Scores of faithful process 3.5 miles through Dodge City, providing a powerful witness to the ‘Body of Christ’

By DAVE MYERS

Some 200 to 300 people — children, moms pushing baby carriages, youth and elderly — celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi June 3 with a 3.5 mile procession through the streets of Dodge City.

The procession began at Sacred Heart Cathedral and concluded at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It was at once a prayer for priestly vocations, for women and men religious, families and youth, for conversion, and a prayer for world peace.

But perhaps most importantly, it was a witness of the Body and community of Christ to a multitude of people who sat outside their homes or parked along the road to view the impressive sight.

In the lead was a pickup truck packed with singers led by Cathedral youth director and recording artist David McHugh, whose powerful voice echoed through the streets.

Another truck pulled a makeshift altar on which a different priest prayed before the Blessed Sacrament between each of five prayer services.

The five altars were set up in public view along the route, such as in front of the Dodge City Medical Center and the parking lot of a mall.

Bishop John Brungardt rode the final leg of the journey, concluding at the cathedral with a prayer service in Spanish and English.

See more photos on Page 16. Española, Pagina 16.

---

Vocations to the priesthood are never something that we just pray for. They are a genuine gift of God to the church. God wants to give us his Spirit to guide us and direct us, to move us to do his will. It is a profound mystery of our faith, that God should choose to use us as instruments of his grace and love. We need to be open to hearing his call and responding with faith.

By Anne Shaughnessy
Family Formation, Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Page 10

---

Family Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Eucharist as a Sacred Meal

From the beginning of creation, human beings were designed to live in an easy unity and fellowship with God and all creation. Sin shatters this experience of unity. It divides and scatters us. Yet God does not want to leave us in this lonely, alienated and ultimately deadly state. God, throughout history, set forth a plan to gather us back to himself. Part of this story of reunifying us to himself takes place with the development of “Sacred Meal”.

As the story goes, in the garden, God created everything good and

By Father Ted Stoecklein
Assistant Director, Office of Priestly Vocations

Page 10

---

Division. Conflict. Our families, parishes, dioceses, communities, countries and world seem to be overwhelmed by polarization. These struggles may be familial, political, religious, legal, or others. At times, we have an intellectual response to a conflict, or we have an emotional response with someone with whom we disagree. Left to ourselves, we can quickly sink into the cesspool of anger. We can dismiss a person due to his beliefs, or reject a person due to her values. What to do?

St. Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians writes of someone in the community causing pain. Although the nature of this conflict is not specified, St. Paul’s admonition is to forgive, encourage, and “to reaffirm your love for him” (2 Corinthians 2:8). This starts with prayer to our Loving Lord. We simply do not have the capacity for dealing with polarization without God. And our relationship with God deepens with prayer. Some scripture to bring to prayer:

• “Cast all our worries upon (God) because he cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).
• “Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus” (Hebrews 12).
• “... that they may be one, as we are one” (John 17:22).

As Catholics, we are strengthened in our prayer life by the sacraments. The Eucharist and Reconciliation assist us to love, give us wisdom to know what to do or not do, what to say or not say, in times of division. Prayer and the sacraments help us to work toward genuine justice and lasting peace in our troubled world.

A prayer intention: Only a priest can act in the person of Christ and change ordinary bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Only a priest can give sacramental absolution.

Two years ago we began our Vibrant Ministries appeal, of which one of...
Sister ‘Trudy’ remembered for opening center to aid victims of trafficking

Sister Gertrude “Trudy” Tanner
O.P., 78, died Saturday, May 19, 2018, at St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City.

She was born April 22, 1940, in Newark, Ohio, to Ivan and Esther Schlinger Tanner. She entered religious life in 1958, made profession in 1960 and professed her final vows in 1965. She received her bachelor’s of arts from Ohio Dominican College in 1965 and taught at several Catholic schools in Ohio, New Mexico and Pennsylvania. In 1973, she earned her master’s in education from the University of Dayton, in 1977 received her C.P.E. Certificate from Riverside Methodist Hospital, and in 1982 her master’s in pastoral ministry from Catholic University.

In 1984, she was named the associate director of rural religion education for the Archdiocese of Louisville. In 1988, she moved to Port Richey, Fla., where she was pastoral associate and director of Adult Catholic Formation for St. James the Apostle Parish. In 2007, she was named to the same position at St. Magdalen Parish in Bloomfield, Iowa.

In 2013, she moved to Garden City, where she was instrumental in the opening of the Oasis of Peace Center in the spring of 2018, a place where trafficked women and their children could be safe.

She enjoyed bird watching, playing cards, classical music, theater and horse races. In her earlier years, she enjoyed playing tennis.

Survivors include two sisters, Marianne Lee of Newark, and Kathleen Marie Brooker of Pataskala, Ohio; and her Dominican Sisters of Peace sisters. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, William Eugene Tanner.

Funeral Mass will be at 3 p.m., Monday, May 21, 2018, at St. Catherine Hospital Chapel. Burial will be at St. Catherine Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Dominican Sisters of Peace or Oasis of Peace Center, 412 N. Seventh St., Garden City, KS 67846. Condolences may be posted at www.garnandfuneralhomes.com.

Forgiveness and Service

Editor’s Note: This is the last in Bishop John’s series on Good News and Kingdom Living. The next issue will include a summary of the entire series.

How do we witness the Good News of Jesus Christ? A witness gives evidence or testimony to an action or belief. What belief did Jesus teach us? What actions did He show us as examples that we should imitate?

Jesus brought us forgiveness. He calls us to forgive, and to be forgiven. Reconciliation, one person with the other, is a key message of the Lord that we are to imitate. How am I doing in this area? For example, is there someone that I need to reconcile with? At times, the hardest three words are “I am sorry,” or “I forgive you.” Yet, we pray this every day in the prayer that Jesus taught us: “forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us” (Matthew 6:12). Let us ask God to give us the wisdom and courage to forgive, and to be forgiven.

Jesus also taught us service. He calls us not to “be served but to serve” (Mark 10:45). We are witnesses to Christ when we are impelled out of ourselves, and reach out to others in service.

How am I doing in this area? For example, do I volunteer? In what areas do I serve others? Do I listen to others?” And then God makes us whole.

Bishop’s Catechesis


‘...Make us whole’

For nearly 50 years, we have been praying you never cease to gather a people to yourself (3rd Eucharistic Prayer). That has been a comfort to us, a reminder of the end-to-end power of the Redemption, a hint of the invisible working of Grace.

But in these 50 years of gathering, Mass attendance has all but fallen off the table. Only 23 percent of us go to Mass weekly these days. Seventy-seven percent of us Catholics cannot be bothered. If three-fourths of the family doesn’t see being with the family as something important, then the family has almost ceased to be a family.

He is gathering: we are un gathered. There is something very wrong with this picture. What “is” going on here?

I am not smart enough to know the answer. My Faith is not deep enough, perhaps. My Hope is not energetic enough. My Love is not lively enough. I know one thing only (as the old Wisdom writers used to say), only two things do I know.

I know a young man who now spends his time with the disappointed, the disenchanted, the wounded, the hurting, and the weary, with those who come to a religious retreat, sometimes out of desperation. There is in them a hunger to make sense of their motley lives. Where did they come from, why have these hard things fallen upon them, where are they going? They are driven to make sense of all this. Their thoughts and their feelings seek a center. They need that concave mirror.

...There is something wrong with this picture. What “is” going on here?

...Make us whole"
Urging prayer, pressing for action
Diocese joins thousands across country in raising voices for separated families

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

It was an appeal to the better angels of our nature, an urging that more than 3,000 immigrant families who have been forcefully separated at the border in recent months be quickly and safely reunited.

On June 30, dozens of people gathered in a grassy, tree-lined area next to the Dodge City Medical Center to voice their opposition to family separations, to urge those in power to expedite the rejoining immigrant families, and to pray for the families affected and the policy-makers.

It was one of scores of rallies that took place across the country.

“As people of faith, we know that we must speak and act on behalf of those who have no voice,” said Georgina Paz, an employee of the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, and one of the organizers of the event. “Every person has a fundamental right to life and dignity. We believe every person is precious.”

The rally was organized by the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City with the support of the First United Methodist Church of Dodge City and St. Catherine Hospital. Speakers included Rev. Jerre Nolte of First United Methodist Church, who gave the invocation, Rev. Juan Espinoza, also of First United Methodist Church, and Father Robert Schremmer, vicar general of the Catholic Diocese.

Dennis McKinney, former Kansas State Treasurer, gave a particularly impassioned address:

“…I think the vast majority of us agree that our country has to do things to protect us from violence and acts of terrorism,” McKinney said. “We have to have a secure border. We have to have a conversation about how we bolster other nations so that people don’t have to flee here. It’s essential to understand that safety and security can be achieved.”

But it must be achieved, he said, without separating families and violating our most basic values and traditions.

“I think we’re alarmed because we see our nation … taking children away from their parents. … And these actions are being taken against people, many of whom have been fleeing some of the most dire circumstances known.”

McKinney continued: “…In the 9th chapter of Luke, Jesus reminds us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all of our heart, with all of our soul, with all of our mind, with all of our strength, and the that the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbor as ourselves.

“…It’s imperative that we shout from the highest rooftop the words that God gives us from the apostle John: If you do not love, you do not know God, because God is love.”

Rev. Nolte prayed that God would “turn our eyes to the other that we may see you, and see you in our neighbor.

“Help us to see each other as beloved children, eternally with you,” he said. “Turn our ears to the other that we may hear their cries as you hear ours—with compassion, and tenderness that draws us closer in the midst of suffering. Help us to hear the other as your beloved child. … And Lord, turn our hearts to you and to the other, that those things that might divide are abandoned….”

Before praying a litany of intercession, Rev. Esponiza said, “As people of God, it’s our responsibility to seek justice for our neighbors….”

As cars zoomed by on Central Ave., David McHugh, youth minister at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City, and Diane Ramirez, performed “God Bless America,” and the “Prayer of St. Francis,” their voices booming across loud speakers.

Many people sat in the shade on lounge chairs, while others stood throughout the gathering, at times breaking into applause.

Coleen Stein of the Catholic diocese offered a stark reminder of the vision of America’s founders when she recited “The New Colossus,” the poem written by Emma Lazarus in 1883 that is emblazoned on the Statue of Liberty.

The closing song became at once a song of hope as well as a tribute to a day that drew together young and old, and people of various races and religions. After the benediction by Father Schremmer, everyone stood and joined in singing “America the Beautiful.”

Contact your Representatives

Sen. Pat Roberts
109 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1605
Phone: 202-224-4774
Fax: 202-224-3514

Sen. Jerry Moran
Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 521
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-6521
Fax: 202-228-6966

Rep. Roger Marshall
312 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2715

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
Hearing God’s call in silence

By Dave Myers

The preceding unsigned article is printed with permission from seekholiness.com, the website for the vocations office of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio.

Finding the Garden of Eden

By Dave Myers Editor

Official Newspaper Published Semi-Monthly by the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City. All material in this newspaper is copyrighted 2017.

The Southwest Kansas Catholic

P.O. Box 137, Dodge City, KS 67801
Phone: (620) 227-1519 Facsimile: (620) 227-1545
c.mail: skregister@dodiocese.org
website: dodiocese.org/swkcatholic

Bishop John B. Brungardt........Publisher
Dave Myers...............................Editor
Tim Wenzl.........................Advertising Manager
Daniel Stremel, CPA........Business Manager
Mrs. Margaret Klenke.........Editor Emeritus
Service of Editors
Margaret Klenke 1974-1990; Tim Wenzl 1990-2000

In 382 AD, the Council of Rome, also by Pope (Saint) Damasus I, began the process of compiling the books of the Bible. Several books failed to make it into the Bible, including those that were primarily history texts, as well as those that were more akin to instruction manuals. This includes the book of “How to Purchase a Camel and Not Get Taken,” and another called, “Walk Your Way to a Thinner You.” Other books that failed to make the cut include one which highlighted one of St. Paul’s adventures during his brief stint as a detective, called, “The Dead Sea Caper.” Another book listed several of Sarah’s favorite recipes. This book was called, “Baking for Babylonians on a Budget.” But the books that should have been included but wasn’t, is the “Book of Adam and Eve,” which highlights domestic issues faced by the First Couple.

Why wasn’t this book included?

If you read the book, which you can find online, you begin to find answers… answers that you didn’t know you were searching for. Answers that you knew you were searching for, but didn’t know you hadn’t found because you were distracted by something on TV. Even answers to questions that you hadn’t asked because, well, you’re an adult now. Fortunately, that’s what I’m here for.

We learn quickly from the book that the first couple wasn’t exactly Ward and June Cleaver:

“Adam, would you come here?” Eve asks in Chapter 1.

“What?” Adam shouts from across the garden. “Did YOU SAY SOMETHING! I’M ON THE OTHER SIDE OF... Oh, just a minute, I’m coming!” Adam shouts frustratingly as he makes his way across the expanse of the garden—over the brambles, across the creek, through the thick mangroves.

Upon arriving, Eve says unto Adam, “Could you hand me that spoon?”

“I was on the other side of the garden! Couldn’t you have set the oven mitt down and grabbed the spoon yourself?”

Except that he didn’t say that, because he knew it would get him into trouble.

“Yes, dear,” he said. “Here’s your spoon.” —Adam and Eve, 1:7-9

Here is another example:

In those days, it was written that woman should do as was bidden by her husband, except in the case of household chores, in which case it was the woman who did the bidding.

“Adam, the trash is nearly piled to the ceiling. The rats have built a small village on it. They call it ‘Adamburg’ in your honor. The cockroaches even sent us a ‘Thank-you’ card, which they all signed! The odor has made the wall paper begin peeling and my nostril hairs have retracted. Don’t you think it’s time to take the trash out?”

“I’ll get to it when I’m done with my nap,” Adam responded. “I’ve been working really hard and need to get a little rest.”

“Working hard on what?” Eve said under her breath. “It’s the Garden of Eden, for crying out loud. Hard work hasn’t even been invented yet. Sheesh.” —Adam and Eve, 3:4-7

The following passage is perhaps the most revealing yet. In it, Eve’s initial encounter with the snake is alluded to. It contains only two words, said by Eve to the snake after a particular violent argument with Adam:

“Sick ‘em!” —Adam and Eve, 4:6-8

You can see why, perhaps, the Church fathers decided against including the book in the Bible. (If the Church mothers had anything to say about it, I’m guessing it would have been prominently displayed.)

