One of our priests recently wrote in his homily: “So when you come to this Mass—and every Mass—don’t just come as a consumer, asking ‘what do I get out of it?’ Offer yourself on the altar.” The sacrifice of the Eucharist is the same sacrifice that Jesus made on the altar for you (cf. CCC #1367).

“This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me” (1 Corinthians 11:24).

For several months, we have had a diocesan-wide implementation of Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest. As of July 1, we had four parishes without a priest (details in the June 9 SKC). After consultation and prayer, I decided to start a Priest Rotation Plan: each priest would spend one weekend in two priest-less parishes offering Holy Mass, while the Celebration was offered in his own parishes (details in the November 3 SKC). At the end of January, we completed this process throughout the diocese. Overall, this sacrifice went well, both for the four parishes without a priest that had Holy Mass more often, and for the parishes that had a Celebration one weekend. Shared sacrifice.

One parishioner in a priest-less parish wrote of her experience:

“I have really enjoyed meeting all the priests and feel that we have been blessed having each priest take the time to come celebrate the Masses each weekend. All were wonderful, but uniquely different. God Bless them all and their parishes for understanding the need for the rotation. I have heard many comments from the parishioners that they have enjoyed the differences and are grateful as well.”

Another parishioner wrote of her experience in an area with an even greater shortage of priests:

“We accompanied the pastor of the parish on one of his trips during the week to a mission of the parish. His only way to serve the 20+ missions of his parish was to spend a weekday or so every other week going out to have Mass at one or two of the missions. He would hear confessions, baptize, anoint and marry persons before and after the Mass. The church bells would be rung for the first 30 minutes when he arrived so the people would know that Mass would be happening. So having a Celebration without a priest does give us who never have had that scarcity a bond and sense of solidarity with so many persons and parishes in our world who have Mass only once every three months or so.”

Thanks be to God, we have a new priest appointed in St. Joseph in Scott City and St. Theresa in Dighton: Father Rudin from the diocese of Sorsogon in the Philippines. Also, Father Augustine from the Diocese Goaso in Ghana is just arriving, and will begin his orientation process. We have the Eucharist celebrated in all parishes again. Thank you all for your sacrifice. Let us unite ourselves in Holy Mass to the sacrifice of Jesus. Let us offer ourselves to our Heavenly Father at each celebration of the Eucharist. Let us continue to pray for our single men and boys to humbly listen to God’s call to the priesthood, and courageously follow. Thank you, dear Lord, for your gift of the Eucharist.
Sister Elizabeth Determan, ASC, diocese educator, dies

Sister Elizabeth Determan, ASC of El Reno, Okla., died Feb. 6, 2020 at the Kansas (Kansas) Center. She was 98 and had been an Adorer of the Blood of Christ for 78 years. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the chapel of the Wichita Center, followed by burial in the community cemetery.

Sister Elizabeth was born Nov. 19, 1921 to Herman and Anna (Schafer) Determan, the oldest of six children. Her family came to the area shortly after the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889.

She was taught by Adorers in Okarche, Okla., and entered the community in August 1939. She made first vows on Aug. 10, 1941, and final vows on Aug. 11, 1946.

She earned a bachelor’s degree at Marymount College in Salina, Kan., and a master’s degree in education in 1964 from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

Sister Elizabeth served in several parish schools in the Diocese of Dodge City. She taught grades 5-6 at Sacred Heart, Ness City, (1942-1943); principal and teacher (grades 5-8) at St. Joseph, Offerle (1947-1948); and principal and teacher (grades 7 and 8) at St. Joseph, Ellinwood, (1951-53).

She helped open St. Mary’s High School in David City, Neb., and taught elementary school in Carlisle. She was director of postulants and novices for two years. She left the Adorers in 1967 to join a contemplative community, the Society of Our Mother of Peace in Oklahoma City. She missed the Adorers’ Precious Blood spirituality and returned to the community in 1975.

She took on hospital visitation, prison and parish ministries, including service at the former Holy Rosary Parish in St. Louis, Mo. She was instrumental in developing the Adorers’ Associate program, and served in province leadership from 1982 to 1990. In 2001, she retired at the Wichita Center.

Father Colin Boor, native vocation, dies

Father Colin Boor, 93, a native of both Holy Family, Odin and St. Anthony, Fowler parishes, died Jan. 16, 2020. He was a priest of the Diocese of Wichita for nearly 70 years. The Most Rev. Carl A. Kemme, bishop of Wichita celebrated the Mass of Christian burial at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita. Burial was at Ascension Cemetery in Wichita.

Father Boor was born Feb. 21, 1926, in Odin, the son of Nick and Olivia (Huslig) Boor. The family moved to the Fowler area in 1929. Colin attended the Oakland and Lakeview country schools. He was confirmed by Bishop August J. Schwertner at St. Anthony Church in Fowler on April 27, 1937. He took his high school and philosophy studies at St. Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, Ind. He went to Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis, Mo., for theology. He was ordained at Mater Dolorosa Chapel in St. Francis Hospital, Wichita, by the Most Rev. George J. Donnelly, bishop of Kansas City, Kansas, on May 31, 1950.

Bishop Mark K. Carroll of Wichita was recuperating from an emergency appendectomy. The Boor family moved from Fowler to Ponca City, Okla., in 1946; Father Boor celebrated his first Mass at St. Mary’s Church there.

Father Boor served as assistant pastor at All Saints, Wichita, from 1950 to 1955. Three pastorate followed: St. Joseph, Arma, with St. Gabriel’s, Mulberry, (1955–61); Sacred Heart, Cunningham, (1961–62); and St. Anthony, Wellington, (1962–64). In 1964, Father Boor, Father Joseph Bergkamp and Father Harold McCormick were the first three priests-volunteers to work in the Wichita diocese’s mission in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. The trio went to Ponce, Puerto Rico, and took a four-month crash course in the customs and language of Venezuela. In addition to parish work, the missionary priests were to conduct CCD classes and lay apostolate programs in Barquisimeto. By 1971, three other parishes had developed from the original parish of Cristo Rey.

Father Boor served in the community until 1997 when he returned to the Wichita diocese as pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton. A year later, he returned to Venezuela and remained there until 1973. He then returned to the Diocese of Wichita where he served as pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Hutchinson, with the mission of St. Agnes, Castleton, for 26 years. He retired in 1999.

