A saint for our time

The moment he saw the camera raised, 9-year-old Ian Chavez Delgado quickly moved into position, mimicking the portrait of St. Michael the Archangel battling Satan, which stood next to him on a wooden post. 

This was the Hall of Saints, an annual event at Sacred Heart Cathedral School in Dodge City celebrating the Feast of All Saints, and one of many events held throughout the diocese to commemorate the day.

Fourth graders lined the aisles of the church dressed as their favorite saint, a black “button” on the back of their hand. Passers-by “press the button,” and the saints recite a brief, first-person description of their history, and why they are a saint.

‘Model civility, love for neighbor, respectful dialogue’

The ones who will rise

They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise” (Luke 20:36).

Wow! Jesus vividly describes the resurrection in last Sunday’s Gospel. As we die in this earthly journey, we will rise to be with the Lord. Why does God do this? Because we are children of God, sons and daughters of the Father, brothers and sisters in Christ, all guided by the Holy Spirit!

How do we prepare for this gift? The Lord has taught us for millennia: to love God with all our strength and our neighbor as ourselves (cf. Luke 10:27). How do we do this concretely? As missionary disciples, we evangelize, we catechize in the Catholic faith, we pray, we build community, and we serve.

We in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City have been discerning how we can grow as disciples of Christ. Pope Francis exhorts us to participate more fully in evangelization with joy. Thank you for your input from my survey request in the September 8th issue of the Southwest Kansas Catholic (and on the website). The priests and Curia staff analyzed the surveys, discerned ideas, and developed draft themes for a Diocesan Pastoral Plan. For example, one draft theme was “Evangelize our people by reaching out to those in need.” Our next step is to trim the number down to 3-5 broad themes that will guide our diocese for the next few years, with God’s grace.

This is Commitment Weekend, as we each renew our stewardship commitment to Jesus and our Catholic Faith. This annual renewal gives us the opportunity and encouragement to ask the Lord how He is calling us. Possibly our personal or familial renewal is to join a prayer group, to serve the youth, to visit the sick, to assist the poor, to our personal or familial renewal is to join a prayer group, to serve the youth, to visit the sick, to assist the poor, to assist the poor, to.

Let us ask our Loving Lord how we are called to evangelize with joy. God is preparing us to rise; He loves us more than we can ask or imagine!

+ Bishop John

Inside this issue

This is your annual “Finances and Christian Living” issue of the Southwest Kansas Catholic. Spread throughout the issue are stories designed to help you balance good financial decisions with positive Christian living. Be sure and check out the story of the teenage sisters who recently opened a thrift shop in Dodge City (Page 13).
The unfortunate all

The well-to-do wince, Father Thomas Dubay said, at the mere sound of the word “poor”.

They do not like to think about it. They do not like to talk about it. They are insulted if you suggest they might try a little taste of it for themselves.

And yet, the poverty that Jesus lived and taught was not meant for an unfortunate few. It was meant for an unfortunate all. For struggling fathers and mothers, and their children too, for monks in their monasteries and nuns in their convents, for parish priests busy about too many things, and for coddled children too, for monks in their monasteries, for parish priests struggling fathers and mothers, and their damaged, wounded. All of this comes from the Original Sin, of course, and from our own cascading personal sins in all the years since.

We must expect that the world will resist us, will refuse us, will mock us even, and will hate us, and will hurt us. We must expect it to be a struggle. We often forget just how the Redemption happened. We prefer not to face that sheer struggle. To love as He loved, to end as He ended.

So, struggle on, friends. Everything in you will want to take the easy way with all the good things of the earth: food, and drink, and shelter, and recreation. Don’t take the easy way, be moderate, struggle on. Everything in you will want to take the easy way with all your relationships: family, work, friends. Don’t take the easy way, selfishness is easy, be selfless, struggle on. Everything in you will want to take the easy way with your money. Don’t take the easy way, excuses are easy, hoarding is easy, setting conditions is easy, be the cheerful giver, struggle on.

The few, the all, we are the unfortunate, every last man, woman, and child of us. We are meant to live a sparing-sharing-life. Struggle on, Friends.

Andrew Dinners with Bishop Brungardt

For post-college age: Nov. 24

Men who have finished college or are past college age are invited to attend an Andrew Dinner with their pastor at the residence of Bishop John Brungardt from 6-8 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 24.

The focus is not just for the participants to discuss the priesthood, but on God’s call for every Catholic young man to live an extraordinary life.

Contact Father Juan Salas at vocations@dcdiocese.org or Ana Gaytan at agaytan@dcdiocese.org for more information and to RSVP.

For high school age: Dec. 8, 15 and 22

The Andrew dinners for high school students will take place on three nights, from 6-8 p.m. at: Christ the King Parish in Deerfield, Dec. 8; Prince of Peace Parish, Great Bend, Dec. 15; and at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City, Dec. 22.

The evening is for high school students and their pastors to join 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. For more information and RSVP, contact Father Juan Salas at 620-227-1533 or vocations@dcdiocese.org.
Faith and Light recently held their first monthly gathering of the season at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The gatherings, which include prayer, song, celebration, and a potluck meal, are for those with intellectual and physical disabilities, their family and friends.

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Virginia and Frank Sumaya (pictured center and far right) have issued an invitation:

If you have a friend or loved one of any age who has a developmental or intellectual disability, bring them to the next “Faith and Light” gathering at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City.

Actually, a more appropriate name for the group might be, “Family and Friends Having Fun in Faith and Light.”

Because “Faith and Light” is two hours of prayer and music, fun and laughter, and a good meal, all in a non-threatening atmosphere of friendship housed in the Love of Jesus Christ.

“Faith and Light is for all denominations and is for the entire community,” Virginia explained in an earlier interview. “Meetings are held from 5-7 p.m., usually on the last Saturday of the month, in the Holy Family Social Hall at the cathedral.”

Dates for upcoming gatherings are:

At the most recent meeting, Oct. 26, as a pot of homemade chili sat nearby (each gathering concludes with a potluck), Virginia, speaking in Spanish, and her husband, Frank, repeating in English, read from scripture before offering a brief discussion.

“What gifts do you share with others?” they asked those gathered.

One of the greatest gifts is simply a smile. It’s free, it doesn’t need translation, and it brings joy.

In another gathering, Virginia shared her collection of different kinds of crosses and their history.

Then Frank asked, “What is it that the cross is? Jesus came to teach us to love one another—even our enemies. He wants you to enter into a relationship with God, to be in union with him all the time so that people will see Christ in you.”

What Frank called “the most beautiful Sign of the Cross” (during Mass when we cross our forehead, lips and chest) means “May the word of God be always on my mind, on my lips and in my heart. How powerful that is!”

To treat others with mercy and forgiveness is hard to do sometimes, he acknowledged.

“People think it’s hard to enter into Heaven, but it’s not a complex thing. The most important and wonderful hug one will ever receive is when Christ welcomes you into His kingdom with the words, ‘Welcome home for your wonderful service to Me and to your brothers and sisters.’

“You are never alone, even when you are alone,” Frank said. “Jesus is always with us.”

Virginia and Frank Sumaya have issued a second invitation: Knowing the difficulty for some people to travel to Dodge City, they are urging parishes across the diocese to begin their own Faith and Light group.

For more information, go to faithandlight.org, click on the FAQ listing, and type, “How can I start a Faith and Light group?”

Or, you can call Virginia at (620) 682-0455.
I was my first day on the job. After getting my photo ID badge, my new boss walked me back to my cubicle, which sat amongst a maze of cubicles in the Denver high-rise. The heads of the occupants of the other cubicles popped up now and then like a human whack-a-mole game.

“I’m the boss. I would have rather dealt with the challenge of spending eight hours perusing financial websites. I would have rather been dressed in my underwear. It was my first day on the job. After getting my photo ID badge, my new boss walked me back to my cubicle, which sat amongst a maze of cubicles in the Denver high-rise. The heads of the occupants of the other cubicles popped up now and then like a human whack-a-mole game.”

I couldn’t stand up straight or sit comfortably … or breathe, but I didn’t want to miss my first day as a technical writer for Standard & Poor’s. From that day forward, my nickname really did become “Crooked.” It just now occurred to me that this was probably not a good nickname for someone who worked for a financial services company.

Up until that point, I had worked at another Catholic newspaper, and then as an editor of a little country newspaper, where my most challenging task had been to cover the county commissioners’ meeting. Small town politics can be intense, a little like All Star Wrestling, but without the spandex. I always wore a crash helmet, just in case.

Why didn’t I quit that job? This was 1999, and I was earning $15,000 a year. It was a double that pay. Did I make the right decision? Hmmmm.

To say I was clueless when it came to financial matters was to give me far too much credit. To this day, I have never balanced my checkbook. Mark Roth’s article on Page 12? It might as well be in Cantonese. Thank goodness we have people like Mark, when others like me are mathematical amoebas. I couldn’t begin to do what he does. I always did well in math, but that’s because I was always in the remedial class with people whose brains didn’t work properly. S&P was for people whose brains didn’t work properly. S&P was for people whose brains didn’t work properly.

“Hmmmmm. Financial websites,” I said to myself as I stared at the black screen. Then, by a very real miracle, came Dodge City.

“Let’s see. Websites. Doo da doo. Diddyp Doo. No dip, no dip. Scooby Doo, Doo, where are you?” This went on for two hours. I squirmed to get more comfortable in my chair and an electrical charge shot through my lower back like a thousand hot daggers. “OWIE, OWIE, OWIE, OWIE, OWIE, OWIE, OWIE, OWIE!...” I screamed silently, a mental shriek so intense that the pure energy of it led to a few whack-a-mole heads popping up:

“Did you just hear something?” someone asked.

“Yeah, not like a sound so much, but a disturbance. Was it if someone, somewhere were in great pain, but couldn’t … couldn’t put a voice to their pain,” someone else responded.

“Spooky.”

“Now.”

As the daggers slowly retracted, I began to deal with the challenge of spending eight hours perusing financial websites. I would have rather stared at a bag of brussels sprouts for eight hours. It was so far outside my comfort zone that it began to feel like a bad dream. But it wasn’t a dream, which I knew, because if it had been a dream, I would have been dressed only in my underwear.

As I searched for financial websites while fighting the urge to see what Dawn Wells from Gilligan’s Island fame was up to these days, I began to analyze a future in which I spent my days struggling to make sense of what I had spent a lifetime not being able to make sense of, and not caring that I couldn’t make sense of it, because analyzing financial earnings didn’t make the list of things that are even of mild interest to me.

Then came my first assignment. I was to write a 22-page document on the non-ferrous steel industry in Japan. Seriously.

In later years, I would repeat the mantra, “non-ferrous steel industry in Japan” to help me get to sleep at night. “Non-ferrous steel industry in Japan ... non-ferrous steel industry in Japan ... non-ferrous steel industry in Japan.” You’re getting sleepy, aren’t you?

