'Vocations are born of fervor'

By CARSON HAUPT

Editor's Note: Carson Haupt is attending Conception Seminary in Conception, Mo. He is a vocation from St. Joseph Parish, Scott City.

If you’ve been reading this newspaper, or if you’ve been listening to the bishop speak, or if you’re like me and you’re from one of the parishes currently without a priest, I’m sure you know that the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, like many dioceses across the country, is in the throes of a vocations crisis. Many of our priests are reaching the age of retirement, and there simply aren’t enough young priests to fill their shoes.

As Catholics, we are sacramental people, and without priests, we have no access to the sacraments that make our faith possible—I’m thinking especially of the Eucharist and Confession.

When we see the ordination numbers (or lack thereof), it can be tempting to fall into hopelessness. It seems as if in the face of our vocational drought, there’s nothing we can do. That is a lie, and it is exactly what our enemy wants us to think.

The truth is, there is something we can do: reform our lives. We can only directly influence our own choices. I’d like to propose that the solution to our vocations crisis is for every person living in the diocese to make a profound, heartfelt commitment to pursuing holiness, and pursuing it relentlessly.

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FATHER John Begley was one of the early pioneer priests to serve southwest Kansas. At its peak, the diocese boasted 73 priests. November is dedicated to highlighting the joys and challenges of priestly vocations in our diocese.

They came cloaked in faith and determination, settlers — many not long arrived from Europe — bound to make southwest Kansas their home.

And not far behind the 19th century homesteaders came priests and women Religious, eager to serve these newly planted Catholic communities, the priests often times serving several mission parishes at once.

One of those priests was Father John Begley (above). He was one of several pioneer priests who built up the faith and nurtured fledgling Catholic communities in southwest Kansas.

In 1885, when Father Begley was assigned to Sacred Heart Church in Dodge City, he became the western-most resident pastor in the state. His “parish” included 22 counties in southwest Kansas, Camp Supply in Indian Territory, and Fort Elliott in Texas.

(Father Begley’s story was included in a 2014 issue, and will be repeated in Dave Myers’ book on the local priesthood, to be published early next year.)

A boom in settlers would follow. In 1956, soon after the Diocese of Dodge City was carved out of what was then the Diocese of Wichita, southwest Kansas boasted 73 priests, 47 parishes with resident pastors (14 served as “mission” parishes without a resident priest), at least three Catholic hospitals, and two Catholic colleges, where a number of the priests served on faculty.

Today, we once again have a blossoming, largely Catholic immigrant community. We have 48 parishes and one Catholic hospital. And serving those parishes are only 24 priests. But there is hope, as there always is, and in this issue you’ll see Bishop John Brungardt’s plan to celebrate our priests and to, with God and your help, increase the number of men willing to discern God’s call to serve as a priest for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

The Most Rev.
John B. Brungardt,
Bishop of the Catholic
Diocese of Dodge City

Today’s issue of the Southwest Kansas Catholic is the Vocation Issue. My column below is one aspect of our efforts for our liturgical life and priestly vocations.

May sharing at the heavenly table sanctify us, Lord we pray, so that through the Body and Blood of Christ the whole family of believers may be bound together. Through Christ our Lord.

(from the Votive Mass for the Most Holy Eucharist)

How do we realize this prayer during our priest shortage in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City? Our diocese has begun a Priest Rotation Plan to assist our four parishes that do not have an appointed priest.

Here is how it works:

A priest travels to two of our priest-less parishes for Holy Mass for one weekend, while in his own parishes a Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest is led by a deacon or lay person. For example, on the weekend of October 12/13, Father Robert Schremmer celebrated Holy Mass in Ashland and Coldwater, while his parishes in Wright and Greensburg had Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest.

The Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest is a liturgy of the Church, approved in 2004 by the Vatican for use in the United States. The liturgy consists of gathering together in worship, music, the Introductory Rite, the Liturgy of the Word (Scripture readings, the Creed, Prayers of the Faithful), the Communion Rite (the Blessed Sacrament reserved from a previous Holy Mass), and a Concluding Rite. After the Gospel, a homily is given by a deacon; or the priest prepares a text to be read by the lay leader; or a Parish Life Coordinator, who has been given the authorization by me, may give a reflection or read a text prepared by the priest. The pastor prepares a lay leader for this celebration. This liturgy may also be used for when a priest has a sudden illness, for a weather related difficulty, or for other unforeseen circumstances.

The Benefits: The community gathers together to worship our Loving Lord; the faithful receives Holy Communion; the priest-less parishes more often have the celebration of Holy Mass, the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

The Sacrifices: The parish with an appointed priest may not have the celebration of Holy Mass on a particular weekend. This is a sacrifice. Our priests are ordained, or come here as missionary priests, to serve the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, the 48 parishes and other ministries in 28 counties. I ask the parishes to share this sacrifice as a diocesan family, united in Christ our Savior.

Please read the other articles in this issue for Priestly Vocations. Pray that our single men and boys will open their hearts to Jesus’ call to the seminary. Pray that they humbly listen and courageously follow His call. Thank you for your faithfulness and sacrifice. Jesus loves you so much!

+ Bishop John

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven” (John 6:51).
Help for farmers

- Kansas Rural Family Helpline, toll free, 866-327-0578: Provides confidential, short-term emotional support, advice, and qualified referrals directly to rural families struggling with an unmet emotional, medical, financial, or legal need.
- Kansas Agriculture Mediation Services, toll-free, 800-321-3276: Helps farmers, agricultural lenders and USDA agencies resolve disputes in a confidential and non-adversarial setting outside the traditional legal process.
- WORKs – Work Opportunities for Rural Kansans, toll free, 866-271-0853: Helps farmers, ranchers, and their families to make a transition from farming and ranching to non-farm employment.

National Problem Gambling Helpline

The National Council on Problem Gambling operates the National Problem Gambling Helpline Network (1-800-522-4700). The network is a single national access point to local resources for those seeking help for a gambling problem. Help is available 24/7 and is 100 percent confidential.

The National Problem Gambling Helpline Network also includes text and chat services. These features enable those who are gambling online or on their mobile phone to access help the same way they play. One call, text or chat will get you to problem gambling help anywhere in the U.S. 24/7/365.

Help is also available via an online peer support forum at www.gamtalk.org.

Come to the table
You are cordially invited to dinner

D of I Soup (or chili) Supper, Garden City, Nov. 9

On Saturday, Nov. 9, the Daughters of Isabella will host its annual soup supper at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Garden City, 205 N. 8th St., from 4-8 p.m. The supper is the largest fund raiser of the year for the DofI. Homemade chili and chicken noodle soup will be served, and a relish plate, and cheese and jalapenos will be available.

Included will be a silent auction and raffle. The cost is $8 for adults, $5 for children 13 and under, children under 3 eat for free.

If you need more information, contact Betty Brungardt at (620) 275-4836.

The DofI is a fraternal organization open to all Catholic women age 16 and older. They are a spiritual and charitable organization, donating their time and do fund raisers to allow them to donate financially to Birthright, Prolife, high school youth groups, and many others.

Turkey Dinner, Sacred Heart, Pratt, Nov. 10

From Noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 10, the Women of Sacred Heart Church in Pratt will present the Annual Parish Turkey Dinner at the Sacred Heart School cafeteria, 330 N. Oak, in Pratt.

The turkey dinner will be accompanied by the country store and children’s and adult raffles with incredible prizes, including T&W gift certificates, bikes, Doug Reh oil changes, gift cards, and much more.

