Run to the Risen One

We continue our Easter Joy, not just on Easter Sunday, not just during the Octave of Easter, not just in the 50 days of Easter, but always. Jesus is Risen! Our Savior has opened the gates of heaven for us!

The Easter Vigil Gospel this year was from St. Luke (24:1-12), and the Easter Sunday Gospel was from St. John (20:1-9). I am struck by the many folks running on the Easter Sunday morning (see also St. Mark 16:1-8, and St. Matthew 28:1-10):

"Peter got up and ran to the tomb."  
(Luke)

Mary of Magdala "ran and went to Simon Peter."  
(John)

"Peter and the other disciple whom Jesus loved ... both ran."  
(John)

The women "fled from the tomb."  
(Mark)

The women "went away quickly ... and ran to announce."  
(Matthew)

Our culture doesn’t do much running anymore, unless you count watching athletes running. What would cause you or me to run somewhere? We might be late for an important appointment; we could want to quickly avoid a dangerous situation; we may be afraid. On the first Easter morning, the witnesses may have been so full of joy that they could not help but run. They may have been so overflowing with excitement that walking would just not do it!

Does our Catholic faith compel us to run to Jesus? When we are anxious, afraid, full of grief, tempted, joy-filled, or sorry, do we run, not walk, into the arms of our Risen Savior Jesus? He will comfort us, He will protect us, He will forgive us, our Easter Redeemer will be with us always. Let us run to Jesus, He loves us more than we can ask or imagine!

-- Bishop John

Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up ‘til now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won’t be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don’t be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.”

-- Pope Francis
Acts of Kindness

Have you ever experienced an act of kindness, shown one to someone else, or been witness to an act of kindness? Bishop John B. Brungardt invites readers to submit stories to the Southwest Kansas Catholic, skregister@dcdioocese.org, or by calling Dave at (620) 227-1519. The bishop asks us all to commit acts of kindness as a prayer for Priestly Vocations.

A gift for a struggling election clerk

I [and my wife, Virginia] work the elections usually two times per year, and this year was a bad rap for our country and city as well as our county election clerk. Her name is Debbie, and I had told my wife we should do something nice for her amidst all the turmoil she has been subjected to. I had noticed a pastry section in stores called “Little Debbie cakes” and thought that it would be cute to take her and her staff some Little Debbie pastries. I had a big box of Little Debbie small cakes, but they misinformed her who I was, and she was a little apprehensive when she came out. I think she relaxed when she saw me. She was so grateful and talked about the threats and the calls from as far as California. We had a really nice visit, and she felt good that her election board workers supported her. We were surprised when we received a “thank you” card in the mail from her, especially when she mentioned that we have worked with her for several years and considers us “family”.

-- Frank Sumaya, Dodge City

Strangers no longer

Ashy boy from Lincoln, NE, “a fox on the edge of the woods,” he called himself, grew into anthropologist, naturalist, and enchanting writer. Meditating on matter, on energy, and on the impossibly long rhythms of time, Loren Eiseley (+ 1977) felt himself an “orphan in the universe.”

Saint Augustine approached the same thought when he wrote: “our hearts are restless, until they rest in Thee.” They were seekers, Loren and Augustine were: Who am I? Where did I come from? Where am I going? They were searchers down deep in their DNA.

St. Augustine and all Catholics believe in a God who made us. He creates each human soul himself. He does this because he loves us. He wants us to know, love, serve, and to be happy with Him forever.

St. Augustine and all Catholics believe he made us in his image, and thus made us free. That’s how sin entered the world, through a misuse of freedom. There followed in the wake of sin, all other moral and physical evils. In that wake, Eiseley’s orphan bobbed up too.

St. Augustine and all Catholics believe that God never gave up on us, sinners though we were. He never stopped loving us, delighting in us. He never stopped being a Father to us. That’s why he sent his Son to free us from that orphan-making power, that sin. He made us out of Love, and he remade us out of Love.

We are strangers and aliens no longer. We are orphans no longer. These Easter Mysteries we celebrated, they remind us that we “are” daughters and sons in the Son, that we “do” live in God’s house, and that we know there an easy communion with Him, with one another, and with the world he made.

-- St. John Vianney

18th Annual Catholic Charities Wine Tasting

Friday, May 3, 2019
Great Bend Event Center
7:00 pm: Wine Tasting, Hors d‘oeuvres
Live Entertainment: Richard J Falcon Jr
8:00 pm: Live and Silent Auctions
Admission: $50/person or $450 for a Table of Ten

Generously sponsored by:

Standard Beverage Corporation
Dominican Sisters of Peace
Payor
First Kansas Bank

Jim & Kathi Armatys, Rick and Lois Ball, Bryant Funeral Home, Claflin Pump & Supply, Club 1 Fitness, Community Bank of the Midwest, Farmers Bank & Trust, Great Bend Feeding, Keller Real Estate & Insurance Agency, Little Smurf Skidsteer, Tom & Shirlie Lytle, Jerry & Linda Marmie, Bill & Robin Niederee, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Terry & Melisa Stueder, Loni & Landon Tittsworth, Wheatland Electric Cooperative

For more information, visit www.CatholicCharitiesSWKS.org or contact Rebecca Ford (628)-392-1393

“Let us go often to the foot of the Cross ... We shall learn there what God has done for us, and what we ought to do for him.”

-- St. John Vianney
Young adults brave winter weather weekend for ‘SKYAC’

On a wintery weather-mix of a weekend, more than 50 young adults from around the diocese gathered in Dodge City for the 4th annual Southwest Kansas Young Adult Conference (SKYAC). They braved the snow for a fun Saturday evening at the Historic Dodge City Depot, followed by a Sunday packed with Mass, speakers, small-group sessions, and some remarkably good tacos.

The two-fold goal of the conference is to bring people closer to Jesus and to one another, and to foster discipleship and community.

COMING UP

CHRIS MUELLER: Due to the weather however, some people were unable to attend, including the keynote speaker, Chris Mueller. He hails from California and runs the “Everyday Catholic” apostolate (https://everydaycatholic.com/) and has agreed to give it another shot! On Sunday, April 28 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, there will be a young adult “Divine Mercy Day of Reflection” with Chris Mueller as the speaker.

MEN’S PILGRIMAGE: Also, there are more details about the mens pilgrimage here at https://www.dcyoungadult.com/men-s-pilgrimage.

Youth spend weekend at Mandan Lodge near Wright to be ‘FORGED’ in CHRIST

Youth from across the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City joined in a celebration of their common love for Christ at the annual FORGED weekend retreat at Mandan Lodge, adjacent to Ford County Lake north of Wright.

Organized by Director of Youth Ministry, Adam Urban, the annual event includes events designed to be both fun and faith-enriching, such as the walk-in-faith, above. At top, center, Father John Forkuoh celebrates Mass with the high school students.

What is FORGED? Much like one would shape a metal object by heating it in a fire, the high school retreat helps youth to accept Christ into their hearts, thus forging them into strong representatives of their Loving Lord.
The parable of the possum

They say that nature abhors a vacuum. Really? The feral cats on our back porch can’t just eat their food, they have to spread it all around the back porch. (In Lithuanian, the word “cat” means “slovenly; one who is sloppy; see “slob”.)

If this were some sort of experiment to prove the vacuum theory, my results would prove that nature does not abhor a vacuum, in fact, it provides three that come by each night to clean the porch up.

Cats, beloved among a particular ilk of people, are nature’s wrecking crew, and possoms, disdained by humanity for their rat-tails and long, narrow snouts, are nature’s unheralded clean-up crew.

There’s a parable in here somewhere. (Not all of Christ’s parables made it into the final draft of the Bible, you know. He could well have once spoken the “parable of the possum.”)

He liked to use nature in his narrative: the seeds that fell on hard ground; the pruning of the bad fruit; Peter the rock; and the house made of straw that was able to be blown asunder, the second house made of sticks, which also succumbed to virulent winds, and the house of brick, which stood firm.

Christ used nature because he was the master gardener. His mission was to separate the wheat from the chaff, and the chaff from those who would use the chaff to make poor quality clothing that caused severe itching. This is where we get the term, “chafing.”

Jesus came to promote growth in the garden of humanity! He came to show his great love for us—the nuts, the fruits and the vegetables of this garden we call life!

Don’t be a weed! Be a nut! Be a fruit! Be a vegetable! Perhaps you’d rather be a decorative hedge! That’s okay, too!

Be an orange, bringing the health-enriching Vitamin C of Christ’s teachings to those around you! Be a walnut! Walnuts are good alone or in salads and desserts! Help zest up someone’s salad or dessert of life with a little nutty goodness!

For most of us, our job is all about planting seeds, building faith in our own humble ways. Easter comes during the spring, a time in which death gives way to new birth. Christ died on the cross for us in hopes that we would continue to plant the seeds of His ministry. Christ has cultivated the garden, now it’s time for us to do some planting.

All it takes is a little kindness, a little compassion, a little time and effort given to one another. It doesn’t have to be a forest, just one seed at a time.

Today, I can look back on a life where I occasionally planted a seed. But I also see times where I did the opposite: Regret is a terrible emotion. My hope is that one day in the distant future, I can look back on the here and now, and see that it was a time of planting, and not a time when I was a real weed!

My hope is that you and I can celebrate Christ’s death and rebirth by recommitting ourselves to planting the seeds of the love of Christ in people’s hearts.

Happy and Blessed Easter!
A tiny lady, a giant statue, and Pope John Paul II

By CHARLENE SCOTT MYERS

I've just finished reading a really powerful book, “His Holiness, John Paul II and the History of Our Time,” by Pulitzer Prize winning Carl Bernstein of Watergate fame and Marco Politi, an Italian journalist who covered the papacy for many years and was president of the Foreign Press Association.

Pope John Paul, the leader of the world’s 900 million Catholics, seems to me to have been a perfect pope for the time in which he served the Church and the whole world.

He was the pope who came up with the idea of having World Youth Days, and at the time, I was editor of the Denver Catholic Register and one of the journalists who covered him when he traveled to America to lead that celebration in the state of Colorado.

But I had witnessed his goodness before that time. I first saw him on a hill that vaguely resembled a small Colorado slope, but he was speaking at the Living History Farm in Des Moines, Iowa.

I was with my dearly beloved mother, who had traveled with me to the site, and she was highly excited.

