

Pope: 'I am deeply sorry'

In Canada, apologizes for church role in 'evil' committed at residential schools

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

MASKWACIS, Alberta (CNS) — The first step of Pope Francis' weeklong "penitential pilgrimage" to Canada involved him returning two pairs of children's moccasins.

The little shoes were not among the Indigenous artifacts held in the Vatican Museums, but rather reminders that Chief Marie-Anne Day Walker-Pelletier of the Okanese First Nation in Saskatchewan had left with Pope Francis in March so he would think and pray about the children who went to residential schools and, especially, about those who never returned home.

Related stories and photos on pages 10, 11, 16

On the treaty land of the Ermineskin Cree Nation, Samson Cree Nation, Louis Bull Tribe and the Montana First Nation, near the former site of one of Canada's largest residential schools, Pope Francis said, "I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples."



Wearing a traditional Indigenous headdress, Pope Francis kisses the hand of an Indigenous leader during a meeting with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities at Maskwacis, Alberta, on July 25. CNS/Vatican Media

"The first step of my penitential pilgrimage among you is that of again asking forgiveness, of telling you once more that I am deeply sorry," the pope said July 25.

"I am sorry," he said again. "I ask forgiveness, in particular, for the ways in which many members of the church and of religious communities cooperated, not least through their indifference, in projects of cultural destruction and forced assimilation

promoted by the governments of that time, which culminated in the system of residential schools."

The pope spoke in Spanish. When

Pope Francis kisses a banner bearing the names of each of the 4,120 Indigenous children and the residential school where they died, in Maskwacis, Alberta, on July 25.

CNS/Vatican Media



his words of apology were read in English, the crowd responded with applause.

MEETS WITH SURVIVORS, ELDERS

Pope Francis' meeting with more than 2,000 residential school survivors, community elders and knowledge keepers, their family members and mental and emotional support staff was held at the Muskwa, or Bear Park, Powwow Grounds under a persistent drizzle.

Canada's governor general, Mary Simon, and prime minister, Justin Trudeau, were in attendance. But the dignitaries were the pope and Indigenous chiefs from across Canada who made a grand entrance, carrying staffs decorated with eagle feathers and wearing "war bonnets."

The local master of ceremonies explained that the chiefs must be warriors who defend the Indigenous people, language, customs and children.

Before the pope arrived, Ruby Rose Henry of the Tla'amin Nation warmed up her drum and voice by a fire. She hoped to sing the "Wild Flower Song" for the pope.

When government officials would come into the village to take children to the residential school, she said, "the children would

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The Catholic Post

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Funeral Mass in Moline for Fr. Richard Barclift, 82

MOLINE — A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father Richard L. Barclift on Tuesday, July 19, at Christ the King Church in Moline, where he once served as pastor. Bishop Louis Tylka presided and the homilist was Msgr. Gerald Ward.

Interment took place Wednesday, July 20, in Oakland Cemetery, Warsaw.

Father Barclift died on July 14, 2022, at Overlook Village, Moline. He was 82.

“He served God and the Church with care,” said Msgr. Ward of Father Barclift, “and used his gifts to bring others to Christ, through his love of Christ.” The text of the funeral homily is found on page 17.

Born in Waterloo, Iowa, on Nov. 23, 1939, Father Barclift was the son of Roy and Kathryn (Brady) Barclift.

He spent much of his childhood in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and attended Creighton Prep in Omaha, Nebraska, graduating in 1957.

Discerning a vocation to the priesthood, he studied at Loras College for two years, and went on to St. Ambrose College for three years, earning a bachelor’s degree in philosophy in 1962. He completed his studies for the priesthood at St. Meinrad

in St. Meinrad, Indiana, and was ordained by Bishop John B. Franz on May 22, 1966, at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Peoria.

LONG SERVICE IN QUAD CITIES REGION

Following ordination, Father Barclift served as parochial vicar at St. Joseph in Rock Island, Epiphany in Normal, and St. Patrick in Lincoln. He joined the Diocesan Vocation Team in 1972 and was named a diocesan consultor in 1974.

In 1976, he became a member of the Rock Island-Milan Cooperative and would minister as co-pastor of St. Ambrose in Milan and St. Patrick in Andalusia for two years, and then as pastor. In 1978 he was also named diocesan director for Christ Renews His Parish.

He went to St. Patrick in LaSalle as pastor in 1990 and returned to the Quad Cities four years later to lead Christ the King in Moline. Father Barclift was pastor at St. Patrick in Andalusia from 1998 until he was granted senior status in 2009.

In retirement, he assisted in Quad Cities parishes and celebrated Mass for the Benedictine Sisters at St. Mary Monastery

in Rock Island, and served as a maritime chaplain with Apostleship of the Sea.

Preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Jim, Father Barclift is survived by his nephews, Steve Barclift and Richard Barclift, and nieces, Jane Fellows and Julie Fischer.

Memorials may be made in care of Al-leman High School, 1103 40th St., Rock Island, IL 61201, or your favorite charity.

Clergy appointments

Father Derick Mwesiga to parochial vicar, Holy Family Parish, Lincoln; St. Mary Parish, Atlanta; and St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Mt. Pulaski

This appointment was effective at noon on Friday, July 22, 2022.

Father Witold Adamczyk, OFM Conv., from assignment with the Conventual Franciscans to pastor, St. Mary Parish and Sacred Heart Parish, both in Rock Island

Father Piotr Sarnicki, OFM Conv., from assignment with the Conventual Franciscans to pastor, St. Pius X Parish, Rock Island

These appointments will be effective on Monday, Aug. 1, 2022.

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Benedictines elect new abbot of St. Bede

Fr. Michael Calhoun, OSB, succeeds Abbot Philip Davey, OSB

BY JENNIFER WILLEMS
OF THE CATHOLIC POST

PERU — After being known as Father Michael for 20 years, it may take some time for Abbot Michael Calhoun, OSB, to get used to his new title and responsibilities. But that is what the monastic community at St. Bede Abbey elected him to do on July 13.

His abbatial blessing will be conferred by Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Lombardo, CFR, of Chicago on Saturday, Sept. 3, in St. Bede Abbey Church. Abbot Michael said that in addition to being the feast day of St. Gregory the Great, an important saint for Benedictines, Sept. 3 is the anniversary date of the abbatial blessing of Abbot Roger Corpus, OSB, in 1990.

Abbot Michael succeeds Abbot Philip Davey, OSB, who guided the Benedictine community at St. Bede since 2011, and had been acting as interim abbot since his 75th birthday on April 3.