Join them for great food, fun and fellowship.

The cost is adults, $9; Children (ages 4-12), $4; and ages 3 and younger, free.

Protecting God’s Children

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 with children.

There are no Protecting God’s Children awareness session scheduled at this time. Please check upcoming issues or visit dcdio.org/safe-environment for updates.

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE

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

If you have suspicion a child is being abused or neglected, make a confidential report to Kansas Department for Children and Families Protection Report Center, 800-922-5330 or to the KBI Hotline, 800-KSCRIME (800-572-7463), or by emailing ClergyAbuse@kbi.ks.gov.

If you suspect sexual abuse by Church personnel, in addition to making a report to the proper civil authorities, please contact Mr. Charles Befort, the diocesan Review Board representative who receives and follows up on reports. His contact information is crbefort@cox.net, 620-285-3219. In addition, Mr. Befort will offer the help of the Assistance Minister whose goal is to be a listening ear and to promote healing.

The Review Board is a consultative body of lay Catholics and one priest- representative who advises the Bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse, reviews diocesan policies for dealing with sexual abuse of minors and offers advice on all aspects of sexual abuse cases retrospectively and prospectively.

The Assistance Minister’s role is to aid in the pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past.

Start your Christmas shopping while supporting Missions
Dominican Sisters Mission Bazaar, Nov. 9, Great Bend

Participants at a past Mission Bazaar sort through hundreds of jars of jellies and other tasty goodies at the annual Dominican Sisters of Peace Mission Bazaar. (Sister Charlotte Unrein alone jarred more than 1,600 jellies, including some 32 flavors for the upcoming bazaar.) Dozens of booths sell all sorts of items made by the Sisters and others. There is also a raffle and lunch for an extra cost.

It’s time to get a head start on your holiday and to help the Dominican Sisters of Peace continue their work to aid the poor in the United States and Nigeria.

The annual Dominican Sisters Mission Bazaar will be from 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at the Dominican Sisters of Peace Convent, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend.

Bring your shopping list and stock up on homemade bread, pastries, jams and jellies, candies, noodles, soaps and lotions, and more. Christmas decorations, baby gifts, greeting cards, quilts and afghans ... you’ll find something for everyone. And don’t forget to buy a few of those Sisters’ scrubbies for yourself.

Lunch will be served for an additional cost.

Can’t make it to the bazaar? You can still buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of many prizes, including:

- Large Hand-Stitched Quilt
- Four Quarter Beefs
- Kitchen Aid Mixer
- Hand-Sculpted Santa
- Assorted Jewelry
- Hand-Turned Wooden Bowl
- Counted Cross Stitch Throw
- Child’s Rocker
- Two (2) $150 Cash Prizes
- Two (2) $75 Cash Prizes
- Three (3) $50 Cash Prizes
- Two (2) $50 Wal-Mart Gift Cards

Raffle ticket sales end at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8. To purchase tickets, either visit the convent in Great Bend, or go online: https://37371.thankyou4caring.org/great-bend-bazaar-2019-ticket-order-form. You need not be present to win.

Winners will be contacted by phone on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Charles and Clara Schmitt celebrate 70 years wed

Charles and Clara Schmitt of St. Nicholas Parish, Kinsey, celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on Oct. 19 at the St. Nicholas Parish Hall. During their 70 years together, Charles and Clara have been blessed with their son Leon, now deceased, and daughter Mary Ann. The family also includes their daughter-in-law Jackie, her husband Randy, four grandchildren, Krystle, her husband Brian, Chelsea, Sierra and Madison. To celebrate this joyous occasion, many relatives and friends shared in the reception, Mass and dinner, including the Most Rev. John B. Brungardt.
By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

They could have been simple talking points for the more than 200 children attending the Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally Oct. 13 at Dodge City High School.

While poignant and important, the subjects of the Sacraments, the Eucharist, and the importance of loving God, were made all the more powerful when considering they were delivered in a keynote address by a 14-year-old.

“Kid Catholic,” AKA Kedon Gumerson, is a Youtube channel host with more than 3,000 subscribers and growing. Each week he posts a new video reaching out to young people with messages about God and the Catholic Church.

“How many of us think that we have a good, strong faith?” he asked the children gathered in the auditorium at Dodge City High School. “Having faith today can be difficult. Did you know that God is supposed to be our best friend? Think about that for a minute.”

In order to have a friend, we must be a friend, he said, and that requires communication – prayer. There are so many distractions, Gumerson explained, the phone first and foremost, the internet, movies, television—all distracting us from God.

We have to speak to Him and listen for His response. In this way, we begin to build friendship and trust. “Everyone around us is God’s creation. If we know that they are our best friend’s creation, we wouldn’t want to hurt them. God says to love your neighbor as yourself. That means everyone!”

The Oklahoma City resident first began his Youtube page with a focus on sports rather than faith, and found it wasn’t fulfilling. Still, he couldn’t help but intersperse a few sports analogies into his Oct. 13 presentation.

“Imagine your favorite team in the championship, and you’re going to the game! Aren’t you excited?” Gumerson asked.

When so many adults urge the kids to put their phones away, Bishop Brungardt did the opposite. “Do you have them out?” he asked. “I want you to set an alarm for each day. When the alarm goes off, I want you to say three Hail Marys. The first Hail Mary is for your personal intention,” he said.

New priestly vocations are of utmost importance to our diocese. “The third Hail Mary is for your vocations,” he said.

The Middle School Youth Rally was organized by diocesan Youth Ministry Intern, Emma Showalter, who, although only at the job a few months, created a well-organized gathering of dozens of youth from across the diocese who were filled with the zeal of Jesus Christ.

Also serving at the gathering was Director of Young Adult Ministries, Gentry Heimerman, and other chancery staff, volunteers, and the high school youth council.

Bishop John urges middle school students to ask Mary’s intercession every day

The Most Rev. John B. Brungardt celebrated the closing Mass for the middle school youth rally, during which he told the children, “We have some future priests right here, right now in this auditorium!”

He urged the boys and girls gathered to “humbly listen and courageously follow” who it is that God is calling them to be.

When so many adults urge the kids to put their phones away, Bishop Brungardt did the opposite. “Do you have them out?” he asked. “I want you to set an alarm for each day. When the alarm goes off, I want you to say three Hail Marys. The first Hail Mary will be a prayer asking God who He is calling you to be; what is your vocational call? The second Hail Mary will be a prayer for priests for our diocese.”

The bishop told the children that the diocese has 48 churches with only 24 priests to serve them, a number that has decreased by 20 percent from spring last year.
Mrs. Moses and the joy of marriage

Long before the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered — long before the Dead Sea was even known as the Dead Sea (back when it was the “Not Feeling At All Well Sea”) — another set of scrolls were discovered. Within these scrolls was contained a conversation between Moses and his wife, Zipporah, which I thought might be appropriate for our issue highlighting the Matrimony Anniversary Mass (Page 16).

The conversation begins when Moses comes home after another day of leading the Israelites through the desert:

He notices that his wife is being oddly quiet. “Are you mad at me?” Moses asks as he leans his big stick against a pile of sand shaped like a recliner.

“What would I be mad?” Zipporah responds sharply as she continues washing the dishes. Uh, oh.

“I don’t know,” Moses responds, searching his mind for whatever he said or did that made her mad. “That’s why I’m asking.”

“What makes you think I’m mad?” she asks again, refusing to face him.

“Well, you’ve barely spoken unto me all day, and when you did, it was to tell me I was likened unto nasal discharge.”