We are, after all, an imperfect people. Adam and Eve were no more special in the eyes of God than you or me. And their sins of disobeying God were no more pertinent than those sins we see every day which push us farther and farther from God.

The Garden of Eden has long since been paved over by humanity. When that happened, God sent his Son who, through His incredible sacrifice, placed the new Garden of Eden in our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Do you feel it? When you’re deep in prayer, when you’re helping someone in need, when you’re thanking God for all His wonderful gifts... Don’t you feel as if you are in a wonderful place? A place where God resides? Where He makes things grow? A garden, perhaps?
I'm acting. I notice, as though I am retired. Except, I'm not. Given the itinerant nature of the lot I drew in life, and having to do with being a follower of Jesus, I shall have to support myself for as long as I am able. But the lot I drew is not burdensome. It gives me life.

So, I feel torn between laboring on and stepping away from my labors, like the Apostle Paul who views “retirement”—he calls it “death”—as desirable. “Yet if I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me.”

Then he adds, “I don’t know which to choose.” Except it’s the Lord who does the choosing. He knows well who he desires to touch, and love, and bless through me, in the time I have remaining. But I digress.

I work, yet I act as though I am retired.

My calendar fills up with a city council meeting here, a documentary series there, a discussion about this, that, or the other, all of which means fruitful labor for me. “Despair always lifts.”

I’ve had to remember this from time to time when the bluesman has come to call, taking me into that deep, dark well.

“Despair always lifts.”

Earlier this year, two issues of the SKC contained back to back obituaries for two young people who had taken their own lives. And Alex Gleason, Page 13 in this issue, a fine young man, left his family and friends agonizing as to the “Why?”

Everyone is wired differently, affected in their own deeply personal, and totally unique way, by the world around them. It is impossible to fully comprehend the uniqueness of the depths of each person’s emotional well, which is why it is equally impossible to fully surmise why someone might choose to end their own life. It is a depth which we cannot fathom. Sometimes, of course, the answer is apparent. It is a rash decision housed in despair that I often have known.

The Catholic Church understands that deep depths of anguish can diminish responsibility of those who take their own lives. The Church offers Mass for the repose of the soul of a suicide victim, “invoking God’s tender love and mercy, and His healing grace for the grieving loved ones.”

The Catholic Church assures us that God alone is left to judge the state of one’s heart and mind at death.

“Despair always lifts!”

Several years ago I found myself in the deepest depth of despair I had ever experienced before or since, due to a loved one’s illness. I prayed, but the depth didn’t decrease. Depression gave way to a panic-state. I could have and should have called a help-line. I needed help. Badly.

Fortunately, today, here I sit at my computer drinking coffee and trying to share some words of comfort with others. Time, I realize, was the gift God gave me that night. I just needed time to get through the storm. Despair lifted, just as Charlene said it would.

The storm can be unfair. They can be damaging, physically and emotionally. They can blind us to any sort of reprieve. They can be so unbelievably harsh.

In fact, the best solution for calming the storm is to talk. If you don’t feel comfortable turning to family or friends, call 1-800-273-TALK. And in the meantime, never, ever forget:

“Despair always lifts!”

What can we do for others? All of us must embrace the notion that many people we encounter are carrying a great burden, and that they must be treated with compassion. We must practice constant empathy, reaching out to each other in a Christ-like way as possible. We have to fight the nationalized hate that has come to the fore. Hate for others breeds hate for oneself, and visa versa.

If you find yourself with someone deep in the depths of despair, LISTEN to them. When I was deep in that well, I called a friend who talked. And talked. And talked! Needed to talk, not to be talked to. His words were a blur. Try as he might to help, he might as well have been reciting a recipe for lasagna.

We have to laugh; we have to celebrate. We need to teach one another not to take life too seriously. We must remind each other we are all in this together, brothers and sisters—family—children of a loving God.

**Right to ‘Life Principles’**

The following “Life Principles” are from Right to Life of Kansas. They are the basic principles on which is based the annual March for Life in Kansas. It was submitted to the Catholic by Norma Brown of Dodge City.

- We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all human beings are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among which is the right to life, and Therefore:
  - The right to life of each human being shall be preserved and protected by every human being in the society and by the society as a whole, and
  - The life of each human being shall be preserved and protected from that human being’s biological beginning when the Father’s sperm fertilizes the Mother’s ovum, and
  - The life of each human being shall be preserved and protected from the biological beginning throughout the natural continuum of that human being’s life by all available ordinary means and reasonable efforts, and
  - The life of each human being shall be preserved and protected at each stage of the life continuum to the same extent as at each and every other stage, regardless of state of health or condition of dependency, and

- The life of each human being shall be preserved and protected to the same extent as at each and every other stage, regardless of state of health or condition of dependency, and

- When there is any doubt that there exists a human being’s life to preserve and protect, such doubt shall be resolved in favor of the existence of a human being, and

- When two or more human beings are in a situation in which their lives are mutually endangered, all available ordinary means and reasonable efforts shall be used to preserve and protect the life of each and every human being so endangered:

WHEREFORE, Pursuant To These Principles, we recommend and urge the adoption of a Mandatory HUMAN LIFE AMENDMENT to the Constitution of the United States of America.

**By Mary Sharon Moore Poor, Like Jesus**

And whom do YOU desire to send my way so that YOU might teach and apprentice, and love and bless me, through them?

**On suicide and surviving the storm**

**By Dave Myers**

This advice came from my wife, Charlene, before we were married: “Despair,” she said, “always lifts.”

I’ve had to remember this from time to time when the bluesman has come to call, taking me into that deep, dark well.

“Despair always lifts.”

Earlier this year, two issues of the SKC contained back to back obituaries for two young people who had taken their own lives. And Alex Gleason, Page 13 in this issue, a fine young man, left his family and friends agonizing as to the “Why?”

Everyone is wired differently, affected in their own deeply personal, and totally unique way, by the world around them. It is impossible to fully comprehend the uniqueness of the depths of each person’s emotional well, which is why it is equally impossible to fully surmise why someone might choose to end their own life. It is a depth which we cannot fathom. Sometimes, of course, the answer is apparent. It is a rash decision housed in despair that I often have known.

I was deep in that well, I called a friend who talked. And talked. And talked! Needed to talk, not to be talked to. His words were a blur. Try as he might to help, he might as well have been reciting a recipe for lasagna.

We have to laugh; we have to celebrate. We need to teach one another not to take life too seriously. We must remind each other we are all in this together, brothers and sisters—family—children of a loving God.

**By Mary Sharon Moore Poor, Like Jesus**

And whom do YOU desire to send my way so that YOU might teach and apprentice, and love and bless me, through them?
Pope Francis asks Catholics to pray for their priests in July

By ELSE HARRIS

Vatican City (CNA) - In his latest prayer video, Pope Francis asked Catholics to dedicate the month of July to giving a spiritual gift to their pastors by praying for them, especially the priests who are tired or lonely.

"The tiredness of priests... Do you know how often I think about it?"

This is the opening line of Pope Francis’ newest prayer video, published July 3 and dedicated to his intention for the month.

As the video flashes scenes of priests working in difficult situations, including war and disaster relief, Francis speaks in his native Spanish, saying, “priests, with their virtues and defects, work in many different areas.”

"Working on so many active fronts, they cannot remain inactive after a disappointment," the pope said. And when these moments come along, it is good for a pastor to remember "that the people love their priests, need them, and trust in them."

The video then displays scenes of priests administering the sacraments, visiting the sick, and speaking with parishioners.

After being given a flower by an elderly woman, the priest featured in the video puts it in a vase inside of his parish and prays as members of his congregation bring more flowers to add to the bouquet.

Fr. Louis Trung Dinh Hoan
Prince of Peace, Great Bend

Fr. Mike Klag
Sacred Heart Parish, Pratt
St. John the Apostle, Pratt

Fr. Pascal Klein
Sacred Heart Parish, Ness City
St. Aloysius Parish, Ransom

Fr. Terrance Klein
St Joseph Parish, Ellinwood
Holy Family Parish, Odin
Immaculate Conception, Claflin

Fr. Prakash Rao Kola
St Joseph Parish, Ashland
Holy Spirit Quasi-Parish, Coldwater

Fr. Francis Khoi Nguyen
St Helen Parish, Hugoton
St. Joan of Arc Parish, Elkhart

Fr. Aneesha Parappanattu
Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City

Fr. Juan Salas
St. Mary Parish, Garden City

Fr. Wesly Schawe
Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City

Fr. Jacob Schneider
St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Liberal
St. Alphonsus Parish, Satanta

Fr. Bob Schremmer
St. Andrew Parish, Wright
St. Joseph Parish, Greensburg

Fr. Charles Seiwert
St. Mary Parish, Garden City

Our weariness goes straight to the heart of the Father’s prayer intention for priests is part of the monthly “Pope Video” initiative, which is a project of the Jesuit-run global prayer network Apostleship of Prayer. The Apostleship of Prayer, which produces videos on the pope’s monthly prayer intentions, was founded by Jesuit seminarians in France in 1884 to encourage Christians to serve God and others through prayer, particularly for the needs of the Church.

Since the late 1800s, the organization has received a monthly, universal intention from the pope. In 1929, an additional, missionary intention was added.

However, as of last year, rather than including a missionary intention, Pope Francis opted to have only one prepared prayer intention – the universal intention featured in the prayer video – and will add a second intention for an urgent or immediate need should one arise.

The videos are filmed in collaboration with the Vatican Television Center and mark the first time the Roman Pontiff’s monthly prayer intentions have been featured on video.

Bless our families.
Bless our children.
Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your ministry. Grant to those You are calling a willing and generous spirit.

Mary, Queen of the clergy!
Pray for us.
Pray for our priests and religious.
Obtain for us many more priests.

Today we especially pray for Father ____________ and for those being called to the priesthood in ____________ parish(es).

We ask this through Christ, Your Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

Bless us with the grace of many vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

Bless our families.
Bless our children.
Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your ministry.
Grant to those You are calling a willing and generous spirit.

Mary, Queen of the clergy!
Pray for us.
Pray for our priests and religious.
Obtain for us many more priests.

Today we especially pray for Father ____________ and for those being called to the priesthood in ____________ parish(es).

We ask this through Christ, Your Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
The baby boy slept peacefully — warm and fed, surrounded by two loving parents and a pug named Doug (who seems to live in a constant state of bliss-seeking) — in the Dodge City living room of Tracy and Ross Smith.

You might remember the couple from a February issue of the SKC. Theirs was one of a series of stories about couples seeking to adopt a child through Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas Adoption Program. In April, the prayers of Ross and Tracy and an abundance of friends and family were answered, thanks to a very brave young woman in New Mexico.

“Catholic Charities called us in April and said that there was an expectant mother who had seen our profile,” Tracy said. “We were pretty guarded. We had been presented with possibilities in the past that hadn’t worked out. It didn’t start to feel real until 10 days before we were leaving for New Mexico to meet [our possible] future child.”

Once in New Mexico, they found a young pregnant woman determined to give her child the best life that she could envision. For her, the dog-loving, hard-working, family-oriented, and most importantly, deeply faith-filled couple from Dodge City couldn’t have been a better choice. She wanted her baby to have a similar upbringing as she’d known.

The birth-mother is originally from Kansas and attended Kansas State University, where Ross and Tracy met. She recently moved to a scenic mountainous region in New Mexico with a population of less than 500 people. And although the three had never met before, it’s a town that just happens to have been the vacation destination of Ross and his family for many years. “It’s a very strong connection,” Ross said. “And it really sealed the deal. It felt like it was meant to be.”

On May 25th, Layton Anthony was born. “His birth mother had asked us to be there for his birth,” Tracy said. “It was an honor to be there, and a very special experience.”

The couple and the expectant mom even worked together on a name. Layton comes from a special uncle of Ross’s, and Anthony is named after the birth mother’s grandfather, whom she adored.

Because Layton was born outside of Kansas, it took three weeks for the states to clear the red tape that allowed the Smiths to bring little Layton back to Dodge City. Which also meant that the couple had three weeks to get to know the birth-mom and members of her family.

“We saw her regularly, and continued developing our relationship with her,” Tracy explained. “It was really special for us.”

As one could imagine, the joyful event became quickly bittersweet when the time came to part ways and head back to Kansas.

“It really sunk in,” Tracy said. “And we felt her pain when it came time to head home.”

Thanks to the Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas open adoption system, the birth-mother and her family will never be cut off from the child, as in days past. She will be akin to a special aunt figure in Layton’s life, Tracy said. In fact, her whole family is now a part of ours, the Smiths said. “Something sadly unimaginable in the old days.”

“Since we’re family, Layton will know his birth-mom and family,” Ross commented. “He will know that he was loved from the beginning.”

“Layton’s birth-mom was really brave,” Ross added. “She was determined that he would have two loving parents. She never wavered.”

And certainly, it helped the birth-mom to know that little Layton is not lost in the sad mystery of the adoption netherworld of yesteryear, and is instead with two loving parents she’s gotten to know and appreciate well — and with whom, the night before the SKC interview, she shared a face-to-face video chat online.

“To Ross and me, she’s really special. Because of her decision, we became parents. She placed Layton’s needs ahead of her own, even though it wasn’t easy.”

“It was a tough process,” Ross said of the adoption, “but we would do it all over again.”

“Catholic Charities really took care of us,” Tracy added. “We were lucky to have them guiding us through this process. And we feel very blessed to have Layton and his birth family in our lives.”

How your Appeal alms are helping

The Vibrant Ministries — Uniting Our Church appeal provides support to the ministries of Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas.

Catholic Charities understands that adoption is a lifelong process and an intergenerational journey. They are here to help serve adoptees, birthparents and siblings, and adoptive families — by providing comprehensive information, ongoing emotional support, and assistance with Search and Reunion.

Through their Post Adoption Services, they help with family and parent/child issues that may develop over time, and provide resources for anyone who has been touched by adoption.

And baby makes ... one big happy family

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

The baby boy slept peacefully — warm and fed, surrounded by two loving parents and a pug named Doug (who seems to live in a constant state of bliss-seeking) — in the Dodge City living room of Tracy and Ross Smith. You might remember the couple from a February issue of the SKC. Theirs was one of a series of stories about couples seeking to adopt a child through Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas Adoption Program.

In April, the prayers of Ross and Tracy and an abundance of friends and family were answered, thanks to a very brave young woman in New Mexico. “Catholic Charities called us in April and said that there was an expectant mother who had seen our profile,” Tracy said. “We were pretty guarded. We had been presented with possibilities in the past that hadn’t worked out. It didn’t start to feel real until 10 days before we were leaving for New Mexico to meet [our possible] future child.”

