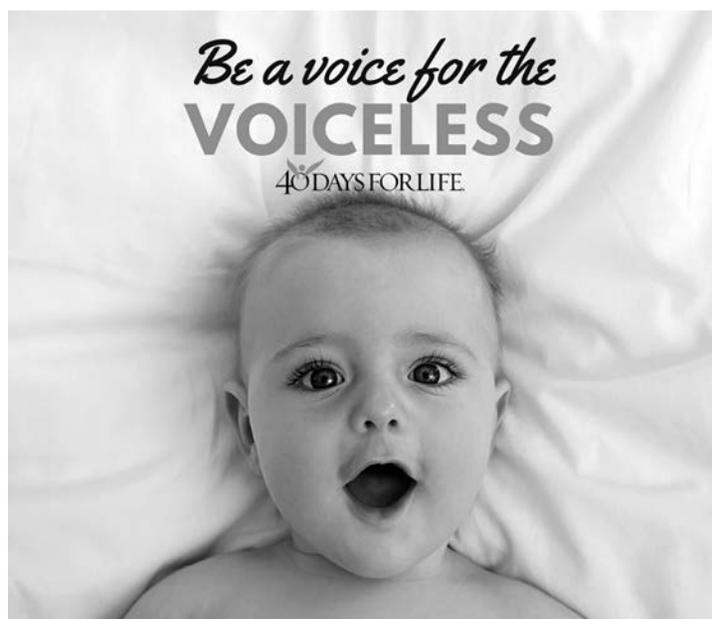
Many pregnant mothers seeking abortions have chosen life for their babies, and the clinic has lost abortionists and shut down 10 times over the course of that sidewalk presence.

Mrs. Forck renewed the call for deep, daily and specific prayer and fasting, along with a willingness to spread the message of life.

"Don't be ashamed to let others know your beliefs," she said.

Columbia 40 Days for Life has been chosen as a test site for prayer vigils to be held every day in front of Columbia Planned Parenthood.

Additional volunteers are needed.



"One hour a month or week from many will reap a tremendous harvest," she said. "You have no idea the power that is shown when people pray outside abortion or abortion-referral facilities."

Call Mrs. Forck (573) 821-5130 for information about volunteering.

"We can hardly wait to see what God will do, and we know that it will be so magnificent that only He could do it," she said.

### "We are fighting"

Father Anthony Viviano, newly appointed diocesan moderator for pro-life ministries, noted that setbacks are part and parcel to progress.

"We as people of faith and prayer must double down on our supplications to heaven," he said.

He pointed to the Blessed Mother as a powerful source of inspiration, guidance and protection.

"It is within the battle that hearts and minds are won over to the Truth of Christ," he said. "It is on the battlefield where saints are made."

Life-affirming organizations such as the St. Raymond's Society have an important role to play.

St. Raymond's is a faith-based nonprofit agency focused on giving at-risk, pregnant mothers what they need.

"Though the current situation seems to be placing an array of obstacles in our path, we remain committed, now more than ever, to supporting life-affirming decisions for the

abortion-minded client," stated Mike Hentges, the St. Raymond's Society's co-founder and development director.

Ray of Hope Pregnancy Care Ministries (PCM) of Macon and Shelby Counties offers free pregnancy tests, education and mentorship for those facing an unplanned or unexpected pregnancy.

Amanda Durbin, president of the Ray of Hope board of directors, said recent developments present a call to prayer and vigilance.

She believes it's too easy to become complacent and rely on lawmakers and judges to steer society in the right direction.

"Converting hearts and minds to the belief that all human life is sacred is about so much more than laws and politics," she stated.

She said Christians must always press forward on this front, with or without the government's blessing.

"We were never promised that it was going to be easy or quick or exciting or that we would ever get to a place of rest with this," she noted.

She lauded the 40 Days for Life participants and all the other unsung heroes in parishes who continue to do important pro-life work.

"We are not defeated," she said. "We are fighting, for one life at a time, one conversion at a time and one God all the time."

### Not about luck

Deacon Samuel Lee, director of Campaign Life Mis-

souri, cautioned against putting too much faith in judges or those who appoint them.

"Time after time, the judicial branch of government has failed to protect the most vulnerable of God's children — the unborn — as well as having ignored vulnerable women who are exploited by the abortion industry," he said.

He pointed out that social change doesn't come about merely because a person or group of people are elected at the right time.

"A pro-life ethic in society is not dependent on timing and luck, but rather on the persistent effort of prayer, education, providing alternatives to abortion, legislation and political involvement," he stated.

He said pro-life legislation must be much broader than enacting policies that only make abortions harder to get.

"Otherwise, we miss out on a whole range of legislation that has the purpose and effect of making it easier for pregnant moms to carry to term," he said.

He cited as examples:

- laws and appropriations to provide alternatives to abortion services;

- tax credits for people who donate to pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes; and

- increasing health insurance coverage for lower-income moms during pregnancy and for the first year after they give birth.

"Missouri has been in the forefront of providing these things," Deacon Lee noted. "And our low abortion rates, compared to other states, are proof that the Missouri strategy of passing legislation to make it easier for moms at risk for abortion to carry to term, is working."

Deacon McClay said the MCC will continue to advocate for reasonable abortion regulations and for alternatives to abortion programs.

The MCC will keep encouraging Catholics and all people of good will to accompany women facing an unplanned pregnancy.

"God is always sovereign," Deacon McClay insisted. "He always has matters in hand."



# ACROSS the Diocese

By Father Don Antweiler  
**ACROSS**

1. Fort Leonard Wood, a major military \_\_\_\_\_ on the southern end of our diocese, was named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood (1860-1927), a distinguished Am. soldier and physician for 40 years.
5. During the Spanish-Am. War, Wood commanded the famous Rough \_\_\_\_\_ with future president Theodore Roosevelt as his second-in-command.
10. Pinnacle; highest point or level.
11. We'll throw fingers for it. You want \_\_\_\_\_ or evens?
12. Initials of this puzzle's composer.
13. Afternoon or evening.
14. Old Russian ruler.
16. Leonard Wood began his military \_\_\_\_\_ as an army doctor on the frontier where he received the Medal of Honor in 1886.
20. Short for Right Guard, a deodorant brand.
21. The canyon wall was a \_\_\_\_\_ drop to the far below valley.
22. A U.S. postage stamp bearing the \_\_\_\_\_ of Walt Disney had its 1968 First Day of Issue in Marceline, Mo. where Disney spent four significant years as a child.
24. "A man becomes a Christian; \_\_\_\_\_ is not born one," —St. Justin, martyr, d. 165 A.D.
25. *Riders of the Purple \_\_\_\_\_* was an iconic Western novel by Zane Grey in 1912. It established the Western genre of books and movies. Considered the most popular Western novel of all time.
26. Letters for Urban Outfitters, a multinational clothing retailer based in Philadelphia.
27. A card game.
29. I bought a new \_\_\_\_\_ TV for its crisp, sharp picture.
30. "\_\_\_\_\_ the center, around the throne, there were four living creatures..." (Revelations 4:6).
31. Wood was very nearly the candidate for the 1920 Republican presidential \_\_\_\_\_; an election for President which the Republican candidate easily won.
34. "Failure is not \_\_\_\_\_, if you

do not lose faith," —Lailah Gifty Akita.