I had five days to do it. Once completed, these documents were worth a great deal of money. I checked again to make sure I wasn’t in the midst of a nightmare. Nope. I had clothes on.

Standard & Poor’s put up with me for six ex-cruciating months before I resigned. Not too long after, that entire arm of S&P was dismantled. I always wondered if I had something to do with it. Ha, ha, just kidding. (Seriously, S&P, I’m just kidding about that.)

A few weeks later, Charlene and I began a two-month stint working in the Virgin Islands. It would be like a working vacation, and boy did I need it.

Ahhh, the sun, the beaches, the ... hurricane (Hurricane Lenny) that would keep us lodged panic-stricken in a closet for two days. The rats (Hurricane Lenny) that would keep us lodged panic-stricken in a closet for two days. The rats (Hurricane Lenny) that would keep us lodged panic-stricken in a closet for two days.

The prostitutes who would sit on the steps of the Main Street Strip and show me all they had in their arms. The rats (Hurricane Lenny) that would keep us lodged panic-stricken in a closet for two days.

I shudder when I think of many of my past experiences. But as I look back, I see that God was leading us. Would I now enjoy the deepest, heartfelt appreciation for all that we have—all those many, many gifts from our Loving Lord—because I faced. Would I now enjoy the deepest, heartfelt appreciation for all that we have—all those many, many gifts from our Loving Lord—because I faced.

I always wore a crash helmet, just in case.

Could I be any more human while braving the crowds? Here are a few ideas.

1. Don’t shop on Thanksgiving day

This one is probably the most important. Stores will continue to open earlier on Thanksgiving day if they see that there’s a demand. Let’s give people in retail a break and convince stores to let them spend time with their families by saving the shopping for Friday. Plus, you can use the extra time to eat pie, take a nap, fall asleep to a cheesy holiday movie, or school your relatives in a rousing game of “Bananagrams.”

2. Value people more than stuff

Inherit the Mirth

By Cayler Black (cuylerblack.com)

Don’t forget your humanity this Black Friday

By MARY REZAC
Catholic News Agency

Whenever I hear about the madness of Black Friday, the first thing I think of is the Furby frenzy of 1998, when those (basically) demonic, robotic, fur-covered talking monstrosities were flying off the shelves and spurring stampedes nationwide.

Ever since, it seems like each Black Friday has come with its own new tackle-everyone-ahead-of-me-at-Wal-Mart-worthy craze, whether its a flat-screen TV or a $20 DVD player or whatever it may be.

As it gets seemingly crazier every year, what can we as Christians do to not lose our heads during the busiest shopping day of the year?

Full disclosure, I am personally planning on going Black Friday shopping with my mom this year, like we do most years. It’s time together that we look forward to almost every year.

But how can we keep our sanity and humanity while braving the crowds? Here are a few ideas.

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2. Value people more than stuff

By Dave Myers Editor

COMMENTARY

The non-ferrous steel industry in Japan

By Mary Rezac
Catholic News Agency

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2. Value people more than stuff

Inherit the Mirth

By Cayler Black (cuylerblack.com)
Pro-Life Chair urges Congress to support Dignity for Aborted Children Act

Legislation calls for dignified treatment of human remains

“Whether you support or oppose legalized abortion, I hope you will agree that these human bodies should not be wantonly discarded as medical waste or preserved at the whim of the abortion doctor.”

WASHINGTON (CNA) - On Oct. 31, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Pro-Life Activities sent a letter to Members of Congress supporting S. 2590 and HR 4934, the Dignity for Aborted Children Act.

In the letter, Archbishop Naumann cited the recent discovery of careless retention of fetal remains in the state of Illinois by a recently deceased abortion doctor, as well as other instances of shameful and disrespectful disposal of bodies discarded in toilets or cardboard medical waste boxes. Such actions make “people on both sides of the abortion debate uncomfortable, sad, angry,” he said, adding that this is not surprising, given every culture and religious tradition has customs and practices surrounding how to care for and dispose of the dead.

“For Catholics, the Church has long taught that ‘the human body shares in the dignity of ‘the image of God’; that our bodies are a reminder of the bodily resurrection of Jesus, and of that resurrection, which we too will experience after death, and burying the dead is taught as one of the seven corporal works of mercy.” “Other faiths and belief systems likewise promote dignified treatment of the deceased and respectful disposal of their remains,” he continued, and health regulations, ethical guidance for medicine and science, trauma and emergency response, and religious and moral belief all point towards the need for a society to respectfully dispose of each human body.

He urged Members of Congress to support the Dignity for Aborted Children Act, saying, “Whether you support or oppose legalized abortion, I hope you will agree that the human bodies should not be wantonly discarded as medical waste or preserved at the whim of the abortion doctor.”

Such basic courtesy is in keeping with society’s treatment of all other deceased persons including cadavers, donated organs and tissues, remains that are recovered after traumatic incidents, and so on. As a nation, we can at least come together to ensure all human remains are treated with basic human dignity.”

Noted author, scholar leads Scripture Day discussion

Continued From Page 1

Bishop Frank J. Dewane, of Venice, and chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development emphasized the importance of Civilize It in the context of the current divisive climate:

“Conversation in the public square is all too often filled with personal attacks and words that assume the worst about those with whom we disagree. We are in need of healing in our families, communities, and country. Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate is a call for Catholics to honor the human dignity of each person they encounter, whether it is online, at the dinner table, or in the pews next to them. I invite all Catholics to participate in Civilize It. In doing so, they can bear witness to a better way, approach conversations with civility, clarity, and compassion, and invite others to do the same.”

Civilize It builds on a similar effort implemented in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in previous election years. It is being offered in concert with a wider ecumenical effort, Golden Rule 2020, which invites all Christians to model our shared values of dignity and civility and pursue dialogue instead of division. Together with the USCCB, dioceses around the country are

Pope urges Catholics to meet the poor and speak to them with love

By HANNAH BROCKHAUS

Rome, Italy (CNA) - Go out to meet the poor, listen to them, and speak to them with the heart of Jesus, Pope Francis said Saturday at Mass in the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran.

The Mass, celebrated on the Feast of the Dedication of the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, opened a special week dedicated to the poor, which will culminate in the commemoration of the World Day of the Poor Nov. 17.

“May the Lord rejoice in seeing us on the move, ready to listen with his heart to his poor who cry to Him,” the pope said Nov. 9.

“Meet others, enter into dialogue with them, listen to them with humility, gratuitousness and poverty of heart.

“I invite you all to live all this not as a heavy effort, but with a spiritual lightness,” he said. “Instead of getting caught up in anxieties of performance, it is more important to widen the perception to grasp the presence and action of God in the city. It is a contemplation that comes from love.”

Addressing the people of Rome in particular, Francis said: “May the Mother Church of Rome experience the consolation of seeing once again the obedience and courage of her children, full of enthusiasm for this new season of evangelization.”

Pope Francis celebrated Mass for the feast day with the bishops, priests, religious, and lay people of Rome. The Nov. 9 feast, celebrated by the entire Church, marks the day the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran was dedicated as the cathedral church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in 324.

Continued on Page 9

‘Model civility, love for neighbor, respectful dialogue’

Continued From Page 1

that “Love Thy Neighbor” thing... I meant that. -God

being called to utilize Civilize It to help Catholics put our faith in action by honoring human dignity through civil conversation this upcoming election year. Resource materials supporting the initiative include: a pledge to civility that can be taken by individuals and communities; resources for prayer and reflection including a pastoral aid and prayer for civility; tips for civil dialogue; and more. More information on the initiative as well as promotion materials, resources and other tools may be found on CivilizeIt.org.
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. There are no Protecting God’s Children awareness sessions scheduled at this time. Please check upcoming issues or visit dcdiocese.org/safe-environment for updates.

Protecting God’s Children

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Great Bend D of I host membership recruitment potluck

Great Bend — Daughter of Isabella Circle #744, Great Bend, hosted a Membership Recruitment Potluck and Meeting in October at the St. Patrick Parish Center. The Circle welcomed four new members that evening: Renee Johnson, Betty Schneider, Carol Schugart-Pfannenstiel and Christy Suchy. Rose Hammerschmidt, pictured above, left with Regent, Judy Krebaum, received a certificate and 50-year pin for her years of membership in D of I. Past Regents were honored and thanked for their leadership and contributions to the Circle. The 10 Past Regents honored were (above, back row, L to R) Jeanie Hapes, Jolene Rziha, Donna Gales, Geraldine Menges, Mary Tudor, and—front row, L to R: Rose Hammerschmidt, Barbara Steiner, Ann Lessor, Mary Bayer, and Brenda Unrein. Not pictured is Past Regent Mary Ann Brungardt.

Marienthal parishioners pray for deceased loved ones

Marienthal — Members of St. Mary Parish in Marienthal and others gathered to pray for their deceased loved ones on Sunday, Nov. 3 at St. Mary Cemetery in Marienthal. Father Tim S. Hickey, pastor, led the faithful in the prayer service and afterwards sprinkled holy water on all the graves. Similar services were conducted in the town cemeteries in Tribune and Leoti.

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, contact 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.

Stewardship Fair at Mary Queen of Peace

Ulysses — Marina Alvarado, Mary Queen of Peace parish secretary, explains to Esteban Hernandez, one of the seminarians for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, about the Vocation Chalice Program, during the Stewardship fair held at Mary Queen of Peace Church. The Vocation Chalice Program is a prayer program for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

Frasco family starts T-Shirt ministry

Former Spearville residents Tony and Eliza Franco have created JMJ Threads, a ministry designed to take the Good News to the masses through fun and poignant t-shirt messages. Tony is a former teacher at Sacred Heart Cathedral School in Dodge City. The parents of seven relocated to Texas in 2017. Visit their Facebook website at https://www.facebook.com/JMJthreads/.
Introducing Father Rudin Din

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

In the first moments of his introduction to the staff of the Catholic Chancery in Dodge City, Father Rudin Din made crystal clear his deep devotion to the Lord and his Church.

“I look forward to serving, and especially to bringing the message of God, to the people of the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City,” he said.

Only two weeks before, Father Din stepped foot for the first time in the United States from his native Philippines. His first name is pronounced Rood-deen; his nick-name since childhood, he said with a smile, is “Din-din.”

The 43-year-old priest was ordained on Dec. 12, 2007 in the Diocese of Sorsogon. His parents, both now retired, were teachers; his mother, Corazon, taught the third grade, and his father, Reynaldo, taught sixth. He has four sisters, one of whom lives in Chicago, and the other three back in the Philippines.

“I was an altar server in grade two. My father always told me, ‘When you become an adult, you will enter the seminary. You are a good basketball player, and there is basketball at the seminary,’” Father Din said with a smile.