In retirement, Father Boor served in the Diocese of Dodge City as parochial administrator at St. Mary, Garden City, from July to November in 2007.

Always calling

“It would be good if we understood this.”

Saint John Henry Newman once said that: “(But) we do not understand that his call is a thing which takes place now.”

“All through our life Christ is calling us. He called us first in baptism, but afterwards also; whether we obey his voice or not, he graciously calls us still ...”

“... It were well if we understood this; but we are slow to master this great truth, that Christ is, as it were, walking among us, and by his hand, or eye, or voice, bidding us turn.”

“... We do not understand that his call is a thing which takes place now.”

Estate Planning & Charitable Giving Seminar

Thursday, March 26, 7-9 p.m.
St. John Parish Center, Spearville, KS
Charitable Giving Seminar Featuring Speakers: Tamara L. Davis of Davis & McCann, P.A., a boutique estate planning firm serving all of Western Kansas, and Mark Roth, Director of Development for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

Looking for ways to protect yourself or your heirs from unnecessary taxes on the sale of property at your death? Hoping to leave a legacy for your children or favorite charity but don’t know how to get started? Don’t miss this FREE educational seminar on Estate Planning and Charitable Giving. Featured speakers will be Tamara L. Davis of Davis & McCann, P.A., a boutique estate planning firm serving all of Western Kansas, and Mark Roth, Director of Development for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

Protecting God’s Children

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

Please check upcoming issues or visit diocese.org/safe-environment for updates.

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE

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

If you have a 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, 1-800-KS Crime (1-800-572-7463), 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 cbefort@cox.net, 620-285-3219. In addition, Mr. Befort will offer the help of the Assistance Minisiter, 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 advise 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.

Next Estate Planning and Charitable Giving Seminar, March 26 Spearville

Sister Elizabeth Determan, ASC

The Southwest Kansas Catholic
Sprintfield, Ill. (CNA) - Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois issued a pastoral guide last month regarding diocesan policies on gender identity, expounding on existing policy that schools and other diocesan institutions will recognize students and adults by the biological sex with which they were born.

In the guide, Paprocki noted the need to approach the issue with compassion and sensitivity, while also adhering to Church teaching and the truth.

“Gender dysphoria is a real psychological condition, in which a biological male or female believes he or she is the opposite gender,” Paprocki noted.

“It is of paramount importance to handle such situations with gentle and compassionate pastoral skill and concern. All forms of discrimination and harsh treatment must be strongly resisted and corrected,” he said.

Families face great difficulties when they have a child experiencing gender dysphoria, Paprocki said, and he encouraged parents to help their child through their confusion without reinforcing the confusion and making their child think their problem will be “solved” with surgical or hormonal interventions.

“Such treatments, especially for children, are invasive and disruptive physically, chemically, psychologically, emotionally, and spiritually,” Paprocki said. “Fueling the confusion that families face in these circumstances is not merciful. For the sake of the family and the loved one, it is imperative to be clear on the reality of human biology as a gift from God that we cannot change.”

The bishop also noted that Pope Francis has expressed concerns with transgender ideology. In an April 2015 general audience, Pope Francis said: “The so-called gender theory is not an expression of frustration and resignation, which seeks to cancel out sexual difference because it no longer knows how to confront it. Yes, we risk taking a step backwards. The removal of difference, in fact, creates a problem, not a solution.”

Paprocki said that “The Holy Father’s concerns are grounded in the Church teaching, that our identities as male and female are part of God’s good design in Creation, that our bodies and sexual identities are gifts from God, and that we should accept and care for our bodies as they were created.”

According to diocesan policy, students and adult employees or volunteers in all diocesan agencies and activities will be referred to by pronouns that correspond with their biological sex, and will be expected to

Happy Birthday, Father Bernard Felix

BELPRE -- Parishioners at St. Bernard Parish in Belpre helped their pastor, Father Bernard Felix, celebrate his birthday recently. Father Bernard was born Feb. 12, 1965. He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph Church, Gasan, Marinduque, Philippines, on June 17, 1992, by the Most Rev. Rafael M. Lim, Bishop of Boac. He came to serve in the Diocese of Dodge City in December 2005.

Preparing to serve

DODGE CITY -- Young boys and girls took part in altar serving training at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Feb. 1 and 2.

St. Joseph the Worker serves up a plethora of sausage and pancakes

TRIBUNE -- More than 250 homemade sausage and pancake breakfasts were served at the annual Ground Hog fundraiser sponsored by St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Tribune, Saturday, Feb. 8. Parish youth took food orders and helped bus tables. In addition, parishioners prepared and sold close to 2,000 pounds of fresh sausage.

Come and See Retreat for women, March 13-15, in Ohio

Have you ever pondered whether God is calling you to become a Sister? Come away to pray with our Sisters, to share with other women of faith, to discover God’s purpose for your life, to enjoy a behind the scenes experience of community life, and to explore Religious life lived out as a Dominican Sister of Peace. Join other single, Catholic women, ages 18-45, to learn about contemporary religious life at this free Columbus, Ohio retreat. The retreat begins at 4 p.m. Friday, March 13, and concludes at 1 p.m., Sunday, March 15 at the Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus, OH 43219. For more information, call or text Sister June Fitzgerald at 570-336-3991 or email jfitzgerald@oppeace.org. (The Sisters can offer some travel assistance on a need basis.)

Continued on Page 8
My idol, Casper Johns

Editor’s Note: As I near my 20-year mark as editor, I’m enjoying going back and finding some old columns that I’ve nearly forgotten about — written back when my funny bone had a sense of silliness that seems to have become more illusive with age.

Several years ago, I had the privilege of interviewing a man whose career I have tried to emulate, a man who for 45 years digested Catholic news and events, and passed them onto the written page in a way that was entertaining, educational, and spiritually moving. Although he led a fascinating career, I would be remiss to overlook his unusual early life. Born in 1930s Idaho, the infant Casper Johns “looked just like Colonel Sanders,” he told me, “little white beard and everything. I was dressed like him too, right out of the womb.” The doctors said it was because Mother had been frightened by a chicken early in her pregnancy.

Fortunately, the affliction proved only temporary, and by the time he began attending St. Cecilia Catholic School, he only needed slight therapy to rid himself of a speech impediment that caused him to sound like a southern plantation owner.

Still, those early sufferings left their mark on the lad; he was shy and often delved into his own little world where he called himself “Comet, the Albatross Boy.”