35. Letters for General Hospital, TV soap opera since 1963.

37. Short for Low Frequency, a radio frequency between 30 and 300 kHz.

38. The Cole Co. town known as Taos, Mo. was originally named Haarville for a \_\_\_\_\_ landowner but was changed to honor the town's members in the 2nd Mo. Volunteers, who in the Mexican-Am. War fought a battle at Taos, New Mexico.

41. Finnish-Am. \_\_\_\_\_ Saarinen, architect of the St. Louis Arch.

44. She put a \_\_\_\_\_ on her horse to lead it around the arena for the judges at the horse show.

46. Wood was appointed Governor General of the Philippines in 1921 until his death from a terminal disease in 1927. In determining the pace of independence for the islands,

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11				
12			13		14		15	
	16	17	18		19		20	
21				22	23			
24			25				26	
	27	28		29			30	
31	32			33				
	34						35	36
37			38		39		40	
41		42	43	44				45
46							47	

he reported immediate independence was premature and a more \_\_\_\_\_ approach would avert severe deterioration of the society. Independence was granted 8 yrs. later.

47. "\_\_\_\_\_ *gratias*" (i.e., "thanks be to God").

**DOWN**

1. "...we, for every kind of reason, good and \_\_\_\_\_, are distracting ourselves into spiritual oblivion," — Ronald Rolheiser, *The Holy Longing*.
2. During the western Indian wars, Wood led the army detachment that finally captured the elusive \_\_\_\_\_ leader Geronimo.
3. Prefix for cure or rum.
4. Prefix for it or am.
5. Vatican City is located within the confines of this city.
6. Might be needed to buy liquor.
7. Banned pesticide.
8. Type of curve one makes on a ski slope.
9. Wood is the only \_\_\_\_\_ to ever become the U.S. Army Chief of Staff. As head, he was an energetic

reformer of the army bureaucracy transforming the army into a modern force, effective and fit, esp. for its role in WW I.

13. Wood was the White House and \_\_\_\_\_ physician to two U.S. presidents, Presidents Grover Cleveland and Wm. McKinley.

15. "I never make the mistake of \_\_\_\_\_ with people for whose opinions I have no respect," — Edward Gibbon.

17. Letters for American Eagle, a regional brand of American Airlines; Am. Eagle for ex. operates out of Columbia Regional Airport.

18. Prefix for form or new.

19. "He whom God has exalted at His \_\_\_\_\_ hand as ruler and savior..." (Acts 5:30-32).

21. "All the poor man's brothers hate him; how much more do his friends \_\_\_\_\_ him!" (Proverbs 19:7).

23. After successfully commanding troops in Cuba, Wood was appointed Military Governor of Cuba, immediately instituting reforms and improvements in \_\_\_\_\_, educational, judicial, and sanitation conditions.

27. Am. actress \_\_\_\_\_ Thurman.

28. He was a real \_\_\_\_\_ wit!

32. "Bless these gifts...which we \_\_\_\_\_ to you firstly for Your Holy Catholic Church," —from Eucharistic Prayer I.

33. Honolulu hello.

36. "They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-\_\_\_\_\_..." (Isaiah 9:5).

37. My favorite meal for Easter dinner is a roasted \_\_\_\_\_ of lamb.

39. I would prefer a low-\_\_\_\_\_ diet drink if you have it.

40. British equivalent of Inc.

42. Short for rheumatoid arthritis.

43. Prescription abbr. meaning "once daily" (Latin: *omne in die*).

45. Suffix for goat or appoint.

ANSWERS on page 19

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## JULIA GREELEY

From page 1

hood cause.

Safeguards for slowing the spread of COVID-19 restricted attendance to about 50 people, with about 150 others tuning-in via livestream.

### “Angel of Charity”

Miss Greeley was born into a family of slaves in Marion County, in what is now the Jefferson City diocese, sometime between 1833 and 1848.

Little can be found about her early life in Missouri, which stayed loyal to the Union while remaining a slave state through the Civil War.

As a child, she got hit in the eye with a whip while trying to stop a slavedriver from beating her mother. Her eye would remain disfigured for the rest of her life.

After being emancipated at the war's end, she became



**LEFT:** Auxiliary Bishop Jorge Rodriguez of Denver and Capuchin Franciscan Father Blaine Burkey process into the sanctuary of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver during a Mass on the 102nd anniversary of the death of Servant of God Julia Greeley, a candidate for sainthood who grew up in Missouri. With them on the left is Deacon Robert Finan. **BELOW:** Congregants keep proper distance during the Mass. **RIGHT:** This icon of Julia Greeley is based on the only known photograph of her.

— Photos from the Julia Greeley Guild  
— Photo from the Denver Catholic

to live the Gospel at home, at work, in her parish and in the world, in keeping with the Rule of St. Francis of Assisi.

The priests at her parish found her to be a most fervent

Nearly a century later, the Denver archdiocese opened a sainthood cause for her and moved her earthly remains to a stone sarcophagus inside the cathedral basilica.

divine life by frequently receiving Holy Communion and cultivating a loving relationship with the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

“The dwelling of the Trinity in her soul bloomed into a loving prayer life and works of charity,” said Bishop Rodriguez. “She only needed to open her heart to God’s presence and let Him work on her.”

When her earthly life ended, she was drawn up into the Heart of the Most Holy Trinity, to dwell there for all eternity.

“And that is our destination,” the bishop asserted, “to participate in the communion of love of the Most Holy Trinity: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

### Love never fails

A target of brutal racism, Miss Greeley spent most of her life in physical pain and poverty.