Once in New Mexico, they found a young pregnant woman determined to give her child the best life that she could envision. For her, the dog-loving, hard-working, family-oriented, and, most importantly, deeply faith-filled couple from Dodge City couldn’t have been a better choice. She wanted her baby to have a similar upbringing as she’d known.

The birth-mother is originally from Kansas and attended Kansas State University, where Ross and Tracy met. She recently moved to a scenic mountainous region in New Mexico with a population of less than 500 people. And although the three had never met before, it’s a town that just happens to have been the vacation destination of Ross and his family for many years. “It’s a very strong connection,” Ross said. “And it really sealed the deal. It felt like it was meant to be.”

On May 25th, Layton Anthony was born. “His birth mother had asked us to be there for his birth,” Tracy said. “It was an honor to be there, and a very special experience.”

The couple and the expectant mom even worked together on a name. Layton comes from a special uncle of Ross’s, and Anthony is named after the birth mother’s grandfather, whom she adored.

Because Layton was born outside of Kansas, it took three weeks for the states to clear the red tape that allowed the Smiths to bring little Layton back to Dodge City. Which also meant that the couple had three weeks to get to know the birth-mom and members of her family. "Since we’re family, Layton will know his birth-mom and family," Ross commented. "He will know that he was loved from the beginning."

"Layton’s birth-mom was really brave," Ross added. "She was determined that he would have two loving parents. She never wavered."

And certainly, it helped the birth-mom to know that little Layton is not lost in the sad mystery of the adoption netherworld of yesteryear, and is instead with two loving parents she’s gotten to know and appreciate well — and with whom, the night before the SKC interview, she shared a face-to-face video chat online.

"To Ross and me, she’s really special. Because of her decision, we became parents. She placed Layton’s needs ahead of her own, even though it wasn’t easy."

"It was a tough process," Ross said of the adoption, "but we would do it all over again."

"Catholic Charities really took care of us," Tracy added. "We were lucky to have them guiding us through this process. And we feel very blessed to have Layton and his birth family in our lives."

How your Appeal alms are helping

The Vibrant Ministries — Uniting Our Church appeal provides support to the ministries of Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas.

Catholic Charities understands that adoption is a lifelong process and an intergenerational journey. They are here to help serve adoptees, birthparents and siblings, and adoptive families — by providing comprehensive information, ongoing emotional support, and assistance with Search and Reunion.

Through their Post Adoption Services, they help with family and parent/child issues that may develop over time, and provide resources for anyone who has been touched by adoption.

For more information about adoption services at Catholic Charities, contact Lori Titsworth at ltitsworth@CatholicCharitiesSWKS.org, or by phone at 620-792-1393.

The Vibrant Ministries: Uniting Our Church Appeal has reached its goal of $10 million!

Thank you! Praise be to God!

Following are just a few of the many ways that the diocese and its ministries have already benefitted from the fruits of your generosity and sacrifice:

- Director of Matrimony, Family Life, and Natural Family Planning hired
- Appeal grants have been distributed to Catholic schools in the diocese
- Support for our seminarians with tuition, room, board and other fees
- Ongoing education and training for our diocesan priests
- Alms presented to Catholic Charities to further its mission

More than 40 ministries will benefit from your generosity and sacrifice!

VISIT: HTTP://WWW.DCDIOCESE.ORG/VIBRANT-MINISTRIES
Sister Alvina Miller

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

It's easy to forget that Sister Alvina Miller is 100 years old. It's only when she speaks of her past that a clue to her amazing longevity becomes apparent.

“We were farmers,” she said of her Kansas childhood. “When Dad took a load of wheat 14 miles to Victoria, it was an all-day trip. He had a wagon pulled by two horses. When we needed money, he took another load of wheat.

“I remember that he would bring us back a little sack of candy for five cents,” she added with a smile.

“I was 10 when we got our first car. It was a Chevy. My dad taught me how to drive out in the country when I was 11. Back then there was no such thing as a license for driving. I was in the convent when that law came into being. There was no test, they just gave us a license. I never did have to take a test,” Sister Alvina said with a chuckle.

Sister Alvina turned 100 years old on Feb. 17. She entered the convent at the tender age of 14, when most children are entering the ninth grade.

“After high school graduation, I became a teacher in Odin at Holy Family High School for two years, then to Wichita to attend Sacred Heart College, which is now Newman University. We received all our education in the summer so that we could teach during the school year.”

Sister Alvina received a bachelor’s degree in education at Marymount College in Salina, then, during the next six summers, studied to earn her master’s degree from Notre Dame University.

“When we came to Notre Dame, it was the first summer in which they allowed women,” she said with a chuckle. “I was on campus when a man walked by. I heard him say, ‘This used to be a man’s world. Now it’s an ecumenical zoo!’

“Lots of things happen in 100 years!” she exclaimed, laughing.

Her teaching career landed her in schools across Kansas and in Colorado and Oklahoma. Eventually, in 1972, she became a librarian, serving at St. Dominic and St. Mary schools in Garden City, St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City, and Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend.

In 1992, she began 10 years of service as a pastoral minister at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Hoxie, a time she looks back on with great joy.

“I really enjoyed working with the elderly,” she said. “I used to have a Bible study on Wednesday afternoon and evening. Mainly retired people came in the afternoon. I assisted with funerals, helped people with grief.”

Does she miss working with children?

“Not so much anymore,” she said. “It would be too hard. I have Spinal Stenosis (which makes it difficult to walk). The greatest joy was in prepping them for First Communion and First Confession. One girl, after her First Confession, said, “Now we’re just like little lambs in the arms of Jesus.”’” Sister Alvina said with a smile, then added, “Not that she wasn’t before!”

Sister Alvina Miller, left, turned 100 years old in February. Sister Teresita Huse, right, will turn 100 in August. Both are Dominican Sisters of Peace, and reside in Great Bend. Photo by Charlene Scott Myers

Sister Alvina’s mother and her three siblings came to the United States from Russia, where they lived in a one-room house which they shared with some of the animals on their farm.

“My mother’s ancestors had moved to Russia from Germany at the invitation of Catherine the Great,” Sister Alvina explained. “With the advent of World War I (some 150 years after Catherine’s historic invitation), anti-German sentiment led to what amounted to a “breaking of Catherine’s promise.”

Sister Alvina’s father was born in the United States, but his parents also came to America from Russia.

For as long as she can remember, “I always wanted to be a Sister,” she said, looking back. “My mother told me that before I was born, she prayed for someone special. I attribute my vocation to her prayers.

“People have been really good to me. I have never regretted it a day in my life.”

Happy 100th birthday, Sister Alvina!

Sister Teresita Huse

By CHARLENE SCOTT MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

“Do you know what my worst fear was? That I was going to forget Jesus. I finally realized that I may not remember Him, but He will remember me.”

— Sister Laura, interviewed for the book “Aging with Grace”, the Nun Study of 678 Catholic School Sisters of Notre Dame, ranging in age from 74 to 106, by David Snowdom Ph.D.

With a mind as sharp as a kitchen knife and a sense of humor as quick as a blink of her eye, Sister Teresita Huse, O.P. looked back on her life of 100 years with candor and amazement. Even she is surprised she has lived so long.

“I was born in Kingman where there was no Catholic school,” she recalled. “I was the only girl and had three brothers, Leo, Cletus and Sylvester. For nine years my father drove us 20 miles to Willowdale to take us to school a block from our grandma’s house. I was there for six years.”

When Sister Teresita was eight years old, her brother Cletus was dying of spinal meningitis, and she returned home to Kingman.

Later, the family moved to Wichita where the children attended the Cathedral school. From there, Sister Teresita entered the Dominican Sisters of Great Bend at the age of 15.

Sister Teresita has had a full life, teaching in various schools in Kansas and Oklahoma. Among them were St. Leo, Connel, Odin, St. Peter and Paul, and Sapulpa, Okla.

In 1956 she returned to her motherhouse in Great Bend and taught freshmen English and worked as a registrar and librarian. She also trained religious education teachers and served in parish ministry in Goodland.

Sister Teresita has been a world traveler and loved every adventure. In 1969 she visited New Zealand, Australia, and Alaska, the beginning of her zest for foreign travel. She has made four pilgrimages to the Holy Land, twice as a leader and twice as a participant.

After serving as vice president at the motherhouse from 1978 – 1986, she taught English to adults in Kyoto, Japan, ending her Asian experience spending a month each in Korea and India.

From 1987 to the present, she has served in community offices as general secretary, development director of the Office of Mission and Ministry, and Mission Appeals Coordinator. She now spends time in Mission Advancement work, especially for the missions in Nigeria, which her Dominican Community has had since 1955.

Sister Teresita is a lady of great joy and love of life. When I met her a few years ago, I commented on how youthful she looked, and then she shook when she told me her age.

“It’s my wig!” she said proudly with a fetching smile while patting the side of her head.

Happy 100th birthday, dear Sister Teresita!
Msgr. Gerald ‘Jerry’ Vincke to serve as next Bishop of Salina Diocese

By KAREN BONAR The Register

Salina — One day following the 19th anniversary of his ordination as a priest, Msgr. Gerald ‘Jerry’ Vincke was introduced as the newly appointed bishop of the Salina Diocese. “I want to thank the Holy Father for his confidence in me,” Bishop-elect Vincke, 53, said during the June 13 press conference.

Born outside of Saginaw, Mich., Bishop-elect Vincke was the ninth of the 10 children of Fidelis and the late Henry Vincke. “My dad worked for General Motors, Buick and was also a small time farmer,” Bishop-elect Vincke said. “I used to get up and milk the cows early in the morning. We owned about 130 acres, but we farmed about 500, which is really small.”

The most substantial difference between the dioceses is geography. The Diocese of Lansing, Mich., has about 6,200 square miles, compared to the Salina Diocese’s 26,685 square miles.

“There’s a big, big difference,” Bishop-elect Vincke said. “It’s going to be a lot of miles they say, but I’m looking forward to it.”

Ordained June 12, 1999, at St. Mary Cathedral in Lansing, Mich., by Bishop Carl F. Mengeling, Bishop-elect Vincke was pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Ann Arbor, Mich., from 1999-2001, before being asked by his bishop to start a retreat house for youth.

“It was very hard in many ways,” he said of beginning Bethany House. “When you go to a parish you love — to rely on the Lord and the Lord’s will for my life.” Yet the core of his life and philosophy is simple: “I love to pray, and I love to work,” he said. “I’m ready to get going, to get started here as soon as possible.”

He paused. “Work and pray. It sounds like I should be a Benedictine instead,” he quipped, “but the Lord called me to the diocesan priesthood.” He reflected on three main lessons during his priesthood.

“Prayer has to be the number one priority for priests,” he said. “That’s the No. 1 pastoral priority. The second is to listen — listen to the people always. The third thing I think to focus on right now is evangelization, really why does the Church exist? The Church exists to be a missionary Church. To be disciples to make disciples of the people. That’s what I have a heart for — to make disciples of the people.”

Another aspect of the Salina Diocese that excited Bishop-elect Vincke is the youth, both in the Catholic schools and the vibrant youth ministry.

“I am anxious to go there and play basketball with the kids, go to Friday night games,” he said of the 11 Elementary Schools and five high schools.

Bishop Weisenburger, the 31st bishop of the Salina Diocese, said he is “overjoyed” to learn of the new appointment.

“Bishop-elect Vincke will soon discover that he has been led to a vibrant diocese with a strong and healthy presbyterate and a Catholic lay faithful strong in their commitment to Christ and his Church,” Weisenburger said. “My prayers are with him today, along with prayerful gratitude to God for sending the good people of Salina a loving and faithful new shepherd.”

Bishop Weisenburger was installed on Nov. 29 as the bishop of the Diocese of Salina. Msgr. Vincke will be ordained bishop on Aug. 22.

Other ordination and installation plans are still pending. Seating will be limited. Information will be released as it becomes available.

The following is printed courtesy of the Catholic Advance, newspaper of the Diocese of Wichita.

Bishop Carl A. Kemme repeated a phrase in his homily to the 10 men awaiting ordination Saturday, May 26, at Church of the Magdalen in Wichita.

“Be not afraid,” Bishop Kemme exhorted, “to profess your love for Christ, day after day, season after season, year by year, until the Lord calls you to participate in the heavenly liturgy. To declare this for all to know, like Peter in the Gospel, by feeding his lambs, tending his sheep, and caring for his flock.”

That will be their lifelong mission, Bishop Kemme said, sitting on a cathedra below a towering crucifix in front of a church overflowing with family, friends, and the faithful.

“Do not be afraid to labor long and hard for this mission, to resist the ever-present temptations to laziness and sloth or to consider your wants and needs ahead of and more important than those of the people you are called to serve,” he said.

Bishop Kemme encouraged them not to be self-indulgent and lazy priests. “Rather, be priests with zeal, enthusiasm and the fire of divine love.”

As Pope Francis recently stated, Bishop Kemme said, “There is so much to do. So, do not be afraid; let’s do it together.”

He opened his homily by recalling the period in 1978 when Pope Paul VI died, and when Pope John Paul I was elected and died shortly after.

“How well I remember Pope John Paul I, who captivated the world with his smile, his joyful spirit,” Bishop Kemme said. “One can only imagine how he would have changed the church, but the Lord gave him only 30 days to serve.

“How well I remember just weeks later his elected successor, the relatively young and most interesting Karol Woytla appearing on the balcony of St. Peter’s. Little did most of us know that a great man had walked onto the world stage, and history would begin to be made.”

It was Pope John Paul II, at his Mass of Installation, Bishop Kemme said, who repeated Jesus’ words that resonated in St. Peter’s Square and around the world: “Do not be afraid!”

He directed the phrase to the 10 deacons. “I cannot think of better or more important words to address to you today as you begin in our diocese the ministry of priest, that if lived and exercised with diligence, care, and loving concern, in imitation of the Savior, will make history, for you, for our diocese and for the people you will serve.”

There is much fear in the world, Bishop Kemme said, fear of failure, suffering, of want, of death, and other fears, but fear has no power over Christians and certainly priests.

“As St. Paul wrote to the Romans, in Christ, we have conquered overwhelmingly through him who loves us. Fear paralyzes even the best of us, but courage is what is needed, a Christian courage, a courage that comes from the Holy Spirit,” he said. “Christian courage mobilizes the Lord’s disciples for evangelization, for stewardship, for service, so as to become fully alive in Christ Jesus.”