To this day he enjoys a good game of basketball. The suggestion that this is in any way what brought him to seminary is to display a dry wit that his future parishioners will enjoy.

Father Din’s dad was a lay minister, and with his mother and father’s example and plenty of relatives—he has seven priests, one Sister-to-be and one priest-to-be among his cousins, nieces and nephews, Rudin left home at 16 to discern the priesthood at seminary.

On Dec. 12, 2007—the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe—Father Din was ordained to the priesthood.

When asked how he felt on that momentous day, he paused for a moment.

“One month before ordination [in 2007], my mother had surgery,” Father Din said. “In two weeks, she received word from the doctor that she had stage-four cancer. When I was ordained, I prayed to God to heal my mother. During the Litany of the Saints, I heard the voice of God say ‘my mother would be okay. And until this time, she’s remained healthy.’

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By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Father Stephen Dabanka first began serving as a priest when he was in elementary school back in his homeland of Ghana.

Like children across the globe, the young Stephen enjoyed “playing Mass” with his five brothers and three sisters.

“In the house, I used to gather the children in the area to play the Mass, and I always played the part of a priest,” Father Dabanka said. “I used my mother’s cloth as my chasuble.”

Father Dabanka is from the nation of Ghana in West Africa. In an email response to several questions posed by the Catholic, he wrote, “I was born on Oct. 16, 1960 to Mr. Lawrence Dabanka and Mrs. Margaret Nyamekye Dabanka, all of blessed memory. My hometown is Bechem in the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana, situated in Goaso Diocese.

“My father was a teacher and my mother was a housewife and a baker, as well. We are five brothers and three sisters in the family, and I am the third born. All my siblings are married with children except the last born, who is yet to marry.”

Father Dabanka was ordained to the Catholic Diocese of Sunyani by the Rt. Rev. James Kwadwo Owusu on July 21, 1990 at Christ the King Cathedral, Sunyani, Ghana.

“It was during the latter part of my seventh year of ordination as a priest that Goaso Diocese was created and carved out from Sunyani Diocese,” he explained.

“After ordination, I have served in various capacities as associate pastor, bursar, pastor, dean, consultant and Chancellor for the Catholic Dioceses of Sunyani and Goaso respectively.

“My call to enter the priesthood began as far back during my childhood days when I used to attend Holy Mass with my parents on Sundays and holidays of obligation,” he said.

“As a priest, what I like doing most is the celebration of the sacraments and, with assistance from donor agencies, building village chapels in the out-stations.

Upon arriving in the United States back in July, Father Dabanka served an orientation period with Father John Forkuoh at St. John the Baptist Parish in Speareville. In October, Bishop John Brungardt installed Father Dabanka as pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Timken, St. Joseph Parish in Liebenthal, and St. Michael Parish in LaCrosse.

When asked for his impressions of the United States thus far, it proved difficult to answer.

“Am still observing and learning,” he said. “But what I will say, especially in the Rush County Tri-Parishes — St. Michael, LaCrosse; St. Joseph, Liebenthal; and Holy Trinity, Timken where I am ministering, is that the people are very hospitable, accommodative and friendly.

“I am very happy to be here to live with the people and also to work with them, so that together we evangelize with joy as we journey towards the Kingdom of God.”
K-State’s Newman Center begins fund-raising efforts for new church

Special to the Catholic

MANHATTAN, Kansas – A major fundraising effort to build a bigger church for St. Isidore’s Catholic Student Center at Kansas State University is about more than bricks and mortar.

The $12 million capital campaign will help St. Isidore’s better prepare young people to become lifelong Catholics in parishes throughout Kansas or wherever life leads them after graduation, said Father Gale Hammerschmidt, pastor of St. Isidore’s.

St. Isidore’s, the Newman Center for Kansas State, draws students from all four of the state’s dioceses.

St. Isidore’s ministries are thriving, student participation in activities is rising, and Mass attendance is up. More than 100 students typically attend weekday Mass at 9:10 a.m. St. Isidore’s needs a bigger church and larger student center to ensure it continues growing and flourishing, Father Hammerschmidt said.

The expansion will help St. Isidore’s serve more students, he said, helping it better fulfill its mission of bolstering the Catholic faith in young people.

“We believe that the ministry being done here at St. Isidore’s will impact the future of our faith for generations to come,” Father Hammerschmidt said.

Along with a new, larger church, the Home Away From Home Capital Campaign will provide funding to renovate and enlarge the adjoining Newman Hall, where students gather for social and faith activities.

The campaign has drawn strong financial support since kicking off in January, raising more than $10 million toward the $12 million goal. The campaign runs through the end of the year.

Campaign leaders are grateful to donors who have already contributed and are hoping for a strong finish.

The leadership is asking those who have not yet had the opportunity to contribute to prayerfully consider making a gift.

“Could there be anything more important than providing our college students with a firm foundation of faith in these formative years,” Father Hammerschmidt said. “We would love for all Kansans to become a part of this mission.”

St. Isidore’s church has served students well for nearly 60 years. But with a capacity of just under 400, the church has simply run out of room. Even though St. Isidore’s offers five Masses each weekend, several hundred worshipers must watch the Masses on television elsewhere in the student center because the church is full. Unfortunately, some students turn and walk out after they see the overflowing crowd.

Mass is the culmination of our Catholic faith, Father Hammerschmidt said, and St. Isidore’s wants to accommodate all who wish to worship inside the church. The church is also popular among Catholics in the Manhattan area.

The new church will seat 650 to 750 people, nearly double the current sanctuary’s capacity. There will also be a large gathering area that can double as overflow space.

The limited space at Newman Hall also hampers St. Isidore’s mission. More than 200 students attend a weekly dinner, for example, but there’s only capacity for about half that many.

Campaign funds will be used to create more space for dinners, meetings, bible studies and other activities. Funding will also pay for a new kitchen, along with HVAC and plumbing upgrades.

The campaign will also provide funding for living quarters for the priests.

For more campaign information or to make a gift, visit: stisidores.com.

Ways to get rid of financial clutter

This is an artist’s conception of the new, larger St. Isidore’s Church and renovated Newman Hall, which adjoins the church on the right.

Ways to get rid of financial clutter in your life.

Getting a way to honor God and thank him for everything he has given to us. It’s easy to justify why we can’t be generous, and most people think once they get their finances in order, then they’ll be able to give. Our experience is that giving is the first priority. Once you start giving back to God some of what he’s given to you, everything else falls into place in your financial life. Acts 20:35 “Keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, who himself said ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

If you spend more than you earn, it always causes worry, stress and mental clutter. This is not to say you have to pay for everything with cash; mortgages and student loans are a practical reality for the vast majority of Americans and it’s almost impossible to rent a car or a hotel room without a credit card. Still, it’s crucial to make a realistic budget and stick to it, so you live within your means. Proverbs 21:20 “Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool consumes it.”

Most financial experts say you shouldn’t spend more than one-third of your take-home pay on housing and related expenses. This is especially true if you don’t make much money, because other bills will quickly gobble up the rest of your budget. Think of it this way: If you take home $2,000 a month but spend half that on housing, you have $1,000 left to survive. That works out to $33 a day for food, gas, clothing, insurance and everything in between for the whole family. If you stretch yourself too thin on your housing expenses, you’ll struggle to pay for everything else.

Intelligent people can disagree over precisely how much you need in a rainy day fund. But not saving anything for unexpected events, and living paycheck to paycheck is irresponsible. It naively assumes you won’t ever need the money for an emergency should something unfortunate happen.

You know that you, along with every American, should be saving for retirement in some way. If your employer offers a 401k match, it’s free money from your employer as a reward for something you should be doing anyway, so take advantage of it. Not contributing to a retirement plan with an employer match is like throwing away a gift of cash. It stays in the back of your mind and causes clutter.

There are risks with any investments—particularly if you chase aggressive, short-term gains. Higher rates of return come with higher risk, and promises of instant profits through day-trading or house-flipping often prove themselves too good to be true. Keeping greed in check is crucial—but so is planning properly to prevent falling behind. If you build up a good emergency fund and start planning for retirement early, you won’t have to take big risks out of desperation as you get closer to retirement age.

Continued on Page 14
Cheap or frugal?

“Misers hurry toward wealth, not knowing that want is coming toward them.” — Proverbs 28:22

COMPASS CATHOLIC MINISTRIES
CompassCatholic.org

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There is a difference between being cheap versus being frugal. The dictionary definition of cheap is: not costing a lot of money; of low quality; not worth a lot of money; not willing to share or spend money. The definition of frugal is: careful about spending money; using money or supplies in a very careful way. Here is an example of the difference between the two. There are two different types of trash bags in the store. The price on first one is $3.00 for 300 bags, or $0.10/ bag. The price on second one is $25 for 200 bags, or $0.12/bag. The ten cent bag sounds like a better deal, doesn’t it? But taking into account the entire product, the $0.10 bag the cheap person bought is so flimsy, two bags are needed to hold the trash, making the cost per use $0.20. The frugal person only needs to use one bag at $0.12 cents per use. The more expensive purchase price was $0.08 cheaper per use.

In order to be frugal, not cheap, it is important to compare both the price you pay when you buy something against the cost of the item for that same item. A cheap person merely looks at the price, but the frugal person views the larger picture and considers the overall cost. Being frugal balances saving money against other factors. You can save money where it makes sense, but you will also pay more for a product where paying more is a better deal for your whole lifestyle.

Here’s another example. A person goes to a store to purchase trash bags. The frugal person will buy the running shoes that best protect their feet and are appropriate for their use. Their decision is made with their overall health in mind, not simply the cost of the shoes. However, they will take advantage of sales or coupons to buy the running shoes as inexpensively as possible. The cheap person simply buys the least expensive shoes whether or not the shoes will offer proper support and protection.

Cheap people use price as bottom line. Frugal people use value as the bottom line.

Cheap people are driven by saving money regardless of the cost. Frugal people are driven by maximizing total value, including the value of their time, effort and the use of the product.

Being cheap is about spending less; being frugal is about prioritizing your spending so that you can have more of the things you really care about. A cheap person will invest a lot of time and energy in order to save a dollar or two. But they spend time and effort they expend may not be worth the amount of money they save. A cheap person may spend an afternoon repairing a $2 piece of equipment.

Their whole focus is dollars and cents, without regard to other areas of their life. They willingly take advantage of social situations to avoid spending money. Cheap has a negative connotation, as it refers to a person who often doesn’t consider the value of their time, their energy, or the friendship and goodwill of others. They value money above all else, and they may make spending choices that can alienate others socially. A cheap friend will demand to go to the least expensive restaurant, regardless of what anyone else in the group thinks. They are the person who will pay for their part of the meal precisely down to the penny, but not include any money for the tip.

