



Bishop Carl A. Kemme blessed the murals and paintings of saints in the lobby of St. Catherine of Siena's Parish Education Center in Wichita on All Saints Day, Nov. 1. (Courtesy photos)

Paintings blessed at St. Catherine of Siena

Like any faithful parishioner, Linda Wallace said yes when her pastor asked for help.

It didn't hurt that her pastor, Fr. Dan Spexarth, is her brother.

Wallace said Fr. Spexarth talked to her a little over six years ago about his ideas to honor Dominican saints in the lobby of St. Catherine of Siena's Parish Education Center.

"He had already picked the saints and the images he wanted," she said. "So I visited with him and came up with sketches for him to approve or disapprove – and I painted them."

After the stretchers and frames were constructed "by some wonderful gentlemen," she said she stretched the canvasses and primed them. "I took a picture that day. It was August of 2016. That's when I started painting the first large mural. There was a lot of life in between."

Fr. Spexarth never pushed her to hurry, she said, and there were no deadlines. "He was very generous about allowing me the time to complete it."

Bishop Carl A. Kemme blessed the murals of the saints looking down from near the ceiling of the Parish Education Center on Nov. 1, All Saints Day. There are three large murals of Saint Catherine, who was a member of the Third Order of St. Dominic, along with eight murals of other Dominican saints. The three large murals are of pivotal scenes in St. Catherine's life. The other saints depicted are St. Dominic, St. Agnes of Montepulciano, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Albert the Great, St. Rose of Lima, St. Martin de Porres, St. Pope Pius V, and St. Raymond of Penafort.

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus carried the final painting after the evening Mass to the

education center to be hung for the blessing.

Wallace said she hopes the paintings will inspire the children who look at them to study the lives of the saints so that they, too, will become saints. "I did a lot of research for each painting and included things hoping they might ask: Why is that in there?" she said.

Wallace has a degree in graphic design and has been painting her entire life. She and her husband, Terry, have four children, and twin granddaughters.

Clista Pfannenstiel, the parish's director of Stewardship, said she believes the entire project was driven by the Holy Spirit.

"Who would have thought six years ago that Linda would finish the final painting with the divine timing for Bishop Kemme to bless them on All Saints Day?" she said.



Feasibility study to begin in January

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past several years, my leadership team and I, consulting with many along the way, have been praying and considering how the Diocesan Pastoral Plan might identify areas of need and opportunity across the diocese. Our mission statement, "Go forth faithfully to preach the Gospel to all God's children and to evangelize today's culture," should lead us to a deeper appreciation of discipleship-based stewardship, formation in evangelization, and renewal of parish and family life.

I am pleased to announce that, through this discernment process, several projects have been identified that could help us to promote and live these values. These projects include new ways to support our Catholic school teachers, the formation of youth and family life, and important work needed on our Cathedral dome. These projects are now ready for me to present as possible elements of a diocesan capital campaign. Your feedback is vital to me as we consider the possibility of moving forward with these projects.

Beginning in January 2023, the Diocese of Wichita will begin a feasibility study that will run through early spring. The study is specifically designed to determine the feasibility of conducting



Bishop Carl A. Kemme

a capital campaign to fund these proposed projects.

In order to conduct the feasibility study, we have contracted with the Steier Group, a national Catholic fundraising and development firm based in Omaha, Nebraska.

In January, I will share more detailed information about each of the proposed projects. Everyone in the diocese will be invited to participate, either by a brief interview or by completing a mailed or online questionnaire.

Please join me in praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit during this time of discernment. I remain,

Humbly Yours in Christ,
+The Most Rev. Carl A. Kemme, D.D., Bishop of Wichita

Diocesan Catholic educators finally able to gather for a Regan Institute Nov. 21-22

Educators in the Diocese of Wichita will finally be able to gather for a Regan Institute Monday and Tuesday Nov. 21-22 at Church of the Magdalen Parish and School in Wichita.

Superintendent of Catholic Schools Janet Eaton said because of Covid restrictions, the last few years of faith formation for educators was carried out at individual schools.

"This year is about living out our theme of Be Not Afraid, Go Forth Faithfully," she said.

The event, which will be scheduled triennially, is required for all Catholic school teachers, counselors, and administrators in the Diocese of Wichita.

Keynote speakers this year include Fr. Louis Merosne, who will talk about missionary discipleship; praise and worship singer Cooper Ray; and Eaton, who will remind educators to help students earn an "St." before their names.

"The three years of faith formation at the school level has allowed

our schools to grow in new ways as one community of faith," Eaton said, "and now it is time to bring everyone back together."

The Regan Catechetical Institute has been part of diocesan Catholic education for many years, she said, adding that a lot of energy, time, and prayer is put into planning and executing the institute for teachers to receive exemplary faith formation.

"With Covid changing so much of what we have done in the past, these three years have helped us to discern a new direction for the institute," Eaton said. "With the help of an amazing committee of teachers, principals, and Fr. Curtis Hecker, chaplain of Kapaun Mt. Carmel Catholic High School, the Regan Institute has had a makeover."

This year the Institute will open with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Carl A. Kemme and joined by the Holy Savior Children's Choir.

Fr. Merosne says that preaching

the Good News of Jesus Christ is both a duty and passion for him. His perpetual prayer intention, he adds, is to be a saintly priest.

He is the rector of the Cathedral of Saint Anne in Anse-à-Veau, Haiti. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Franciscan University of Steubenville and was ordained in 2011. Father is the founder of

The Beloved, a U.S. not-for-profit organization with the mission of preaching the Gospel and serving the poor, especially in Haiti.

Cooper Ray is a keynote speaker, musician, and a workshop and retreat leader. He lives in Flower Mound, Texas, with his wife and three young sons. Ray is a dynamic musician who passionately shares his faith. His background includes 20 years of professional ministry experience as a retreat facilitator, liturgical musician and diocesan director.

The two days also include
Continued on page 3.



Son’s happy place is Adult Day Services at Catholic Charities

Barb Parker wants for her son, Tony, exactly what she wants for her other two adult children: to feel safe, to have a sense of belonging, and to wake up each morning happy to head out the door to wherever they are going.

For Tony, the place that makes him feel safe, accepted, and happy is Adult Day Services at Catholic Charities.

Through 18 months of the pandemic, when his previous day program provider was closed, the 36-year-old Tony would accompany his mother to her classroom at Wichita Heights High School while she virtually taught her special education students. She was concerned about the arrangement but a colleague shared he was looking into Adult Day Services for a loved one and suggested she do the same. It was the first she had heard of the program.

“We went to take a tour and were really impressed with the facility, the organization, and the kindness we saw,” Barb Parker said. “But I was leery of a new place and asked him, ‘will you be happy here?’ After Covid, Tony deserved to have some joy in his life.”

To make the transition easier, Tony Parker started out going to ADS just two days a week. “After two weeks, he said ‘Mom, they have parties’ and asked to go another day, so we added a third day,” she said.

Two more times in the subsequent weeks Tony asked his mother if he could go another day until he was enrolled five days a week. Now, a year later, he is still happy and having fun. His favorite time of the day is when he is outside in the recently completed accessible



Tony Parker sits on a bench next to his mother, Barb, on the playground of Catholic Charities’ Adult Day Services in Wichita. (Courtesy photo)

Adult Day Services at Catholic Charities enrolling now

Adult Day Services at Catholic Charities provides quality, affordable day programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and seniors coping with dementia, Alzheimer’s or loneliness.

For information about enrollment, call 316-942-2008, ext. 2127, or visit AdultDayServicesWichita.org.

recreation area. He relishes community outings to the zoo or park, and talking sports with fellow participants or staff.

But Tony Parker does more

than have fun. He also helps.

“Tony has a soft heart, compassion and a need to nurture,” Barb said. “He loves to help.”

Despite towering over most other participants, the 6-foot, 9-inch Tony Parker often comforts a fellow participant who is having a rough day. Each afternoon he looks forward to being called to the multipurpose room to help stack chairs and put tables away for the day.

The Parkers have a routine that benefits both of them. Barb drops Tony Parker off at 7:30 each morning on her way to Wichita Heights, and picks him up at 3:30 after her school day ends.

“I know that I’m leaving him in good hands and he will be taken care of,” she said. “Knowing he is happy and okay, I can walk into work and do my job.”

Embrace Grace for single women with unplanned pregnancies begins Jan. 10

Embrace Grace, a series that provides assistance to single women with unplanned pregnancies, will begin Jan. 10 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Wichita.

The ministry is an international organization that helps single women with unplanned pregnancies find love and support within their local churches.

The sessions will be offered from 7 to 8:30 p.m. beginning Tuesday, Jan. 10, and ending on March 12. Those interested, or those who know a young woman who might benefit from the outreach, may contact Noelle Martin at EmbraceGraceSeasWichita@gmail.com.

To learn more about the ministry, visit www.EmbraceGrace.com.

“We welcome these brave girls who have chosen life for their babies with open arms,” Martin said. “We offer a 12-week support group, friendships, spiritual, emotional, and practical assistance during this unexpected season of their lives.”

“At the conclusion of the sessions, the parish will honor these brave young women by throwing them a big baby shower of all new items. Those who choose adoption will also be showered with gifts.”

Braden Johnson to speak at Advent evening Nov. 27 at Resurrection

Braden Johnson will talk about Preparing Our Hearts for a Savior from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at Church of the Resurrection in Wichita.

Johnson is a Catholic speaker who has spoken at parishes throughout the country on topics such as the Gospel, chastity and dating, masculinity, and the sacra-

ments.

The Advent presentation includes a penance service and Eucharistic Adoration until 8 p.m.

A Eucharistic miracle exhibit will be available for viewing in the parish hall. (See related article below.)

The parish is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn.

Church of the Resurrection to host Eucharistic Miracles of the World from Nov. 25 to Dec. 2

WICHITA – Church of the Resurrection will host the Vatican International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles of the World Friday, Nov. 25, to Friday, Dec. 2, in Stewardship Hall of the church located at 4910 N. Woodlawn.

The free exhibit will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. during that week, except on Sunday, Nov. 27, when it will be open from noon to 7 p.m.

The exhibit consists of 56 large detailed panels highlighting some of the most impressive Eucharistic miracles of the world. Each panel tells the story of a miracle and is accompanied by photos and artwork. The exhibit is designed to increase awareness of the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eu-

charist and to promote Eucharistic adoration. (Church of the Resurrection has Eucharistic adoration noon Sunday through noon Saturday.)