“Well ... nasal discharge is a good thing,” she slowly replies as she wipes a dish dry. “It frees the sinuses. Perhaps if you spent as much time with me as you do freeing things, you wouldn’t have sins problems.”

“What? Look, if by ‘freeing things’ you’re referring to the Israelites, I think that leading an entire race from bondage takes precedence over discussing how you’d like to arrange the kitchen if money weren’t an option.”

“I’m just saying maybe one day we could have an ‘us’ day,” she said, turning to her husband. “Maybe play a board game or two, have some people over. You know, it won’t hurt the Israelites to lead themselves now and then.”

“Look, Zipper, God charged me with one duty, to lead the Israelites out of bondage. What kind of prophetic would I be if I couldn’t complete so simple a task as that?”

“Oh. I see,” she responded, angrily. “And what was it God wrote about ‘keeping holy the Sabbath’ on those thingies you brought down from the mountain — which you were lugging, by the way, at the same moment that you were supposed to be coaching Gershom’s soccer game?”

Moses went silent for a moment. “Oh, yeah,” he said, recalling the Fifth Commandment.

“Sorry, dear. ...But as for the game, you’re right — and fully aware I had to give up coaching when I became a priest. So I’ll be watching it on television.”

By Dave Myers

Editor

1942, and other mysteries

I write these words on the Feast for St. John Paul II. It is easy now for me to be hushed by the mystery in his own life.

In the Spring and Summer of 1942, the 22 year old Karol Wojtyla was trying to decide what the Lord had begun to tell him. He had been attracted to the theater by then, but the Lord had something else in mind for him. Had another stage in mind for him. Had another role in mind for him.

There were the days when the Lord was slowly making it clear to him that he was to be his priest. He had already given him “obedient ears,” as Psalm 40 had it. Through the dark story of his immediate family (all dead by then), and through the dark anxieties of his Nazi-occupied country, he had heard his listening-way very well by then.

And that young man did tumble over into decision in the Autumn of that year. He accepted this call from the Lord, and he entered into what became a secret seminary in the Cardinal Archbishop’s own house. That choice to become a priest led eventually to his becoming a pope in 1978.

More than 5,000 miles away in an unnoticed eastern corner of Kansas, these were the very days too when a mere baby began to explore life, clumsily, of course, as all babies do. Clueless in his own cramped corner, the wonder of existing consumed all his attention.

That mere baby also entered a seminary in due course, and was also ordained a priest in 1969. That choice to become a priest led eventually to his becoming a bishop in 1998.

It is easy enough for that baby to feel a special bond with that young man now. Had he not become a priest when he did, he could not have become a pope when he did. Had the baby not become a priest when he did, the Pope could not have chosen him as Bishop of Dodge City when he did.

Easy enough to be caught up in the sheer mystery of these human choices at that particular time, choices made under the weight of a Divine Choice before there even was a time. Easy enough to be hushed by the mingling of the mysteries.

Inherit the Mirth

By Coyler Black (culyerblack.com)
**Pray Without Ceasing**

A ccording to Pope Francis, the ability to intercede isn’t just a task Jesus carries out, but is also one that he has entrusted to the entire Church. Each of us has the power to pray for others, he said, asking: “Do I pray? Do we, as a Church, as Christians, exercise this power bringing people and situations to God?”

“The world needs it. We ourselves need it,” Francis said.

Today, Bishop John B. Brungardt is urging all Catholics in the diocese to pray daily for priestly vocations. The need is great. “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.” (Matthew 9:35-38)

“This is the strength of prayer, which connects heaven and earth, which allows God to enter into our time,” Pope Francis said, noting that prayer isn’t something we do to find peace or internal harmony for ourselves, but is an active intercession to God.

From Carson Haupt: “I think I would tell young people that true joy comes from a relationship with the Father, our Lord. If one looks around closely, they will see that the world is filled with people who do exactly what they want. They go where they want, buy what they want, live where they want, eat and drink what they want, marry who they want, etc., and all their decisions are based on their desires.

“Never have people achieved more of what they wanted, and once they have it they realize it does not satisfy.

“Only by knowing the Father, and through that being able to love others, will we discover true fulfillment and peace.”

From Austin Habash: “I would tell my younger self to go to confession regularly and to pray the Jesus prayer unceasingly.

“Remember that God guides all things in His Providence.”

From John Stang: “I would tell my younger self to remain in the present moment and to not be so preoccupied with the future. Often God speaks to us through the events right in front of us.”

“Only by knowing the Father, and through that being able to love others, will we discover true fulfillment and peace.”

**Together we pray ...**

**Introduction**

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit... Amen

**Leader:** A reading from the Gospel of (Matthew/Luke/John)

Option A, Matthew 4:18-22


Option C, John 10:1-18

**Intercession**

Leader: Heavenly Father, thank you for all the priests through whom you have blessed our life. You that choose those whom You will, send forth workers into your vineyard: All: Lord, we trust in you.

Leader: Heavenly Father, every Priest is taken from among families, call men to offer the Holy and Living Sacrifice and give them the courage to answer to your call: All: Lord, we trust in you.

Leader: Heavenly Father, you called the Apostles to be ambassadors for Christ, please send to us fervent priests to strengthen our spirit.

All: Lord, we trust in you.

**Final Prayer**

All: Heavenly Father, bless us with the grace of many vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, grant to those You have called a willing and generous spirit. May they devote their lives and their talents to serve You and Your Church. Increase the faith of all within our diocese, and particularly the faith of those You have called to religious vocations. We ask this through Christ, Your Son.

Leader: Saint John Vianney

All: Pray for us. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit... Amen.

--- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Seminarians paid visit**

**What advice would you give to your younger self? Your older self?**

The Southwest Kansas Catholic asked our seminarians what advice they would give to their younger selves, and in effect, to all young people. Advice for their older selves proved a bit more daunting. Here’s what we had received at press time:

**By FATHER JUAN SALAS**

Director of Priestly Vocations

**Editor’s Note:** Father Salas is currently preparing the “kit” referred to in this article, which will be distributed to parishes.

It is really God himself, the “Lord of the harvest,” who chooses his labourers; his call is always undeserved and unexpected.

And yet, in the mystery of God’s covenant with us, we are called to cooperate with his providence, and to use the powerful tool which he has placed in our hands: prayer! This is what Jesus himself asked us to do: “Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest!”

The Family has a privileged place for fostering priestly vocations. The family is the “primary and most excellent seedbed for vocations,” and it is for this that I ask you to take some time during the week to intentionally pray for priestly vocations, especially for our Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

We, as many other dioceses, have been experiencing a shortage of priestly vocations, but we are very confident that our Heavenly Father will provide for his Church “until the end of times” (Mt 28:20).

Some ideas in which you and your family can best use this kit are:

1. Set up the “Mass kit” in a place where the family can see it during the time is in your house.

2. Invite your children to “celebrate Mass” with it.

Children have pretended to celebrate Mass as a way of showing interest, respect or even wonder for that great mystery of love that lays in the Eucharist Celebration. Please take a look of how little Theo “celebrates” Mass at home by using the QR code at right.

3. Gather as a family and pray for Priestly Vocations. As this can be done in many different ways, you could:
   - Follow the guide provided for you along with this kit.
   - Pray a rosary for Vocations
   - Pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, one Glory, and then talk about the priesthood with the family.

Thank you for your support and may our Lord Jesus Christ give us the grace of more vocations to the consecrated life and the priesthood, especially for our Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

“I would like to speak into the ears of so many men and women: giving up one’s children to the service of God is not a sacrifice: it is an honor and a joy.”