Mother was a convert to the church at the age of nine when her mother died. She and her sister had gone to live with their mother’s sister, their Auntie Mary Olive, who became a convert after she married her husband Joseph Tighe. (Mother and her sister named her “Auntie Mother.” I and my five brothers called her by that name when she came to live with us when I was seven years old. Her husband, Joseph, was the first Catholic printer in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and the Ku Klux Klan burned a cross on his front yard! He had to go into hiding for a time after that.)

Well, you know how those converts to Catholicism are. Nobody is more dedicated to the Church than a convert, and my mother was highly dedicated!

When we went to see the pope on the hill in Des Moines, Mother brought with her a large, colorful statue of the Mother Mary, which she hoped the pope would bless for her that day.

“Let me carry that big statue for you, Mother,” I said to the petite, really tiny woman who gave birth to me and my five brothers, and was not even as tall as I am (and I am a runt!).

“No, indeed!” was my mother’s indignant reply. “I shall carry it myself to have it blessed by the pope!”

The sweet and colorful statue was more than half as tall as my little mother.

“Oh, I replied politely. “But you do realize that we have to climb up that hill that we can see from our hotel window to reach the metal chairs beneath the altar where the pope will say Mass.”

“I will be fine!” my mother growled grimly, gritting her teeth at me.

I had another brilliant thought: “Why don’t we just set the statue in the hotel window facing the hill, and when the pope blesses the rosaries, medals, and babies, the blessing can waft across the field onto your statue standing in the window.”

My mother was outraged! I suppose she thought I was being sarcastic, but I honestly was trying to think of a solution so that I and hundreds of other people would not have to worry my scrawny mother tumbling down the hill, clutching a statue of Mary to her bosom!!!

Mother was much too angry to respond to me. She was highly excited.

But I decided to actually take his hand to shake it. Instead, I stood before him in a kind of trance, and my breath. Then, not to my surprise, my mother plowed through the men and women in front of her like a tiny tractor, nudging and bruising many with her statue, and emerged at the top of the hill to be one of the first (and the only one I saw) to have a statue blessed by the pope that day!

It was a day I never will forget, and the pope probably never forgot it either.

The second time I was honored to be in the presence of the pope was at World Youth Days, which he had initiated. I was serving as editor of the Denver Catholic Register at the time, and I met the pope. But I declined to actually take his hand to shake it.

Instead, I stood before him in a kind of trance, and finally moved on in a daze. (The puzzled pope probably nudged me to go along and said a quick prayer for me as soon as I fled!) I would meet him again when he visited the Mount St. Vincent home in Denver in August 1993. In this still photo taken from a video of the event, Charlene Scott Myers, then editor of the Denver Catholic Register, can be seen at far left, holding a camera. The photo at right is Kathleen Scott, mother of Charlene. At barely 5 feet tall, Mrs. Scott lugged a large statue up a hill to be blessed by Pope John Paul II when he visited Iowa on Oct. 4, 1979.

The crowd rose to climb up closer when the pope began his blessings, and I held my breath. Then, not to my surprise, my mother plowed through the men and women in front of her like a tiny tractor, nudging and bruising many with her statue, and emerged at the top of the hill to be one of the first (and the only one I saw) to have a statue blessed by the pope that day!

I was too young to witness my screaming mother tumbling down the hill, so that I and hundreds of other people would not have the outdoor stadium, dropping like weary birds in every direction you looked.

Only the Parisians were smart enough to be wearing lightweight clothes and broad hats!

After the Mass ended, even the pope seemed in a hurry to get into something cooler to wear. But the Parisians were so kind to us Americans who were too heavily dressed or bareheaded.

When we took to the streets, they were lined with smiling Parisians standing with bottles of cool water in their hands, which they cheerfully passed along to us.

And seeing our sweaty faces and sweat pouring down our necks like little Niagara Falls, those saintly Parisians took pity on us and began to bless us by pouring the bottles of water on our heads.

Then they even sprayed us with a long hose connected to a fire hydrant!

It was all too lovely, and we all were so thankful, waving and blowing kisses to our new friends. Viva La France!!!

Those World Youth Days were days to remember, and Pope John Paul was there sweating with the best of us. A good sport he was. A good man he was. A good saint he is.

Pray for us, dear John Paul. We love and miss you so much!

And as for my mother, I am sure she is a saint and proudly marching around Heaven to acquaint all newcomers with her marvelous statue.

I noticed on a visit to her house after her death that her beloved statue was gone!)
The ‘Divine Mercy’ of Jesus to be celebrated in Great Bend April 28

GREAT BEND - The parishes in and around Great Bend will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a solemn hour of prayer and benediction at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 28 at St. Rose of Lima Church, 1412 Baker Ave. in Great Bend.

The service will include adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet in song, as well as prayers, music and meditation. Confessions will be heard during the service.

Devotion for Divine Mercy began in the 1930s when Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, received special communications with Jesus in which he asked her to have this image painted to spread the message of his mercy.

Under the instructions of a spiritual director, Saint Faustina, as she is known, wrote down her revelations with Jesus, which are now contained in her 600-page diary. In these writings, Saint Faustina said all are to call upon Jesus with trust, receive his mercy and let it flow to others.

“Divine Mercy fulfills the message in Matthew’s gospel that states, “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”

Saint Faustina said in her diary that we “radiate” God’s mercy to others by our actions, our words and our prayers.

The Divine Mercy image is a painting of Jesus with two rays emerging from his heart, representing the blood and water which flowed from his side as his heart was lanced when he died upon the cross.

One ray is pale, representing the water which makes souls righteous. The other is red for blood, which is the life of souls. From these two rays, Jesus emphasizes the sacraments of baptism and Holy Eucharist, which began the Church.

“These two rays issued forth from the very depths of my tender mercy when my agonized heart was opened by a lance on the cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of my father. Happy is the one who dwells in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him.” (Diary number 299) Saint Faustina died in 1938 at the age of 33. She was canonized a saint April 30, 2000, in Rome by the Pope at that time, Saint John Paul II. He proclaimed that the Sunday after Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday, would be an official feast day of the Church.

Father Mark Brantley to co-lead pilgrimage to the Catholic Shrines of Italy

Father Mark Brantley, pastor of St. John the Apostle, Kiowa, Holy Rosary, Medicine Lodge, and St. Boniface, Sharon, and the Very Reverend Russ Mower, V.F. from Dallas, will lead a pilgrimage to the Catholic Shrines of Italy Oct. 7-17, 2019.

Spend four nights in Rome and attend a papal audience, visit the Major Basilicas, Shrines of Italy Oct. 7-17, 2019. will lead a pilgrimage to the Catholic Shrines of Italy Oct. 7-17, 2019.

Father Brantley to co-lead pilgrimage to the Catholic Shrines of Italy

The price of $3,890 from Wichita includes transatlantic flights, accommodations in first-class hotels, all breakfasts and seven dinners with wine, guided sightseeing, and medical travel insurance. Price per person is based on double occupancy.

For more information, contact Father Brantley at (620)-886-3596 or fathermark1@outlook.com. For an indepth look at all the sites they will visit, and for cost information, go to www.catholicheritagetours.com/FRMIT.

Called & Gifted Workshop

The Called and Gifted Workshop will guide you to recognize gifts given to you by the Holy Spirit through baptism and confirmation.

These gifts enable you to accomplish things for God above and beyond your natural abilities. To register, contact Coleen Stein 620-227-1538 or cstein@dcdiocese.org.

The fee for this workshop is $25.

The Called and Gifted Workshops are scheduled as follows:

**English**

**Date:** Saturday, May 4
**Location:** Sacred Heart Parish Education Center, 1119 State Street, Larned

**Schedule:**
- 8 – 8:45 a.m. Registration
- 9 a.m. Workshop begins promptly.
- 12 noon Lunch
- 5 p.m. Day concludes.

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Support your local youth!

SPEARVILLE – High school youth from St. John the Baptist Parish, Spearville, held a fund-raising taco dinner and silent auction at the parish center April 6. The young people are raising money to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indiana Nov. 21-23. The annual event is attended by young people from across the country,

and includes a host of guest speakers, musicians, and break-out sessions designed to bring the teenagers closer to Christ through the gift of each other. There’s a good chance that you have youth from your parish who are hoping to attend. Please support your youth through prayers and financial donations.

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Second Printing!

In this intriguing volume, Tim Wenzl, archivist emeritus for the Diocese of Dodge City, documents his discovery of more than 300 Kansas communities and geographical sites with Catholic names. Included in this 146-page gazetteer, are communities named for saints, popes, cardinals, bishops, priest and friars, nuns and religious sisters, Spanish explorers, frontiersmen, and ordinary Catholics.

- Communities originally established as Catholic colonies and named for the emigrés’ homeland
- The stories of how and why the communities were named, together with biographical features
- Color photographs of nearly 40 Catholic churches and institutions listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Ask for it at Catholic and Christian bookstores. Also on Amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. Mail order by contacting the author at twenzl@dcdiocease.org.
Difficulties in prayer, and what to do about it

The battle of prayer is inseparable from the necessary “spiritual battle” to act habitually according to the Spirit of Christ: we pray as we live, because we live as we pray.

The principal difficulties that we find are:

**Difficulty:** We “don’t have the time.”

Prayer is considered as an occupation incompatible with all the other things we have to do.

**The remedy:** “Make the time” for your personal prayer. Anticipate the joy of feeling God’s healing presence. His love is unconditional! And there’s nothing you can’t tell Him. Look forward to the conversation!

**Difficulty:** We “get distracted.” Concentration becomes really difficult, and we easily give up.

**The remedy:** Turn your heart back to God, offering God the distractions with humility, without discouragement. This is how my nightly prayers sometimes go: “Thank you, Lord, for a great day today ... well, except for when that guy cut me off, and then proceeded to give me the angry salute! I was so mad, Lord!”

“Sometimes I just wish I had some sort of laser that I could shoot out of my hoof of my car. I can see him stopping and getting out of his car. He would come at me all angry, and I would give him a good kick, right in the shin.

“Not so tough now, are you buddy, with your shin hurting! That would be awkward!”

“Oops. Sorry, Lord. I forgot I was in prayer. Heh. heh. I guess I got a little distracted.”

**Good News** we are easily distracted. Don’t worry about it. God has a sense of humor. Sometimes when I do this, I can almost hear him chuckling. Try to concentrate, but if you get distracted, God won’t turn you off like a bad song on the radio.