An Italian teenager, Blessed Carlo Acutis, who was skilled in art and computers, compiled the exhibit. He completed the work in 2005 and died a year later of leukemia at 15. He was beatified by Pope Francis on Oct. 10, 2020, after being credited with curing a Brazilian boy from a rare pancreatic defect that made eating difficult.

More information about the exhibit of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World can be found at dvmrccy.com or at resurrectionwichita.com.

Yes, there will be a March for Life ’23

The overturn of Roe v. Wade has not ended the need for more education about abortion

This year’s March for Life will be different than last year’s. This year’s event will be undertaken in an atmosphere of thanksgiving and hope. It will be the first March for Life after the U.S. Supreme Court sent the abortion question back to the states.

Bonnie Toombs, the director of the diocesan Office of Respect Life and Social Justice, said the work to protect life is far from over.

“Many have worked tirelessly for years – and decades – to overturn Roe v. Wade,” she said. “This coming January marks the first March for Life in celebration of life after Roe. We celebrate this amazing win, but we know that at the national level there continues to be major threats to unborn children. We need to be a voice and a presence.”

Toombs invited those interested

Want to attend?

The March for Life will take place Jan. 18-23 in Washington, D.C. The cost is \$450 per person due by Nov. 18; or payments of \$237.50 by Nov. 18 and Dec. 15. To register, visit CatholicDioceseOfWichita.org/ministries/march-for-life.

to join her to celebrate the overturning of Roe, to continue to be a witness and a voice for the mothers and unborn. “Together let’s make abortion unthinkable!”

The theme for the March is “Let’s Make Abortion Unthinkable!”

Bishop Carl A. Kemme and several diocesan priests will march with the pilgrims from the Diocese of Wichita.

Catechism series is based.

The course was developed by Ascension Press and is sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life. The last class is on April 4.

For more information or to register, contact Kathy Mietlicki at 316-351-1683 or at chgorootskm@gmail.com.



Bishop Carl A. Kemme blessed an ultrasound machine Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Pregnancy and Family Center in Iola. From left are Theresia Turner, the center’s co-director, Bishop Kemme, board member and Knight of Columbus Ed Miller, board chairman Harold Hoffman, and board member Marcia Roose. The ultrasound machine was donated by the Kansas Knights of Columbus. (Courtesy photos)

Iola pro-life center’s ultrasound machine blessed Nov. 5



St. Margaret Mary book fair to be held from Nov. 29-Dec. 5

St. Margaret Mary School in Wichita is hosting a book fair from Tuesday, Nov. 29, through Monday, Dec. 5, in the portable library in back of the school.

The fair is open at various

times on those days, including Saturday and Sunday. For the times the library is open or to order books visit www.scholastic.com/bf/stmargaretmarysch.

Catechism study of the creed starts Jan. 17 at WSU’s St. Paul parish

A 12-week study of the Cate-

chism of the Catholic Church will be presented from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays beginning Jan. 17 at WSU’s St. Paul University Parish, 1810 N. Roosevelt, in Wichita.

The topic is the Creed. The cost for the workbook is \$30. Those interested are asked to sign up by Jan. 5 so a book may be ordered in time for the class.

Dr. Sean Innerst is the presenter on the 50-minute DVD at the beginning of each class. A discussion will follow. Innerst teaches theology and catechetics at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary and the Augustine Institute in Denver. He is the author of *From Blessing to Blessing* which outlines the catechetical principles on which the

Leave Mass filled with Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Nov. 20: *II Samuel 5:1-3, Colossians 1:12-20, Luke 23:35-43*

Catechism link: ¶446; <http://www.scborromeo.org/cccl/para/446.htm>

This Sunday's feast is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. "King" is the key word. The word "king" distinguishes this Sunday from other Sundays. Every Sunday focuses upon Our Lord Jesus Christ. But this Sunday we focus upon his kingship, and upon the battle that this King engages in. Today's Gospel Reading describes this battle in progress.

"The rulers sneered at Jesus and said, 'He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Christ of God.' ... they called out, 'If you are King of the Jews, save yourself.'"

These earthly rulers are extremely logical. If Jesus could save others, why would he not save himself? Of course, their sneer shows that they're not serious in what they say. They don't believe that Jesus could save himself. They probably don't believe that Jesus saved others, either.

They likely claimed that those people whom Jesus reportedly saved were never really sick or dead in the first place. The claims of Jesus working miracles were mere tricks. So of course, given that Jesus couldn't really save others, he would not—because he could not—save himself.

Stay awake for the coming of Christ

The First Sunday of Advent

Nov. 27: *Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44*

Catechism Link: ¶2729; <http://www.scborromeo.org/cccl/para/2729.htm>

"Mamma in her kerchief, and I in my cap, had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap."

There's something extremely enjoyable about sleep. The older we get, the more we appreciate something as simple as a nap. If I were to paint a verbal picture for you of a Sunday afternoon in January, with snow falling outside and the fireplace roaring, with a feather pillow and one of Grandma's quilts on the sofa, then if the idea of a long nap didn't immediately appeal to you, you would have to be under the age of thirty.

Nonetheless, regardless of age, is there anyone who likes being woken from sleep? I doubt there are many parents who like the chore of trying to wake a child. Sleep is something we cling to. Even if we can only have one more minute of sleep, and press the snooze button one more time ... We don't want to leave our state of sleep.

Yet even as much as we prize our sleep, sleep is also used in our culture as a metaphor for very negative experiences. If we say that someone's "asleep at the wheel", we're not complimenting the person. If an athlete is on the field or

REFLECTIONS ON THE SACRED LITURGY

By Fr. Thomas Hoisington

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What's clear in their way of thinking—a way of thinking that's just as prevalent in the twenty-first century as in the first—is that the golden rule of life is "Me first". No one with power gives up power willingly. No one with power does not use power for the greater glory of the most unholy trinity of "Me, Myself, and I".

Yet what the logic of this egoism overlooks is what Saint Francis of Assisi sang so ardently about: that "it is in giving that we receive; ... in pardoning that we are pardoned; and ... in dying that we are born to eternal life." This is the logic of God. This is the logic that leads to Calvary, from which Divine Mercy flows.

It is for mercy that Christ reigns as King upon the Cross. Why, after all, would the church proclaim on the feast of Christ the King the Gospel passage describing Jesus in his last moments before death? It's because the Cross is the earthly throne of Christ the King. Thorns make up his crown.

Christ the King shows us his power not in living for Himself, but in dying for us poor sinners. In this regard, we need to paraphrase the Prayer of St. Francis, because it's in Christ the King dying that we are born to eternal life. The King has laid down his life for us peasants.

Given all that, why do we Cath-

the court, and the coach yells at the athlete, "Wake up out there!", you can assume that the coach is not happy with the athlete's performance.

In those settings, "sleep" implies some sort of "disconnect", while its opposite—wakefulness—implies being connected, being "plugged in", being alert to and engaged in what's going on around oneself. The person who is asleep is not aware of what's going on around him. he cannot see the "big picture".

Even more confusing is that these two opposite ways of using the metaphor of "sleep"—as something that is very enjoyable and comfortable, and also as something implying a disconnect in our lives—are not mutually exclusive. That is, we often enjoy being disconnected from the bigger picture. One of the reasons that we want to remain asleep is so that we won't have to look at the big picture.

We hear about this double meaning of sleep within today's scriptures. Focus upon Jesus' command in the Gospel reading. What kind of sleep is Jesus talking about when he commands, "Therefore, stay awake!"? In order to reach an answer, reflect upon different degrees to which one can or cannot awaken oneself.

First, there is the sort of sleep that you can wake yourself from directly. For example, an athlete can monitor his stats, recognize when he's sleeping out on the field or the court, and take concrete steps to wake himself from his slumber.

Second is the kind of sleep from which we can only wake ourselves

olics gather each Sunday before an altar on which Christ the King sacrifices his life for us? We do not only assemble there to give thanks for Christ the King's sacrifice.

We also gather there to share in the sacrifice of Christ the King. At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass so that you and I would have a means of being transported mystically to the foot of Jesus' Cross. During Holy Mass we are present on that afternoon of Good Friday in order to enter into his kingly sacrifice: that is, to make his sacrifice our sacrifice. After all, we are members of Christ's Mystical Body through baptism, and therefore share in his regal vocation.

Christ the King strengthens us not only so that each of us can get to Heaven. he strengthens us through his Body and Blood, soul and divinity so that we might lead our daily lives in Him. We accept the love of God at Holy Mass so that we'll be strong enough to love everyone in this fallen world with the very love of God.

Of course, love is a notoriously slippery term. Some people just think of love as an emotion or feeling. But Christ the King shows us on the Cross that divine love actually is self-sacrifice. If, when we leave Holy Mass, we wonder about how we can love others better, then we need to remember the ready answer that the church offers us.

The church points our attention towards the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Christ calls us to leave his church, filled with the strength of his Body and Blood, soul and divinity, in order to share that love concretely with those in the world.

indirectly. An example would be the sleep that we settle into each night when we put our head on our pillow. You can't consciously rouse yourself from the middle of this sleep. But you can wake yourself indirectly by setting an alarm clock before falling asleep.

Then there is a third type of sleep, from which we cannot wake ourselves at all. The most obvious example of this is death: human death.

In our moral and spiritual life, we have to face all three types of sleep.

First is the sleep of vice. A vice is a bad moral habit that we choose to cultivate, but which we can also uproot if we so choose. Moral effort by itself can alleviate vices, although God's grace makes the process much easier.

Second is the sleep caused by sin. Sin destroys grace within us, leading to a sort of spiritual sleep. We can only uproot sin—both mortal and venial—indirectly, by turning to God to wake us up. We can make restitution for our sins, but not atonement.

Third is the sleep of death. Human death, unlike vices and sins, is irreversible (outside of a miracle). Ordinarily, no human person can raise herself or himself from death. Only Jesus, who declared, "I am the Resurrection and the Life", can wake one from death.

To stay awake, then, is to wait for the coming of Christ with hope and assurance. We trust that his advent will bring freedom from vice, atonement for sin, and a door leading through human death into a life greater than we can imagine here below.

Bishop Kemme's calendar

Here are events on Bishop Carl A. Kemme's calendar for the next several weeks.

November

Nov. 18: Curia Thanksgiving Mass and luncheon; St. Joseph House of Formation Holy Hour and dinner

Nov. 19: Mass and Adoration for High School Youth Conference at Newman University at 4 p.m.

Nov. 20: Vietnamese Martyr Mass at St. Anthony, Wichita, at 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 21 : All diocesan teacher Mass at Magdalen at 9 a.m.

Nov. 28 - Dec. 9: Diocesan pilgrimage to Holy Land

December

Dec. 10: Confirmation Mass Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton at 10 a.m.