Do not be afraid to be an “alter Christus,” another Christ, he said, adding that it is a work of the Holy Spirit, and that they should be God’s instruments in building up the kingdom on earth, to sanctify, and to guide the flock of Jesus.

“Do not be afraid to surrender everything you have for the ministry,” Bishop Kemme said. “…Once ordained, your life is a living Gospel for all to hear, a message of hope and mercy, of God’s faithfulness and love; you will be a bridge that will connect those whom you will serve to the fountain of God’s amazing grace.”

Pope’s Monthly Intentions — JULY 2018

Priests and their Pastoral Ministry

That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

See a related story on Page 6: “Pope Francis asks Catholics to pray for their priests in July”.

Bishop Brungardt’s nephew among priests newly ordained

Rev. Mr. Michael Brungardt, right, with other ordinandi just moments before being ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wichita.

Photo courtesy of the Catholic Advance.
Praying as a family for priestly vocations

From Page 1

their lives. If we want more priests, the laity need to take on and embrace creating a culture of vocations. And the most important place for this to happen? In my opinion, it is the family. In my family and your family, we need to create an environment where God’s call can be heard. Here are some ideas to help create that environment in your home. Choose one or two and try it with your family.

Offering prayers for priestly vocations: Praying for priestly vocations can be as simple as praying an “Our Father”, “Hail Mary”, “Memorare”... with the intention of offering it for priestly vocations. This can be done by your family anytime that you are together (mealtimes, bedtime) and is especially easy for families to pray in the car (like on the way to babysitting/work).

Pray for our current and future priests: Each day pray this prayer as a family and insert a priest’s name and the parishes he serves in. Look for the list of the priests/seminarians in our diocese in this issue of the Southwest Catholic. You can also print a copy of this prayer and a list of the priests in our diocese and the parishes he serves at dcdiocese.org.

Pray the rosary: The rosary is a longer prayer for families to pray, especially those with small children. Begin with one decade. If you are rusty on how to pray the rosary or you never learned how to pray the rosary, go to http://joyfulcatholicfamilies.com/rosary-prayer-ring/ and print off the rosary prayer ring. It takes you step-by-step through the rosary (all the words to the prayers are included).

Fast for vocations: Join the priests in our diocese and fast on Thursdays for vocations. As a family, give up one TV show, one dessert, one parish, or place first in the race. In academics, we want to get an “A” on the assignment, or receive that scholarship to our favorite college. At work, we want receive a raise in pay, or get a promotion. But, is “getting” something all there is? We “give” much as well. In sports: we give our time and effort to practice, we give our loyalty and fellowship to our teammates, and we offer respect to our coaches. In academics, we give much: we give our time in completing assignments, we focus our concentration in studying for exams, and we give our attentiveness to the teacher who explains a concept. At work, we strive to improve the workplace by consulting with our co-workers, by giving our time to help an new employee.

What about prayer? At times, we are disappointed in prayer, thinking that we are not “getting something out of it.” Yet, we are called to give to prayer. We give our time, attention, and love to our Compassionate Jesus. I outlined a way of prayer in my last article: to be aware of God’s presence, to thank Him, and to lovingly respond to Him. Try this. Give at least 15 minutes each day to this “giving.” Find a quiet place, unplag from technology, close your eyes, and offer yourself to our Gentle Jesus, who “delights in you” (Isaiah 62:4), who loves you more than you can ask or imagine. God will take care of the giving to you. He will give you a vocation to the priesthood, or to be a husband and dad. Trust in Jesus to give this gift to you.

Hey, guys!

Are you giving?

G uys: do you ever ask “what do I get from prayer?” in many things in life, we want results, we want outcomes, we want to receive something. In sports, we want to win the game, or place first in the race. In academics, we want to get an “A” on the assignment, or receive that scholarship to our favorite college. At work, we want receive a raise in pay, or get a promotion. But, is “getting” something all there is? We “give” much as well. In sports: we give our time and effort to practice, we give our loyalty and fellowship to our teammates, and we offer respect to our coaches. In academics, we give much: we give our time in completing assignments, we focus our concentration in studying for exams, and we give our attentiveness to the teacher who explains a concept. At work, we strive to improve the workplace by consulting with our co-workers, by giving our time to help an new employee.

What about prayer? At times, we are disappointed in prayer, thinking that we are not “getting something out of it.” Yet, we are called to give to prayer. We give our time, attention, and love to our Compassionate Jesus. I outlined a way of prayer in my last article: to be aware of God’s presence, to thank Him, and to lovingly respond to Him. Try this. Give at least 15 minutes each day to this “giving.” Find a quiet place, unplag from technology, close your eyes, and offer yourself to our Gentle Jesus, who “delights in you” (Isaiah 62:4), who loves you more than you can ask or imagine. God will take care of the giving to you. He will give you a vocation to the priesthood, or to be a husband and dad. Trust in Jesus to give this gift to you.

Eucharist as Sacred Meal

From Page 1

God intended to feed his creatures with all that was good. God offered an abundance of food to share, to enjoy and to make humans flourish. But instead of being content to receive what God offered, Adam and Eve grasped for what was not given to them. This fall from grace is described as an action of disobedience by eating “forbidden fruit.” This temptation and fall dealt death instead of life.

Throughout the Old Testament, stories illustrating hospitality and meals shared consistently accompanied God’s saving action. From Abraham and Sarah encountering the three men on their way to Sodom and Gomorrah, to the yearly celebration to the Passover, the practice of sacred meal grew up and came to fruition at the Last Supper.

In the 25th chapter of Isaiah the Lord makes this promise: “On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples; a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines... He will destroy death forever.”

Though brought about through the tribes of Israel, the promise is given to all people. God promises to gather all human beings back into right worship and right relationship with God.

The meal that is given in the event of Passover is primitive in development but sacred meal. The Passover meal was a recovery (however imperfect) of the easy unity and fellowship of the Garden of Eden. It was God hosting a banquet at which his human creatures share life with him and each other. God established the Passover meal as a sign of his covenant with his people Israel and as a prefiguring of the Eucharistic feast. In the fullness of time, Jesus gathered his apostles around the Passover table and instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper.

Not limited to, but including the feast of the Passover, in the New Testament many meals with Jesus described the elements of this restoration of life with God. From the feeding of the multitudes, to dining with Pharisees, to dining with Martha and Mary... these meals were shared with sinners and saints, sick and healthy. Those who dined with Jesus represented many of the intensely divided groups of people at that time. The meals shared with Jesus were marked with themes of abundance, healing for the sick, forgiveness and reconciliation for sinners. These meals tell the story of God gathering back to himself all who had been scattered.

I am embarrassed to admit that until recent years I had been woefully ignorant of the Eucharist as sacred meal. I’m sure they covered this stuff in seminary, but in all honesty, it did not resound with me at that time.

I remember taking part in a workshop about 15 years ago. The presenter of the workshop instructed us to draw or describe what a typical meal was like in our homes growing up. The people at my table described childhood dining experiences. I also remember looking at my blank paper. Honestly the only image that came to my mind was sitting in front of the TV after school eating Fruit Loops and watching Gilligan’s Island.

The way we live our home lives has an enormous impact on the way we experience Eucharist. One thing I have begun to encourage families to do is to commit to having at least one sacred meal per week together. No electronics, no newspapers or other distractions...look each other in the eye and talk to each other. Explore creative ways to interact with your family. Find something that works for you and don’t forget to enjoy it. Hopefully these “sacred meals” will in some small way carry over to your celebrating The Sacred Meal, the Eucharist.

Let us together pray “that priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.”

--Pope Francis
Father Rene Labrador

Time can fly like a bird or it can soar through life like a rocket.

No one knows this better than Father Rene Labrador, whose original three-year mission here had grown to 12 when he left the diocese June 30.

“The reason I am leaving is that I just want to give the opportunity to other priests from my diocese (in the Philippines) to serve here,” he told the Catholic one week before he departed. “We have a policy in my diocese; we rotate every three years. When I went home last January, they reminded me of the policy.

“So, I told my bishop I will either move to another diocese or go home so that another priest from our diocese can be given the opportunity to serve here.”

Father Rene will be missed, and there are few people who have experienced his guidance (not to mention his lifting “Mass has ended” blessing song) who aren’t saddened to see him go.

“Just where he’s going, he’s not entirely sure.

“There’s no assurance yet, but I will stay temporarily with a Filipino priest in Sacramento, helping for a while in the parish. Going back to the Philippines is an option; my bishop is still arranging a contract with the Diocese of Sacramento; it is waiting approval by both bishops.”

Prior to coming to Kansas in 2006, Father Rene served for one year in San Antonio. In Kansas, he served in the towns of La Crosse, Liebenthal, Timken, Ingalls and at St. Dominic Parish in Garden City before coming to Spearville.

Prior to his departure, he was serving in Lakin, Syracuse and Deerfield.

“I miss the good people – the wonderful people in the parishes I serve. They are families who have really welcomed me and made me feel at home. They took care of me. I will really miss these people.

Father Maurice Cummings, O. Carm

Father Maurice Cummings, O. Carm, will be departing the parishes of St. Lawrence in Jetmore and St. Anthony in Hanston on July 16, the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He arrived in the Diocese of Dodge City on Oct. 1, 2002, the Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, to serve the parishes of St. Joseph in Ashland and Holy Spirit in Coldwater.

“So, my sojourn begins and ends on two great Carmelite Feasts,” he said. “Providence at work.”

SKC: What are some of your favorite memories?

Father Maurice: “Celebrating the Eucharist on Sundays and Holy Days is always a joy, if sometimes a challenge. Coming together to praise and thank the Lord in a way that we know pleases Him brings out the best in all of us. Knowing that, in these days, there is little social pressure to attend — and much stimulation to be about many things — makes it a pleasure to pray together with the people and families of the parishes I have served. For over a century they have cultivated their faith and their church, despite obstacles from without and within. It’s an inspiration!”

What will you miss the most?

“This is hard to answer because you often don’t realize what — and whom — you will miss until after you’re without them. I know I’ll miss the sunshine and the vistas, the natural grandeur that makes prayer almost inevitable. I’ll miss the unobtrusive readiness of the people to help even while I’m still too proud to ask.

As an event, the monthly deanery gathering will now be a hole in my calendar. I doubt that there’s anything like it anywhere else in the world. The priestly fraternity produced by the hospitality of the men from Dodge City and the openness of the pilgrims from many dioceses and religious congregations is incomparable. It’s not something we can say farewell, but not goodbye, to Father Benjamin Martin, whose retirement was featured in the May 20 Catholic. The Burmese priest will be staying in the Diocese of Dodge City, residing in Marienthal.

Father Firmin Kyaw

On Monday, July 16, Father Firmin Kyaw will return to his home Diocese of Pathein in Myanmar, a world away from the environment he’s called home for the last nearly seven years.

When Father Firmin (pronounced FEER-man) first landed in southwest Kansas six years and nine months ago, he was assigned parochial administrator of Holy Rosary, Medicine Lodge, St. John the Apostle, Kiowa and St. Boniface, Sharon.

And it was there he stayed.

“I will miss the Kansas weather, the large open fields of corn, swine beans and wheat, the diocese and its priests, and of course the faithful of Barber County,” he said.

Back when he was brand new to Kansas, he told the Catholic about how he was called to the priesthood even before he was born.

“The first-born male in our family died after three or four months,” explained the Burmese priest. “When Mother was pregnant with me, she went to a big Eucharistic feast in the capital city of Burma — far from home — and prayed for me. She said, ‘Lord, I offer you my son to the call of the priesthood.’”

Like Kansas, the land in which he was reared was blanketed in plains, and the primary economy was farming. His mother and father owned about five acres of land, which the couple farmed together, each “plowing and working the field” to support Firmin, his brother and two sisters.

There were 200 people in his village — Catholics, Buddhists and other Christians — with whom he played soccer, basketball and volleyball (soccer being his main love). He and his friends occasionally also enjoyed a spirited game of pinball.

At the tender age of 13, he entered a minor seminary about 100 miles from his home.

“When even it was only 100 miles, in those days it took almost the whole day to reach the seminary,” Father Firmin explained. “You had to get up early, at 3 a.m. — sometimes at midnight. There was no car. You had to hire some kind of bicycle to ride the seven to 10 miles to the train station. After the train, you would have to take a bus for 30 minutes.”

Father Firmin was ordained in 1983.

As he prepares to head back home again after all these years, he’s uncertain of where he will serve, or in what capacity. But he will learn soon enough. Those he serves will undoubtedly hear about their new priest’s time in the land of Dorothy and Toto.

“I will never forget the celebrations of Good Friday in three parishes, because I have the blessing and the opportunity of celebrating three times a day, which I never had and never will again in my priestly ministry.”

In that earlier interview, when asked for any closing comments, Father Firmin responded, “I am very happy. When I was young — as a young man, especially — I prayed to Our Lady to become a priest. But as a priest, my prayer changed. I now pray to die as a priest.”
Six priests, housekeeper and daughter, brutally slain

Remembering the massacre in San Salvador

“I interviewed Father Martin for an hour at the priests’ home, both of us aware of the danger, but neither of us suspecting that he and five other priests would be brutally slain in 1989 by members of the Salvadoran Army.”

-- Charlene Scott Myers

By CHARLENE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

I t was a blessing to meet Father Ignacio Martin-Baró when several friends and I traveled to El Salvador to visit the Jesuits who lived on the campus of the country’s “most prestigious university.”

Father Martin (pronounced “Marteen”) had attended the University of Tulsa for a year, and I had worked at that university as director of the Center for Peace and Justice, but unfortunately I was not aware of his presence, and our paths never crossed at TU.

It was later that I met him and his five fellow Jesuit priests at their home in San Salvador. My friends and I had been followed by a large white van wherever we went in El Salvador, and when we went inside the priests’ home, the van parked outside the Jose Simeon Canas University of Central America in San Salvador. Nobody exited from the van however, but we knew we were being watched.

More than 75,000 Salvadorans had been murdered in El Salvador during its tragic 12-year civil war. My friends and I traveled there to see for ourselves if there was anything we could do to help.

I interviewed Father Martin for an hour at the priests’ home, both of us aware of the danger, but neither of us suspecting that he and five other priests would be brutally slain in 1989 by members of the Salvadoran Army.

Upon our return to Oklahoma, I wrote a long article about our experience in El Salvador, and about the multitude of poor peasants who barely scratched out a living in their beleaguered country, while thousands of them were being slaughtered.

