A SUMMER OF LOVE

Christian Flores, from Liberal, and several other young volunteers, enjoy helping a family in need. The summer Prayer and Action program has youth lending their time, prayers and more than a little sweat equity to a family or individual by providing refurbishment to their home. Young people also took the lead in Totus Tuus, providing Catholic vacation Bible school for children at several parishes throughout the diocese. Coverage starts below.

Weakness in us is strength in Christ

By JOHN STANG
Seminarian, Diocese of Dodge City

“Find your own Calcutta.” These are the wise words of St. Mother Teresa. She knew that we do not have to travel across the globe to be missionaries of Christ; it usually starts in our own communities. I found my Calcutta. The last two summers, I served on the Totus Tuus and Prayer and Action teams, respectively, for the Diocese of Dodge City. Seminarians frequently are assigned to these missions. I discovered these programs to be very spiritually rewarding and a great opportunity to serve Christ in others. I encourage all college students, particularly those who grew up in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, to apply for team member positions.

Totus Tuus, Latin for “Totally Yours,” is a Catholic vacation Bible school that started in the Wichita diocese 31 years ago. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the team of four teach lessons to children, first through sixth grade. Usually, those lessons cover a mystery of the rosary, biblical history, and Catholic saints, with fun activities incorporated.

In the evening, the middle and high school portion of the program begins. Team members play games with the youth upon arrival and give testimonials about how their Catholic faith has shaped their lives. The team moves to a different area of Dodge City, to apply for team member positions.

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‘Individual prayer for priestly vocations’

By ADAM URBAN
Director of Youth Ministries

Our priests lead and guide us on life’s journey, and the important role they play cannot be truly measured. They administer the Sacraments, witness Christ’s faithfulness to the Church, guide us in life’s most significant moments, and they are our fathers in a relatively fatherless generation.

Not only do they fulfill these extraordinary roles, but also they are ordinary men who love sports, food, reading, woodworking, music, and numerous other hobbies.

As members of the body of Christ, we are called to pray for men to answer the call to live such heroic lives. It can be discouraging to pray for anything that seems out of our control, but we must encourage one another and trust the mercy of God that our prayers are heard.

As we continue as a diocese to pray, fast, and give alms for priestly vocations, a quote from Saint Faustina’s diary echoes our importance for individual prayer for more priests: “By prayer and mortification, we will make our way to the most

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Tell about Jesus, Live His Teaching

St. Luke wrote about St. Paul: “With complete assurance and without hindrance he proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 28:31). This article is our final summary of the series: “The Good News and Kingdom Living”.

We started with the Good News. We need a Savior to receive hope in the midst of our loneliness, hopelessness, and helplessness. Jesus is that Savior born on Christmas Day as God became Man. Our Lord died to free us from sin, and rose on Easter Morning to open the gates of heaven (John 3:16-21). Jesus invites us to believe and we respond to this saving faith. If we follow Jesus, we will be happy in this life and in eternal life. The Holy Spirit will help us.

Next, Kingdom Living. We need to be aware of Jesus’ presence daily: prayer. We celebrate the Eucharist weekly to be strengthened. After we fall (sin), we ask Jesus for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. To better know our Lord, we study/pray with the Bible, the Catechism, and other resources/people. Finally, we witness the Good News to others by service and reconciliation; lovingly responding to others – all God’s children.

Pretty simple? We trust in God’s grace to assist us. We hope for help from our fellow travelers on the journey. We count on the prayers of the Saints in heaven. Jesus will be with us, He loves us more than we can ask or imagine!

Bishop’s Catechesis

Good News:
1. I need a Savior
2. Jesus is God became Man
3. Jesus died and rose to save me
4. Jesus invites me to believe, and I respond
5. I follow Jesus and His Church, not the world

Kingdom Living:
1. Daily prayer
2. Weekly Holy Mass
3. Monthly Confession
4. Study the Bible and the Catechism
5. Witness the Good News
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.
Sister Viola (Agatha Ann) Heichelbech, CSJ, dies at 103

**Sister Viola** was born March 8, 1915 in Wichita, the youngest of four children born to Thomas and Mary Schieidt Heichelbech. Her elementary education began at St. Anthony Elementary School, followed by high school at Cathedral High School in Wichita and St. Mary’s of the Plains Academy in Dodge City. She entered the Congregation of St. Joseph and was received March 19, 1931, with final profession of vows August 15, 1936.

Her early ministries began as a domestic, keeping house for Sister teachers and caring for children at the orphanage in El Dorado. For a few years, she also kept house for two bishops: the Most Rev. Mark K. Carroll of Wichita, and the Most Rev. Marion F. Forst of Dodge City. Her education continued at Fontbonne College in St. Louis where she obtained certification as a Dietitian and a Food Service Administrator. This began many years of service in the Congregation hospitals at Parsons, Halstead, Winfield, Wichita, (Pratt Regional Medical Center) Pratt, (Bob Wilson Memorial) Ulysses, and (St. Anthony) Dodge City in Kansas, and Ponca City, Oklahoma. For two years, because of her mother’s advanced age and deteriorating health, Sister Viola cared for her mother who died just two months shy of her 104th birthday. She then cared for her sister for five years. Preceded in death by her parents and siblings, she is survived by her niece Viola Mode of Derby, nephew Melvin Butterfield and a number of grandniece and nephews. Memorial contributions in her name may be made to Dear Neighbor Ministries, Inc. or to the Retirement Fund of the Sisters of St. Joseph, 3700 E. Lincoln, Wichita, KS 67211.

**Grace that reigns**

**Renewing your sense of wonder**

Bishop Ronald M. Gilmore, spiritual director of Grace that Reigns USA, served as Bishop of Dodge City, Kansas from July 1998 to February 2011. Jacqueline Loh is from Vancouver, Canada and founder of Grace that Reigns. Together, they form the Grace that Reigns Society.

**AVAILBLE FOR 2018/19 RETREATS**

Through retreat experiences, they help Catholics to renew a Sense of Wonder, encourage Catholics to establish their own personal relationship with God, help the participant to discover the value of one another and pray for God’s healing grace to help people to overcome barriers in their understanding of God’s love for them. Everything that Grace that Reigns does is about helping people to see how unique and loved they are through God’s eyes. Grace that Reigns begins with wonder.

For more information about Grace that Reigns, including upcoming retreats, visit www.gracethatreigns.com.

**Remembering Father Schoenmakers**

On 28 July, we marked the death of an early Jesuit missionary, Father John Schoenmakers. He died in 1883, late on a Saturday afternoon, in Osage Mission, now known as St. Paul, Kansas. He was in the 76th year of age, the 50th year of his priesthood, the 49th year as a Jesuit, and the 36th year of his service in Kansas. His place gave birth to my place, the home parish where I grew up. My work brought me to live, for some months in his place, on the very spot where he founded his Mission. I was drawn again and again to his grave in that tiny parish cemetery. He fills that whole place still.

"As, in nothing, am I more anxious than to see the Church, and the world, as a whole, becoming more than the Church is now; and in this, as in all, I am an historian. The first was submerged in the last.

Superior of the local community, manager of the Mission, spiritual Father to the Sisters of Loreto, doctor, postmaster, steward, lawyer, judge, catechist, preacher to the Native Americans, he submergeted himself ... effaced himself ... in his work, rarely spending time in his own rooms, and rarely leaving the Mission compound.

His Jesuit Superiors were not always pleased with him. They were forever reprimanding him about his spending, forever reminding him to stay within his budget, forever shaking their heads at his seeming inability to understand and to follow instructions. Some members of the Mission community found him too driven, too exacting, and too apt to interfere in their own work, which perplexed and discouraged them.

But the members of the Osage Tribe, they came to love him with a fierce loyalty. They had only a living oral language, passed down from person to person, no written language. And when they came to make their own word for “priest,” the sound they chose was Schouminka. His name, his presence, his energy, his work ... he was priest to them. We should all be so lucky.

**Answering the Call**

By Bishop John

**Hey, guys! Are you afraid?**

Editor’s Note: The following is part of Bishop Brungardt’s reprinted series on God’s call to boys and single men to be diocesan priests or to be husbands and dads.

No, I’m not afraid, not afraid of anything! Well, I guess I’m nervous about a few things. At times, I’m anxious about my future. Where is God in all this?

We males are called to follow the example of St. Joseph, as defenders and protectors. Blessed John Paul wrote a reflection on St. Joseph called The Guardian of the Redeemer. John Paul quotes St. Leo XIII: “Joseph was in his day the lawful and natural guardian, head and defender of the Holy Family.... It is thus fitting and most worthy of Joseph’s dignity that, in the same way that he once kept unceasing holy watch over the family of Nazareth, so now does he protect and defend with his heavenly patronage the Church of Christ.”

This call is one of fortitude, of bravery, to stand firm in difficult situations. Let us embrace God’s gift of masculinity by using the virtue of courage to face challenging circumstances, and to guard, defend, and protect. Yet, we are not alone in this task. We have our families, sports teams, youth groups, parishioners, community and others to assist us in times of fear. Jesus often said to “be not afraid” (Matthew 17:7).

Where is God in all this? At times, I’m anxious about my future. How will I find that future, and to live it as guardian, protector, and defender of your parish and ministry as a priest. Jesus will help you. He loves you more than you can ask or imagine.

**Protecting God’s Children**

The Diocese of Dodge City requires all employees and volunteers who work with children to participate in a Protecting God’s Children awareness session. Through the Diocesan Awareness Sessions and other educational efforts of the diocese, all people of the diocese can learn how to discuss different aspects of abuse — including sexual abuse — with children and how to teach them to protect themselves.