Dec. 10-11: Parish pastoral visit Our Lady of Guadalupe, South Hutchinson



Dec. 13: Serra Club Christmas Party

Dec. 14: Holy Spirit, Goddard, Auction dinner at bishop's residence

Dec. 15: Ascension quarterly meeting;; Vietnamese Pastoral Council

Dec. 16: Curia Christmas party

Diocesan Catholic educators finally able to gather for a Regan Institute Nov. 21-21

Continued from page 1.

over 80 breakout sessions led by pastors, principals, teachers, and guests. Each teacher will have four breakout sessions to choose from. Ray will lead a holy hour before the closing Mass on the second day of the institute.

"During adoration our educators will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession with the help of over 35 diocesan priests," Eaton said. "We are so grateful to these priests for giving of their time."

She added that she is especially grateful that the educators from Southeast Kansas will be attending. They will be guests of the Spiritual Life Center.

Eaton asked for prayers for the 783 educators who lead 9,700 students to Christ every day, "will be able to fill their own vessel with God's grace and his love."

Pastoral musicians hosting event Nov. 20 at Holy Savior Church

The Wichita chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians is hosting an event at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, at Holy Savior Church in Wichita.

The faithful are invited to come, sing, listen, and share the beauty and unique perspective of music that may be new or different.

Awards recognizing diocesan youth liturgical musicians, long-time pastoral musicians, and past Memorable Musicians will be announced. Visit npmwichita.org/resources for nomination forms.

Our Daily Bread Food Pantry holiday schedule adjusted

The Saturdays on which Our Daily Bread Food Pantry is open are changing for November and December because of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Rather than the fourth Saturday, the pantry will be open on the third Saturday, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The pantry will also be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24. In addition, the pantry will be closed the week of Dec. 26. It will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, on its regular schedule. Regular pantry hours are 8:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and 9 a.m. to noon the fourth Saturday of each month.

Our Daily Bread Food Pantry is located at 2825 S. Hillside, and provides two to three days' worth of food for individuals, couples, and families in need.

For more information, visit CatholicCharitiesWichita.org.

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Ministry hosting
Advent retreats in Indy
and Wichita

The diocesan Ministry with Persons with Disabilities is hosting two Advent retreats next month.

A retreat will be held from 5 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, at Saint Andrew Parish in Independence. A Mass is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. The deadline to register is Monday, Nov. 21.

The second retreat will be held from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec.

10, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Wichita. A Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. The deadline to register is Monday, Nov. 28.

The cost for either retreat is \$5. To register call Myra at 316-269-3900.

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Serra Club of Wichita celebrating 75th anniversary next year



The Serra Club of Wichita will celebrate its 75th anniversary next year.

Juanita Smith, the district governor, said the Wichita club will commemorate its diamond jubilee on Thursday, March 9. The club was established on March 30, 1948.

Smith, the chairperson of the event, said the club is one of three in the diocese. The other two are the Wichita Serra Club Metro, chartered in 1992, and the Serra Club of Reno County, chartered in 1999.

Bishop Kemme will celebrate Mass at the 75th anniversary celebration at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Wichita. It will be followed by a banquet with a speaker from Serra International and

a recognition of past presidents, founding members, chaplains, and others.

Smith is a member of Church of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Wichita.

Serra USA was formed in 1935 to foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life and to assist members to respond to God's call to holiness.

Bishop Kemme to celebrate annual Vietnamese martyrs Mass Nov. 20

The Wichita Vietnamese congregation will host a memorial Mass honoring the 118 Vietnamese Martyrs at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, at St. Anthony Parish, 258 N. Ohio, in Wichita.

Vietnamese- and English-speaking priests will concelebrate the Mass with Bishop Carl A. Kemme.

The Mass intentions include the canonization of Fr. Emil Kapaun and Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan, the unification of the United States in this time of turmoil, for the health of all people around the world with an end to the pandemic, for an end to war in Ukraine, and for the youth to know Christ and stay in the faith.

Đức Giám Mục Sê Mừng Kính Các Thánh Tử Đạo Việt Nam
Hội Đồng Mục Vụ Công Giáo Việt Nam Địa Phận Wichita sẽ tổ chức Thánh Lễ mừng kính Các Thánh Tử Đạo Việt Nam tại nhà thờ St. Anthony, 258 N. Ohio, Wichita, KS 67214.

Chúa Nhật ngày 20 tháng 11 năm 2022
3:30 giờ chiều Cung Vinh Các Thánh Tử Đạo và nhập lễ.
Thánh Lễ mừng kính các Thánh Tử Đạo Việt Nam sẽ do Đức Giám Mục Carl Kemme chủ tế và các linh mục Việt Mỹ đồng tế.

- Ý Lễ:
- Cầu nguyện cho nạn dịch chấm dứt trên toàn thế giới.
 - Cầu bình an cho mọi người, mọi gia đình trong toàn thế giới, xin Chúa nâng đỡ những người già, yếu, bệnh tật, nhất là những nạn nhân chiến tranh ở nước U-kren.
 - Cầu nguyện cho việc phong chân thánh cho cố Đức Hồng Y Nguyễn Văn Thuận và Cha Emil Kapaun.
 - Cầu nguyện cho sự hiệp nhất của nước Hoa Kỳ và Giáo Hội.
 - Cầu xin cho mọi người, nhất là giới trẻ biết tình yêu của Chúa và gần gũi Chúa hơn.

Chương trình năm nay đặt biệt sẽ có cha Phanxicô Xaviê Nguyễn Thanh Bình, SVD là Cha Tổng Tuyên Ủy Phong Trào Thiểu Nhi Thánh Thể Việt Nam Tại Hoa Kỳ, sẽ hướng dẫn các tỉnh tâm trong tuần. Năm nay có giờ riêng cho các trẻ em bắt đầu 5:30 chiều Thứ Sáu, ngày 18 tháng 11. Xin mọi phụ huynh hãy bớt thời gian đem các em đến tham dự buổi dọn mình để gần Chúa hơn và cùng xin hoạt với Cha Bình. Thứ Bảy, ngày 19 tháng 11, sẽ có giờ cho quý ông bà cô chú anh chị em dự buổi tĩnh tâm và giải hòa để dọn mình đón nhận Chúa nhân dịp đại lễ kính mừng các Thánh Tử Đạo. Sẽ có hai cha từ Tỉnh Dòng Mẹ Chúa Cứu Chuộc và các cha trong địa phận ngồi tòa Thứ Bảy và Chúa Nhật để mọi người được dọn mình đón Chúa.

Hội Đồng Mục Vụ Công Giáo Việt Nam Địa Phận Wichita trân trọng kính mời toàn thể quý ông bà, anh chị em cùng bớt chút thời gian đến tham dự Thánh Lễ. Để cùng tôn kính các Thánh Tử Đạo năm xưa đã oai hùng anh dũng tiến lên pháp trường. Hãy cùng nhau tập chung một lòng cầu nguyện cho toàn thế giới trong thời kỳ rối loạn này được an lành.

Hội Đồng Mục Vụ Công Giáo Việt Nam Địa Phận Wichita
Đức Giám Mục Carl Kemme

Gift of Christmas bus trip to Dallas
Dec. 8-10 includes stop at cathedral

A trip Dec. 8-10 to the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Dallas and other area sites is being sponsored by the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life.

Father Jim Mainzer will celebrate Mass for the group at the shrine, the city's oldest Catholic parish. It is the second busiest Catholic cathedral in the nation with over 13,000 people visiting the church on a weekend.

Also on the itinerary is a visit to Holiday at the Arboretum, one of Dallas' favorite holiday traditions. Participants will be able to see the 25-foot-tall elaborately decorated Victorian-style gazebos that represent each of the 12 Days of Christ-

mas. European-style houses in the Christmas Village are on display with lighted trees, shop owners passing out samples, and live entertainment.

The Museum of Biblical Art is another stop. Founded in 1996, the museum annual hosts over 50,000 visitors. It is a beautiful space where Biblically-themed art is exhibited. The remodeled museum boasts 11 galleries and other major pilgrimage attractions.

A production of The Gift of Christmas dinner show featuring a living nativity is also included in the trip. The cost is \$569 per person with double occupancy, and \$689 for a single. For reservations, call Village Travel at 316-721-4455.

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Date Night @ the Spiritual Life Center

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December 1, 2022 | 6:30 PM

Good Country People (recommended)
Revelation (highly encouraged)
Parker's Back (highly encouraged)
A Good Man Is Hard to Find (A MUST)

Office of Marriage and Family Life

Twenty diocesan ministries, entities have signed up for this year's #iGiveCatholic

Twenty Catholic diocesan entities will take part in Giving Tuesday on Nov. 29.

Connor Meier said the Diocese of Wichita is excited to partner with #iGiveCatholic for Giving Tuesday because it allows donors to give from a uniquely Catholic perspective.

Meier, the assistant director of Development and Planned Giving, said last year that more than \$138,000 in additional funds was raised for diocesan ministries. "We're hopeful to eclipse that mark this year with another strong showing of support."

Giving Tuesday has evolved into a global day of giving that promotes philanthropy, he said.

"From a stewardship standpoint, it doesn't take away anything from your tithing. It provides another opportunity for people to make a gift to either a parish

Want to give on Giving Tuesday?

Visit Wichita.iGiveCatholic.org for a list of participating parishes, schools, and ministries.



#iGIVECATHOLIC

school or ministry that's important to them on that national day of philanthropy."

Potential donors may visit Wichita.iGiveCatholic.org beginning Nov. 14-29 to support their

favorite parish, school or ministry. For questions, or to make your Giving Tuesday gift over the phone, please call the Office of Development and Planned Giving at 316-269-3917.

Want to establish a legacy?

To learn more about legacy giving opportunities within the diocese, please contact Connor Meier, the assistant director of Development and Planned Giving, at 316-440-1755 or meierc@CatholicDioceseOfWichita.org.

in Wichita for 24 years, the longest they had lived in one place. Ronald's father also served in the military so Ronald had frequent moves his entire life.

"We were both very impressed with the stewardship way of life," she said. "It was unique to any of our experiences."

Because of her and Ronald's love of Catholic education, she decided to donate an inheritance from her father to establish the Ronald A. and Susan C. Fry Drexel Endowment.

The St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School Fund assists parishes that struggle financially to carry out the mission of Catholic school education. It also supports parishes without schools that struggle with the cost of sending their students to another local Catholic elementary or high school.

"I thought, what better way to put it to use than to keep it moving forward," Susan said. "I thought of it as part of my tithing. I still have resources to leave to my family. I just believe it's important to share."

