The Way of the Cross

They lined the streets of Dodge City, dozens of spectators prayerfully following behind the suffering Christ carrying His cross, a contingent of Roman guards standing at the ready.

The Via Crucis—the Way of the Cross—procession took place on Good Friday, April 19, beginning at Sacred Heart Cathedral and processing down neighborhood streets, stopping along the way for each Station of the Cross, and concluding inside the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe with the powerful depiction of the final four stations.

The event was presented in three languages, explained Becca Studt, Director of Parish Advancement for the cathedral. Every station was presented in either English, Spanish, or Quiché (a Mayan language of Guatemala that is spoken by most Guatemalans living in southwest Kansas).

"Having never attended it before, I didn’t know what to expect," Studt said. “People came out of their homes to experience it. We walked down Central Avenue, right past Wendy’s. When we crossed the highway, I joked that we were ‘stopping traffic for Jesus!’ "

“There were a lot of children—children on their bikes, strollers, and even being carried. Carrying a 30-pound child all that way is impressive! “

“The Knights helped with traffic, and water was donated by parishioners. So many different people came together in their shared love for Christ. The last four stations filled the cathedral. It was beautiful.”

At right, the last four Stations of the Cross take place at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City, following a Way of the Cross procession from Sacred Heart Cathedral.

PHOTO BY BECCA STUDT
Educator and Yankees fan dies

Sister Lucille Kerschen, a lifelong teacher and professed Adorer of the Blood of Christ for 73 years, died April 10, 2019 at the community’s Wichita Center. She was 89. Father Tom Weik, CPPS, celebrated the funeral at the ASC chapel; burial was in the Sisters’ cemetery.

Sister Lucille, a native of Aleppo, Kansas, was the fourth youngest of 10 children who lost her mother at age seven. She spent her childhood on the family farm. Her older sister Remigia entered the Adorer community before her. Lucille entered the Adorers of the Blood of Christ in Wichita on Sept. 6, 1943, professing first vows July 1, 1945, and final vows five years later. She graduated from Sacred Heart Academy in 1947 and from Sacred Heart College, now Newman University, with a bachelor’s degree in education in 1958. She earned a master’s degree in theology at Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minn. in 1978 and a certificate in pastoral ministry from Loyola University, Chicago in 1985.

During a long career in education, she was a principal, a Wichita diocese school supervisor, a religion teacher, a language arts teacher, a librarian, and a House of Prayer core member.

In the Diocese of Dodge City, Sister Lucille taught at St. Joseph, Ellinwood; St. Mary, Offerle; Sts. Peter and Paul, north Kinley; and St. Nicholas, Kinsley. She also taught at five parish schools in Wichita, and one in McAlester, Okla. In 1990, she was nominated by a former student and was named to “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.” A plaque and Bradford pear tree honor her service at St. Joseph School in Wichita where she taught for 18 years. Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.” A plaque and Bradford pear tree honor her service at St. Joseph School in Wichita where she taught for 18 years.

In 1990, she was nominated by a former student and was named to “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.” A plaque and Bradford pear tree honor her service at St. Joseph School in Wichita where she taught for 18 years. She is survived by her brother Walter of Wichita; nieces, nephews, friends and former students; and a devoted New York Yankees fan and loved clowning. She is survived by her brother Walter of Wichita; nieces, nephews, friends and former students; and a devoted New York Yankees fan and loved clowning.

Without words

And yet... is not this the truly divine way? Not to overwhelm with external power, but to give freedom, to offer and elicit love? (Pope Benedict XVI)

For us, every resistance is normally met with force. When one doctor doesn’t do it for us, we throw him over for another, and then for another; we want to try every shining new pill, every unknown experimental procedure; we want to bend the world with all its pains to our will.

But God... you know the One whose ways we know not... God does not work that way. Any open-eyed glance at Calvary will tell you that.

His way, rather, was that of the Resurrection, his own ministry, will bending fact. Seen by no one, known in the beginning to only a few, carried to the whole world through the fragile testimony of earthen vessels, there was, and is, nothing overwhelming about the Resurrection. Only freedom can detect it, only real freedom can receive it.

Our un freedom holds us back. So much at home with pleasure, and wealth, and fame, and power, we don’t really know just how much of a slave we actually are, just how closed we are to so much that is real around us.

Even when we lessen the hold of those four upon us, we still cannot quite get our minds around the Resurrection. It attracts us, but from some hidden place. It speaks to us, but in soft whispers. We find our way into it through image, and metaphor, and simile, but it still remains a secret.

They do something to open us to the attraction and to the whisper. To open us to the offer of his Love. But all friends of God... all of us... struggle with saying the unsayable.

May the Risen-Christ and his Spirit touch us, even in our silence.

8 Ways to Pray

Creativity can deepen your talks with God

By REBECCA BROOKS
Editor’s Note: The following is reprinted with permission from Christianity Today.

1. Journal your prayers.

But don’t just journal requests. Write out questions, heartaches and struggles. Don’t forget to journal praises, too. Be creative. Put your prayers into poems. Write a letter to God. Then go back and read your journal entries in a week or a month. There’s a good chance you’ll be reminded of how God has answered your prayers.

2. Pray Scripture.

Hike in a forest preserve and praise God for his beautiful creation. Walk around your neighborhood and pray for the family in each home you pass. Or take a “prayer walk” on the sidewalk around your school.

3. Pray over your calendar and schedule.

Got a test coming up? Pray for peace of mind. Pray for the players of Friday night’s basketball game—both sides. Ask God to bring non-Christians to your parish or diocesan retreat.

4. Pray the Rosary.

Let’s say that during your Bible reading time you come across 1 Peter 5:7: “God cares for you, so turn all your worries over to him” (CEV). Turn that verse into a prayer: “Lord, I’m going to trust you and give you all my worries. I know you will take care of me.” Do this with Scriptures that express needs and also with those that praise or thank God. Hey, why not personalize the Lord’s Prayer? Take each sentence or phrase from this well-known prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) and write it in a way that applies directly to your life.

5. Pray the new prayer.

When you read or hear about a troubling issue, pray for the people involved. Pray for politicians and other national and community leaders who make the news.

6. Partner up.

Find someone to pray with regularly. Plan to meet at a coffee shop once or twice a week, or get together before school. Praying with a friend is great for personal accountability. It’s also a cool way to take a friendship to a deeper level.

7. Be quiet.

If prayer is a conversation, then you also need to listen in silence. And silence means getting away from distractions like music and TV. A quiet, little-used corner at the library could be the best place. As you listen, don’t expect to hear a voice. But do expect God to tug at your heart, move you toward change.

8. Do quiet and other optional exercises.

Keep a prayer on your lips. Dozens of thoughts pass through your mind daily. You daydream. You may think bad or gossip about others. Turn those daydreams and not-so-great thoughts into prayers. Ask God to help a person hurt by gossip. Ask him to forgive you for thoughts that take your mind places it shouldn’t go. Turn daydreams and other passing thoughts into moments to recognize God’s presence in your life. As you learn to keep a prayer on your lips, you’ll come a little closer to understanding what it means to “pray continually” (NIV).

“If you have lost the taste for prayer, you will regain the desire for it by returning humbly to its practice.” —Blessed Paul VI
**Easter season across the diocese**

**DODGE CITY** -- Father Wesley Schawe baptizes a boy during the Easter Vigil at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe.  
*Courtesy photo*

**JETMORE** -- It doesn’t matter what kind of happy face they put on the big rabbit costume, they just can’t help but look a little creepy. Which may be why Andrew Sherrill looks a little freaked out as he sits on the Easter Bunny’s lap after the Easter egg hunt in Jetmore. At left is his sister, April.

“Why not prefer Jesus, the true light, to the glitter of wealth, career, pride and pleasure? Why not tell the empty things of this world that you no longer live for them, but for the Lord of life?  
“In Easter he shows you how much he loves that life: even to the point of ... experiencing anguish, abandonment, death and hell, in order to emerge triumphant to tell you: ‘You are not alone; put your trust in me!’”

“Dear brothers and sisters: let us put the Living One at the centre of our lives. Let us seek him in all things and above all things. With him, we will rise again.”  
-- Pope Francis in his Easter Vigil homily

John Stang from Great Bend (second from left), who is studying to be a Catholic priest, helped with Holy Week services at St. Anthony of Padua, Leoti, and St. Mary, Marienthal, as well as at St. Joseph the Worker, Tribune. Here he is with Father Tim Hickey, pastor, and the Easter vigil servers: Galilea Castillo, Rylan Schmidt, Aron Castillo, and Byron Schmidt.

**ELLINWOOD** -- The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council 1187 sponsored *Lift High the Cross* for the 2019 Lenten season. In total, the Council installed 54 crosses in yards throughout Ellinwood. Citizens hosting a cross were encouraged to decorate the cross while it stood in their yard. On March 2, three crews of six volunteers installed 40 crosses. The remaining crosses were installed as weather permitted in the following weeks. Supplies to build the first 30 crosses were donated by Sutherlands of Great Bend. Jason Schlactermeier donated the T-posts on which the crosses were mounted. Steve Oelke notched all the wooden posts so they would fit together, and Curtis Wolf organized the event. The Council plans to offer this program annually during Lent. St. Joseph Parish wished to thank the Knights “for your gift of time and talents. These crosses are a wonderful reminder to keep our focus on Christ during this Lenten season.”

**Lift High the Cross**
Happy Mother’s Day!

F
t first things first. Our back porch has once again become a home for unwed cat mothers, and someone in Speareville owes my wife and I cat child support.

Despite our attempt to keep all the cats living on our back porch spayed and neutered, one of them (the new mom) never warmed up to us, so it proved impossible to capture her and take her in to the vet.

Based on the kittens’ colors, their pop is a yellow tabby I’ve seen around the neighborhood. Of course, one look at the babies and the tabby was off to seek his fortune in parts unknown. Not even a goodbye letter. Packed up his kibble and hit the road. Just like a man.

I wonder if, just maybe, one of the possums might take a liking to the kittens, and help the mama? Perhaps the unwed pair will hit it off!

Before it goes too far, though, I’d need to consult the bishop. The Church is very definite when it comes to inter-species marriage.