His introversion led to much ridicule by his classmates. In his second year of school, when a student dared him to belch the spelling of a word during a spelling bee, he timidly agreed.

Afterwards, his teacher, an excitable young priest named Father Shaun O’Leary, immediately conducted an exorcism on the young Johns. Father O’Leary was not faulted for his mistake, for as noted in the text, “What the Devil?” by Dr. Henry LaPlante, C.Ss.R., D.D.S., S.T.P., Satan does indeed sound just like someone belching the alphabet.

Six months later, some bad meatloaf left Johns the subject of a second exorcism.

When he entered high school, Johns began to write. Being poor in math, Johns, for example, would answer problems such as 9x7=___, with, “Life, a cherry pie, and a speech impediment.”

He would earn the Pulitzer Prize for Spelling, and would publish several books, including “Church and Politics,” “A Study of the Pontificate,” and “Big-Hearted Bigfoot: The Story of My Mother.” He retired in 1995 as editor of the National Catholic Beacon.

During our interview—conducted a few months before he died—I asked him if he would offer me some words of guidance. He thought for a moment and said, “Don’t ever give up on yourself, despite your weaknesses, because God certainly never will.” It was something like that, anyway.

Although I didn’t quite catch the entire quote, I figured if anyone understood, it would be Casper Johns.
The Southwest Kansas Catholic February 23, 2020 Page 5

The practice of Lenten fasting has many dimensions

By MSGR. M. FRANCIS MANNION
Catholic News Agency

Fasting is one of the practices associated traditionally with the season of Lent—a practice which has a rich body of meanings. I suggest there are seven values to be derived from fasting.

The first value of fasting is learning reverence for food. We live in a consumer society where food is available in abundance and is habitually wasted. Food is viewed as purely functional; rarely do we think of food as a precious gift from God.

Fasting gives us the occasion to interrupt our normal consumerist attitudes regarding food, and allows us to grow in reverence for it.

The second value of fasting is that it provides us a means of assisting the hungry poor. The scriptures are full of admonitions about sharing food with others. Indeed, the extent to which we share our food is one of the criteria by which God will judge us ultimately.

There are numerous ways in which we can fast for charitable purposes during Lent. We can shop more economically so that we may contribute more to charity. We can eat more sparingly and put what we save aside to assist others.

The third value of fasting is in helping us grow in humility. Humility means a realistic, clear-sighted, and sober sense of ourselves and our place in the world.

To be humble is to have a sense of our own limitations. We become more aware of our mortality and the fact that we must die. We realize that our lives are fragile.

There are few things that make us more aware of our limitations, our mortality, and our dependence on others than being hungry. Hunger cuts us down to size and deflates our egos.

The fourth value associated with fasting is that it teaches us discipline, which means self-restraint and appropriate self-restriction—al­marks of the mature person. Their opposites are self-indulgence, the inability to control ourselves, and the tendency to live with restraint.

Fasting involves external discipline teaching us internal discipline. The practice of fasting can have the inner effect of making us more genuine and authentic disciples of Christ.

The fifth value of fasting is that we undertake the practice in solidarity with the poor. This means recognizing that as long as there are poor people in the world, it is unseemly that we should eat luxuriously.

We are called to live more simply, more sparingly, and to avoid waste and self-indulgence in a spirit of union with those who have little. As long as there is hunger in the world, a permanent element of fasting should characterize our hunger.

The sixth value of fasting—especially on Good Friday, when all Catholics are required to fast—is to express solidarity with Jesus on the day of his death. On the day of Christ’s trial, suffering, and death, Christians are called to live in a sober way, avoiding entertainments and distracting activities. As Christ suffers on the Cross on Good Friday, Christians are called to observe that day with a firm gaze on Christ’s saving action.

Finally, we fast in preparation for the return of Christ in glory. We are reminded that we can never be satisfied by ordinary food that satisfies only momentarily, but then perishes. We do not live by bread alone. What we await is the food of heaven, the food of God’s heavenly banquet which will not perish but give life eternal. Until then, we will always be hungry.

Msgr. Mannon is pastor emeritus of St. Vincent de Paul parish in Salt Lake City. He holds a Ph.D. in sacramental theology from The Catholic University of America. He was founding president of The Society for Catholic Liturgy in 1995 and the founding editor of the Society’s journal, Antiphon. At the invitation of Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, he founded the Mundelein Liturgical Institute in 2000.

Small sacrifices make a big difference with Operation Rice Bowl

This Lenten season Catholic Relief Services (CRS), asking Catholics to remember the Gospel story of the feeding of the 5,000, as we celebrate the 45th anniversary of CRS Rice Bowl, just as the modest amount of five loaves and two fish was multiplied to be shared by thousands, small sacrifices add up to make a big difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world. This is one of the lessons CRS Rice Bowl brings to families each year when they use the popular Lenten program.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, families in the United States will get to know three young girls from Honduras, Vietnam and Kenya. Their stories unfold over the 40 days of Lent, and each story reveals a different aspect of their lives, from home and mealtime, to school and their dreams for the future.

“CRS Rice Bowl is a great way for families to understand that people around the world have similar hopes and dreams, but some need our support and assistance to reach those dreams,” said Beth Martin, CRS director for Mission and Mobilization. “By focusing our prayers and Lenten sacrifices, on these three girls and their families, the meaning of Lent is made so much more accessible and richer for Catholic families in the United States.”

New this year is a redesigned Lenten calendar and family guide to make it easy for families to make Lent meaningful. Over the six weeks of Lent, CRS Rice Bowl will follow Maria Ana, Yvone and Trinh through their morning routines, their time at school and entertainments and distracting extreme weather conditions, particularly typhoons and droughts. The traditional knowledge of weather patterns upon which these communities relied on for generations no longer serves to keep families and crops safe. CRS, in partnership with local and national government partners, is working to educate and prepare these families while helping to better care for the natural environment.

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“We hope families will watch the videos together, read the stories and talk about what we have in common with the girls they meet,” Martin said. (See the videos at https://www.crsricebowl.org/)

Every year Catholic families from 14,000 communities across the country are using nearly 4 million rice bowls for almsgiving, which are turned in at the end of Lent. Those small sacrifices really add up—raising nearly $12 million annually. 75 percent of every donation goes to CRS programming in targeted countries worldwide, while 25 percent remains in the local diocese from which the donation came, supporting initiatives that help alleviate poverty.