My friend Frosty Troy, with whom I once had worked at the Tulsa Tribune newspaper, printed my article about our visit to El Salvador in his newspaper The Oklahoma Observer.

In 1989, the Salvadoran Army murdered the six Jesuit priests, including Father Martin Baró, their cook and her 15-year-old daughter. Witnesses reported seeing 30 armed men in military uniforms enter the priests’ house between 2 and 3 a.m. The men gained entrance to the house by blowing up the back door with an explosive device.

The New York Times reported that the priests then were dragged from their beds in a dormitory, and shot with high-powered rifles, the same guns used by the army.

“They were assassinated with lavish barbarity,” said the Rev. Jose Maria Tojeira, the Jesuit Provincial for Central America.

The killers then went inside the rectory and murdered the priests’ cook and her 15-year-old daughter. The murderers did not want to take a chance of later being identified.

Archbishop Oscar also was assassinated that year as he celebrated Mass in San Salvador. The military had gunned down eight politicians in 1980, and three American nuns and a woman lay worker were raped and shot in the back of the head, the execution style of members of the military.

In Washington, President Bush condemned the killings, which continue to this day.

During this past Holy Week on Holy Thursday—March 29 of this year—on a dirt road outside the town of Loloquite, El Salvador, a priest on his way to celebrate Mass, Father Walter Osmin Vasquez Jimenez, 36, was shot and killed. He was headed to Most Holy Trinity Church when he was murdered.

The Archdiocese of San Salvador expressed “its sorrow over the murder of Father Walter Osmin Vasquez. We express our solidarity with the Diocese of San Salvador, its episcopal colleagues and our solidarity with the Diocese of Santiago de Maria and his relatives. We urge the appropriate authorities to determine the facts.”

“We’re on the front lines, every day we wonder when they’re going to shoot us, and we’re surprised they still haven’t done it,” said a priest whose identity was withheld for his own safety.

Thousands of Catholics from around El Salvador attended the priest’s funeral Mass and burial in Loloquite. Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, presided at the Mass, concelebrated by the Archbishop of San Salvador, Luis Escobar Alas.

“Unfortunately we must recognize and denounce sin, injustice, lies, corruption, arms trafficking, drugs and so many social evils, especially the violence which has caused and continues to cause so much pain,” the archbishop said.

“It is incredible that on Holy Thursday, after having participated in the Chrism Mass, one of our priests, Father Vasquez, was murdered.”

Archbishop Oscar Romero to be canonized

Oct. 14

By DAVID RAMOS
Catholic News Association

The Vatican announced that Blessed Oscar Romero will be canonized on Oct. 14, 2018.

Oscar Romero, the archbishop of San Salvador, was martyred for the faith in 1980 and beatified in 2015.

Archbishop Romero was brutally killed while celebrating Mass on March 24, 1980—a time when El Salvador was on the brink of civil war. In February 2015, Pope Francis recognized his death as having been for hatred of the faith. The Pope recently recognized a second miracle attributed to Archbishop Romero’s intercession, paving the way for his upcoming canonization.

Msgr. Ricardo Urioste, who currently heads up the Archbishop Romero Foundation and was one of the closest collaborators of Oscar Romero, said that during the time the martyr lived, wherever “he preached, spoke, was a pastor, they accused him of being communist, Marxist, a politician, and a thousand things.” However, he noted how after 12 years of extensive study on the life and writings of the archbishop, the Vatican never found anything that supported these claims.

Msgr. Urioste can easily recall the day that Archbishop Romero was killed, saying that it was “an ordinary day of work” for him.

In the morning, the archbishop had a meeting with a group of priests, and then they ate lunch together. Afterward he went to confession with his usual confessor, who was a priest named Father Segundo Ascue.

Once he confessed, Archbishop Romero went to celebrate a 6 p.m. Mass in San Salvador’s hospital of Divine Providence, which was staffed by nuns. The Mass, Msgr. Urioste recalled, had been widely publicized throughout the diocese.

While he was celebrating Mass in the hospital’s chapel, the archbishop was shot in the chest from outside.

Everyone who either sided with the poor or expressed concern for them “was accused of being communist, they were sent to be killed without thinking more. There were 70,000 deaths like this in the country at that time,” Msgr. Urioste noted.

Ultimately, Archbishop Romero’s beatification, the monsignor said, was “a triumph of the truth.”

It is a triumph, he said, of the truth of “who Archbishop Romero really was, what he did, how he did it, from the Word of God, from the Magisterium of the Church, in defense of the poor, who were the favored ones of Jesus Christ and who were also the favored ones of Archbishop Romero.”
Good Evening Dave Myers,

I do apologize, I received word from Father Mike that you had not received the Wedding Pictures. I was sure that I e-mailed them to a while back. I was unable to retrieve the old e-mailed. Here I am sending you the pictures. Again, I apologize for the delay and mess of the e-mail.

Here I am sending a few. I hope they are what you are looking for. If not please let me know.

Thank You,

Mrs. Lydia A. Callahan

---

The Faith and Light program of the Diocese of Dodge City, which celebrates the gifts of those who are developmentally or intellectually challenged, concluded its most recent season with a Mexican Fiesta at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City.

All parishioners were invited to this special celebration, which included dance, games, giveaways, a belated Easter-egg hunt, a piñata, and a not-so-Mexican dinner (but delicious just the same) of hamburgers and hotdogs.

Attending the Fiesta were Bishop John Brungardt and Father Aneesh Parappanattu, cathedral parochial vicar.

Led by Virginia and Frank Samayo, Faith and Light creates an embracing atmosphere of acceptance of each other, regardless of one’s challenges.

At its core is praise for a loving Lord, creating an environment where people facing developmental and intellectual challenges, their family and friends, can meet once each month for prayer, song, skits, fun activities, and a pot luck.

Dance troops at the celebration included the Tepeyac Dancers and the Folkloric Dancers. The meal was provided by the Knights of Columbus.

Dance troops included the Tepeyac Dancers and the Folkloric Dancers. At far left, Father Aneesh takes a turn at a ring toss game. Bishop John can be seen at far right in the same photo. Photo center, right, is of father and son, Jose and Tonatiuh Figueroa.
Seeing the Scrolls

By CHARLENE SCOTT MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

I have written several stories about the Dead Sea scrolls since I floated years ago in the sea’s thickly salt-clogged waters, looking up at the cliff caves where the scrolls were found in Israel.

But never did I think I actually would see the scrolls with my own eyes, which happened recently when my husband Dave and I visited an exhibit of 10 of 20 scrolls displayed at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in downtown Denver. (The other 10 scrolls were displayed at a different time.)

The scrolls had never before been on public display, and span nearly 185 years, with copies made as early as 125 BCE. The Isaiah scroll is one of the latest copies discovered.

The building was clogged with the curious public, but a kindly man from the museum gave us a private tour, explaining the history of each scroll on display as we strolled past these remains of antiquity.

The scrolls had been written and stuffed into large jars by religious men—Essene monks—a sect of Second Temple Judaism who fled Jerusalem and lived in a desert community they named Qumran that was destroyed in 68 CE (Christian Era). More than 900 remarkably preserved scrolls were recovered.

During my visit to Israel, some of my companions and I climbed the huge rocks leading up to one of the caves and peered into the darkest darkness I’ve ever seen. Of course, there were no pots or parchment of any sort left inside the cave.

Discovered by a young Bedouin boy in 1947 when his goat scampered up the rocks and into one of the caves, the huge pots we saw at the museum contained manuscripts of the Book of Isaiah, older by a thousand years than any previously known Hebrew copy of the Old Testament! The Book of Isaiah is one of the more common Dead Sea scroll texts.

The dawn of civilization arose in the region of Israel more than a million years ago and became the birthplace of some of the world’s leading religions. There are more than 30,000 known archaeological sites throughout Israel, a tiny sliver of land that can be crossed by car from top to bottom in only four hours!

The Denver museum featured 2,000-year-old parchments and scraps of parchments found in Israel’s caves above the Dead Sea between 1947 and 1956. Following their discovery, historians in the 1950s pieced the scraps back together using cellophane tape. Today, they are housed in environmentally controlled cases through which they can be viewed. An ancient pot is at the center.

Among the ancient pieces of pottery from Israel displayed at the Denver museum were huge collared-rim storage jars called “Pithos,” dating from the Iron Age I (11th century BCE). These enormous pots were found in the remains of four-room houses in Canaan’s central hill country.

As for the scrolls on exhibit at the museum, 27 percent were written in Greek, although 10 scrolls were copies of the Hebrew community’s writings. NASA has a digital library where a digitized process allows viewers to “see writings we never could see before.”

A discovery made in Cave 4 in 1952 produced a “War Rule,” a six-line fragment, known as the Sefer ha-Milhamah, commonly referred to as the “Pierced Messiah” text, which refers to a Messiah from the Branch of David (whom we know as our Savior Jesus Christ), and also to a judgment and a killing, both of which He experienced.

One Hebrew scroll on parchment includes as many as 51 psalms, but their order does not correspond to the present version of the Hebrew Bible, and the scroll contains psalms not found in the present version.

The text names King David as author of the psalms, reinforcing his reputation as the greatest of poets! One scroll contains a lease agreement belonging to Eliezer ben Shmuel, a farmer who lived in Ein Gedi. (I visited this small part of Israel that looks like Paradise, and we have named a picnic area in our backyard “Ein Gedi!). The land changing hands in Israel was owned by the government of Simeon Bar Kokhba, leader of the Second Jewish Revolt against the Romans (132-135 CE). The document refers to Bar Kokhba as the “Prince of Israel.”

One parchment, the book of Enoch, was written in Aramaic and found in Cave 4, dating back to between 100 and 50 BCE. Enoch is mentioned in the book of Genesis, where he is reported to “Walk with God,” as we all would like to walk.
INSLEY — Of this you can be sure: Alex Gleason is smiling down from Heaven.

From June 13-15, dozens of people joined to celebrate the memory of this young man by helping others — a fitting way to honor Gleason, who died two years ago on July 20, and who “always had a smile on his face.”

“Alex was always happy; he was always smiling,” said Caitlin Herrmann, who, with her father, John, started “Action for Alex” last year. Alex was a year ahead of Caitlin at Kinsley High School.

“Gosh, he was one of the nicest people I knew. He never had a mean thing to say about anyone.”

Gleason died on July 20, 2016. He was 18 years old.

“I was at ‘Prayer and Action’ when I heard about Alex’s death,” Caitlin said.

“Prayer and Action” is a diocesan program for young adults which has them going to the homes of people in need where they beautify the house and property, and help in other unexpected ways.

“That’s where I got the idea for ‘Action for Alex,’” she explained. Unlike “Prayer and Action,” which is diocesan wide, “Action for Alex” is focused in the Kinsley community where Alex was reared.

It is a celebration of the life of one of their own by focusing efforts on the community of which he was a part.

“We worked on one house near St. Nicholas Church,” Caitlin said of the 27 youth volunteers and nearly as many adults. “We painted it, did yard work, took down trees. A family donated a swing and a table set. Another person donated flowers. It looks really nice.”

The homeowner wasn’t content to sit back and watch, noted adult volunteer, Kayla Gleason, whose daughter accompanied Alex to his junior prom.

“She came out and asked what she could do,” Kayla said of the homeowner. “She helped us to spray paint. Her grandchildren came out and helped, too.

“Alex was very polite, a very nice kid. His whole family is nice.”

When work on the house was completed, the volunteers took their time and talent to the Palace Theater in Kinsley, a jewel on the prairie of southwest Kansas.

Called “...one of the finest examples of shoebox theater design,” the historic theater was constructed in 1917 and still houses original hand-painted fire curtains. One of two such theaters known to exist, the structure is on the National Register of Historic Places.

“We repainted the theater,” Caitlin said. “Because it’s a historic site, we had to match the original color. Jimmy Heinz built a new candy counter. We have a lot of people in town who volunteered to work. I think that’s cool.”

The theater shows movies each Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For the current schedule, visit facebook.com/KinsleyPalaceTheatre/.

PRIDE, a Kinsley organization designed to support community projects, donated food, the wood for the theater, as well as paint for the house and glass for the candy counter. Sherwin Williams was “very generous” in the donation of paint. One of the dinners for the volunteers was provided by the Ladies League, while the Knights of Columbus hosted the second night’s dinner. Community volunteers also brought a kiddie-pool/slip-n-slide game, which must have felt tremendous after a hot day at work.

“Lots of people gave us snacks,” Caitlin said. “The community really helped out and was real supportive. They wanted to see it happen.”

Martin Gleason, Alex’s father, took part in the work effort as well.

“It was unbelievable what the kids got done in three days; it was truly amazing. We were really happy with the results.”

A 2016 graduate of Kinsley High School, Alex was a member of the Trenton Workers 4-H Club and the Offerle Fire Department. He was working on earning his private pilot’s license at the time of his death.

“We were very, very proud of him,” Martin said. Alex is also survived by his mother, Jennifer, siblings Brett and Caitlen, grandparents James and Rosanna Gleason and Doug and Saundra McGraw, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

The event concluded with a community block party, which included a potluck dinner and a powerpoint presentation at the St. Nicholas Parish Hall, featuring the past days’ efforts.
Entre 200 y 300 personas (niños, mamás empujando sus carritos de bebé, jóvenes y ancianos) celebraron la Fiesta de Corpus Christi el 3 de junio con una procesión de 3,5 millas por las calles de Dodge City.

La procesión comenzó en la Catedral del Sagrado Corazón y concluyó en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

Fue a la vez una oración por las vocaciones sacerdotales; por los religiosos y religiosas; las familias y los jóvenes; por la conversión; y una oración por la paz mundial.

Pero quizás lo más importante, fue un testimonio del Cuerpo y la comunidad de Cristo ante una multitud de personas que se sentaron afuera de sus casas o estacionaron a lo largo del camino para apreciar esta vista impresionante.

A la cabeza estaba una camioneta llena de cantantes dirigidos por el director juvenil de la Catedral y artista de grabación David McHugh, cuya poderosa voz resonó por las calles.

Otro camión sacó un altar improvisado en el que un sacerdote diferente rezaba ante el Santísimo Sacramento entre cada uno de los cinco servicios de oración.

Los cinco altares se colocaron a la vista del público a lo largo de la ruta, como frente al Dodge City Medical Center y el estacionamiento de un centro comercial.