Now that I got that off my chest, I want to wish you a Happy Mother’s Day!

I returned only yesterday (April 22) from Denver after spending Easter with my mom. Even though she’s struggling with loneliness and depression after losing Dad last November, she still maintains that glimmer of Christ’s light in her eye, which often makes her the go-to person for those who need a shoulder.

Even after all these years, I still am learning new things about my mom.

For instance, when seeing what’s on TV, Mom doesn’t just flip rapidly through the TV remote like a man, she takes the time to really analyze each channel.

Click click: “ESTEBAN DISPARA!” ‘Y es bloqueado por el roce de un balón a Freemember!”

“Uh .. Mom?”

“Ecuador esquivó una bala esa vez!”

“Mom, do you really want to watch Spanish language soccer?” We don’t speak Spanish, nor are either of us huge soccer fans. Yet, even this program deserves careful consideration, as if Mom’s making certain there are no pearls of wisdom to be found.

On the other hand, I click through the channels like a mindless machine. I can’t even take the time to look through a commercial to see what’s on that particular channel. If it’s a commercial, I move along, that channel having lost its viewing privileges. “The Nielsen family will learn of your insouciance,” I growl.

Click click: “If you’re not getting the sleep you need, let me tell you over the next 30 minutes why My Pillow is the answer you’re looking for. One...”

Five reasons later, Mom clicks off the My Pillow salesman, the mustached pillow guy having given us both a severe headache and intestinal cramps.

Finally we settle on the Home and Garden Channel, where a young couple searching for a home for “not a penny over $650,000” makes me wonder if somehow missed the gravy train.

I then realize that there are lots of gravy trains. The news of one loving Lord.

And perhaps it is something else. Thousands of years ago, humanity needed to reason why the sun rose and set. Why the plants grew and provided food. Why life existed. So they created gods whom they could worship, gods whom they could thank for their blessings, and whose anger they could blame for tribulations.

The true God, our Heavenly Father, waited ever patiently for His children to work it out.

Along the way He sent some pretty powerful hints — Moses, Isaiah, and a multitude of others who brought news of one loving Lord.

Slowly people learned about this one God, who, as predicted by the prophets, loved the world that He offered a pastoral lamb, His son, Jesus, as sacrifice for the sins of His children.

This was a God of unbelievable love, and people turned to Him in their joys and in their many struggles. And the struggles were great: from the terrors of early Christian persecution, to the struggles of our own great-great-grandparents in building a home and

Inherit the Mirth

By Cuylor Black (cuylorblack.com)

The myth of ‘organized religion’

A recent headline highlighted the fact that an increasing number of people are expressing that they have no religion. The “nones”, these people were termed in the article.

This is in some ways a protest— voice given to their disenfranchisement with what they define as “organized religion”.

The case is made that in some instances it is perhaps a disillusionment with the Catholic Church based on criminal activity brought to light in the last decade.

And perhaps it is something else.

To understand loneliness, I can look back more than 30 years ago, when I spent the last year of college lodged in a bottle of Vodka in my basement apartment. (Insert violin music here — no, not blue grass!) It wasn’t until my graduation that I realized I had no one to say goodbye to. Man, it really stunk! I had alienated all my friends. It was the loneliest I have ever felt before or since. It was, in psychological terms, a “real bummer”.

For Mom, the loneliness is the absence of my dad, and of my sister, who moved from Denver to the east coast in January. It is trying to wrap her mind around the sudden void.

We all have burdens. I believe that depression or severe anxiety hits hard when the many burdens — the ones we always carry and the ones that we house off to the side — suddenly bundle themselves into one giant lead weight, dragging us down.

Usually they’re dispersed, burdens to sweep up when we have the time and emotional capability. But when they all coagulate together, that’s when we may feel like you’re in a deep well with the sides caving in ... or perhaps you feel like a behemoth bugger lodged in the nose of life, praying that life will blow you into the Kleenex of joy where you’ll feel peace-of-mind, possibly with comforting ale. Probably the deep well analogy is better. I’ll leave that up to you.

In psychological terms, this is known as being “clinically bummmed out.”

As I do when life gets a bit rough, I look for little miracles. I found them in Mom’s friendships with members of the staff and other residents, a couple of whom I’ve adopted as aunts. (Don’t worry, Mary Pat, I haven’t forgotten your HERSHEYs.)

I experienced the miracle of the Easter lilies, when, on my third day there, I discovered it was the lilies that reeked like a sports stadium men’s room, and not my mom’s couch, where I slept. It was a miracle that led me to move to the other side of the apartment.

I found miracles in Mom’s faith and humor. Mom is as sharp as a GINsu knife, is an excellent listener, and has a deep faith, all of which make her a shoulder for others. Amid the pain and struggle— sometimes seemingly insurmountable—there is God’s love, always and forever, embracing us, urging us on, creating miracles.

I know this to be true, because I see it in Mom’s example every day.
Be still and know that I am God

By ANDREA PICCIOTTI-BAYER

Editor's Note: Bishop John Brunardt has asked the SKC to run stories and commentaries on the issue of clergy abuse. By keeping the issue in the forefront, it is the bishop's prayer that victim-victors of priestly abuse seek healing, that the perpetrators find justice, and that no one ever face such abuse again.

CN – How many Catholics filled the pews on Easter Sunday 2019? Did this year see a noticeable decline in parishioners dressed in their Easter finest? Did the past year’s “Summer of Shame” – the publication of the Pennsylvania grand jury report, the (now-defrocked) Cardinal Theodore McCarrick scandal, the Vatican’s tepid, tone-deaf response to abuse here and elsewhere in the world – take its toll on the Catholic Church in America this Easter?

Some Catholics have already left the Church. Quite publicly. Others have not yet taken that step; they’re simply shaken and disaffected. This is not one of those stories. I remain convinced that the Catholic Church is where I should be. Of course, I was angry when the findings of the Pennsylvania grand jury on clerical sexual abuse of children became public last August. How could men entrusted with the care of souls on clerical sexual abuse of children behead in Libya in 2015.

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So, as we continue to celebrate Easter season with its promise of immense joy, I will be still, unwavering in my fidelity to a church that calls me to be a faithful, joyous messenger of love and hope. “Be still and know that I am God!”

Andrea Picciotti-Bayer is Legal Advisor for The Catholic Association Foundation.

Vigilance by parents and their children called key to safe internet use

By ELEANOR KENNELLY GAETAN

by Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In his internet safety presentations at schools, Justin Gaertner emphasizes that safety “comes back to parents and kids being vigilant.”

“If you see something, say something,” he tells his audiences.

Wounded in war while serving in Afghanistan as a Marine veteran, Gaertner works with the Department of Homeland Security, pursuing predators who collect and trade child pornography — more accurately termed, child sexual abuse imagery — on the internet.

“We all have to be very careful,” Gaertner told Catholic News Service.

One resource for guidance on internet safety is the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, or NCMEC, runs the website netsmartz.org with tips sheets and guidance tailored for various audiences. The site is one of more than a dozen sites with child safety resources the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection lists at https://bit.ly/1DKJUR.

For parents, NCMEC suggests these tips:

“This Lent, I found my answer in Psalm 46:10: “Be still and know that I am God!” It is easy to walk away when things get difficult. Pointing to the failings of others on your way out may even offer a gratifying sense of self-righteousness. Instead of leaving the Church, however, I am choosing to be still. The Catholic Church is where I belong, despite the failings of many of her faithful, including yours truly.

“But when I am “still” — when I trust that God has put my Church in charge of my spiritual well-being and try to follow Her teachings — I can handle whatever contradictions and confusions that the all-too-human leaders of the Church send my way.

Commonweal Magazine helped. He showed that almost all the abuse cited took place decades before the U.S. Catholic bishops’ 2002 steps to protect minors. These reforms have made Catholic churches and schools among the safest places for children in the United States. Then, this past February, Pope Francis finally defrocked McCarrick and hosted a world summit on clergy abuse.

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Your kids might not tell you everything but ask anyway,” the center says. “Regular conversations about safety can go a long way in increasing trust and communication.”

The site http://www.faithebroadcasting.org tells parents: “No technology, no piece of software, no parental control is ever a substitute for active and involved parenting. The most effective internet safety tool is you!”

Launched in 2013 by the USCCB’s Department of Communications and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, the Faith and Safety website has a variety of resources, including reviews of mobile apps; ways to address issues faced by children online, such as bullying; and resources to educate parents on protecting their home networks.

“Children are precious. As their parent, it is your responsibility to protect them,” the site says. “Use the best tools you can find. Teach your children how to protect themselves and to whom they can turn in case of trouble. Protect them today. Help them be safe online tomorrow.”

Eleanor Kennelly Gaetan is a freelance writer and editor in Los Angeles.

By Todd Habiger, The Leaven

Christians are called to be lights in the world; but walking away from life’s challenges is not part of living as a Christian, the bishops write.

The Catholic 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:

Garden City
Sunday, August 11 1:30 p.m.
St. Dominic Church
615 E. 15th Street, Garden City, 67845
Contact: Sister Myra Arney
(620) 276-2024

Children and Families Protection Report Center, 800-285-3219. If you suspect abuse by Church personnel, in addition to making a report to those civil authorities, contact Charles Be- fort, cbefort@catholicnews.com, 620-285-3219. You may submit a report to the diocese. Report forms are available at www.dccdio- cese.org/safe-environment.

May 5, 2019

Protecting God’s Children

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(620) 225-5164

If you suspect abuse or neglect of a child in Kansas, and the child is in immediate danger, call 911 or local law enforce- ment.

If you have suspicion that a child is being abused or neglected, make a confidential report to the Kansas Department for Children and Families Protection Report Center, 800-285-3219. If you suspect abuse by Church personnel, in addition to making a report to those civil authorities, contact Charles Be- fort, cbefort@catholicnews.com, 620-285-3219. You may submit a report to the diocese. Report forms are available at www.dccdio- cese.org/safe-environment.

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By JONAH McKEOWN

Denver, Colo. (CNA) - Many years before she entered religious life, Sister Mary Gianna Thornby was an ordinary high school sophomore at Columbine High School in the suburbs of Denver.