Protecting God’s Children Awareness Session
Sunday, Aug. 12, 2018; 1-4 p.m., St. Dominic Parish Center, 615 J.C. Street, Garden City 67846
Contact Person: Sister Myra Arney (620) 276-2024
PGC Facilitator: Sharon Stuart (620) 225-5164
Dodge City – English
Sunday, August 19, 2018; 3-6 p.m.; Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe; 3231 N 14th Ave. Dodge City, KS 67801
Contact Person: Lynnee Habiger 620-227-6532
PGC Facilitator: 620-338-7501
Sunday, Aug. 26; 9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; PLEASE NOTE: This time represents a change from the previous listing of 9:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Parish Center, St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, 200 N Rush St.
Contact Person: Kathy Massoth 620-855-3148
PGC Facilitator: Cherry Deges 620-338-7501
Abuse Hotline
If you or someone you know may have been a victim of sexual abuse by clergy, an employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Dodge City, you are asked to contact Dave Snapp, Fitness Review Administrator: (620) 225-5051 work; (620) 225-2412 home; dsnapp3@starttech.net. You always have the right to directly contact the Department for Children and Families/Kansas Protection Report Center: Hotline number is 1-800-922-5330.
Forms of praise on a Sunday morning

Stay cool, Kansas

By DAVE MYERS

Hello, everybody! I hope your summer’s going well and that you’ve managed to eke out a little peace of mind here and there.

One sure way to get my ire up is to turn on the news, although perhaps not for the same reason as you. As soon as my blood starts to boil, which is pretty quickly, I turn it off. I start to simmer, then to cool. Ahhhh.

We may have strongly different politics, strongly different opinions on the actions of those in power, but there is one thing that we can all agree on. We all want a break from all the upsetting news coverage. Tonight’s very small moment of peace is a cup of coffee and a slice of cherry pie. Ah, yes, more like that.

EXPERIENCE NUMBER ONE:

A HUMAN TOE!

The other night I was eating green beans in a restaurant when I had a horrific realization. I stood up, knocking over my chair, and shouted, “THIS ISN’T A GREEN BEAN! IT’S A HUMAN TOE!”

I sat back down and realized, “Oh, wait. No, it’s not; it’s just a green bean.”

The dinner rolls were delicious.

EXPERIENCE NUMBER TWO:

Last month, I was planting geraniums and discovered some ancient human bones in my back yard! I boxed them up and sent them to the Smithsonian Institute where a Dr. Linus Crankton promised to examine them. About two weeks later, I received a certified letter saying that after careful examination, he determined that the samples I sent consisted of two sticks and a rock. I noticed in his letter that he only used words of two syllables or less. He said how important it was for me to stay in school and do all my homework, which I appreciate, although I’ve been out of school for more than 35 years. He also sent me a dinosaur coloring book, which I appreciate.

EXPERIENCE NUMBER THREE:

Over the July 4 holiday, I was dining with several family members in Tulsa. One member was discussing his health food diet, in which he eats and drinks things that require visits to aisles in the supermarket that I didn’t even know existed. Considering that my idea of diet consists of getting over the July 4 holiday, I was discussing my diet with only of re-purposed cardboard made of snow. The more I began to feel like Jabba the Hutt.

EXPERIENCE NUMBER FOUR:

Not wanting to waste any time, I realized that my new diet would consist only of re-purposed cardboard made out of oat curds. Several people around the table nodded their approval. After a dramatic pause, I added that I was strongly considering a diet made up entirely of grazing.

Everyone erupted into applause.

EXPERIENCE NUMBER FIVE:

Sometimes somethings come from unexpected places. The other night I was watching an old TV show on my small, 1970s-era black and white TV next to my bed. I began doing something to prepare for the program. By the way, I am not currently thinking about this.

Ahhhh.

It said: “No moral, no message, no prophetic tract. Just a simple statement of fact: For civilization to survive, the human race has to remain civilized. Tonight’s very small exercise in logic from The Twilight Zone.”

Amen to that.
COMMENTARY

The far-reaching effects of contraception and abortion

By KIMBERLY BAKER

Life Issues Forum

Over the past several decades, contraception and abortion have become topics of everyday conversation in our culture, shaping attitudes on sexual behavior on a massive scale. Contrary to the promises of freedom, empowerment, or equality, contraception and abortion have led to a grim degradation of women, especially in their relationships with men.

In 1968, in his encyclical Humanae Vitae, Blessed Pope Paul VI warned that: “...a man who seeks to gratify his own desires, by the use of contraceptive methods may forget the reverence due to a woman, and, disregarding her physical and emotional equilibrium, reduce her to being a mere instrument for the satisfaction of his own desires, and so consider her as his partner whom he should surround with care and affection” (HV 17).

As recent history has shown, the widespread availability of contraception and abortion has eroded previously respected boundaries with women with greater insensitivity and impunity. Not only has this impacted marital (extra-marital affairs, divorce, etc.) and dating relationships, but, even more sadly, this has enabled male sexual abusers and sex traffickers to hide their actions by concealing the suffering of their female victims.

The widespread promotion of contraception and abortion, in enabling a hyper-sexualized culture, has unfairly put all women at risk, whether or not they participate in the contraceptive mentality. The lack of respect and sexual victimization of women by men has become increasingly clear with the rise of the MeToo movement and the increase in rape culture on college campuses, as well as the prevalence of empty relationships that lack depth or permanence. Women are rightly expressing pain and outrage over increased objectification, disrespect, and unsatisfying relationships with men.

A culture that promotes contraception and abortion falsely teaches women that their freedom comes through birth control. We can’t help but see the irony of a culture that claims to condemn sexual violence against women, yet continuously glamorizes it in the entertainment industry.

Despite cries for female empowerment, women are expected to suppress their natural sexual functioning and presenting themselves into a mediated state by using pills, chemicals, patches, and devices, as if healthy fertility were a disease, in order to be sexually available to men.

Abortion is the last resort offered when contraception fails and a woman feels abandoned and unsupported in her pregnancy. Sadly, she must often face the potential psychological and bodily trauma in isolation that may result from the procedure. The destruction of an innocent human life and repression of the woman’s own life-giving capacity doubly harms the woman in very deep ways.

What would society look like if a woman are valued and respected for precisely who she is—without pills and patches to alter her body? What if her sexuality were seen as something precious and potentially life-giving, rather than as a cheap opportunity for another’s pleasure?

Contraception and abortion promised more freedom and empowerment for women, but both have eroded respect for women and negatively impacted their relationships with men. If sex is not linked to authentic married love and its life-giving dimension, it degenerates and becomes distorted, losing its original meaning and significance. A woman should never have to compromise herself, her body, her fertility, or her child through contraception and abortion to feel loved or respected.

Amidst the devastation brought by the sexual revolution, women have an incredible opportunity to reshape the cultural conversation and positively impact their relationships. Women can give a powerful witness by rejecting the lies of contraception, preserving their sacred gift of sexuality for marriage, and offering compassion, care and support for other women experiencing unplanned pregnancies, so that isolation and abortion never have to be the final answer.

Kimberly Baker is Programs and Projects Coordinator for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops’ pro-life activities, visit www.usccb.org/prolife.

To prevent suicides we need more community, not less

By FATHER TERRANCE KLEIN

Editor’s Note: The following is reprinted with permission from America, the Jesuit Review. Father Klein serves as Parish, Ellinwood, Immaculate Conception Parish, Claflin, and Holy Family Parish, Odin.

On Friday, June 8, Anthony Bourdain, the celebrity chef turned convivial diner to the world, was found dead in Kaysersberg, a small village in the Alsace region of France. He had died by suicide at age 61. His death päcted the apparent suicide of Kate Spade, the fashion designer, especially famous for her accessories.

The June 25 cover of People magazine was entitled “Talent and Tragedy.” It was shared by glossies of these two “beloved icons.” This past week the media has been flooded with reactions to the two. They were well deserved. How one dies does not delete how one has lived.

One can certainly complain, however, that these tragic celebrities were turned into commodities, marketed by the media. Yet that is the very nature of modern media. People and events are products, ever more so in a modern, information-based economy. June’s most famous media commodity was, without doubt, the little refugee girl, crying in terror at the border, that the most famous media commodity was, without doubt, the little refugee girl, crying in terror at the border.

It is not time to again shun those who have sinned, or the “sinner” they have sinned. We cannot save ourselves from suicide that way either. We cannot save ourselves from suicide that way either.

It is time for us to think again about communities. In our culture, we find such a policy to be harsh and punitive. Our ancestors, however, saw it, along with other forms of social coercion, as necessary to preserve and enhance life.

Suicide is now the 10th leading cause of death, for all ages, in the United States. Every day, 105 Americans die by suicide, about one every 12 minutes. For young americans, ages 15 to 24, suicide is now the third leading cause of death. For them, it lives with accidents and murder.

We cannot adequately nourish, heal, protect or educate ourselves as individuals. We cannot save ourselves from suicide that way either.

It is time for us to think again about communities. Some evils, indeed most evils, transcend the individual. They do not begin or end within a single soul. That is why community among humans has always been seen as a necessary good. We cannot adequately nourish, heal, protect or educate ourselves as individuals. We cannot save ourselves from suicide that way either.

It is not time to again shun those who have died by suicide as perpetrators of evil. They should not be denied the sacramental rites extended to others. All of us die in sin. The contemporary church preaches and believes that suicide does not represent absolute despair because it agrees with the experts who argue that only those who suffer from some profound psychological pathologies could commit suicide.

But then the burden of balance should bother us, at least a bit. We used to blame all addictions on moral weakness. The addict was, plain and simple, a sinner. From that ethical extreme, we swung to therapeutic intervention. Addicts are only patients, suffering from pathologies. Their addictions have no ethical component.