**Editor’s Note:**

Director of Priestly Vocations

**FATHER JUAN SAlAS**

The Southwest Kansas Catholic November 3, 2019    Page 5
Local priests discuss tough issues at annual convocation

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Seated around my table were a priest from Africa, one from Vietnam, another from Mexico, and a fourth from that mysterious land known as southwest Kansas. The imagery was at once joyful and telling. Our diocese is a melting pot of cultural diversity, and it is a diocese that depends upon the kindness of strangers, seeking priestly help from far outside its borders.

This was the annual convocation of priests from the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, held at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. Like last year, this year’s gathering invited the chancery staff to attend.

The event was sobering. There was talk about the recent diocesan audits of clerical abuse over the 50-plus year history (covered in the Oct. 6 issue). There was a discussion of the priest shortage, which has already left several of our parishes without a priest.

But there was hope, too, and encouragement, and good news — each unavoidably present among all those who serve Christ.

BISHOP’S QUESTIONNAIRE

Along with the four priests at my table was Debbie Snapp, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas. The six of us—and those occupying six other tables—were asked to examine a stack of returned questionnaires that Bishop John Brungardt recently submitted to all the parishes regarding what the diocese, and their parish, are doing right, and what we could be doing better to evangelize — to better share the good news of Jesus Christ with great joy.

We were asked to decide upon commonalities in the responses, and to place them in order of popularity. For example, a couple of people mentioned the lack of formation programs. Yet, the diocese happens to have very strong formation programs in place. Therefore, I saw as my personal task as diocesan newspaper editor to better promote the faith formation programs in our diocese.

Action verbs such as “encourage,” “reach out,” “cultivate,” “strengthen,” “promote,” and “nurture” were followed by terms such as cultural diversity, spiritual formation, those in need, and social justice issues.

PRIEST ROTATION

With a 20 percent decrease in priests since Spring of last year, Bishop John has implemented a priest rotation, which means that there’s a good chance your parish may experience Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest. In fact, this has already occurred at some local parishes. (See more detailed information in the Bishop’s Column on Page 1.) To answer a few common questions:

1) The “Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest” — which includes Holy Communion, but not the consecration — does fulfill your Sunday obligation.

2) If you choose to attend a different parish that has a priest on that particular day, that is entirely up to you.

3) Before your parish celebrates Mass without a priest, a lay leader will be trained to present the liturgy.

Continued on Page 11
Parents provide perspective of a vocation in the family

‘I am so happy he had the strength to answer God’s call’

Bob Schneider: Humbled. Humbled for the fact that me, a lowly servant, was allowed to share in the raising of a priest.

Kathy Schneider: It is so hard to put into words. When our other children got married, I never cried, because each wedding was so right! I smiled a lot and knew each one had chosen the one God wanted them to spend the rest of their life with. When Jacob was ordained, I smiled a lot, too, but I also cried, ... for joy and I was so humbled.

SKC: Family life can help in nurturing vocations. Was there anything in particular that either of you did to encourage Jacob’s vocation?

Bob: I encouraged them to participate in parish and diocesan events, to help foster their vocations. Whatever their vocation was to be, I just wanted our children’s vocation to be what God wanted them to be.

Kathy: Our families had a very large part in this. Our parents, our grandparents, by their example of how our families and the Religious from several families, set an example of how our children should follow God’s call. I told all of our children to find something they love to do and figure out how to make money at it legally. I also told them, they need to follow where God leads them.

Bob: I wanted to be a teacher so I could have my summers off, and God told me to be a nurse. I told them life goes better when you follow where God leads you. It’s not always easy, it’s just better.

SKC: Can you recall an instance when Jacob was growing up when you came to understand that he had a vocation to the priesthood?

Kathy: Four of our six children told us they were going to be priests when they were young. Mandy, Adam, Isaac, and Jacob. Mandy said she was going to be the first female priest. When we had Ben, Jacob asked if he could name himself since he was never going to have children because he was going to be a priest. Jacob also told me he was going to be the first pope from the United States. I never stifled any of them, although I told Mandy it would be hard for her to do (she does have a degree in theology and has been a youth minister at several colleges). I figured Jacob would find girls like his older brothers. My maternal grandmother (Anna Wirtz) prayed that one of her six sons would be a priest, and none were. God answers prayers in his time. Father Ted Stoecklein is her first priest, and Jacob is her second priest.

Bob: Jacob had relatives who were religious vocations and good examples. Father Joseph Bahr and Father Paul Schreiber were second or third cousins, and there are all of the Bahr sisters who entered religious life too.

SKC: Were you ever apprehensive about your son entering the seminary and studying for the priesthood?

Bob: No, never. When we dropped Jacob off at the seminary and met these ... people who were going to assist him, they were just wonderful! How could you not ask for your child to choose a more noble vocation? Not taking away from what my other children have done, it’s just different.

Kathy: Yes, I was apprehensive. Jacob was the only one of our children who said, “When I have children I’m gonna...” None of our other children talked about having children when they were young. I reminded Jacob of that when he was in the seminary and he said, “Mom, I get to baptize all the babies in my parish! I’ll be fine.” It was also difficult to give up the thought of losing his girlfriend as a future daughter-in-law. I loved her. I still do. She will always be a part of our family ... just not like I thought she would be.

The more I watched Jacob as he went to the seminary, the more I realized this is where he needs to be. I am so happy he had the strength to answer God’s call. I wish more people did.

SKC: How does it feel to have a priest in the family?

Bob: I have to behave myself. Kathy tells me all the time, “Your son’s a priest!”

Kathy: I had a paternal great uncle (Mgr. Joseph Gerstenkorn) who was a priest, so a priest in the family isn’t something new. What is new is that as a parent of a priest, it is a humbling experience, in that God has chosen our son to stand in the place of Christ to assist His people in going to heaven. When you have a son-in-law or daughter-in-law, you can suggest ideas. Who am I to give God ideas or suggest ideas to the bishop?

‘Vocations are born of fervor’

Continued from Page 1

Speaking from my own experience, most people, especially those my age, have no desire for a half-hearted faith. The world is alluring, and a Catholicism that endorses compromise is not attractive enough to win souls to Christ and His Church. On the other hand, real Catholicism, Catholicism with all its demands and responsibilities, its beauty and tradition, and its message of conversion and salvation does have the strength to do just that. It challenges our modern world and its lies and invites us to a life that is radically different than what the world can offer.

The world is alluring, and a Catholicism that endlessly tries to compromise is not attractive enough to win souls to Christ and His Church. On the other hand, real Catholicism, Catholicism with all its demands and responsibilities, its beauty and tradition, and its message of conversion and salvation does have the strength to do just that. It challenges our modern world and its lies and invites us to a life that is radically different than what the world can offer.

-- Carson Haupt
El encuentro con Jesús en la liturgia

La edición de hoy del Southwest Kansas Catholic es dirigida por gente de nuestra Diócesis Católica de Dodge City? Nuestra diócesis ha comenzado un Plan de Rotación de Sacerdotes para ayudar a nuestras cuatro parroquias que no tienen un sacerdote designado. Así es como funciona: Un sacerdote viaja a dos de nuestras parroquias sin sacerdote para la Santa Misa durante un fin de semana, mientras que en sus propias parroquias una Celebración Dominical en Absencia de Sacerdote es dirigida por un diácono o un laye laico; o un Coordinador de la Vida Parroquial, a quien yo he dado la autorización, puede dar una reflexión o leer un texto preparado por el sacerdote. El párroco prepara a un líder laico para esta celebración. Esta liturgia también es una posibilidad cuando un sacerdote tiene una enfermedad repentina, hay una dificultad relacionada con el clima, u otras circunstancias imprevistas.