Like many high schoolers, she occasionally struggled with her identity, had experienced some bullying in middle school, and ultimately just wanted to fit in. She wasn’t raised in a Christian home; at that time, God, faith – and certainly the Catholic Church – didn’t register on her radar.

“Growing up, I didn’t really know if God existed or not, or that He had a plan,” Mary Gianna told CNA.

All that changed 20 years ago on April 20, 1999.

Mary Gianna had a habit, she said, of going to the library to study every single day during lunch period her freshman and sophomore years. During her sophomore year, she and a friend even changed their schedules so they would have two hours off during lunch to study together in the library.

That April morning, sitting in art class right before the lunch hour, Mary Gianna said she felt an overwhelming urge to leave school. She says she remembers thinking: “I’m going to go home, and no one’s going to talk me out of not leaving.”

Her friend was confused, and asked Mary Gianna why they weren’t going to the library like they always did. She suggested they go and study for an upcoming test at a restaurant instead, so they walked out of the school and hopped into Mary Gianna’s car, which her dad had only just bought her the week before.

As they were driving away, she looked in her rearview mirror and saw hundreds of her schoolmates running out of the school building.

With no idea what was going on, Mary and her friend simply continued on and arrived at a bagel shop. It was there that they heard what had happened.

On that morning, two students – 17 and 18 years old – began shooting people outside the high school, ultimately killing 13 and wounding more than 20 others before taking their own lives.

The violence perpetrated at Columbine would remain the most deadly shooting at a U.S. high school until February 2018, when 17 students died at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High in Florida.

Mary Gianna soon learned that most of the killings took place in the library – the place where, on any other day, she would have surely been during that exact time.

“And so I wondered: why wasn’t I there?” she mused. “Every other day I was there, but that one day – what gave me that urge to leave?”

She remembers being told by someone: “God must have a plan for your life.”

“I realized God existed, and He had a plan, but at the time I didn’t know who God was. And at the time, people were questioning how could God allow something like this to happen,” Mary Gianna said.

Every day, the next school year, she would walk by the spot where the library used to be (since so many of the killings took place there, it was demolished and eventually rebuilt in a different spot) wondering why she had been spared. At that time, she had the stirrings of faith, but still no clear answers.

She said she started drinking, going to parties, looking for other things to offer fulfillment – but she knew in her heart it wasn’t where she was supposed to be. Her senior year, she said, she felt like she had finally reached “rock-bottom” and lost all hope.

“It was in those moments that I felt like I just couldn’t go on in life that one of my friends invited me to the Catholic Church at St. Francis Cabrini in Littleton, Colorado,” she said.

Immediately upon walking in, she met a representative of Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, who encouraged her to consider going there for college. She also met a youth minister named Katie.

“She started telling me about a God that passionately loved me,” Mary Gianna recalled.

Katie started taking her out for coffee and telling her about God’s love – that He does have a plan, that Mary Gianna was made in his image and likeness. Growing up, she had no direction in life, Mary Gianna said, and God’s love was that thing that she had been missing.

“Not only did God lead me out of Columbine that day – he was leading me home on that day. He was leading me to Himself,” Mary Gianna said.

“And I wanted to say ‘yes’ with all my heart to God’s plan. I realized that He had a plan, and I wanted to say ‘yes’ to that plan.”

She ended up enrolling at Franciscan University, even though at first her father had misgivings about the cost. Later on, however, it seemed his heart had been changed. Mary Gianna said her parents were very supportive of her faith and the direction her life took after her conversion.

She went through RCIA her freshman year at Franciscan, and at the Easter vigil Mass on March 30, 2002 at the age of 19, she was received into the Catholic Church.

Mary Gianna experienced the call to religious life in 2008, when she went to the Cathedral of St. Paul in St. Paul, Minnesota and prayed that she would be able to enter into the Mass in a way she had never experienced before.

It was through Mass that she felt God’s presence before her. She walked out of the chapel changed; all she wanted was religious life.

She chose a charismatic, Franciscan, contemplative, and missionary order called the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, which brought her to Prayer Town, Texas, northwest of Amarillo. She pronounced her final vows on August 4, 2018.

Twenty years on from the Columbine tragedy, Mary Gianna said she thinks more of her former classmates are finding the strength to talk about what happened that day. She said she keeps in touch with some of her classmates, teachers, and the former principal of the school, especially her friend who left the school with her that day. They’ve talked about the experience since.

“I often think of the greatest tragedy of Jesus being put to death on the cross, and how it led to our salvation, and that even in the midst of the tragedy at Columbine, God can bring good,” she reflected.

“That He would bring life out of death. And I think we’ve seen that in a lot of ways.”

She mentioned the widely-known story of Rachel Joy Scott, a passionately Christian teenager who was one of the first Columbine students killed during the massacre. Rachel reportedly told her teacher shortly before her death that she thought she was going to have a “major impact in the world,” and she always took care to reach out to the “new kid” in school and those who had been bullied or had no one to sit with at lunch.

Witnesses said the gunmen asked another student if she believed in God, and she answered yes. Then they shot her.

“I was amazed that: here was a girl from my high school who was so passionate about her faith that she was willing to say ‘yes’ and die for Christ,” Mary Gianna reflected.

“And I thought: what would I have said? I could have easily been there that day. I didn’t have faith. But then I realized: God knew this is where I would be. That if she was able to say ‘yes’ and die for Christ, I can say ‘yes’ and live for him. And that’s what truly inspired me to really say ‘yes,’ to live for Him.”

“Stoneman Douglas High in Florida. Twenty years on from the Columbine tragedy, Mary Gianna said she thinks more of her former classmates are finding the strength to talk about what happened that day. She said she keeps in touch with some of her classmates, teachers, and the former principal of the school, especially her friend who left the school with her that day. They’ve talked about the experience since.

“I often think of the greatest tragedy of Jesus being put to death on the cross, and how it led to our salvation, and that even in the midst of the tragedy at Columbine, God can bring good,” she reflected.

“That He would bring life out of death. And I think we’ve seen that in a lot of ways.”

She mentioned the widely-known story of Rachel Joy Scott, a passionately Christian teenager who was one of the first Columbine students killed during the massacre. Rachel reportedly told her teacher shortly before her death that she thought she was going to have a “major impact in the world,” and she always took care to reach out to the “new kid” in school and those who had been bullied or had no one to sit with at lunch.

Witnesses said the gunmen asked another student if she believed in God, and she answered yes. Then they shot her.

“I was amazed that: here was a girl from my high school who was so passionate about her faith that she was willing to say ‘yes’ and die for Christ,” Mary Gianna reflected.

“And I thought: what would I have said? I could have easily been there that day. I didn’t have faith. But then I realized: God knew this is where I would be. That if she was able to say ‘yes’ and die for Christ, I can say ‘yes’ and live for him. And that’s what truly inspired me to really say ‘yes,’ to live for Him.”

The religious sister says the Lord took her from a life of despair and hopelessness to a place of great joy for life, and a desire to share the “fullness of life” with others.

“I really feel like the sufferings I’ve had in this life; I think it’s kept me close to the Lord. And I think it’s the call to trust God, that He never allows a tragedy or a heartbreak to happen unless He can bring a greater good out of it,” she said.
Inspire Kindness

Have you ever experienced, or been witness to an act of kindness? Bishop John B. Brungardt invites readers to submit stories to the Southwest Kansas Catholic: skregister@dcdiocese.org; write to: Dave Myers, P.O. Box 137, Dodge City, KS 67801; or call Dave at (620) 227-1519. The bishop asks us all to commit acts of kindness as a prayer for Priestly Vocations.

Special thanks to Eucharistic ministers

By Linda Roush, and her father, Louis Sanchez

We have been blessed to be the recipients of acts of kindness from Eucharistic ministers at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Sheila Railsback not only brought Christ to Dad, but surprised him with candy for Halloween, homemade cookies and candies for Christmas, and homemade cookies for Easter, even though he’s no longer on her rotation.

Harold Flax brought Dad one of his beautiful hand-made crucifixes.

Ron Herrman saw that the prickly tree next to the front porch had several large, dead branches. He not only brought Christ to Dad, but his clippers, and removed those awful branches on a dusty, cold day.

Tom Armstrong came even though the weather during his month of bringing Christ to Dad was freezing, snowy and horribly windy.

These parishioners perform outstanding acts of kindness, caring and true Christianity.

Thank you from Louis Sanchez and Linda Roush.

Random acts of kindness

When we look around at all the need that exists in this world, it’s easy to get overwhelmed. We think that making an impact is impossible.

How can I possibly help? How can God possibly use me for His good and glory? And so we do nothing.

But what if we’re thinking about this all wrong? What if instead of trying to create large-scale, elaborate change, we start with small, simple acts of kindness to those around us?

What if we just start by reaching out a hand to someone in need? Letting someone know they’re on our minds and that we care.

What if we start giving our time, energy, and love more freely?

A simple word. A small gesture. A loving action.

God will use, bless, and multiply these beyond our wildest dreams. All we have to do is act.

Here are a few small and simple random acts of kindness that you can do today:

Make a list of the needs you see around you and start praying over them daily.

If you have an elderly neighbor, check in to see how you can help him with chores, food, lifting heavy things, yard work, conversation. Maybe take them a cup of coffee and settle in for a nice chat.

Give your spouse and kids extra hugs and kisses, tell them you love them and are thankful for them.

Leave your spouse love notes all over the house, just a few words on a post-it to let him know you’re thankful for him.

Take dinner to a friend or neighbor. This is especially helpful for someone who is having difficulty cooking for themselves or is just overwhelmed at the moment.

Send or drop off flowers for a friend along with a note telling them you’re thinking of them.

Use your imagination! There is so much you can do.

Article courtesy of FaithfullyCommitted.com

Life Issues

Fight assisted suicide by ending isolation

By CHRISTINE ROUSSELLE

(See a related article, “Happy Mother’s Day,” on Page 4.)

Washington D.C. (CNA) - The founder of a Catholic health-share group has said that battling loneliness is crucial to opposing the growing acceptance of assisted suicide in popular culture.

Chris Faddis, co-founder of Solidarity HealthShare, spoke to CNA about the importance of respecting the dignity of all patients at the end of life.