The truth, however untidy it might be, is that all of us are constrained by factors beyond our control in everything that we do. No one ever acts with perfect freedom, uncontaminated by physical, environmental and relational factors. Those addicted and those who die by suicide are still human beings. We all act with some limited freedom, but only God and the individual soul can figure out the extent of his or her culpability. Interestingly, therapeutic strategies for addiction that recognize both duty and disease, ethics and pathology, seem to be the most successful.

Have we gone too far in saying that addicts and those who die by suicide are never culpable? Separating sin from the sinner is a slippery business. Human beings perpetrate evil, but they also suffer from it. We need to try to identify actions as wrong, as destructive, as needing to be avoided, without speaking of individuals as those who have embraced these actions. Truth is, we never know if a “who” used a “what,” or a “what” used a “who.”

We have no ethical component.

The widespread promotion of contraception and abortion has eroded respect for women, but both have eroded respect for women and negatively impacted their relationships with men. If sex is not linked to authentic married love and its life-giving dimension, it degenerates and becomes distorted, losing its original meaning and significance. A woman should never have to compromise herself, her body, her fertility, or her child through contraception and abortion to feel loved or respected.

Amidst the devastation brought by the sexual revolution, women have an incredible opportunity to reshape the cultural conversation and positively impact their relationships. Women can give a powerful witness by rejecting the lies of contraception, preserving their sacred gift of sexuality for marriage, and offering compassion, care and support for other women experiencing unplanned pregnancies, so that isolation and abortion never have to be the final answer.

Kimberly Baker is Programs and Projects Coordinator for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops’ pro-life activities, visit www.usccb.org/prolife.

A prayer for parents facing loss

“I take my son/daughter by the hand and lead him/her to you, God of love. Here is... (name). Accept my love and thanksgiving as I entrust... to you and your loving care. I want him/her to be free to be at home with you. I ask that you save a place for me there beside... and that you be my loving presence in all the lonely moments that await me. I ask that you fill me with motivation and energy in the days ahead when I feel like giving up; remind me often of my true homeland when I am caught up in the desolation of the journey. Help me to find joy in the people, events, and the beauty of nature that surround me.”

“Thank you for the gift of my son/daughter in this life. I want to believe that we will celebrate the treasure of our love again, when we are both in your presence forever. May this truth sustain me in the days to come. Take my sad and aching heart and comfort me. Comfort me, for I can only feel holiness and emptiness. God of the sorrowing, draw near! Amen.”

Adapted from Joyce Rupp’s book Praying Our Goodbyes: A Spiritual Companion Through Life’s Losses and Sorrows.

Continued on Page 19
New Faces at the Catholic Chancery

Heidy Ramirez

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

W hen asked what hobbies she enjoys, Heidy Ramirez, the new Database and Development Assistant for the Catholic Chancery, thought for a moment and replied, “We love watching movies.”

Old movies? Contemporary? Westerns?

“Hindi,” she answered with a smile.

“You mean Bollywood?”

“We love the music, and they have good messages …”

Being a mother of six, the Dodge City resident wants her family to have positive influences. This is one of the reasons why she accepted the position at the Catholic Chancery.

“The environment – the spirituality – is very important to my family,” she said of her new position. “It’s not just a job, but a ministry, helping my Church.”

She will serve under the supervision of the Office of Development, directed by Mark Roth. Her primary role will be to coordinate and maintain all aspects of the donor system for the Diocesan database (DonorPerfect).

Ramirez replaces outgoing assistant, Susan Wrinn Flax (see below).

Ramirez moved to Dodge City with her parents, Bertha and Luis de Luna, and her two brothers, from Juarez, Mexico at age 14. She graduated Dodge City High School in 1997 and began attending Dodge City Community College.

At 19, she met and married Carlos Ramirez. The couples’ six children range in age from 18 to a toddler who will turn 2 in September.

She previously served in financial services for a Wichita company for one year. Before that, she worked for three years at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

“It’s a good guess that her parents, who teach marriage support classes, instilled in their daughter a certain sense of humor, even about a sacrament as important as marriage.”

“I was telling Father Wesley [Schawe] that the 19 years I’ve been married seem like only five minutes,” she explained. “When Father Wesley said, ‘That’s wonderful!’ I added, ‘...under water.’ Ramirez broke into laughter, knowing the absurdity of the statement, especially when it comes to her blessed marriage to Carlos.

Ramirez serves as a Natural Family Planning teacher, providing lessons on the Billings Ovulation Method. She and Carlos sing in the choir at Mass. In fact, it’s rare to attend any diocesan function at the cathedral and not see Heidy or Carlos, or both of them, involved in some capacity.

“I think I’m going to like it here,” she said two days into her new job at the chancery. “I’m here to help in any way. I like helping people.”

Susan Wrinn Flax leaving

Heidy Ramirez replaces outgoing Database and Development Assistant Susan Wrinn Flax.

Flax served the diocese for nearly a year, and in that time, her professionalism, combined with a creativity and welcomed sense of humor, endeared her to her coworkers.

The chancery would like to thank Susan for all her efforts this past year, and offer her and her husband, Garrit, their hopes and prayers for a joy-filled future.

Appeal leads to creation of Family Life office

Janéé Bernal hired as director of office dedicated to marriage, family life, Natural Family Planning

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

I n the office belonging to Janéé Bernal at the Catholic Chancery in Dodge City, there is a small shelf with few items dedicated to the Beatles.

With a son named JohnPaul, it’s not uncommon for Bernal, director of the new Diocesan Office of Matrimony, Family Life and Natural Family Planning, to feel the need to mention that, no, he was not named after two of the Fab Four.

“I’m a huge fan of the Beatles,” Bernal admits with a wide smile. “But JohnPaul was named after the pope.”

As if to add his own personal testimony, there is a life-sized cutout of John Paul II standing in a corner of her office.

Bernal, who resides with her husband and three children in Garden City, was hired as a direct result of the generosity of local Catholics through the Vibrant Ministries – Uniting Our Church Appeal. The Most Rev. John B. Brungardt has long felt the need for an office dedicated to the family, and through the kindness of local Catholics, he is seeing it come to fruition.

“We are blessed to have Janéé as director of this important office,” Bishop Brungardt said. “She has the teaching skills, the love of the Lord, and a heart for family life that will serve the diocese well.”

The bishop has dedicated this first year of Bernal’s employment as a year of self-formation, she explained.

“I’ll begin by learning how to serve in this ministry by completing pastoral ministry classes and attending numerous conferences and training sessions.”

It’s a tall order. She’ll be serving in a capacity that would typically utilize a separate person for each ministry. And this is why Bernal will be relying on the kindness – and stewardship – of strangers.

“The vision is that I will oversee

Diane Ramirez

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Courage and faith can be synonymous at times. Diane Ramirez, a Dodge City resident and mother of two — Bernardo, 2, and Andres, due in September — recently left a job she enjoyed as secretary at Sacred Heart Cathedral School to accept a year-long internship at the Catholic chancery.

“I feel like it was a leap of faith,” the 27-year-old said. “I had to trust. Who knows where it will take me? I have no plans, I just have to trust in God that it will all work out.”

The position will require her to work in three primary ministries: Young adult ministry with director, Gentry Heimerman; youth ministry with director Adam Urban; and the newly formed Matrimony and Family Life Ministry with newly hired director, Janéé Bernal.

“There three will be my main focus, but I’ll collaborate with other ministries when the need arises,” she said.

The Mexico native came to the United States while in the first grade. For 20 years she has lived in Dodge City. Her mother, Maria Gomez, has since died; she has a father, Nestor Melendez, two brothers, Kevin and Nestor H. Melendez, a sister, Lizbeth Moon and is married to Andres Ramirez.

Besides serving three primary ministries for the diocese — as well as preparing to give birth to her second child — she is currently earning a certificate in Pastoral Ministry through the diocese ITV program, as well as working toward a bachelor’s degree in Pastoral Ministry from Newman University. She is also in a formation and discernment process to become a member of the Comunidad Servos de Cristo Vivo (CSCV).

“Servants of Living Christ is a community of laity that was born in the feelings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for man,” she said. “Eight years of experience in the love of God and in preaching inspired Rev. Father Emiliano Tardiff, M.S.C., Maria Armenteros and Evaristo Guzman to found a community that contemplates, evangelizes and transforms.”

She has earned an Associate of Arts Degree in psychology from Dodge City Community College. She also has a great love for music ministry, a skill that will undoubtedly be utilized at various diocesan functions.

“One of my biggest hopes in serving the diocese is to share my love of family life – a whole life appreciation — acknowledging the gift of life in the womb and in every person we encounter so that we may come closer as brothers and sisters in Christ,” Ramirez said.

“I have to be open to why God has opened this door. He has a reason. I want to learn from everyone here and learn what God wants of me.”

Carleigh Albers leaving

Diane Ramirez replaces outgoing intern Carleigh Albers, who is moving to Manhattan. Albers not only worked in youth ministry, but was a contributing photographer and writer to the Catholic. She provided the coverage from Totus Tuus and Prayer and Action, included in this issue.

The chancery wishes to thank Albers for her service and contributions to the life and work of the diocese, and wish her Godspeed in all of her future endeavors.
Bishop Emeritus Gilmore honored for 20 years of episcopal ministry

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Anyone who has been offered that big promotion only to face a sudden realization that you’re not quite sure it’s a step you feel prepared to take, can begin to understand how then-Mgr. Ronald M. Gilmore felt the day he learned he was to become bishop of the Diocese of Dodge City.