Ronald passed away in 2011. She moved back to Lenexa in 2021 to be with her two children, her four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren all of whom live in the metro area.

"I feel confident Ronald would be delighted with the endowment," she said.



Catholic education was important to the late Ronald Fry. His wife, Susan, established an endowment in the Diocese of Wichita to support Catholic education. (Courtesy photo)

Couple establishes Drexel endowment because of their love of Catholic education

Ronald and Susan Fry didn't plan on staying long when they moved from Kansas City to Wichita in 1997. They had moved frequently in their lives, but ended up staying in Wichita for over two decades.

After Ronald retired from the U.S. Army in 1982, he decided to study scripture at St. Mary's University in Leavenworth and later taught history at the The United States Penitentiary in Leavenworth and at Savior of the World Seminary, a minor seminary of

the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. The couple moved to Topeka for Susan's work in 1984 and where Ronald taught at Hayden High School.

"Catholic education was always very close to his heart," Susan said in a telephone interview from her home in Lenexa. After they returned to the Kansas City area for work reasons, Susan later took a nursing position with Via Christi in Wichita in 1997.

Wichita would become home to them because they would live

Conception, on Sunday, Dec. 4, and proceed to the parish at 2351 N. Market St.

Rosaries and Masses will be prayed at 5:30 p.m. on the weekdays of the event. Food will be served on weekdays from 5 to 9:30 p.m.

On Friday, Dec. 9, the rosary and Mass will be in a tent next to the parish hall. Dancers will be blessed and honor Our Lady with dances.

Perpetual Help parish hosting fiesta Dec. 4-12

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Wichita is hosting an Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta from Sunday, Dec. 4, to Monday, Dec. 12.

The faithful of the Diocese of Wichita are invited.

A parade will begin at 1:45 p.m. at Topeka and Central, just east of the Cathedral of the Immaculate

Talent night will be held beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Food will also be sold at that time.

The talent show continues on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3 p.m.; dancing at 10 p.m.; a rosary at 10:45 p.m., followed by a rosary at midnight.

Mañanitas will be held beginning at 5:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, with dancing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and a rosary at 6 p.m. in the tent.

For details call the parish at 316-838-8373.

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Sat. December 10 ... 8am - Noon

Sat. December 17 ... 8am - Noon

Sat. January 21 ... 8am - Noon

Sat. February 11 ... 8am - Noon

Remember Catholic Charities this

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=

Your gift will be doubled on **#GivingTuesday** up to **\$30,000**. Help us reach the full potential of our match.

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Match provided by:

Learn more by visiting us online at CatholicCharitiesWichita.org

Sharing God's love by caring for all people.

Fugate and MSI offer a \$30,000 #GivingTuesday match for Charities

Donations will help the hungry and homeless

There is an extra reason to choose Catholic Charities on this #GivingTuesday, Nov. 29. The impact of donations will be doubled thanks to the generosity of two local businesses who will match gifts, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$30,000.

Fugate Enterprises, the local franchisee for Pizza Hut and Taco Bell, and MSI, have established a \$30,000 matching fund to inspire donors to give to Catholic Charities' #GivingTuesday campaign.

Donations made to Catholic Charities on #GivingTuesday will go towards the Faithful Servant Fund, allowing the organization to address the most urgent needs within the community in the priority areas of hunger and homelessness, domestic violence and enrichment services.

#GivingTuesday is a worldwide day of giving which reminds people to donate to charities after holiday shopping on Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday.



Bishop prays with prayer group

Bishop Carl A. Kemme joined All Saint's Marian Mantle Prayer Group Thursday, Nov. 3, at the Wichita church. The group meets at 10 a.m. on Thursdays to pray for the conversion of souls, the return of our loved ones to the Catholic faith, world peace, and all souls in purgatory. For more information about Marian Mantle or to join the group contact Vanessa at 316-250-9147. (Courtesy photo)



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St. Joseph students bearing gifts

Student council members from St. Joseph School in Conway Springs hold gifts that will be donated to BoxOfJoy.org. They are with fourth grade teacher Melissa Hartman. The organization coordinates the donation of gifts to children from Haiti, Guatemala, and other developing countries. The St. Joe students and their families raised money to purchase the gifts during a week-long campaign that began on Oct. 31. Items appropriate for children between ages 2 and 14 were purchased for the boxes that will be shipped to Cross Catholic Outreach for distribution. (Courtesy photo)





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Advent Day of Reflection Dec. 1

An Advent Day of Reflection for adults will be held from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita.

Father Hayden Charles and Chris Barnard, a catechist with the Office of Faith Formation, will lead the reflections. Mass, lunch, and confessions are part of the day.

Participants are asked to bring winter socks, gloves, mittens, or hats to be donated to The Lord's Diner.

Advent Prayer and Song service Dec. 4 at Resurrection church

An Advent Prayer and Song service will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Church of the Resurrection, 4910 N. Woodlawn in Wichita.

Based on the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary, the "music rosary" will be led by the combined Resurrection adult and children's choirs and instrumentalists. The hour-long, family-oriented service will include a variety of choir and congregational songs, reflections from scripture and spiritual writings, a service of light, sacred drama, and responsorial prayer.

The service is intended to help prepare hearts and minds, through music and prayer, for Jesus who is at the heart of the season. All are invited to attend, free of charge.

Next Catholic Advance
The next Catholic Advance publication date is Friday, December 2.
To advertise, call 316-269-3968 or visit CatholicAdvance.org.



A tiresome class

Grace Forrest, left, and Liz Foulk learned how to change a tire while taking part in a car clinic Wednesday, Oct. 26, at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Wichita. Knights of Columbus from three councils hosted a Car Care Clinic Wednesday, Oct. 26, for BC students taking Independent Living classes. Knights from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Jude parishes in Wichita, and Sacred Heart in Colwich, fatcilitated the clinic that covered the basics of what to do if a car breaks down, including how to change a flat tire. The SEAS Knights also donated a set of jumper cables to each student. (Courtesy photo)

Pope mourns violence, loss of life from attack in Istanbul, Turkey

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- As authorities in Turkey continued to investigate who was responsible

for a deadly bombing in a busy shopping district in Istanbul, Pope Francis prayed for victims and the nation. “Assuring the injured and those who mourn their loved ones of his spiritual closeness, His Holiness prays that no act

of violence will discourage the efforts of the people of Turkey to build a society based on the values of fraternity, justice and peace,” said a telegram, written on behalf of the pope and signed by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State.

Jason West now overseeing Dear Neighbor and StepStone ministries

Jason West assumed the role as executive director for Hilltop Aspires, a nonprofit corporation whose primary objective is to oversee and support Dear Neighbor Ministries and StepStone and their respective services and programs benefiting the poor and under served.

According to a news release, West has more than 20 years of experience in business administration and spent the last 18 years in the banking industry. Prior to joining Hilltop Aspires, he spent eight years serving in various senior management roles at one of Wichita’s largest financial institutions.

Tony Morrow, Hilltop Aspires Board Chair, said: “Jason has a servant’s heart, an engaging personality, and a head for business.



Jason West

Jason’s numerous skills and his willingness to serve people in need are a great fit with the missions of our two ministries.” West, a member of Church of the Magdalen Parish in Wichita, succeeds Kit Lambertz, who retired in October after serving as the executive director for 18 years. Morrow praised her service to the ministries.

“Kit has done a wonderful job of leading our ministries through many changes, including the expansion of services at Dear Neighbor Ministries, the construction of our Bluffview Place residential complex to serve survivors of domestic violence at StepStone, and the challenges to our ministries from the recent pandemic.

“Earlier this year, Kit was at the center of the long-planned governance transition from our ministries reporting to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph to the formation of a new parent company, Hilltop Aspires, Inc.,” Morrow said.

Harbor House designated for local Subaru car dealer donation event

Brandon Steven Motors has selected Harbor House at Catholic Charities as the local charity to benefit from its annual Subaru Share the Love event. The domestic violence shelter was also designated by the Wichita car dealer as the recipient last year.

Car buyers who purchase or lease a new car from Subaru of Wichita between Nov. 17 and Jan. 3 will be able to select a charity

to receive a \$300 donation from Subaru of America and Subaru of Wichita. Wichita-area buyers may choose between Harbor House or one of the four national charities designated by Subaru of America. Each \$300 contribution provides one day of shelter, food, and supplies for three families. The 2021 Share the Love campaign raised nearly \$7,200 for Harbor House.



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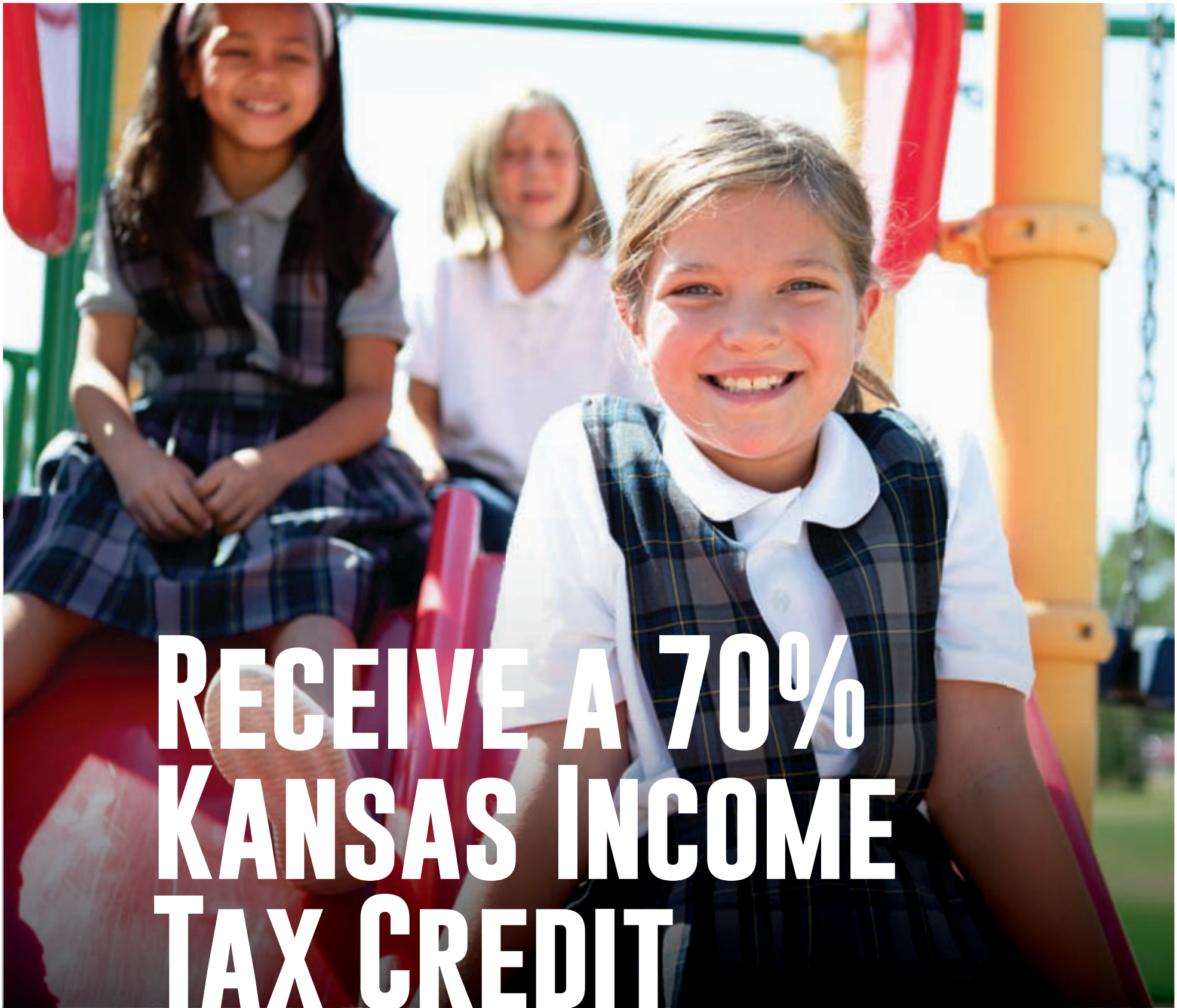
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Ann Nash, Program Director
St. Anthony Family Shelter