Speaking to CNA during the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast April 23, Faddis said that a rising social and legal acceptance of assisted suicide is exacerbated by a lack of healthcare options that are both ethical and affordable, but is ultimately driven by loneliness and despair in the face of suffering.

“When you see no way out, something like a pill seems tempting,” he said.

Solidarity helps patients and their families find other options to assisted suicide to ease suffering and, Faddis said, expressed a kind of communion in its structure. In a health-share system, members of the organization help to pay each other’s healthcare costs. Members are self-pay patients who can see the provider of their choice while Solidarity helps to negotiate a lower rate, which would then be paid by the group of members.

“We’re just there to facilitate and to kind of direct them,” said Faddis. “The affordability is there because there’s no profit in it. We’re a non-profit, we’re just kind of facilitating that sharing.

“In all ways, we lead our members to the options that are going to respect life, that are going to promote their dignity. We provide care management, we provide services. And we encourage them.”

Faddis, who serves as the Catholic health-sharing company’s chief operating officer, told CNA that the experience of suffering and death in his own family had formed his commitment to protecting human dignity at the end of life and led to his founding Solidarity. He served as a caregiver for his wife as she was dying of cancer, and experienced first-hand the importance of dignified and respectful hospice care.

Continued on Page 20

Group launches campaign for Born Alive bill

By CHRISTINE ROUSSELLE

Washington D.C. (CNA) - The pro-life organization Susan B. Anthony List has launched a new campaign to pressure members of Congress to sign the discharge petition for the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

If 218 members of the House of Representatives sign the discharge petition, the bill will move to the floor, where it will be considered. Presently, 199 members have signed, including all but two Republican members, but only two Democrats: Reps. Dan Lipinski (D-IL) and Collin Peterson (D-MN).

The petition opened for signatures on April 2.

In an April 2 statement, Archbishop Joseph Naumann, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life committee, called for the bill’s passage.

“Our nation is better than infanticide. Babies born alive during the process of abortion deserve the same care and medical assistance as any other newborn. To not provide care is a lethal form of discrimination against the circumstances of the child’s birth.

“I strongly urge all representatives to sign this petition, and then vote for the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This bill would add specific requirements to help ensure that babies born alive after an abortion attempt can have a fair shot at life,” he said.

“The purpose of this campaign is to really focus on the House,” SBA List Vice President of Communications Mallory Quigley told CNA. “This is where the pressure point is now because the Senate’s already voted. We think this should be bipartisan.”

Quigley said that signing the petition would not present an electoral problem for Democrats, “especially for people who were elected in Republican-leaning districts.”

The new campaign, which will feature digital ads and events aimed at explaining what the Born Alive bill is, is focused on representatives in what SBA List considers to be persuadable districts.

Reps. Cindy Axne (IA-03), Collin Allred (TX-32), Abby Finkenauer (IA-01), Lizzie Fletcher (TX-07), Connor Lamb (PA-17), Lucy McBath (GA-06), Elissa Slotkin (MI-08), Abigail Spanberger (VA-07), and Haley Stevens (MI-11) have been targeted.

Continued on Page 20

...A rising social and legal acceptance of assisted suicide is exacerbated by a lack of healthcare options that are both ethical and affordable, but is ultimately driven by loneliness and despair in the face of suffering.

“As we care more freely, we care more. What if we start giving our time, energy, and love more freely?”

“When we look around at all the need that exists in this world, it’s easy to get overwhelmed. We think that making an impact is impossible.

“Can I possibly help? Can God possibly use me for His good and glory? And so we do nothing.

“Let’s change that. Let’s do something. Let’s start with simple, small acts of kindness to those around us. Let’s start with prayer. Let’s start with reaching out to someone in need. Let’s let someone know they are on our minds and that we care.

“Let’s give our time, energy, and love more freely. Let’s care more.”

“Let’s let people know we’re thinking of them. Let’s give them hugs and kisses. Let’s let them know we love them and are thankful for them.

“Let’s be kind. Let’s be generous. Let’s be loving.”

“Let’s be Christ.”

Amen.

-- Archbishop Joseph Naumann, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life committee
Diocese pays visit to Denver seminarians

Father Wesley Schawe, Director of Priestly Vocations (far left), and Adam Urban, Director of Youth Ministries (far right) pose for a photo with Diocese of Dodge City seminarians (left to right) John Stang, Tyler Saucedo, and Austin Habash. Father Schawe and Urban recently visited with the seminarians at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver, where they are studying before heading off to serve in various ministries over the summer. Three other seminarians, Eric Frieb, Carson Haupt, and Jonathan Lemus, attend Conception Seminary College in Missouri. Esteban Hernandez is in English language studies in Dodge City.

Deadline to register for Prayer and Action mission week, May 15

By GENTRY HEIMERMAN
Director, Young Adult Ministries
(See a related story on Page 14.)

Prayer and Action is just around the corner, and the deadline to sign up your high school students is even sooner! (May 15)

I would love to tell you all about the way a summer spent on a Prayer and Action team changed my life and how incredibly blessed I feel to now be directing that program in our diocese, but instead I am going to share with you a few thoughts from some awesome parents like Cynthia:

“Attending Prayer and Action is an eye opener for many of the youth who come. The team ... of college students are full of energy, and they bond really well with each participant. They make the mission of Prayer and Action fun, and at the same time they foster each participants’ relationship with God, by spending time in prayer, attending Mass, and sharing personal reflections. ... The team members were so good at answering her questions that were difficult for me to answer.”

During the Spring, Cynthia, her husband and her daughter all took turns sharing their testimony about Prayer and Action with their parish. Here is what Mario had to say:

“The first time I went to Prayer and Action was last summer. My wife and daughter encouraged me to go so I could see what Prayer and Action was all about. The Catholic Diocese of Dodge City wanted to see more dads get involved in this program, so I told myself that maybe it was time for me to practice what I preached to my children when I tell them to participate in church activities. “I recommend this experience to other parents and youth. For me it was one of the best times I spent my vacation days on, plus it was so inexpensive. During the week-long mission, I learned a lot about my faith and made new friends with others who share the same faith. After

Continued on Page 14

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The Graduate Program in Theology at Newman is designed for working adults looking to grow in their understanding of their faith and their ability to pass it on as catechists in parishes, schools, and communities.

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Please also visit our website: www.newmanu.edu/TheologyMA

“A relationship with me has no downside.” -- God
Celebrating Mary through the example of mothers

May 12 is Mother’s Day—a time to honor mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, godmothers, friends who are mothers and anyone in our life who fills the role of mother.

The concept first originated in 1868, when Ann Jarvis established a meeting for mothers whose sons fought or died on opposite sides of the American Civil War. She wanted to expand this into an annual memorial, but she passed away before that happened, so her daughter (Anna) continued the task.

Due to Anna’s work, in 1914 Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation establishing the second Sunday in May as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Only six years later, by the early 1920's, Hallmark and other companies had started selling Mother’s Day cards, making the holiday as much about sales as about mothers. Even though Anna Jarvis was successful in making Mother’s Day an annual holiday, she soon became resentful that companies were using the holiday as a profit maker. She even tried to get Mother’s Day rescinded as a holiday.

Unfortunately, Mother’s Day has gone the way of many of our holidays and turned into a commercial enterprise rather than a way to reflect on the gift God gave us when he gave us mothers.

The real purpose of this holiday is to show love and appreciation to our mothers by writing a personal letter, rather than buying token gifts or simply signing our names to pre-made cards. The day Anna Jarvis worked so hard to create was supposed to be about sentiment, appreciation, and love, not about profit.

I encourage each of you to return to the original purpose of Mother’s Day and thank your mom in a personal way. Tell her how much she means to you and what influence she has had on your life. Recall funny things that happened when you were young or special family memories.

Pray for her also. Ask that God will bless her and give her strength and good health to continue being his instrument of his love in the world. And if your mom is no longer alive, pray for the repose of her soul and in thanksgiving for the gift she was to you.

As my experience as a mother grew and expanded, it certainly gave me a greater appreciation for my own mother. I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to thank my mom for all she taught me when she still had the ability to recognize me and understand what I was saying. I thank God for all the times I took a few minutes to send her a note, or write a letter or call to share a special memory or to tell her how much I appreciated and loved her.

Moms are quiet heroes working day-to-day in many small unnoticed, unappreciated ways that make all the difference in the world to their family.

We moms may never be able to bring about world peace, but we can plant seeds of peace in our family. We may never be able to solve world hunger, but we can feed the hungry by making meals for our own family. We may never make an impact outside of a small group of people, but influencing that small group within our family circle is all God is asking us to do.

When the kids are little it seems that there will be a day far into the future when they will fly from the nest and be on their own and you as a mom will be free. And that does happen (kinda). But even when your kids are grown adults with children of their own, and they live far away from you, there is always a special bond between mother and child. You never stop being a mother. You never lose that special place in your heart where that child lives. And as a child, there is always a unique relationship with your mother.

Moms may get overwhelmed and they often do not get the appreciation they deserve. After all, who would willingly take an unpaid job that requires them to work 24 hours a day seven days a week with no breaks and no vacations? And even worse, any official holiday means even more work and stress. And mothers who have a job outside the home have twice as much pressure.

But then again, who could give up the sweet faces of trusting children who feel unconditionally loved? Or the macaroni necklaces. Or the handmade misspelled cards, or the sticky-fingered hugs, or the favorite book that has to be read over, and over and over?

For most Catholic children, one of the first prayers we learned is the Hail Mary. It is the most beloved prayer to Our Lady, our Heavenly Mother, and the prayer Catholics say most often. No one can count how many millions of Hail Mary’s rise up to heaven each and every day.

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FEET OF CLAY
by Deborah Ann Belka

I walk, I stumble, I fall down . . . yet, these feet of clay will always be bound.

I stub my toe, I scrap my knee . . . yet, these feet of clay know from Satan they must flee.

I twist my ankle, I can’t get up . . . yet, these feet of clay still taste the victory of a winner’s cup.

I lose, I win, I worry, I rest . . . yet, these feet of clay still remain meek and humble.

I am praying for myself and all my age, that when we pass from this world into the next, we will spiritually be at the top of our game.

I believe that God will instill in me the vision to see what He wants to do both in and through me, and that He will give me the zeal to help His vision become a reality. A great philosopher once said, “it ain’t over until it’s over.”