“I feel humbled and honored to serve the St. Bede community as its abbot. I pray for God’s grace to strengthen me and ask for the entire St. Bede community to remember me in their prayers,” Abbot Michael said when his election was announced.

Leadership is nothing new for Abbot Michael, who has served as prior at the monastery since 2009. Whatever trepidation he might have felt about the role he could potentially play for the next 23 years was eased by the words of confidence voiced by his predecessor.

“Abbot Michael is very much a man of



With Abbot Emeritus Philip Davey’s hand on his shoulder and his hand on the Book of the Gospels, newly elected Abbot Michael Calhoun makes a profession of faith on July 13 in the new chapel for the monastic community at St. Bede Abbey in Peru. Provided photo

“I pray for God’s grace to strengthen me and ask for the entire St. Bede community to remember me in their prayers.”

Abbot Michael Calhoun, OSB

Abbot Michael Calhoun, OSB, who was elected on July 13 to lead the Benedictine community at St. Bede Abbey, stands in front of the monastery’s door. His abbatial blessing is planned for Saturday, Sept. 3, and will be conferred by Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Lombardo, CFR, of Chicago. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems

faith, who grew in holiness through St. Benedict,” Abbot Emeritus Philip said. “He is very devoted to prayer, and for many years has generously served the monks in a variety of jobs. I could not have accomplished the work I did as abbot without the daily support of the good prior.”

EMOTIONAL MOMENT

A Benedictine abbot is elected by the members of the monastic community. A six-month period of prayerful reflection began the process of discernment at St. Bede Abbey. Nomination of candidates took place by secret ballot followed by a discussion of each candidate.

Overseeing the abbatial election on July 13 was Abbot President Jonathan Licari, OSB, of the American Cassinese Congregation of Benedictine Monasteries.

“Our community is small,” Abbot Michael said. “With a small community there are only a few options and I could tell I was one of the options.”

Unlike American politics, where candidates campaign for office, the election of an abbot is more about discernment by the monastic community. That includes considering what to do if selected. At one point, Abbot Michael didn’t think he could accept it if he was chosen.

But as the discernment continued, he thought, “If I see the community coalescing around me, I’ll say ‘yes.’ And I saw that happen.”

Nevertheless, it was an emotional moment, he told The Catholic Post.

GREW UP IN UTICA

Priesthood — let alone serving as abbot someday — wasn’t on Abbot Michael’s radar as a boy.

The son of Michael and Linda Calhoun, he was born on Dec. 7, 1970, and given the name Matthew. He grew up in Utica and attended the Baptist church down the street with his brother and sister.

“At some point during my eighth grade year — I think it was 1984-1985 — my

parents decided they wanted to start going to the Catholic church,” he recalled.

“We started taking instruction at Resurrection Parish in LaSalle with Msgr. (James)

Swaner, now of happy memory, and Msgr. (Thomas) Mack.”

Abbot Michael was baptized, confirmed and received his First Communion shortly before entering St. Bede Academy. After witnessing the community life of the Benedictines and attending Emmaus Days, a vocations awareness program sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria, he approached Abbot Marion Balsavich about joining the Benedictines at the end of his senior year.

One of the things that brings joy to Abbot Michael Calhoun, OSB, is gardening. His skill can be seen in this Mary garden, which he planted on the grounds of St. Bede Abbey and Academy. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems



He was sent to Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, earning a bachelor’s degree in religious education with a minor in philosophy. He came into the community as a postulant on Aug. 15, 1993, and started his novitiate on Dec. 8, 1993. A year later, he made a simple profession (temporary vows).

Final vows would come on Dec. 8, 1999.

Abbot Michael holds a master’s of divinity and a master’s degree in Scripture from St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. He attended St. John’s University in Collegeville from 2006 to 2008 and received a master’s degree in monastic studies.

He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, CSC, on June 1, 2002, at St. Bede Abbey Church.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Abbot Michael started teaching religion in 1995 and has done that ever since, with the exception of the two years he spent doing graduate work. Whether he will be able to continue remains to be determined.

In the meantime, several changes have taken place for the monastic community at St. Bede.

“A priority for all of us is devising an arrangement of governance in the monastery that reflects our numbers,” he said, noting that the community now has 11 members, with one living in a nursing home.

Rather than having an abbot, a prior and a sub-prior, along with a senior council, Abbot Michael said they will have an abbot and prior, with the entire community taking responsibility for making decisions with regard to their life together. A new prior to succeed Abbot Michael has not been named yet.

And after months of planning, nine of the Benedictines moved from the abbey into the residence formerly occupied by

PLEASE TURN TO **ABBOT MICHAEL** 11

Webb telescope images feed mind and spirit: Vatican astronomer

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Jesuits at the Vatican Observatory were wowed like most people by the beauty of the photos from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, but the director said they also are excited by the scientific information the telescope will reveal.

"Such images are a necessary food for the human spirit — we do not live by bread alone — especially in these times," said Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno, the observatory director, after NASA released a first batch of images from what the space agency describes as "the largest, most powerful space telescope ever built."

"The images are gorgeous, as anyone can see for themselves," Brother Consolmagno said. "It's a tantalizing glimpse of what we'll be able to learn about the universe with this telescope in the future."

NASA described Webb's mission as studying "every phase of 13.5 billion years of cosmic history — from within our solar system to the most distant observable galaxies in the early universe, and everything in between."



The "Cosmic Cliffs" of the Carina Nebula are seen in an image released by NASA July 12 from data provided by NASA's James Webb Space Telescope. CNS/handout via Reuters

"The science behind this telescope is our attempt to use our God-given intelligence to understand the logic of the universe," Brother Consolmagno said. "The universe wouldn't work if it weren't logical. But as these images show, the

universe is not only logical, it is also beautiful."

"This is God's creation being revealed to us, and in it we can see both his astonishing power and his love of beauty," the Jesuit said.