“We can all be inspired by the miracle Jesus performed in the Gospel story of the loaves and fishes,” Martin said. “CRS Rice Bowl gives us the opportunity to experience God’s love when we share what we have with those in need.”

CRS Rice Bowl materials are designed for families, parishes, educators, universities, and dioceses. They are available in print and on the web in both English and Spanish. You can also join the CRS Rice Bowl Facebook group.

Printed materials are available in English and Spanish, and can be ordered for groups of 25 or more for free. Families may also order their own individual CRS Rice Bowls. Call 800-222-0025 or visit crsricebowl.org/ to place an order. To learn more about CRS Rice Bowl, visit crsricebowl.org.

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic Church in the United States. The agency alleviates suffering and provides assistance to people in need in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. CRS’ relief and development work is accomplished through programs of emergency response, HIV, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peacebuilding. For more information, visit www.crs.org or www.crsespanol.org and follow Catholic Relief Services on social media in English at Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube; and in Spanish at: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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Vibrant Ministries Appeal

Through December 31, 2019

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**Grants & Donations**

**Works of Mercy**

- Catholic Charities: $195,000
- Catholic Charities EFP: $60,000
- Marriage, Family Planning & NFP: $20,000

**Faith Formation**

- Young Adult Ministry: $96,000
- Safe Environment: $20,000
- Catholic Schools Office: $60,000
- Catholic Schools Grants: $90,849.75
- Catholic Schools Endowment: $50,000
- Catholic Schools - Newman: $7,205

**Priestly Vocations**

- International Priests Immigration Exp: $7,000
- Health Insurance expense for priests: $40,846.96
- International Priests Orientation Exp: $18,300.
- Diocesan Priests' Retirement: $100,000
- Decaons - health & St. John: $12,818.00
- Seminarians - tuition, books, insurance: $175,807.94
- Clergy retreats/convocations: $47,830.50
- International priests Agreements: $55,500.00
- Vocations Expense: $24,626.35

**Total Grants & Donations**

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**Use of Funds by Designation**

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**Parishes receiving Faith Formation grants**

- Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City
- St. Theresa Catholic Church, Dighton
- St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Ellkhart
- St. Dominic Catholic Church, Garden City
- St. Mary Catholic Church, Garden City
- Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Great Bend
- St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington
- St. Bernardette Catholic Church, Johnson
- St. Michael Catholic Church, La Crosse
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Larned
- St. Anthony Catholic Church, Liberal
- St. Mary Catholic Church, Marienhal – Marienthal, Leoti, Tribune
- Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Medicine Lodge
- St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Ransom
- St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Satanta
- St. John Catholic Church, St. John
- St. Joseph Catholic Church, Scott City
- St. Raphael Catholic Church, Syracuse
- Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Ulysses

**Schools receiving grants**

- Sacred Heart Catholic School, Dodge City
- St. Joseph Catholic School, Ellinwood
- St. Dominic Catholic School, Garden City
- St. Mary Catholic School, Garden City
- Holy Family Catholic School, Great Bend
- Sacred Heart Catholic School, Ness City
March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Event to delve into the pain, fear, vulnerability of problem gambling

**Editor's Note:** Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas is strongly involved with the Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Taskforce, providing management and leadership roles. The Taskforce is bringing speaker Daniel J. Trolaro, Assistant Executive Director of the Council of Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, to the United Wireless Center in Dodge City on April 6.

Daniel J. Trolaro, Assistant Executive Director of the Council of Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, will present a professional workshop and community event entitled, “The Dis-Ease of Disordered Gambling: Pain, Fear & Vulnerability” at the United Wireless Center in Dodge City on April 6. CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) are available for those attending the professional workshop from 1 to 4 p.m.; the public is invited to attend the community event from 7 to 8 p.m. Attendees can RSVP for both events at https://www.swks-problemgambling.org/ or by calling 620-227-1562 by March 13.

Using elements from his own life and journey, Trolaro will examine the “DIS”ease of gambling addiction as well as the importance of community and connection in the recovery process.

“For those who struggle with problem and disordered gambling,” Trolaro explains, “their drug of choice is a process—rather than a substance—which serves as a solution to a deeper problem that includes varying degrees of pain including physical, psychological, emotional, and for most financial. Pain resulting from trauma, PTSD, abuse, adverse childhood experiences and neglect that goes unresolved will continue to manifest itself in the downward spiral of gambling addiction.”

A comprehensive, holistic approach that treats the whole person from deep within can lead to a sustained and meaningful long-term recovery.

The workshop and community event are being hosted by the Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Taskforce as part of this year’s Problem Gambling Awareness Month campaign that is being held throughout the month of March.

The campaign theme “Awareness + Action” is all about taking action and having conversations about problem gambling issues and directing people to the help they may need.

Approximately 2 million U.S. adults (1 percent of the population) are estimated to meet criteria for gambling disorder. Another 4-6 million (2-3 percent) are considered to meet criteria for problem gambling.

And yet for many residents of the United States, gambling remains a hidden addiction.

Using the tagline #AwarenessPlusAction, Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM) is designed to help raise awareness of the prevention, treatment and recovery services available for those adversely affected by gambling.

This grassroots campaign brings together a wide range of stakeholders, including public health organizations, treatment providers, advocacy groups and gambling operators. They work collaboratively to let people know that hope and help exist.

Daniel J. Trolaro graduated from The College of New Jersey with a BS in Finance and a concentration in Economics. He also holds his MS in Psychology from California Coast University. Dan has spoken at dozens of events around the country about internet and mobile device gambling, as well as emerging trends in sports gambling.

Dan speaks on prevention strategies, treatment resources, responsible gaming, recovery resources, as well as the concept of gambling, addiction, switching, co-occurrence, and behaviors associated with this devastating addiction.

**ABOUT DANIEL J. TROLARO**

Daniel Trolaro was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, and lives in Hamilton, New Jersey, with his wife, Kari, and their two children. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from the College of New Jersey. He also holds his Master of Science degree in Psychology from California Coast University. Dan is also an independent life insurance producer with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

**ABOUT THE SOUTHWEST KANSAS PROBLEM GAMBLING TASKFORCE**

Founded in 2008, the mission of the Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Task Force is to raise awareness and provide education to individuals, families, and communities to reduce the harmful effects of problem gambling. The Task Force concentrates on efforts to help those affected by problem gambling through public awareness, prevention, education programs, and ensuring resources are available to problem gamblers and their families.