“The days leading up to that ordination were hard days for me physically and emotionally,” he told friends gathered at St. Andrew Parish Center in Wright to celebrate his 20th anniversary as a bishop.

“I remember the night before, sleep was very fitful. The next morning, I was really feeling miserable. I was out of sorts. My stomach was churning. I really didn’t know if I was going to be able to make it through the ceremony.

“So, I prayed for the Lord to help me get through it,” he said.

One of Bishop Gilmore’s redeeming characteristics has been his blunt honesty about his own insecurities. When housed amid his deep faith, these admissions became a saving grace for the multitude of souls who’ve struggled with their own search for faith amid struggles — a multitude of people who found strength from the bishop’s words and example.

Bishop Emeritus Gilmore was honored July 16 by the Most Rev. John B. Brungardt, several priests and Religious of the diocese, and numerous friends, at a dinner reception at St. Andrew Church in Wright. The evening began with vespers, followed by a reception and dinner hosted by the St. Andrew Altar Society, the St. Andrew Knights of Columbus, and the St. Andrew Vocations Commission.

After the roast beef feast, Bishop Gilmore doled out words of encouragement to those who gathered to help him celebrate his two decades as the future Bishop Gilmore read the long document.

“It was a difficult time leading up to the ordination,” Bishop Gilmore said. “During the ordination, though, about halfway through, we reached the point of the laying-on of hands, and … I can’t say that I was aware of anything happening. Nothing was perceptible to me.

“But somehow, in some way, without my being aware of it, I was suddenly strengthened. All the rest of that melted away.”

The soft-spoken Bishop Gilmore led the diocese through the construction of a new cathedral. Through his many deenary meetings and gatherings at churches throughout the diocese, he sought to “bring people into the family of the diocese. It was a great thing for me to meet the people in that way.

“I told people I wasn’t interested in their money, that I was interested in their souls. And the priests always pushed back and said, ‘Bishop, be high-minded on your own time!’ We’re trying to pay a few bills here,’” he said to more laughter.

“Of course, that’s true. I was interested in their souls, although I would tell them that I cannot have your souls if youlwored your money!”

A year or so after Bishop Gilmore retired, he met Jacqueline Loh, founder of “Grace that Reigns Society,” which presents retreats designed to “renew your sense of wonder in your love and relationship with Jesus.”

The two began touring the country and Canada giving retreats. Their most recent retreat was in Hugoton to a nearly filled church.

“I want to thank Bishop Brungardt for welcoming Grace that Reigns into the diocese and for letting us be a part of the mission of the diocese,” Bishop Gilmore said.

Words said upon Bishop Gilmore’s 2010 retirement stand just as true today: “I can never thank God enough for these Dodge City years,” he said. “And they are not yet ended. And other surprises are yet to come.”

‘You must be crazy!’

or ‘How to have a conversation with those you disagree’

By DAVE MYERS

Shelley Heimerman could hardly have come up with a more appropriate topic for her keynote presentation at the Aug. 25, 2018 Stewardship Conference at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City: “How to have a conversation with those you disagree.”

Holiday dinners and discussions around the water cooler can be exercises in frustration and oftentimes anger if the individuals doing the conversing have strong differences of opinion. And in these days of intense political polarization, vehement differences of opinion are more common than not.

How many friends and family have you unfriended on Facebook due to their political views?

“We can learn how to love our family and friends while disagreeing,” Hansel says.

Many of the topics being addressed at this year’s Stewardship Conference will be just as timely.

Steve Bellinger, for example, will discuss “What if someone comes to church with a gun?” (This topic may affect your thoughts on the first address!)

Yesteryear, the answer would have been an immediate, “Call the police!” But in the days when guns are more common than they were in old spaghetti Westerns, the question isn’t as easy to answer.

I wonder just how many people around me are carrying guns?

Jessica Soto-Botelho of Catholic Charities will discuss a topic much more weighty for a large minority of southwest Kansans, but important as well to friends, family and employers.

Her topic? “What to do if I’m deported.”

It’s not out of the question for a person who doesn’t speak Spanish to be deported to a Spanish-speaking country. Or for a mother to be deported without being able to notify her children who await her arrival at home in a southwest Kansas town.

It’s a notion that most of us are blessed not to have to worry about; but there’s a good chance we know someone who does.

Another topic to be discussed is, “How to Fire a Volunteer.” It might be considered an odd choice for a Stewardship Conference, except when considering that this is something with which parishes often have to contend.

Conference organizer Eric Haselhorst noted that the workshop is just as much about helping volunteers to focus their talents where they’re needed most.

This year’s conference will be a little different than in years past. Instead of 50-minute breakout sessions, they will be only 20 minutes long, allowing people to attend more of the talks.

Several concurrent talks will discuss the idea of mission when it comes to coaching, conversation, and being a parent of high school age kids. Gentry Heimerman, diocesan Director of Young Adult Ministry, will discuss “Being a Missionary in Youth Ministry.” And Denise Flax will present information on making do-it-yourself evangelization videos.

The day includes a free lunch, a large ministry showcase highlighting area ministries (and how you can get involved), and lots of freebies.

The day will conclude with the celebration of Mass.

DO I HAVE TO REGISTER?

What? Stewardship Conference

WHERE? 9:30 a.m. - 3:50 p.m., Saturday, August 25 WHERE? Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 3231 N. 14th St., Dodge City

Why? The day will be filled with discussions of topics relevant to the present time. The ministry showcase in the gathering area will highlight dozens of ways you can become involved. The day concludes with the celebration of Mass.

Cost? There is no cost to attend.

Food? A lunch is provided free of charge.

Freebies? The ministry showcase typically offers dozens of free items to take home.

What about daycare? Bring the kids! Daycare will be provided.

Do I have to register? Yes, primarily for a lunch count. Go to www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship, or, you can call Eric at (620) 227-1537.
Dead Sea Scrolls foretold the coming of the Son of God

“He shall be called the Son of the Great [God], and by his name shall he be hailed as the Son of God, and they shall call him Son of the Most High.”

-- Text 4Q246, Dead Sea Scrolls

By COURTNEY GROGAN
Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News) At a July Mass, Pope Francis called on Catholics to speak out in the face of injustice toward migrants.

“The Lord promises refreshment and freedom to all the oppressed of our world, but he needs us to fulfill his promise . . . He needs our voice to protest the injustices committed thanks to the silence, often complicit, of so many,” said Pope Francis in his homily at the July 6 Mass for Migrants.

According to Francis, the silence is multifaceted. He spoke of “the silence that thinks ‘it has always been done this way’ and ‘the silence of ‘us’ as opposed to ‘you’” among the “many silences.”

“The Lord promises refreshment and freedom to all the oppressed of our world, but he needs us to fulfill his promise . . . He needs our voice to protest the injustices committed thanks to the silence, often complicit, of so many,” said Pope Francis in his homily at the July 6 Mass for Migrants.

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“Before the challenges of contemporary movements of migration, the only reasonable response is one of solidarity and mercy,” the pope continued, calling for migration policies “concerned for the good of one’s own country, while taking into account that of others in an even more interconnected world.”

The pope stressed that a just migration policy is one at the service of “every person involved,” meaning it is “a policy that provides for solutions that can ensure security, respect for the rights and dignity of all.”

Reflecting on the day’s first reading from the prophet Amos, Pope Francis said, “How many of the poor are trampled on in our day! … Among them, I cannot fail to include the migrants and refugees who continue to knock at the door of nations that enjoy greater prosperity.”

“Where is your brother? His blood cries out to me,” says the Lord. This is a question directed to others; it is a question directed to me, to you, to each of us.”

Editor’s note: This is the second of a series of articles on the Dead Sea Scrolls.

One text of the Dead Sea Scrolls, which are 1,000 years older than any other extant manuscripts, specifically is a prophecy of the days to come of Jesus and His teachings.

Text number 4Q246 reads: “He shall be called the Son of the Great [God], and by his name shall he be hailed as the Son of God, and they shall call him Son of the Most High.”

The texts were discovered in caves in the canyons above the Dead Sea, rolled up and placed in clay jars such as these that were on display at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

My husband Dave and I saw several ancient pots and clay dishes from Israel at the recent scrolls exhibit in Denver. (The pots and dishes looked almost identical to Frankroma ware that is created and sold in Oklahoma!) It is situated next to a site that formerly contained many ruins. Once thought to be the remains of a Roman fort, this site now is known as Khirbet Qumran or “Ruins of Qumran.”

We walked around and among those ancient stones, whose rooms had been occupied as long ago as the end of the second century B.C. to A.D. 68. Large stone remains of a long, narrow room were thought to be the dining and prayer room of the monks who had occupied the site and worshipped there, having fled from the Romans when they attacked Jerusalem.

A “religious community lived at the site from the end of the second century B.C. to A.D. 68,” Davis wrote. “The Romans had a garrison there between A.D. 68 and 86, and the final occupation at the site was by Jewish insurgents in the second war against Rome (A.D. 132-135).”

Those last insurgents killed themselves and their families rather than surrender to the Romans and become their slaves for life.

One-fourth of all the scrolls and fragments found in the caves were copies of different books of the Hebrew Old Testament, and every book in the Hebrew canon is represented among the scrolls, except for the book of Esther.

Parts of books such as Deuteronomy, Isaiah, the Minor Prophets or the Psalms were found in more than ten copies. The Book of Job was written in the normal Aramaic translation. Among the Jews at Qumran, the most popular scripture was the Book of Daniel. Davis reported that “no fewer than eight manuscript of the book were found in three different caves.”