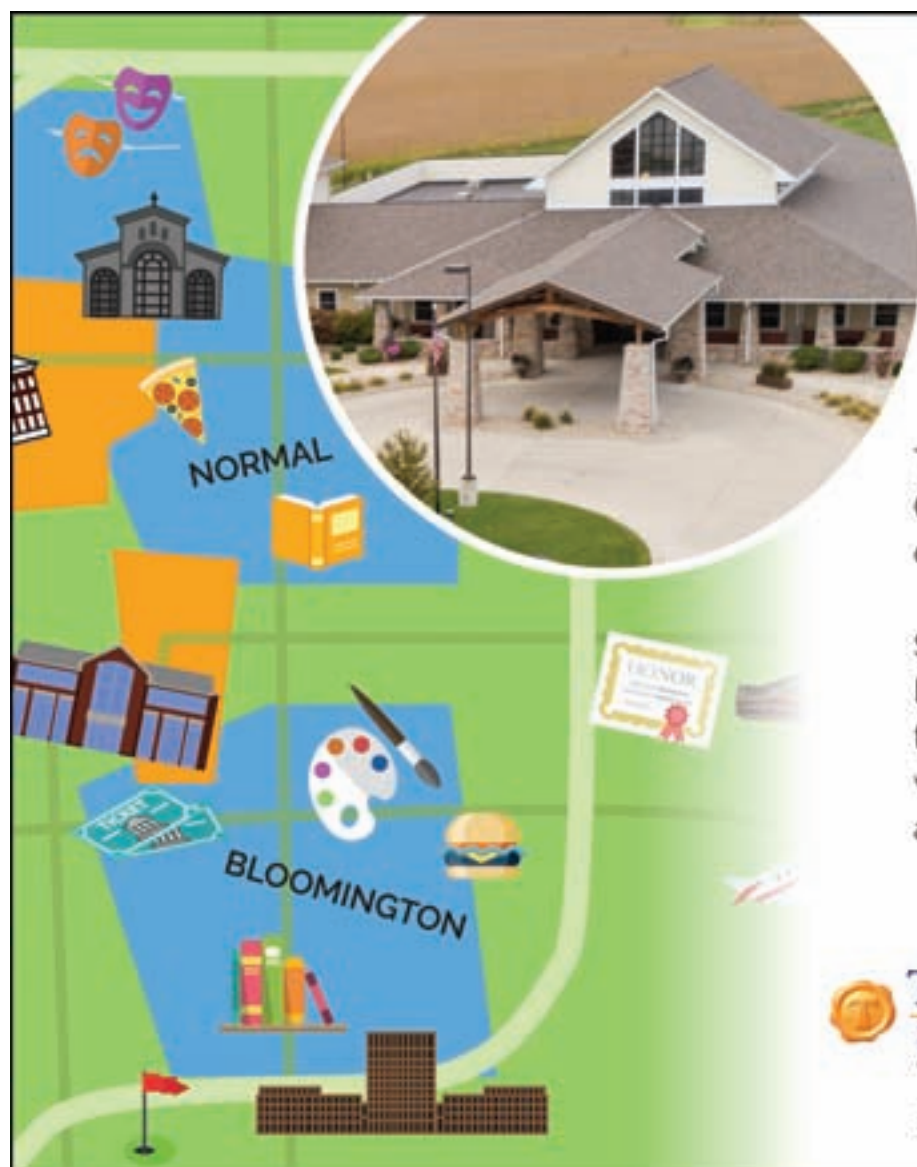
German Synodal Path must not create new structures, doctrines

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — "It seems necessary to make it clear that the 'Synodal Path' in Germany does not have the power to compel bishops and the faithful to assume new modes of governance and new approaches to doctrine and morals," said an unsigned "declaration of the Holy See."

Released by the Vatican press office in German and Italian July 21, the declaration said the Catholic Church in Germany could not "initiate new official structures or doctrines in the dioceses prior to an agreed understanding at the level of the universal church." Doing so, it said, "would represent a wound to ecclesial communion and a threat to the unity of the church."

In response, the two presidents of the German Synodal Path insisted, "We never tire of underlining that the church in Germany will not follow a 'special German path'" and that the rules of the process have made clear from the beginning that "resolutions passed by the Synodal Assembly have no legal effect of their own accord."

But the assembly presidents — Bishop Georg Bätzing, president of the of the German bishops' conference, and Irme Stetter-Karp, president of the Central Committee of German Catholics — took issue with the tone of the Vatican declaration and particularly with it being unsigned.



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Composer's hymn is Catholic song of year

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (CNS) — A fellow member of the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Choir in Columbia, Missouri, approached Kate Basi after practice.

"I wanted you to know, you wrote that song for me," she gratefully stated.

It seemed that Basi's latest liturgical composition, titled "Come, All You Thirsty," had hit its mark.

"It's a really humbling thing to be a part of, to be among the people who are creating the music that we walk out of church singing," said Basi, a Catholic columnist, author, composer, wife, mother and active parishioner.

"It's a tremendous gift and a tremendous responsibility," she told *The Catholic Missourian*, newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

The Association of Catholic Publishers last month named "Come, All You Thirsty" as its 2022 Song of the Year.

Basi's "Show Us Your Face" was a finalist for the same award in 2019.

DEVELOPED OVER TWO YEARS

Based on Isaiah 55, "Come, All You Thirsty" is a contemporary hymn, reminiscent of a lullaby, that invites all who are fatigued in body and soul to lay down their burdens and seek healing refreshment in God.

"This song," Basi wrote in her composer notes, "belongs to all who are weary of battling forces — both within the Catholic community and in the world — that contradict the heart of the Gospel call. Come, Lord Jesus! Come to these broken places. Call us to the water and make us whole."

What began with a playful exchange during a parish hymn committee meeting ended up stalking Basi for two years.

"There was some joking about how we needed another song on the 'Come to the Water' text," she recalled, referring to the passage from Isaiah and the time-honored Catholic hymn by Father John Foley of the St. Louis Jesuits.

She didn't really take the challenge seriously, "but by the time I left the

meeting that day, the melody and the first phrase was already in my head," she said.

The rest simmered for about two years.

RESPONDS TO SADNESS, DIVISION

The challenge is always for the lyrics to be "accurate theologically but also poetic, to say something different

from what's been said before, while containing truths that do not change," she said.

She worked and prayed for the kind of familiarity that only God can provide.

"The thing about music for worship is that if you want the assembly to be able to sing it, they have to feel like they've known it their whole life, even though you're putting it in front of them for the first time," she said.

All of this took place during a time of great sadness and division in this country.

The song "took shape over the course of a year — its contours defined by CO-

VID, political ugliness, and revelations of abuse, assault and police brutality," Basi stated in her composer notes. "All these heartbreaking realities were in my thoughts as I wrote, revised and prayed."

The third verse contains a phrase that still pierces her heart: "Come, all you wounded, to the water, you who suffer broken faith, you who fear to trust in the love of God."

EDITOR'S NOTE: A recording of "Come, All You Thirsty" can be heard on YouTube.



Kate Basi is a liturgical composer and member of the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Choir in Columbia, Missouri. Her hymn "Come, All You Thirsty" has been named the 2022 Song of the Year by the Association of Catholic Publishers. CNS/Phu Nguyen



Online exhibit shows links between Knights, baseball

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It's not exactly the "church of baseball," as stated by Annie Savoy in the 1988 film comedy "Bull Durham," but the church AND baseball.