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**HUGOTON Angels**

These photos from St. Helen Parish in Hugoton were mistakenly listed in a recent issue as being from St. Helen Parish, Belpre. Thanks to the young people of Hugoton for providing an inspirational nativity. Well done!
The goal of Ananias Training is to form a people equipped to be Ananias to one another within the Church as well as in the world. Ananias Training is designed to form parishioners with no previous training in “the art of spiritual accompaniment”. In Acts 9:10, we read of the Lord appearing to Ananias asking him to accompany Saul, a known persecutor of Christians.

Ananias says yes, despite his fears. One might say – Ananias welcomes one another within the Church as well as in the world.

“None the less, the presentation of this truth must be made with love, compassion, and patience. As the policy itself states, our schools, parishes and other institutions embrace with compassion those families and individuals with gender dysphoria and patiently supports them in their journey,” he said.

Bishop Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois

Continued from Page 3

Editor’s Note: The following article was submitted by the Office of Pastoral Ministry Formation for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

What tools do you still need? Obtain a Diocesan Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Formation offerings dedicated to Ananias Training at the Heartland Center for Spirituality, Great Bend:

**GET EQUIPPED - ANANIAS TRAINING 1 OF 3**

- April 24-25, 2020
- RCIA Kansas - Ananias Training 2 of 3
- September 11-12, 2020
- GET EQUIPPED - ANANIAS TRAINING 3 OF 3
- April 16-17, 2021

Certification includes completing required assignments. Each offering builds on the one before it. If not interested in certification, one will find each offering valuable as a stand-alone offering.

**THEO 4881 GET EQUIPPED ANANIAS TRAINING 1 OF 3 (1 HOUR COURSE)**

Instructor: Father Robert Schremmer

Ananias Training offers practical ways to help ordinary Catholics live out the call to spiritually journey alongside others. This live-and-in-person gathering, held at the Heartland Center for Spirituality in Great Bend, will enter Ananias’ story to discover our own call to accompany. The gathering will explore what it means for us that no two journeys of life are the same, and what it means to have a threshold conversation.

This will lead participants to listen to real questions and opinions about God so as to be able to guide a person to discover how God is present and active in their life.

By accompanying one another, we will share our relationship with God and how we may share Jesus Christ’s own story in response to the spiritual hunger of another.

“The art of spiritual accompaniment” builds on the one before it. If not interested in certification, one will find each offering valuable as a stand-alone offering.

To help ordinary Catholics live out the call to spiritually journey alongside others, Bishop Paprocki provides pastoral guidance on gender identity.

The Church considers any medical interventions that remove or destroy healthy reproductive organs as “a type of mutilation and intrinsically evil. Procedures, surgeries, and therapies designed to assist a person in transitioning” his or her gender are morally prohibited, he noted.

According to a Catholic teaching on biological sex, all diocesan records will also record the person’s biological sex. The policy notes that it encourages counseling with a counselor who has a Christian anthropology and adheres to Catholic teaching. It adds that “the Church recognizes that appropriate medical care may be necessary in rare cases of true genetic or physical anomalies, such as hermaphroditism or intersex. “A person cannot change his or her gender. A person should accept reality, rather than their perception of it. Those with the false perception of it must be made with love, compassion, and patience. As the policy itself states, our schools, parishes and other institutions embrace with compassion those families and individuals with gender dysphoria and patiently supports them in their journey,” he said.

In a statement, Marianne Duddy-Burke, Executive Director of DignityUSA, said Paprocki’s pastoral guidance is “perilous to the physical and mental health of transgender and nonbinary people” because it displays “a dangerous and willful ignorance of current medical and mental health standards.”

In his guide, Paprocki noted that it was not sufficient as a whole response to the growing transgender movement and the threats that it poses, but that it was “a foundation of clarity and certainty regarding Church teaching regarding human biology, sexuality, and morality.”

He urged pastors and school leaders to come to the Vicar for Priests and the Vicar General or the Superintendent of Schools for further guidance on particular situations involving gender dysphoria and gender identity.

“None the less, the presentation of this truth must be made with love, compassion, and patience. As the policy itself states, our schools, parishes and other institutions embrace with compassion those families and individuals with gender dysphoria and patiently supports them in their journey,”

-- Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois

-- Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois

Mark calendar now for April training

Pastoral Ministry Formation Program offers Diocesan Ananias Certificate

**St. Boniface Church**

Pastor: Father Mark Brantley

412 N. Main St. Sharon, KS 67130

March 2, 3, 4 2020

Three evenings

6:30 pm—8:45 pm

with afternoon sessions

Get Excited for the New Year and the New Decade:

**Come to the...**

**Discernment in Winter Retreat**

“...today if you hear His Voice, Harden not Your Hearts.” Hebrews 3:15

- Winter is a time for renovations in the home and renovations in your heart.
  - How do you hear God’s voice as he calls you to a new pattern of service?
  - What are the stepping stones and clues that are missed and what stops you from moving forward?
  - What are the ways that we receive answers?

**Bishop Ronald M. Gilmore. (Emeritus)**

Spiritual Director of Grace that Reigns

Jacqueline Loh is from Vancouver, Canada. She is the Founder of this unique ministry.

**Renewing your sense of Wonder**

www.gracethatreigns.com

**Bishop Ronald M. Gilmore. (Emeritus)**

Spiritual Director of Grace that Reigns

Jacqueline Loh is from Vancouver, Canada. She is the Founder of this unique ministry.

**Mark calendar now for April training**

Pastoral Ministry Formation Program offers Diocesan Ananias Certificate

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-- Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois
Where there's life, there's hope

BY HANNAH BROCKHAUS

Camerino, Italy (CNA) - Hope, which is more than mere optimism, gives one a deep-rooted confidence in the love and care of God, no matter what has happened, Pope Francis said.

Hope "does not expire, because it is based on the fidelity of God. The hope of the Spirit is not even optimism. Born deeper, it rekindles at the bottom of the heart the certainty of being precious because loved," the pope said.

"It is a hope that leaves peace and joy inside, regardless of what happens outside. It is a hope that has strong roots, which no storm of life can uproot," he added. "It is a hope that..." says St. Paul, (does not disappoint) hope does not disappoint! which gives the strength to overcome all tribulations."