Employment opportunity
by Debra Burgess

I have been given a job of utmost importance. My instructions are quite clear. I am to mind my heart, that as I perform each assignment, it not be done through selfish ambition or conceit. I am not to be in rivalry with my fellow workers, but count them more significant than myself. This is completely counter-culture for how promotions work. It’s my understanding in this job, I must go lower to get higher.

I am to assist all who have need, and do so without boasting, as though I had done something beyond the expectations of my job. I am to work with a hopeful attitude even if I’m having a bad day, preventing a negative environment. I am to always wear a badge, not with my name, instead the name of my Employer as His representative in the workplace. (He is the Boss, but He’s also my best friend and helps me with every task.)

The payment guarantee is peaceful no matter how chaotic the economy. My retirement package has been completely insured to include an eternal place and time of rest. In the fine print there is a promise of a mansion and treasures beyond my ability to see or imagine. I am free to invite anyone to join me in this employment opportunity.

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Mothers’ Retreat Day:
Abiding in the Mundane
Saturday, May 11, 2019; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Motherhood is filled with the greatest joys a human can experience, but it is sometimes difficult, stressful, and exhausting. The Spiritual Life Center invites moms of every age to give all of these experiences to the Lord and enjoy a day of rest at our annual Mom’s Retreat! This year our retreat leader will focus on helping us find the Lord in the monotony of our day. We will learn to seek Him in the mundane and make our vocation as mothers more prayerful. The day includes a delicious luncheon including dessert, daily Mass, and time for prayer. $30

Catholic Culture Conference:
Defending the Domestic Church
May 31 at 8:30 p.m. to June 1 at 4 p.m.

The Catholic Culture Conference is an opportunity for faithful Christians to come together for formation and fellowship. The program promotes Catholic values in personal and family life, as well as in society at large. The 2019 Conference welcomes Jennifer Roback Morse of the Ruth Institute who will focus on ways contemporary Catholics can join the Church’s mission to restore the respect due to the family. Dr. Morse will outline some of the tragic ways marriage has been eroded in the wake of the sexual revolution and will suggest some calls to action.

Early Bird Rates (paid by May 20): Single - $87; Double - $75

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Retirement and Senior Living
The Southwest Kansas Catholic
Volunteering moves you outside your everyday trials and tribulations and distracts you from your own internal problems. One of the best ways to deal with the issues and challenges of everyday life is to engage in simple acts of kindness and reach out to help others.

You can make helping others a daily practice by following the golden rule found in Matthew 7:12 “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

Think about some of the organizations that exist as self-help groups, where a defining feature of the group is people helping each other. Whether they are trying to lose weight, stop smoking, cope with grief, or any number of other challenges, the core process is helping others so you can help yourself.

So, in order to help ourselves, we should start by helping others. Finding opportunities to volunteer is as close as your church. If you are part of a community that volunteers, you’ll have natural opportunities to get involved. Once you get roped into volunteering for the first time, there is often a light bulb that turns on and you are looking forward to the next opportunity to help.

When you think about volunteering, keep in mind some of the following thoughts:

Focus your efforts on something you are passionate about. That passion helps you feel engaged and interested. Find a way to use your talents and skills in the most effective way possible. Some people may be good at preparing meals, but if your “thing” is spreadsheets, then find an organization that needs a volunteer to create spreadsheets.

Just do it. You don’t have to be perfect or prepared or comfortable, just jump in with both feet and a good attitude.

Get to know others in the group. If you are all volunteering at the same place, you must have a lot in common and volunteering with friends makes the work more enjoyable.

Have fun — make volunteering a joy not drudgery.

Serving others moves you forward in your spiritual journey. When you give of your time and talent you are modeling Jesus. God can easily do anything without our help at all, but He desires to work through us.

Dakota Corbin

In the same way when we volunteer and work for God, we get so much more than we could ever give. When we offer what we have, He will use it to accomplish amazing things.

dakota@compasscatholic.org

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For more information, to volunteer, or to donate, contact one of our offices.

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Contact your local parish to learn of ways that you can volunteer to serve your parish, diocese or community.
Don’t Retire – Rewire

“Do nothing without deliberation; then once you have acted, have no regrets.” —Sirach 32:19

By JERI SEDLAR
CompassCatholic.org

When most people think about retirement, they only think about not working, they don’t really think about what they will do or how they will keep themselves busy.

Maybe you want to play golf, go fishing, cruise around the local lakes in your boat, or travel to some beautiful and exotic places in the world. But sooner or later, you will return home, then what are you going to do all day every day?

Talk with family and friends who have retired to hear what they did to prepare and what they struggled with the most after retiring. We always encourage people to seek godly counsel and this is one life event where you want to take time to seek advice from people who have been there.

One of the biggest impacts on your retirement plans is your budget because your financial situation may limit your ability to fulfill your retirement dreams. Some people may have enough money to do what they’d like, while many others are going to struggle to maintain their quality of life.

The challenge is that if you are not using a budget prior to retirement, you have no idea of how much you’ll spend during retirement. If you don’t have a budget and know exactly what you are spending now, you are only guessing at the amount of money you’ll need to live on in retirement.

Once you have a retirement budget, match your spending against the income stream available to you in retirement. When will you be eligible to take Social Security? Do you have a 401K or 403B and how much income will it provide? What about a pension plan or an IRA or other long term savings available to you?

Everyone understands the stock market rises and falls in cycles over the years. Yet, when it comes time to plan for retirement, this basic fact can be very hard to deal with. If the market drops right after you retire, you could find yourself with a far smaller retirement nest egg than you anticipated. To mitigate the impact of a down market, it is important to reallocate your retirement savings and move to more conservative investments as you get closer and closer to retirement.

Ditch the debt to put yourself in the best possible position for retirement. Concentrate on paying off all credit card and consumer debt as quickly as possible so that you are not dragging your debt into retirement. In addition to consumer debt, work hard to get your home paid off before you retire.

When you are thinking about retirement, how do your plans tie into the plans your spouse has? Couples don’t always have the same ideas about anything, let alone retirement, so it’s important to have open-ended discussions about what each of you expects in retirement. You need to take time to discuss and develop a plan that works for both of you.

Talk about everything, including your expectations for retirement, what your new schedule will look like, how you’re going to divvy up household tasks.

Continued on Page 20

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### En nuestro silencio

**Rev. RONALD M. GILMORE, Obispo Emerito de la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City**

**En nuestro silencio**

Y sin embargo... ¿no es éste el camino verdaderamente divino? ¿No abrumar con un poder externo, sino dar libertad, ofrecer y recibir amor? (Papa Benedicto XVI)

Nosotros enfrentamos cada cosa que nos resiste con la fuerza. Cuando un médico no nos conviene, lo dejamos por otro médico, y luego por otro; queremos probar cada nueva píldora brillante, cada procedimiento experimental desconocido; queremos doblar el mundo con todos sus dolores a nuestra voluntad. Pero Dios... tú conoces a Aquél cuyos caminos no conocemos... Dios no trabaja de esa manera. Cualquier mirada abierta al Calvario te lo dirá.

Al contrario, su modo era el de la Resurrección, su propia mente y voluntad doblando el hecho. Visto por Nadie, conocido al principio sólo por unos pocos, llevó al mundo entero a través del frágil testimonio de las vasijas de barro; no había, y no hay, nada abrumador en la Resurrección. Sólo la libertad puede detectarla, sólo la libertad real puede recibirla.

Nuestra falta de libertad nos retiene. Tan a gusto con el placer, y la riqueza, y la fama, y el poder; realmente no sabemos qué tan esclavos somos en realidad, qué tan cerdos estamos a tanto que es real a nuestro alrededor.

Incluso cuando disminuimos la influencia de esos cuatro sobre nosotros, todavía no podemos llegar a comprender con nuestras mentes la resurrección. Nos atrae, pero desde algún lugar escondido. Nos habla, pero en susurros suaves. Encontramos nuestro camino a través de la imagen, la metáfora y la semejanza, pero sigue siendo un secreto.

Si hacen algo para abrirla a la atracción y al susurro. Para abrirla al ofrecimiento de su Amor... Pero todos los amigos de Dios... todos nosotros... luchamos por decir lo indecible. Que el Cristo Resucitado y su Espíritu nos toquen, incluso en nuestro silencio.

### Actos de bondad

¿Alguna vez has experimentado, o has sido testigo de un acto de bondad? El Obispo John B. Brungardt invita a los lectores a enviar historias al Southwest Kansas Catholic, skregister@dcdiocese.org, o llamando a Dave al (620) 227-1519. El obispo nos pide a todos que cometamos actos de bondad como oración por las vocaciones sacerdotales.

Un agradecimiento especial a ministros de la Eucaristía

Por Linda Roush, y su padre, Louis Sanchez

Hemos sido bendecidos al ser los receptores de actos de bondad de los ministros de la Eucaristía en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

Sheila Railback no solo trajo a Cristo a papá, sino que lo sorprendió con dulces para Halloween, galletas caseras y dulces para Navidad y galletas caseras para Pascua, aunque ya no está en su rotación.

Harold Flax trajo a papá uno de sus hermosos crucifijos hechos a mano.

Ron Herrman vio que el árbol espinoso junto al porche delantero tenía varias ramas grandes y muertas. No solo trajo a Cristo a papá, sino también sus herramientas, y movió esas terribles ramas en un día frío y polvoriento.

Tom Armstrong llegó a pesar de que el clima durante su mes de llevar a Cristo a papá estaba un día frío y polvoriento.

These feligreses realizan actos sobresalientes de bondad, cuidado y verdadero cristianismo.

Gracias de parte de Louis Sanchez y Linda Roush.

### En Breve

**Grupo lanza campaña para Born Alive Bill**

Por CHRISTINE ROUSSELLE

Washington D.C. (CNA) - La organización pro-vida Susan B. Anthony List lanzó una nueva campaña para presionar a los miembros del Congreso para que firmen la petición de alta de la Ley de Protección de Sobrevivientes del Aborto de Born-Alive.