**Difficulty:** We “feel dry.” It seems that the heart is separated from God, with no taste for prayer.

**The remedy:** Reading certain books can help. I recommend Prayers of the Saints of the Church. I also recommend reading certain books by Saint Charles de Foucauld, which I feel is a contemporary saint.

**Difficulty:** Our hearts are “set on flesh.” We are not able to see the good of what we are doing.

**The remedy:** “I will thank thee in the0 midst of them that rejoice over me.” (Psalm 69:30). Do not allow yourself to be swayed by outside events. Choose to take your thoughts captive into the will of God.

The battle of prayer is inseparable from the necessary “spiritual battle” to act habitually according to the Spirit of Christ: we pray as we live, because we live as we pray.
By TIM WENZL and DAVE MYERS

A

nough he hasn’t yet reached the centenary mark, at 95, Father Lisle Pottorff doesn’t have to worry about having outlived his enemies. In chatting with the long time Diocese of Dodge City priest, it’s difficult if not impossible to imagine that he ever had an enemy.

His sense of humor is intact (proven by the joke he told above), as is his Christ-guided desire to share it. In fact, when the SKC first asked Father Pottorff how he was doing, he replied, “For an old man, I’m doing great.”

The priest celebrated his 95th birthday March 10 at Shepherd’s Crossing Community Center in Bel Aire, across the street from his residence. The party was arranged by his niece for the close members of his family.

“It was wonderful,” he said of the gathering. “There were about 50 people there.”

As if that weren’t enough of a milestone, the priest was honored at the April 11 Chrism Mass in Dodge City for 70 years of priesthood.

During the Mass, Bishop John Brungardt thanked Father Pottorff for his many years of priestly service, and for his sacrifice.

Father Pottorff was born in Wichita March 10, 1924, the son of Lisle Pottorff, Sr., and Anne Regina Carney. He was ordained by Bishop Mark K. Carroll for the Diocese of Dodge City priest, it’s short, they couldn’t have school in the church basement. He got in there and long story—of your enemies?

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An interview with Robert Ellsberg -- author, publisher, editor (and confidant) to Dorothy Day and Henri Nouwen

By DAVE MYERS Southwest Kansas Catholic

Robert Ellsberg, editor-in-chief and publisher of Orbis Books, came to the attention of the Southwest Kansas Catholic when he offered the newspaper a kind and heartfelt response to the serious allegation of plagiarism by a former SKC columnist. In the days that followed the discovery that some of his work had been plagiarized, Ellsberg offered nothing but kindness and understanding for the error in judgement. It was an astounding example of forgiveness, especially considering that Ellsberg is so highly regarded for having worked with Dorothy Day in the last five years of her ministry, and for having served as editor for professor, writer and theologian, Father Henry Nouwen. He is the author of several books, and edited many others. Among those he’s authored are: “The Franciscan Saints,” “Blessed Among Us,” “Blessed Among All Women: Reflections on Women Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time,” “The Saints’ Guide to Happiness: Practical Lessons in the Life of the Spirit,” “All Saints; Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time,” and “Gandhi on Christianity.” Among the books he’s edited are: “The Duty Of Delight: The Diaries of Dorothy Day,” “All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day,” and “What I Am Living For: Lessons from the Life and Writings of Thomas Merton.”

The author, editor and publisher agreed to answer a few questions about his work and ministry.

Southwest Kansas Catholic: I understand that you converted to Catholicism after working with Dorothy Day. Can you share a bit about what it was about Dorothy and her work that led you to wanting to become a Catholic?

Robert Ellsberg: I left college when I was 19 and joined the Catholic Worker community in New York City. I only intended to stay for a few weeks, but somehow that turned into five years—the last five years, in fact, of Dorothy Day’s life.

I wasn’t particularly attracted by the Catholicism of the Worker, nor did I understand very much about it. I was more drawn by Dorothy’s consistent peace witness and the fact that the Catholic Worker demonstrated how the way of nonviolence was not just about opposing war, but could be a consistent way of life.

I didn’t initially understand how deeply Dorothy’s witness was rooted in her Catholic faith. That came over time. But her example was joined by other influences over those years, including friendship with the Little Brothers of the Gospel, followers of Charles de Foucauld; getting to know Henri Nouwen; reading Thomas Merton and Flannery O’Connor; working as an orderly in a home for terminal cancer patients that was run by an order of Dominican nuns.

There was Dorothy’s influence in opening up for me the world of saints. And then there were the experiences of my own brokenness, including time in jail for

Continued on Page 24

Lt. Gov. Lynn Rogers visits chancery to promote expansion of KanCare

By DAVE MYERS Southwest Kansas Catholic

Lieutenant Governor Lynn Rogers visited the Catholic Chancery in Dodge City April 2 during a state-wide tour to promote the expansion of KanCare, the program used by the state to administer Medicare. At his side is Bishop John B. Brungardt, Rogers’s wife, Kris, Michael Gonzalez, chaplain at St. Catherine Hospital, Vicar General Father Robert Schremmer, Director of Development Mark Roth, and Director of Young Adult Ministries Gentry Heimerman. Leaders of other faith traditions also attended the event. Rogers was sworn in as Lt. Governor on Jan. 14, 2019.

The savings, though, are estimated to outweigh the cost (with the current Federal allocation percentages), Rogers stressed. According to the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas, “KanCare expansion will help stimulate the economy and create thousands of jobs. A study by George Washington University found that expanding KanCare would create 3,500-4,000 new jobs in the next five years.”

“Every hospital in the state will benefit,” Rogers said. For rural areas, money provided through Medicaid expansion could offset 20 to 46 percent of their uncompensated care,” providing more healthcare to the working poor, while supporting the hospital financially.

“Today, 85 percent of the hospitals in Kansas have a negative net operating profit, while 30 percent of hospitals face very serious financial conditions.” According to Rogers, $59 million in KanCare funding would allow pregnant women to be put on healthcare earlier. Currently, pregnant women who are Medicaid recipients are not put on health care until the last few weeks of the pregnancy, Rogers explained. Medicaid expansion would increase the availability of healthcare for pregnant women at a much earlier stage of pregnancy.

Other states that have expanded Medicaid have seen their infant mortality cut in half, Rogers reported. Thirty-five states have approved and adopted Medicaid expansion.

If the proposal is approved in the Kansas Senate, some 1,775 currently uninsured residents would receive healthcare coverage in Ford County alone. The nearly $12 million additional health care spending in Ford County would, according to the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas, create 48 new jobs in the healthcare industry.

Similar stats can be found in counties across the diocese. In Barton County, more than $6 million in health care spending would allow some 915 uninsured residents to gain healthcare, and create 25 new jobs, according to the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas.

“This doesn’t solve everything, but moves us down the road,” Rogers said.
The annual Chrism Mass, during which the bishop blesses the three holy oils—oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick, and holy chrism—is also an occasion for the diocese to recognize those who are celebrating milestone years in their service to the diocese. Among the honorees is a priest celebrating seven decades of priestly ministry, another with 65 years of service—six priests in all, 310 years of ministry between them.

The diocese also is honoring nine people who have earned Diocesan Liturgy Certificates, a recipient of a Diocesan Diploma for Pastoral Ministry, a recipient of a BA in Pastoral Ministry, and a team of 17 people, led by Sister Angela Erevia, who have worked hard to further the efforts of the V Encuentro, a four-year program designed to discern ways in which the Church in the United States can better respond to the Hispanic/Latino presence, and to strengthen the ways in which Hispanics/Latinos respond to the call to the New Evangelization as missionary disciples serving the entire Church.

**Pastoral Ministry Formation Graduates**
- **Ana Gaytan**
  Diocesan Diploma Pastoral Ministry
- **Diana Ramirez**
  BA Pastoral Ministry
- **Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Diocesan Liturgy Certificates**
- **Norma Alvarez**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Luis Blais**
  Prince of Peace, Great Bend
- **Stanley Cordova**
  St. Anthony, Liberal
- **Kayla Gleason**
  St. Nicholas, Kinsley
- **Sister Janice Grochowsky**
  St. Andrew, Wright
- **Greg Lix**
  St. Andrew, Wright
- **Diana Ramirez**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Sister Jan Roberts**
  St. Andrew, Wright
- **Matilda Schenker**
  St. Anthony, Liberal

**Encuentro Team**
- **Sister Angela Erevia**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Norma Alvarez**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Eduardo Arellano**
  St. Mary, Garden city
- **Maribel Cervantes**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Isela Corpening**
  Mary, Queen of Peace, Ulysses
- **Luis and Catalina Guzman**
  St. Helen, Hugoton
- **Mercedes Helms**
  Prince of Peace, Great Bend
- **Luis and Bertha de Luna**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Oscar Marino**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Roberto and Maria Martinez**
  St. Mary, Garden city
- **Ignacio Ortiz**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Diana Ramirez**
  Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Lorenzo and Blana Sandoval**
  St. Mary, Garden City

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**Father Gregory LeBlanc**
25 years of priestly ministry. Father Gregory was ordained May 28, 1994, by Bishop Schlarman at St. Dominic Church, Garden City. He served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Dodge City; and St. Dominic, Garden City, and St. Stanislaus, Ingalls. His pastorates included: Sacred Heart, Ness City, and St. Aloysius, Ransom; and Sacred Heart, Pratt, and St. Joseph, Greensburg. He also served as sacramental minister of St. John the Apostle Parish at St. John. He was granted retirement in 2014 and now resides in Springfield, Ill.

**Bishop Emeritus Ronald M. Gilmore**
50 years of priestly ministry. Bishop Gilmore was ordained to the priesthood July 7, 1969, by Bishop David M. Maloney at St. Mary Church, Chase, Kans., May 11, 1959. He served in the following parishes: St. Joseph, Liebenthal; Sacred Heart Cathedral, Dodge City; St. Lawrence, Jetmore; St. Anthony, Hanston; St. Francis, Seward; St. Andrew, Wright; St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, and St. Patrick, Great Bend. He served as a military chaplain with the U.S. Army, including an assignment during the Vietnam war. He is retired and living in Wichita.

**Father Lisle Pottorf**
70 years of priestly ministry. Father Pottorf was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Mark K. Carroll at Blessed Sacrament Church in Wichita on April 15, 1954. He resides in Wichita. (See feature page 7)

**Father Dermot Tighe**
65 years of priestly ministry. Father Tighe, a native of Ireland, was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Thomas Keough at Carlow Cathedral, June 6, 1954. He served in the following parishes: St. Joseph, Liebenthal; Sacred Heart Cathedral, Dodge City; St. Lawrence, Jetmore; St. Anthony, Hanston; St. Francis, Seward; St. Andrew, Wright; St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, and St. Patrick, Great Bend. He served as a military chaplain with the U.S. Army, including an assignment during the Vietnam war. He is retired and living in Wichita.