“The most spectacular discovery among the Dead Sea caves was a complete scroll of the book of Isaiah in Hebrew that measured 24 feet long,” he added. “The text of this Old Testament book (about 100 B.C.) was very much like the Ben Asher Text of A.D. 926.

This fact gave scholars confidence that the translation of the book of Isaiah, which appears in our modern English translations and is based on the Ben Asher text, is a reliable one.”

Surprisingly, Davis revealed something that I never have read previously in my studies of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

“As noteworthy is the Dead Sea finds were in 1947 and following, there is historical evidence that similar scrolls and manuscripts had been discovered in the region much earlier,” Davis wrote.


Eusebius lived from the third to the fourth century A.D. and referred to the discovery of the manuscripts found in the large jars. Then in the eighth century A.D., Timothy I, who was the patriarch of the Nestorian Church, recorded the fact that “more than 200 psalms of David” were found near Jericho.

Here are some more facts that you can file away for future use: three-fourths of the Dead Sea manuscripts include the Apocrypha (14 books in the Greek Septuagint, but not in the Hebrew Canon), the Pseudepigrapha (books that were falsely ascribed to Old Testament writers), and commentaries on books of the Old Testament such as Habakkuk, which dates to 25 B.C. – and sadly for readers has had the bottom of many of its columns eaten away! The Dead Sea Scroll monks also wrote a rather severe piece of literature called the “Manual of Discipline,” dating back to 100 B.C. They didn’t seem to care much for women.

The historian Josephus, whom I have quoted many times in other articles, did write about the Essenes, whom he hastily could ignore since at one time there were 4,000 of them living along the northwest shore of the Dead Sea, where I went for a float among the chunks of salt.

Recently it came to light that the head of a Jewish sect had written a letter to a king or priest in 160 B.C. The letter cited 22 matters on which the sect disagreed with mainstream Judaic thought.

So, some scholars now believe the people at Qumran may have been Sadducees rather than Essenes.
On 50th anniversary of Humanae Vitae, there are reasons for hope

By MICHELE LA ROSA

DETROIT, Mich. (CNA) - Fifty years ago Pope Paul VI issued Humanae Vitae, the landmark encyclical reaffirming Church teaching against contraception, many Catholics still don’t really understand the document and what it teaches.

"The woeful fact is that pathetically few have ever read Humanae Vitae or ever heard a homily or defense of it," said Dr. Janet Smith, a professor at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit.

However, she told CNA, "[t]here is encouraging evidence that when they do, they find it persuasive." Smith, who is also a consultant to the Pontifical Council on the Family, has written and spoken extensively on the Church's teaching in Humanae Vitae.

A quarter-century ago, for the 25th anniversary of Humanae Vitae, she released "Why Humanae Vitae Was Right: A Reader" in the hopes of helping people see the wisdom in Catholic teaching.

For the 50th anniversary, Smith is releasing an update of her essays, entitled, "Why Humanae Vitae is Still Right."

"Much has happened in the last 25 years, including the tremendous influence of the Theology of the Body on our understanding Humanae Vitae, and the scientific evidence of the detrimental effects of contraception on women’s health and male/female relationships. While the first volume remains relevant, an update of essays was needed," she explained.

In Humanae Vitae, Pope Paul VI warned of serious social consequences that would follow if the widespread use of contraceptives became accepted.

Smith said that 50 years have shown the "prophetic power" of Humanae Vitae to be "abundantly substantiated," with clear connections between widespread contraceptive use and the rise in unwed pregnancy, abortion, divorce, pornography, same-sex unions and transgenderism.

"When the baby-making power of sexual intercourse is no longer considered a defining feature of sexual intercourse, virtually all sorts of sexual relationships are permissible, providing, I suppose, that they are consensual," she said.

One common misunderstanding of Humanae Vitae, Smith said, is that it is based upon an outmoded notion of natural law that gives undue weight to simple biology.

"The fact is that the literally infinitely greater value of human sexual intercourse is the foundation of the Church’s teaching," she said, emphasizing that human sexuality has a dual purpose: "the facilitating of a lifelong, faithful committed relationship and the participating in God’s creation of new immortal souls – hence the necessity for human sexual relationships to be rooted in marriage, open to new life."

Another common misconception, she said, is that Catholics may follow their consciences, even against Church teaching, whereas the Church actually says that "freedom to follow one’s conscience is based on the requirement that individuals form their consciences in accord with Church teaching."

"I believe that few faithful Catholics who prayerfully read Humanae Vitae and seek out further instruction should doubts arise would not find the teaching true to God’s plan for sexuality."

Most Catholics today fail to follow Humanae Vitae, Smith acknowledged. But rather than finding this figure discouraging, she sees hope in a study finding that Church teaching on sexuality is accepted by 37 percent of Catholic women between the ages of 18 and 34 who attend Mass weekly and go to Confession at least once a year.

“In a Church where the teaching is rarely presented and a culture that mocks the Church’s teaching, such compliance is astonishing," she said. And there are other encouraging signs that the Church is working to better reach people with the message of Humanae Vitae, Smith said, such as recent efforts by the U.S. bishops to teach about the issue and encourage priests to do so as well.

In addition, she said, diocesan family life offices and young seminarians and priests have the training and desire to teach and promote Natural Family Planning, through which a couple uses a woman’s natural fertile and infertile periods to pursue responsible parenthood. Unlike contraception, this method is accepted by the Church because it cooperates with human fertility rather than trying to stifle it.

Smith also noted marriage preparation programs that address cohabitation and contraception, as well as new teaching materials inspired by Theology of the Body, websites with resources and testimonies that are widely accessible, and an increase in faithful Catholic colleges and universities.

"My count indicates there are about 40 conferences being held that feature support of Humanae Vitae in the U.S., not to mention the webinars and likely hundreds of supportive pieces being published in print and online journals and blogs," she added.

"More of all of this needs to be done, but a tremendous start has been made."

"The fact is that the literally infinitely greater value of human sexual intercourse is the foundation of the Church's teaching," she said, emphasizing that human sexuality has a dual purpose: "the facilitating of a lifelong, faithful committed relationship and the participating in God's creation of new immortal souls – hence the necessity for human sexual relationships to be rooted in marriage, open to new life."
Young people take part in Prayer and Action, helping to paint a house.

By CARLEIGH ALBERS
Special to the Catholic

It has been one year since Kade Megaffin last served the Diocese of Dodge City as a summer missionary. Each year was different; one summer he was bouncing from town to town allowing small children to dump chocolate syrup on his head, and the next summer he was whipping out paint buckets to paint stranger’s homes with high school students.

This year? He’s entering as a seminarian for the Diocese of Salina.

“I would not say that the summer mission programs played directly into my discernment, but at the same time, they really did impact my discernment greatly,” Megaffin said as he reflected over his time in southwest Kansas. “There was never really an ‘Aha!’ moment during these programs, but these programs gave me an opportunity to teach the faith (which means I had to learn it), to serve the Church, and to grow in an interpersonal relationship with Christ through the sacraments, prayer, and good virtuous friendships.

“I have now served three summers of mission, two in the Dodge City Diocese and one in the Salina Diocese, and I can say with confidence that my spiritual life grew to a level of strength capable of properly discerning seminary greatly because of these summer mission programs. God only knows where I would be without these summer mission programs.”

Totus Tuus and Prayer and Action have been striving to bring youth to Christ in the Diocese of Dodge City since 2015. The diocese has had 41 young adults serve as team members on the summer missions program. Twenty-seven of the 41 have been natives of the diocese with outsiders serving from Paraguay, Wyoming, Indiana, Nebraska, and neighboring dioceses.

There have also been six seminarians who have served on summer missions.

“Summer missions are two programs used for evangelization for people in the Diocese,” said Adam Urban, Director of Youth Ministry for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City. “It is mission work that brings college students into the diocese. The missionaries get a lot more out of serving than the kids who participate in the programs.” Urban served as a missionary in 2015 and 2016 on the first summers of Prayer and Action.

“Summer missions affected my decision to enter ministry full time,” Urban said. “It was very fulfilling and I knew nothing would fulfill me as much as serving other people. It affected my vocational discernment; working for Prayer and Action that summer introduced me to the diocese and got my foot in the door. I think it is where movement in the church is happening right now.”

The reasons why people serve vary from person to person.

“I decided to apply for summer missions in the Diocese of Dodge because of the need,” Megaffin said. “I have several friends in and around the diocese and
Totus Tuus, Prayer and Action, bring youth closer to Christ and each other, all while providing a powerful witness

Continued from previous page

they let me know that Dodge was looking for people to work their summer programs. I almost call Dodge my home. Even though I had spent time in other places, I call Ulysses my hometown. So, working for the diocese was like going back home for the summer.”

Megaffin and Urban aren’t the only young adults who have been deeply affected by serving over the summer. Missionaries have formed deep friendships with those who they serve alongside, while also growing in their faith and developing their prayer.

TOTUS TUUS

Totus Tuus consists of teams made of four college aged students; two men and two women. Each team travels to a different parish within the diocese each week to teach youth about the Eucharist, Marian devotion, vocations, and other topics of the Catholic faith, while infusing high energy and joy into all that they do.

The program originated in Wichita 31 years ago. Last summer the teams reached out to 590 youth. This summer the two teams reached out to 700 youth across the diocese.

A Totus Tuus tradition is that on Fridays, the kids get to end the week with a “human sundae” by picking a teacher to become the “ice cream” that they can pour toppings onto.

“We do it for the kids’ enjoyment,” said Megan Seamann, a Nebraska native who served this summer on a Totus Tuus team. “For us, it is a humbling experience to simply sit and allow ourselves to become a human sundae. There is beauty in the mess; sitting there not being able to see because there is chocolate dripping into your eyes, and listening to the laughter, seeing the joy that it brings the kids. That’s why we do it, for the kids.”