“Nevertheless, she did not

hate, and she even took from the little she had to help the poor,” the bishop noted, “many of whom were white.”

She eagerly proclaimed Jesus’s love to public servicemen and firefighters, Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

Her life points to the only effective remedy to division and hate.

“Reconciliation and healing of the sin of racism comes from holiness and love,” Bishop Rodriguez insisted. “Christian love is able to unify and put together distinct persons into a community of brothers and sisters.”

*For more information on Servant of God Julia Greeley and the Julia Greeley Guild, go to: [juliagreeley.org](http://juliagreeley.org).*

*Contributing to this article were Fr. Burkey, Catholic News Service, Catholic News Agency-EWTN, the Denver archdiocese’s Denver Catholic newspaper, the Julia Greeley Guild and the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Conrad in Colorado.*



a housekeeper and nursemaid to the children of Dr. Paul Gerard Robinson, who had married into one of the first families of St. Louis.

In about 1878, Miss Greeley moved to Denver to perform similar service for Mrs. Robinson’s sister, also named Julia, who had married William Gilpin, the first territorial governor of Colorado.

Miss Greeley worked odd jobs around the city after leaving the Gilpins’ employ.

She found her spiritual home at Sacred Heart Church, converting to Catholic Christianity in 1880 and devoting most of the rest of her life to simple acts of charity, devotion and evangelization.

She received Holy Communion daily, and in 1901 made her profession in what is now known as the Secular Franciscan Order, pledging

promoter of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

That devotion filled her with passion to serve God by helping people who were poor and marginalized.

She came to be known as “Denver’s Angel of Charity.”

Despite her own poverty and long hours of housekeeping and taking care of children, she devoted much of her time to collecting food, clothing and other goods for the poor.

She would often deliver those things after dark, so as to avoid embarrassing the people she was helping.

She died on June 7, 1918, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

Her death notice and simple headstone both referred to her as “Beloved Julia Greeley.”

Thousands came to pay their respects.

### Example of holiness

A formal declaration of a deceased person’s heroic virtue, along with miracles attributed to God through that person’s prayerful intercession in heaven, are part of the exhaustive process the Church undertakes each time a saint is declared.

Such miracles, objectively and meticulously investigated, are understood to be a sign of God’s approval.

While His people continue to pray for her to be declared blessed and eventually a saint, “this is merely a formality to make canonical a real example of holiness,” Bishop Rodriguez stated.

From the moment of her baptism, “the Most Holy Trinity dwelled in her, and the finest, silent and divine work of her sanctification begun,” he said.

She nurtured that seed of

## Things To Do

### Fundraisers & Social Events

Jul. 10-11

**Sedalia**, K of C and Daughters of Isabella garage sale, Fri 4-7 pm, Sat 8 am-2 pm, K of C Hall

Jul. 11

**Jefferson City**, Pregnancy Help Center of Central Missouri's "Bubbles & Bounces" 5K Walk/Run, 8:30 am, Memorial Park, for info or to register visit [friendsofphc.org](http://friendsofphc.org)

Jul. 11-12

**Monroe City**, K of C 5th Annual Catfish Tournament, 6 pm Sat through 8 am Sun (registration at 5 pm Sat), Route U boat ramp at Mark Twain Lake, for info call Ken-ny St. Clair at 573-248-9231

Jul. 12

**St. Martins**, St. Martin parish "Fish Fry in July" drive-thru fun, faith & fellowship event, noon-5 pm

Jul. 18

**Jefferson City**, Catholic Radio drive-thru barbecue pork steak dinner, 4:30-6 pm, Helias Catholic High School Commons, RSVP by text/phone to Mark Rehagen at 573-680-2520

Jul. 25

**Monroe City**, Holy Rosary School homecoming golf tournament, 10 am, Mosswood Golf Course, for info or registration, contact Ryan Watson at 573-406-2472 or [hrosarymc@gmail.com](mailto:hrosarymc@gmail.com)

### Meetings & Conferences

Jul. 21

**Columbia**, Vitae Foundation pro-life event with speaker Jason Chaffetz, 7 pm, Holiday Inn Expo Center (also livestreamed), to register visit [vitaefoundation.org](http://vitaefoundation.org)

### Youth & Young Adults

Jul. 13-18

**Online** — Take the #CHRISTpowerChallenge to serve, pray & fast, for details and to sign-up, visit [diojeffcity.org/christpower](http://diojeffcity.org/christpower)

Jul. 18

**Laurie**, "be YOU tiful: Catholic Femininity in High School and Beyond," one-day retreat for high school girls (grades 9-12), 9 am-4 pm, National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, for info or to register visit [campsiena.com](http://campsiena.com)

Jul. 26-Jul. 31

**St. Robert**, Camp Macca-bee for high school boys (grades 9-12), St. Robert Bellarmine parish, for info visit [campmaccabee.com](http://campmaccabee.com)

### Health & Wellness

*Note: For a limited time, the American Red Cross will test all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies as an additional health service to donors.*

Jul. 17

**Loose Creek**, Blood drive, 3-7 pm, Loose Creek Community Center

Jul. 16

**St. Robert**, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, St. Robert Bellarmine parish hall

Jul. 20

**Boonville**, Blood drive, 1-6 pm, Ss. Peter & Paul parish hall

Jul. 21

**Hermitage**, Blood drive, noon-5 pm, St. Bernadette parish center

Jul. 26

**Columbia**, Blood drive, 8 am-2 pm, St. Thomas More Newman Center MPR

## PERSONNEL

From page 4

summer, but her husband is seeking damages. Becket, the nonprofit religious liberty law firm representing the schools, said that in 2015, the school chose not to renew Biel's one-year contract based on classroom performance.

Our Lady of Guadalupe School in Hermosa Beach did not renew the contract in 2013 for Agnes Morrissey-Berru, who had taught both fifth and sixth grades since 1999, saying she had a problem keeping order in her classroom and meeting expectations under a new reading program. Morrissey-Berru sued, alleging age bias under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967.

In both cases, federal district courts ruled in favor of the schools, citing ministerial exception. But two separate panels of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit reversed these decisions, saying the limited extent of the employee's religious duties were insufficient to qualify for a ministerial exception that was more often applied to those with roles of religious leadership.

The 2012 decision these schools were standing on is *Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v.*

*Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, where a teacher at a Lutheran school in Michigan said she was fired for pursuing an employment discrimination claim based on a disability.

In that ruling, the court said the ministerial exception to anti-discrimination laws meant that religious organizations couldn't be sued for firing an employee classified as a minister.