An online exhibit sponsored by the Knights of Columbus shows some of the many connections between the Catholic fraternal organization and the national pastime. The work has been a labor of love for Andy Fowler, who worked for the Knights for the past four years.

"Catholics and baseball lovers might find it fascinating," Fowler advised during a July 11 interview with Catholic News Service from his residence in Milford, Connecticut, near the Knights' headquarters in New Haven.

"The story of baseball cannot be told without a tip of the cap to the Knights of Columbus," the exhibit's introduction reads. "For the Knights of Columbus, the game served as an early avenue of assimilation for Catholic immigrants and first-generation Americans."

The exhibit "KofC and Baseball: An American Story" can be found at michaelmcgivneycenter.org.

Some of the more well-known figures in the early days of the sport were members of the Knights, including Babe Ruth, Connie Mack and John McGraw, Hall of Famers all. Pitcher Ron "Louisiana Lightning" Guidry, a New York Yankees pitcher of more recent vintage — his career ran 1975-88, all with

the Bronx Bombers — was also a member of the Knights during his playing days.

Catholic educators urged to see importance of Eucharist

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Addressing Catholic educators at an annual national conference, Bishop Thomas A. Daly of Spokane, Washington, urged them to make sure their work was always rooted in the importance of the Eucharist.

The bishop, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Catholic Education, said school-teachers should help their students more deeply appreciate the sacrament amid the current National Eucharistic Revival.

Launched June 19, the feast of Corpus Christi, the revival is a three-year initiative of the USCCB to revitalize Catholics' understanding of and love for Jesus in the Eucharist.

At the National Eucharistic Congress that will close the revival in 2024, Bishop Daly said, "there will be a great emphasis on the work that Catholic schools can do and how they might help the next generation . . . to appreciate, to know and to love Jesus Christ" in the Eucharist.

The bishop gave the opening address of the 10th annual conference of the Institute for Catholic Liberal Education held July 11-14 at The Catholic University of America in Washington.

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Deacon Daniel Dionesotes carries the Blessed Sacrament as high school juniors and seniors participating in Emmaus Days' Session II take part in a eucharistic procession on the campus of the University of Illinois in Champaign. Four sessions of the vocations awareness retreat this summer drew a total of 162 participants. Provided photo/Father Julio Faes



Nineteen Emmaus Days Session I retreatants (single men in college through their 30s) are pictured with Bishop Louis Tylka and seminarians outside Newman Hall in Champaign. At right is seminarian Jack Swoik, head prefect, while seminarian Jack Watt, assistant prefect, is at left. Provided photo/Father Chase Hilgenbrinck



The 25 high school junior and senior retreatants of Emmaus Days Session II pose outside Newman Hall with Bishop Tylka and retreat leaders. At left is Father Chase Hilgenbrinck, diocesan vocations director of recruitment. Provided photo/Father Matthew Hoelscher

Emmaus Days '22

Most participants in 10 years encounter Jesus, consider call

That 162 boys and young men took part in the four sessions of Emmaus Days this summer in the Diocese of Peoria — the most in a decade — was “incredible.”

But there was another number even more satisfying to seminarian Jack Swoik, who served as head prefect of the vocation awareness retreats sponsored by the diocese's Office of Vocations.

“We had 118 guys just the past week,” said Swoik of Sessions III and IV at Peoria Notre Dame High School July 17-22, “and I bet 100 of them went to confession. That was pretty awesome to witness.”

The theme of Emmaus Days this year was “Encounter,” and the sacrament of reconciliation was just one way retreatants encountered Jesus as they spent time considering how the Lord is calling them to live their lives. Other encounters included Mass, eucharistic adoration, witness talks given by priests and seminarians, and “good, holy fraternity,” said Swoik, a Pekin native who will return to Mount St. Mary's Seminary in the fall and is scheduled for ordination as a transitional deacon in 2023.

The first two Emmaus Days sessions — for men at least college-aged and then for high school juniors and seniors — took place in June hosted by St. John's

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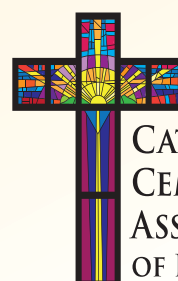
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Forty-eight high school sophomore and freshmen boys took part in Emmaus Days Session III, hosted July 17-20 by Peoria Notre Dame High School. The Catholic Post/Tom Dermody



The largest session of Emmaus Days this summer was the final one, Session IV, which drew 70 seventh and eighth grade boys to Peoria Notre Dame High School from July 20-22. The Catholic Post/Tom Dermody

Catholic Newman Center at the University of Illinois in Champaign. The sessions at Peoria Notre Dame were for high school freshman and sophomores and then boys in grades 7 and 8.

“WE ALL HAVE A VOCATION”

“We all have a calling from the Lord,” said Bishop Louis Tylka, who celebrated Mass and answered retreatants’ questions at all four sessions. (See related story at right.)

“We all have a vocation,” the bishop continued in a homily at Peoria Notre Dame on July 20. “I encourage us all — whether discerning a vocation to the priesthood, religious life, marriage, or whatever it is — to trust in the Lord. Don’t look at

your inadequacies, your faults, your failures, your sins. God will give you what is necessary if you are on the path of discernment to the vocation God is calling you to.”

Swoik credited personal invitations from priests and seminarians, as well as a desire to return to normal after the COVID pandemic, for the impressive numbers.

Serving as assistant prefect was seminarian Jack Watt, and about a dozen seminarians had various roles in Emmaus Days. The diocese’s four newly ordained transitional deacons each took part in one session so that they could focus on their summer parish assignments.

The retreats featured opportunities to both pray and play.

For example, Swoik arranged for retreatants at the Peoria Notre Dame sessions to spend a few hours swimming at a local club’s pool.

Swoik noted that this was the 39th year for Emmaus Days in the diocese. He attended three of them in high school and early college, and is grateful to now have the leadership experience.

“To think that so many guys have done it before me and so many awesome priests still ministering in our diocese have led it,” said Swoik, happy to follow in that tradition.

Hands go up as Bishop Louis Tylka fields questions from retreatants at Emmaus Days Session IV at Peoria Notre Dame High School on July 22. The Catholic Post/Tom Dermody



Retreatants had many questions for the bishop

The questions came at Bishop Louis Tylka in rapid succession — almost one a minute during two half-hour sessions at Emmaus Days this month at Peoria Notre Dame High School.

What’s the hardest decision you’ve made as a bishop so far?

Has Pope Francis told you when Fulton Sheen will be beatified?

How much do you pray daily?

What was your best encounter with God?

Are you happy with what you’re doing?