Krysten Brake, a native of Kinsley who served on Totus Tuus in 2017, feels similarly. She served for four summers of Totus Tuus; three with the Diocese of Wichita and one with the Diocese of Dodge City. Brake emphasized the importance of the parish priest being involved with these programs and being a witness.

“The priest has more influence than he knows on the youth,” Brake said. “The priests that are involved in the whole Totus Tuus program throughout the week are the ones that have the most impact. This sounds weird, but I know it has much more impact on me when the priest is willing to put on regular clothes and be involved in the water fight. This shows everyone that priests are human, too, and like to have fun just as much as we all do. Priests have great opportunities to impact everyone throughout the week by saying Mass every day for us, hearing confessions, allowing us to have Adoration, but I think seeing the human side of the priests are some of the most memorable impacts.”

Nick Hernandez, a college student from Hays, learned more about hands-on ministry while serving on Prayer and Action. Prayer and Action is a mission trip designed to help those in need. High school students work on painting homes and other various projects while growing in fellowship and diving into the sacraments in a deeper way.

PRAYER AND ACTION

Prayer and Action began in 2015 and has since served the communities of Garden City, St. John, Ness City, Meade, Fowler, Jetmore, Scott City, Sublette, and Satanta. This year, there were 51 youth who attended, 14 adult chaperones, and eight college students. They completed 26 projects this summer.

“The biggest take-away was learning about other people’s stories and hearing how God has been working through their lives to get where they are at right now,” Hernandez said.

Not only do the missionaries grow in friendship with one another, but also in practicing virtues with one another. For most missionaries, they are searching for an opportunity to grow closer to God.

“Was it worth it to spend my summer in Southwest Kansas? Absolutely!” Seamann exclaimed.

“The environment that comes with these programs will expose your flaws and weaknesses,” Megaffin added. “The beautiful thing about it though, is that you are so close to the sacraments and prayer that you have the opportunity to take it all to God almost immediately. I have personally grown in patience, spiritual endurance, kindness, humility, charity, and more virtues than I probably even realize. Plus these programs have helped to foster in me a deep love for the Dodge City diocese.”

Often, missionaries are recruited through their friends who have previously served for the diocese. Their experiences propel them to desire the same growth for those they serve alongside, while also growing in their faith and developing their prayer.

The biggest take-away was learning about other people’s stories and hearing how God has been working through their lives to get where they are at right now,” Hernandez advised. “Remember to always keep God at the center of your life.”

“I think that summer missions have brought new life to the diocese,” Brake said. “There has always been some youth programs within the diocese, but there has been no change or newness in approach to the youth until recently. The summer missions have been a new and exciting way for the youth to get involved in the diocese and in their personal faith life. Kids from here should serve their own diocese to give the youth an example and to give their own faith experience. The youth in the Diocese need people to share their experiences with their faith and how important faith is.”

“I would recommend serving on the summer mission programs for the Diocese of Dodge City to anyone because I firmly believe there is no greater way for a college aged Catholic to grow in their own faith, lead others in faith, and further the Kingdom of Christ in their own diocese,” Megaffin insisted. “This diocese needs servers and young adults to set the example in both deed and word so that we can rekindle the flames of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of our people. Our summer mission programs are the perfect place to do that.”

Applications are currently being accepted for the summer of 2019. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving on summer missions for either Totus Tuus or Prayer and Action, visit www.dcyoungadult.com/summer-missions to learn more or apply today. Check out more on Facebook at www.facebook.com/prayerandactiondcd/ and www.facebook.com/TotusTuusDCD/.
The smile of a newly ordained priest is unforgettable. His eagerness to face worldly and spiritual challenges is unmistakable. Saving souls for Christ is now his sacred mission of service. A steadfast reliance on the Catholic Faith, the Sacraments and the time-tested wisdom of Mother Church will see him through.

Newly ordained priests (in fact, all priests, Consecrated Religious and lay servants of the Catholic Church) inspire and energize me as I embark on my own mission—serving as Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference (KCC).

The KCC is the “public policy voice” of the Catholic Bishops of Kansas, including a man I have long known and admired, Bishop John Brungardt of the Dodge City Diocese.

Understandably, few Catholics in the pew are aware of the KCC mission. Much of our work takes place at the Statehouse in Topeka. The KCC supports and promotes legislation that respects the dignity of the human person and serves the common good. It happens in the spirit of the Beatitudes and in accord with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Bills signed into law—or defeated—impact our daily lives. My experience as a former state legislator will also be helpful.

In the weeks and months ahead please look to the Southwest Kansas Catholic and the Kansas Catholic Conference website and Facebook page for updates and analysis on the issues facing Kansas Catholics.

I promise to communicate with you about what’s happening, including an initiative to make prayer a central theme in all that we do. Please let me know what is on your mind.

Father Wesley Schawe, pastor of the Cathedral of Our lady of Guadalupe, celebrated Mass and the dedication of the rectory chapel to Saints Peter and Paul. At top, left, Sister Rose Mary Stein, O.P. serves communion. Photos by Tim Wenzl

By TIM WENZL
Southwest Kansas Catholic

The 477th anniversary of Father Juan De Padilla’s “first Mass in Kansas” on June 29, 1541, was celebrated fittingly enough with an outdoor Mass at the parish rectory in Dodge City. Father Wesley Schawe, pastor of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Father Anesh Parappanattud, MSFS, parochial vicar, concelebrated. The rectory chapel, here before without a patron, was dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul.

Following the Mass, the congregation was invited into the rectory to view the chapel and tour the priests’ residence. A storyboard inside the residence provided a brief history of the rectory entitled “This Old Catholic House.”

The residence, constructed in 1890, was the home of James M. and Maude Kirkpatrick. The Kirkpatricks belonged to the First Methodist Church. They had six children: two sons and four daughters. Kirkpatrick was an attorney. He served two terms as Ford County Attorney. Toward the end of his career, he limited his practice to abstract and title law.

The house remained in the hands of the Kirkpatrick family until one of the daughters sold the residence to Charles L. Clinton in 1943. Clinton owned the Wholesale Brokerage Company and was a member of the National Candy Wholesale Association. He also served as Mayor of Dodge City from 1951 to 1954. In 1953, during the pastorate of Msgr. Joseph Grellner, plans were underway to expand Sacred Heart School with additional classrooms, offices, a kitchen and a gymnasium-auditorium.

The nine Sisters of St. Joseph who taught in the school were living in a convent at 907 Central Avenue. This residence needed to be removed to allow room for construction to proceed.

The Clinton home, located just north of the school on Elm Street, was purchased as the new convent for the Sisters on December 31, 1953, for $25,000.

The two-story stucco home served the Sisters of St. Joseph as a convent for the next 32 years. Father Joseph Bahr, pastor from 1984-1988, was looking to purchase a residence near the parish plant and make the rectory space between the church and school available for offices and classrooms.

The two Sisters of St. Joseph in ministry at the school during this time offered the convent to the pastor and his assistant as a rectory.

The Sisters moved to Saint Mary of the Plains College to live in community with the Sisters in ministry on the campus. This house has served as the rectory for the priests at Sacred Heart Cathedral and now the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe since 1985.

As a husband and father of five children—including a son with Down syndrome and my elderly mother under our care—I hope to bring my own life experiences to bear in working with elected officials.

“Thank you for the privilege of serving you in this way.”

Chuck Weber resides in Wichita with his family and is a longtime parishioner of the Church of the Resurrection. He can be contacted by email at: cweber3@cox.net

Photos by Tim Wenzl

The Southwest Kansas Catholic
Habla sobre Jesús, Vive Sus Enseñanzas

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


Un día como hoy el Papa Pablo VI publicó su primera encíclica: Eclesiam suam

S an Lucas escribió sobre San Pablo: “Con toda libertad anunció el mensaje de Dios, y enseñaba acerca del Señor Jesucristo sin que nadie se lo estorbara” (Hechos 28:31). Este artículo es nuestro resumen final de la serie: “La Buena Nueva y la Vida del Reino”.

Comenzamos con la Buena Nueva. Necesitamos un Salvador para propia instrucción y meditar sobre el misterio que Iglesia debe profundizar “en la vida eterna. El Espíritu Santo nos ayudara. Después, la Vida del Reino. Necesitamos que saber que la presencia de Dios está en todos los días: oración. Celebramos la Eucaristía semanalmente para fortalecerlos. Después que caemos (pecaos), le pedimos a Jesús por su perdón en el Sacramento de Penitencia. Para conocer mejor a nuestro Dios, estudiamos oramos con la Biblia, el catecismo, y otros recursos/personas. Finalmente, somos testigos de la Buena Nueva a otros por el servicio y reconciliación; respondiendo amorosamente a los demás – todos los hijos de Dios.

(Muy Simple! Confiamos que la gracia de Dios nos ayude. Esperamos la ayuda de nuestros compañeros de viaje en el camino. Contamos con las oraciones de los Santos del cielo. Jesús estará con nosotros, Él nos ama más de lo que pedimos o imaginamos!

MUCHACHOS

Notas: En el último día, y después de trabajar en la villa, el Señor Jesús hizo una plegaria en el olivar de Getsemaní, y allí se presentó en medio de su Tortura la Verdad completa. En este último día, su padre y hermano no estaban, pero más adelante se les presentó en el mismo lugar.

¿Tienen miedo? No, no tengo miedo, ¡no tengo miedo de nada! Bueno, creo que estoy nervioso por algunas cosas. A veces, estoy ansioso por mi futuro. ¿Dónde está Dios en todo esto?