A frugal person wants to spend less money about the money saving decisions are made with a balanced lifestyle in mind. A frugal person knows enough to balance saving money against other areas of life such as time, energy, friendship, faith, love, and health. The frugal person tends to account for the impact on things such as relationships when deciding if a money saving tactic is worthwhile.

A frugal person might haggle for a lower insurance bill, but never take advantage of friends in a social situation. A frugal person might reuse a takeover container, but won’t invest the time to wash a flimsy sandwich bag. A frugal person will make small sacrifices of their own resources—time and energy—to save money, but they generally won’t impinge on others to do the same, nor will they sacrifice large quantities of their own resources to save a few pennies.

Cheap people are often afraid to spend money. They are willing to sacrifice quality, value and time in order to cash in on short-term savings. Frugal people are resourceful with their spending, maximizing their dollars, so that they can fund big picture wants and dreams.

I consider myself to be frugal. I plan lunch and dinner so we use every bit of leftovers. I use up every last of the products we buy by standing ketchup and other bottled products on their head to completely empty the bottle. I use a teeny tiny spatula to get all the product out of a make-up tube. I cut off the end of a toothpaste tube to get the very last toothpaste out of it.

But I do not see myself as cheap. I do everything possible to maximize the money we do spend. But I also splurge on the areas where I am passionate (and where the money is in the budget!).

While we do encourage people to be frugal, we do not encourage you to be so cheap that your life is miserable. Being a good steward means a balancing act by spending money on what is important to you and saving money in those areas that are not so important. Being frugal is about balancing income, giving, saving and spending with a stewardship mindset.

Be frugal, not cheap. Proverbs 28:22 tells us “Misers hurry toward wealth, not knowing that want is coming toward them.” Life is short—enjoy it, but be responsible!

Compassion in action

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Pope urges Catholics to meet the poor and speak to them with love

A Latin inscription in the Church reads: “omnia ecclesiarum Urbis et Orbis mater et caput,” meaning, “The mother and head of all churches of the city and of the world.”

Before Mass, the pope stopped briefly outside the church at a plaque which honors victims of poverty. In his homily, Pope Francis entrusted pastoral workers with helping their communities to reach those in the city who are far from the faith and far from the Church.

“But, in doing this service, bring this awareness, this trust, into it: there is no human heart in which Christ does not want and cannot be reborn,” he said.

“In our lives as sinners, we often find ourselves turning away from the Lord and extinguishing the Spirit. We destroy the temple of God that is each of us. Yet this is never a definitive situation: it takes the Lord three days to rebuild his temple within us!”

He said it is the “heart of the ministry” of a priest to help his community “to always be at the feet of the Lord to listen to the Word; to keep it away from all worldliness, from bad compromises; to guard the foundation and the holy root of the spiritual building; to defend it from rapacious wolves, from those who would like to make it deviate from the way of the Gospel.”

The Gospel and Jesus Christ must be the foundation of the Church, he said, pointing out that priests, in wisdom, know that while something else could probably bring more worldly success or quicker gratification, it would “inevitably involve the collapse, the collapse of the whole spiritual building.”

He encouraged Rome’s priests and bishops to “know the neighborhoods of the city like no other” and to “cherish the faces, smiles, and tears of so many people in your heart.”

Addressing pastoral workers, the pope said sometimes one has to act strongly and make radical changes, like many saints have done.

“Some of [the saints’] behaviors, incomprehensible through human logic, were the result of intuitions aroused by the Spirit and intended to provoke their contemporaries and help them understand that ‘my thoughts are not your thoughts,’” [as] God says through the prophet Isaiah, he said.

Continued from Page 5
Catholic Charities of SW Kansas issues release announcing Annual Appeal:

Now, imagine you were looking into the eyes of this person:

“When she came to us she was living on the street. She was using drugs and alcohol, had recently been released from prison, and was in a mental health crisis!

Wow, she had it all!!

Since she has been housed, she has been approved for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), she has reconnected with mental health services and has a case manager she meets with weekly. She has been drug-free and is working on her alcohol addiction.

You can see a true difference in her. She just told me yesterday that she really cares about us and our office and enjoys being able to come in and have someone to talk to. She attends all of our Life Skills classes that are available to her, and she’s on track to successfully graduate from the program by the end of November.”

These are the eyes of one of our housing clients.

Catholic Charities honors human potential through service, advocacy and invitation, in the spirit of the Gospel, so that every person experiences hope and fulfillment.

We provide help and hope. Services include pregnancy support, adoption, counseling, housing and emergency assistance, life skills classes, legal immigration services, refugee resettlement, disaster response and more.

We cannot do this alone! Your support helps us make a difference in the lives of those in need in southwest Kansas.

Please give generously to our 2019 Annual Appeal. Thank You!

DONATE BY PHONE
Call (620) 227-1562
M-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST

DONATE BY MAIL
Mail check or money order to:
Catholic Charities
906 Central Ave
Dodge City KS 67801

DONATE ONLINE
Go to https://catholiccharitieswks.org/ways-to-help
and click on “Donate Money”
Diocese to take part in nationwide ‘Giving Tuesday’ campaign Dec. 3

A Time to Give

About #iGiveCatholic

#iGiveCatholic is an online giving event that provides parishes, Catholic schools, and nonprofit ministries affiliated with partner dioceses the opportunity to connect with their current donors and establish relationships with new donors. The goal of #iGiveCatholic is to inspire the Catholic community to come together as faithful stewards and to “Give Catholic” on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving back. For more information visit www.iGiveCatholic.org.

Diocese Director of Development Mark Roth and Director of Stewardship Eric Haselhorst are urging people to take part in the Dec. 3 #iGiveCatholic event, which raises needed funds for a host of participating parishes, schools, and nonprofit organizations.

Each diocesan “landing page”—as well as individual parish, school and ministry landing pages—feature a leaderboard updating total donations in real time, affording parishioners, alumni, and supporters the opportunity to track the participating organizations in their community with increased ease.

The way we spend our money is an expression of our faith. We spend our money, time and thoughts on the things which are most important to us. Stop and think for a minute—what are your priorities? Over the last month, where did you spend your time, money and thoughts?

Those are your priorities. The effort to do it.

There is a parable about a man who had an abundant harvest and didn’t have enough space in his barn to store all his grain. He decides to tear down the barn and build a larger one. That same evening the man dies, showing the futility of putting our faith into material possessions.

People who have dragged their way out of debt say not owing money gives them a sense of joy, freedom and gratitude to God. They live out their understanding that everything that they have is a GIFT from God. With that understanding comes thankfulness and peace, along with a sense that God will provide for them in good times and bad.

Everything that we have, including our money and possessions ultimately comes from God, not our own efforts. As Paul reiterated in Acts 17:25, “It is [God] who gives to everyone life and breath and everything.” When you realize this, it is much less.

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Money and the art of learning to be content

They offer a hover helmet—it’s a big metal C-shaped device where you put a major league batting helmet between the two ends of the C and the helmet hovers there. It’s $120. How about a heated fog free shower mirror for $130? Or the World’s First At-Home Professional LED Lip Therapy Device to get rid of lip wrinkles for $120.

None of these things will add any significant value to your life. Yet if we believe the advertising, we really need to buy them in order to be happy. The ads are telling us we are not good enough—we need a SMARTER IMAGE! Which they provide if only we buy what they are selling.

And there lies the problem. All too often discontent leads us to use debt to buy things we don’t really need and things that will never really satisfy us. Maybe it’s something as useless as the items mentioned above or something BIG that’s easy to justify like a new car. Or it’s something that’s just NEW like the latest version of a smart phone.

Any time you buy something in an effort to be happy, it will not make you happy for more than a few days. After a few days, the happiness wears off and you are on a quest for the next best thing to buy. Have you ever felt that “if only” you had more whatever it is you are craving, then you’d finally be content? But if you’re not content with what you have today, you’ll never be content when you get that nicer home, that newer car, the upgraded smart phone or more money.

As stewards of God’s blessings and the talents we’ve been given, we should always seek to improve our circumstances. But improving our circumstances does not mean accumulating things and buying stuff. A never ending quest for more and more can be very dangerous spiritually because if you’re not content with what you have, you’ll never be content when you get what you want.

Paul wrote Philippians 4:11-13 from a prison cell. This is what he said: “I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances. I’m not saying that I have already achieved all this, or that I have already been made perfect. But I press on to accomplish this and be perfect". This is what I believe we need to seek after—contentment.

Do not look for more than what you already have; look for ways to grow more in the others areas of your life. Live with what you have and grow in each area of your life, and then you’ll find contentment will come. In contrast to the words of a song, “I want a better IMAGE.”

With all of this in mind, Compass Catholic will focus on an area of our country and in our culture, because the advertising industry creates discontent in our lives. Just look at the Smarter Image website to find lots of stuff intended to make you discontent, starting with the name of the business. You will buy their products if you are SMARTER and want a better IMAGE.

Charitable IRA Rollovers may be beneficial

By MARK ROTH
Director of Development

If you’re age 70½ or older, you can make direct contributions — up to $100,000 annually — from your IRA to qualified charitable organizations without owing any income tax on the distributions. This break may be especially beneficial now because of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) changes that affect who can benefit from the itemized deduction for charitable donations.

Counts Toward Your RMD

A charitable IRA rollover can be used to satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs). You must begin to take annual RMDs from your traditional IRAs in the year you reach age 70½. If you don’t comply, you can owe a penalty equal to 50% of the amount you should have withdrawn but didn’t. (Deferral is allowed for the initial year, but you’ll have to take two RMDs the next year.)

So if you don’t need the RMD for your living expenses, a charitable IRA rollover can be a great way to comply with the RMD requirement without triggering the tax liability that would occur if the RMD were paid to you.

Doesn’t Require Itemizing

You might be able to achieve a similar tax result from taking the RMD and then contributing that amount to charity. But it’s more complex because you must report the RMD as income and then take an itemized deduction for the donation.

And, with the TCJA’s near doubling of the standard deduction, fewer taxpayers will benefit from itemizing. Itemizing saves tax only when itemized deductions exceed the standard deduction. For 2019, the standard deduction is $12,000 for singles, $18,000 for heads of households, and $24,000 for married couples filing jointly.

Doesn’t Have Other Deduction Downsides

Even if you have enough other itemized deductions to exceed your standard deduction, taking your RMD and contributing that amount to charity has two more possible downsides.

First, the reported RMD income might increase your income to the point that you’re pushed into a higher tax bracket, certain additional taxes are triggered and/or the benefits of certain tax breaks are reduced or eliminated. It could even cause Social Security payments to become taxable or increase income-based Medicare premiums and prescription drug charges.

Second, if your donation would equal a large portion of your income for the year, your deduction might be reduced due to the percentage-of-income limit. You generally can’t deduct cash donations that exceed 60% of your adjusted gross income for the year. (The TCJA raised this limit from 50%, but if the cash donation is to a private nonoperating foundation, the limit is only 30%). You can carry forward the excess up to five years, but if you make large donations every year, that won’t help you.