**Father Donald Fiedler**
60 years of priestly ministry. Father Fiedler was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Mark K. Carroll at St. Mary Church, Chase, Kans., May 11, 1959. He served in the following assignments: St. Joseph, Andale, St. Rom of Lima, Great Bend; St. Anthony, Liberal, St. Joan of Arc, Elkhart; St. Helen, Hugoton, with Se. Alphonsus, Satanta, and Mary, Queen of Peace, Ulysses. He also served the diocese as Director of the Agency on Mexican American Affairs. He is retired, living in Tucson, Ariz.

**Bishop Emeritus Stanley G. Schlarman**
40 years a bishop. Bishop Schlarman was also jubilarian in 2018, when he was recognized for his 60 years of priestly ministry. He was ordained to the priesthood July 13, 1958; he was ordained a bishop on May 14, 1979. He served as an auxiliary bishop in the Diocese of Belleville before his appointment to the Diocese of Dodge City. He was installed on May 4, 1983 and retired and returned to Illinois on May 14, 1998. In retirement, he served as Vicar of Priests in the Diocese of Joliet and then in the same capacity in the Diocese of Belleville.

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**“Thank you priests, bishops, for your sacrifice.”**
-- Bishop John
WICHITA -- The Spiritual Life Center of Wichita welcomes master iconographer Theodore Papadopoulos from Larissa, Greece for a six-day intensive iconography course this summer. The workshop takes place Monday, July 8 through Saturday, July 13.

During the course, participants will write (paint) the icon of Archangel Michael. The visiting master iconographer and expert instructor, Theodore Papadopoulos, will guide participants through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Participants will discover new secrets in this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality. For beginners and professionals, this workshop offers an opportunity to learn and refine your techniques in this sacred art. Each participant will paint an icon of their own to keep.

The goal of the workshop is to provide students a complete training in the sacred art of Byzantine iconography through clear concise teaching. Emphasis is placed on the student acquiring hands-on experience, in order to be able to comprehend and put into practice the techniques Byzantine icon painting requires.

The course will be taught daily, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pricing includes expert instruction, course materials, daily lunch, and lodging. Pricing and information can be found at www.SLCWichita.org.

This icon of St. Michael the Archangel was painted by Theodore Papadopoulos. The artist will be presenting a week-long workshop in Wichita from July 8-13.

Biography

Melissa Ohden is the survivor of a failed saline infusion abortion in 1977. Despite the initial concerns regarding Melissa’s future after surviving the attempt to end her life at approximately seven months gestation, she has not only survived but thrived.

Melissa is a Master’s level prepared Social Worker and the author of You Carried Me: A Daughter’s Memoir. She is the Founder and Director of The Abortion Survivors Network. Melissa is a frequent contributor to pro-life news outlets and a regular guest on radio and television programs around the world.

Melissa and her husband, Ryan, live in Kansas City, Missouri, with their two daughters, Ava and Olivia.

Fulfilling the purpose that she believes God set out for her when He saved her from the certain death of the abortion attempt, Melissa is truly a voice for the voiceless.

Friday May 3, 2019 | 1:00 P.M.
Kansas State Knights of Columbus Convention
Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom, 410 S 3rd, Manhattan, KS
The Chrism Mass, April 11 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, was, at its heart, a celebration of the unity of the diocese.

The Most Rev. John B. Brungardt blessed the holy oils of catechumens, oil of the sick, and holy chrism.

Representatives from each of the 48 parishes, St. Catherine Hospital, and the Dominican Sisters of Peace, joined in the celebration, and then returned to their communities with containers of the blessed oils to be used throughout the liturgical year.

The day also celebrated the ministry of all the priests of the diocese, and it honored select priests and laypeople celebrating a milestone in their service to the Church (see the articles on Page 10).

The holy oils are closely tied with sacred rites of the Church. The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint those who are ill; the Oil of Catechumens is for the anointing of those preparing for baptism; and the Sacred Chrism is used for the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, ordination, and the dedication of a church and altar.

In his homily, Bishop Brungardt stressed the importance of the laity in a diocese of 48,000 Catholics and less than 50 ordained priests.

"'You, all of you, shall be named priests of the Lord, ministers of our God,'" Bishop Brungardt told all those gathered, quoting Isaiah 61.

It was a day to celebrate ordained priests, as they renewed their priestly promises, and one in which the diocese honored all those lay members who have moved the faith forward, through the Pastoral Ministry Formation Program and Encuentro.

"How do we minister to 48,000 Catholics?" the bishop asked. "The laity has an essential part to play in the mission. The laity is called by Jesus (quoting Isaiah in Luke 4), to share glad tidings, to heal the broken hearted, to provide liberty to captives, to comfort those who mourn."

Providing liberty to captives, the bishop said, sometimes mean freeing ourselves from that which imprisons us.

"How many of you are addicted, are captive, to video games?" he asked a group of sixth graders to laughter when a few sheepishly raised their hands.

"Can you help free a friend from the imprisonment of video games by inviting them to play outside?"

Where do we, the ordained and the laity, get the strength, the motivation, to move our faith forward as Jesus calls us to do? It comes from Jesus Himself, "who loves us and freed us from our sins by His blood," the bishop said, quoting the book of Revelation. "Jesus will give us His grace, His love, His wisdom. He loves us so much."

After the bishop’s homily, the priests of the diocese stood and renewed their promises to willingly and joyfully serve God and His people just as they pledged on the day of their priestly ordination—not to seek gain, but "moved only by a zeal for souls."

The bishop then blessed the large vessels of oil, which, following the Chrism Mass, were brought carefully to a room where volunteers siphoned the oils into separate containers for each parish in the diocese.

The event concluded with a lunch in the social hall, where the honorees (listed on Page 10) were recognized by Bishop Brungardt with a certificate and a gift.

-- Dave Myers

Bishop John Brungardt blesses sacred oil that will be used at parishes throughout the liturgical year.

Photos by Dave Myers

Chrism Mass: Moving faith forward

Special Olympics Kansas

Special Olympics Kansas would like to thank the Kansas State Council Knights of Columbus for their generous support! Because of their continued partnership, we were able to grow our State Basketball and Cheerleading Tournament held in Topeka and Hays in March 2019.

- 29% more athletes joined the tournament
- 9% more coaches taught sports skills
- 27% more basketball teams dribbled on the hardwood
- 25% more cheerleaders were fans in the stands
- Almost 5,000 meals were served during the three day event.

www.ksso.org
www.kansas-kofc.org

Connect, Create, Contribute
Bring Your Friends
Wednesday, April 24th
Dodge City Civic Center

- 9:30 OPENING SHOW
- 10:00-10:45 SPEAKER: Jacque Kemmerer, DNP, MSN, FNP-C
- 10:45—2:15 EXHIBITS OPEN
- 10:45-12:30 COMPETITIVE GAMES
- 11:30-1:00 BOX LUNCH
- 12:30-2:30 ENTERTAINMENT: Buckner Creek Band
- 2:30 BINGO——60+
- 3:30 ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Life Care

2019 SENIOR EXPO BROUGHT TO YOU BY: SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging

Photos by Dave Myers
Priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises to willingly and joyfully serve God and His people. Below, Gentry Heimerman and Adam Urban are among the volunteers siphoning the oil into containers for each parish.

At right, a parish representative retrieves blessed oils to return to her church. Below, parish representatives welcome and thank the bishop for blessing one of the three holy oils to be distributed.

More photos are available and free to download at dcdiocese.org/swkscatholic.

Mother’s Retreat:
Abiding in the Mundane

Saturday, May 11, 2019

We invite all moms to this year's Mothers Retreat Day to give all of their vocation to the Lord and experience a day of rest. This year's retreat will focus on finding the Lord in the sometimes monotonous simplicity of motherhood. We will learn to seek him in the mundane and make our vocation as mothers more prayerful. It is ideal for moms at any stage of life.

The retreat day includes presentations, social time, a delicious lunch, daily Mass, and time for silence and prayer. $30 for the day. Overnight rates available by request.

“Alleluia! He is Risen”
Artist: Sandra Jonson  ~  Location: Resurrection Chapel

"We pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord’s Resurrection may through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life."

Greetings of Easter Light!
Congregation of St. Joseph
Wichita Center

7100 E. 45th St. N.  Wichita, KS 67226  (316) 744-0167  Register at www.SLCWichita.org
Corre hacia al Resucitado

Continuamos nuestra alegría pascual, no sólo el domingo de Pascua, no sólo durante la Octava de Pascua, no sólo en los 50 días del tiempo pascual, sino siempre. Jesús ha resucitado! ¡Nuestro Salvador nos ha abierto las puertas del cielo!

El evangelio de la vigilia pascual de este año era de San Lucas (24,1-12), y el evangelio del domingo de Pascua era de San Juan (20,1-9). Me impresiona la gran cantidad de gente que corre en la mañana del domingo de Pascua (ver también Marcos 16,1-8 y Mateo 28,1-10):

“Pedro se levantó y fue corriendo al sepulcro” (Lucas).

María Magdalena “llega corriendo a donde estaba Simón Pedro” (Juan).
“Pedro y el otro discípulo, el que era muy amigo de Jesús... corrieron” (Juan).
Las mujeres “salieron corriendo del sepulcro” (Marcos).
Las mujeres “se alejaron rápidamente del sepulcro... y corrieron a dar la noticia” (Mateo).
Nuestra cultura ya no corre mucho, menos que incluimos el mirar a deportistas corriendo. ¿Qué haría que tú o yo corriéramos a alguna parte? Tal vez llegar tarde a una cita importante; evitar rápidamente una situación peligrosa; tener miedo. En la primera mañana de Pascua, los testigos pueden haber estado tan llenos de alegría que no pudieron evitar correr. ¡Puede que estuvieran tan desbordados de emoción que caminar no era suficiente!

¿Nuestra fe católica nos obliga a correr hacia Jesús? Cuando estamos ansiosos, asustados, llenos de dolor, tentados, llenos de gozo, o apenados, ¿corremos —no caminamos— hacia los brazos de nuestro Salvador Jesús Resucitado? Él nos consolará, nos protegerá, nos perdonará, nuestro Redentor de la Pascua estará siempre con nosotros. Corramos hacia Jesús, ¡él nos ama más de lo que podemos pedir o imaginar!