Pope Francis said Mass in Camerino, Italy during a day visit to the Archdiocese of Camerino-San Severino Marche. The area was one of those affected by the earthquakes which struck central Italy in 2016 and 2017. The Mass was said in the square outside the cathedral, which at the time was still under reconstruction after being damaged in the earthquake.

In his homily, Francis spoke to those who suffered damage, injury, or loss due to the earthquakes.

"When we are troubled or wounded -- and you know well what it means to be troubled, wounded -- we are led to 'nest' around our sadness and our fears," he said, noting that the Holy Spirit can free people from these "nests."

"The Spirit feeds us with living hope. Invite him. Let us ask him to come to us and he will come near. Come, Comforter Spirit! Come give us some light, give us the sense of this tragedy, give us the hope that does not disappoint. Come, Holy Spirit!" he prayed.

The pope also reflected on a line from the day's Responsorial Psalm: "What is man that you should be mindful of him..." This question, he said, could come also in the face of "collapsed houses and buildings reduced to rubble."

"What is man ever? What is he, if what you raise can collapse in an instant? What is he if what you hope can end in dust?"

The truth, Francis said, is that "God remembers us as we are, with our frailties."

"No one is contemptible in his eyes, each has an infinite value for him: we are small under heaven and powerless when the earth trembles, but for God we are more precious than anything."

Before praying the Angelus following Mass, Pope Francis told the people of the diocese he came in order to be near to them and to pray with them, saying, "I pray to the God of hope, so that what is unstable on earth does not shake the certainty we have inside."

God remembers everyone and he can heal the memories of that difficult time, he said. "God helps us to be builders of good, consolers of hearts. Everyone can do a little good, without waiting for others to start." Entrusting the diocese to the Virgin Mary, he prayed: "May she who animated the first community of Jesus' disciples with her motherly presence, also help the Church today to give good witness to the Gospel."

Before returning to the Vatican in the afternoon, the pope met with around 200 children who had received their first Holy Communion and with their parents and catechists.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

-- Romans 15:13
Toni Planinsek, un católico que había sufrido muchos años por su discapacidad física cuenta su historia, que muestra que todas las personas tienen una misión especial, y la discapacidad no es un impedimento para vivir la fe y luchar por la santidad.

En una entrevista a Vatican News, Toni Planinsek señaló que el nació en una familia campesina, como un niño sano, el primero de siete hermanos.

“No tenía ni un año cuando notaron que mi espalda empezó a curvarse como resultado del raquitismo. Así que hasta el comienzo de la escuela primaria (en la edad de 6 años) recorrer mucha distancia de la casa a la escuela, comienzo la educación elemental, 130 centímetros. El retirarse por frecuentes problemas de salud, decide unirse a la Fraternidad Cristiana Intercontinental de Enfermos Crónicos y Discapacitados Físicos (Frater) y apoyar como miembro en el consejo pastoral de su parroquia, siendo a veces animador de las confirmaciones.

Planinsek señaló que su fe comenzó a crecer con las lecturas espirituales, los catecismos para jóvenes, y llegó a conocer el significado de la fe en la vida durante el tiempo que estuvo en la escuela profesional en el Instituto de Formación.

“No podíamos ir a misa, solo en secreto. Durante este tiempo pude haber renunciado a la fe, pero la abracé aún más fuertemente. Así empecé a preguntarme sobre el sentido del sufriendo”, comentó.

“Jesús también sufrió. A través del sufrimiento redimió al mundo. Por eso llegué a la conclusión de que el sufrimiento es la forma más elevada de amar, de lo contrario, Dios habría elegido otro camino”. Planinsek indicó que todas las personas están en el deber de hacer lo que puedan, y pedir ayuda cuando sea realmente necesario. Por lo que, el discapacitado “no es una persona menos capaz o una persona con necesidades especiales”.

“Para él, realmente son personas "con una misión especial. Pienso en la misión que Dios nos ha dado, y que le ha dado a cada persona".

El Papa Francisco
Encuentro entre Francisco y la joven ocho días después del incidente

ZENIT - Las fotos de L'Osservatore Romano lo resaltan: el Papa Francisco se encontró, al final de la audiencia del 8 de enero de 2020 en el Aula Pablo VI del Vaticano, con la joven que le había agarrado de la mano el 31 de diciembre en la plaza de San Pedro, provocando un gesto de impaciencia por su parte. El Papa acababa de rezar ante el pesebre de Navidad y saludó a varias personas presentes detrás de las vallas de seguridad de madera. El video del Vaticano muestra claramente que la joven agarró de la mano al Papa en el momento en el que se alejaba: podría haberle desequilibrado. El reaccionó intentando liberarse con un manotazo en los manos de la joven.

Al día siguiente, 1 de enero, el Papa se disculpó públicamente en el Ángelus por su “impaciencia” y “mal ejemplo”.

Pero fue más allá al desear conocerla y saludarla al final de la audiencia ocho días después.

El fotógrafo cuenta cómo su discapacidad física lo ayuda en su lucha por la santidad

“Jesús también sufrió. A través del sufrimiento redimió al mundo. Por eso llegué a la conclusión de que el sufrimiento es la forma más elevada de amar; de lo contrario, Dios habría elegido otro camino”.

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

SI USTED SUSPECHA ABUSO

Si usted sospecha abuso o desvío de un menor en Kansas y el menor está en un departamento local, comuníquese con el Sheriff, la Oficina del Fiscal o la Policía local. En el caso de que el niño no sea menor, comuníquese con el Family Services o con el Child Protection Services del Departamento de Servicios Sociales de Kansas.

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CATHERINE AILEEN HATTRUP, 94, of St. Nicholas Parish, Kinsey, died Jan. 31. She studied at St. Mary of the Plains and Newman College and pursued a career in education, starting with an opportunity to teach in a one-room schoolhouse in Hodgeman County. She taught in Speaville, Kinley and Offerle, impacting the lives of students of all ages. At the end of her career, Catherine served as a school library assistant. She was a member of the Daughters of Isabella, Altar Society and served as a school board member for Kinley-Offerle USD 347. Catherine is survived by her children: Kathy Gaither, Steve Hattrup, Mary Hill, Renee Miller, and Ian Kuckelman; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sister, Theresa Aistrup.