Los beneficios: La comunidad se reúne para una Celebración Dominical en Absencia de Sacerdote. La celebración es gratuita sin cargo para el clero u otro miembro del personal de la iglesia. Todas las acusaciones son consideradas hechas de buena fe. Una acusación verosímil es definida como una acusación que, basada en los hechos de la acusación, cumple uno o más de los siguientes puntos: No es específicamente negada o es aceptada/admitida por el acusado; es corroborada con otra evidencia o por otra fuente y/o; involucra múltiples acusaciones. Las circunstancias que hacen que una acusación sea verosímil pueden variar de caso a caso. La determinación de que una acusación es verosímil no es equivalente a la determinación de culpabilidad en un procedimiento criminal o de responsabilidad en un procedimiento civil.

¿Cómo realizamos esta oración durante este tiempo de escasez de sacerdotes en la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City? Nuestra diócesis ha comenzado un Plan de Rotación de Sacerdotes para ayudar a nuestras cuatro parroquias que no tienen un sacerdote designado.

Salvador.

Por favor, lean los otros artículos de este número sobre las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. Oren para que nuestros hombres y niños abran sus corazones al llamado de Jesús al sacerdocio. Oren para que ellos escuchen humildemente y sigan valientemente su llamado. Gracias por su fealdad y sacrificio. ¡Jesús los ama tanto! + Monseñor John

1942, y otros misterios

Escribe estas palabras en la fiesta de San Juan Pablo II. Es fácil para mí ahora ser silenciado por el misterio de su propia vida. En el verano de 1942, Karol Wojtyła, de 22 años, intentaba descifrar lo misterioso que trabajan con menores de Dios. Elección Divina antes incluso de que existiera el tiempo. Es fácil ser silenciado por los misterios que se entremezclan. La parroquia con un sacerdote designado no puede tener la celebración de la Santa Misa en un fin de semana en particular. Estos son los misterios que se entremezclan.

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 conscientización de Proteger a los Niños de Dios. Estas sesiones de conscientización están disponibles en ambos inglés y español. Son conducidos por gente de nuestra Diócesis especialmente entrenados como facilitadores. Las sesiones se publicarán en las parroquias, escuelas, el periódico Southwestern Kansas Catholic y la página electrónica de la Diócesis, www.dcdiocese.org/protectingchildren.

Por favor, lean los otros artículos de este número sobre las Vocaciones Sacerdotales. Oren para que nuestros hombres y niños abran sus corazones al llamado de Jesús al sacerdocio. Oren para que ellos escuchen humildemente y sigan valientemente su llamado. Gracias por su fealdad y sacrificio. ¡Jesús los ama tanto! + Monseñor John

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

“Yo soy el pan vivo que ha sido hado del cielo.”

– Juan 6, 51

SI USTED SUSPECHA ABUSO

Todas las acusaciones son consideradas hechas de buena fe. Una acusación verosímil es definida como una acusación que, basada en los hechos de la acusación, cumple uno o más de los siguientes puntos: No es específicamente negada o es aceptada/admitida por el acusado; es corroborada con otra evidencia o por otra fuente y/o; involucra múltiples acusaciones. Los hechos y las circunstancias que hacen que una acusación sea verosímil pueden variar de caso a caso. La determinación de que una acusación es verosímil no es equivalente a la determinación de culpabilidad en un procedimiento criminal o de responsabilidad en un procedimiento civil.
Según el Papa Francisco, la capacidad de interceder no es solo una tarea que Jesús lleva a cabo, sino que también la ha confiado a toda la Iglesia. Cada uno de nosotros tiene el poder de rezar por los demás, dijo, preguntando: “¿Llevo? ¿Nosotros, como Iglesia, como cristianos, ejercemos este poder acercando personas y situaciones a Dios? “El mundo lo necesita. Nosotros mismos lo necesitamos”, dijo Francis.

Hoy, el obispo Juan B. Brungardt está instando a todos los católicos de la diócesis a orar diariamente por las vocaciones sacerdotales. La necesidad es grande.

“La cosecha es abundante, pero los trabajadores son pocos” (Mateo 9: 35-38)

### Juntos rezamos...

**Introducción**

**Todos**: En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo ... Amén.

**Líder**: Lectura del Evangelio según San (Mateo / Lucas / Juan) 

**Opción A**, Mateo 4: 18-22 
**Opción B**, Lucas 10: 1-11 
**Opción C**, Juan 1: 1-18

**Intercesión**

**Líder**: Padre celestial, gracias por todos los sacerdotes por quienes has bendecido nuestras vidas. Tú que eliges a quienes Tu quieres, envía obreros a tu viña.

**Todos**: Señor, en ti confiamos.

**Líder**: Padre celestial, cada Sacerdote es tomado de entre las familias, llama a hombres para ofrecer el Santo y Vivo Sacrificio y dales el coraje para responder a tu llamado.

**Todos**: Señor, en ti confiamos.

**Líder**: Padre celestial, Tu que llamas a un sacerdote para servir a Cristo, envíanos sacerdotes fervientes para fortalecer nuestro espíritu.

**Todos**: Señor, en ti confiamos.

**Oración final**

**Todos**: Padre Celestial, bendicenos con la gracia de muchas vocaciones al sacerdocio y a la vida consagrada pala la Diócesis Católica de Dodge City. Por la intercesión de nuestra Santísima Madre, concédeles a aquellos que tú has llamado un espíritu servicial y generoso. Que dediquen sus vidas y sus talentos para servirte a ti y a tu Iglesia. Aumente la fe de todos en la diócesis y en particular la fe de aquellos que tú has llamado a vocaciones religiosas. Te lo Pedimos por Cristo, tu Hijo.

**Líder**: San Juan Vianney

**Todos**: Ruego por nosotros. Amén.

En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo ... Amén.

### Formas de promover vocaciones sacerdotales en Familia

**Un mensaje del obispo John**

**¿Cómo puede una parroquia orar por las vocaciones sacerdotales?**

Gracias por todas sus oraciones en la parroquia por nuestros hombres solteros y niños, que escuchen el llamado de Dios al seminario y al sacerdocio. Jesús nos dio nuestra comunidad de fe, la parroquia, para reunirnos en adoración y oración.

**Ideas**

- **La Santa Misa es nuestra mayor oración**, Pido que se incluya una intercesión en cada misa en la diócesis para las vocaciones sacerdotales y para las vocaciones a la vida religiosa y al matrimonio.

- **Horas santas**: algunas parroquias tienen Adoración Perpetua de Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento. Considere dedicar un día al mes o a la semana para más seminaristas y sacerdotes. Si una parroquia tiene ciertas horas de la semana o del mes para la Adoración, asegúrese de incluir oraciones por las vocaciones sacerdotales. Una parroquia puede comenzar una hora Santa semanal o mensual para esta intención.

- **Tenga el “kit de misa itinerante”** para las vocaciones que una familia lleva a casa durante una semana. La familia devuelve los materiales en la misa del próximo fin de semana, y una familia diferente recoge los materiales. Considera adoptar este maravilloso esfuerzo de oración.