El obispo, Mons. John Brungardt montó la última etapa del viaje, concluyendo en la catedral con un servicio de oración en español e inglés.
Orar en tiempos de conflicto

Por Reverendísimo JOHN B. BRUNGARDT, Obispo de la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City

D ivisión. Conflicto. Nuestras familias, parroquias, diócesis, comunidades, países y el mundo parecen estar abrumados por la polarización. Estas luchas pueden ser familiares, políticas, religiosas, legales u otras. A veces, tenemos una respuesta intelectual a un conflicto, o tenemos una respuesta emocional a alguien con quien no estamos de acuerdo. Abandonados a nosotros mismos, podemos hundirnos rápidamente en la cloaca de la ira. Podemos rechazar a una persona debido a sus creencias, o sus valores. ¿Qué hacer?

San Pablo en su segunda carta a los Corintios escribe acerca de alguien en la comunidad que causa dolor. Aunque la naturaleza de este conflicto no se especifica, la advertencia de San Pablo es perdonar, alentar y “reafirmar su amor con el alma” (2 Corintios 2, 8). Esto comienza con la oración a nuestro Amado Señor. Simplemente no tenemos la capacidad de enfrentar la polarización sin Dios. Y nuestra relación con Dios se profundiza con la oración.

Algunas escrituras para llevar a la oración:

- “Encomiendan a Dios sus preocupaciones, que él se ocupará de ustedes” (1 Pedro 5, 7).
- “Fíjense los ojos... en Jesús” (Hebreos 12).
- “...para que sean plenamente uno” (Juan 17, 22).

Como católicos, los sacramentos nos fortalecen en nuestra vida de oración. La Eucaristía y la Reconciliación nos ayudan a amar, a darnos sabiduría para saber qué hacer o qué no hacer, qué decir o no decir, en tiempos de división. La oración y los sacramentos nos ayudan a trabajar hacia la justicia genuina y la paz duradera en nuestro mundo atrofiado.

Una intención de oración: Solo un sacerdote puede actuar en la persona de Cristo y cambiar el pan y el vino ordinarios en el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo. Solo un sacerdote puede dar la absolución sacramental. Hace dos años comenzamos nuestra Petición Ministerios Vibrantes, de los cuales uno de los objetivos era la Limosna por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. La Cuaresma pasada, comenzamos el Ayuno por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. Gracias por su fidelidad en estos esfuerzos. Ahora tenemos un proyecto intensivo de Oración por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. Tendremos una serie de artículos en los próximos meses sobre la Eucaristía, fuente y cumbre de nuestras vidas (este tema sobre la Eucaristía como una comida sagrada). Tenemos artículos sobre la Oración Parroquial por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales (ver último número), la Oración Popular por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales (ver este número), y la Oración Individual por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. Ore, pidiendo al Señor que envíe a nuestros muchachos y hombres solteros a la ceca de la fe como seminaristas y futuros sacerdotes. Ore, abriendo la puerta de sus corazones para que oren devotamente, escuchen humildemente y sigan a Jesús. Ore, también para todas las vocaciones: la vida consagrada y el matrimonio. Querido Jesús, que uno de estos frutos de esta oración sea un disimiente de esta polarización que estamos experimentando. ¡Gracias a todos y recuerden que Jesús nos ama tanto!

Perdón y servicio

¿Cómo damos testimonio de las Buenas Nuevas de Jesús? En el trabajo, queremos resultados, queremos ganar el juego o llegar primeros en la carrera. En lo que importa? ¿Y en la oración? A veces, estamos decepcionados por la oración, pensando que no estamos “obteniendo nada de ella”. Siendo que trabajan a tope para salvar a los demás, la parroquia o la comunidad.

Cada semana damos testimonio de las Buenas Nuevas de Jesús, de vivir Su Reino. Cristo nos ayudará, Él nos ama más de lo que podemos pedir o imaginar!

La Buena Nueva: Nuestra conversión como cristianos es un regalo. No podemos pedir o imaginar lo que Dios nos dará. Él le dará una vocación al sacerdocio, a la consagración o al matrimonio. Dios se encargará de darle. Él le dará una vocación al sacerdocio, a la parroquia o la comunidad. No sólo se una cosa como solían decir los antiguos escritores de Sabiduría, solo se dos cosas.

Conozco a un anciano que ahora pasa su tiempo con su familia casi ha dejado de ser una familia. “molestarnos” con eso. Si 3/4 de la familia no ve estar con la familia como algo importante, entonces la familia casi ha dejado de ser una familia.

El está juntando; nosotros no estamos reunidos. Hay algo mal con esta imagen. ¿Qué está pasando aquí? No lo sé. Conté las voces de las escrituras, de vivir Su Reino. Cristo nos ayudará, Él nos ama más de lo que podemos pedir o imaginar!

+ Mons. John, obispo


Muchochantos: ¿Algún vez se preguntaron: “¿Qué obtengo de la oración?”. En muchas cosas de la vida, queremos resultados, queremos ganar algo, queremos recibir. En los deportes, queremos ganar el juego o llegar primeros en la carrera. En lo espiritual, queremos obtener una “A” en la tarea o recibir esa beca para nuestra universidad favorita. En el trabajo, queremos recibir un aumento salarial o obtener un ascenso. Pero ¿acaso “obtener” algo es todo lo que importa? También “damos” mucho. En los deportes: damos nuestro tiempo y esfuerzo para practicar, damos nuestra lealtad y compañerismo a nuestros compañeros de equipo, y damos respeto a nuestros entrenadores. En lo académico, damos mucho: damos nuestro tiempo para conectar con nuestros profesores, damos nuestro tiempo para trabajar con nuestros compañeros de trabajo, damos nuestro tiempo para ayudar a un nuevo empleado. ¿Y en la oración? A veces, estamos decepcionados con la oración, pensando que no estamos “obteniendo nada de ella”. Sin embargo, estamos llamados a dar a la oración. Damos nuestro tiempo, atención y amor a nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Esboce una forma de oración para dar sentido a todo esto. Sus pensamientos y sus sentimientos buscan un centro. Necesitan ese espejo cóncavo.

A pesar de todas las iglesias desnudas que han conocido, todavía se sienten atrapadas... de alguna manera... al Padre, al Espíritu y al Pan del Altar. Solo se una cosa, sólo dos cosas. "o hastía ligera y muda: liénanos ahora y sánanos"

Sesiones de consciencización

La Diócesis requiere a todos los empleados y voluntarios que trabajen con menores a asistir a las sesiones de conscienciación de Proteger a los Niños de Dios. Estas sesiones de conscienciación están disponibles en ambos inglés y español. Son conducidas por gente de nuestra Diócesis especialmente entrenadas como facilitadores. Las sesiones se publicarán en las parroquias, escuelas, el periódico Southwest Kanso Catholic y la página electrónica de la Diócesis. www.dcdioce.se.org/protectingchildren.

Dodge City – Español: Mons. John, obispo

Domingo, 26 de agosto de 2018

De: 3-6 p.m.

Cathedral Of Our Lady of Guadalupe

3231 N 14th Ave

Dodge City, KS 67801

Persona de contacto: Lynee Habiger 620-227-6532

Facilitador de PGC: Norma Alvarez 620-225-4802

Ingalls - Español

Domingo, 26 de agosto de 2018

De: 11-4 p.m. a 12: 45 p.m.

Parish Center, St. Stanislaus Diocese

200 N Rush St.

Guadalupe

De: 9:45 a.m. a 12:45 p.m.

Dodge City – español

3231 N 14th Ave

Dodge City, KS 67801

Persona de contacto: Kathy Massoth 620-855-3148

Facilitador de PGC: Norma Alvarez 620-225-4802

...Liénanos ahora y sánanos’

Durante casi cincuenta años, hemos estado orando y diciendo congresos a tu pueblo sin cesar (Plegaria eucarística III). Eso ha sido un consuelo para nosotros, un recordatorio del poder integral de la Redención, un indicio de la obra invisible de la Gracia. Pero en estos cincuenta años de congresos, la asistencia a misa ha disminuido dramáticamente. Solamente el 23% de los asistentes van a misa semanalmente estos días. El 77% de nosotros, los católicos, no queremos “molestarnos” con eso. Si 3/4 de la familia no ve estar con la familia como algo importante, entonces la familia casi ha dejado de ser una familia.

¿Están Dando?
the Knights of Columbus

Official State Publication — Kansas State Council, Knights of Columbus — Summer 2018

THE 2018-2019 STATE OFFICERS of the Kansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus are: (I to r) Gary Wondra, Program Director; Bruce Luehing, State Warden; Todd Bambach, State Treasurer; Vincent Melvin III, Immediate Past State Deputy; Dale Webber, State Deputy; Rev. Jarett Konrade, State Chaplain; Jamey Roth, State Secretary; Mike Grothoff, State Advocate; and Patrick Burnett, Membership Director.

PROGRAM AND MEMBERSHIP TEAMS APPOINTED

The 2018-2019 Program and Membership Team for the Kansas State, Knights of Columbus is ready, willing and eager to assist all councils.

This year the State Membership Team will be led by State Membership Director Patrick Burnett of Great Bend. Patrick, along with his team, has put together an outstanding membership team and my year’s theme is “Welcome One Another as Christ has Welcomed You.” Regional Leadership Chairmen, Patrick’s team includes Kevin Oseslaw, Lawrence; Ed Millery, Garnett; Bob Chilton, Derby; Randy Testa, Junction City; Joseph Roth, Hays; Ted Hoedel, Topeka; and Steven Stull, Overland Park, is the State Retention Chairman. Past State Deputy, Tim Wittlinghaus, Atchison, will serve as the State Ceremonial Chairman.

The Programming Team will be under the direction of State Program Director Gary Wondra of Olathe. The rest of Gary’s team include Paul Harmon, McChesney, State Warden; Louis Munoz, Topeka, Commitment to Humanities Chair; Matthew Mickle, Alvord, Life Director; Dustin Herr, Harper, Pennies From Heaven Chairman; John Schale, Beecher, Faith Director; Barney Wolters, Bel Aire, Religious Education Fund Chair; Rev. Jesse Retting, St. Peter’s Schools Education Fund; Kevin Baumann, Tipton, Youth Activities Chair; Rev. James McCleary, St. Luke’s Church, Associate State Chaplain; Douglas Wilscham, St. Mary’s, Communications Director; Tom Smolik, St. Peter’s, State Program Director; Tom Smith, Topeka, Council Counselor; John Speer, Holland Haven, State Historian; Stanley Kriger, Tipton, Meetings Chair; Kevin Smith, State Retention; Jason Vanman, Past State Deputy, Mark Roth, Evangel, Public Relations & Father McGivney Guild Chairman.

DALE A. WEBBER, STATE DEPUTY

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

As the Knights of Columbus begin our new fraternal year, we welcome our new Program Director, Gary Wondra. Gary will be announcing an exciting new program entitled “The Faith in Action.” In the opening lines of his first official message, Gary invites each of us to “let the joy of our faith have a chance to ‘spring up fresh’ every day.” Gary’s message to our membership resonates with the mission of the Knights of Columbus.

“Faith in Action” is an evolution of the Knights of Columbus’ Domestic Church initiative and the new message of what it means to be a Knight of Columbus.

In today’s society, we must learn to meet our challenges head on. We must come home through is smart phone, Facebook, and Instagram. In this new world, time, he is picking up a larger share of household responsibilities than ever before. Indeed, the pace of daily life is accelerating. Despite this, the faith of men is growing and opportunities to be hands-on and to serve the faith is always at hand. Alongside peers in service to the Church, they want to spend precious free time involved with their families and fulfilling the bonds of friendship and fraternity that are so unique.

The goal of this model is for young men to lead their family’s spiritual service and not to leave their family’s faith unattended.

The Faith in Action model is a realization of the growing needs of men in the twenty-first century. The new model seeks to balance all of our priorities as in Victorian times. The Knights of Columbus is working to provide a strong call to action, a focus on quality and fidelity, and family programs, and a focus on the most of the core is that we are the best parish community and the best neighborhood community. The Faith in Action model allows us to come together to embrace our faith, celebrate fraternity with our families, and fight in service to our community and our nation, using the strategies and in every condition.

Vince and his team understand that the needs of Catholic men and their families as we learn more about the Knights of Columbus. If you are not currently a member of the Knights of Columbus, please take a moment to review our website and consider joining us. We welcome all men and women to join the Knights of Columbus.

Pelican Point, which is located in Kansas City, Kansas, is an excellent place to understand what the Knights of Columbus can provide for you and your family.

As an order, new records of membership, new charitable contributions exceeded 75 million dollars, and the Knights of Columbus paid out $177 million in charitable work and scholarships to our members. The future of the Knights of Columbus in history has there been a record number of new members and good works done by the Knights of Columbus. We look forward to your joining us.

— GARY WONDRA
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Daughters of Isabella donates $1,001.50 to the Kansas Knights of Columbus for the sonogram program. State Regent Lynn Kapperman pictured above presenting the check to State Auxiliary Vincent P. Melvin III.

Vincent P. Melvin III, Immediate Past State Deputy

Become The Cornerstone—Building a Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish

At our recent State Convention in late May, the results of our State Domestic Church contest were announced. The winning campaign to date were reported, and it truly appears that has proven to be a year for which we should all be proud. We have truly lived out our theme of “BECOME THE CORNERSTONE—BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH WHILE STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH.” In the past twelve months, the Knights of Columbus across Kansas have been a testament of our desire to serve the Lord and our fellowman. Through our Culture of Life Programs, we work to protect the unborn. In the past year, our councils across Kansas donated $30,458 to the culture of life cause. On February 21, 2018 we placed our eleventh ultrasound machine at the ABC Pregnancy Care Center at Garden City. These eleven machines are working every day to save babies lives.

Our Commitment to Humanity Campaign raised $364,327 this year to help persons with intellectual disabilities and through this program we continue our prime sponsorship of the Kansas Special Olympics Basketball Tournament. Through our Pennies from Heaven Program we raised over $113,917 to help families of victims of natural disasters. Through these programs we will continue to work to improve the lives of our fellow man and work for the betterment of society.

Through our Church Activity Programs we strive to support the Church, our Bishops and Priests. Through our Adopt-A-Seminarian Program our councils across Kansas placed 93 diocesan seminarians and 44 other religious. Support to these men and women included spiritual support through cards and letters of encouragement and record-financial support to over $40,000. We worked to assist and encourage our future priests & religious in their journey to the presbytery and religious life. Through our religious education programs, we distributed 275 to 266 requests from parishes for their religious education programs or Catholic schools. Our Vocations Poster Contest, designed to foster vocations, gave witness that our youth consider a religious vocation. As members of the Knights of Columbus we are to be in solidarity with our Church, the Holy Father, our Bishops and Priests. We must stand united with our Bishops and Priests and stand strong behind them when they are criticized for leading their flock.