Briefs filed by both schools point out that the "scope of the ministerial exception is a vital and recurring question of nationwide importance for thousands of religious organizations and individuals."

The National Catholic Educational Association, in a friend-of-the-court brief in support of St. James School, stressed instead that Biel, as the school's only fifth grade teacher, "bore particular responsibility for effectuating — and embodying — the integral formation that is distinct to Catholic schools."

Richard Garnett, law professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School and director of the university's Program on Church, State and Society, said at the time of the oral arguments that even though these teachers were not giving theology instruction and were not ordained clergy, "their role is, and is understood as, a ministerial one, and secular courts are not in a good position to second-guess or override religious institutions' decisions about their ministerial employees' role."

He also said the cases were not, "as some have complained, about a supposed right of churches to 'ignore' civil rights laws. Quite the contrary. These cases are about protecting the civil and constitutional rights of religious institutions to decide religious questions for themselves."

## SULLIVAN

From page 9

ages in one form or another, in all its stages and moments.

"At the heart of catechesis, we find, in essence, a person, the person of Jesus of Nazareth," wrote St. John Paul II. At the center of the new directory stands the person of Jesus Christ, whose incarnation, life, death and resurrection grounds both the content and methods of catechesis of children, youth and adults in today's world.

One noteworthy highlight in this directory is its focus on the identity and formation of catechists, who are the living face of the Church's catechetical efforts. A renewal of the Church is linked inextricably to a renewal of catechesis made possible by vibrant, ongoing catechist formation. By responding to the universal call to holiness catechists become the "saints next door," in the phrase of Pope Francis.

The presentation of a new "Directory for Catechesis" occurred three months after its approval on March 23, 2020, the liturgical memorial of 16th-century St. Turibius of Mongrovejo, bishop and model catechist.

In the intervening months between its approval and its publication, the universal Church has endured unprecedented and devastating effects of a pandemic. In a post-pandemic Church, this new directory will surely serve as one trusted road map for a renewed proclamation of the Gospel unfolding in the new evangelization and in that one remarkable moment within it, that is the Church's ministry of catechesis.

*Sullivan teaches catechetics at The Catholic University of America in the School of Theology and Religious Studies.*

## Submitting events for Things to Do page

In the interest of time and accuracy, *The Catholic Missouriian* has moved to a simple online process for submitting events for the Things to Do page.

To have an event considered for publication in Things to Do and in the diocesan online events calendar, go to [diojeffcity.org/event-listing](http://diojeffcity.org/event-listing) and follow the directions.

## ROBINSON

From page 9

of the heart in lines that are perfectly composed for calming frazzled minds and providing a renewed sense of clarity.

The *WIRED* article attributed compulsive doomscrolling to a "search for clarity." It went on to say that all of this troubling news places a high mental and emotional demand on us. But the article's most haunting quote might have been that "there's no overarching narrative that helps us."

Yes there is. Christianity is the antidote for our

The process is straightforward and user-friendly.

Events submitted for display advertising will be automatically included in Things to Do, as will items that have been previously submitted.

The deadline for submitting advertising requests is 10 business days prior to the cover date on the print edition.

machine-generated conversations. By favoring the theological over the technological, our ultimate reality remains in view. Christ is the organizing principle by which we can make sense of world events and practice the little habits of "Christ-centered" conversation that short-circuit the machine's logic.

*Robinson is director of communications and Catholic media studies at the University of Notre Dame McGrath Institute for Church Life.*

## Anniversaries

### Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul

Gene & Emilie Herigon, 55 years  
 Bill & Glenda Richey, 54 years  
 Jerry & Mary McGuire, 53 years  
 Fred & Mary Jo Wilson, 53 years  
 Logan & Elizabeth Pfeiffer, 50 years  
 Bruce & Darlene Smith, 50 years  
 Earl & Cindy Felten, 45 years  
 Robert & Karen Gerke, 45 years  
 M.L. & Carol Cauthon, 44 years  
 Danny & June Taft, 44 years  
 Kevin & Nancy Hyland, 42 years  
 Jeff & Carla Brengarth, 41 years  
 Terry & Joyce Davis, 39 years  
 Dave & Sue Miller, 39 years  
 Scott & Joyce Storzjohann, 34 years  
 Kerry & Connie Shipman, 32 years  
 Gary & Mary Leathers, 31 years  
 Rich & Dawn Kuster, 30 years  
 Donald & Joann Schupp, 30 years  
 Andy & Kris Stodgel, 30 years  
 Phillip & Lori Imhoff, 28 years  
 Tim & Betty Edwards, 26 years

### Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels

Steve & Bev Tesdall, 50 years  
 John & Colleen Barhnart, 44 years  
 Ernie & Bev Otto, 44 years

### Brookfield, Immaculate Conception

John & Kay Osterman, 47 years  
 Carol & Mary Ann Sensenich, 44 years  
 Donald & Angie Downey, 26 years  
 Lee & Melinda Wilbeck, 22 years  
 Glen & Barbara Hayes, 18 years  
 Curtis & Rachel Hays, 10 years

### Brunswick, St. Boniface

Rick & Charlene Manson, 45 years

### Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes

Steven & Patricia Chandler, 37 years

### Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians

Don & Betty Stiefferman, 59 years

### Freeburg, Holy Family

John & Judy Wieberg 44, years  
 Marlon & Cindy Stuecken, 43 years  
 Bill & Linda Light, 36 years  
 Steve & Annette Poettgen, 34 years

### Fulton, St. Peter

Jim & Alyce Zerr, 60 years

### Hermann, St. George

Dave & Barb Struttman, 50 years

### Jefferson City, St. Peter

Dan & Kathy Smith, 25 years

### Kahoka, St. Michael

Mike & Debby Whiston, 48 years  
 Stanley & Kathy Welker, 42 years  
 Gary & Alice Morehouse, 41 years

### Kirkville, Mary Immaculate

John & Mary Schlepffhorst, 76 years  
 Charles & Elizabeth Kline, 62 years  
 John & Debbie Lechner, 47 years  
 Bob & Beverly Compton, 45 years  
 Glenn & Judy Neuweg, 44 years  
 Charlie & Janet Cooper, 38 years  
 Vincent Prosko & Kathleen Kelly, 34 years  
 Eddie & Bonita Schmitz, 33 years  
 Kenneth & Virginia Halterman, 32 years  
 John & Pat Erhart, 29 years  
 Michael & Evonne Bird, 27 years  
 John & Kimberly Moore, 27 years  
 Deacon Chris & Katy Korte, 23 years  
 Jerod & Shelly Wood, 15 years

### Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake

Jerry & Kathy Russell, 60 years  
 Jerry & Marlen Frank, 50 years  
 Rick & Barbara Sefcik, 50 years

### Marceline, St. Bonaventure

James & Christine Atterbury, 59 years  
 Junior & Lora Solomon, 33 years  
 Joey & Jessica Bascus, 20 years  
 Daniel & Melissa Paalhar, 18 years  
 Joshua & Angela Phillips, 16 years  
 Chuck & Rebecca Core, 12 years  
 Joe & Dana Allen, 10 years  
 Edward & Jessica Dobrzanski, 10 years

### Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows

Fred & Margaret Evers, 68 years  
 Kenneth & Norma Runge, 63 years  
 Jeremy & Victoria Berendzen, 15 years  
 Matt & Brittany Goetz, 15 years

### Milan, St. Mary

Jose & Blanca Diaz, 16 years

### Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart

Bill & Sylvia Frank, 52 years  
 Mike & Mary Jane Perkins, 45 years  
 Tim & Cindy Neuner, 40 years  
 Tom & Karen Bax, 33 years

### St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle

Riley & Daffiny Tallent, 15 years

### Taos, St. Francis Xavier

George & Rose Dorge, 65 years

### Unionville, St. Mary

Alan & Connie Mayer, 23 years

### Vandalia, Sacred Heart

Crisanto & Thelma Gualberto, 50 years  
 Gayle & Frances Stuart, 48 years  
 Kerry & Connie Hesse, 40 years  
 Robert & Nancy Stotler, 21 years  
 Norman & Andrea McBride, 17 years

### Wien, St. Mary of the Angels

Alan & Paula Ablen, 47 years  
 Dennis & Pam Bixenman, 42 years  
 Donald & Ronda Stallo, 39 years  
 Glen & Bridget Fessler, 31 years  
 Charles & Elena Long, 21 years  
 Jeff & Bretta Bixenman, 14 years  
 Loren & Regina Niemeier, 14 years  
 Stephen & Mary Helen Moser, 12 years

## Birthdays

Marshall, St. Peter — **Virginia Sprigg**, her 90th on July 4

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Anthony "Junior" Marek**, his 90th on July 15

## Baptisms

California, Annunciation — **Everett Norris Sangster**, son of Robert & Letitia Sangster

Camdenton, St. Anthony — **Liam Alba, Jeremiah Randle, Everly Wyatt**

Hermitage, St. Bernadette — **Savannah Lea McCarty**, daughter of Sam & Katie McCarty; **Frank Mackey Snyder**, son of Mike & Victoria Snyder

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Hunter Daniel Dirks**, son of Justin & Mallorie Dirks

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Zoey Catherine Fletcher, Joseph Ambrose Peters**

Kahoka, St. Michael — **Conrad Doyle Sedore**, son of Logan & Alexandra Sedore

Marceline, St. Bonaventure — **Camden Wayne Heins**, son of Benjamin & Michelle Heins

Marshall, St. Peter — **Eva Malherbe**, daughter of Daniel & Anne Malherbe; **John Mull**, son of Bradley & Danielle Mull

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Rhen Mark Kempker**, son of Jeremy & Megan Kempker

Morrison, Assumption — **Charleigh Elizabeth Wieberg**, daughter of Preston Wieberg & Alyssa Bullock

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Amelia Genevieve Holtmeyer**, daughter of Steven & Ashley Holtmeyer; **Lennox Alan Voss**, son of Nick & Dana Voss

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Declan Lee Hamilton**

Westphalia, St. Joseph — **Natalie Marie Borgmeyer**, daughter of Scott & Taylor Borgmeyer; **Camille Michelle** and **Michael Thomas Knoll**, children of Alex & Taylor Knoll; **Elizabeth Rose Ryan**, daughter of Matt & Ashlee Ryan

## Marriages

Camdenton, St. Anthony — **Chelsea Schuster & David Herman**

Canton, St. Joseph — **Abigail Gaus & Henry Gunsauls**

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Jessica Boessen & Logan Bax; Katelyn Ruetggers & Zachary Peters**

Hermann, St. George — **Gwen LeRoy & Garrett Imhoff**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Sarah Berendzen & James Sponsel; Emily Allen & Ryan Salica**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Ashlynn Girard & Alex Degn**

## Deaths

Mary "Marie" A. Bruns, 96 — who worked for the Missouri Catholic Conference for 40 years — on June 30. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 7 in St. Stanislaus Church in Wardsville.

Camdenton, St. Anthony — **Joyce Maher**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **James J. "Twink" Landwehr**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Karen M. Elliott**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Tharsilla A. "Pat" Lieneke**

Linn, St. George — **Gertrude M. Peters, Josephine E. Voss**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Dr. David Whitson**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **LaVerne L. Tyree**

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Richard Kraus**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Bernard I. Heet**

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — **Marian M. Becker**

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Verl F. Niemeier**

## Elections

Jefferson City, Knights of Columbus Daniel Coppin Fourth Degree Assembly — **Brent Cain**, faithful navigator; **Richard G. Anderson**, faithful comptroller; **Father Richard Frank**, faithful friar; **John Lansford**, faithful admiral; **Alan E. Mudd**, faithful purser; **Sam Orr**, faithful pilot; **Keith Wenzel**, faithful scribe; **Edwin H. Rackers, Alan Mengwasser**, sentinels; **Gary Eggen, John Lansford, Pat Schaefer**, trustees

St. Clement, St. Clement — **Michelle Larson, Mary Jane Noellsch, Shirley Touchette, Becky Turner**, parish pastoral council; **Ryan Bibb, Elisha Koenig, Nicchi Orf**, school advisory board

## 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](mailto:editor@diojeffcity.org); faxed to (573) 635-2286; or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914.