- **Fortalecer o comenzar un grupo de oración vocacional o un comité vocacional en la parroquia**. Algunas parroquias han tenido uno por muchos años, qué bendición; ¡gracias! ¿Cómo podemos ser una parroquia más proactiva con respecto a las vocaciones? ¿Cómo podemos hacer que se sientan más incluidos y bienvenidos a hacerla? Llame a la oficina de vocaciones si desea copias para la parroquia.

- **Apoyo de oración de personas en hogares de ancianos, hospitales u hogares que a menudo me dicen “siento que ya no puedo hacer nada por nuestra Iglesia debido a mi enfermedad / edad”. El Señor te está llamando a una vida de oración más profunda y a participar en esta oración por las vocaciones sacerdotales puede ser lo que Él te pide ahora.**

- **Te animo a seguir orando por las vocaciones sacerdotales**, “Jesús les habló, diciendo: ‘Animo; no teman, que soy yo’” (Mateo 14:27). Gracias por su dedicación y fidelidad. El Señor nos bendecirá con muchos seminaristas y futuros sacerdotes. ¡Jesús nos ama más de lo que podemos pedir o imaginar!**

+ **Monseñor John**

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**Oren en Todo Momento**

--- 1 Thesalonianos 5:17
Public rosaries provide witness of communities united in prayer

**Public Rosaries were held on Oct. 7 to commemorate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, and across the globe on Oct. 12 to celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the miracle at Fatima.**

**Liebenthal** — A public rosary was held at the grotto south of St. Joseph Church in Liebenthal on Saturday, Oct. 12, commemorating the 102nd anniversary of the miracle of Fatima, Portugal. On Oct. 13, 1917, the Blessed Mother appeared to three children at Fatima, at which time the “miracle of the sun” took place.

Thousands of people saw the sun dance in the sky, then plunge toward the earth, as if to crash upon the throngs of people. Their rain soaked clothes and the muddy earth dried instantly and the sun quietly slipped back into its place in the sky.

Many miracles happened that day through the Blessed Mother’s intercession.

Thirteen faithful joined in prayer at St. Joseph’s, joining between 500,000 to one million Americans in the public prayer campaign, resulting in 21,145 rosary rallies. This is what our Blessed Mother asked us to do when she came to Fatima 102 years ago.

The hour of prayer began with Emmett McGinn ringing the church bells. The Angelus and the rosary followed. Those attending (left to right) include: Debbie Bollig, Judy Hoffman, Louise Dechant, Julie Huber, David Legleiter, Gerri McGinn, Emmett McGinn, Ardis Viegra, Barbara Matal, Bennie Viegra, LouAnn Legleiter, Alverna Schaffer, and Francis Schaffer.

**Marianthald** — Youth from St. Mary Church led parishioners in the praying of the Rosary at the church’s Marian Prayer Garden Oct. 7, to mark the Church’s celebration of Our Lady of the Rosary.

**Larned** — Sacred Heart parishioners provided a public witness with a Rosary Rally on Oct. 12.

**Neosho City** — Sacred Heart Parish celebrated the best attendance ever at its public rosary on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. Captains are Rosie Flax and Jenny Rebel.

When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

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.

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.

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Edward Jones
Making Sense of Investing
Who is willing to be satisfied with a job that expresses all his limitations? He will accept such work only as a ‘means of livelihood’ while he waits to discover his ‘true vocation’. The world is full of unsuccessful businessmen who still secretly believe they were meant to be artists or writers or actors in the movies.”

— Thomas Merton, No Man Is an Island

**Ways to promote vocations**

*A message from Bishop John*

**How does/can a parish Pray for Priestly Vocations?**

Thank you for all your parish-based prayers for our single men and boys, that they listen to God’s call to the seminary and priesthood.

Jesus gave us our community of faith, the parish, to gather in worship and prayer.

**Ideal:**

- Holy Mass is our greatest prayer. I ask that an intercessory be included at every Mass in the diocese for Priestly Vocations, and for vocations to the religious life and marriage.
- Holy Hours: some parishes have Perpetual Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Consider dedicating one day a month or a week for more seminarians and priests. If a parish has certain hours of the week or month for Adoration, be sure to include prayers for Priestly Vocations. A parish may begin a weekly or monthly Holy Hour for this intention.
- Have the “traveling Mass kit” for vocationists taken home by a family for a week. The family returns the materials at the next weekend Mass, and a different family picks up the materials. Consider adopting this wonderful prayer effort.
- Strengthen or begin a Vocation Prayer Group or Vocation Committee in the parish. Some parishes have had one for many years — what a blessing; thank you!
- Other councils, committees, youth groups, etc.: be sure to include a prayer for vocations at each meeting or gathering.
- We have CDs of the “Vocation Rosary” that our youth groups enjoy. Consider adopting this prayer support from folks in nursing homes, hospitals, or homes who often tell me “I feel like I cannot do anything for our Church anymore due to my illness/age.” The Lord is calling you to a deeper prayer life, and participating in this Prayer for Priestly Vocations may be what He is asking of you now.
- I encourage you to keep praying for priestly vocations. “Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid!’” (Matthew 14:27). Thank you for your dedication and faithfulness. The Lord will bless us with many seminarians and future priests. Jesus loves us more than we can ask or imagine!

*Bishop John*

**Road trip!**

Hey, high school juniors, seniors and college students! If you are interested in learning more about seminary life (whether you feel called to the priesthood or not), attend the next Encounter With God’s Call at Conception Seminary in Conception, Missouri, Nov. 16–18. There’s prayer, discussion, and a great deal of fun. You’ll also have a chance to visit with seminarians and learn about their life.

For more information, call Father Juan at 620/225-4802 or 620/227-3442 or email vocations@ddciocese.org

**Upcoming opportunities to explore vocational call**

November 3-9 is National Vocation Awareness Week. In the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, this is just the beginning of a celebration of priestly vocations, with events designed to allow boys and young men to explore what God’s call for their life may be.

**Nov. 3-9: National Vocation Awareness Week**

This is a week dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering these vocations. Please take a moment each day and offer a prayer for priestly vocations to our diocese.

**Nov. 16-18: Encounter With God’s Call, Conception Seminary College, MO**

For high school juniors, seniors, and college students

Encounter With God’s Call is an experience of seminary life through prayer, talks by seminarians, and recreation. Hear and see first-hand how other Catholic men have responded generously to God’s call to do and be something more. (See the sidebar at right.)

**Nov. 24: Preaching for Vocations**

(The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe) On this day, priests across the diocese will preach on the subject of vocations.

**Nov. 24: Post-College Andrew Dinner in Dodge City (Bishop John’s residence, 6-8 p.m.)**

This is an evening for men who are finished with college or past college-age to join their pastors and Bishop John for dinner, conversation, and prayer, with a focus not just on the priesthood, but on God’s call for every Catholic young man to live an extraordinary life.

Dec. 8, 12, 15: High School Andrew Dinner (6-8 p.m.)

An evening for high school students to join their pastors and Bishop John for dinner, conversation, and prayer, with a focus not just on the priesthood, but on God’s call for every Catholic young man to live an extraordinary life.

Dec. 26-28, 2020: Visit to St. Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver (For college juniors, seniors, and older)

Mar. 28-30, 2020: Encounter With God’s Call, Conception Seminary College, MO (For high school juniors, seniors, and college students)

An experience of seminary life through prayer, talks by seminarians, and recreation. Hear and see first-hand how other Catholic men have responded generously to God’s call to do and be something more.