Bishop Tylka visited all four Emmaus Days sessions this summer. Before celebrating Mass, he took part in question-and-answer sessions with retreatants. The Catholic Post sat in on separate sessions for high school freshmen and sophomores and later seventh- and eighth-graders.

Some questions were fielded quickly. Favorite color? “Purple.

Blue and red make purple.” What kind of car do you drive? “A Lincoln Nautilus.” Favorite liturgical season? “Advent.” Favorite prayer? “Come, Holy Spirit.” Do you think you’ll ever be made a cardinal? “God I hope not.”

Others, such as sharing his vocation story or how he became a bishop, took more time.

What about the above questions?

Hardest decision? “I’m not going to give you an exact one,” said Bishop Tylka, listing assignments of priests, hirings and firings, or what can or can’t be done with limited resources as just some of the more challenging decisions that cross his desk.

Fulton Sheen? Pope Francis has not yet told him, but Bishop Tylka intends to raise the topic with the pope when he goes to “new bishop’s school” in Rome

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Diocese hosts Teens Encounter Christ leaders

Balancing work, prayer focus for 60 at national 'encounter' in Champaign

BY JENNIFER WILLEMS
OF THE CATHOLIC POST

CHAMPAIGN — With about 60 leaders from 20 Teens Encounter Christ communities around the country converging on St. John's Catholic Newman Center July 15-17, there was plenty of joy to go around as they prayed, learned and laughed together.

That joyful, fruitful ministry doesn't come from running nonstop, however. That's why TEC Encounter 2022 focused on "Ora et Labora: Balancing Work and Prayer."

"There is a wrong way to do the right thing," keynote speaker Marcia Lane-McGee of Chicago told those gathered in the Swetland Assembly Room on July 16.

"Yes, we're doing good work, but we're not being good to ourselves. And if we're not being good to ourselves, we're not being good to the people we're serving," said Lane-McGee, a former parish youth minister who works at Mooseheart, a residential child care agency, where she runs a home of teens and teaches social skills.

"How are we going to be salt and light and bear fruit and get them to heaven and get our own selves to heaven, and all the things that living this whole life of Christ that the ministry entails if we're on autopilot, if we're not keeping holy the Sabbath, if we are not prepared in the way we should be prepared," she asked.

RESTING, RECHARGING, RELEASING

Lane-McGee prescribed rest, recharging, releasing what weighs us down, and getting ready as ways to strike the proper balance between work and prayer.

"Here's the thing about rest — it is sacred and it is necessary. It is a non-negotiable in our lives," she said. "I have to sufficiently rest before I can go to the next thing."



Bishop Louis Tylka is surrounded by those attending TEC Encounter 2022 after the opening Mass at St. John's Chapel in Champaign. The national gathering was held July 15-17.

Provided photo

Lane-McGee discovered the importance of recharging when she purchased her first cellphone. The salesman told her that she had to let it die once a week in order for it to function properly.

"We have to do that, too. We have to let ourselves completely shut down and we have to cut off access from other people," she said. "We have to recharge our own batteries."

Her phone doesn't care that she's annoyed because it is not accessible to her, according to Lane-McGee. "It's like, 'Here's what I need. You're just going to have to wait.' We have to be able to say that" in a nice way.

She encouraged her listeners to assess what they're carrying from time to time, asking "Is it mine? Do I need it? Does someone I love need it? Then I can share it with them. How much longer do I have to carry it? Does it benefit me or hinder me?"

We have to release what is hindering us and be able to leave it at the feet of Jesus, Lane-McGee said.

Noting that many people tend to be procrastinators and planners, Lane-McGee said it is good to plan. But we have to be ready rather than being in the position of rushing to get ready.



Kimberly Souba of Geneseo and Kathy Casey of Kalamazoo, Michigan, were honored with Heritage Awards from the TEC Conference during TEC Encounter 2022 in Champaign. It is the highest honor bestowed by the organization. Provided photo

"We're often not ready when we need to be because we have neglected the other Rs. We neglected the rest, we neglected the release, and we neglected the recharge," she said. "We are facing burnout and are overwhelmed, which leads us to that procrastination."

Like Martha and Mary from Luke's Gospel, work and spending time with Jesus are not at odds. Both are good and necessary, Lane-McGee explained. If Mary was praised for choosing the better part it was because she put Jesus first.

"Mary was able to say, 'Jesus, come in!' and mean it. And that's what we have to do, too, when we put first things first," she said.

GENESEO CATECHIST HONORED

In addition to the keynote talk by Lane-McGee, TEC Encounter 2022 featured an opening Mass celebrated by Bishop Louis Tylka, who serves on TEC's Bishops Committee.

The TEC Conference also presented Heritage Awards — its highest honor — to Kimberly Souba of Geneseo and Kathy Casey

of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Both women, who have been involved on the local, state and national level, said TEC was a life-

changing experience for them.

"When I made my TEC at Peterstown, it was the first time in my life that I can say that I felt unconditional love and acceptance as a teenager," said Souba, who now serves as the director of religious education, confirmation preparation coordinator and coordinator of middle school youth ministry at St. Malachy in Geneseo.

"The reason I kept staying involved was more because I wanted to give back to other teens and other young adults . . . what I've received," she said, adding that she also wanted to repay the many people who have invested in her, especially spiritually and emotionally.

That's one of the reasons TEC is so important for the older adolescents and young adults it serves, said Billy O'Regan, executive director of the TEC Conference.

"When a person finds themselves known — their name is known, who they are is known, they're loved unconditionally — it puts them in a position to encounter Christ more authentically and give themselves into community in a way you can't before that," he told The Catholic Post.

And they can ask questions about who Jesus is and what their relationship is to him because it's done in a safe, secure environment, according to Father Kyle Lucas, diocesan coordinator for TEC.

While most dioceses have one TEC community, the Diocese of Peoria is unique in that it has four. In addition to Peterstown, there are TEC communities in Bloomington-Normal, Peoria and Northwest TEC in the Quad Cities.

Pro-life Mass set

DAVENPORT, Iowa — Our Lady of Victory Church, 4105 N. Division St., will host the Quad Cities monthly pro-life Mass on Tuesday, Aug. 2. It will begin at 7 a.m.



"Here's the thing about rest — it is sacred and it is necessary. It is a non-negotiable in our lives."

Marcia Lane-McGee,
keynote speaker at TEC
Encounter 2022

The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willem

This page is sponsored in loving memory of Michael Wallace West of St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Princeville

Fall Scout Rendezvous set in London Mills Sept. 16-18

The Diocese of Peoria's Catholic Committee on Scouting has scheduled its annual Fall Scout Rendezvous for the weekend of Sept. 16-18 at Ingersoll Scout Reservation in London Mills.