Si 218 miembros de la Cámara de Representantes firman la petición de alta, el proyecto de ley se trasladará al piso, donde se considerará. En la actualidad, 199 miembros han firmado, incluidos todos menos dos miembros republicanos, pero solo dos demócratas: los Representantes Dan Lipinski (D-IL) y Collin Peterson (D-MN).

La petición se abrirá para las firmas el 2 de abril.

En una declaración del 2 de abril, el arzobispo Joseph Naumann, presidente del comité pro vida de los obispos de Estados Unidos, pidió la aprobación del proyecto de ley.

"Nuestra nación es mejor que el infanticidio. Los bebés nacidos vivos durante el proceso de aborto merecen la misma atención y asistencia médica que cualquier otro recién nacido. No brindar atención es una forma letal de discriminación contra las circunstancias del nacimiento del niño “.

"Insto encarecidamente a todos los representantes a que firmen esta petición y luego voten por la Ley de Protección de Sobrevivientes del Aborto de Born-Alive. "Este proyecto de ley-agregaría requisitos específicos para ayudar a garantizar que los bebés nacidos vivos después de un intento de aborto puedan tener una oportunidad justa en la vida", dijo.

### Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios

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

Si usted sospecha abuso o descuido de un menor en Kansas y el menor esta en un peñol inmediato hable al 911 o al departamento de policía local. Si usted tiene alguna sospecha de que un menor esta siendo abusado o descuidado haga un reporte confidencial al Departamento de Kansas Centro de Reportes para Protección de Niños y Familias, 800-922-5330.

Si usted sospecha abuso por parte de personal de la Iglesia, aparte de hacer un reporte a esas autoridades civiles, por favor comuníquese con el Señor Charles Befort, cbeafort@cox.net, 620-285-3219. Si usted o alguien que conoce pudo haber sido abusado/ a por parte de personal de la Iglesia, comuníquese con el Señor Befort. Puede hacer un reporte a la Diócesis en nuestro sitio web. El formulario para hacer su reporte lo puede encontrar en la siguiente dirección: www. dcdiocese.org/safe-environment.
**Vibrant Ministries Appeal: Helping to put PRAYER into ACTION**

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

In June, area young adults and adult team leaders will take part in a faith-filled exercise serving people in local communities through Prayer and Action. This means painting homes, cleaning yards, praying together, and helping in ways they can’t guess at before they put themselves to work. This generous activity is part of the faith formation of our youth and young adults, and is vitally important in their lives as they grow into those formative stages of adulthood. The Vibrant Ministries appeal supports funds to help build on the work that has already been done.

**CATHOLIC FRATERNITY AT KSU**

Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity at K-State is seeking young men who value brotherhood, faith, academics and leadership opportunities. We’re looking for young men who want more from their college experience than just going to class; leaders interested in developing strategies to help keep your finances in line with your short- and long-term goals. If you are the parent of a high school student, encourage them to attend the upcoming financial review. A financial review is a great opportunity to sit face to face with an Edward Jones financial advisor and develop strategies to help keep your finances in line with your short- and long-term goals.

**CLASSIFIED**

Fourth Grade Teacher, Sacred Heart School, Colby
Sacred Heart School in Colby is currently taking applications for the position of fourth grade teacher. Please send your resume and/or your questions to lschwarz@sacredheartcolby.com, or contact Laura Schwarz, 785-443-3354.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

Registration deadline May 15 for Prayer and Action mission week

Continued from Page 8

I still remember that night—May 31, 2017. It was the first “Prayer and Action” (although that wasn’t its name back then) took place in Garden City around 2000 and was organized by Sister Janice Thome, OP, and Lea Ann Scott, who created a five-day work-camp—a working retreat for students. Gail Hammerschmidt, one of the first students to attend the work-camp_retreat, later became Father Hammerschmidt, and took the program to the Diocese of Salina, calling it “Prayer and Action.” It was later adopted in the Diocese of Wichita, and the Archdiocese of Kansas City.

The youth attend Mass, they work, they engage with local people, and in the evening they pray. And share. And relax.

“While I’ve been stressing out, they’ve been playing with the grandkids. They are wonderful,” she said of the youth.

**Catholic Place Names in Kansas**

A book by Diocesan Archivist Tim Wenzl

Obvious & Obscure

dcyouth.org/prayer-action.

**Angelus to Xavier**

Catholic Place Names in Kansas

Obvious & Obscure

A book by Diocesan Archivist Tim Wenzl

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Decisions made in the past may no longer be what’s best for the future. To help keep everything up to date, Edward Jones offers a complimentary financial review.

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**Todd J Armaytes**
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**Lloyd Davis, CFP**
Financial Advisor

| 210 E Frontview Suite B | 620-225-0651 |
| Dodge City, KS 67801    |              |

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**Juan Ponce de Leon**

Leon (Butler County)—In 1882 when the community of Noble learned a post office was already registered under that name, a group of immigrants from Iowans suggested Leon “for their previous town ... and also, in the minds of its projectors (promoters), of the far-famed Ponce de Leon.” The townspeople in Iowa made no conscientious decision to name their community after the Spanish explorer. Someone suggested De Leon or Ponce de Leon. The townspeople in Iowa made an energy I can’t explain.”

“My daughter has attended Prayer and Action for the past three years. It has helped her to grow more in her Catholic faith by having a personal relationship with God, and sometimes I find myself going to her with questions I have. She is one of many reasons I have gotten more involved in the church. Our father-daughter relationship has grown stronger because Angela is able to talk to me about anything and ... we definitely have a special bond that we did not have before.”

If you are the parent of a high school student, encourage them to spend a week of their summer serving others and growing in faith. And better yet, show them that you are willing to do the same by being a chaperone for your parish, painting and praying right alongside our young people.

For more details, registration information, and a video that explains the program, check out our website at dcyouth.org/prayer-action.

Available now at Amazon.com and Catholic/Christian bookstores. Mail order available through the Cathedral gift store by contacting the author at twenzl@dcdioce.org.
Vibrant Ministries Appeal grant available to support Formation

My Dear Priests, Deacons, PLC, DRES/CREs, Catechists, Youth Leaders, and all who minister with our children, youth, and adults in Catholic Faith Formation:

Greetings this Easter Season in our Risen Lord! I hope your Triduum was a joy-filled and fruitful experience. Our Loving God has blessed us abundantly with our Vibrant Ministries: Uniting our Church appeal. We have surpassed the goal of $10 million in almsgiving, shared by more than 5,000 families in our diocese of 48 parishes. This has been a sacrificial and generous journey by the faithful. “And be thankful ... with gratitude in your hearts to God ... giving thanks to God” (Col 3:15-17).

We are continuing to put Alms into Action, specifically in the Catholic Faith Formation goal. At right is a Parish Grant Application for Parish School of Religion, Youth, Young Adult and Adult Ministries. I pray that you will discuss with staff, volunteers, and parishioners opportunities to look to the future, to be pro-active, to be strategic, to be architects with these alms. See the appendix for some ideas, but please do not restrict your imagination. How do we grow in our formation in the Catholic Faith of the risen One, Jesus Christ?

Even with the tremendous generosity of the faithful, these funds are not unlimited, nor will they last forever. Thus I added the phrase “include all funding sources including parish and individual contributions.” Some parishes can afford these resources out of their own budgets. Some parishes cannot — this is what Vibrant Ministries is for.

Applications are due by May 31, 2019 for the Fall Semester, and/or October 31, 2019 for the Spring Semester.

Send the application to Dan Stremel, Finance Officer, Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, PO Box 137, Dodge City, KS 67801. If you have questions, contact Dan Stremel, (620) 227-1517 (dstramel@dcdiocese.org) or Mark Roth, Development Director, (620) 227-1535 (mroth@dcdiocese.org). You may be directed to a specific Chancery Director, DRE, Catechist, etc., who may better assist you.

Thank you for your dedication to forming our children, youth, and adults in the Catholic Faith of Jesus Christ and His Church. He will help us; Jesus loves us more than we can ask or imagine! Be assured of my prayers for you, your family, and your parish. May you have a blessed Easter season and beyond in the Lord,

+ Most Rev. John B. Brungardt

“Thank you for your dedication to forming our children, youth, and adults in the Catholic Faith of Jesus Christ and His Church. He will help us; Jesus loves us more than we can ask or imagine!”

The Vibrant Ministries — Uniting Our Church appeal is offering a grant for those who work in youth, young adult, and adult faith formation. There is no specific dollar amount offered. Instead, the grant is based on the needs and budget expressed by the applicant.

### Vibrant Ministries Appeal Parish Grant Application

| 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). | ________________ |
| Other, specify: | ________________ |

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 Signature | Date

“Give alms ... for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be” (Luke 12:33-34).

### Ideas for putting the grant funding to work

#### Ideas for grant uses (use these ideas as a springboard for your concepts; this is not an exhaustive list):
- Curriculum resources (books, workbooks, DVDs, CDs, Internet sites that have a fee like “formed.org,” etc.).
- Technology (laptop computers, projection systems, screens, iDevices, speakers, etc.). A “Smart-Classroom,” or an IVR room. WiFi in the PSR/Youth group/adult faith formation classrooms and areas (with proper passwords and security for a safe environment).
- Continuing formation for catechists, parents, youth leaders and other interested parishioners (Pastoral Ministry Formation, Catechist Coaching, college classes, webinars, etc.).
- Conferences and workshops for adults and youth (registration, travel, lodging, etc.).
- Fees for guest speakers to come to the parish, etc.
- Occasionally, I receive a grant opportunity from the Bishops’ Conference or other institution in the area of faith formation. We will keep you posted on these possibilities throughout the year.

Let your creativity run! How do we bring all the faithful in the parish to a greater knowledge, service, and love of Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church?