**To attend one or more of these events, or for more information, call Father Juan at 620/225-4802 or 620/227-3442 or email vocations@ddciocese.org**
NORMALEE KONECNY, 93, of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Dodge City, died Oct. 16, 2019. Normalee attended school at Sacred Heart Cathedral School and then St. Mary’s Academy until it was destroyed by a tornado. On Oct. 29, 1949, she was united in marriage to Joseph Lawrence Konecny. He preceded her in death on May 10, 2007. Normalee was a farm wife, helping out where she was needed. She would drive the truck during harvest, bring meals to the field, move equipment, and go for parts. Normalee is survived by three sons, Michael, Kevin and Rick; two daughters, Joni Bunnell and Kathy Collins; 15 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and one on the way. Father Juan Salas presided.

AUGUST KONRADE, 96, of St. Joseph Parish, Offerle, died Oct. 16, 2019. He was preceded in death by his wife, Juanta, of 69 years. He was born in Offerle, the son of Jacob and Katherine Konrade. He farmed all his life, and was always willing to help no matter what the task. August is survived by his children, Jerry Konrade, Linda Powell, Cheryl Bishop, Debbie Smiley, Ken Konrade, and Ron Konrade; 16 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

LEONARD J. TEMAAT, 88, of St. John the Baptist Parish, Spearville, died Oct. 13, 2019. He was born on the family farm southwest of Windthorst. He was a 1949 graduate of Windthorst High School and farmed most of his life. He was a 4th Degree member of Knights of Columbus Council 1539, Spearville, and Council 2462, Windthorst. He was involved with Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and cemetery in Windthorst. On Nov. 24, 1956 he married Ruth Irisk at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Dodge City. She preceded him in death on Oct. 29, 2019. Survivors include: sons, Ron and Dan; daughters, Jane Graf, Barbara Bannister and Donna Depner; brothers, Sylvester and Bill; sister, Eleanor Strecker; a brother-in-law, Eugene Irisk; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Father Robert Schremmer presided.

MELVIN JOSEPH “MEP” POLZIN, 71, of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Hoisington, died Oct. 20, 2019. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council #2630 of Odem. Melvin was a U.S. Army veteran serving in Vietnam, where he earned both a Purple Heart for being wounded in action and the Army Commendation Medal for Merit. Survivors include: wife, Dorothy Polzin; two sons, Kurt and Kelly; two daughters, Isabel and Tessa Polzin; four brothers, Thomas, Duane, Randy and Kevin; three sisters, Denise Nalley, Nancy Mather and Charlotte Hahn; and mother, Dorothy Polzin. Father Don Bedore presided.

LAWRENCE “LARRY” EUGENE RZHA died Oct. 19, 2019. Larry was a 1949 graduate of Windthorst High School. He was a refrigeration maintenance technician for Tyson. He was a Sergeant in the United States Air Force. Survivors include: son, Samuel; three daughters, Valerie Ruiz, Lorie Weston, and Candance Seely; four brothers, Leonard, Jim, Gerald, and Robert; three sisters, Bernice Kaiser, Mary Anne Hamerschmidt and Cecilia Schreiber; and eight grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

LEO JOSEPH BOOR, 85, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Catholic Church, died Oct. 21, 2019. He married Joyce Salmons on May 13, 1954, at Hanston. Leo was the general manager for Alfalfa Pellets, Inc. in Great Bend. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He served in the United States Army during the Korean war. Survivors include his wife, Joyce; two sons, Thom and Tony; one daughter, Tina Koziol; 18 grandchildren; and 33 great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

CELIA (SALLY) RODRIGUEZ, 79, of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Ulysses, died Oct. 21, 2019. She married Benny V. Rodriguez on Oct. 22, 1962, in Ulysses. She was a welder at Anser Manufacturing. Sally is survived by her children, Rose Mary Biomander, Tony Rodriguez, Romie Salas, Benny Rodriguez, LeRoy Rodriguez, and Mike Rodriguez; sister, Virginia Cavassos; brother, Apollo Rodriguez; sister, Lupe Hernandez; 29 grandchildren; three honorary grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. Father Anesh Parappanattu, MSFS presided.

JOHN H. DETMER, 87, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend, died Oct. 21, 2019. He married Helen C. Debes on Sept. 5, 1944. She died on Sept. 3, 2015. A Great Bend resident since 1965, coming from Cunningham, John was a farmer. He served in the United States Air Force during the Korean war. He owned EQ Muffler in Great Bend for many years. Survivors include, one son, Al Detmer; three daughters, Angie Maneth, Connie Wagner, and Cheryl Kohl; one brother, Lonnie Detmer; one sister, Mary Lou Osner; and three grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

RICHARD JOSEPH ‘RICK’ SCHENK, 65, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, died Oct. 20, 2019. Rick married Ann Jane “Annie” Linneer Aug. 18, 1979. He was the C.E.O. of Community Bank of the Midwest. He was a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Council #2100, Olimitz. Survivors include three daughters, Alice Henderson, Amanda Pfannenstiel, and Briana Schenk; two grandchildren, Kolten Pfannenstiel and Kimberley Pfannenstiel; mother, Mary Jo Schenk; two brothers, Brother Mark Schenk, OFMCap, of Denver, and Greg Schenk; and one sister, Denise Hunt. Father Don Bedore presided.

ELAINE WHITE, 78, of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Hoisington, died Oct. 27, 2019. She received her bachelor’s degree from Marymount College in Salina and later earned her master’s from Fort Hays State University. She was an elementary school teacher, teaching primarily Kindergarten and 3rd Grade, and was also a reading specialist. Mrs. White taught in Salina, France, Schilling Air Force Base, Colorado, Odin, and retired in 2006 from Hoisington USD 431. She was a member of the Altar Society. On Jan. 18, 1964, she married Jimmy Lee White. He preceded her in death on June 16, 2016. Survivors include two sons, Brian and Blaine; daughter, Jina; five grandchildren, Aneesh Parappanattu, MSFS; and four great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

Ronaldo Rivera, former pro wrestler

Ronaldo Rivera, 82, of St. Mary Parish, Garden City, died Aug. 24, 2019. On June 6, 1959, he married Amalia Zapata. Ronaldo proudly became a citizen of the United States in 1993. While living in Mexico, Ronaldo was a Professional Wrestler, and wrestled under the names of “El Rayo” and “Tony Rivera.” After moving to Garden City, he worked at Farmland and IBP. Ronaldo was very active in church activities. He helped with funeral dinners, marriage preparation, and served as a Eucharistic Minister.

HELP WANTED

Diocese of Dodge City seeks

Diocesan Director of Youth Ministries

The Diocesan Director of Youth Ministries supports and encourages diocesan and parochial ministry to youth and with youth in collaboration with parish ministers and pastors; specifically implementing US Bishops’ document, “Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry.” The director will conduct outreach and development to 47 parishes over 23,000 square miles in our rural, multi-ethnic, mission diocese, as well as, provides diocesan, regional, and national events and gatherings. A successful candidate has a degree in Pastoral Ministry or equivalent, a minimum of 3 years successful direct or parish ministry, must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Proficiency in Spanish is a definite plus. Send résumé and cover letter describing applicant’s vision of effective, comprehensive youth ministry to Georgina Paz, Director of the Curia, gpaz@dcdiocese.org, P.O. Box, 137, Dodge City, KS 67801.
OLMIZT

Saint Leopold Settlement, Austrian Settlement, Olmiz (Barton County)

On April 20, 1875, fourteen families from the province of Moravia in the Austrian Hungarian Empire settled eighteen miles northwest of Great Bend. The community was originally referred to as the “Austrian Settlement.” Saint Leopold is the patron saint of Austria. On April 11, 1881, a post office was established for Saint Leopold Settlement under the name Olmiz. The settlers of the community had immigrated from villages north of the Moravian city of Olmütz, the Metropolitan See of the Archdiocese of Olomouc (Olmütz).