A charitable IRA rollover avoids these potential negative tax consequences. For more information contact Mark Roth, Development Director, at 620-227-1335 or email at mroth@dcdiocese.org.
Teenage sisters open thrift shop as a lesson in business, responsibility

By DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

DODGE CITY — Inside the century-old building that looks almost like it could be off the streets of the old west, is housed the hope and determination of a Dodge City family.

In October, teenage sisters Jocelyne and Sara Ramirez opened “Hidden Butterfly,” a thrift shop, in a storefront on Military Ave., located between Avenues F and G.

When the Catholic first came to visit on a frigid Nov. 1, it was so early in the life of the shop that it didn’t yet have a name.

On Nov. 22, Bishop John B. Brungardt will bless the shop. A photo of the blessing will be included in the next issue.

As with so many thrift shops, the real story is not the shop itself, but why it exists.

“The idea for the shop,” said Heidy Ramirez, the girls’ mother, who happened upon the idea with the help of Laura Chavez, the mother of Heidy’s godson, “was to help the girls raise money for college, while teaching them about running a business.”

Heidy, whose family attends the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, admitted that she knows well many of the ups and the downs of running a business, having started two businesses in the past. Although the two businesses eventually closed their doors, rather than give up, she is using what she has learned to teach her daughters at a young age the joys and the challenges of working hard toward making a business endure.

“We had a copy shop and a construction company,” Heidy said. “We know how to handle businesses; the taxes, the paperwork. There are challenges; it’s not a steady salary. Some times are bad, some times are good. It’s a learning process.”

“I told Mom that in the future I see myself opening a clothing store with my own brand,” said Heidy’s eldest daughter, Jocelyne, 19. “I’d like to study fashion design.”

She also has dreams of becoming a professional singer, and has even competed on “American Idol.” (“They told me to come back next year,” she said, humbly. But that is actually a compliment, considering how many competitors seem to be unceremoniously shooed away.)

“Right now, my mom’s still teaching us how to run a business,” she added. “The response has been pretty good. It will be better when we promote it online. Once we start promoting it and agree on a name, business will be good. I like taking risks, even if it’s a struggle.”

Younger sister Sara, 17, is looking forward to becoming a social worker.

“I like helping people,” she said.

Sara will continue to assist with the business after moving from home for the fall semester 2020 to either Fort Hays University or Wichita State University.

“I already received an acceptance letter from WSU, but I am still undecided,” she said. After she moves she will still help promote the shop, acquire items for sale, and offer ideas to keep it a vibrant part of the community.

During the interview, after a text message from Sara who had to leave early in the interview, Heidy announced that the girls had, at that very moment, agreed upon a name: “Hidden Butterfly.”

Heidy and her husband, Carlos, are the parents of six children: the two teenage girls, two younger girls and two boys, the youngest aged 3. Heidy works as database manager and assistant in the development department for the Diocese of Dodge City.

The deep faith of the family does seep into their daily routine.

“A Cuban woman came in and told us her story,” Heidy explained. “Then she thanked us, and said, ‘You listened to me.’”

Shop hours vary, but plans now are for: Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 1-7:30 p.m.; and Saturdays from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact them at (620) 430-2390 or (620) 339-0724. While they soon will be taking donations of clothes and … pretty much anything else, right now they are trying to organize the items they already have.

They will take credit cards as soon as they have the system in place.
Tips on money decisions for married (or soon to be married) couples

Editor's Note: The following is printed with permission from CompassCatholic.org.

In a marriage, differing opinions about finances can create arguments, tension, anger, stress and worry. Money differences can drive a wedge between you. It is important for you to work together and develop a way to manage money in your marriage—not just when bills are due, or when the debt is overwhelming, or when a large purchase needs to be made, but every day. If you’ve been married for a long time and the way you handle money in your marriage evolved over time, it’s time to work together to create a plan.

If you are newlyweds, you need to figure out how to manage money as a couple. Either way, here are eight important financial decisions to discuss:

Yours, mine or ours?

Many couples keep separate accounts and divide the financial responsibilities so they each have certain bills to pay without ever joining forces. What happens when one of them loses their job? What happens when some of those financial responsibilities are related to the children? What happens when one of the spouses wants to be a stay at home parent?

In our experience the couples who pool their money and manage all the money as one resource have much stronger marriages because they are working together as a team.

What’s our money management process?

Unless you are as rich as Bill Gates, you only have a certain amount of money to spend each month and it’s important to have a plan for managing that money. Otherwise it seems to slip through your fingers and you find out you have too much money at the end of the month.

One of you can be the family accountant who is responsible to pay the bills and keep track of the budget. But the other person should know where everything is and how to pay the bills. There are apps, spreadsheets, software, and a bunch of different ways to track income and outgo. The important thing is to define a plan that works for both of you know how much money is coming in each month and where it is going.

How do we make money decisions?

Along with determining how to manage money, the third point is defining your decision process related to money, which makes things a lot easier when you come to a point where you are not on the same page.

The husband and wife need each other to achieve the proper balance for a correct decision. Regardless of your spouse’s business background or financial aptitude, the husband and wife should agree, because they both will experience the consequences of money decisions in marriage. Even if their choice proves to be disastrous, there are no grounds for an “I told you so” fracture in their relationship.

In these situations praying for wisdom helps. In addition to prayer, create a list that helps document each other’s thoughts and feelings regarding the decision. Get down to facts by having the calculations in front of you showing the financial impact of two different options.

How big is our emergency fund?

We know there is always something that pops up and ruins our best laid plans, so it’s good to have an emergency fund, and that means deciding how much you feel comfortable having on hand for emergencies.

Obviously more is better and the amount may change as you move through different seasons of life. If you don’t talk about and plan for it, that emergency fund will never become a reality, and when there is no emergency fund, you can be sure a budget buster is going to come along.

We recommend building the emergency fund to $1,000, then three months income, then six months income, then one year of income.

How much are we going to save?

A savings plan is an important part of your financial future. In addition to an emergency fund, discussions about savings need to include short term goals such as money for Christmas or vacations; midterm goals such as replacing a car, buying a house or renovations to your existing home and long term goals such as retirement or sending the kids to college.

Each of these savings goals are important and with different time frames, there are different vehicles to use for saving. The critical thing is to be on the same page about your goals, how much you are saving for the goals and what savings vehicle suits your purposes best.

Getting rid of financial clutter

Continued from Page 8

The other side of saving for retirement is being tempted to think the money in your retirement accounts can be used early (before age 59½). Cashing out one of these retirement funds early comes with steep penalties: Federal taxes, State taxes, and early withdrawal penalties. In addition, the money you lose is the fact that you still need to save for retirement.

Shifting the shortfall from one part of your budget to another is not a viable long-term solution. Worse, any money taken out of your 401(k) or IRA could have been growing over time—so you don’t just lose the money that’s withdrawn, you lose the lost investment returns on that money as well as wasting money by having to pay the penalty and taxes for early withdrawal.

Life insurance companies aren’t run like charities, and they set premiums based on the risk of payouts. It’s only natural, then, that an older American has to pay a higher premium for life insurance. The vast majority of folks can take out a substantial and very affordable life insurance policy in their 30s and cover their spouse and family into their 50s or 60s. The same holds true for disability insurance to protect your earnings on the job.

Along the same lines, a good will is a crucial part of providing for your family should tragedy strike. In most cases, a visit with a qualified professional for a few hours will ensure your family stays in control of any assets and avoids estate taxes—not to mention preventing any squabbling among survivors. Our Bible study, “Set Your House In Order,” will help prepare you for the discussion with a qualified legal professional.

The bottom line is getting distracted by financial clutter can cause all sorts of problems.

How much debt is too much?

The average household credit card debt equals a little over $16,000. Student loan debt averages about $40,000. Car loans add $15,000, and the average mortgage is in the neighborhood of $150,000 to $200,000. When it’s all added together, it’s easy to see how a couple could have $300,000—or way more in debt!

Nobody plans to get into that much debt, it just happened gradually over time. We highly suggest you have a discussion about limiting the amount of debt you have. Maybe it means you stop using the credit cards once your unpaid balance reaches a certain amount. Or maybe you decide you will never have two car payments at the same time. Or maybe you set a cap on the mortgage amount, or decide not to buy a house till the student loans are paid off.

Having a discussion about debt limits helps keep you out of financial bondage when the debts become overwhelming.

How do we plan to teach the kids about money?

Ideas on how to teach the kids about money usually vary based on how successfully or unsuccessfully your parents taught you, and how your childhood experience helped or hindered you when you became an adult.

There are no right or wrong answers. Will you give your children an allowance? Will you have the children save a portion of any money they earn or get as gifts? How will you teach them to give and be generous?

The important thing is for you to be on the same page and to be consistent with the children. If one of you is the ‘bad guy’ and the other bails the kids out anytime they need money, you really aren’t teaching them anything.

All of these suggested money decisions are to help you communicate about money so it never becomes an issue in your marriage. Couples who talk about money usually have happier relationships than those who discuss finances less frequently.

Here’s a little Bible math: when it comes to marriage, 1 + 1 = 1. Jesus himself tells us this fundamental truth: “So they are no longer two, but one flesh” (Matthew 19:6). This unity is designed for every aspect of a couple’s life together: physical, emotional, spiritual, and even financial.

The important thing is for you two to be on the same page and to be consistent with the children. If one of you is the ‘bad guy’ and the other bails the kids out anytime they need money, you really aren’t teaching them anything.

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Daughters of Isabella, Kinsley, turns 90
St. John Circle #494 celebrates nine decades of service

ST. JOHN CIRCLE #494 DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA - 90TH ANNIVERSARY - OCT. 5, 2019

By DENISE WHEATON

D O F I RECORDING SECRETARY

It isn’t every day that we are blessed to be part of and celebrate 90 years of a successful International Catholic Women’s Organization right here in our own community of Kinsley.

That’s exactly what happened on Oct. 5 when international, state and local Daughters of Isabella members and guests gathered to celebrate St. John Circle #494 and its 90th Anniversary.

Janel Burr, who was elected as our new Regent on Oct. 14, led the Rosary at St. Nicholas Church to start off our 90th Anniversary celebration.

International and state officers, members and guests processed in together as a sign of our motto: Unity, Friendship and Charity.

We were blessed to have our Anniversary Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. John B. Brungardt, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City and St. Nicholas pastor, Father Jim Mainzer.

Following Mass we united for a celebration at the St. Nicholas Parish Center.

The parish center was decorated in red and gold by several of our D of I Sisters who have a talent for transforming the ordinary into something spectacular. The room was quite grand and let each of us know that we were celebrating 90 years of St. John Circle #494 Daughters of Isabella.