Los extraños ya no

Un niño tímido de Lincoln NE, “un zorro en los linderos del bosque,” como se llamaba así mismo, se convirtió en antropólogo, naturalista y escritor encantador. Meditando en materia de energía y en los ritmos increíblemente largos de tiempo, Loren Eiseley (+ 1977) se sentía él mismo como un “huérfano en el universo”.
San Agustín se acercó al mismo pensamiento cuando escribió “nuestros corazones están inquietos, hasta que descansen en ti”.

Eran solicitantes, Loren y Agustín lo fueron: ¿Quién soy yo? ¿De dónde vengo? ¿Hacia dónde voy? Eran buscadores de lo más profundo en su ADN.

San Agustín y todos los católicos creen en un Dios que nos hizo. Que creó cada alma humana como un sólo ser. Lo hace porque nos ama. Quiere que lo conozcamos, lo amemos, sirvamos y seaamos felices con él para siempre.
San Agustín y todos los católicos creemos que él nos hizo a su imagen, y por lo tanto nos hizo libres. Eso es cómo el pecado entró al mundo, a través de un uso indebido de la libertad. Allí siguió a raíz del pecado, todos otros males físicos y morales. En ese desper tar, lo huérfano de Eiseley, se balanceaba demasiado.
San Agustín y todos los católicos creen que Dios nunca renunció a nosotros, pecadores, aunque lo fuiamos. Nunca dejó de amarnos, deleitándose en nosotros. Nunca dejó de ser un padre para nosotros. Es por eso que envió a su hijo para liberarnos de ese huérfano, que da energía, ese pecado. Nos hizo por amor, y él nos volvió a hacer de Amor.
Ya no somos extraños y extranjeros. Ya no somos huérfanos. Estos misterios de Pascua que celebramos, nos recuerdan que “somos” hijas e hijos en el Hijo, que “vivimos” en la casa de Dios, y que sabemos que hay una comunión fácil con él, uno con el otro, y con el mundo que él creó.

Rev. Ronald M. Gilmore, Obispo Emérito de la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City

REV. JOHN B. BRUNGARDT
Obispo de la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City

¡ALELUYA, LA LUZ DE CRISTO SE LEVANTA PARA DESTEGRRA LA OSCURIDAD!
Hallelujah, the light of Christ rises to banish the darkness!

HAPPY EASTER from Newman University & The Adorers of the Blood of Chirst
¿Qué relación tiene el conejo y el hueso de Pascua con la fe católica?

POR MARÍA XIMENA RONDÓN

En el siglo XVII el Papa Pablo V bendijo el hueso en Marzo para que se pintara como símbolo de la Resurrección de Jesús. En la Edad Media, cuando llegaba la Pascua, los huevos se pintaban de colores y se consideraban objetos muy preciados. En el siglo XVII el Papa Pablo V bendijo el hueso en una plegaria, quizás para dejar la prohibición decretada por la Iglesia en el siglo IX de no consumirlos durante la Cuaresma.

La llegada de la Pascua suponía el levantamiento de la norma. Se puede decir que se realizaba el “festín del hueso”, porque representaba el regocijo y la vuelta a la alegría. Con el tiempo se levantó el veto y se mantuvo la costumbre de celebrar la Pascua consumiendo y regalando huevos.

A través de su reflexión cotidiana “Punto de Vista”, el director del Grupo ACI, Alejandro Bermúdez, explicó que en algunos países de Europa, como Italia, en el Domingo de Ramos muchas familias llevan huevos a la iglesia para bendecirlos y consumirlos en el Domingo de Resurrección. También comentó que en las iglesias de Estados Unidos los niños realizan una búsqueda de huevos de chocolate o de plástico con golosinas dentro. “Se hace en un clima Pascal, es por el gozo de la resurrección del Señor, que es dulce. Para ellos es un día especial porque sus padres no batallan con ellos por comer dulces, sino que lo permiten. Entonces hay un poder catequético en estos símbolos”.

Alejandro Bermúdez también resaltó que el hueso y el conejo de Pascua son “símbolos que no podemos rechazar, sino recuperarlos” en su contenido cristiano.

EL CONEJO DE PASCUA

En el caso del conejo de Pascua, indicó que este proviene del hecho que antiguamente la figura de la lumbre silvestre se utilizaba como recurso de catequeis para hablar sobre cómo debía ser el camino del cristiano hacia la resurrección. Las patas traseras de la lumbre son grandes, poderosas y sirven para ascender por terrenos empinados. En cambio, las patas delanteras son pequeñas y débiles. “Estas patas hacen que al conejo le sea fácil ascender y difícil descender. Esto era utilizado para representar el camino de la vocación del cristiano. Debe ser reacio y difícil a ir hasta abajo en su vida mortal y a la vez debe ser pronto, puesto y ágil. Para ir hacia arriba, hacia la resurrección del Señor”.

En Breve

Padre Lisle Pottorf

(Página 8)

Cuando el SKC le preguntó por primera vez al padre Lisle Pottorf cómo estaba él, él respondió: “Para un anciano, estoy muy bien”. El sacerdote fue honrado en la misa financieras. Con 70 años de sacerdocio.

A lo largo de su vida, el sacerdote ha sido muy influyente en la comunidad católica, tanto en su juventud a través de oraciones y donaciones financieras. Como si eso no fuera suficiente de un hito, el sacerdote fue honrado en la misa del 11 de abril en la ciudad de Dodge City por sus años de sacerdocio.

La Misa del Crisma

(Página 10, 12-13)

La Misa del Crisma, el 11 de abril en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, fue, en el fondo, una celebración de la unidad de la diócesis. AII, el Reverendísimo John B. Brungardt bendijo los aceites sagrados: aceite de catecúmenos, aceite de los enfermos y santo crisma.

Representantes de cada parroquia se unieron a la celebración y luego regresaron a sus comunidades con recipientes de los aceites benditos que se utilizarán durante todo el año litúrgico. El día también celebró el ministerio de todos los sacerdotes de la diócesis y honró a sacerdotes y laicos que celebran un hito en su servicio a la Iglesia (consulte los artículos en la página 10). Los santos aceites están estrechamente relacionados con los ritos sagrados de la Iglesia. El Aceite de los Enfermos se usa para ungir a los enfermos; el Aceite de los Catecúmenos es para la unción de los que se preparan para el bautismo; y el Crisma Sagrado se usa para los sacramentos del bautismo, la confirmación, la ordenación y la dedicación de una iglesia y un altar.

Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios

La Diócesis requiere a todos los empleados y voluntarios que trabajan con menores a asistir a las sessiones de conscientización de Proteger a los Niños de Dios. Estas sessiones de conscientización están disponibles en ambos inglés y español. Son conducidos por gente de nuestra Diócesis especialmente entrenadas como facilitadores. Las sessiones se publicarán en las parroquias, escuelas, el periódico Southwest Kansas Catholic y la página electrónica de la Diócesis. www.dcdiocese.org/protecingchildren.

Reportando Abuso

Si usted sospecha abuso por parte de personal d la Iglesia, aparte de hacer un reporte a esas autoridades civiles, por favor comuníquese con el Señor Charles Befort. Puede hacer un reporte a la Diócesis en su sitio web. El formulario para hacer su reporte lo puede encontrar en la siguiente dirección: www.dcdiocese.org/safe-environment.

¿Tienen un minuto?

John STANG
Austín HABASH
Tyler SAUCEDO

¿Algún momento para escribir una carta de apoyo a nuestros seminarianas?

Por favor tomen un momento para escribir una carta de apoyo a nuestros seminarianas. Ellos han expresado lo grande que es para ellos saber que hay alguien pensando en ellos y orando por ellos.

¿Alguna vez ha experimentado un acto de bondad? El Obispo John B. Brungardt invita a todos los que están leyendo esto a enviar sus historias al Southwest Kansas Catholic, skregister@dcdiocese.org. El obispo nos pide a todos que realicemos actos de bondad como oración por las vocaciones sacerdotales.

Actos de bondad
‘Unplanned’ movie showing becomes a community event

Special to the Catholic

The story of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director, has hit the big screen in a big way. The success of this film, Unplanned, was evident locally in the 480 people who attended the premiere event held in Great Bend on March 28th.

According to Janéé Bernal, one of the organizers of the event, “This is a movie that everyone needs to see. It exposes the lie of abortion and inspires those of us who have always been pro-life to do more to educate people and strive for a culture of life.”

The premiere event was organized by Gayla Kirmer, Executive Secretary to the Bishop and Respect Life Coordinator, and Janéé Bernal, Director of Matrimony, Family Life, and Natural Family Planning.

The Kansas Council of the Knights of Columbus provided funds to show the movie at Golden Belt Cinema 6 in Great Bend at no cost to the attendees. Overwhelmingly, those in attendance were parishioners, priests, and sisters from across the Dodge City Diocese. Thanks to the generous donation from the Knights of Columbus, the Diocese of Dodge City was able to buy out the entire cinema for one night to show the movie on all six screens. Prior to the showings, Bernal said, “We want to thank the Knights for their generous donation which made this event possible, as well as the owners and staff at Golden Belt Cinema 6 for believing in the importance of bringing this movie to our area.”

Kirmer added, “I think it is very easy for us to dismiss the violence of abortion. The scars that abortion leaves behind are deep. Now is an important time for a message of forgiveness, hope and healing to spread throughout the diocese and community. The Unplanned movie premier in our diocese has been perhaps one of the most important events that I have been a part of and I feel blessed to have been involved in the planning and implementation. ”

“I want to especially thank Erin Riordan, manager of the Golden Belt Cinema 6 in Great Bend for working with us to make this movie accessible to almost 500 people and to the Kansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus for their generous donation.”

Movie-goer Jolene Thurston, a parishioner at Prince of Peace Parish, agreed. “This movie is one that everyone should see. We, as a people, are very ignorant about how abortion affects all other aspects of life. This movie shows that those that are affected by abortion feel pain forever.”

The movie tells Johnson’s story, and reveals how, after eight years, she left the abortion industry and turned to her former enemies in the pro-life movement. Johnson is now an advocate for life - speaking across the country and authoring books. Johnson has also had great success with her apostolate, And Then There Were None, to help abortion clinic workers leave the abortion industry.

My Dear People,

Greetings this Easter Season in our Risen Lord! I hope your Triduum was a joy-filled and fruitful experience.