MARGARET AGNES WHITE, 87, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, died Feb. 1, 2020. She married Robert A. White on Sept. 15, 1951 at Odin; he preceded her in death on July 30, 2010. She was a member of the Altar Society. Survivors include her children, Ronnie White, Larry White, Karen Trickett, Patty White, James White, and Greg White; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and four siblings, Rita Legeliter, Art Wondra, Jerry Wondra, and Jeanie Hapes. Father Louis Trung Dinh Hoang presided.

CATHERINE ROSE (ESFELD) BIRZER, 95, of St. Joseph Parish, Ellinwood, died Feb. 9, 2020. She married Lawrence Birzer on April 27, 1948; he preceded her in death on Feb. 17, 2011. Catherine worked at Fuzzy’s Drive-In and at Dierolf’s and Huschka’s liquor stores. Survivors include two sons, Melvin and Steve; two daughters, Jane Carr and Connie Miller; 19 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Father Terrance Klein presided.

EDNA KLEMA, 94, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church in Great Bend, died Feb. 10, 2020. She married John A. Klema on July 26, 1949; she survives. She was the billing clerk at Fuller Brush until she retired in 1997 and was a teacher for five years. Survivors include her husband, John; two daughters, Judy Ochs and Carol Wondra; a sister-in-law, Brenda Newton; and five children, Charlotte; five grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

KATHERINA ANN “KAT” SMADES, 47, died Feb. 10, 2020. Kat had been a Great Bend resident since 2007, coming from Leoti, Deerfield and Garden City. She served her country honorably in the U.S. Army. Survivors include, her companion, Jesse Knauff; two daughters, Autumn Smaides and Summer Smaides; and one brother, Louis Michael “Trea” Zellner, Ill. Father Don Bedore presided.

JOHN J. KEENAN, 81, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, died Feb. 5, 2020. He married Bernadine Gittlein on June 6, 1959. She died on August 11, 2000. He later married Marie (Walker) McCuff on April 16, 2005. She survives. John had been a farmer all his life. He graduated of Isabella. Survivors include two sons, Ronnie and Steve; two daughters, Jane Carr and Connie Miller; 19 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Father Terrance Klein presided.

SHIRLEY JEAN LINK, 88, of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Church, Great Bend, died Feb. 14, 2020. She married Kenneth J. Link on March 27, 1951; he died April 9, 2017. She was a retail sales clerk for Gun’s Clothing, JC Penney’s and Kitchen Cupboard for many years. She was a member of the Altai Society and former member of the Daughters of Isabella. Survivors include two daughters, Linda Meyeres and Denise Barbour; a son-in-law, Lynn Bowmes, and a daughter-in-law, Lynis Link; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren, with one on the way. Father Don Bedore presided.

MARTIN E. SCHALLER, 64, of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Dodge City, died Feb. 13, 2020. On June 4, 1983 he married Cynthia Shorter. He was an Engineer for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad for 41 years, retiring in 2015. He coached his girls’ sports teams for many years. He especially loved coaching softball. Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Cynthia; daughters Megan Bond and Morgan Schaller; brothers Ken and Mark; sisters, Leona Stacy, Anita Jensen, Nadine Koch and Lila Roth; and numerous nieces and nephews. Father Wesley Schwae presided.

Obituaries are printed free of charge but must be edited for style and space. If a listing is missing or incorrect, call Dave at (620) 227-1519, skregister@dccdioocese.org.
Black Catholics “had many reasons to walk out of the Catholic faith, being treated like that, and yet they didn’t. They stayed, they worked, they built their own church.” — Magr. Charles Pope

By JONAH MCEOWN
Catholic News Agency

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Black Catholic communities have been a part of the Church in the Washington, D.C. area for centuries. But wasn’t until the height of the Civil War that black Catholics in D.C. began the process of founding a parish of their own — with the help of President Abraham Lincoln.

In 16th and 17th century, Spanish laws in North America freed slaves who converted to Catholicism. Some of these freed slaves and their descendants formed their own settlement in the region that would become Florida.

Meanwhile, in Maryland, in the decades before the American Revolution, Jesuit missionaries evangelized black slaves, including some owned by their order, along with friens. Over the centuries, large African-American Catholic populations settled in cities including Baltimore, Philadelphia, Chicago, and numerous cities throughout the South.

Monsignor Charles Pope, pastor of the historically black D.C. parish of Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian, told CNA that racial prejudice has played a role in the region’s Catholic history; that white parishioners treated like that, and yet they didn’t. They stayed, they worked, they built their own church. “It’s a remarkable story of resilience,” Monsignor Pope said.

BEGINNINGS OF A BLACK CATHOLIC PARISH

In the mid-19th century, black Catholics were not permitted to worship in the main sanctuary of St. Matthew’s Church in downtown D.C. They were likely relegated to the church basement to worship, or the choir loft, and to wait to receive the Eucharist until after white Catholics had done so.

Black Catholics “had many reasons to walk out of the Catholic faith, being treated like that, and yet they didn’t. They stayed, they worked, they built their own church.”

“In the height of the Civil War, personal access to the President was much simpler than it is today. Coakley simply made an appointment to meet Lincoln and was welcomed into the White House on June 27, 1864.

Though not himself a Catholic, Lincoln was evidently supportive of helping black Catholics in D.C. build their own church to attract a congregation, because despite harsh treatment at their home parishes, many black Catholics were still attached to their congregations.

Nevertheless, black Catholics at various parishes around D.C. remained frustrated by discrimination, and with the support of an Italian priest named Father Felix Barotti, a black Catholic parish at last came to fruition.

The original St. Augustine’s Church, which replaced the De Porres chapel in 1876, sat on the site of what eventually became the headquarters of the Washington Post.

It was the first African American Catholic parish in the city, and it was a great success. The parish hosted the first National Black Catholic Congress in 1889, and parishioners hosted marches and participated in the 1963 March on Washington.

The parish also has a school which has been operating for more than 150 years.

The parish was renamed Sts. Paul and Augustine until 1982, when the name was restored to St. Augustine’s.

The original St. Augustine’s church, sadly, was razed in 1946. Today, however, St. Augustine’s parish has one of the largest congregations in all of D.C., with more than 2,000 registered members.

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

Similar to the parishioners at St. Augustine, the parishioners of Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian, another historically black D.C. parish, raised the funds necessary to build their first church building.

Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian has a long African American Catholic heritage, but now, the neighborhood is changing. Pope estimated that the congregation is now probably about 40 percent white.

“The nation’s capital.”