Through our Youth Activities we witnessed the participation of over 2,246 youth in our First Three Contest.

Our Family Activity Program has encouraged councils to promote family life within our parishes and councils. Our Family of the Month and Family of the Year programs continue to recognize those families that are model families for the rest of our membership. From among these model families across Kansas, The Scot and Michelle Stewart Family of Derby was named State Family of the Year at our recent state convention in Overland Park.

Our Council & Fraternal Activites promote activities for our membership and keep our members informed on what is happening across the State of Kansas. We saw over 600 bowlers take part in our K of C State Bowling Tournament and 24 teams participated in our State Golf Tournament last June. We continue to recognize our members who stand out in their work in the Knights of Columbus. Our Knight of the Month and Knight of the Year Program continues to recognize members of our councils who go the extra mile to make their Church, Council and Community a better place for all. This year 10 councils recognized a Knight of the Year and Steve Knopp of Atchison was chosen from among those named our Kansas State Knight of the Year at our recent convention in Overland Park. Our members are kept informed of important happenings through our fraternal notices and through our state website, www.kansas-kofc.org. Be sure to check us out if you don’t visit our website recently. It offers a wide array of information regarding the Knights of Columbus in Kansas.

As we go forth with these programs across Kansas we are constantly looking for more eligable Catholic men to join us in work for our Lord. Our State has seen a nice increase in membership this year as we have seen over 1,061 new men and their families join our ranks at the time of this writing and our membership in Kansas currently stands at 38,642. I personally invite all eligible Catholic men over the age of 18 to add to your personal fulfillment and join us in the Knights of Columbus as we work for the Honor and Glory of God. I ask all interested parties to please go to our website and contact myself or any of the State Officers or State Personnel and we will be glad to assist you in joining our beloved Order.

Preparations are underway for the upcoming fraternal year which begins on July 1st. Let’s continue to build on the legacy of our forefathers and our founder, the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Together, as a team, we can make our Order in Kansas grow stronger and better. Let’s be proud to practice our Catholic faith and work hard for the Honor and Glory of God. We can and do make a difference in our Church, our communities, our families and our youth.

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as your State Deputy these past two years and for that honor and privilege I extend heartfelt thanks. As Barb and I have traveled the state, we have been a tremendous experience to re-kindle old friendships and make new acquaintances. The hospitality and courtesies extended to us will always bring warm memories. I am excited to be an even bigger and better year ahead with your continued support and hard work we will continue to confront the challenges the Lord will set out before us in the years ahead. May God bless you all and the great work you do in His name through the State Knights of Columbus! Vivat Jesus.
Fred Keiser, former diocesan youth director, dies

WICHITA — Fred Keiser, 70, passed away June 14, 2018. He was a Catholic educator, a member of Knights of Columbus Council #3114, and 4th Degree Columbia Assembly #0287. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Francis Assisi Church.

Fred was Director of Youth and Young Adults for the Diocese of Dodge City from 1977 to 1989. During this time he wrote materials for high school religious education and adult education/teacher formation, as well as Bible Study programs and materials. He also organized and ran religious summer camps for grades 3rd through 12th for 14 years. He served as a volunteer for SEARCH, a weekend retreat movement for high school and young adults at parishes throughout the diocese. He was already known to the Saint Mary of the Plains College community when he was hired as assistant professor of Religious Studies and Philosophy, a position he held from 1989 to 1991. In Wichita, he started an independent Catholic school known as the Juan De Padilla Academy. He later taught at Kapaun Mount Carmel High School.

Fred was born Dec. 29, 1947, in San Diego, Calif., the son of Fredrick Charles and Dorothy (Kroll) Keiser. They preceded him in death, as did his first wife, Barb (Allen), and a sister Theresa Keiser. Survivors include his wife, Linda; children: Kevin (Heidi), Sister Mary Barbara, O.P.; Father Frederick, LC; Anthony (Jenie), Geoff, Jesse, Colin, Hayley, and eight grandchildren.

FREDERICK KEISER

OBITUARIES

The Southwest Kansas Catholic

10868 W Wyatt Earp Blvd
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-227-3171

www.buggkia.com

Page 20 July 15, 2018
grandchildren; two brothers, BJ Heinz, Jr. and Robert Heinz; and sister, Barbara Summer; and her dog Abby.

JOSE LUIS CHAVEZ, 60, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend, died June 10, 2018. He worked as a welder for Guthrie Trailers and Duke Drilling for many years. Survivors include, wife, Emma; son, Fabio Chavez; three daughters, Anais, Lucero and Gisela Chavez; 11 grandchildren; and two brothers, Daniel Duarte and Jorge Cabrales. Father Don Bedore presided.

GERALD NICHOLAS KAISER, 80, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend, died June 11, 2018. Starting at a very young age, Gerald worked in the oil field as a roustabout, pumper, and roughneck, before later becoming a truck driver. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 862. Survivors include, wife, Evelyn Reiser-Kaiser; son, Todd; daughters Kim Geelan and Shelli Kaiser; brother, Jack Kaiser; sister, Mary Lou Ehrlich; one grandchild; Evelyn’s children, David Reiser, Richard Reiser, Debbie Converse, Cheryl Schaub, her nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

ANN A M. SCHENK, 92, of St. Michael Parish, La Crosse, died June 9, 2018. Anna was born in a rock house on a farm in the rural Olmitz area. She lived there 60 years working as a farmer, raising chickens, pigs, calves, and hand milked cows. She also cooked for two siblings without benefit of any electricity or running water. She retired to La Crosse in her early 60s. Survivors include, four nephews, Pat Riedl, Joe Riedl, Tom Riedl, and Dan Riedl; and one niece, Kathy Bryant. Father Eric Gyamfi presided.

PEDRO CASAS, 94, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend died June 13, 2018. He was a farmer. On Oct. 9, 1943 he married Maria Dolores Banuelos; she preceded him in death on Oct. 11, 2011. Survivors include three sons, Everardo de Casas, Isais de Casas, and Ignacio de Casas; three daughters, Ana Maria de Casas, Enelia de Casas and Evelia Cabeen; 18 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Father Wesley Schawe presided.

JANET S. SCHWAMBORN, 62, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend, died June 14, 2018. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, she was a licensed dental hygienist, serving the community for 39 years. She belonged to the Altar Society. Survivors include her husband, Ken Schwamborn; one son, Ryan; one sister, Sheryl Schamaun; one brother, Don E. Dreiling; and two grandsons. Father Fred Stromklien presided.

MARY ANN FISHER, 97, of St. Stanislaus Parish, Ingalls, died June 15, 2018. She worked in the Post Office in Zenda as well as a nurse’s aide in Fowler and in 1967 settled in Cimarron where she was a homemaker. Survivors include four sons, James D., Jr., Terry, Richard and Mark; her daughter, Mary York; brothers, Bob Viertlhaler and Dennis Viertlhaler; her sister, Ella Fisher; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Father David Reiser, Richard Reiser, Debbie Converse, Cheryl Schaub, her nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

ROBERT ISIDORE “RIP” PFANNENSTIEL, 89, of Sacred Heart Parish, Ness City, died June 15, 2018. He attended a one-room school house in Sidney, one and one-half miles South of Ness City. He served four years in the US Naval Air Force. After boot camp he was an Aerial Gunner and spent half of his time overseas. He was a farmer and stockman, and he and his brother, Jim, raised buffalo on the family farm in the 1980s. He worked 40 years for the Santa Fe Railroad in the Maintenance of Way (track department). On June 4, 1956 he married Patricia M. Legg in Ness City. To this union two children were born: son, Rory Lee and daughter, Rhonda Kay. Other survivors include brother, Larry and Donald; sister, Clara Marie Feitl; five nieces and eight nephews.

BRANDON SALAS, 17, died June 19, 2018. He was attending Satanta High School, and he enjoyed playing sports, including football, track and basketball. His hobbies were cars, shooting, singing, fishing, camping and swimming. Survivors include his parents, Agustin and Sofia Salas; a brother, Agustin Salas Jr.; two sisters, Arlethe Guadalupe Salas and Miranda Sofia Salas; paternal grandmother, Alicia Dominguez; maternal grandparents, Pedro and Berta Duran; other relatives and friends.

GUADALUPE ESTRADA, 88, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died June 24, 2018. She married Victoriano Estrada 1955 in Chihuahua, Mexico. He died June 21, 2006. Survivors include her children, Lazaro Estrada, Josefina Gomez, Leticia Ruiz, Carmen Estrada, Tere Reyes and Ernestina Estrada; 15 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren; and brother Norberto Gallegos. Father Charles Seiwert presided.

MICHAEL J. DEAL, 46, of St. Dominic Parish, Garden City, died June 14, 2018. Michael worked for Baier Auto Glass for 13 years and for the last 17 years has been a Plant Operator for Sunflower Electric Power Corp. He is survived by his wife, Shawnna; daughters Katie Deal and Sarah Deal; mother, Janice Deal; and brothers Jeffrey Deal and Jimmy Deal.

Harold Joseph Schmidt, 93, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima, Great Bend, died June 25, 2018. He was married to Elenora Monica (Pfeifer), who preceded him in death. He worked in the oil field business and for Mid-Continent L.P. Service. He was a lay minister for St. Rose of Lima Church, and a Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus. He was especially dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary; as a member of The Blue Army he gave presentations over the air, spreading the word and understanding of Our Lady of Fatima and of the miracles Our Lady of Lourdes. Survivors include one son and daughter: Richard Harold Schmidt and Alleen Frances Bailey; one sister, Laurita Karlin; five great-grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.
Call us today at the following locations:
Bucklin:  620-826-3848
Cimarron:  620-855-3185
Dodge City:  620-227-3196
Garden City:  620-276-7671
Ness City:  785-798-2237
Syracuse:  620-384-7800
www.kellerleopold.com

What’s Your Plan?
People are living longer than any other time in history. You may need care in your old age — whether in a nursing facility or at home. That can cost up to $66,796 a year or $183 daily benefit*, and these costs are likely to increase. You may not have the funds you need, or your life savings could be wiped out in a few short years.
Knights of Columbus Long-Term Care Insurance will help protect your assets and those of your family.

*Source: Cost of Care Survey, John Hancock Life Insurance, Nov. 2008

Call to speak to an agent today!

** DAN REED, FICF **
(785) 472-2139 office • (785) 531-0135 cell
Ellinwood, Hoisington, Odin, Russell, Claflin, and Ellsworth councils.

** TYLER MEYER, FICF **
(620) 546-1566
Kingman, Sharon, Willowdale, St. Leo, Pratt, Danville, Medicine Lodge, Kiowa, Seward, St. John, and Greensburg councils.

** BRENT WOOD **
(785) 821-1265
Marienthal, Dighton, Scott City, Sharon Springs, Tribune, Goodland, Colby, and Garden City Council 8491

** DARIN REED, FICF **
(785) 726-4899 office • (785) 259-2335 cell
Ransom council

** SHAUN LINENBERGER **
(785) 301-2676 office • (785) 623-8716 cell
Larned, La Crosse, Belpre and Olmitz councils

** DAN ORDONEZ **
(620) 260-0962
Garden City, Plains, Liberal, Ulysses, Ingalls, Elkhart, Johnson, Hugoton, Lakin, Syracuse, and Satanta councils

** JOSE ARIAS **
(785) 259-8689
Spearville, Wright, Ashland, Ness City, Dodge City, Ingalls, Kinsley, and Jetmore councils

** HECTOR SOLER, FIC **
(785) 569-1466
Great Bend council

Check out our website!  kofcinsuranceks.com

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

The Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are closely connected; they are both Sacraments of Initiation. Chapters 28 and 29 of The Catholic Connection Handbook discuss these two sacraments. After reading or reviewing these chapters, complete the crossword.

**ACROSS**
1. Color used at Baptism to symbolize new life in Christ.
2. Receptacle in which a child is baptized
3. Baptismal consecration, it's that is, make us
4. Symbol of Baptism
5. Letter that the adult students go through when they are baptized, confirmed, and receive Eucharist all in the same liturgy
6. At the conclusion of the liturgy, it's that is, make us
7. Age typically considered the “age of reason”
8. Through Baptism, we become part of the __ of Christ
9. The Sacrament of Baptism
10. A candle is lit from the ____ candle and goes to parents at Baptism
11. Confirmation, it’s the Gift of the Holy Spirit in us
12. To be confirmed, you must profess your faith and ask to receive the Sacrament of ___

**DOWN**
2. Christian ____ is accomplished through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
4. In Confirmation, this symbolizes the power of the Holy Spirit
5. When we are baptized, we call upon the name of the ___
6. Jesus was baptized in one of these
7. The laying on of these is a gesture that asks the Holy Spirit to come upon a person
10. Baptism and Confirmation both leave permanent, spiritual signs on us and cannot be removed
12. “Be ____ with the Gift of the Holy Spirit”
14. The ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Baptism
15. At Baptism and at Confirmation we publicly reject him
17. Oil used for anointing in Baptism and Confirmation
19. Place in a church in which the Sacred Chiton is kept
20. The celebrant makes the sign of this on the baby’s forehead

**TEASER THE FIRST:**
Alice came across a lion and a unicorn in a forest of forgetfulness. Those two are strange beings. The lion lies every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and the other days he speaks the truth. The unicorn lies on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, however the other days of the week he speaks the truth.

Lion: Yesterday I was lying.
Unicorn: So was I.

On which day did they say that?

**TEASER THE SECOND:**
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 Sudoku grid containing areas surrounded by gray or dotted lines. The object is to fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear exactly once in each row, column, and 3x3 box, and the sum of the numbers in each area is equal to the clue in the area’s top-left corner.

Reglas De Sudoku:
Cada fila debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada columna debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada cuadrado 3x3 debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9

**TEASER THE THIRD:**
Can you find 12 animals/bugs hidden in these words?
Pheasant adder at turtle chere eion ewtiger

**ST. MICHAEL’S MIND BENDERS**

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 Sudoku grid containing areas surrounded by gray or dotted lines. The object is to fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear exactly once in each row, column, and 3x3 box, and the sum of the numbers in each area is equal to the clue in the area’s top-left corner.