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Gerald, Oct. 28, 91, Holy Cross, Hutchinson
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Candace, Oct. 28, 75, St. Catherine of Siena, Wichita
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Michael, Oct. 28, 80, Sacred Heart, Frontenac
PONCE
Joe, Oct. 28, 85, St. Patrick, Parsons
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Thomas, Oct. 28, 67, St. Francis of Assisi, Wichita
SCHUCKMAN, George, Oct. 28, 90, St. Francis of Assisi, Wichita
TOON
Edward, Oct. 28, 66, St. John,

Clonmel
BURKE
Darlene, Oct. 29, 88, St. Patrick, Wichita
TAJCHMAN
Teresa, Oct. 29, 94, Holy Family, Marion
MAGSON
Alice, Oct. 30, 85, Sacred Heart, Colwich
SCALES
Clifford, Oct. 30, 75, St. Michael, Girard
SMITH
Dolores, Oct. 30, 92, St. Anthony, Garden Plain
MCELROY, Archie, Oct. 31, 87, Mother of God, Oswego
ESTES
Rita, Nov. 1, 74, St. Margaret Mary, Wichita
NEISES
Diane, Nov. 1, 65, St. Rose, Mount Vernon
REICHENBERGER
Maxine, Nov. 2, 93, St. Joseph, Andale
JORDAN
Lawrence, Nov. 3, 87, Holy Cross, Hutchinson
MEAD
Gary, Nov. 3, 83, St. Vincent De

Paul, Andover
PAYTON
John, Nov. 3, 60, All Saints, Wichita
SCHAMLE
Dale, Nov. 3, 87, Holy Cross, Hutchinson
COWLES
Melissa, Nov. 4, 49, Holy Cross, Hutchinson
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Marjorie, Nov. 5, 92, Sacred Heart, Fredonia
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Christianity as a Journey: A retreat for St. Patrick’s Confirmation class at N.U.

By José Morales

Saturday, Oct. 15, marked the first retreat for Chi-Rho Youth Missions when St. Patrick’s Confirmation candidates experienced the dynamism the program hopes to bring to Hispanic youth.

Fifty-five students and 10 team members were joined by Fr. Hayden Charles, St. Patrick’s parochial vicar, for the retreat at Newman University in Wichita. Parents took part later in the event. Most of the activities were held in St. John’s Chapel, including a bilingual Mass.

Chi-Rho aims to provide each participant with opportunities for a personal encounter with Jesus through the personal witness of peers and accompaniment.

When discerning the theme of the retreat, Fr. Hayden and Erika Vela, the youth minister at St. Patrick’s, decided that The Journey was the perfect theme for what they wanted to convey. Sometimes Confirmation and other

sacraments can seem like items on a bucket list that have to be checked off to get to heaven. It is true that we hold the sacraments to be life-giving and essential to the Christian life, but the problem with the “bucket list sacraments” idea is that it reduces the sacraments to an almost superstitious level.


Participants learned that the Christian life is a journey ordinarily marked by important milestones like Baptism, which brings us into the family of God, and Confirmation, which bestows Christian maturity upon the person receiving it. Through the Eucharist we are nourished and are reminded of our need for strength for whatever lay ahead. These truths are of utmost importance and so it was necessary to remind the students that though someone might be fully initiated, meaning that they have received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation, it did not guarantee that they would live the fullness of the Gospel.

So how did we seek to share these truths at the retreat without being preachy? Well, we started by looking at our own lives and reflecting on all the ways we had struggled to believe or simply stopped practicing, and then we shared ourselves through testimonies and in small groups. For example, Isabel Porres, one of the small group leaders, talked about her struggle with identity and how the Catholic Church helped to ground her in her struggle with mental health, by offering a stable place where she could find herself and receive God’s peace. Isabel is a sophomore at Newman University.

Altogether though, the retreat reminded us that we need each other for The Journey and that our stories have the power to save lives and to bring hope and faith to youth who are suffering or who might be lost.

Morales is the program coordinator for Hispanic Ministry.

Candace Buser | 1946 - 2022 | Wichita

 Buser, Candace “Candy” Linn Gregory, age 75, passed away on October 28, 2022, the Feast of St. Jude. Candace was born at the Naval hospital in Oakland, CA, to Chesley “Greg” and Norma Gregory on November 16, 1946. Candace graduated from Sulphur High School in Sulphur, LA. She moved to Atchison, KS, to attend to college at Mount St. Scholastica where she met her future husband, Bill Buser, who attended Benedictine College. Candace and Bill were married for 26 years and had three children.

Candace entered the field of education and received many advanced degrees and certifications such as Masters in Education, Educational Specialist Degree and Masters in History with an emphasis in German history. She held education to the highest priority. Candace was an avid reader.

Candace was employed by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita for 40 years from 1970-2010. During that time she was a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent. She also taught college courses to future teachers. She was the first lay woman principal in the Wichita Catholic Diocese. She earned several accolades such as Banner School and Principal of the Year. She was instrumental in promoting ongoing teacher spiritual formation in the Catholic Diocese. Candace spearheaded a team of educators to implement inclusion of all learners in the Diocese of Wichita Catholic Schools.

Her faith was paramount in her life, as indicated by her dedication to the Catholic Diocese. She served as an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister and was a Confirmation Sponsor and Godmother to numerous children. Throughout her life, Mrs. Buser influenced thousands of students, parents, teachers and colleagues.

Candace is survived by daughter Bonnie Kathleen (Jim) Morrison of Kansas City, MO; daughter Mary Elizabeth “Betsy” Morss (Jason Jenn) of Wichita, KS; son Gregory Thomas (Lori) Buser of Wichita, KS; grandchildren SPS S. Orion (Ally) Morrison, Madegan Morrison, Maya Morrison, Jacob Morss, Jordan Morss, Chesley Buser, Audrey Buser, Brady Jenn and Camille Jenn; great-grandson, River Paul and a great-grandchild due in the Spring of 2023; siblings Dr. Chesley (Trudy) Gregory of Shreveport, LA; Drs. Joseph (Debra) Gregory of Perdido Key, FL; sister-in-law Mary Lynn Gregory of Lake Charles, LA and several nieces and nephews.

Candace is preceded in death by her parents, Chesley F. and Norma L. (Planchard) Gregory; her brother, Deacon James “Chris” Gregory; and her grandson, Jonah Morss.

Rosary was at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Wichita, KS. Funeral Mass was at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, November 4, 2022, her daddy’s birthday, at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Wichita, KS. The Rite of Committal followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Wichita, KS.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate in her memory to St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

How will you steward your gifts?

Nov. 20 is Stewardship weekend in many parishes in the diocese

By Audrey Ronnfeldt

Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.

Every person is a gift from God with gifts to share. We don't always recognize that everything that we have and all that we are is a gift from our loving Father. The greatest gift we have ever received is the gift of our salvation. We have been rescued: God gave his one and only Son, Jesus Christ. He suffered. He died. He rose again so that we may have eternal life.

This great gift of salvation is only a gift if we recognize and receive (or perhaps re-discover) it, and allow this great gift to transform us. We weren't created for mere obedience. We were created for a relationship with our Lord. We are called to truly follow him, learn from him, respond by loving as he loves, and share the good news of his life, death, and resurrection with others. (Matthew 28:



18-20)

Have you seen this year's stewardship poster? As you look at the image of Mary Magdalen, think about how she was feeling. Her expression seems to be one of wonder. It is as if she is saying: Lord, is this for me too? With all that I have done, how can you really love me? Jesus is reaching out to us as well. Mary Magdalen is a model

of courageous witness – inviting us to follow Jesus no matter the cost. Will we allow Him to rescue us?

This is Stewardship Commitment Weekend for many parishes. What does this mean? Consider the ways you receive from your parish: access to the sacraments, spiritual nourishment, fellowship, and community. How will you show your Gratitude? Not out of duty, but out of love? This is an opportunity for us to reflect on the gifts that we have been given and to prayerfully discern how we have been faithful stewards of these gifts and where we might share our gifts in the coming year to build his kingdom here on earth.

In thanksgiving for everything God has given us, we respond by generously giving of ourselves in how we live. "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

Ronnfeldt is the director of the Stewardship Office.



The winner of the Ugly Christmas Sweater raises his hand at last year's Christmas Sock Hop for persons with special Needs. It was held in Bishop's Hall at Church of the Blessed Sacrament, which hosting the event again this year. (Courtesy photo)

Sock hop for persons with special needs scheduled for Dec. 3 at Blessed Sacrament

By Christine Ostroski

The weeks leading up to Christmas are generally filled with family events. However, those events aren't always easy to navigate for families with a special needs member. That's why a group called Friends of the Holy Family is hosting a unique event at their parish.

The second annual Christmas Sock Hop for special needs persons, their families, and caregivers will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, in Bishop's Hall (the church basement) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Wichita.