Not only did the settlers name the community for the homeland they left behind, but also the See city. Cardinal von Fürstenberg of Olmütz openly encouraged farmers to immigrate to the Great Plains, especially central Kansas, since it was a somewhat comparable region. He insisted that families practice the “old German custom” of sending one-third of their profits back to their families who remained in Moravia. After the construction of Saint Anthony’s Church in 1883, the community was identified by the name of the rural post office, Olmiz.

The colony’s identity as Saint Leopold’s Settlement soon faded away. As the Missouri Pacific Railway approached Barton County in 1887, land was surveyed for a town located adjacent to the railroad. The plat for the town of Olmiz was recorded January 24, 1887. The post office relocated to the town site and a second Catholic church, Saint Ann’s, was constructed in town. The two parish churches, located some three miles apart, co-existed in the Olmiz settlement for ten years, before Bishop John J. Hennessy closed the rural parish in 1899 and told the two congregations to combine. St. Anthony’s Church was moved to town and the parish started a grade school.

Saint Leopold of Austria
### Gabriel’s Crossword

ACROSS
4 6 AM prayer time
9 The last John
10 Sea of ___
11 Galilee, for one
12 Sister of Judah
13 A Sunday in Lent
14 ___ Being
17 The Archdiocese of Oslo is found here
19 Ch ___
21 Catholics Pavarotti, Carreras, or Domingo
22 Canonized one
23 ___ of Contrition
25 A river of Eden (Gen 2:11)
26 Word of praise
29 Altar perfume
31 Rite in the Church in the West
33 The ___ Dolorosa
34 Peter and Andrew may have used this
35 Prepare to pray
36 Commits a capital sin

DOWN
1 Second book of the Bible
2 ___ of the Cross
3 This was offered to the risen Jesus (Lk 24:42)
4 Prayer book
5 Hell
6 Catholic columnist Bombeck
7 Book attributed to John
8 Son of Abraham
15 Papal
16 “...thy will be done on ___”
18 They were found in Juan Diego’s cape at Guadalupe
19 In ___ Signo
20 ___ _ _ _
21 Biblical liar
22 Jesus was crucified between two of these
23 Biblical liar
24 Jesus was crucified between two of these
25 A river of Eden (Gen 2:11)
26 Word of praise
29 Altar perfume
31 Rite in the Church in the West
33 The ___ Dolorosa
34 Peter and Andrew may have used this
35 Prepare to pray
36 Commits a capital sin

### St. Martin’s Mind Teasers

**TEASER THE FIRST:**
Spell 4-letter words that use one letter from each row. They do not have to connect. Score 1 point for each 4-letter word you form. Spell one 10-letter word that begins with the top letter in the triangle and uses every letter in the triangle. Score 5 points for this word.

**TEASER THE SECOND (right):** Complete the 7-letter word at the top of the diagram. Use the last two letters of the first word as the first two letters of the second word. If you get stuck, try starting at the bottom of the diagram and working your way up, in reverse.

**TEASER THE THIRD:** Sam, Alex, Charlie, and Jordan are related. One of them is the opposite gender from the other three. Here are some facts:
1. Charlie’s only son is either Sam or Alex.
2. Jordan’s sister is either Alex or Charlie.
3. Jordan is either Sam’s brother or Sam’s only daughter.

Who is the opposite gender from the other three?

### AdvantEdge

**St. Sebastian’s Sudoku**

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

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A C A D E M Y

First:
‘In the Lord’s goodness…’

Diocese celebrates the gift of matrimony

Dozens of couples from across the diocese joined in renewing their wedding vows at the annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony, Oct. 20 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The longest married couple in attendance was Francis and Alverna Schaffer (at far right with Bishop John Brungardt), married 69 years.

The Schaffers, standing side-by-side couples such as Diana and Andres Ramirez, married five years, couldn’t help but provide a living illustration of Bishop Brungardt’s homily. He spoke of the Gospel message of the widow who continued to pester a judge until he rendered a verdict, leading Christ to suggest how much more quickly God will answer those who “call out day and night.”

“The widow showed perseverance,” the bishop said, “sticking with it, not giving up.”

The bishop told the story of a Texas high school football team that had lost all their games. Finally, a car dealer promised, “If they win against their arch-rival, I’ll give each player a car.”

“What excitement was generated!” the bishop said. But when Friday night came, the team lost.

“One week of external motivation was not enough to win the game. Dedication comes internally, week after week after week. It comes from within.

“What does this have to do with marriage? Marriage takes great dedication; it takes joy, compassion, unconditional love and forgiveness.”

Editor’s Note: If we missed your name at right, contact Dave at (620) 227-1519, or skregister@dcdioocese.org. The SKC is happy to print notices for all couples celebrating anniversaries. These and many more photos are available in color and free to download at dcdioocese.org/swkcatholic.

God’s blessings to all the anniversary couples

Nora and Juan Aguilar, Dodge City
Carmen and Miguel Baeza, Syracuse
Cindy and Michael Broeckelman, Dodge City
Jaclyn and Eric Brown, Great Bend
Norma and Bernard Brown, Dodge City
Barbara and James Brungardt, Liberal
Jeanie and Mike Burke, Hanston
Guadalupe and Emilio Ceja, Dodge City
Rosemary and Robert Demel, Great Bend
Samaria and Jorge Estrella
Maureen and Leon Flax, Dodge City
Kathy and Joe Fleury, Garden City
Pauline and Rene Garcia, Ulysses
Maggie and Jerome Gerstenkorn, Great Bend
Mary and Kenneth Gerstberger, La Crosse
Mariah and Roberto Gutierrez, Garden City
Pat and Melvin Habiger, Spearville
Pauline and Norman Herrmann, Kinsley
Linda and Jerry Hessman, Dodge City
Rebecca and Norbert Hornung, Offerle
Jerome and Eileen Huslig, Ellinwood
Louise and Dwaine Lame, Spearville
Elaine and Paul Lehmkuhler, Dodge City
Roberta and Eduardo Lopez, Dodge City
Connie and Encarnacion, Jr. Maturey, Satanta
Cristabell and Martin Nunez, Dodge City
Imelda and Gil Ochoa, Garden City
Betty and Hector Perez, Johnson
Johanna and Samuel Perez, Dodge City
Heidy and Carlos Ramirez, Dodge City
Marilyn and Leon Reichuber, Ellinwood
Alverna and Francis Schaffer, La Crosse
Sandra and Russell Schartz, Dodge City
Frankey and Myron Schmidt, Ingalls
Karen and Gary Schmidt, La Crosse
Becky and Jack Schnaufer, Elkhart
Kathy and Robert Schneider, Olmitz
Bobbie and Elmer Schuette, Wright
Frances and Donald Smith, Liberal
Twila and Harold Smith, Lakin
Angelica and Rufino Soto, Dodge City
Jane and Steve Stein, Dodge City
Shirley and Maurice Stein, Dodge City
Virginia and Frank Sumaya, Dodge City
Claudia and Ignacio Torres, Dodge City
Becky and Jerry Whipple, Jetmore
Barbara and James Woodrow, Lakin
Marjorie and Joseph Wright, Medicine Lodge
Ellen and Ernest Young, Isabel, KS