Below is a Parish Grant Application for Parish School of Religion, Youth, Young Adult and Adult Ministries. Even with the tremendous generosity of the faithful, these funds are not unlimited, nor will they last forever. Some parishes cannot afford these resources out of their own budgets. Some parishes cannot – this is what Vibrant Ministries is for. Applications are due May 31, 2019 for the Fall Semester, and/or October 31, 2019 for the Spring Semester. Fill out here, on a separate piece of paper, or find the form online at dcdiocese.org/news/archive/3564-vma-grant-application/file, and submit to Dan Stremel, Finance Officer, Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, PO Box 137, Dodge City, KS 67801.

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Name of Parish_________________________ City_________________________

Person Completing Grant Application & Position ____________________________________________________________

Type of Grant Applied for (Complete separate application for each selected)

- PSR Curriculum
- PSR Technology
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry
- PSR Catechist Coaching

- Pastoral Ministry Formation Scholarship: Name(s) of Persons and parish position (Rel Ed Director, Catechist, volunteer, parishioner, etc., for which scholarship is applied). __________________________________________________________

1) Is this program a new or continuing program/project? ______ New ______ Continuing
2) If continuing, how has the program/project been funded in past years? __________________________________________________________

3) Describe the need for the grant and how it will be used. __________________________________________________________

4) Budget for Funded Program – describe in detail all expenses of the program. Please attach a complete budget to the application. Incorporate all funding sources, including parish and individual contributions.

5) How will the parish address the funding needs for this program/project if grant funding is not awarded? __________________________________________________________

Grant Applicant ___________________________ Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Pastor ___________________________ Date ___________________________

May you have a blessed Easter season and beyond in the Lord,
+ Most Rev. John B. Brungardt
Funds from the Vibrant Ministries -- Uniting Our Church appeal are distributed through the Ann and Virgil Dechant Foundation. The roots of the foundation began in 1542, when Father Juan Padilla first established the Catholic Church in Southwest Kansas. Nearly 450 years later, Celestine Axman of St. Anne Parish in Olmitz donated $700,000 to support the mission of evangelization in Southwest Kansas. Later, Bishop Stanley Schlarman added other diocesan funds to establish the Catholic Education Fund for Catholic schools.

The Dechant Foundation combines diocesan funds into one far-reaching effort that continues support of Catholic schools, Catholic formation across generations, and priests for the future.

“Whoever gives may not be the one to see it blossom, as opposed to, say, donating to a building project and watching it being constructed. Father Juan Padilla isn’t sitting beside me, seeing what happened with the church he helped build here. Yet he gave us that.

“When someone asks how can I build up the Church in southwest Kansas, this is one of the ways to do that, knowing that the biggest roots of this may not be until down the road, with our kids and our grandkids.” — Father Wesley Schawe

### Mission:
To support the Roman Catholic Church of the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, in strict conformity with and subject to the laws and disciplines of the Roman Catholic Church.

### Programs:
The faith formation program focuses on promoting adult formation and the pastoral ministry formation program in English and Spanish; parish school of religion programs and Catholic schools; continuing formation for catechists, Catholic school teachers and diocesan staff; and strengthening ministry to youth and young adults. The priestly vocations program provides ongoing formation for priests including support for language studies, retreats, advanced education and leadership programs. Priestly vocations also provides for the care of retired priests, missionary priests and seminarians.

The works of mercy program provides ongoing support to Catholic charities assisting to adopt children, recover from addictions, form healthy relationships, give birth to healthy babies, feed the hungry, move from homelessness into housing, take classes, get jobs and achieve goals. Finally, the foundation offers support of the greater Church through gifts and donations.

### How are your gifts benefiting the Church’s mission in SW Kansas?

**Pastoral Ministry Formation:**
Inviting, encouraging and motivating adults to deepen their knowledge of Christ so they may be models of Gospel living. We have offered more than 90 courses through an interactive television network (ITV) and have more than 800 individuals and parish leaders who have received training. Additionally, 45 individuals and parish ministers have completed the four-year pastoral ministry degree program. Support from the Vibrant Ministries Appeal will help expand the degree program in Spanish.

**Parish School of Religion:**
Parishes assist parents in becoming “the first teachers of their child in the ways of faith [and] ... also the best of teachers.” The Vibrant Ministries Appeal will provide the best resources available to teach more than 2,500 children annually.

**Catholic Schools:**
Establish a tuition assistance fund to encourage Catholic school enrollment of children whose families cannot afford the full tuition. Also, funds raised will support the work of the Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

**Continuing Formation for Catechists, School Teachers and Diocesan Staff:**
To support the 250 parish catechists who teach our children, the Vibrant Ministries Appeal will help establish a catechist coaching program. Future coaches will serve as mentors and partners to our catechists.

**Youth and Young Adults:**
Strengthening the faith of our youth and young adults vital to the growth of our Church through programs such as Prayer and Action service projects for high school and college students to personally experience Jesus’ call to care for those in need throughout our 28 counties. Connecting teens with major events such as Teens Encounter Christ, junior and high school rallies, Totus Tuus and the National Catholic Youth Conference. Supporting and assisting parish youth ministry. Reaching out to the young adults attending our five community colleges around the Diocese.

**Priestly Vocations:**
Our priests dedicate their lives in service to the Lord and to our Church. We are blessed by their ministry as they share their gifts with us. We are called to support their ongoing formation, and care for the needs of our priests throughout their retirement years. Additionally, we are called to provide support for the missionary and international priests who serve in our parishes, and our seminarians preparing for the priesthood.
The Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas Awards Scholarships

Agues Fry
Chloe Fischer

Agues Wherlee Todd
Brooke Reimer

Bess Dowdy
Mackenzie Lee
Leslie Rodella

Beth Viertahler
Caleh Rodda
Grainger Rodda

Betty J. and Rolland E. Werner Scholarship Fund
Amelia Powers
Taday Falcon

Brian Pfannenstiel
Brian Groth
Dayton McGroarty

Buddy - O’Herin
Jack Berry

Carolyn Seidl Memorial Scholarship Fund
Lucy Lozano-Alba

Danny and Janis Reichenborn Scholarship Fund
Kamrener Blankman
Adriana Rodriguez

Dave & Carol Wagner
Erik Slattery

DCHS - Class of 1953
Cindy Bai
Anahi Rodriguez

Donald D. Trent Scholar Fund (KR)
Olivia Gregg
Molly Hendrix
Eddie Del Toro
Haley Ruehlen

Donald D. Trent Scholar Fund (VT)
Jayden Garcia

Donald L. & Shirley J. Skinner Family Endowment
Kenzie Jones
Chase Buggs
Kaitlyn Blevins
Gentry Shapland

Dr. Carl A. Viertahler Memorial Scholarship
Makale Walker
Milton Guzman

Dr. Richard B. and Patricia Dryden Education Scholarship Fund
Chloe Fischer

Dylan Rhoten #41 Memorial Scholarship Fund
Victor Saldiva

E. T. "Ned" Guymon, Jr.
Victoria Powell

Edward Schinstock Family Scholarship Fund
Branton Hatley

Eleanor Fry Family Scholarship
Austin Lampe
Jory Lampe
Logan Cox
Cora Tasset
Kelby Stein
Hunter Hearme
Tellman Peters

Emilio S & Margaret Blanco Duran
Jacal Baeza

Ernest Foote Scholarship Fund
Austin Tieer
Joshua Neushafer
Allie Vanderhee
Mikaela Puchner
Audra Burns
Maris George
Saoona Dykx
Tennon Busch
Kaisha Barman
Christopher Wendell
Cody Fruitk
Justin Fuigtt
Kaylee Simon
Wyatt Bell
Morgan Toehuker
Garell Walker
Shomere Loewen
Alexander Shineser
Tanner Dewey
Anna Teichroeb
Aspen Bell
Taylor Janz
Emily Berry
Morgan Schwein
Eli Bulfinger
Madison Edger
Isabel Pena
Jace Urush
Zachary Schmidt
Zachary Barrie
Ty Poer
Luis Balteros
Cameren Bartlett
Ambrose Shaughnessey
Kendall Dwyre

Ernest L. Foote Perpetual
Victoria Powell

Ezth Stein Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund
Madeline Davis

FF & Rosa Spahn Riedlinger Foundation
Keith Evans
Cali Keith
Kenzie Jones
Jessie Urush
Brooke Keith

Finnup Foundation
Brooke Abernathy
Hope Beach
Emily Glenn
Logan Durr

Fremont & Beatrice Buehne
Adams Gutierrez
Gihlert Konrade
Jack Berry

Ginny Ziegler Memorial Scholarship Fund
Lucas Higginson

Gregg Steimel
Dayton McGroarty
Alexa Amerini

Hoffman-Dewell Memorial Gentry Shapland

J. Floyd & Seville Breeding Candice Reimer

James & Felicia Casey Candice Reimer

James Nafer
Janie Ryan

Janis and Danny Reichenborn Scholarship Fund
Chloe Fischer

Jay J. Sloton Memorial Scholarship
Erika Calderon

Jay & Jacqueline Trindle Kasutie Blankman
Bernadette Shaughnessey

Jay D. Gerber Scholarship Fund
Savannah Bolingter

Jeanette Gabel
Madeleine Davis

Jes & Juliet Denious
Jack Berry
Cameron Birney

Jim & Mamie Hogan
Logan Lix

John & Dorothy Perrier
Kenton Woudra

John Lampe
John Stang
Esteban Hernandez-Mejia

Joseph & Anna Kliesen
Megan Nightengale

Landmark Federal Savings
Caitall Cobian

Lea Konda
Brett Koehn

Leonard Maxwell Memorial Scholarship Fund
Brooke Reimer

Louis & Nora Lia Fund
John Stang

Lyndsie Baird Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund
Candice Reimer

Marcellino & Josephine Montoya Pedro
Austin Burrma

Margarit Robb Fund
Brenton Hatley
Keljio Crouch
Janie Ryan
John Stang
Lucas Higginson
Kaden Riekenberg
Brian Groth
Jayed Garcia
Esteban Garcia
Vicor Saldana
Austin Burrma
Ahtziri Roetzer

Marsha M Trent (VT)
Keldio Crouch

Marsha M Trent School (KR)
Sydney Foster
Cali Keith
Slater Higlin

Marvin Z. & Floris J. Hampton Family Fund
Alyse Pullart
Elizabeth Kari
Cecilia Wiser