--- Bishop John

“Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do.” (1 Thes 5:11)

ACROSS
1. Birth month of Mary (abbr.)
2. St. Therese of Lisieux is a patron of this country
3. Where Samson slew the Philistines (Judg 15:9)
4. God, in Paris
5. Land with a cavalry in Ezekiel
6. “...every ___ amongst you must be circumcised” (Gen 17:10)
7. State in which the Diocese of Dallas is found
8. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
9. Portion, catching device
10. Implement, stolen goods
11. Prize, furniture compartment
12. Weapons, tight fit
13. Retain, sneaking look
14. Light source, rodents
15. God, in Paris
16. Portion, catching device
17. State in which the Diocese of Dallas is found
18. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
19. St. Therese of Lisieux is a patron of this country
20. St. Therese of Lisieux is a patron of this country
21. Retain, sneaking look
22. Light source, rodents
23. God, in Paris
24. Portion, catching device
25. State in which the Diocese of Dallas is found
26. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
27. St. Therese of Lisieux is a patron of this country
28. God, in Paris
29. Portion, catching device
30. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
31. Prize, furniture compartment
32. Implement, stolen goods
33. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
34. Retain, sneaking look
35. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
36. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
37. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
38. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
39. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador
40. There is no Catholic Archdiocese in Ecuador

DOWN
1. Retain, sneaking look
2. Retain, sneaking look
3. Retain, sneaking look
4. Retain, sneaking look
5. Retain, sneaking look
6. Retain, sneaking look
7. Retain, sneaking look
8. Retain, sneaking look
9. Retain, sneaking look
10. Retain, sneaking look

TEASER THE FIRST: Each pair of hints below relates to two words. One of the words is the other one spelled backward. What are the ten word pairs?
Example: Married, moisture Answer: wed, dew
1. Light source, rodents
2. Dwell, wicked
3. Retain, sneaking look
4. Weapons, tight fit
5. Portion, catching device
6. Prize, furniture compartment
7. Drinking aid, skin blemishes
8. Stopper, big swallow
9. Implement, stolen goods
10. Precinct, illustrate

TEASER THE SECOND: Once upon a time, in the West Lake village, a servant lived with his master. After service of about 30 years, his master became ill and was going to die. One day, the master called his servant and asked him for a wish. It could be any wish, but just one. The master gave him one day to think about it. The servant became very happy and went to his master for discussion about the wish. His master was blind and she asked her son to make a wish for her eye sight to come back. Then the servant went to his wife. She became very excited and asked for a son as they were childless for many years. After that, the servant went to his father who wanted to be rich, and so he asked his son to wish for a lot of money. The next day he went to his master and made one wish through which all the three (mother, father, wife) got what they wanted. You have to tell what the servant asked the master.

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

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

Printed with permission from www.sudokuoftheday.com/
Helen Lix

HELEN F. LIX, 102, of St. Andrew Parish, Wichita, died April 13, 2019. She was born in Wichita, the daughter of Gerhard and Dena (Bosman) Bleumer. She was a lifetime area resident, and was a member of the Altar Society. As a homemaker, she helped on the farm alongside her husband. On May 2, 1938 she married Vernon L. Lix at Wichita. He preceded her in death on April 30, 1996. Survivors include: daughters, Lana Dirks and Sheila McCarty; sons, Gerard and Terry; daughter-in-law, Josie Lix; 15 grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Father Robert Schremmer presided.

GREGORY RAY MARTINEZ III, 21, of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Leoti, died April 10, 2019. Greg was born in Garden City, the son of Gregory R. Martinez, Jr. and Jacki Hillburn. He was a 2018 graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, an employee of Seaboard Industries; and was a lifetime resident of Leoti. Survivors include: his father and step-mother, Gregory and Sheryl Martinez, Jr.; his mother, Jacki Loya; three sisters, Cassandra Hillburn, Adrienne Bailon, and Hayley Martinez; grandparents, Isabel Clark, KenClark, Gene and Doris Langdon; numerous uncles, aunts and cousins. Father Tim Huber presided.

JACK DARROL BOEGEL, 84, of St. Anthony Parish, Lakin, died, April 11, 2019. He was born in Greeley, Colorado to Cletus and Marie (Hilburn) Boegel. He was a lifetime area resident, and was a member of the Altar Society. As a farmer and rancher. When he moved to Kansas he worked for National Beef. Manuel and his wife were blessed with seven children, 24 grandchildren, 67 great-grandchildren and 18 great-great-grandchildren. Survivors include: sons Abundio Sandoval, Jose Sandoval, and Manuel Sandoval Jr.; daughters, Socorro Lozano, Benita Sanchez and Grace Martinez; daughter-in-law Maria Guadalupe Sandoval; brother, Salvador Sandoval; and sister Maria Sandoval. Father James Dieker presided.

JOAN FISCHER, 93, of Taltachequ, Okla., and formerly of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Ulysses, died April 14, 2019. She was born in Falls City, Neb., the daughter of Carl and Janet (Mooney) Huber. She moved to Los Angeles, Calif., where she met and married Milton “Mike” Fischer. He preceded her in death. Joan worked alongside her husband on their farm in Ulysses. Survivors include son, Steve; daughter, Karen Young; brothers, John Huber, Ralph Huber and Ed Huber; five grandsons; and one great-granddaughter. Father James Dieker presided.

EVELYN LOIS ‘BETTY’ HILL, 91, of Holcomb and a member of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died April 15, 2019. She was born at Neodesha, the daughter of Robert E. and Margaret E. (Trotman) Jackson. She married Robert “Doc” Hill on Dec. 14, 1946. He died on May 8, 1983. She was a lifetime resident of Holcomb and had worked as a nurse aide at St. Catherine Hospital and as a cook for the Holcomb School District. She is survived by three daughters: Nancy Vaughn, Patricia Lehning; and Robert; brother, John Connor; sisters, Loretta Ulrey, and Barbara Lehning; 23 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Survivors include: sons, Abundio Sandoval, Jr.; daughters, Socorro Weikel; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Father James Dieker officiated at the Rosary service, and Pastor Rex Petty of Faith Tabernacle Church, officiated at the funeral service.

ELIZABETH LOUISE (BETTE) LEE, 93, a former member of St. Patrick Parish, Plains, died April 21, 2019. Bette was born in Plains to Frances (Wood) and Homer Singly, who owned a farm near Burenheide where Bette spent her childhood and most of her adult life. Bette worked as a bookkeeper at the Plains Lumber Company until she married Thomas Brown (Tommy) Lee, Jr., a flight engineer stationed at Liberal Air Base during World War II. He preceded her in death. Survivors include her children: Leissa Shahrak, Marci McGrow, Lori Royal, Thomas Lee, III; Karli Lee; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Father Ted Skalsky presided.

Continued on Page 20

OBITUARIES

May 3, 2019 Page 17

What’s Your Plan?

People are living longer than any other time in history. You may need care in your old age, whether in a nursing facility or at home. That can cost up to $67,697 a year or $183 daily benefit* and these costs are likely to increase. May not have the funds you need, or your life savings could be wiped out in a few short years.

Knights of Columbus Long-Term Care Insurance will help protect your assets and those of your family.

*Source: Cost of Care Survey; John Hancock Life Insurance, Nov. 2018

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Faith Tabernacle Church, officiated at the funeral service.

MARGARET IDA ‘MARGE’ GENNETTE, 87, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died April 17, 2019. She was born in Olpe, Kansas, the daughter of John and Irma (Striegel) Haag. She married Richard L. Gennette on Jan. 5, 1952; he died on April 4, 1985. Marge moved to Garden City in 1975 from Scott City. She was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Prince of Peace Parish, Lakin, died April 19, 2019. She was born in Barton County, the daughter of Robert E. and Aurelia (Schugart) Connor. She married Jackie Ed Shrewsberry in 1955; he preceded her in death on Nov. 16, 1960. She then married Reuben Flagor on Apr. 28, 1962. A lifetime Barton County resident, Jean, a mother of six children, began working part time at the Hoisington Dispatch after the children were in school. She later went on to work for Fuller Brush and Superior Essex, and finally for the Eldercare Program from which she retired. Jean was a member of the Altar Society. Survivors include her husband of nearly 57 years, Reuben; and children, Jack, Janet Palmer, Ron, David, Earl, and Robert; brother, John Connor; sisters, Loretta Ulrey, and Barbara Lehning; 15 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and one more on the way. Father Charles Seiwert presided.

FRANCES JEAN FLAGOR, 82, of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, died April 19, 2019. She was born in Barton County, the daughter of Robert E. and Aurelia (Schugart) Connor. She married Jackie Ed Shrewsberry in 1955; he preceded her in death on Nov. 16, 1960. She then married Reuben Flagor on Apr. 28, 1962. A lifetime Barton County resident, Jean, a mother of six children, began working part time at the Hoisington Dispatch after the children were in school. She later went on to work for Fuller Brush and Superior Essex, and finally for the Eldercare Program from which she retired. Jean was a member of the Altar Society. Survivors include her husband of nearly 57 years, Reuben; and children, Jack, Janet Palmer, Ron, David, Earl, and Robert; brother, John Connor; sisters, Loretta Ulrey, and Barbara Lehning; 15 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and one more on the way. Father Charles Seiwert presided.

MARC E. HUSLIG, DDS, 55, of Prince of Peace Parish, Great Bend, died April 19, 2019. He was born in Great Bend the son of Marcus and Caralota (Lennon) Huslig. He married Teri Turkle on June 7, 1986. He owned Marc E. Huslig, DDS, Chartered. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Central District Dental Society and Academy of General Dentistry. He was an accomplished musician. Survivors include his wife Teri; his mother, Caralota Huslig; son, Matthew; three daughters, Taylor Huslig, Madison Huslig and Reagen Huslig; brother, Aaron Huslig; sister, Valerie Chancellor; five nieces; and 10 nephews. Father Don Bedore presided.

ALICE MARIE KRAFFT, 82, of Liberal, died April 20, 2019. She was born to Andrew and Margaret (Thompson) Weikel at Owensboro, KY. She married Joe Krraft on April 12, 1958. Alice was a graduate of Holy Family High School in Tulsa, Okla. After marriage, Alice and Joe moved to the Liberal area for his job with Panhandle Eastern Pipeline. She was a member of the Red Hat Society, Lady’s Altar Society, Bowling Club and Liberal Bridge Club. Alice survived by her husband of 61 years, Joe Krraft; her children: Edward Krraft, Mary Noon, Diane Krraft, Terri Hamel, Christopher Krraft, and Bill Krraft; brother, Edward M. Weikel; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Father James Dieker officiated at the Rosary service, and Pastor Rex Petty of Faith Tabernacle Church, officiated at the funeral service.

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Despair always lifts! If you are having thoughts of suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.