We were seated at beautifully decorated tables with D of I Sisters and guests who share our love for God, Our Blessed Mother, family, community and a spirit and willingness to serve those in need.

Members of the Daughters of Isabella strive to make our world a better place by all that we do. What can be better than to be surrounded by like-minded women who uphold the highest ideals of family, life and morals; women who are active in our community and provide a positive influence for each other, our families and for our youth?

Mistress of Ceremonies, Regent Pat Rincon, has been a bright shining light among St. John Circle #494 and our community, serving as our Regent since 2015. At our 90th Anniversary, she brightened our celebration by her presence, her leadership, her kind words for our organization and the members she has served.

Bishop Brungardt shared a painting, “The Flight to Egypt,” depicting the Holy Family traveling — St. Joseph with staff in hand and Our Blessed Mother Mary holding Jesus bundled in her arms while riding on a donkey, covering the baby Jesus with her mantle.

Bishop Brungardt asked, “What do you see?”

For me it was the Holy Family — the security of St. Joseph, his presence and the love and protection he provides for Jesus and Mary. It was Our Blessed Mother and her bond of love and protection for Jesus; her love for her spouse.

The Holy Family is a model for all of us and our families. The Holy Family, through this picture, reminded me once again of the role of Fatherhood. It reminded me of the security and protection that husbands and fathers provide their families, many times through their quiet presence. It reminded me of their many sacrifices. I pray that St. Joseph may be a great role model for our sons, for all husbands and fathers.

May St. Joseph be that guiding light to keep our men focused on the importance of their spouse and children, the importance of what should matter most to them, their own families.

Our Blessed Mother Mary, in this depiction, brought to mind the many sacrifices we, as women and as mothers make in order to bring love, peace, unity and protection to our families. We are all on a journey, a pilgrimage to constantly draw closer to Jesus, the one Our Blessed Mother holds so gently, yet tightly in her loving arms with her mantle of protection over Him. It is Our Blessed Mother Mary who constantly draws us closer to her and son Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. She calls all to come close to her son Jesus, yet she is his Mother. She is protective of Him.

The journey the Holy Family makes in this picture is not an easy one. We can only imagine the trials they meet along the way to their destination. We and our families — our communities, our nation, our world — must also travel on unknown paths. Many times our journey in life is difficult, many times difficult beyond words. Yet, we must always remember that if we strive to follow and model ourselves and our families after the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we will be guided to our final destination with love and grace.

St. John Circle #494 is blessed to have a member of our Circle as an International Director. Patricia “Trish” O’Brien became an International Director of the Daughters of Isabella at the August, 2018 convention of the International Circle of the Daughters of Isabella in Montreal, Canada. She was elected as one of only two American International Directors of the 122-year-old charitable group.

Patricia was blessed to be celebrating this special occasion with her father, Frank O’Brien; mother, Mary O’Brien; daughter, Shena O’Brien, and sister, Sheila O’Brien. Patricia’s mother, daughter and sister are also members of St. John Circle #494.

Our Circle was also blessed to have our very own Kansas State Regent, Belinda “Lynn” Kasper and her husband, John, join us for this special occasion. State Regent Belinda lightened up our evening by sharing some interesting trivia about what happened back in 1929 when St. John Circle #494 had its start. It helped us envision what our D of I Sisters were going through when they started our Circle.

Mike Herrmann, representing our local Knights of Columbus, and son of member Lucy Herrmann, shared best wishes from the Knights. Mike also commented that he didn’t realize the connection of the Knights of Columbus and the Daughters of Isabella.

Among our members are those who have been tried and true members and have kept our organization running strong. We were proud to honor them at our 90th anniversary celebration.

Sad to say, real life happens even with the best intentions and the finest details. We missed honoring one of our dedicated D of I members who fell beyond our radar. We honored Jenny Amaro and Judy Dockendorf as 50-year members. Along with these two members we also should have included Pauline Herrmann, a 50-year member as well. Pauline, we are sorry for the oversight. We love and bless these three ladies — Jenny Amaro, Judy Dockendorf and Pauline Herrmann — for all their contributions to our Daughters of Isabella Circle.

Our dinner was delicious and prepared by excellent cooks in our community. We were served by junior high youth who are among those willing to serve and make a difference in our community. Thank You for making our dinner so special.

Father Mainzer sent us off with his blessing. As many know, the Blessing of a Priest is extremely powerful. Father Jim, we treasure your special blessing upon us.

We would like to thank everyone who had a part in preparing for our celebration. It is our D of I Sisters over the past 90 years who have had a part in keeping a great organization going strong. We and upcoming members look forward to seeing what the next 90 years holds for us. The Most Rev. John B. Brungardt delivers a message to those gathered for the anniversary celebration. At right, Patricia O’Brien, International Director of the Daughters of Isabella (right), presents Pat Rincon, Regent of St. John Circle #494, the 90th Anniversary certificate from the International Circle of the Daughters of Isabella.
Hermanas adolescentes abren tienda de segunda mano como una lección de negocios, responsabilidad

Por DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

DODGE CITY - En octubre, las hermanas adolescentes Joselyn e Sara Ramirez abrieron “Mariposa Oculta”, una tienda de segunda mano, en una antigua tienda en Military Ave., ubicada entre las avenidas F y G.

Cuando el periódico visitó por primera vez la tienda el 1 de noviembre, era tan temprano en la vida de la tienda que aún no tenía nombre.

El 22 de noviembre, el obispo John B. Brungardt bendeciría la tienda. Se incluirá una foto de la bendición en el próximo artículo.

Al igual que con muchas tiendas de segunda mano, la verdadera historia no es la tienda en sí, sino por qué existe.

“La idea de la tienda”, dijo Heidy, a quien se le ocurrió la idea con la ayuda de Laura Chávez, la madre del ahijado de Heidy, “era ayudar a las muchachas a recaudar dinero para la universidad mientras les enseñaba a administrar un negocio.”

“Heidy y su esposo, Carlos, son padres de seis hijos: las dos adolescentes, dos niñas y dos niños, la menor de 3 años. Heidy trabaja como gerente de base de datos y asistente en el departamento de desarrollo de la Diócesis de Dodge City. Aunque no es un ministerio como tal, también sueña con convertirse en cantante profesional, e incluso compitió en “American Idol” (‘Me dijeron que volviera el año que viene’, dijo humildemente. Pero eso es realmente un elogio, considerando cuántos competidores son enviados a casa.)

La hermana menor, Sara, de 17 años, espera convertirse en trabajadora social. “Me gusta ayudar a la gente”, dijo. Sara continuará ayudando con el negocio después de mudarse de casa para el semestre de otoño del 2020 a la Universidad de Fort Hays o la Universidad Estatal de Wichita.

“Ya recibí una carta de aceptación de WSU, pero todavía estoy indecisa”, dijo. Después de mudarse, seguirá ayudando a promocionar la tienda, adquiriendo artículos para la venta y ofreciendo ideas para mantenerla como una parte vibrante de la comunidad.

Durante la entrevista, después de un mensaje de texto de Sara, que tuvo que irse temprano en la entrevista, Heidy anunció que las chicas, en ese mismo momento, acordaron un nombre: “Mariposa Oculta”.

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“Una mujer cubana entró y nos contó su historia”, explicó Heidi. “Luego nos dio las gracias y dijo: ‘Me escuchaste’.”

El horario de la tienda varía, pero los planes ahora son para: miércoles, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; jueves y viernes, 1:7-30 p.m.; y los sábados de 11 a.m. a 5 p.m. Contácteles al (620) 430-2390 o (620) 399-0724. Pronto recibirán donaciones de ropa y... casi cualquier otra cosa, en este momento están tratando de organizar la montaña de artículos que ya tienen.

Tomarán tarjetas de crédito tan pronto como tengan el sistema instalado.

“Hidden Butterfly” está en Military Ave. entre las avenidas F y G en Dodge City. Arriba están los propietarios Joselyn (extremo izquierdo) y Sara (centro) Ramirez, su madre, Heidy (extremo derecho) y sus tres hermanas, Jesús, Carlos y Marycielo.

“Familia y amigos divirtiéndose en FE Y LUZ”

Por DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Virginia y Frank Sumaya (foto en el centro y extremo derecho) han emitido una invitación: Si tiene un amigo o ser querido que necesite traducción y traer alegría. “Lo que Frank llamó “la Señal de la Cruz más bella” [durante la Misa cuando cruzamos nuestra frente, labios y pecho] significa “Que la Palabra de Dios esté siempre en mi mente, en mis labios y en mi corazón. ¡Qué poderoso es eso!”

A veces es difícil tratar a los demás con misericordia y perdón, reconoció. “La gente piensa que es difícil entrar al Cielo, pero no es algo complejo. El abrazo más importante y maravilloso que uno recibirá es cuando Cristo te reciba en Su reino con las palabras: “Bienvenido a casa por tu maravilloso servicio a Mí y a tus hermanos y hermanas”.

“Nunca estás solo, incluso cuando estás solo”, dijo Frank. “Jesús siempre está con nosotros”.

Virginia y Frank Sumaya han emitido una segunda invitación: Sabiendo la dificultad para algunas personas de viajar a Dodge City, están invitando a las parroquias de la diócesis a comenzar su propio grupo de Fe y Luz.

Para obtener más información, visite faithandlight.org, haga clic en la lista de preguntas frecuentes y escriba “¿Cómo puedo iniciar un grupo de Fe y Luz?” O puede llamar a Virginia al (620) 682-0455.

Por DAVE MYERS
Southwest Kansas Catholic

Fe y luz es para todas las personas con discapacidades intelectuales y físicas, sus familiares y amigos.

Faith and Light celebró recientemente su primera reunión mensual de la temporada en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Las reuniones, que incluyen oración, canto, celebración y una comida, son para personas con discapacidades intelectuales y físicas, sus familiares y amigos.

La idea de la tienda”, dijo Heidy, “era ayudar a las muchachas a recaudar dinero para la universidad mientras les enseñaba a administrar un negocio.”

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Los que se levantarán


Los desafortunados todos

El padre Thomas Dubay decía que la gente acomodada se estremece ante el mero sonido de la palabra “pobre”. No les gusta pensar en ello. No les gusta hablar de ello. Se sienten insultados si les sugieres que prueben un poco de la pobreza por sí mismos.

Y, sin embargo, la pobreza que Jesús vivió y enseñó no era para unos pocos. La pobreza eran los desafortunados todos. Por los padres y madres luchadores, y también por sus hijos, por los monjes en sus monasterios y por las monjas en sus conventos, por los párrócos ocupados en demasiadas cosas, e incluso por los obispos mimados: era para cada uno de nosotros.