## Crossword puzzle answers

D	E		T	V	U	D	V	R	G
R	E	L	V	H	O	R	E	E	
E	T	V	C	T				T	
H	G	C	T	V	L	V	E		
N	O	I	L	V	N	I	M	O	N
N	I	D	H	O	N	U	U		
O	U	E	G	V	S		E	H	
E	G	V	M	I	R	E	E	H	S
G	R		R	E	R	E	V	C	
R	S	J	M	P	V		V	D	
U	S	D	D	O	X	E	P	V	
S	R	I	D	E	S	V	A	B	

## Young people helping in time of need



Members of the St. Peter parish youth group in Marshall, assisted by Father Mark Smith, pastor of the Marshall parish and of the mission of Holy Family in Sweet Springs, and Father Thomas Alber, senior associate pastor, help deliver supplies to people in need in Saline County on May 15. They worked in cooperation with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri. Young volunteers included Connor Grossenborg, John Miles, Jack Donnell, Kate Donnell and Hollis Makings.

— Photo by Carol Wolfe

## To the House of the Lord



The largest group of Immaculate Conception parishioners who are graduating from Montgomery City High School in recent memory gathers in the sanctuary of Immaculate Conception Church.

— Photo by Cynthia J. Newman

### Prayer in times of seeking God's will

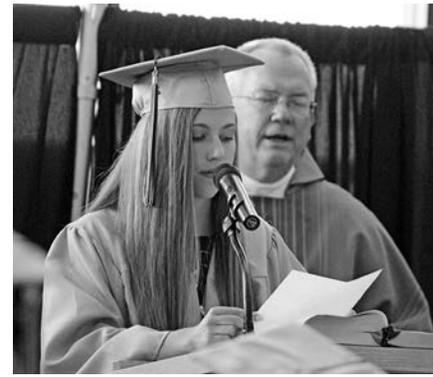
Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me.  
Of You my heart speaks; You my glance seeks;  
Your presence, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not Your face from me; do not in anger repel Your servant.  
You are my helper: cast me not off; forsake me not, O God my Savior.  
I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.

— Psalm 27:7-9, 13-14, from *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*

## TOLTON CATHOLIC

From page 10



It was hard for her to be separated from her classmates for the past two months.

“But we’re still a community,” she said. “Everyone stayed in touch and checked in on each other.”

Jacob Vossler, a member of Ss. Peter & Paul parish in Boonville, will miss the school’s tightness.

“There isn’t anybody here who I don’t know, and I get along with just about everybody,” he said.

He and two friends plan to enter the MFA program at State Technical College of Missouri in Linn.

He said one of the hardest lessons he learned at Tolton Catholic was to listen to teachers.

“I didn’t like to listen, but they usually know what’s best,” he said. “They’ll get you on the right track for where you need to go.”

### Put to the test

Jack Kiley, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes parish, said Tolton Catholic gave him countless opportunities to make friends and develop skills that will help him for the rest of his life.

He plans to pursue a biological sciences degree at the University of Missouri in the fall.

He said he recognizes God’s presence in the hardships he and his classmates have weathered.

“Our faith wouldn’t be strong unless we were tested in it,” he said. “And this has been quite a test, this end to our senior year.”

“It’s been a great opportunity to show what we’ve learned the past four years and work on putting it into action,” he said.

### Staying focused

Janie Steffes said Tolton Catholic has helped her grow

in knowledge of the world around her and in faith in things eternal.

“God is very much a part of everything we do and a big part of going to school here,” she said. “We pray before every class. Even at sports meets, we always pray before everything and make sure that God is

always part of what we’re doing.”

“Even in science or math class, we could always find a way to bring it back to God and the Catholic faith, and it always comes together,” she said.

She’s grateful especially to her parents for allowing her to go to Tolton Catholic and helping her make the most of her time there.

She said being Catholic has become an important part of who she is.

“It allows me to be the best I can be and seek to follow God in everything I do,” she said.

### Get involved

For people entering high school in the fall, Mr. Kiley suggested having fun and not taking it all too seriously.

“But be sure to get what you need to do done, and everything will just come naturally,” he said.

Miss Steffes advised trusting in the process and not being afraid to try something different.

“Embrace your faith and really get involved with school, your friends, activities,” she said. “And make sure you keep your faith through all of it.”

Miss Brownfield asked for prayers for resilience for her and her fellow graduating seniors — “that everyone can get through things that come at you in life like this, and that you can be stronger when you come out from them.”

Mr. Vossler requested prayers to be able to remain on campus this fall and have a relatively normal school year free of COVID-19 disruptions.

Mr. Kiley asked for prayers to help him improve the lives of people around him in any way he can.

“Because that’s what we’re here for,” he said.

# Jesus explains the parable of the sower

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

One day, Jesus walked outside of the house in which He was staying and sat down by the sea.

A huge crowd gathered around Him, so He got into a boat and sat down as the people stood on the shore listening.

Jesus began to speak to the crowd in parables. One of the parables was about a man who was sowing seeds.

“A sower went out to sow,” Jesus began. “And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up.”

Some of the seeds the man was sowing fell on rocky ground where there was little soil.

“It sprang up at once be-



cause the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots,” Jesus said.

And other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up

and choked them.

“But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold,” Jesus said. “Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

After Jesus finished, He turned to His apostles. He wanted His friends to understand what He had said to the people.

“Hear then the parable of the sower,” He said to the apostles.

Jesus explained that the seed sown on the path represented a person who hears the word of the kingdom of God without understanding it.

“The evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart,” He said.

The seed sown on rocky ground represented a person who hears the word and receives it at once with joy, Jesus explained.

“But he has no root and lasts only for a time,” He said. “When some tribulation or

persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away.”

The seed sown among thorns is like one who hears the word, Jesus noted.

“But then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word, and it bears no fruit,” He added.

“But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold,” Jesus said.

### Read more about it... Matthew 13

1. Where did Jesus sit so He could teach the people?
2. To whom did Jesus explain the parable of the sower?

## Bible Accent

Why did Jesus speak to the people using parables?

“Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted,” He explained to the apostles in Matthew 13:10. “To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”

Jesus said that the people looked and heard, but they did not see, listen or understand.

He pointed out that this fulfills a prophecy of the prophet Isaiah:

“You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.”

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see,” Jesus told the apostles, “and your ears,

because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

## Essay

Can you make up your own parable to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson?

## Saint Spotlight



St. Kunigunde was born in Hungary in 1234. The daughter of royalty, she married King Boleslaus IV of Poland when she was 16. Both Kunigunde and Boleslaus took vows of celibacy, and they ruled together for 40 years. Kunigunde generously supported the Friars Minor, the sick and the poor. She also paid the ransoms for Christians who had been captured. After her husband died, she entered a Poor Clares convent that she had founded in Poland. Kunigunde died in 1292, and we remember her on July 24.

## Puzzle

Using the hints provided, fill in the blanks with the correct words to complete the sentences from some of Jesus' parables.

1. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed \_\_\_\_\_ all through the wheat. (Matthew 13:25)
2. And lying at his door was a poor man named \_\_\_\_\_, covered with sores. (Luke 16:20)
3. Five of them were \_\_\_\_\_ and five were wise. (Matthew 25:2)
4. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old \_\_\_\_\_. (Mark 2:22)



Answers: 1. weeds; 2. Lazarus; 3. fool; 4. Wineskins.

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Diocese of  
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## Vermont priest explains symbolism in statues, windows in YouTube series

By Cori Fugere Urban  
Catholic News Service

Burlington, Vermont

What do vestments, an upside-down anchor, St. John of Nepomuk, a pelican and St. Joseph's flowering staff have in common?

They are all explained in Father Matthew Rensch's YouTube series "Symbols and Saints."

The parochial vicar of the Rutland-Wallingford Catholic Community in Vermont began the series in March as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic that necessitated the closing of churches in the Diocese of Burlington for the public celebration of Mass.

He and the pastor, Monsignor Bernard Bourgeois, both began video series as a way of reaching out to parishioners and keeping them spiritually

nourished and connected with the parish during that time.

"I have always enjoyed the symbolism within our churches and the representations of

**Father Rensch's series can be found at Youtube.com and search for "Symbols and Saints."**

the saints; the symbolism is almost like a secret code, hiding invaluable and fascinating wisdom about what we believe and the saints who have preceded us," Fr. Rensch said. "I wanted to unveil some of those hidden gems for the parishioners, as well as give them some virtual views, at least, of their churches while they were unable to enter them physically."

He selected statues, win-

dows, images and decorations that contained symbols he found exciting and judged would "require some explanation in order for someone to appreciate the exciting treasure encoded within," he told the *Vermont Catholic*, Burlington's diocesan magazine.

In looking at the symbols found at Christ the King and Immaculate Heart of Mary churches in Rutland and St. Patrick Church in Wallingford, Fr. Rensch came upon a stained-glass window in St. Patrick's that had a small depiction of a fish on a book.

"The fish mentioned in one of the videos was lying on top of a book. I had never come across that depiction before and was unsure of its meaning," he said. "Individually, of course, those are Christian symbols with a fairly definite meaning. But I was unsure of their significance as depicted together in the stained-glass window."

After mentioning it on the YouTube program, "parishioners came to my rescue," Fr. Rensch said. Someone told him it is the symbol for the

## Movie Ratings



Adults and Adolescents

Artemis Fowl (PG)  
Mr. Topaze (not rated)



Adults

The High Note (PG-13)  
Irresistible (R)  
The Outpost (R)  
7500 (R)  
Shirley (R)  
Wasp Network (not rated)



Limited Adult Audience

Da 5 Bloods (R)  
The King of Staten Island (R)



Morally Offensive

Saint Frances (not rated)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for current reviews.



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K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton

Apostle St. Simon the Zealot. "This led me to discover the symbols for all the apostles, many of which are present in St. Patrick's in Wallingford," he added.

Each symbol and saint held a particular enjoyment for the young priest. One, the upside-down anchor as a symbol of hope "is so downright clever," he said, acknowledging, however, that his favorite of the symbols is Jesus on the cross depicted as a priest: "It is such a rich theological statement."

Fr. Rensch has had some help from parishioners with

filming and some research, and he has received much positive feedback on the series. "The best reactions were when parishioners said that they were familiar with the image, but the explanations allowed them to really see the image for the first time," he said.

The last video has been filmed. "As the churches open back up, it's time to enjoy the symbols in person," he concluded.

*Urban is managing editor of the Vermont Catholic, magazine of the Diocese of Burlington.*

## New pamphlet available on Julia Greeley's life

Capuchin Franciscan Father Blaine Burkey's 24-page pamphlet on Missouri native, Servant of God Julia Greeley, has been published by Liguorian Publications of Liguori, Missouri.

"The pamphlet gave me the perfect amount of information to make me feel like I had met a new friend and also to make me long to read the book so I could know more about her," stated a published author who is writing a second children's book about Miss Greeley, a candidate for sainthood.

Copies are available from the Julia Greeley Guild for \$2 apiece, including postage.

Write to: Julia Greeley Guild Office, Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, 1535 N. Logan St., Denver, CO 80203.



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## CONFIRMED

From page 6

The apostles He gave this power to were the first bishops, and they passed that power down through the line of bishops to this moment, given this power also to their priests at the time of their ordination.

### Familiar faces

Preparing for this day, my mind has been working overtime.

I have been thinking back to when I had many of these *confirmandi* in second grade, helping them prepare for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

I have many memories of each of them, and I enjoy watching them grow on their own faith journey.

Today was extra special to me since my godson, who is autistic and nonverbal, was confirmed.

It made me stop and think how God puts certain people in our lives at just the perfect time to help us and be Christ for us.

During my reflecting, I thought of how Father Mike Murphy is one of those people for my family.

My godson was baptized by the late Father Phil Moriarty, and they had a special connection.

When Fr. Phil would walk down the side aisle before Mass, Hank would always make some kind of happy sound, and Father always answered him.

When Fr. Phil was in the nursing home, Hank knew something was wrong and would get upset when a different priest would come out.

Fr. Phil died 11 years ago.

Hank wasn't happy at Mass, and it was hard for him to go until God sent us Fr. Mike.

He now has a special connection with Hank. The first year he was here, we started sacrament preparation, and Hank was using an app on an iPad to communicate.

His mom set up a folder for Reconciliation, and Fr. Mike was very pleased with it.

Hank enjoys going to Reconciliation, and Father has made the comment about how Hank gets the true meaning of it.

Then, after much practice, we were able to help Hank work through the sensory issues of the texture of the host. That spring, he made his First Holy Communion with his sister.

Hank loves going to church and enjoys listening to Fr. Mike.

### Answered prayers

This year, we started Confirmation preparation, and in the back of our minds, we wondered how it would work.

There were 50 candidates from St. Mary of the Angels parish in Wien and St. Joseph parish in Salisbury.

We were hoping to have the Confirmation in Wien, which would have been one less change for Hank, but then it was moved to Salisbury.

This spring, everything was upended, and Bishop W. Shawn McKnight gave Fr. Mike permission to confirm our candidates a few at each Mass, due to social-distancing concerns.

God doesn't always

give us what we want or how we want it, but He is always working for good. Sometimes, we need to relax a little more and allow His purposes to work out.