All ages and abilities are welcome. A DJ will provide music without flashing lights at a moderate volume. An ugly Christmas sweater contest will be held, healthy snacks will be served, and a coloring station will be available for those interested in a calming activity.

Last year's inaugural Sock Hop was a big success with 60 guests in attendance. Erin Sullivan said her special needs son had fun because one of his teachers from Blessed Sacrament school and some of his classmates attended the dance.

"I was surprised at how much he was dancing because I didn't think he'd know a lot of people," she said. That experience made the dance not only more enjoyable for her child, she added, but also helped spark an interest in his typically developing classmates to

learn more about persons with disabilities.

Friends of the Holy Family was formed by parents of Blessed Sacrament. It started with the first large scale Special Needs Mass in 2014 and grew from there. That first Mass was the brainchild of parishioner CY Suellentrop. The Mass highlighted the contributions of special needs children and young adults who served as lectors, gift-bearers and greeters.

It also provided a live stream of the Mass downstairs where those who struggle with large crowds could have a more calming environment in which to worship. "Someone who attended that Mass told me that because of the sensitivity to such needs, it was the first time her entire family had been able to go to mass together," Suellentrop said.

Because of that event, Rosemary Brooks' son began serving as an usher at other Masses.

"What my son needs from the parish is to be known and welcomed at the church events he attends," she said. "He gets numerous high fives and greetings at Sunday Mass," Brooks added. "So what he needs from the parish he definitely gets!"

After several years of hosting the Special Needs Mass, Blessed Sacrament passed the baton to Church of the Magdalen. The diocesan Ministry with Persons with Disabilities then took on the responsibility of organizing and pro-

Want to learn more?

For more information about the Christmas Sock Hop or Friends of the Holy Family email: friendsofhollyfamily@blessedsacramentwichita.com.

moting the Mass. Since then, the diocesan Special Needs Mass has been hosted by various parishes.

Myra Jacobs, the ministry's director, says that Friends of the Holy Family and the MPD benefit greatly from networking with each other. She says she has been so grateful when she can connect a parent with someone from the parish group "who has a question that only another parent with a child with a disability can answer." Likewise, she says, the group can refer parents to her when they are looking for ways that address the unique needs of their children, as in sacramental preparation.

Friends of the Holy Family is open to anyone from any parish. The group meets quarterly in private homes, at Blessed Sacrament parish, or at special locations like the Sedgwick County Zoo.

Its purpose is to bolster special needs families through social and spiritual events. Gatherings provide a place to share stories and concerns, making the world of disabilities seem not so large and overwhelming.

NOVEMBER 21

St. Augustine Circle Daughters of Isabella #235 meeting, 7 p.m., Cathedral, Wichita.

28

Oblates of St. Benedict, prayer, 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, St. James Church, 1012 Belmont, Augusta. Info: 316-207-7828, voice only.

DECEMBER 3

St. Augustine Circle Daughters of Isabella #235, Saturday, Dec. 3, Church of the Resurrection parish hall, 11:30 rosary, Christmas luncheon; \$15 for adults, \$5 for children 5-11, younger are free. Bring baby item for A Better Choice.

4

St. Anthony Fraternity, Secular Franciscan Order, 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, St. Anthony's St. Clare Hall, visit jdpsfo.org.

8

Daughters of Isabella #235 11:30 a.m. rosary then Christmas party, Church of the Resurrection, Wichita.

Marriage and Family Life

316-685-5240
CatholicDioceseOfWichita.org/mfl

NFP & Fertility Classes

To learn NFP, the first step is to register for a class. Each method has a specific teaching schedule. Meeting regularly with a trained instructor provides better understanding and an opportunity for questions to be answered. See <http://catholicdioceseofwichita.org/nfp> for class times. Call the Office of Marriage and Family Life to register: 316-685-5240.

Divorce Ministry Series

For more information or questions, call Mary Liebl at 316-393-5472.

Encourage

Are you a parent, a family member or a friend of someone who struggles with same-sex at-

traction? There is Encourage. For more information, please contact Jake Samour at 316-685-5240 or samourj@catholicdioceseofwichita.org

Engaged Encounter, Spiritual Life Center

For more information or to register, visit www.ceewichita.com or call the Spiritual Life Center at 316-744-0167.

Grieving with Great Hope Series

Call Steve Hilger 316-833-6228 for more information.

Kapaun's Mens Group for Retired Men

St. Joseph Pastoral Center. All retired men are invited to attend. For more information email omfl@catholicdioceseofwichita.org or call 316-685-5240.

Marriage Encounter

For more information, contact Jerry and Rebecca at 316-214-8566 or e-mail at sokswmme@yahoo.com. To register online to go www.kansas-wmme.org. For weekend information, visit www.wmme.org.

Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial

Informes para inscribirte: 316-305-0802 or 316-519-4194. E-mail: emmwichitaseccion21@gmail.com.

Marriage Preparation Seminars & Workshops, St Joseph Pastoral Center

Upcoming seminars and workshop schedules are available at CatholicDioceseOfWichita.org/mfl/marriage-prep/. For more information, contact Jake at 316-685-5240.

Mental Health Awareness Group

Second Wednesday of the month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Stewardship Hall, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Wichita. Contact: schuck2@att.net or call 316-259-8210.

VIRTUS Training

www.virtus.org
Dec. 3, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Mary Parish, Newton
Jan. 7, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton
Jan. 14, 9 a.m. to noon, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Wichita

Code of Ethical Standards are online

The Diocese of Wichita is continuously working to maintain and improve safe environment education for children and adults involved in parish and diocesan activities.

As part of that effort, the diocese has a Code of Ethical Standards for Church Personnel available at its website at cdowk.org. To find it, hover over "Links & Resources" and click on "Protection of Youth."

The code discusses the general principals of the ethical standards and highlights the standards that should be maintained in professional relationships. It discusses topics such as conflicts of interest, harassment, sexual conduct, conduct with minors, and confidentiality, among others.

Every employee and volunteer of the diocese receives a copy of the Code at the beginning of their working relationship with the diocese. Employees and volunteers all read it and sign off regarding their intention to comply with these high standards before beginning their duties with the diocese.

Protection of youth information online

The Diocese of Wichita is committed to protecting children and young people. For information about how the diocese is working to create a safe environment for children and young people, or to report sexual abuse of minors by a church employee, go to www.cdowk.org, pull down the Resources link and click on "Protection of Youth."

La Diócesis de Wichita está comprometida a proteger a niños y jóvenes. Para obtener información sobre cómo la diócesis está trabajando para crear un ambiente seguro para los niños y jóvenes, o para reportar un abuso sexual de menores por un empleado de la iglesia, puede ir a www.cdowk.org, vaya al botón de Recursos (Resources) y presione "Protección de la Juventud" (Protection of Youth).

Địa phận Wichita cam kết bảo vệ an toàn cho trẻ em và tuổi trẻ. Muốn biết chi tiết thế nào để tạo bầu không khí an toàn cho tuổi trẻ, hoặc cách thức khiếu nại về trường hợp nhân viên hoạt động cho Địa phận đã lạm dụng tình dục với trẻ em và tuổi trẻ, xin xem hoặc gửi qua internet theo địa chỉ www.cdowk.org, tìm xuống bảng liên kết và nhấn vào mục "Protection of the Youth".



El cristianismo como una jornada: Un retiro para el grupo de Confirmación

El sábado 15 de octubre marcó el primer retiro de Chi-Rho Youth Missions y los candidatos de Confirmación de San Patricio fueron los primeros en vivir el dinamismo que este programa espera traer a la juventud hispana. El retiro consistió de 55 estudiantes, 10 miembros del equipo de retiro, y fueron acompañados por el Padre Hayden Charles, el Vicario de San Patricio. La Universidad Newman fue la an-

fitriona del evento y la mayor parte de las actividades tuvieron lugar en la capilla de San Juan, que fue un lugar perfecto para una misa bilingüe en la que los estudiantes se unieron a sus padres más tarde. A través del testimonio personal de jóvenes como ellos y del acompañamiento, Chi-Rho pretendía ofrecer a cada joven la oportunidad de un encuentro personal con Jesús.

Al discernir cuál sería el tema

del retiro, yo [José] le pregunté al Padre Hayden y a Erika, la coordinadora de jóvenes de San Patricio, que creían era lo más importante que estos estudiantes necesitaban saber. Y después de revisar algunos temas decidieron que La Jornada era el tema perfecto para lo que buscaban transmitir. A veces, la Confirmación y otros Sacramentos pueden parecer elementos de una lista de cosas que hay que marcar para llegar al cielo. Es cierto que consideramos que los sacramentos son vitales y esenciales para la vida cristiana, pero el problema con la idea de la "lista de deseos" es que reduce los sacramentos a un nivel casi superfluo.

Una forma de equipar a los jóvenes en el retiro fue centrarlos en el hecho de que la vida cristiana es una jornada marcada por "metas" importantes, como el Bautismo, que nos introduce en la familia de Dios, y la Confirmación, que nos otorga la madurez cristiana. A través de la Eucaristía se nos alimenta para el camino y nos recuerda nuestra necesidad de fortaleza para lo que nos espera más adelante. Estas verdades son de suma importancia y fue necesario recordarles a los alumnos que aunque alguien pueda estar plenamente iniciado, es decir, que haya recibido el Bautismo, la Confirmación y



John Pearson, estudiante de último año en Bishop Carroll, comparte sobre cómo aprendió a confiar en Dios a través de las pruebas y cómo Jesús le dio la paz del corazón.

la Eucaristía, no garantiza que esté viviendo la plenitud del Evangelio. Entonces, ¿cómo tratamos de compartir estas verdades en el retiro sin sermonear? Bueno, empezamos por mirar a nuestras propias vidas y reflexionar sobre todas las formas en las que hemos dudado o simplemente dejamos de practicar, y luego lo compartimos a través de testimonios y pequeños grupos. Por ejemplo, Isabel

Porres, una de las líderes de los grupos pequeños, compartió sobre su lucha con su identidad y sobre cómo la Iglesia Católica la ayudó a sanar su mente, ofreciéndole un lugar estable donde podía encontrarse a sí misma y recibir la paz de Dios. Isabel es actualmente una estudiante de segundo año en la Universidad Newman, y el hecho de que estuviera cerca de la edad de los participantes en el retiro fue clave para ayudar a construir un puente entre la fe católica y la experiencia de cada joven.