El aspecto de la pobreza variará según nuestra posición en la vida, por supuesto. Pero la variación nunca significa una ausencia. Una forma de vida frugal y de compartir está conectada con el amor de Dios, y con una felicidad que vaya de la mano de la vida. Nuestra fe requiere una frugalidad de hecho... Nuestra fe insiste en que compartamos con el hermano y la hermana necesitados. Ningún católico de verdad negará estas cosas.

Y, sin embargo, poca gente... en tu vida, real, o en mi vida real. Somos buenas personas, todos nosotros, y se supone que el bien se derrama, que se entrega. ¿Qué ocurre si estos puntos no funcionan tan bien en el derramamiento o en la recepción: somos incapaces de derramar, y nuestro mundo es incapaz de recibir. Estamos quebrantados, todos nosotros, dañados, heridos. Todo esto viene del Pecado Original, por supuesto, y de nuestros propios pecados personales en cascada en todos los años desde entonces.

Debemos esperar que el mundo nos resista, nos rechace, se burle de nosotros, nos aborrece y nos haga daño. Debemos esperar que sea una lucha. A menudo olvidamos que cómo ocurrió la redención. Preferimos no enfrentarnos a esa pura lucha. Amar como Él amó, es una lucha. Es la lucha del último hombre, mujer y niño entre nosotros.

Los pocos, los todos, nosotros somos los desafortunados, hasta el último hombre, mujer y niño entre nosotros. Se supone que debemos vivir una vida frugal y de compartir. Sigan luchando, amigos.

Un santo para nuestro tiempo

En el momento en que vio la cámara, Ian Chavez Delgado, de 9 años, con el que se supone que lo identifican en las fotografías, rápidamente se colocó en posición, imitando el retrato de San Miguel Arcángel luchando contra Satanás, que estaba junto a él en un poste de madera.

Este fue el Salto de los Santos, un evento anual en la Catedral del Sagrado Corazón en Dodge City celebrando la Fiesta de Todos los Santos, y uno de los muchos eventos celebrados en toda la diócesis para conmemorar el día. Los alumnos de cuarto grado se alinearon en los pasillos de la iglesia vestidos como su santo favorito, con un “botón” negro en el dorso de la mano. Los transeúntes “presionan el botón” y los santos recitan una breve descripción en primera persona de quiénes son y por qué se les conoce. (Pagina 1, 19)

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 entrenamiento están disponibles en ambos inglés y español. Son conducidos por gente de nuestra Diócesis especialmente entrenadas como expertas en protección de menores. Las sesiones se publicarán en las parroquias, escuelas, el periódico Southwest Kansas Catholic y la página electrónica de la Diócesis. www.dcdiocese.org/protectingchildren.

SI USTED SOSPecha ABUSO

todas las acusaciones son consideradas hechas de buena fe y se investigan seriamente. Una acusación verdadera es definitivamente una acusación que, basada en las circunstancias que hacen que una acusación sea verosímil puede variar de caso a caso. La determinación de que una acusación es verosímil no es equivalente a la determinación de culpabilidad en un procedimiento civil.

El Consejo de Revisión está compuesto por católicos laicos y un sacerdote que aconsejen al Obispo en su evaluación de cada acusación de abuso sexual, revisan las políticas diocesanas para tratar con el abuso sexual de menores y ofrecen asesoramiento sobre todos aspectos que involucran casos de abuso sexual tanto retrospectiva como prospectivamente.

Un Ministro de Asistencia ayuda con el cuidado pastoral de las personas que afirmaran haber sido abusadas sexualmente cuándo eran menores de edad por un miembro del clero u otro miembro del personal de la iglesia, sin importar que el abuso haya ocurrido recientemente o muchos años atrás.
They came, they saw, they purchased (and enjoyed the company of old friends and new) and in doing so, they lent aid to the Dominican Sisters’ missions.

DOROTHY (COOK) LEIS, 87, of St. Anthony Parish, Fowler, died Oct. 28, 2019. She married William (Bill) Leis on May 19, 1952; he preceded her in death on Dec. 23, 2001. While her husband was in the armed forces, she worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone. William was a farmer, cattleman, and carpenter and she was a homemaker, mother, and a nurse’s aide for the Minneola District Hospital for many years. Survivors include two daughters, Carolda Edwards and Bev Baalman; three sons, Steve, Douglas and Stanley; three brothers, Gaylord Cook, Marlon Cook, and Richard Cook; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

HAZEL (TOOTIE) D. CALLAHAN, 91, of Sacred Heart Parish, Larned, died Oct. 28, 2019. She worked at C.O. Mammels Grocery Store in Larned. She was a member of the Altar Society. On Jan. 8, 1944 she married Francis (Frank) P. Callahan Sr.; he died Aug. 3, 1998. She is survived by her daughter, Marie Higgins; two brothers, Harlan Skelton and Jack Skelton; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Kathy Pedigo, Elaine Miller, and Pam Stegman; one sister, Edith Keeler; 29 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; nine step-great-grandchildren; and four step-great-great-grandchildren. Father Don Bedore presided.

DOUGLAS KENT SCHLEGEL, 57, of Sacred Heart Parish, Ness City, died Oct. 29, 2019. He was born in Ness City, the son of Walter and Evelyn (Langer) Schlegel. Funeral services were held Nov. 2 at Sacred Heart Church, followed by burial in the Sacred Heart Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Sacred Heart Church, Ness County Healthcare Foundation, or Ness City and Beeley Fire Districts.

ADRIAN NUNEZ, 31, of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Liberal, died Nov. 2, 2019. Adrian grew up in Ulysses and graduated from Goddard High School. He then attended the Energy Training Center at High Plains Technology Center in Woodward, Oklahoma, and became a Certified Wind Technician. He was currently employed at JB Well Service as an operator on a pulling rig. Adrian is survived by his daughter, Alexi Naveaht; parents, Erasmo and Sylvia Nuñez; brothers, Eduardo and Erasmo; sister, Veronica Vaquez; and nieces, Emily and Elly Nuñez, and Abigail Vaquez. Father Aneesh Parappanttu, MSFS, presided.

BETTY JOAN FLAX, 84, of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City, died Nov. 3, 2019. On August 5, 1960 she married Lawrence Flax; he preceded her in death on Sept. 20, 2015. Survivors include her son, Godfrey; brothers Mike Hoffman, Frank Hoffman, and Dan Hoffman; sisters Aggie Geir, Magie Driling, and Rita Fries; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Father Wesley Schawe presided.

ELDON J. TAUSCHER, 89, of Sacred Heart Parish, Larned, died Nov. 4, 2019. A longtime area resident, he was the owner of Tauscher Body Shop in Larned for 65 years. He served in the United States Army from 1957-1959. Survivors include his wife, Betty Meyeres at Beaver, they later divorced. He is survived by Betty Tauscher; daughters Cindy L. Tauscher and Barbara E. Sebo; sons Michael G. Mike Tauscher, Rocky J. Tauscher, and David W. Tauscher; brothers, Ernie Tauscher, Kenny Tauscher, and Harry Tauscher; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Father Bernard Felix presided.

PAULE M. MANETH, 82, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, died Nov. 4, 2019. He married Theodora Ann “Teddi” Hoffmann on August 1, 1964; she died on Oct. 12, 2012. He then married Mary Helen Kummer on July 24, 2015. She died on Dec. 10, 2015. A lifetime Great Bend resident, Paul worked for Barton Community College for 29 years, starting as a counselor in 1970, and served as Dean of Academic Affairs in 1999. He was a member of the Golden Belt Woodcarvers, and a three time State Fair blue ribbon winner. Paul served in the United States Navy from 1957-1959. Survivors include son, Don; daughter, Anne Marie Higgins; two brothers, Larry and Rond; and sister-in-law Kay Maneth; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

BRENDA LEANN BILLINGER, 61, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, died Nov. 3, 2019. She married Stan Billinger on August 20, 1977. Survivors include husband, Stan Billinger; sons Brian and Brent; daughter Brandi Billinger; her mother, Thelma Jarrett; brother Jay Ayers; sister Linda Ayers; and eight grandchildren. Father Louis Dinh Hoang presided.

JUANITA CLARA MEIER, 83, of Sacred Heart Parish, Pratt, died Nov. 1, 2019. On March 22, 1961, she married Elmer Lee Meier; he preceded her in death on May 8, 2013. She is survived by her son, Jeffery; daughter Pam A. Glenn; brother Dale Whiting; sister Virginia Hawkins; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

WAYNE F. MILLER, 83, of Christ the King Parish, Deerfield, died Nov. 7, 2019. He married Carol Jean Wolff on May 31, 1958. He earned his Bachelor’s of Science in Fort Hays State University. He returned to Deerfield and was a life long farmer in Kearney County while also serving in the United States Army Reserves from 1960 to 1968. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is survived by his wife, Carol Jean Miller; son, Larry; daughter, Cindy Miller; sister, Wanda Bravdica; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Father Peter Tran presided.

OBITUARIES

They came in unprecedented numbers, hundreds of people, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, went on helping the Sisters’ overseas mission in Nigeria, as well as Dominican Sisters of Peace working in Peru and Honduras. The event was the Dominican Sisters of Peace 2019 Mission Bazaar, Nov. 9 at the Heartland Center in Great Bend. Hundreds of hand-jarred jelries and jams, baked goods, several tables filled with hand-made crafts, and an auction and raffle enticed one of the largest crowds the event had ever experienced. Well-supported by the Great Bend community, the bazaar becomes like a reunion for some, with family and friends and Sisters coming from across Kansas and beyond.
SAINTS AMONG US

Fourth grade students at Sacred Heart School in Dodge City dressed as saints to commemorate All Saints Day. "My mom wanted me to be St. Mary," said Aline Beck, pictured far left, "but I couldn’t, so I was St. Anne. My teacher said that too many people wanted to be Mary," so he said — diplomatically — that nobody would portray the Mother of Jesus. (But that doesn’t mean she wasn’t there!) Italia Contreras (left) said that she found St. Joan of Arc to be "very inspiring." And Ambrielle Traugott (below, left), thought that "St. Lucy was really cool. I liked her interesting facts." Together, the young saints lined the aisles of Sacred Heart Church, inviting passers-by to listen to a brief description of the saint they represented.

Photos by Dave Myers
These photos are in color and free to download at dcdioce.org/swkscatholic.
Free Coffee on Saturday mornings!

Pastoral Ministry Formation

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

The art of learning to be content

Continued from Page 12

“I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Paul learned to be content, it’s not an instinct we’re born with, we must learn it. And the foundation of contentment is being grateful for what we do have.

As Americans we live in one of the richest countries that ever existed. Even if you are barely making ends meet, you are still among the richest people on earth when compared to the standard of living in most other countries.

So if you struggle with being content, meditate on Phil 4:11-13. The poorest people can be content, while all the money in the world can’t make you content. Look at all the wealthy people who are miserable. Being content has nothing to do with how much stuff you have or how new your stuff is or how much money you have. It has everything to do with being grateful for what you do have.