N otrosos los hombres son llamados a seguir el ejemplo de San José, como defensores y protectores. El Beato Juan Pablo escribió una reflexión sobre San José llamada El Guardián del Redentor. Juan Pablo cita a San León XIII: “José fue en su tiempo el guardián lawful y legal, cabeza y defensor de la Sagrada Familia... Por lo tanto, es digno y más digno de ser el que una vez mantuvo una vigilancia santa incesante sobre la familia de Nazaret, así que ahora protege y defiende con su patrocinio celestial la Iglesia de Cristo “.


Se necesita coraje para escuchar nuestro llamado vocacional, el llamado de Jesús a ser sacerdotes o ser esposos y padres. Escuchamos este llamado al reflexionar sobre ello con nuestras familias, el párrroco, los directores vocacionales, los amigos y yo, su obispo. Pasamos tiempo en oración, siendo conscientes de la presencia de Dios, dándole gracias y respondiendo amorosamente a Él (Estás tratando de esta manera de orar 15 minutos cada día?). Cuando ese llamado nos lleva al próximo paso, seguimos ese paso valientemente, con Jesús a nuestro lado. Si sientes el codazo de Dios que te hace mirar hacia el sacerdocio, el próximo paso podría ser hablar con su párrroco, luego con el Padre Juan Salas, nuestro Director de Promoción Vocacional Sacerdotal, el Padre Wesley Schawe, nuestro Director de Seminaristas, el Padre Ted Stockeckl o el Padre Jacob Schneider, ambos nuestros Directores Vocacionales Auxiliares, o conmigo.

Jesús tiene un futuro maravilloso planeado para ti. Él te dará valor para encontrar ese futuro y vivirlo como guardián, protector y defensor de tu familia como esposo y padre, o como guardián, protector y defensor de tu parroquia y ministerio como sacerdote. Jesús te ayudará, Él te ama más de lo que puedes pedir o imaginar.

El tercer aspecto abordado fue el llamado “mundo de Dios”, que es el método mejor para llegar a la gente. “No una, sino cien formas de evangelización... puede usar diferentes formas de evangelización; un testigo de la Buena Nueva puede ser una persona que tiene una vida de fe que sacia a otros”. Y para terminar, un apéndice donde lista los siguientes: 1. Necesito un Salvador 2. Jesús es Dios que se hizo Hombre 3. Jesús murió y resucitó para salvarme 4. Jesús me invita a creer y yo respondo 5. Sigo a Jesús y su Iglesia, no al mundo.

C l – Un día como hoy, el 6 de agosto de 1964, el Papa Pablo VI publicó la primera encíclica de su pontificado: Eclesiam suam, sobre el “mandato” de la Iglesia en el mundo contemporáneo. El documento se refiere frecuentemente al Concilio Vaticano II, reanudado por el Beato Pablo VI tras la muerte de San Juan XXIII, que se encontraba aún en marcha y que culminaría en 1965.

Pablo VI, que será canonizado el 14 de octubre de este año junto a Mons. Óscar Romero, escribió en su encíclica que la Iglesia debe ser “profundamente”, y en la conciencia de sí misma, debe meditar sobre el misterio que le es propio, debe explorar, para propia instrucción y edificación, la doctrina que le es bien conocida, —en este último aspecto— acerca de su propio origen, de su propia naturaleza, de su propia misión, de su propio destino final”.

Además, reflexionó sobre “el deber presente de la Iglesia en corregir los defectos de los hombres, y hacerles tender a mayor perfección y cuál es el mejor camino para llegar con prudencia a tan gran renovación”.

El tercer aspecto abordado por Pablo VI en Eclesiam suam es el de las relaciones de la Iglesia con “el mundo que la rodea y en medio del cual ella vive y trabaja”. “Una parte de este mundo, como todos saben, ha recibido profundamente el influjo del feminismo y se lo ha asimilado íntimamente —por más que con demasiada frecuencia no se dé cuenta de que al cristianismo debe sus mejores cosas—, pero luego se ha ido separando y distanciándose de estos últimos siglos del trono cristiano de su civilización. Otra parte, la mayor de este mundo, se extiende por los ilimitados horizontes de los llamados pueblos nacionales”.

Este conjunto, indicó, “es un mundo que ofrece a la Iglesia, no una, sino cien maneras de posibles contactos: abiertos y fáciles algunos, delicados y fáciles algunos, delicados y complejos otros; hostiles y refractarios a un amistoso coloquio, por desgracia, son hoy muchísimos”.

JOSEPH C. WEBER, 69, died June 26, 2018 in Bentonville, Ark. He was born Sept. 18, 1948 in Great Bend, and was baptized at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Ellinwood. Joe grew up on a farm in Claffin and graduated from Claffin Rural High School in 1966. He is survived by his wife, Linda Brown Weber and cat, Hershey; sons, Chris and Curtis Weber; grandson, Brody Weber; Joe’s Kansas siblings, Jan Weber Hardten, Steve Moran, Mary Moran Doyle, Kala Moran Moeder, Jeni Moran Siemens, and John Moran; and many nieces and nephews. JOSE J. LOPEZ, 65, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died June 27, 2018. Lopez worked for many years at Farmland, and retired from Brookover South as a farm hand. He enjoyed raising his farm animals. In 1972, he married Martha Solis in Durango, Mexico; she preceded him in death on April 1, 2002. Survivors include a son, Tony; a daughter, Lily Lopez; his mother, Juanita Lopez; three brothers, Rafael, Raul, and Miguel; three sisters, Teresa Lopez, Lupe Rodriguez and Antonia Lopez; his companion, Mary Orozo; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

MATILDA (TILLIE) MARY STEJSKAL, 93, of Sacred Heart Parish, Ellinwood, died June 30, 2018. She was a homemaker and farmer. On April 10, 1947, she married Edward L. Stejskal in Larned; he preceded her in death on July 17, 1976. Survivors include their children, Mary Perez, Janice Heit, Donald Stejskal and Carol Loose; 10 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. Father Bernard Felix presided.

MATTHEW THOMAS SEACAT, 29, of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Dodge City, died July 1, 2018. Matthew attended Dodge City High School. In 2007, he joined the Marine Corp and was awarded Rifle Sharpshooter Badge, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, while achieving the rank of sergeant during his five years enlisted. Matt worked at Sunflower Electric for several years after leaving the Marines. He was working on finishing his college degree at the time of his death. Survivors include his parents, Derek and Sheila Seacat; two brothers, Brian and Garrett; one niece, Audra Seacat; grandfather Eldon Osborne; grandmother, Emily Seacat; girlfriend Tiffany Jasper; and his beloved dog, Major. Father Wesley Schawe presided.

LAVERN BRAU, 91, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died June 29, 2018. He married Georgia Bea Kline in Scott City; she preceded him in death. A former resident of Scott City, Brau was a builder and lived and worked in western Kansas. He later moved to Arkansas where he worked at Northwest Technical Institute in Springfield, Ark. He later moved to Garden City. He was a U.S. Army veteran. Survivors include a sister, Marline Brau (Sister Annrene Brau).

GERTRUD M. (SPINNLER) SMITH, 83, of Sacred Heart Parish, Pratt, died July 6, 2018. She was born on August 22, 1935 in Muttenz, Switzerland, and was baptized at Teschwitz, Czechoslovakia. On June 30, 1956, she married Douglas Cecil Smith at Bad Toelz, Germany. He preceded her in death. She is survived by a brother, Josef Spinller; three sisters, Erika Leherin, Christa Ostler, and Monika Karg; and several nieces and nephews. Father Michael Klag presided.

MELVA KONRADE, 99, of St. Joseph Parish, Order, died July 5, 2018. She was born on Feb. 21, 1919 in St. Leo. She married Alexander Konrade on August 8, 1939 in Wright; he preceded her in death. Survivors include a son, David; four daughters, Kay Ferguson, Deanna Wissler, Bev Woolard, and Charlene Murdie; 24 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Father John Strasser presided.

JOYCE MARY SCHUEMAN ESPINOSA (MATTES), 58, of Ellinwood, died on July 9, 2018. Joyce worked most recently as a lab technician for Venture Corporation and previously at Sunflower Diversified for 12 years. She also worked at Central Kansas Medical Center and owned a retail store at one time in Great Bend. Survivors include her mother, John Thomas; son, Dan; Lynn Schueerman; daughter, Cassie Mae Schueerman; sisters, Marcella White and Linda Krom; granddaughters, Haley Scheuman and Jackie Scheuman; and great-granddaughter, Kennedy Marie Marsh. Other survivors include many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Father Terrance Klein presided.

LORETTA T. FORSHEE, 98, of Great Bend, formerly of Hutchinson, died July 7, 2018. Loretta was the eighth of 11 children, born Sept. 23, 1919, in Chase. She served in the family farm to Matthew H. and Mary P. (Barry) Malone. Loretta attended first through tenth grades in Chase and then Marymount Catholic Girls School in Salina her junior and senior years. She then attended Marymount College, majoring in music and voice. She was a member of the St. Mary’s Music Club. Survivors include her children, Mary, Larry, Kate, John, and Elaine Straub; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She preceded in death by her parents and 10 siblings. Father Michael Kerschen presided.

MARI LN JANE (RENNER) APPL, 82, of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Leoti, died July 8, 2018. She was born on August 22, 1935, the daughter of Fred and Mildred Fiegel in Cunningham. She was a member of the St. Anthony of Padua Alter Society. On Dec. 28, 1957 she married Keith A. Appl in Marienlal; he preceded her in death on Jan. 10, 2003. She is survived by sons, Dr. Brad, Clay, Cory, and Gunnar; daughter Allison Stewart; sister Kathy Lane; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Father Meinrad Miller presided.