God took away any worries we had. Because Hank was able to be confirmed by Fr. Mike, whom he knows, and there were only five other candidates.

And as it turns out, two of the other candidates, Ramzee and Jace, were in Hank's class, and they started together in preschool and went all through PSR together.

I know Hank would not have wanted to celebrate with anyone else. So remember that if God doesn't answer your prayers the way you ask, it means He has better things planned for you, because He loves us more than we know how to love ourselves!

## Crossing paths



Perpendicular airplane trails left a sign in the sky above the Our Lady of Lourdes parish office building in Columbia June 24. — Photo by Debbie Portell

## PREPARE

From page 7

swer session and Fr. Viviano's candor in sharing the story of his call to Priesthood.

"He knows how to keep your interest and does not put himself above you," the pilgrim stated. "I think sometimes we forget that our priests are men are just like us."

Messages that particularly resonated with him were the need to seek the Blessed Mother's intercession; the im-

portance of all the faithful, including priests, going to Confession often; the need to pray for young people to overcome the numerous temptations presented by the internet and social media; and the importance of praying for deceased loved ones so they can complete their journey to heaven.

"It had been many years since I went on a pilgrimage," the pilgrim stated. "It was a great day."

### Lambs and wolves

Fr. Viviano pointed to national studies showing that the COVID-19 pandemic has coincided with an increase in alcohol abuse and use of pornography.

He suggested curbing children's access to smartphones and making sure they're equipped with parental controls.

Otherwise, he said, "you are feeding the lambs to the wolves."

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, July 12

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is. 55:10-11  
Ps. 66:10-14  
Rom. 8:18-23  
Mt. 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

### Monday, July 13

St. Henry  
Is. 1:10-17  
Ps. 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23  
Mt. 10:34 - 11:1

### Tuesday, July 14

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin (USA)  
Is. 7:1-9  
Ps. 48:2-8  
Mt. 11:20-24

### Wednesday, July 15

St. Bonaventure, bishop, doctor of the Church  
Is. 10:5-7, 13b-16  
Ps. 94:5-10, 14-15  
Mt. 11:25-27

### Thursday, July 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
Is. 26:7-9, 12, 16-19  
Ps. 102:13-21  
Mt. 11:28-30

### Friday, July 17

Is. 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8  
(Ps.) Is. 38:10-12abcd, 16  
Mt. 12:1-8

### Saturday, July 18

St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest (USA)  
Mi. 2:1-5  
Ps. 10:1-4, 7-8, 14  
Mt. 12:14-21

### Sunday, July 19

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wis. 12:13, 16-19  
Ps. 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16  
Rom. 8:26-27  
Mt. 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

### Monday, July 20

St. Apollinaris, bishop, martyr  
Mi. 6:1-4, 6-8  
Ps. 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23  
Mt. 12:38-42

### Tuesday, July 21

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doctor of the Church  
Mi. 7:14-15, 18-20  
Ps. 85:2-8  
Mt. 12:46-50

### Wednesday, July 22

St. Mary Magdalene  
Sg. 3:1-4b or 2 Cor. 5:14-17  
Ps. 63:2-6, 8-9  
Jn. 20:1-2, 11-18

### Thursday, July 23

St. Bridget, religious  
Jer. 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13  
Ps. 36:6-11  
Mt. 13:10-17

### Friday, July 24

St. Sharbel Makhluf, priest  
Jer. 3:14-17  
(Ps.) Jer. 31:10-13  
Mt. 13:18-23

### Saturday, July 25

St. James, Apostle  
2 Cor. 4:7-15  
Ps. 126:1-6  
Mt. 20:20-28

**The Holy Father's prayer intentions for July:**  
We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

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Mrs. Stevens wrote down several other messages from the day that she took to heart:

• "There is no crown without a cross."

• "Talk to your guardian angel each day. Ask for protection of mind, spirit and body."

• "The greatest retreat we can go to is one with a funeral coffin; it prepares us for an eventuality."

• "We get caught up in con-

sumerism; the devil wants us unprepared."

• "Our job is to be faithful; God will do the rest."

The National Shrine of Mary Mother of the Church is located on the grounds of St. Patrick Church, off of Highway 5 in Laurie.

The next pilgrimage is scheduled for Sept. 26.

**thenationalshrineofmary**  
**motherofthechurch.com**

## Vitae Foundation event to feature former U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz

### Cosponsored Human Life Act and legislation blocking federal funds to Planned Parenthood

Former Congressman Jason Chaffetz will be the keynote speaker at the Vitae Foundation's Annual Columbia Pro-Life Event on Tuesday, July 21, at the Holiday Inn Expo Center, 2200 I-70 Drive SW.

The dinner event will begin at 7 p.m.

The Vitae Foundation is a national non-profit organization that uses digital media campaigns to reach women facing unplanned pregnancies.

"I believe all human life is sacred," Mr. Chaffetz said.

He supports overturning *Roe v. Wade*. He co-sponsored the Human Life Act and legislation blocking federal funding to Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the country.

Elected to Congress in 2008, Mr. Chaffetz rose to chairman of the powerful House Oversight & Government Reform Committee — only the fifth time in 100 years a three-term representative ascended to such a position.

He left Congress in 2017 and is now a contributor on Fox News Networks and a fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School, Institute of Politics.

Before representing Utah's

3rd Congressional District, Chaffetz was chief of staff to the governor of Utah, a businessman in his community for 16 years, and a former place-kicker on the Brigham Young University football team.

"When Trey Gowdy said we needed to get Jason Chaffetz to come to Columbia, we got right on it!" stated Vitae Senior Market Director Stacey Kromer.

"We knew his pro-life record in Congress spoke for itself, never blinking or hesitating when it came to standing up for women and their unborn babies," she said. "We can't wait for our supporters to experience his wit, wisdom and compassion for the mission of



Jason Chaffetz

Vitae's important work."

The event raises funds to promote a culture of life and to help educate women facing

unplanned pregnancies about available resources that can assist them in making a life-affirming decision.

Vitae's Right Brain research and messaging fuels the digital strategies that help Pregnancy Help Centers reach abortion-minded women.

Registration for the event is \$100 per person (\$70 is tax deductible) and can be made online at [VitaeFoundation.org/events](http://VitaeFoundation.org/events) or by calling (573) 634-4316.

There will be social distancing steps taken to keep everyone safe.

There is also a \$25 livestream option available. Visit Vitae's website for more details.

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