Mary Lapton Scholarship Fund
Emily Salamoni

McWhirt Family Scholarship Fund
Spencer Bowman

Michael C. Hornung
Logan Lix

Mildred & Carl Schaffer Scholarship
Candice Reimer

Norbert Tasset
Logan Lix

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Kaden Riekenberg

Ralph Weaver Behan
Jalen Gifford

Ray & Lois Bryson
Eric Frith
Leslie Rodela

Red Demon Boostee Club
Esteban Garcia

Rev. John Handly
Brent Koehn

Richard and Phyllis Johnson Scholarship Fund
Caitall Cobian

Schechel - Snyder
Carson Haupt

Sgt. Ben & Elaine Morton
Kaden Riekenberg

Sr M MelEssa Ryneck Memorial
Kenton Woudra

St. Mary - Alumni ‘Academic’ Payden Shapland

St. Mary - High School Alumni Dayton McGroarty

Sunflower Select Fund
Brooke Reimer
Chelsey Biebler
Megan Powers

Terina Irsk Memorial
Odahy Escobedo-Hernandez
Ashlyn Care

The Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Milton Guzman

The Minnesota Community Foundation Scholarship Fund
Ahtziri Roetzer

Thomas H. and Roberta B. Harkness Endowed Account
Milton Guzman
Keri Bruntz
Taylor Murray
Tara Flas
Alyson Fos
Alexis Clarke

Todd Fitzsimmons Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tanner Tiefen

Tom and Donna Shirley Family Scholarship Fund
Kristian Edwards
Thomas Finley
Luis Aros
Matthew Haselhorst
Fernando Soto
Crystal Rojas
Lawrence Konrade
Norma Olavar
Clifton Miller
Luke Davis
Caitlyn Janousk
Luis Cobian Lepe
Alexander Ramirez
Daniel Martinez
Brandon Roy
Ning Tran
Valeria Aranda
Ceyenne Lezanno
Leah Stein
Jessica Olivarre
Brett Groth
Madison Loschke
Colton Farra
Haley Collins
Jaquelyn Martinez
Morgan Harvey

Tom Lowery Memorial
Bremna Galindo

Val & Norma Hentos Purple Pride Scholarship
Malachi Walker
Calden McCollum
Gabriel McFall

Win. & Clara Tenbrink Family Scholarship Fund
Dayton McGroarty

Wright Centennial
Logan Lix

The Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas (CFSK) has awarded 155 scholarships totaling $193,600 for the 2019-2020 academic year. More than 222 scholarship applications were received and reviewed before the recipients were selected. The CFSK administers a portion of St. Mary of the Plains scholarship endowment as well as new scholarship funds from which these scholarships were awarded.

The CFSK, the fourth community foundation founded in Kansas, was formed in 1991 for the purpose of building a charitable endowment for the area. The Foundation receives and manages capital of all amounts from individuals, families, businesses and other foundations.

The income from these funds is applied to 1) uses as designated by the donor, or 2) uses that serve the best interests of the community, depending upon how the gift is structured. A total of $2,863,317 has been awarded in scholarships to 4,256 total recipients over the last 27 years.
Dominican Pitcher ... er ... Sister will be first to adorn a TOPPS card

Chicago, Ill. (CNA) - A religious sister can expect that if she is faithful to her vows, fervent in prayer, and zealous in following Jesus, her face might someday wind up on the front of a holy card.

But few religious sisters expect ever to find themselves on a baseball card. Sister Mary Jo Sobieck, OP, though? She’ll premiere on a Topps baseball card this summer.

The sister, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, caught attention from baseball scouts and casual fans last summer, when she threw out the ceremonial first pitch at a Chicago White Sox game last August.

The sister bounced the ball off her bicep before delivering a strike straight over the plate. Sobieck, a teacher at Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, Illinois, didn’t expect her pitch to go viral. But it did. Video clips got millions of views, made ESPN’s Sportcenter highlight reel, and were featured in national media.

The sister is no stranger to a baseball diamond. She played shortstop on the softball team at Cathedral Catholic High School in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and continued playing softball at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth.

“Growing up, I was naturally gifted as an athlete — that was my God-given gift,” Sobieck told the Duluth News Tribune last year.

“To be a good athlete, you have to be strong in body, mind, and spirit,” Sobieck told Runner’s World.

“There will be times that you’ll lose, and you have to know how to prepare your mind for those failures. Striving towards sainthood requires the same level of discipline, humility, and stick-to-it-ness.”

After Sobieck’s pitch, Topps decided to place her on a baseball card in their Allen and Ginter series, which features baseball players along celebrities.

“We wanted to feature her on the set because she is a huge sports fan, a lifelong baseball fan,” Susan Lulgjuraj told Chicago’s WBEZ.

“And when we saw her throw that first pitch last year, it kind of clicked. We said, ‘How cool would it be to feature Sister [Mary] Jo on a card?’” she added. Sobieck, 49, earned $1,000 for appearing on the card, which she intends to donate for a scholarship fund in her name at Marian Catholic High School.

Though her baseball card debut is complete, Sister Sobieck fans and memorabilia collectors will be waiting, most likely a while, for the release of that holy card.
NORMA MAE (SPALCIL) KING, 86, of Prince of Peace Parish, St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, passed away April 1, 2019. Norma was born to Ernest Frank and Alice Marie (Batchman) Spacil at the family homestead on the Barton/Staﬀord County line. She attended St. Joseph Catholic School in Ellinwood and Sacred Heart Academy in Wichita. While attending Sacred Heart, Norma entered the sisterhood at the Dominican Convent, where she took her initial vows as a Novitiate. A short time later she left the convent and returned to graduate from Sacred Heart. She went on to receive her Registered Nursing Certicate from St. Rose School of Nursing in Great Bend and worked as an RN for Drs. White, Swain, Evans and Hill. On Jan. 12, 1957 she married Kenneth Ballard King in Ellinwood. They were married for 58 years before Kenneth passed away on August 31, 2015. She was a member of the Altar Society and the Daughters of Isabella, serving as Vice Regent, Regent and Past Regent. In recent years, she enjoyed celebrating weekly Mass with the Sisters of the Dominican Convent. She was active in her children’s lives and activities and served in Camp Fire as a Bluebird and Camp Fire Leader, Board President and Camp Chu-Wa-Ni Director. She also served with the Boy Scouts in Pack 120 as a Den Mother, Den Leader Coach and Committee member, and with the Cheyenne District of the Kanza Council as a Committee Member, Cub Chairman and Key Three. She was a recipient of the Silver Fawn Award. Norma is survived by her children, James Martin King, and Allan Lopez; Martin King, Karen Smith, Lori Jacobs, Sissy Davis, and Allan Lopez; six children: Fatima “Tina” Gonzalez, Danie Lopez, Beatrice Gonzales, Daniel Lopez, Beatrice Ralp; and numerous nieces and nephews. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. -- Matthew 11:28-30

OBITUARIES

NATALIA “NETTIE” LOPEZ, 90, St. Anthony Parish, Lakin, died March 30, 2019. She was born in Dodge City to Emidio and Petra (Seguda) Moreno. Nettie grew up south of Dodge City in what was known as Mexican Village, where she worked at a cleaners. On March 5, 1957, she married Ralph Lopez at St. Mary Catholic Church in Garden City. She worked at High Plains Retirement Village in Lakin, retiring at age 62. Survivors include her husband Ralph; six children: Fatima “Tina” Gonzalez, Danie Lopez, Beatrice Novack, Raymond Lopez, Cecilia “Sissy” Davis, and Allan Lopez; 14 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Father Peter Tran presided.

MICHAELE “MIKE” GARCIA, SR., 65, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died March 26, 2019. He was born in Garden City, the son of Manuel and Phyllis (Pichardo) Garcia. Growing up, he helped the family-owned business “El Zarape.” He married Michelle Gerstner; the two later divorced. He worked for USD 457 as a truancy oﬃcer at Abe Hubert Middle School for many years and was a mentor and friend to many youth who needed his guidance. His impact in that ﬁeld led many to become successful adults. His favorite pastime was cheering for the Pittsburg Steelers (and making sure his sister Cookie could hear him loud and clear when he did so!). Survivors include sons, Nicolas Garcia and Mike Garcia Jr.; daughters Cookie Jurado, Hector Garcia, Tony Garcia, Manuel Garcia Jr., and Louie Garcia; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

MICHAEL E. “MIKE” NEY, 66, of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Hoisington, died April 11, 2019. He was born in Hoisington to Francis and Margaret (Koeﬄer) Ney. Mike married Debra Kay Bennett on Oct. 22, 1976. She died on Dec. 10, 2008. Mike, a life time resident of Hoisington, was a 1975 graduate of Hoisington High School, furthering his education at Pittsburgh State Vo-Tech. Mike managed Cardinal Apartments, Hoisington, and was a skilled ﬂooring installer, operating Ney’s Furniture and Carpet in Hoisington. Survivors include his mother, Margaret Ann Ney; one son, Heath Ney; one daughter Heather Marsh; two brothers, John F. Ney and Bob Ney; and five grandchildren. Father Anselm Eke, MSP presided.

CONNIE SUE BRAUN, 71, of Christ the King Parish, Deerﬁeld, died April 10, 2019. She was born in Boise City, Oklahoma to Louis Zirkel, Sr. and Bonnie (Collins) Zirkel. Connie grew up with her family in Garden City. On March 16, 1968, she married Richard L. Braun. They lived in Chicopee, Massachusetts for a short time before moving to Deerﬁeld in 1970. They have lived in Deerﬁeld since. A farm wife and homemaker for most of her life, Connie also worked as a bank teller in her early years, and later worked for many years for Deerﬁeld schools where she retired in 2013. She was a member of the Capsula Club of Deerﬁeld; she served for many years on the election board, and also served as a scout leader. Survivors include her husband Richard L. Braun; four children, Bonnie Bribiesca, Elizabeth Dillinger, Lisa Braun, and Jeff Braun; a brother, Dennis Zirkel; two sisters, Diana Pfeifer and Donna Batts; six grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Father Peter Tran presided.

Obituary policy

Obituaries are listed free of charge, but must be edited for space. If you see that a listing has not been included, call Dave at (620) 227-1519, or email skregister@dcdiocese.org. Please pray for the repose of the soul of all those listed, and for their friends and loved ones.