The weekend of camping, games, and activities is designed for youth in the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls who have completed the fifth grade.

The Rendezvous will include activities that are Catholic focused, including a Saturday afternoon Mass in the ISR chapel. The weekend fulfills the requirement for several of the religious emblem programs offered through Catholic Scouting. Every participant will receive an event patch and activity patch that highlights

one of the American saints featured over the weekend.

Scout units are encouraged to attend as a group with appropriate adult leadership, but individual families may also participate. Overnight arrangements will be tent camping, and participants are asked to bring their own camping equipment. A day option is also being considered for families unable to stay overnight.

Cost for the weekend is \$40 per person and includes meals, activities, patches, and materials. Need-based scholarship opportunities are available.

More information — including a registration form — is available on the Diocese of Peoria's Catholic Committee on Scouting website, peoria-dccs.org, or by calling Linda Atherton at (217) 369-0080.

Pro-life Joshua Camp invites high school students Aug. 13

Joshua Camp, a daylong opportunity for high school students to have fun and hear from speakers about the importance of life, will be held on Saturday, Aug. 13, at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2035 N. Kickapoo Creek Road, in Peoria. Sponsored by Central Illinois Right to Life, it will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.

In addition to the pro-life speakers, the camp will feature games and food. Each participant will receive a free t-shirt.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is requested. Call (309) 645-8000 or (309) 360-9687 and indicate what size t-shirt you'll need (adult or youth, small to 2XL).

'Enhanced collaboration' for OSF HealthCare, Illinois CancerCare

OSF HealthCare and Illinois CancerCare have announced an "enhanced collaboration" to better deliver comprehensive cancer care for patients and their families in regions served by both independent entities.

At a July 21 press conference in the "Garden of Hope" outside Illinois CancerCare's main location in northwest Peoria, the new relationship was called "a wonderful example of working and serving together for the overall good of the communities we both serve."

"May God bless this new collaboration, the care teams, and all of the people who come to us

for care . . . that they may come to know through us just how much God loves and cares for them," said Sister Judith Ann Duvall, OSF, chairperson of the boards for OSF HealthCare.

Dr. Michael Cruz, chief operating officer of OSF HealthCare, emphasized that "OSF is not acquiring Illinois CancerCare, nor are they merging with us," but that the deepened partnership is "the culmination of a great relationship" that has developed over decades.

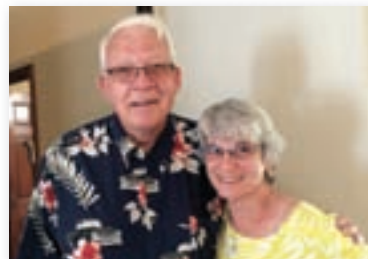
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Moline students take a hike through the sacraments

With camping gear in hand, the children at Sacred Heart Church in Moline took a hike through the "wilderness" to discover amazing things about baptism, confirmation, reconciliation, anointing of the sick, marriage and holy orders July 11-15. Debbie Patronagio, director of religious education at Sacred Heart, said the Vacation Bible School included such wilderness scenes as a campground, rock wall/cave, river with a kayak, and lean-to shelter. The children — pre-kindergarten through fifth grade — learned about the sacraments through a variety of games, music, crafts, and even snacks. *Provided photo*



LEWIS 60TH — Norman and Judy Lewis of Dwight are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary this week. Mr. Lewis married Judy Bellis on Aug. 4, 1962, at St. Paul Church in Odell. They have resided at 213 E. Pollard Ave. in Dwight for 56 years and are members of St. Patrick Parish there. The Lewises are the parents of Frank (Shelley) Lewis of Fishers, Indiana, and Kristine (Andy) Suyko of Channahon, and have five grandchildren. A trip to Charlottesville, Virginia, is planned for later for another family wedding.

Militia of the Immaculata in diocese to gather Aug. 13

WEST PEORIA — Members of the Militia of the Immaculata in the Diocese of Peoria are invited to an annual celebration of founder St. Maximilian Kolbe on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Little Garden of the Immaculata, 2106 W. Heading Ave.

Father William Miller will preside at a prayer service at 9:45 a.m. in honor of St. Maximilian during which members will renew their total consecration to the Immaculata. Refreshments will follow.

Those planning to attend are

asked to RSVP by Aug. 9 at minational@missionimmaculata.com or by calling (331) 223-5564.

The national home of the Militia of the Immaculata relocated to West Peoria in 2018. The worldwide organization promotes total consecration to Mary. Founded in 1917 by St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Militia is an evangelization movement that has more than 3 million members in 48 nations.

Peoria will host the national assembly of the Militia of the Immaculata Aug. 5-7.

CancerCare, will serve as medical director for the medical oncology/hematology program between OSF and Illinois CancerCare.

"Our shared vision is to elevate cancer research in complementary fashion, translating into more lives saved or at least improved for our mutual patients and their families," said Dr. Bajaj.

A current patient of both entities, Amy Schwanke, shared her personal cancer journey and gratitude for the care she has received leading to an excellent prognosis. Noting her tumor was found during a colonoscopy last year, she encouraged all to "get

your screenings done as soon as possible."

Dr. Michael Veeder reviewed the past 50 years of cancer care in Peoria and said the enhanced relationship between OSF HealthCare and Illinois CancerCare "lays the foundation for the next 20 to 30 years with more advancement, more treatment for cure, and hopefully much more prevention." Dr. Veeder is a 41-year veteran of medical oncology and hematology with Illinois CancerCare. He noted that Illinois CancerCare had nine employees when he started. It now has more than 500.

Honor elders, urges pope at stadium

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

EDMONTON, Alberta (CNS) — Celebrating the feast day of Jesus' grandparents, Pope Francis not only urged people to honor their elders, but he asked them to think about what they will hand on to future generations.

"We received so much from the hands of those who preceded us. What do we, in turn, want to bequeath to those who come after us?" the pope asked in his homily July 26 at Mass in Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium.

Do people want to hand on a weak, "rosewater" faith or a living faith, he asked. "A society founded on personal profit or on fraternity? A world at war or a world at peace? A devastated creation or a home that continues to be welcoming?"

Organizers said they had distributed 60,000 tickets for Pope Francis' Mass in the stadium on the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus' grandparents. Priority for the free tickets was given to First Nation, Inuit and Métis survivors of residential schools and elders, but the liturgy was the first event of the pope's July 24-29 visit to Canada that was not focused almost exclusively on the Indigenous communities.