Otro elemento importante fue invitar a los padres de los estudiantes a participar en el retiro y a unirse a ellos en la misa. Danny Krug y Juan Ríos dedicaron las últimas dos horas del retiro para hablar a los padres sobre la importancia de la oración en familia y de cómo centrar sus vidas en Cristo. Este enfoque solidificó los esfuerzos del equipo del retiro y fomentó la confianza, que a veces es difícil de ganar por parte de la Iglesia. Esperamos que tenga un impacto de por vida en los jóvenes que se preparan para ser confirmados. En conjunto, el retiro nos recordó que nos necesitamos los unos a otros para la jornada y que nuestras historias tienen el poder de salvar vidas y de llevar fe y esperanza a los jóvenes que sufren o que podrían estar perdidos.



Isabel Porres, una estudiante de Newman, comparte su lucha con la salud mental y cómo la misa le trajo la esperanza y la sanación que estaba buscando.



Las Hermanas Catequistas de los Pobres celebrando su XXV Aniversario junto al Obispo Carl Kerme y algunos sacerdotes de la diócesis.

El XXV Aniversario de Mision Evangelizadora: Una Tarea de Amor

Por la Hermana Rosa Linda Lopez Rocha

Superiora Local

(Primera parte de dos.)

En el año 1997, las Misioneras Catequistas de los Pobres llegamos a la diócesis de Wichita a las parroquias de South Hutchinson, Lyons, Newton y Turon, KS. El equipo misionero estuvo formado por Sor Juana Margarita Sánchez, Sor Isabel Rebeca Rodríguez, Sor Martha Alicia Aldrete y Sor Silvia Domínguez, quienes realizaron una misión popular durante los meses de febrero y marzo. Esta misión consistió en visitar a las familias, algunos lugares de trabajo, participación en las Eucaristías, el rezo del santo Rosario, temas de Kerygma, ce-

lebración penitencial y convivencias dominicales.

El Obispo Eugenio Gerber, al terminar la misión; el 7 de Marzo del año en curso escribió a la Superiora General de las MCP, Sor Guadalupe Angélica Becerra. En su carta el Obispo Gerber agradecía la misión popular que se había realizado y reconocía el resultado del trabajo de las hermanas. Ante las necesidades de la Diócesis, el Obispo pidió a las hermanas MCP de la misión popular que realizaran posibles y provisionales planes para el futuro de la Diócesis. Dichos planes fueron enviados a la Superiora General para que junto con su consejo tomaran una decisión. En la carta del obispo Gerber se lee de manera textual: "Es mi es-

peranza y oración que en un futuro cercano usted pueda enviar a un Equipo Misionero permanente de las MCP. En este plan las hermanas trabajarían en equipo junto con algunos sacerdotes y laicos hispanos. Nuevamente gracias por su inestimable asistencia al servicio del Pueblo de Dios en esta Diócesis. Rezando espero su considerable respuesta".

Posteriormente el difunto P. Colin Boor quien era el pastor en Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en South Hutchinson, escribió una carta al Obispo Gerber con fecha del 2 de abril del 1997: "La presencia y el trabajo de las MCP, tuvo un grandioso y notable impacto." *(Continúa en la página siguiente.)*

Chi-Rho Missions: Dando a conocer el nombre de Cristo

Chi-Rho Youth Missions es un programa de alcance de la Oficina del Ministerio Hispano cuya misión es apoyar los esfuerzos de la Diócesis al crear oportunidades de alcance y proporcionar formación en la fe para las parroquias particulares que sirven a la comunidad de habla hispana de Wichita. Actualmente hay 13 parroquias que ofrecen misa en español y de ellas 5 están dentro de los límites de la ciudad. Chi-Rho se enfoca principalmente en servir a los jóvenes y jóvenes adultos de estas parroquias y eventualmente busca proveer formación en liderazgo para ministros y voluntarios de la juventud.

Nuestros jóvenes se enfrentan a algunos de los problemas más desafiantes de nuestro tiempo: la identidad es atacada de todas las maneras; la salud mental está en rápido deterioro; y los medios de comunicación social están luchando por su capacidad de atención. Puede que sólo sean un número de ventas o un dato para un algoritmo, pero para la Iglesia ellos son hijos de Dios. Por eso Chi-Rho espera dar a conocer el nombre de Cristo. Aunque parezca sencillo, es la esencia misma de nuestra fe. La palabra cristiano significa un pequeño Cristo y cuando nos identificamos como tal actualizamos la presencia de Jesús en el mundo. Así que si el nombre por sí solo tiene tanto poder, imagina lo radical que es presentar a Jesús a un joven que aún no lo ha conocido ni ha aceptado sus dones de gracia.



Claro que la labor de evangelización no es fácil, sobre todo cuando el avance no se ha producido en la vida de un joven, pero vale la pena todo el esfuerzo porque sabemos que el impacto es eterno. La Iglesia cuenta actualmente con innumerables programas y recursos que pueden transmitir eficazmente el mensaje del Evangelio, desde Formed hasta Ascension Press encontramos herramientas absolutamente útiles y necesarias para quienes trabajan en la viña del Señor, pero es un regalo tener algo local con lo que las parroquias puedan contar para apoyar sus esfuerzos ministeriales. La Misión Chi-Rho se inspiró en años de trabajo en la misión de evangelización a través de retiros y discipulado, y al igual que otros esfuerzos misioneros su objetivo es presentar el Kerigma y suscitar la fe en lugar de sólo educar e instruir.

Como misioneros locales reconocemos que el Espíritu Santo *(Continúa en la página siguiente.)*

Stewardship: ¿Hacia dónde vamos?

Por Audrey Ronnfeldt

El Stewardship es la respuesta agradecida de un discípulo cristiano que reconoce y recibe los dones de Dios y los comparte en amor a Dios y al prójimo.



Audrey Ronnfeldt

Implementado hace más de 37 años, el objetivo principal del stewardship parroquial a nivel diocesano como forma de vida fue diseñado para liberar los dones del Cuerpo de Cristo en la

Diócesis de Wichita a través del enriquecimiento parroquial y la asistencia diocesana, con miras a una mayor unidad diocesana. El proceso se denominó Stewardship Católico Unido.

El Stewardship fue visto como una forma de vida y una manera de vivir. Los feligreses fueron desafiados a reconocer, recibir y aceptar los dones que Dios les había dado. Luego, con un proceso bien organizado, a comprometerse anualmente a compartir su tiempo, talento y tesoro de forma generosa, sacrificada y proporcional al servicio de la amplia misión de la parroquia y de la Iglesia universal en general.

La cultura ha cambiado

En estos 37 años, la cultura ha cambiado. Muchos de nosotros tenemos familiares y amigos que ya no practican su fe. Nos encontramos ante la primera cultura de la historia que fue profundamente cristiana, pero que mediante un proceso lento y minucioso se ha ido despojando de su base cristiana. Hemos olvidado quiénes somos y de quiénes somos.

- Nuestra cultura actual se refleja en estos rasgos: la creencia en "mi propia verdad", la creencia de que uno es espiritual pero no religioso, y la disminución de la confianza en las instituciones y la autoridad.

- La cultura parroquial incluye la actitud de que siempre lo hemos



hecho así, las mismas personas están involucradas en las actividades parroquiales, incluye algunos equipos y ambientes poco saludables, y puede tener una falta de visión y misión.

- La cultura actual respecto al stewardship: complacencia, apatía, quejas, comparaciones, mentalidad de escasez, depender de la recaudación de fondos en lugar de formar, inspirar e invitar a otros a esta forma de vida.

No sólo hemos perdido el lenguaje del stewardship, sino que hemos olvidado cómo contar la historia de Jesús y nuestras propias historias personales de cómo Jesús es más que una figura histórica - ¡Jesús está vivo hoy!

La autora católica Lisa Breninkmeyer dice: "Somos las personas más deprimidas, ansiosas, perdidas y vacías porque hemos

desplazado nuestro enfoque colectivo de Dios y lo hemos puesto en nosotros mismos. Y nos estamos derrumbando bajo el peso de lo que estaba destinado sólo a Él".

Esto puede sonar muy grave y quizás lo sea, pero no estamos aquí por accidente. En palabras de Santa Juana de Arco: "No tengo miedo. Dios está conmigo. He nacido para esto".

Se nos ha hecho un regalo extraordinario, el regalo de nuestra salvación. Dios creó el mundo y a nosotros en él para la relación con Él. Nuestro pecado nos capturó y esa relación se rompió, Jesús vino a rescatar y restaurar nuestra relación, ¿cómo responderemos?

Hemos sido rescatados. ¿Cómo responderemos?

Ronnfeldt es el director de la Oficina de Stewardship de la Diócesis de Wichita.

4 propósitos de Adviento: Perdonar, encontrar, servir y orar

Por Iván Díaz, OCP

Llega el fin de año y empieza la preparación para la Navidad en todas partes. Vemos decoraciones, luces, árboles, nacimientos, y todo lo que externamente representa este tiempo. Sólo se escucha hablar de regalos, fiestas y reuniones sociales pero muy poco se habla de preparar el corazón para celebrar el nacimiento del Salvador. Adviento significa "venida o llegada" y es un tiempo de gracia que nos invita a disponer y alistar el corazón para la venida del Señor. En esta pequeña reflexión quisiera proponer 4 propósitos que podemos incorporar en nuestras tradiciones de fin de año y especialmente en el Adviento.

Perdonar

El primero propósito de Adviento para acercarnos al Señor es el perdón. Veamos en nuestro corazón cuántas heridas tenemos, cuántos rencores guardamos, cuántas personas nos han fallado, y a cuántas personas hemos fallado. Juan Bautista gritó en el desierto

“¡Vuélvanse a Dios, porque el reino de los cielos está cerca!” (Mateo 3:2)

Para volver a Dios, tenemos que regresar a nuestros hermanos por medio del perdón. Todos quizás hemos experimentado y visto a miembros de familias que no se hablan por causa de una discusión o un desacuerdo. Amigos que dejan de hablarse por malentendidos o fallas que pueden remediarse. En fin, podemos encontrar muchas razones para guardar rencores, pero la venida del Señor viene con amor, paz y reconciliación. Que el propósito de perdonar nos ayude a preparar la Navidad.

Encontrar

El segundo propósito que propongo para este Adviento es el encuentro. El Papa Francisco nos habla de una Iglesia en salida que busca a los ignorados, olvidados y rechazados en nuestra sociedad.

“Estuve sin ropa, y ustedes me la dieron; estuve enfermo, y me visitaron; estuve en la cárcel, y vinieron a verme.” (San Mateo 25:36)

Podemos recibir al Señor ayudando a familias con dificultades económicas, llevando alegría a los ancianos que nadie visita, acompañando y dando consuelo a en-

fermos en hospitales. También encontramos al Señor en los niños que viven en albergues y no tienen familia. Visitando a un amigo que esta sólo o invitarle a nuestra casa a compartir una cena. Son pequeños detalles que un encuentro puede llevarnos a ver al Señor.