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NEWS QUOTES

“They’d come home when I was young, and take out a jug of whiskey and take my dad fishing. Needless to say, they didn’t catch any fish…They were great men.”
-- Father Tom Sheridan, a retired priest of the Cheyenne diocese, the last Irish-born priest serving in Wyoming, speaking of two Irish priests serving in Wyoming who would come back home to Ireland for a visit when he was a boy.
Gabriel’s Crossword

Across
1. Father of Jesse
2. Archdiocese in Nebraska
3. Prophet in Luke (Lk 2:36)
4. Abbr. for two NT epistles
5. “...to the ___ of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)
6. Letter by which a priest is released from one diocese and accepted into another
7. Marriage vows
8. Abbr. for two NT epistles
9. “...to anger, abounding in mercy.” (Ps 103:8)
10. Benedictine title
11. Be present at Mass
12. Vestment worn under the alb
13. Medieval day state
14. Sin against hope
15. “How Great Thou ___”
16. Catholic news reporter Roberts
17. Martyred Salvadoran, Bishop Romero
18. The Pharisee was surprised to notice that Jesus did not do this (Lk 11:38)
20. Bible book about the early Christians
21. Judah, for example
22. Surname of Pius XII
23. Winter hrs. in the Diocese of Cheyenne
24. Biblical measure
25. Rite in the Church in the West
26. Our ___ of Lourdes
27. First patriarch, to his friends?
28. “...to anger, abounding in mercy.” (Ps 103:8)
29. Catholic actor Connery
30. Catholic singer Perry
31. See 24A
32. Magi leader
33. See 24A
34. Redemptorist community (abbr.)
35. A Doctor of the Church
36. “...and the earth.” (Acts 1:8)
37. Winter hrs. in the Diocese of Cheyenne
38. “...to anger, abounding in mercy.” (Ps 103:8)
39. He established Notre Dame, Fr. Edward ___,
40. ___ pro nobis

Down
1. A trip through the air -> Illumination; not heavy
2. Travelling through the air -> Not telling the truth
3. True statement -> Part of a play; something done
4. Straightforward; blunt -> Position in a hierarchy
5. Cord for igniting an explosive -> To employ; exploit
6. An example of a number -> Belonging to us
7. To put in as much as possible -> Unwell; sick
8. High body temperature -> At any time; at all times
9. 1° Celsius above normal
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ACROSS 1 Father of Jesse 3 Archdiocese in Nebraska 6 Prophet in Luke (Lk 2:36) 8 Abbr. for two NT epistles 9 “...to the ___ of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) 11 Letter by which a priest is released from one diocese and accepted into another 12 Marriage vows 13 “...wide the doors to Christ” 15 “How Great Thou ___” 16 Catholic news reporter Roberts 17 Martyred Salvadoran, Bishop Romero 18 The Pharisee was surprised to notice that Jesus did not do this (Lk 11:38) 19 Bible book about the early Christians 22 Winter hrs. in the Diocese of Cheyenne 23 “Give us this ___...” 24 Biblical measure 27 “My punishment is too great to ___.” (Gen 4:13) 29 Catholic actor Connery 30 Catholic singer Perry 33 See 24A 34 Redemptorist community (abbr.)

St. Michael’s Mind Teaser

Teaser The First:
When you behead a word, you remove the first letter and still have a valid word. You will be given Clues for the two words, longer word first.
Example: Begin -> Sour, acidic

Answer: The words are Start and Tart.

Teaser The Second: What are the phrases, etc., in these boxes saying?

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movie reviews
Who is Cuyler Black?

From Page 4

Cuyler: Overwhelmingly, the responses are enthusiastically positive. Many people are grateful that someone is creating this style of humor for Christians, as it reflects their own, or validates it and encourages them.

Most Christians I’ve encountered believe that God has a tremendous sense of humor, as does His Son. People sometimes tell me that they use Inherit the Mirth cartoons as a witness tool as well. You don’t necessarily have to be religious to get many of the jokes, as I deal often with Biblical characters who are still well-known icons, regardless of whether you know your Scriptures or not: Adam and Eve, Noah, David and Goliath, Jesus and the disciples, etc.

Laughter helps break through barriers, and if folks don’t understand the cartoon, an explanation opens communication. Once in a while, a sourpuss will decide that Inherit the Mirth is an affront to God, but I’m quite confident that such a person doesn’t really know Him very well. My cartoons draw inspiration from Genesis 21:6 “God has brought me laughter.”

How do you balance your humor so that you don’t go “too far?” Obviously you feel Christians should laugh.

Cuyler: I like to think of my humor as being playfully reverent, or reverently playful. I love God. I’m excited to help emphasize an often under-appreciated facet of His personality—His humor. I always pray that He’ll keep me within boundaries acceptable to Him.

When it comes to having some fun with folks like Moses or Noah or the disciples, for example, I see them as fair game for affectionate laughs at their expense because they’re human like you and me, with flaws and foibles. When it comes to Jesus, I’ll use Him in my cartoons, but never make fun of Him. The humor will lie somewhere other than at His expense. And speaking of Jesus, I believe that much of His ministry involved a core message of “Hey, people, lighten up!”

“I like to think of my humor as being playfully reverent, or reverently playful. I love God. I’m excited to help emphasize an often under-appreciated facet of His personality—His humor.”

Feast of St. Catherine

Monday, April 29th

St. Catherine Hospital, 401 E. Spruce

9:30 AM— Mass with Most Rev. John B. Brungardt Cafeteria
10:45 AM— Public Town Hall with Scott Taylor Classroom B
Noon-2 PM— Departmental Showcase South Lobby
2 PM— Cake and Ice Cream Cafeteria

9:30 AM— Misa con el Reverendísimo Obispo John Brungardt Cafeteria
10:45 AM— Ayuntamiento público con Scott Taylor, Salon B
Noon-2 PM— Feria de salud, con varios departamentos del hospital dando informacion sobre sus servicios
2 PM— Pastel y Nieve Cafeteria

Save the Date!
The Fathers Gielow will be in town for the SWKS Pro Am August 8th Mass in the SCH Chapelle at 11:30 am
August 11th: Mass at Southwind at 8:30 am

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acts of civil disobedience, my experiences of doubt and darkness. Through all this, I came to better understand the spiritual depths in which Dorothy’s witness was rooted. It was among Catholics that I came to know and love Jesus in a new way, and to acknowledge that the Catholic Church had become my home.

SKC: That wasn’t the end of your relationship with Dorothy, was it?

ROBERT ELLSBERG: I had no idea when I first met Dorothy, how much her life and witness would shape the rest of my life. I had no idea, when she appointed me editor of The Catholic Worker when I was 20, that she was pointing me in the direction of my life’s work and vocation. She considered the Catholic Worker to be a kind of school. Some people remained for a lifetime. Others, like me, passed through on their way to something else. But in my case, that would continue to mean working to promote and extend her witness and legacy. After her death in 1980, when I had returned to college, I set out to edit her Selected Writings. Later that led to an invitation to edit her Diaries (The Duty of Delight), and her selected letters (All the Way to Heaven). At Orbis I have published several of her books, as well as books about her. And for the last 20 years I have been among those working to promote her canonization.

Recognition of her holiness would mean nothing to her, obviously. But I believe she offers an example of holiness—a new kind of saint—that is very necessary for our time. I was thrilled when Pope Francis cited her, among “four great Americans,” when he spoke before a joint session of Congress.

SKC: I enjoyed reading about your back and forth with Henri Nouwen. Can you share a few personal anecdotes from your friendship?

ROBERT ELLSBERG: I came to know Henri when I was editor of The Catholic Worker. At the time he was a professor at Yale Divinity School. He had published a number of books, but he wasn’t nearly so well-known as he later became. We quickly became friends, and he strongly encouraged me on my own spiritual journey. In fact, he was one of the first people I approached about my interest in becoming a Catholic. I thought he might give me some kind of catechism to read. Instead he told me to read the Gospel of Mark. He said there is no reason to do this unless it is a response to the call to follow Jesus. That made an impression on me.

Later, Henri helped arrange for me to spend a year in Latin America—an experience that would later eventually lead to my work at Orbis Books, the publishing arm of Maryknoll. And we also overlapped when he was teaching and I was studying at Harvard Divinity School. Our relationship took a new turn when I came to work at Orbis, and ultimately we began to work together on various books. In fact, Henri was working with me on Adam: God’s Beloved, which would become his final book.

He died suddenly in 1996, just after delivering the manuscript. His example was important to me—because he was in many ways a very wounded and neurotic person, as is obvious to any readers of his books. He didn’t try to hide this. And yet until the very end, he continued to struggle and go deeper, to follow where God was calling him.

SKC: You have another book coming out soon. What will be the topic? What do you hope it will say to people?

ROBERT ELLSBERG: My first significant book was All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time. It was a book on saints and holy people that very much came out of my time at the Catholic Worker. It included traditional saints along with other “witnesses” outside the official canon—including Dorothy Day, Thomas Merton, and even Nouwen, who died before the book came out, but not before he had provided a pre-publication endorsement!

Unexpectedly, that led to a series of books on saints, and an invitation from Liturgical Press to write a daily reflection for their new journal, “Give Us This Day”—now eight years running. My new book is called A Living Gospel: Reading God’s Story in Holy Lives. I consider what it means to look at the lives of holy people as a kind of spiritual text. That means looking at the story of Jesus—the Gospel—that is written in their lives.

And that means not just looking at their exceptional deeds or their spiritual writings, but at their full humanity—their doubts, their struggles, their response to the ordinary frustrations and obstacles that are part of any life.

For instance, in the case of Dorothy Day, I became aware while editing her Diaries that her holiness was really forged in daily life—in her efforts to respond with patience, charity, and forgiveness in her everyday encounters. It was that experience that enabled her to offer her heroic witness in the public arena.

Through reflecting on the “living gospel” in holy lives, we can become more adept at reading our own lives in the same light. How do we recognize the patterns of grace that are written in the events, the twists, and turns of our own journey? How do we recognize, like St. Augustine, that God is present in our life story—even at the times when the thought of God may be far away—always calling us to take one step more, and then another.

I look in particular at some of the figures who have guided me on my own journey—Dorothy Day, Merton, Nouwen, Flannery O’Connor, Charles de Foucauld, and reflect on how their example, or in some cases their friendship, has shaped my own path.

SKC: Would you have any advice for young people, aspiring writers who are interested in faith-based writing?

ROBERT ELLSBERG: Write about what you know, try to be honest, and imagine that you are writing for someone you love.