THOMAS JAMES McKENNA, infant son of Brett and Tracey (Weber) McKenna, was born and went to heaven on July 6, 2018, surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by his parents; brother, Tate; and sisters, Audrey and Ellie of the home; maternal grandparents, Roy and Susan Weber of Claffin; paternal grandparents, Mike and Joan McKenna of Jennings; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. A private family graveside service was held at St. Catherine Cemetery, Dubuque, with Father Terrence Klein presiding.

ROCH MILES DVORAK, 65, of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Dodge City, died July 7, 2018. Roch grew up in Spearville. He was a longtime employee of Cargill in Great Bend City. Roch is survived by his wife, Debbie; his children, Rochelle Luetters and Nicholas Dvorak; siblings, Karlene Davis, Kathlene Loyd, Lydia Watts, Richard Dvorak, Jena Fields and Nikky Meyer; and six grandchildren. GLENN A. SHEAN, 84, of St. John the Baptist Parish, Spearville, died April 6, 2018, at his home in Forest, Virginia. He was the son of Arthur and Leona Stein Shean of Spearville, and was a graduate of Spearville High School and Ft. Hays State University. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus in Spearville. Shean...
uncivilized countries, paving the way for the missionaries. We will bear in mind that a soldier on the front line cannot hold out long without support from the rear forces that do not actually partake in the fighting but provide for all his needs; and that such is the role of prayer, and that therefore each one of us is to be distinguished by an apostolic spirit.”

Do we know and understand what a priest really does, or simply believe that they just celebrate Holy Mass and pray?

Let us all continue to pray and act in ways that promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In prayer may we have the courage to ask God what He is calling each of us to do to continue to build up the kingdom in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

Our Lady of Vocations — pray for us.

Office of Family Life

Janeé and Jesse have three children, JohnPaul, 7, Gabriella, 4, both of whom attend St. Dominic School, and Jude, 1, Bernal’s mother and father reside in Great Bend, and she has extended family in Leoti and Marienthal.

She learned about the chancery position after a conversation with her doctor, who lamented the limited availability of NFP programs. He encouraged her to seek ways that she might be of service. This was the same day that the job listing was placed on the diocesan website.

It was a whirlwind experience. After being hired, she was sent to the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers in Lafayette, La. There she learned that “there are so many people in other dioceses who are wanting and willing to help. It was so powerful.”

And she learned a second powerful lesson that she will take with her throughout her ministry:

“Two of the keynote speakers, Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak, said that every single day, every single family should work, play, talk and pray together. It’s so simple. It will strengthen your family.”

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Officethe in the crisis for priests? Do we speak about the joys of the priesthood in our homes and families, or do we secretly believe the life of a priest would be lonely and a drudgery?

Do we pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, but secretly hope that our children or grandchildren are not called?

Do we know and understand what a priest really does, or simply believe that they just celebrate Holy Mass and pray?

Let us all continue to pray and act in ways that promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In prayer may we have the courage to ask God what He is calling each of us to do to continue to build up the kingdom in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

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Please note: The next issue of the SKC will be published Sept. 2.

Scripture Readings

| From Page 1 | From Page 6 |
---|---|
**Individual prayer**|

Friday, Aug. 24: Saint Bartholomew, apostle: Revelation 1:4-6/John 3:14-21
Wednesday, Aug. 29: Beheading of Saint John the Baptist, martyr: Jeremiah 1:17-19/Mark 6:17-29
Thursday, Aug. 30: First Corinthians 1:19-29/1 Corinthians 1:19-29

**Office of Family Life**|

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St. Michael’s Mind Benders

TEASER THE FIRST:
Can you unscramble the names of these famous soap operas?

TEASER THE SECOND:
What do the three words or phrases have in common?

TEASER THE THIRD:
Morph the first word into the last by changing one letter at a time. Each entry must be a real word found in the dictionary.

Across
1. Holy See
2. A non-coveting commandment
7. Bishop saint whose feast day is October 20
9. Biblical animal
10. Adam’s loss?
11. A fallen angel
12. Supreme ___
13. “___ My God to Thee”
14. “O ___ of wonder…”
15. “Our Father who ___”
20. First Mass in Canada was celebrated on this peninsula
21. Cap under a nun’s veil
25. A Doctor of the Church
28. Liquid measure in Leviticus (Lev 14:10)
29. First place
31. Catholic singing group, The ___ Sisters
33. “Have ___ on us”
35. Archbishop Romero
37. A finish for Canaan
38. Med. Christian empire
39. “if anyone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a ___” (1 Jn 4:20)
40. Passover meal
41. “…but do not perceive the wooden ___ in your own eye?” (Mt 7:3)

Down
1. Rite in the Catholic Church
2. Serious offense
3. The Archdiocese of Niamey
4. Roman emperor who persecuted Christians
5. Esau and Jacob, for example
6. NT book
7. “Great” teacher of Aquinas
8. Second man
11. David asked Saul if he pursued a “___ dog” (1 Sam 24:15)
12. “My punishment is too great to ___” (Gen 4:13)
13. “Our ___ to Thee”
15. Theology on ___ program
16. “…from now on will all ___ call me blessed.”
18. “I am the ___ of wonder…”
19. NT epistle
21. “You are the ___ of the earth” (Mt 5:13)
22. God’s indwelling
25. ___ of Christ
26. “His mercy is from ___ to….” (Lk 1:50)
27. Biblical measure
28. Reader at Mass
30. “Cheer, cheer for old ___…”
31. “Come to me, all who ___ and are heavy laden” (Mt 11:28)
32. Book of the Bible
34. “___ lema sabachthani?” (Mk 3:14)
36. Faith is like a mustard ___
37. Catholic letters

5. Chicago - Smokey - Yogi
1. A Sprinter - A City - An Icehouse
2. A Beetle - A Fox - A Rabbit
3. A Toe - A Carpenter - A Finger

Boat
- List

Sudoko

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Each Suduko puzzle consists of a 9x9 Sudoku grid containing areas surrounded by gray or dotted lines. The object is to fill in all empty spaces 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 Sudoko: 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
Father Leonard Stegman

Father Leonard Stegman was born May 31, 1917, in Offerle. The Stegman family later moved to Plains. He is considered a vocation from St. Patrick Parish in Plains. He was ordained for the Capuchin Order on June 23, 1943, by the Most Rev. William P. O’Connor, bishop of Superior, at St. Mary’s Church in Marathon, Wisc.

In 1948 Father Stegman entered the United States Army Reserve as a chaplain. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. He retired on May 31, 1977.

His awards/decorations include two Silver Stars, Purple Heart, three Legions of Merit, Bronze Star, Korean Distinguished Unit Citation, German and Japanese occupation medals, Korean Service Medal (with four battle stars), United Nations medal for service in Korea, and two American defense ribbons.

Father Stegman received permission to transfer from the Capuchin order to the Diocese of El Paso in 1978. After retiring from the Army, Father Stegman earned master’s degrees in Education and International Affairs from George Washington University.

In 1988, he moved to San Antonio where he served the military communities at Randolph Air Force Base, Fort Sam Houston and Lockland Air Force Base.

Father Stegman, Chaplain Colonel US Army Retired, died at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Tex., on Aug. 12, 2014. The funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Pius X Church. Msgr. James E. Sanner, retired base chaplain at Fort Sam Houston, presided. Burial was in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Priests on the Prairie

May 31, 1917 — August 12, 2014

Father Leonard Stegman

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Word Search

ANSWERS

1. They all have blocks
2. Cars by Volkswagen
3. They have nails
4. They are stuffed
5. Bears
6. Islands
7. Golf terms
8. Fevers
9. They have lids
10. They are paints

FIRST:
A: The Guiding Light
B: Search for Tomorrow
C: The Secret Storm
D: Somerset
E: General Hospital
F: The Edge of Night
G: Days of Our Lives

SECOND:
1. They all have blocks
2. Cars by Volkswagen
3. They have nails
4. They are stuffed
5. Bears
6. Islands
7. Golf terms
8. Fevers
9. They have lids
10. They are paints

THIRD:
boat
coat
cost
lost
list

“The only time my prayers are never answered is on the golf course.”
-- Billy Graham

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How to trap an atheist: Serve him a fine meal, then ask him if he believes there is a cook.
God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. For he fashioned all things that they might have being; and the creatures of the world are wholesome (Wis 1:13-14).

The Catholic tradition asserts two delightfully dogged truths about the deity. The first: We know that God exists. The second: All we know of God is what God is not. The core of Jewish, Christian and Islamic revelation is that God is not about death, indeed that we look for God by seeking what is life-giving.

We must learn again that communities exist to create, sustain and protect life. To fall away from communion of life with others, to be separated from community is life-threatening. It matters not who is to blame, the community or the individual. The one who is isolated is in danger. Communities that seek out their lost are alive; those who stop searching are in the throes of death.

We must learn again that communities exist to create, sustain and protect life. Balance is a blessing of the divine, but a burden for we who are mortal. Yes, communities can and do oppress individuals. This is true of every government, every community and every church. But the solution is not to cast individuals out or to tear down communities. Living under what Scripture calls the reign of sin, we will always wound each other in life shared. Still, the alternative is no option. Our very humanity dies in isolation.

We also know this. When a Christian asks what he or she owes to community and when we wonder what is our due to our fellow human beings, we claim a crystalline clarity to be revealed in the Christ.

For you know the gracious act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich (2 Cor 8:9).

If you are having thoughts of suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) or go to SpeakingOfSuicide.com/resources for a list of additional resources.
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