“Les aseguro que todo lo que hicieron por uno de estos hermanos míos más humildes, por mí mismo lo hicieron.” (San Mateo 25:40)

Servir

El tercer propósito que sugiero es el servicio. En el Adviento esperamos al Señor que viene a servir, por lo tanto, como discípulos estamos a llamados a imitarle.

“Porque, del mismo modo, el Hijo del hombre no vino para que le sirvan, sino para servir y para

ADVIENTO SIGNIFICA ‘VENIDA O LLEGADA’ Y ES UN TIEMPO DE GRACIA.

dar su vida en rescate por una multitud.” (Mateo 20:28)

El servicio puede comenzar en

El XXV Aniversario de Misión

Evangelizadora: Una Tarea de Amor

(De la página anterior.)

pacto en la primera generación de Mexicanos, también en el resto de la comunidad, católicos y no católicos. Juzgamos que su decisión de traerlas en este momento ha sido muy eficaz y útil; y esperamos que usted haga todo esfuerzo para que esta Comunidad vuelva a trabajar en la Diócesis lo antes posible para mantener la continuidad y el impulso en el trabajo que comenzaron con grupos grandes. Si lo considera oportuno invitar a esta comunidad, parece que deberíamos hacerlo antes de finales de este mes de abril. Una vez más, ¡gracias! por su apoyo personal y su decisión de traer a estas hermanas a la Diócesis”.

La petición realizada por el Obispo Gerber en el mes de marzo, fue aprobada por el gobierno general de las MCP, y es así como el 15 de Agosto de 1997, llegaron S. Domitila González y S. Ma. Natividad Vázquez para ser el primer equipo en la misión permanente, radicando en la comunidad de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en South Hutchinson. El año siguiente, fueron enviadas dos hermanas más: S. Ana Gabriela Ruíz y S. María Guadalupe Flores, completando la comunidad de las hermanas.

Nuestra misión evangelizadora en South Hutchinson, Lyons, Newton y Turon abarcó del año 1997 al 2007. Durante esta década, nos dedicamos a visitar a las familias, conocer la realidad y la necesidad que había en la comunidad hispana.

Formaron a los líderes en cada uno de los ministerios, así como la formación en los sacramentos en las diferentes etapas de la vida. Además, formamos por primera vez la danza a la Virgen de Guadalupe.

A partir de Septiembre del 2000 las MCP coordinamos la escuela Diocesana de Pastoral de Agentes, hoy conocido como Instituto de Formación Pastoral. Y durante siete años las MCP estuvimos a cargo de la organización y dirección de la escuela.

Las hermanas que fueron enviadas a esta misión son: Sor Isabel Rebeca Rodríguez, Sor Martha Alicia Aldrete, Sor Guadalupe Angélica Becerra+, Sor Ana Felisa Jasso, Sor Teresa de Jesús Aldrete+, Sor Ma. Cristina Cano, Sor Ma. de los Ángeles Guerra, Sor Guillermina Torres, S. Ma. Luisa Acosta+, Sor Verónica Figueroa, Sor Silvia Domínguez, Sor Rita Delia Rodríguez.

(Segunda parte el próximo mes.)

Chi-Rho Missions: Dando a conocer el nombre de Cristo

(De la página anterior.)

es el maestro de la conversión y que será Él quien lleve las almas a Cristo. Esto nos inspira a proclamar audazmente el nombre de Cristo a través del cristograma, que es el símbolo por el que se reconocerá a la misión. El Chi-Rho es uno de los símbolos cristianos más antiguos. Durante décadas fue un símbolo secreto utilizado por los cristianos para identificarse entre sí. En el siglo IV, el emperador romano Constantino se animó a tomar este símbolo y utilizarlo públicamente "como salvaguarda en toda batalla con sus enemigos". Desde entonces, la Iglesia sigue

usando este símbolo como signo de esperanza y victoria, y ahora sirve de orgulloso recordatorio de nuestra identidad cristiana y de nuestra llamada a imitar a Cristo.

En un nivel práctico, esto significa que los jóvenes podrán encontrar a Jesús a través de retiros bilingües y oportunidades dinámicas que comprometerán sus corazones y harán suya la fe. Para cada parroquia será diferente y la misión se adaptará a las necesidades, pero el objetivo común para todos será apoyar a los párrocos y líderes juveniles, y conectar las parroquias de habla hispana con la Iglesia en general.

Fiestas Guadalupanas comienzan el 4 de dic.

Una vez más la calle Broadway se llenará de danzantes, carros alegóricos, grupos musicales, y otros para ofrecer homenaje a Nuestra Señora la Virgen de Guadalupe. El próximo mes de diciembre son las Festividades de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro ya se encuentra haciendo los preparativos para el desfile del 4 de diciembre en honor a la virgen a través de las calles de Wichita.

El desfile empezará a las 2 de la tarde desde las calles Central y Topeka. Además del desfile, la parroquia del Perpetuo Socorro empezará sus festividades de la Virgen también el 4 de diciembre con oración y misa diarias, comida, espectáculos de talentos y Matachines.

Para más información puede llamar a Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro al 316-838-8373.

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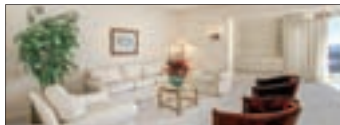
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Aquinas and the universe topic of SLC series in January

Dr. John G. Brungardt will present an evening series, Creator, Creation, and Cosmos from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the last four Tuesdays of January, Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31, at the Spiritual Life Center.

This series will delve into the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas who contemplates the cosmos in all its created wonder in light of Catholic theology, perennial philosophy, and the contemporary

natural sciences.

Dr. Brungardt will answer questions about why the universe exists, how Catholics can appreciate the beauty in its order, and what relationship Aquinas’ doctrine has to modern scientific discoveries.

Registration is \$40. To register, visit SLCwichita.org or call 316-744-0167.

Guidance available for same-sex-attraction

The Diocese of Wichita offers guidance for those struggling with same-sex attraction.

Courage is a group of Catholic

men and women who experience same-sex attractions and are committed to helping one another with prayer, fellowship, and mutual support.

Anonymity is respected at both gatherings.

Both are sponsored by the Office of Marriage and Family Life a ministry of the Catholic Diocese of Wichita. For more information call 316-685-5240.

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NU receives \$2.3 million in grants

Newman University’s School of Arts and Sciences won over \$2.3 million in grants in 2022 to implement undergraduate academics that promote the skills and values necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

NU said in a news release that the Council of Independent Colleges awarded Newman a netVUE grant of \$10,000 to support faculty and staff training aimed at assisting students to see how their individual gifts and talents can help them serve the needs of the world through their vocations.

The National Endowment for the Humanities funded NU’s Humanities Connections program in Technology and Human Values with a \$150,000 grant. The program helps students find the connections between human history, ethics, and the role of technology

in such professions as criminal justice, social work, and business data analytics.

And the U.S. Department of Education awarded Newman University a nearly \$2.2 million Title III grant to implement a student support and success program, Navigating the University Experience. In the program, students rely on a support team of faculty, alumni, and community leaders to develop the critical reasoning skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing work environment.

Students encounter ethical and societal challenges designed to prepare them for innovations and ongoing advances in technology related to their fields of study. All students engage in active learning and practice leadership through service, internships, and job shadowing.

Vocations Office seeks names of men, women in religious orders

The diocesan Vocations Office is asking the faithful to assist them in compiling a list of all men and women from the diocese who are currently vowed religious or are in formation with a religious order.

A comprehensive list will help the office better support men and women who are actively living out a religious vocation or have entered into formation with a religious order.

The Vocations Office hopes to have the list available on the Vocations page of the diocesan website listing each person’s name, their religious order, and their home parish. That will allow the diocesan family to identify them and pray for them.

Those who have a son or daughter, brother or sister, or know of anyone else who is currently a vowed religious or in formation with a religious are asked to email wichitavocations@gmail.com with the subject “religious vocations.”

Include the name of the religious (baptismal name and religious name if different), the order they belong to, their home parish in the Diocese of Wichita, and if they have taken final vows or if they are at some other stage in their discernment.

CGS Level III formation offered

A Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level III Adult Formation is planned from March 2023 through May 2024.

Marty O’Bryan and Sandra McCutcheon are the formation leaders. O’Bryan is a retired speech and language pathologist, Marty holds a master of arts degree in pastoral studies with an emphasis on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd from Aquinas Institute of Theology.

McCutcheon has been formed in all three levels and is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at Aquinas Institute of Theology.

For details about the formation and to register, visit Tinyurl.com/cgslevel3.

Monthly bingo Sunday Dec. 4 at Sacred Heart

Monthly cash bingo will be held beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 6, in Sacred Heart Hall, 311 S. Sixth, in Colwich.

Doors open at 1 p.m. with games at 2 o’clock. Snacks and desserts will be available.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the retired priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Wichita and other Catholic charity organizations.

Annual National Prayer Vigil for Life will take place in Washington Jan. 19-20

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The National Prayer Vigil for Life held each January will continue even with the Supreme Court’s reversal of Roe v. Wade because there is “still a great need for prayer and advocacy” to end abortion and protect the unborn and their mothers, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said Nov. 11.

The vigil is hosted in Washington by the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-life Activities, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and The Catholic University of America’s Office of Campus Ministry.

Scheduled for Jan. 19-20 at the national shrine, the vigil has always coincided with the eve of the March for Life, which marks the date of 1973 decision of the court’s Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion nationwide. The 2023 March for Life is Jan. 20.

“The National Prayer Vigil is a time to praise God for the great gift of the recent Supreme Court Dobbs decision, overturning the

tragic Roe v. Wade decision made almost a half-century ago,” said Kat Talalas, assistant director of pro-life communications at the USCCB.

“State and federal legislators are now free to embrace policies that protect preborn children and their mothers,” she said in a statement. “Yet, there is still a great need for prayer and advocacy from the faithful, as there will be intensified efforts to codify Roe in legislation and policies at the state and federal levels.”

She added that “many prayers and sacrifices are needed to transform our culture so that all may cherish the gift of human life and offer life-giving support to vulnerable women, children, and families.”

The opening Mass for the vigil will take place at 5 p.m. (EST) Jan. 19 with Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Pro-Life Activities, as the principal celebrant and homilist.

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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 09/30/2022. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

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