Reglas De Sudoku:
Cada fila debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada columna debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada cuadrado 3x3 debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9

**ST. SEBASTIAN’S SUDOKU**

**GABRIEL’S CROSSWORD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Color used at Baptism to symbolize new life in Christ.</td>
<td>2. Christian __ is accomplished through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Receptacle in which a child is baptized</td>
<td>3. In Confirmation, this symbolizes the power of the Holy Spirit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Baptismal consecration, it’s that is, make us</td>
<td>4. When we are baptized, we call upon the name of the __.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Symbol of Baptism</td>
<td>5. Jesus was baptized in one of these.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Letter that the adult students go through when they are baptized, confirmed, and receive Eucharist all in the same liturgy</td>
<td>6. The laying on of these is a gesture that asks the Holy Spirit to come upon a person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Age typically considered the “age of reason”</td>
<td>7. The Sacrament of Baptism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Through Baptism, we become part of the __ of Christ.</td>
<td>8. A candle is lit from the ____ candle and goes to parents at Baptism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. A candle is lit from the ____ candle and goes to parents at Baptism.</td>
<td>10. To be confirmed, you must profess your faith and ask to receive the Sacrament of _____.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Confirmation, it’s the Gift of the Holy Spirit in us.</td>
<td>11. Baptism and Confirmation both leave permanent, spiritual signs on us and cannot be removed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. At Baptism and at Confirmation we publicly reject him</td>
<td>12. “Be ____ with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Place in a church in which the Sacred Chiton is kept</td>
<td>16. The celebrant makes the sign of this on the baby’s forehead.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEASER THE FIRST:**
Alice came across a lion and a unicorn in a forest of forgetfulness. Those two are strange beings. The lion lies every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and the other days he speaks the truth. The unicorn lies on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, however the other days of the week he speaks the truth.

Lion: Yesterday I was lying.
Unicorn: So was I.

On which day did they say that?

**TEASER THE SECOND:**
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 Sudoku grid containing areas surrounded by gray or dotted lines. The object is to fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear exactly once in each row, column, and 3x3 box, and the sum of the numbers in each area is equal to the clue in the area’s top-left corner.

Reglas De Sudoku:
Cada fila debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada columna debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9 Cada cuadrado 3x3 debe contener los números a partir la 1 a 9

**TEASER THE THIRD:**
Can you find 12 animals/bugs hidden in these words?
Pheasant adder at turtle chere eion ewtiger
**Database & Development Assistant**

The Diocese of Dodge City is seeking a full-time Database & Development Assistant. Under the supervision of the Director of Development, this position will coordinate and maintain all aspects of the donor system for the Diocesan database (DonorPerfect) or mail to the Diocese of Dodge City, Attn: Human Resources, 910 Central, Dodge City, KS 67801. (620) 227-1534.

**Manager of Office and Facilities**

The Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City is seeking a Manager of the Office and Facilities.

This position operates under the supervision of the Director of Administration and Finance to implement and oversee general office operations, human resources, information systems and all management, coordination and maintenance of related facilities. Responsible for the coordination and supervision of personnel, communication, and implementation of related policies. In addition, this position shall coordinate and oversee the property management, maintenance and development of all COLG facilities in order to meet present day and future needs of the parish.

Preference College degree in business administration or related fields or 5 years business experience in related management areas. Additional studies in office management, human resource management, administration, business law, accounting, and information systems and facilities management preferred.

Candidate must have demonstrated fidelity and understanding of the Catholic Church. To request additional information on position specifications and requirements and to apply: Email cover letter and resume to jili@dodgecitycathedral.com, Dir. of Finance & Administration, Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, PO Box 670, Dodge City, KS 67801. (620) 227-3442.

---

**Scripture Readings**

Please note: The next issue of the SKC will be published Aug. 12.

**Sunday, July 15**  
Amos 7:12-15/Ephesians 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mark 6:7-13

**Monday, July 16**  
Isaiah 1:10-17/Matthew 10:34-11:1

**Tuesday, July 17**  
Isaiah 7:1-9/Matthew 11:20-24

**Wednesday, July 18**  
Isaiah 30:5-7, 13-16/11:25-27

**Thursday, July 19**  
Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/11:28-30

**Friday, July 20**  
Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/12:1-8

**Saturday, July 21**  
Micah 1:1-5/12:14-21

**Sunday, July 22**  
Jeremiah 23:1-6/Ephesians 2:13-18/Mark 6:30-34

**Monday, July 23**  
Micah 6:1-4, 6-8/12:38-42

**Tuesday, July 24**  
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20/12:46-50

**Wednesday, July 25**  
Jeremiah 5:25-33

**Thursday, July 26**  
Jeremiah 26:1-9/13:54-58

**Friday, July 27**  
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Second Peter 1:16-19

**Saturday, July 28**  
Ezekiel 3:17-21 or Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24/14:12-18

**Sunday, July 29**  
Daniel 1:19-21 /15:1-19

**Monday, July 30**  

**Tuesday, August 1**  

**Wednesday, August 2**  
John 6:16-24

**Thursday, August 3**  
John 6:25-34/Ephesians 4:7-16/John 6:36-46

**Friday, August 4**  

**Saturday, August 5**  

**Sunday, August 6**  

**Monday, August 7**  
John 8:2-11/Ephesians 6:19-24/John 8:12-19

**Tuesday, August 8**  
John 8:20-29/Ephesians 6:25-34/John 8:30-38

**Wednesday, August 9**  

**Thursday, August 10**  

**Friday, August 11**  

**Saturday, August 12**  

**Sunday, August 13**  

---

**Edward Jones**

**Making Sense of Investing**

---

**Integrity:**

Doing what is morally right when no one is watching.

Our thanks to Bob Schneweis for his help and integrity.

The family of Mel and Jean Peintner
Father Francis Dombrowsky was born June 1, 1896 in Newton. He attended elementary school at Sunnyside School and St. Mary’s Grade School, both in Newton. His minor seminary studies were completed at St. Benedict’s College, Atchison, and his major seminary studies were completed at St. Meinrad’s Seminary, St. Meinrad, Ind. He was ordained by Bishop August J. Schwertner June 29, 1921 at St. Mary’s Cathedral. He was the first native son ordained to the priesthood from Newton and the first priest ordained by Bishop Schwertner.

He served in two brief assignments as assistant pastor at St. Joseph, Andale, and St. Mary’s, Newton.

In 1923, he was appointed pastor at St. Andrew, Wright, with St. Lawrence, Jetmore, as a mission. He was the first resident pastor at Wright, and the first priest to serve the Jetmore Catholics who had formed a parish after acquiring a Protestant church. During Father Dombrowsky’s pastorate, the Wright parish constructed a rectory (1927) and a two-story brick school (1929).

Father Dombrowsky remained at Wright for 14 years until he was appointed pastor at Sacred Heart, Larned, (1937-40). On July 1, 1940, he was transferred to St. John the Baptist, Spearville. He celebrated his silver jubilee in the parish on June 29, 1946. In July, while traveling on his jubilee trip, he was involved in an automobile accident on a mountain road near Albany, Ore. He died four days after the accident, on July 19, 1946, at the age of 50.

Father John Wechensky, a nephew, celebrated the funeral Mass for his uncle at St. John the Baptist Church in Spearville. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

www.dcdiocese.org/archivist-diocesan/necrology
As there is no day when both of the beings would be lying, at least one of them must have spoken the truth. They both speak the truth only on Sunday. However, the Lion would then be lying in his statement, so it couldn’t be said on Sunday. So exactly one of them lied.

If the Unicorn was honest, then it would have to be Sunday - but previously we proved this wrong. Thus only the Lion spoke the truth when he met Alice on Thursday and spoke with the Unicorn about Wednesday.

If the Lion was honest, then he would be lying on Thursday. If the Lion is lying on Thursday, then the Lion spoke the truth on Wednesday, and the Unicorn spoke the truth on Wednesday. But the Unicorn spoke the truth on Thursday, and the Unicorn spoke a lie on Thursday. This is a contradiction, so the Lion did not lie on Wednesday. If the Unicorn spoke the truth on Wednesday, then the Unicorn spoke a lie on Thursday. But the Unicorn spoke the truth on Thursday. This is a contradiction, so the Unicorn did not lie on Wednesday. Therefore, the Lion spoke the truth on Wednesday, and the Unicorn spoke a lie on Wednesday.
Willard Henry Aldridge was born on the Aldridge farm north of Sitka, Kansas on August 26, 1921. Willard was the sixth child out of 10 born to John Frances Aldridge and Zola Irene (Claypool) Aldridge. All of Willard’s brothers and sisters have died. His closest living relations are nephews Ray Summers (CO), Richard Aldridge (TX) Gary Aldridge (KS), Marvin May (OK), Robert Aldridge (IN), and niece Sue Berryman (CO). Willard helped his father on the farm until 1940, at which time Willard decided to enlist into the United State Navy. He enlisted in Great Bend, Kansas for a period of six years. Following his enlistment he was assigned to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois.

Upon completion of training, Willard was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma on October 12, 1940. Willard was advanced in rank from Seaman second class on November 25, 1940 and again promoted to Seaman first class on July 1, 1941.

The USS Oklahoma conducted exercises and patrolled the waters off the Hawaiian coast to check Japanese aggression in and around the American theater.

On the morning of 7 December 1941, a fleet of Japanese carriers launched formations of dive bombers, torpedo planes, and fighters against naval vessels moored in the shallows of Pearl Harbor. The attack decimated the ships and personnel of the fleet and took the United States into World II. At the beginning of the attack, the USS Oklahoma was berthed beside the USS Maryland in “Battleship Row” off Ford Island. The first torpedo hit the ship just before 0800 hours. The USS Oklahoma sustained 429 casualties, quickly capsizing due to the extensive damage sustained from multiple torpedo hits. Seaman first class Willard Aldridge was listed among the casualties compiled two weeks after the attack. From 9 December 1941 through 27 June 1944, Navy personnel recovered the remains of deceased crewmen and the remains were cremated and buried in two different military cemeteries in Honolulu. The remains were interred as “unknowns”.

Willard Henry Aldridge was identified as “non-recoverable” on 7 October 1949. In 2003, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command disinterred a single casket of unknowns from the USS Oklahoma that was thought to contain five remains of individuals, but in reality contained partial remains of almost 100 crew members of the Oklahoma. This resulted in high level negotiations between the Department of Defense and Service Secretaries, and agencies responsible for accounting for service members from past conflicts.

In 2009, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/MIA Personnel Affairs directed no more disinterments of unknowns until all records on the non-recoverables assembled and a search for family members could be completed. Living family members provided DNA samples. The remains were then analyzed by morphology by anthropologists and matched with mitochondrial DNA samples. In 2013, DNA samples were provided to the US Navy by his sister Ethel (Aldridge) McCauly, Ethel’s daughter Alice Lindamood, Richard Aldridge and Raymond Summers.

Identification of most of Willard’s remains allowed for his return and burial with full Military Honors in the Highland Cemetery in Ashland, Kansas on May 26, 2018, with his parents, grandparents, and other family members. Willard’s decorations include the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, American Defense Medal w/one battle star, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal w/one battle star, and World War II Victory Medal. After 77 years, Willard is home from the war.

THEO 4881 Art and Environment

A LITURGICAL environment that celebrates the awe of God’s presence and saving deeds cannot be satisfied with anything less than beautiful. The beauty is related to the holy. This course gives all involved with Liturgy knowledge of the sacred space, the Catholic rites, the Liturgical Year, and the faithful’s devotional life in order to equip them to create a sacred environment in which the divine-human encounter can most readily occur. The goal is to care for all the elements of worship, ensuring that the total environment is clean, appropriate, authentic, beautiful and accessible. The course will present the Liturgical Documents as they pertain to sacraments and other rites, environment, liturgical space, church appointments and the sacristy.

*This course is one of the one hour courses needed to obtain the Diocesan Certification in Liturgical Ministry.

Instructor: Father Frank Coady
Class Times: Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 10
Tuesday evenings - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Interactive Television Sites throughout Dodge City and Salina Dioceses

Cost: 1 hr. course for college credit - $50.00*
1 hr. course for personal enrichment - $25.00*
*price quotes do not include books

Father Frank Coady, STD, is coordinating instructor for the Pastoral Ministry Formation Program's Formation for Liturgical Ministry focus area. Father Frank is pastor of St. Thomas More Parish, Manhattan, KS, and Director of the Offices of Liturgy, Deacons, and Lay Ministry Formation of the Diocese of Salina. He received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Thomas Seminary College, Denver, and an S.T.L. degree in fundamental theology and Doctorate in dogmatic theology, from Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.
Evangelization:
Religious Minorities in Asia
That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

congratulations to the 13 young people who were confirmed by Bishop John Brungardt on april 21, 2018 at st. Joan of arc Parish in elkhart. they were: Daisy Guerrero, Bethany hollingsworth, Jazmin levario, Francis Macalingdong, Alonso martinez, Alondra Moreno, Emily nevarez, Nailea ortega, Eduardo Quezada, Aubrey schumacher, Ryan Sinclair, Nayeli Valencia, and Daniel weatherly, instructor: Peggy horton and Father francis Khoi nguyen.

Graduates from Prince of Peace
Parish, Great Bend
At left, graduates received a special blessing at the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick Church, Sunday, May 20. Below, graduates received a special blessing at the 12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. Rose Church, Sunday, May 20.

Olmitz celebrates neighboring graduates

On the Sunday of Otis-Bison High School’s commencement exercises, St. Ann Parish in Olmitz traditionally honors this nearby town’s graduates with their own special Mass, and also honors the young parishioners graduating from other local high schools like Hoisington. The graduates dress in their caps and gowns and participate in Mass by lectoring and bringing forward the offertory. This year’s graduation Mass happened to fall on May 13.

This wasn’t the only reason to celebrate as it was also the Ascension, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, and Mother’s Day. Father Jacob Schneider concelebrated Mass with parish priest Father Anselm eke. Father Jacob’s visit to his home parish came just a week after returning to the United States from his three-month long stint in guatemala where he had been studying to further his proficiency speaking and understanding the Spanish language. Before the final blessing, Father Anselm imparted a special blessing on the graduates as they prepare for life beyond high school. Each graduate then received a Bible on behalf of the parish community.
Make plans now! Organize your team for the 2018 Dechant Foundation Annual Golf Classic Sept. 7, at Mariah Hills Golf Course.

The day will begin with a Mass celebrated at 9 a.m., at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City

Shotgun start will be at 10:30 a.m.
Lunch will be provided.

For more information and to register a team, contact Mark Roth at 620-227-1535 or email: mroth@dcdiocese.org. Proceeds benefit the Retired Priest’s Fund of the Diocese of Dodge City.