Today, however, St. Augustine’s parish has one of the largest congregations in all of D.C., with more than 2,000 registered members.

Why Abraham Lincoln held a White House fundraiser for this ‘black’ Catholic parish
**Gabriel’s Crossword**

1. Biblical wood
2. Catholic actor of gangster movie fame
3. A Doctor of the Church
4. St. ___. Mercì
5. Exodus pest
6. Non-ordained members of the Church
7. Common biblical harvest
8. Opposite or absence of good
9. Dame
10. Ahab desired his vineyard (1 Kings 21:1–2)
11. One of four
12. “You are the ___ of the world.” (Mt 5:14)
13. “___ was in the beginning, is now...”
14. Christmas song
15. Saucer for the Eucharist
16. ___ Dame
17. The Archdiocese of Edmonton is in this province (abbr.)
18. ___ of the Cross
19. Language of the Church
20. ___ obstat
21. Ahab desired his vineyard (1 Kings 21:1–2)
22. Belonging to me
23. ___ of the Cross
24. Articulate in a manner that makes a sound
25. Holy one, in Paris
26. Catholic singer and songwriter George M.
27. Article of clothing or bone of a saint
28. Hemingway, convert to Catholicism, as known to his friends
29. River Moses turned to blood
30. How many times each day the soldiers of Joshua marched around Jericho (Josh 6:3)

**St. Sebastian’s Sudoku**

**St. Martin’s Mind Teasers**

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

**Teaser The Third:**
First complete the 7-letter word at the top of the diagram. Then use the last two letters of the first word as the first two letters of the second word.

**St. Sebastian’s Sudoku**

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**ST. MARTIN’S MIND TEASERS**

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

1. Measuring stick -> Law
2. Prophet; visionary -> To perceive
3. Rip; pull apart -> Beverage
4. Topic; anything with mass and volume -> Not glossy; flat
5. Moon depression -> Large box
6. One who digs for ore -> Belonging to me
7. Police person -> Place of work
8. Vocalist -> Scorch; burn superficially

**TEASER THE SECOND:**
When you curtail a word, you remove the last letter and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

Example: Begin -> Heavenly body
Answer: The words are Start and Star.

1. Measuring stick -> Law
2. Prophet; visionary -> To perceive
3. Rip; pull apart -> Beverage
4. Topic; anything with mass and volume -> Not glossy; flat
5. Moon depression -> Large box
6. One who digs for ore -> Belonging to me
7. Police person -> Place of work
8. Vocalist -> Scorch; burn superficially

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Copies Still Available!
“Catholic Place Names in Kansas” by Tim Wenzl, is a 145-page book chronicling more than 300 communities and geographic sites bearing a name associated with the Catholic faith, in particular names of saints, popes, cardinals, bishops, priests, monks, and friars; religious sisters, nuns, explorers, frontiersmen, and ordinary Catholics.

This amazing gazetteer documents the establishment of Catholic settlements in Kansas, and how many Catholics contributed to the history of the state.

Contact the author at twenzl@dcdiocese.org for an autographed copy for $24 (includes postage). Can also be purchased on amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com.

Answer:

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dcdiocese.org.

Contact Coleen Stein: (620) 227-1358.
Virgil Dechant, former Supreme Knight, diocese native, dies at 89

Virgil Dechant, the longest serving Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus died in his sleep Feb. 15, 2020. He was 89.

Dechant, a native of Rush County and a member of La Crosse National Council #2970, served as Supreme Knight from 1977 to 2000. He was Supreme Secretary for 10 years prior to being elected as Supreme Knight. He and his wife, Ann, are the namesakes of the Dechant Foundation in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City.

The Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated by Bishop John B. Brungardt at St. Michael Church in La Crosse on Monday, Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. Visitation will precede the Mass at 9:30 a.m. An earlier funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 22 at the Church of the Nativity in Leawood, Kans., where the Dechants make their home.

"Let us pray for the Dechant family and for the repose of the soul of Virgil Dechant -- a faithful servant of the Lord who bore great fruit over the years," Bishop Brungardt stated. "What a blessing his ministry has been to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Church, and the world!" "God has called home a good man and one of the Knights' great leaders," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson.

"Virgil Dechant used to say that his goal was to leave the Knights better than he found it, and in myriad ways, he accomplished that. He leaves a lasting legacy and an excellent example of what it means to be a Knight and a fraternalist," Anderson added.

During Dechant’s tenure, membership in the Knights climbed to more than 1.6 million, and the number of active local councils jumped to more than 11,650. At the same time, charitable giving by local and state councils reached a record-breaking $109-plus million and donated service soared to 55 million volunteer hours in a broad range of projects.

Dechant "forged a close relationship with the Vatican during the pontificate of St. John Paul II, leading the Order to sponsor numerous renovation projects – including of the façade of St. Peter’s Basilica, and working with the pope to promote the faith in Eastern Europe, which was then behind the iron curtain," the Knights of Columbus stated in a press release.

He also "oversaw tremendous growth in the Order’s membership as well as in its assets and insurance business, while also opening the Order to greater involvement by the wives and families of its members," according to the statement.

Named a Knight of St. Gregory the Great by Pope Paul VI in 1967, Dechant was subsequently promoted to the rank of Commander with Star, and in 1980, he was elevated by Pope John Paul II to the highest rank, Knight of the Grand Cross. He is also a Knight of the Grand Cross in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher and was awarded the Grand Cross ofMerit with God Star in 1990. In 1983, Pope John Paul II named Dechant a Knight Grand Cross in the Order of Pius IX, the highest honor granted a Catholic layman who is not a head of state. In 1990, he was invested as a Knight of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

In 1982, Dechant and his wife, Ann, were appointed by Pope John Paul II as members of the Pontifical Council for the Family. They were also appointed auditors at the 1987 Synod of the Laity. Dechant was appointed auditor at the 1985 Extraordinary Synod of Bishops at the Vatican, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the close of Vatican II. In 1991, he was named a consultant to the Pro-Life Committee of the National Council of Catholic Bishops, and in 1997, he was appointed auditor at the Synod for American held in Rome. In recognition of his commitment to the pro-life movement, Dechant received the National Right to Life Award in 1998.

In 2005, he escorted President George W. Bush to the funeral of Pope St. John Paul II at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

Dechant is survived by his wife Ann, four children, and the couple’s grandchildren and great-grandchildren.