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dciocese.org/pastoral-ministry-formation
Coleen Stein:
(620) 227-1538

1. star, rats
2. live, evil
3. keep, peek
5. part, trap
6. reward, drawer
7. straw, warts
8. plug, gulp
9. tool, loot
10. ward, draw

ANSWERS
The Southwest Kansas Catholic May 5, 2019 Page 19

Newman University theology program travels to the Holy Land

By CLARK SCHAFER
Newman University

Wichita — Newman University’s graduate theology program took current and former students and their guests on a 10-day educational experience to the Holy Land last month. 46 individuals traveled to the Holy Land with the program March 7-17.

Students in the Master of Theological Studies and Master of Arts in Theology programs are encouraged to join either this trip, offered every other year, or one to Rome, on alternative years. Through the travel, students receive a real-world education that’s applicable to their studies.

Assistant Professor of Theology Matthew Umbarger and Dean of the School of Catholic Studies Father Joseph Father Gile take the lead on the pilgrimage to the Holy Land and offer their knowledge and expertise to those on the trip.

Umbarger, who once lived in Israel, enjoys returning and sharing his experience with students and their friends and family. This year was Father Gile’s third trip to the Holy Land and he’s already looking forward to returning in 2021, he said.

“Really, it was one highlight after another every day of the trip,” said Father Gile.

The group booked a tour bus with 50 seats available and allowed all graduate theology students, past and present, to join and invite their friends and family in order to fill seats.

Newman University Admissions Counselor Paola Nuñez is currently in the graduate theology program and said she felt like she had an entourage. Her mother joined her on the trip along with four of her friends.

Nuñez and her mother also joined the trip to Rome last year and found that traveling with experts such as Umbarger and Father Gile makes the trip a more fruitful experience.

“They know about these sites for sure, but they also have a passion for their faith and their knowledge is one of the main reasons I go,” said Nuñez. “If I get a lot more out of the trip.”

The group covered a lot of ground during the week. Starting in Israel, they ventured through Nazareth, Galilee, crossed over a bridge into Jordan and then came back to Israel to spend time in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Palestine.

Studying the Old Testament and New Testament in class before the trip, many students said, makes the Holy Land experience more meaningful.

“It was really cool because it was going a step further from the classes we took,” said Nuñez. “Talking to my classmates, we were able to bring up a lot of the things that we learned with Dr. Umbarger and the New Testament and the Old Testament. We kept saying, ‘We learned about this,’ but it didn’t really make sense until we got there. So it’s cool experiencing what you learned.”

During their first segment in Israel, one of Nuñez’s favorite experiences was a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.

“There are a lot of things in the Bible that happened in the Sea of Galilee. It was really peaceful. The sun was setting and you really got the feeling of being one of the apostles, being one of the disciples,” she said.

The group also prayed the stations of the cross, which follows the path of Christ as he was crucified. Nuñez said what she and many others fail to realize, is that modern life has taken over the historical setting.

“Father Gile enjoyed celebrating Mass with the group inside the Crusader chapel next to the Holy Sepulcher. ‘This chapel was hewn out of solid stone and I could just see those Crusader knights kneeling down for Mass a thousand years ago,’” he said.

Student Paola Nuñez nears the Jordan River.

“The (pilgrimage) is a way for us to show our devotion to Christ, to show our devotion to Christianity or whatever religion that we are. It’s an outward sign of love.”

One thing Father Gile knows pilgrims gain from an experience like this is a renewed and revitalized faith, he said.

“In Nazareth, there is only one source of water — a well. And, back then, it was the work of women and children to go get water every day for the family to use. So we know that Mary and Jesus, as a boy, had a face full of joy the entire time that kept everything in perspective. Father Gile who got them through. He had a face full of joy the entire time that kept everything in perspective.”

For the four-hour hike to Petra was rough on the group but Nuñez said for everyone, including their bus driver, it was Father Gile who got them through. “We had a face full of joy and we never had been hiking like that before,” said Nuñez.

“Several people took water from the Jordan River and here’s a fun Catholic fact: Water from the Jordan is the only water in the world that a priest does not have to bless in order for it to become holy water. The fact that it comes from the Jordan River, where Christ was baptized, makes it holy!”

Nuñez said there was a lot of hiking in Jordan that wore the group out. They visited Petra, made famous by an Indiana Jones movie, and their hotel was right on the beach of the Dead Sea.

The group stayed here on their last day and had all morning to relax and enjoy the empty beach, which seemed to be the perfect conclusion to their adventure. It gave the pilgrims a time to bond and reflect on their journey.

“Overall, Father Gile’s homilies are what Nuñez would consider her favorite part of the trip. ‘Father Father Gile was on fire,’ she said. ‘You could tell he really prepared for us being there because we had Mass every single day.’”

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**Born Alive Bill**

Continued from Page 7

singed out for attention, with each of them representing states won by President Donald Trump during the 2016 election.

"This is a very moderate proposal that we think they ought to support," Quigley told CNA. She said the timing of the ad campaign was centered around the Congressional recess, when the members would be in their districts.

"Many Democrats who represent Republican-leaning districts have not yet signed the discharge petition to hold a vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," said SBA List President Marjorie Dannenfelser in the press release.

The bill’s lead sponsor, Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO), said that legislation was "a measure that has passed with bipartisan support in the past."

Presently, 26 states have some sort of legal protection for babies who survive abortions. Wagner said that it was important that this be extended throughout the entire country.

Dannenfelser said the bill “is urgently needed” as lawmakers in New York, Virginia, and other states push a “radical agenda of abortion on demand through the moment of birth and even in utero.”

"The overwhelming majority of Americans — including 70 percent of Democrats — want Congress to protect vulnerable babies who survive abortions, yet Speaker Pelosi and House Democratic Party leaders have repeatedly blocked this compassionate, common-ground bill."

She referred to the Democrats blocking the legislation as “extremists” who are out of step with their own party.

Polls have consistently shown that the majority of Americans, including Democrats and even those who call themselves pro-choice, are opposed to late-term abortion.

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would criminalize doctors who do not provide age-appropriate medical care to an infant that is born alive after an abortion. It would also provide the mother of the infant the ability to file a civil suit against her doctor. It does not criminalize abortion nor add any new restrictions on abortion.

**Assisted Suicide**

Continued from Page 7

and palliative care.

The experiences like his, Faddis said, needed to be shared in the wider battle to resist a culture of death in which suffering has no meaning.

“If we do not tell [an alternative view of suffering], the other side’s telling the horror stories of suffering all day long.”

Approaching death with dignity, Faddis said, is important for patients and families alike. “It’s worth taking time over,” he said, noting that his family benefited “in ways too many to count” from the care and support his wife received from their own community.

Faddis said that an approach that underscores the value of life is especially important for terminal patients who often feel as though they are a burden on their family and community. Terminal illness was, he said, a painful experience, but one that can be lived with dignity and meaning.

“When people are cared for well, then they can suffer well. So as they’re going through those difficult times, or just those difficult decisions, people can help them just by caring well for them,” he said.

Assisted suicide is now legal in eight states. Faddis said that in the United States, there is a general fear of suffering, which has resulted in an embrace of a quick death.

“I think we have a responsibility to console and give solace to the dying,” he said, stressing that preventing isolation was a vital part of respecting the dignity of human life.

**Don’t Retire – Rewire**

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and how your identity is going to change. Compromise is created when each of you makes a list of expectations such as:

- Downsizing, or moving to a new location to be near family
- Places you would like to travel
- Cultural or sporting events you want to attend
- Exercise or sports activities you’d like to share

Volunteer work you will enjoy

Once you each develop this long list of possibilities for retirement, go through it together noting what is the same on both lists and where the differences are. Have a give-and-take discussion where each of you compromises to some extent. You both need to have your own activities and you also need to spend time doing things together.

Giving your time and talents to a worthy cause is one of the most fulfilling things you can do in life. There are an unlimited number of worthy causes that need volunteers to help achieve their mission. Explore something that you never had time to get involved in when you were working.

Retirement can be one-third of your adult life. Having a purpose and being engaged is a sign of wellbeing. As you wind down your work, begin thinking about a cause that can become a passion. What talents and strengths do you have that will enable you to contribute in a meaningful way to a purpose that is close to your heart?

Retirement offers you the chance to do what you always wanted to do, and no longer focus on simply earning a living. Plan your retirement so you have a purpose for each and every day.

**Scripture Readings**

| Tuesday, May 7 | Acts 7:51—8:1a/ Jn 6:30-35 |
| Thursday, May 9 | Acts 8:26-40/ Jn 6:44-51 |
| Saturday, May 11 | Acts 9:31-42/ Jn 6:60-69 |

| Tuesday, May 14 | Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/ Jn 15:9-17 |
| Friday, May 17 | Acts 13:26-33/ Jn 14:1-6 |
| Saturday, May 18 | Acts 13:44-52/ Jn 14:7-14 |

**Obituaries**

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MARGARET ELVINE LEMKE SCHNOEBELEN, 99, of St. Nicholas Parish, Kinsley, died Dec. 18, 2018. Margaret was born to Emmaline Schlump and Peter Lemke in Muscoda, WI. She married Renee E. Schnoebelen, M.D. on Jan. 3, 1942. Upon completion of his residency, he was ordered to the Pacific Theater in December, 1943. After the war, they settled in Kinsley, where she remained for 69 years. She volunteered with the Red Cross and Blood Bank, Girl Scouts, and St. Nicholas Church, where she was an organist for many years.

Survivors include her daughters, Renee Rousseau and Shadie Calhoun; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Father John Strasser celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Nicholas Church April 27, 2019. The family requests memorial contributions to the Kinsley Library.

MARY (GULLI) TRAFFAS, 97, of St. Boniface Parish, Sharon, died on Holy Saturday, April 20, 2019, in Pratt. She was born to Gertrude and Joseph Gulli. With her eight siblings, she grew up in Washington D.C. She married Vincent Traffas on Jan. 17, 1945, and moved to Sharon. Mary is survived by her children, Elaine Graham, Joan Berman, Vincent Traffas, Shawn Traffas, and daughter-in-law, Marilyn Traffas; nine grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren (and two more on the way); and her brother, Ed Gulli.