However, an Indigenous artist created the pope's vestments for Mass. Julia Kozak, the artist, made a beaded miter and two beaded robes: a chasuble the pope would have worn if he had presided over the entire Mass, and a cope, which he wore as he presided only over the Liturgy of the Word and gave the homily.

Because of the pope's ongoing knee pain, Archbishop Richard Smith of Edmonton was the main celebrant of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

LEARNING FROM OUR GRANDPARENTS

Gentleness came up repeatedly in the homily of 85-year-old Pope Francis.

In his ode to grandparents, he said they were the ones who "took us by the hand when we were afraid, reassured us in the dark of night, encouraged us when in the full light of day we faced important life decisions."

For many people in many cultures, grandparents were the ones who created a "familiar" atmosphere of faith, he said. "Because that is how faith is fundamentally passed on: in the mother tongue, in dialect, it is passed on at home, through affection and encouragement, care and closeness."

"From our grandparents," he said, "we learned that love is never forced, it never deprives others of their interior freedom."

"That is the way Joachim and Anne loved Mary, and that is how Mary loved Jesus — with a love that never smothered him or held him back but accompanied him in embracing the mission for which he had come into the world," the pope said.

Individual Catholics and the church as a whole need to learn to share the faith with that same gentle style, he said. "May we learn never to pressure the consciences of others, never to restrict the freedom of those around us, and above all, never to fail in loving and respecting those who preceded us and are entrusted to our care. For they are a precious treasure that preserves a history greater than themselves."

CREATE A FAMILY MEMORIAL

Encouraging people at the Mass to honor and respect their grandparents and other elders, the pope suggested that families could create "a small family memorial" with photos and objects that had belonged to their grandparents or elders. Passing by the little collection, family members would be reminded to pray.

"In the fog of forgetfulness that overshadows our turbulent times, it is essential to cultivate our roots, to pray for and with our forebears, to dedicate time to remember and guard their legacy," the pope said. "This is how a family tree grows; this is how the future is built."

And part of honoring one's elders, he said, is working to build the kind of society they had wanted, a society that is more just, more fraternal and marked by solidarity.

"Sustained by those who are our roots, now it is our turn to bear fruit," the pope said. "We are the branches that must blossom and spread new seeds of history."



An Indigenous dancer performs as Pope Francis meets with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities at Maskwacis, Alberta on July 25. CNS/Guglielmo Mangiapane, Reuters

SORRY: Pope Francis opens weeklong 'penitential pilgrimage' to Canada

FROM 1

run and hide." When the officials would leave, "the children would sing this song so the parents would know they were not kidnapped."

A "PENITENTIAL PILGRIMAGE"

The pope had begun his visit meeting the pastoral staff and a few parishioners at Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Church before stopping to pray in the Ermineskin Cree Nation Cemetery and then going, by wheelchair, to the site of the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School.

Five teepees were erected on the site -- four of them to represent each of the nations that call Maskwacis home, and the fifth to mark the school.

Pope Francis had described his visit to Canada July 24-29 as a "penitential pilgrimage" to ask forgiveness for the trauma inflicted on Indigenous children by too many of the priests and nuns who ran about 60 percent of the schools for the Canadian government.

The government now estimates at least 150,000 First Nation, Inuit and Métis children were taken from their families and communities and forced to attend the schools between 1870 and 1997. At least 4,120 children died at the schools, and several thousand others vanished without a trace.

As the meeting with the pope began, a red banner through the crowd. The banner read: "I am sorry for the 4,120 deceased children and the 150,000 living children."

Students at the schools were forbidden to practice their traditions. The government said that the students often were maltreated, physically or even sexually abused.

HEALING INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA

The discovery of unmarked graves at several sites across Canada in 2021 intensified the national conversation about the residential-school legacy and increased pressure on Canadian soil for what members of the public have called "intergenerational trauma."

Ernest Durocher, a member of the Maskwacis First Nation and a survivor of the Ile-a-la-Croix Residential School, said he spent several days on the grounds for a while, just thinking, he said.

"I hope to hear an apology from the government," he said. Emily McKinney, 21, a member of the Maskwacis First Nation, said she was elected to Maskwacis from the Treaty 1

um Mass in Canada

“In the fog of forgetfulness that overshadows our turbulent times, it is essential to cultivate our roots, to pray for and with our forebears, to dedicate time to remember and guard their legacy. This is how a family tree grows; this is how the future is built.”

Pope Francis

Pope Francis greets the crowd before celebrating Mass at Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton, Alberta on July 26. CNS/Paul Haring



Wearing vestments designed by Indigenous artist Julia Kozak, Pope Francis celebrates Mass at Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton, Alberta, on July 26. CNS/Paul Haring



Coal Valley Parish marks 50 years

Bishop Louis Tylka celebrates Mass at St. Maria Goretti Church in Coal Valley on July 17 as part of the parish's observance of the 50th anniversary of its founding. Concelebrants at left include Father Tony Ego, pastor, Father Duane Jack, former pastor, and Father R. Michael Schaab, former administrator. Deacon Thomas Gainey assists. The faith community began as a mission of St. Ambrose Parish in Milan in 1965, and became a parish on June 1, 1972. Provided photo/Jennifer Schnell

Pope Francis prays at the Ermineskin Cree Nation Cemetery before meeting with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities at Maskwacis, Alberta, on July 25. CNS/Vatican Media



ABBOT MICHAEL

FROM 3

the female boarding students. A chapel was completed in July and that's where the abbatial election took place.

The monks pray the Divine Office, Morning Prayer, Mid-day Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline in the chapel and go to the abbey church for Mass.

“We are also modifying our relationship with St. Bede Academy — something that reflects our numbers, our monastic numbers” he added. “Our corporate structures have not been revised in a good many years. We need to think about that and what that might look like.”

Until now, four of the monks have been involved at St. Bede Academy in a direct way: Abbot Philip as vice president of mission advancement; Father Ronald Margherio, chaplain; Father Dominic Garramone, religion department chair and drama director; and Abbot Michael.

He said the Benedictines intend to maintain St. Bede Academy as an independent school.

In his spare time, Abbot Michael likes to read, especially American history and historical narratives, and watches police procedurals, such as “Law and Order” and “NCIS.”

Evidence of his love for gardening can be seen in the Mary garden on the monastery grounds, which he planted.

Canada by apologizing to Indigenous for church role in ‘evil’ committed at residential schools

an, dozens of people carried a long banner bore the names of each of school where they died. Hidden to speak their native languages government provided so little financing crushed. And many were emotion-

and of possible burial grounds at increased attention on the residen-

pressure on Pope Francis to apologize of the church had done.