The families mentioned at the beginning are a great testimony to how you can learn to be content no matter how much or how little you have. Wouldn’t it be nice if we all learned how to be content?

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 provides direct 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 diocesan 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.

Pope’s Monthly Intentions

NOVEMBER 2019

Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East

That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

Scripture Readings

Monday, Nov. 18
1 MC 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 / lk 18:35-43
Tuesday, Nov. 19
2 MC 6:18-31 / Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday, Nov. 20
2 MC 7:1, 20-31 / Lk 19:11-28
Thursday, Nov. 21; Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
1 MC 2:15-29 / Lk 19:41-44
Friday, Nov. 22; Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
1 MC 4:36-37, 52-59 / Lk 19:45-48
Saturday, Nov. 23
1 MC 6:1-13 / Lk 20:27-40
Sunday, Nov. 24; The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
2 SM 5:1-3 / COL 1:12-20 / Lk 23:35-43
Monday, Nov. 25
DN 1:1-6, 8-20 / Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday, Nov. 26
DN 2:31-45 / Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday, Nov. 27
DN 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 / Lk 21:12-19
Thursday, Nov. 28;
34th Week in Ordinary Time:
DN 6:12-28 / Lk 21:20-28
Thanksgiving Day
SIR 50:22-24 / 1 COR 1:3-9 / Lk 17:11-19
Friday, Nov. 29
ROM 8:18-25 / Lk 13:18-21
Saturday, Nov. 30
1 MC 6:1-13 / Lk 20:27-4
Sunday, Dec. 1; FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Monday, Dec. 2
IS 4:2-6 / MT 8:5-11
Tuesday, Dec. 3; Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
IS 11:1-10 / Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday, Dec. 4
IS 25:6-10A / MT 15:29-37
Thursday, Dec. 5
IS 30:19-21, 23-26 / MT 7:21, 24-27
Friday, Dec. 6
IS 29:17-2 / MT 9:27-31
Saturday, Dec. 7; Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
IS 30:19-21, 23-26 / MT 9:35–10:1, 5A, 6-8
Sunday, Dec. 8
IS 11:1-10 / ROM 15:4-9 / MT 3:1-12
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Gabriel’s Crossword

ACROSS
1 There were 12 in Israel
6 Paul went here when he left Damascus (Gal 1:17)
10 Death place of Saul (1 Sam 31:1–6)
11 “O come, O come ___”
12 Pertaining to Heaven
16 “Where were you when I founded the ___?” (Job 38:4)
18 Catholic newsmen and “Hardball” host Matthews
20 “…now and at the ___ of our death. Amen”
21 He was an original
22 Type of angel that Michael is
23 Catholic actor Frawley’s famous TV role
24 Church instrument, sometimes
26 Where you might find a monk
28 The New or The Old
32 ___ being
33 Advent foliage
35 Dorothy Day’s “Catholic ___”
36 “…Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had ___” (Jn 12:1)

DOWN
2 “And I will ___ you up on eagle’s wings”
3 Popular Catholic TV sitcom actor Newhart
4 Commandment word
5 A queen from this country came to hear Solomon speak
7 Lector
8 Canadian priest in the Hockey Hall of Fame
9 Saints celebrated November 1
13 Saintly convert executed in Auschwitz
14 “… for they shall ___ the earth.” (Mt 5:5)
15 Site of Marian apparition
17 Papal crown
19 AKA Sinai
20 Husband of Sarai
21 Simon was from here
22 Briti sh Prime Minister who converted in 2007
23 He was an original
24 Church instrument, sometimes
25 Simon was from here
26 Where you might find a monk
27 Briti sh Prime Minister who converted in 2007
28 The New or The Old
30 Babel edifice
31 “Cheer, cheer for old ___…”
32 “___ Great Thou Art”
34 An Old Testament high priest

St. Martin’s Mind Teasers

TEASER THE FIRST:
The results for a recent Chess tournament between five close rivals is described below:
Dan finished before Tim.
Tammy finished after Ana.
Tim finished before Heidi.
Tammy finished after Dan.
Ana finished before Tim.
Dan finished after Ana.
Heidi finished before Tammy.
Who finished where?

TEASER THE SECOND:
Spelt 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 3D-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 THIRD: Cryptograms

Personal Preferences
A WYOAYGY IDBI AI AX WYIIYL IZ YOOO IDY LIKID IDBU B OAY. A WYOAYGY AI AX WYIIYL IZ WY NLYY IDBU IZ WY B XOBGY. BUT A WYOAYGY AI AX WYIIYL IZ QUZC IDBU WY AEUZLBUI.

-- D. O. FYUHQYU (1880-1956)

Not So Tidy
IDYLY AX BOCBMX BU YBXM XZOKIAZU IZ YGYLM DKFBU JLZWOYF—UYBI, JOBKXAWOY, BUT CLZUE.

-- D. O. FYUHQYU (1880-1956)

HINT: A = I

TEASER THE FOURTH:
Can you decipher the musical instruments represented below?
1. P O
2. BA BA
3. ECLART
4. @ # $ %

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Living with the loss of ability

Greater care and vigilance should be exercised by the person using the aid and by anyone assisting them. If possible, other people should remove any obstacles from these areas. Indoor hazards include food spills, pets, and throw rugs. Removal of throw rugs were mentioned often in my conversations with healthcare professionals. To prevent falls, furniture should be arranged such that it is easy to move around without tripping or bumping. Electrical cords are another hazard that was mentioned frequently. Keep them out of all walkways.

Medical equipment is necessary for many people who are disabled, so dealing with tubing is a real challenge. Be aware of where the tubing is and move carefully around it. Proper lighting is essential. Use nightlights to provide constant lighting in dark areas including hallways, bedrooms, and bathrooms. Grab bars are often used near toilets, tubs, and showers but they can be placed almost anywhere the user might need them. Items that are used often should be kept within easy reach while things that are not used so often should be kept out of the way.

Safety is a big concern for people who have physical disabilities. According to ceufast.com, more than 25,000 people died from falls in 2013. “Falls to ceiling” more than 25,000 out of the way. Be kept within easy reach while things used often should be arranged such that it is easy to move around without tripping or bumping. Items that are used often should be kept within easy reach while things that are not used so often should be kept out of the way.

SAFETY IS A BIG CONCERN FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE PHYSICAL DISABILITIES. ACCORDING TO CEUFAST.COM, MORE THAN 25,000 PEOPLE DIED FROM FALLS IN 2013. “FALLS TO CEILING” MORE THAN 25,000 OUT OF THE WAY. BE KEPT WITHIN EASY REACH WHILE THINGS USED OFTEN SHOULD BE ARRANGED SUCH THAT IT IS EASY TO MOVE AROUND WITHOUT TRIPPING OR BUMPING. ITEMS THAT ARE USED OFTEN SHOULD BE KEPT WITHIN EASY REACH WHILE THINGS THAT ARE NOT USED SO OFTEN SHOULD BE KEPT OUT OF THE WAY.

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Be aware of where the tubing is and move carefully around it. Proper lighting is essential. Use nightlights to provide constant lighting in dark areas including hallways, bedrooms, and bathrooms.

Grab bars are often used near toilets, tubs, and showers but they can be placed almost anywhere the user might need them. Items that are used often should be kept within easy reach while things that are not used so often should be kept out of the way. Safety is a big concern for people who have physical disabilities. According to ceufast.com, more than 25,000 people died from falls in 2013. “Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans. Falls threaten seniors’ safety and independence and generate enormous economic and personal costs. Falls can happen to anyone.” Preventing falls is the responsibility of all of us. Patient and caregiver’s education in the use of mobility aids plays a significant role in the safe and effective use of these assistive devices.

More resources:
• http://disability.illinois.edu/instructor-information/disability-specific-instructional-strategies/mobility-impairments
• https://dailycaring.com/video-the-right-way-to-use-a-cane-tv-shows-are-wrong/
• https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000342.htm
• https://www.verywellhealth.com/walking-with-a-cane-2696294
• https://justwalkers.com/pages/using-a-cane
• https://www.homecareassistanceofdenton.com/cane-and-walker-safety/
• https://www.fairview.org/patient-education/89327
• http://www.canesandwalkers.com/walker-safety-tips/
• https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3868456/
• https://www.bemebetter.com/dealing-loss-ability/

Angelus to Xavier
Catholic Place Names in Kansas
Obvious & Obscure

Saint Marys
Saint Marys, formerly Saint Mary’s Mission (Pottawatomie County)
– The Potawatomi at Sugar Creek in Linn County were relocated to lands in Pottawatomie County in 1848. The Jesuits established Saint Mary’s Mission north of the Kansas River 24 miles west of Topeka. A town was laid out in 1866, but the name of the community remained Saint Mary’s Mission until shortened to Saint Marys in 1878. The mission included schools for both boys and girls, taught by the Jesuits and the Ladies of the Sacred Heart. When Rt. Rev. John Baptiste Miege, S.J., was named bishop of the Apostolic Vicariate of the Indian Territory East of the Rocky Mountains, he established his See at Saint Mary’s Mission.

Bishop John Baptiste Miege, S.J.,
Vicar Apostolic of Indian Territory East of the Rocky Mountains, Vicar Apostolic of Kansas

Bishop Miege was born Sept. 18, 1815 in the village of La Foret, Savoy, France. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1836, and was ordained to the priesthood in Rome on September 12, 1847 by Cardinal Canali. He was on the faculty of St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo., from 1874 to 1877. He later founded the Jesuit seminary at Woodstock, Md., from 1874 to 1877. He was appointed Vicar Apostolic of Indian Territory East of the Rocky Mountains on July 23, 1850. He was consecrated by Archbishop Peter Kenrick on March 25, 1851, at St. Francis Xavier Church in St. Louis. Bishop Miege established his see at St. Mary’s Mission (St. Marys, Kansas) on May 31, 1851.

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Saint Marys window Assumption Chapel, Saint Mary's College, Saint Marys

Tim Wenzl’s “…Catholic Place Names in Kansas…” is available now at Amazon.com and Catholic/Christian bookstores. Mail order available through the Cathedral gift store by contacting the author at twenzl@dcdiocese.org, 620-227-1556.
Please take a moment to send a letter of support to our seminarians who, if it be God’s plan, will one day serve as priests for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City! The seminarians have said on many occasions how much these letters mean to them!

John STANG
Austin HABASH
Adam URBAN
St. John Vianney Theological Seminary
1300 S. Steele St.
Denver, CO 80210

Eric FRIEB,
Carson HAupt,
Jonathan LEMUS
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Dodge City

Jonathan HERNANDEZ
Carson HAupt
Eric FRIEB

THE ONE WHO FEEDS ON ME
SHALL HAVE LIFE BECAUSE OF ME.

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