Métis Nation Saskatchewan and Residential School, traveled to Mask- He sat alone outside the powwow e said.

the pope,” he said.

the Swan Lake First Nation, trav- territory in Manitoba, where she is

chair of the Treaty 1 Youth Council.

“I hope to hear a sincere, genuine apology for those who need it to heal from intergenerational trauma,” she said.

The schools’ policy separated parents and children, she said. “It wasn’t natural, but by force, and for seven generations! There are huge, traumatic effects.”

“These kids were raised in institutions. How were they supposed to know how to raise their families with love and kindness and our teachings?” she asked.

VISITS HOME OF CREE CHIEF

At the powwow grounds, Pope Francis acknowledged the church’s complicity in the “deplorable evil” of suppressing native languages and cultures, the destruction of family and community bonds and the trauma endured by the children at the schools and often passed on to their children and grandchildren in the form of a lack of affection or actual abuse.

Cree Chief Wilton Littlechild, 78, an Ermineskin residential school survivor who had traveled to Rome in March to meet Pope Francis, welcomed the pope to his home.

Littlechild, a lawyer and politician, told the pope that as a member of Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, he had heard “nearly 7,000 testimonies from former students of residential schools” across Canada. The people gathered at Maskwacis, he said, represented all of them.

After Pope Francis spoke, Gerry Saddleback offered an “honor song” in Cree. The Canadian organizers said the song is a way of showing “openness and, for some, acceptance of the Holy Father’s apology and (is) an invitation to all those present, in their own way and according to their own personal timeline, to seek to accept that same invitation toward forgiveness.”

The pope promised the church’s cooperation in further investigating what occurred at the schools and to walk alongside survivors in their journey toward healing.

“On this first step of my journey,” the pope said, “I have wanted to make space for memory. Here, today, I am with you to recall the past, to grieve with you, to bow our heads together in silence and to pray before the graves.”

“In the face of evil, we pray to the Lord of goodness,” he said. “In the face of death, we pray to the God of life.”

Pray for our faithful departed

The following death notices were taken from area daily newspapers dated July 8-21, 2022. The notices list name, age, parish, and date of death.

This list may not be complete for many reasons. Only persons whose funeral Masses took place in a Catholic church within the Diocese of Peoria are normally listed.

Prayers for those on this list, their families, and all the faithful departed are encouraged.

ALEDO: Pauline Luepke, 83, St. Mary Magdalene, July 11, former med-tech at OSF Holy Family Medical Center (Monmouth)

ATKINSON: Mary Jean Egert, 96, St. Anthony, July 6 in Boulder, Colorado

BLOOMINGTON: Mary Margaret "Molly" Moews, 60, Holy Trinity, July 15; **Thomas E. Crawford**, 79, St. Mary, July 14; **Sandra K. Golden**, 83, Holy Trinity, July 12; **Donald R. Burton**, 90, Holy Trinity, July 11

BRADFORD: Virginia M. Colgan, 82, St. John, July 8, former nurse at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

BRIMFIELD: Patrick Friede, 76, St. Mary (Kickapoo), July 15

CHILLICOTHE: Guadalupe Marie Fernandez O'Bryant, 86, St. Edward, July 10

DUNLAP: Renate "Renee" J.

Mueller, 84, St. Jude (Peoria), July 16;

Lawrence G. Zarley, 79, St. Thomas the Apostle (Peoria Heights), July 10

EAST MOLINE: Bill L. Pulford, 80, Christ the King (Moline), July 11;

Marcella Vallejo, 87, Christ the King (Moline), July 10

GALESBURG: Mary Jane Parmenter, 85, Immaculate Heart of Mary, July 18

GROVELAND: Daniel L.

Schmidt, 71, Blessed Sacrament (Morton), July 5

IVESDALE: James Tracy, 90, St. Boniface (Seymour), Feb. 17

KEWANEE: Rose Marie McKenna, 95, Saint John Paul II, July 19;

Jane (Verlee Wick) Lansbarkis, 96, Saint John Paul II, July 18, registered nurse at the former St. Francis Hospital; **Jean L. Krumtinger**, 88, Saint John Paul II, July 16

LADD: Rita L. Martinkus, 84, Nativity of Our Lord (Spring Valley), July 19; **Beverly J. Jeppson**, 88, Nativity of Our Lord, July 18

LASALLE: Rita L. Egan, 97, Queen of the Holy Rosary, July 14; **Byron "Barney" Novak**, 95, St. Hyacinth, July 12; **John T. Flannery**, 92, St. Patrick, July 6; **Elaine Day**, 86, St. Hyacinth, June 20

MARK: John Ossola, 82, Sacred Heart (Granville), July 12

MENDOTA: Ana Maria Souza, 92, Holy Cross, July 8; **Paula (Pivonski) Clark**, 85, St. Patrick (LaSalle), June 26

MOLINE: Mary A. Smith, 71, Sacred Heart, July 18

MONMOUTH: Blanche A. "Danny" Gavin, 87, Immaculate Conception, July 16

MONTICELLO: Kathryn Lucille Morgan, 100, St. Philomena, July 12

MORTON: DeLores A. "Dee" O'Connell, 94, Blessed Sacrament, July 15; **Kenneth R. Anhalt**, 88, Holy Family (Peoria), July 7

NORMAL: John E. "Jack" Schroeder, 80, Epiphany, July 15

OGLESBY: Mary E. Jerin, 96, Holy Family, July 18

OTTAWA: Manuel Mata, 92, St. Columba, July 13; **Ralph Edward Schiffgens**, 89, St. Francis of Assisi, July 11; **Mary Jane (Munson) Melton**, 91, St. Patrick, June 19 in The Villages, Florida

PEKIN: Bob L. Cates, 80, St. Joseph, July 13; **Marilyn Joyce Ruder**, 86, St. Joseph, July 10

PEORIA: Robert Lewis Brammeier, 61, St. Thomas the Apostle (Peoria Heights), July 18; **Betty Ann Kelly**, 92, Holy Family, July 14; **John F. "Jack" Schlicksup**, 91, St. Thomas the Apostle (Peoria Heights), July 12;

Regina Marie Seele, 79, Holy Family, July 10; **Stephen J. LaHood**, 58, St. Patrick (Washington), July 8, in St. Peters, Missouri; **Claudia Louise Bima**, 69, St. Vincent de Paul, July 7

PERU: Kathleen Hayden, 73, St. Patrick (LaSalle), July 15; **Thomas C. Zmudka**, 98, St. Hyacinth, July 15; **Stephanie M. (Goletz) Wroczynski**, 102, St. Valentine, July 10

PONTIAC: Lori Duffy, 80, St. Mary, July 17

ROCK ISLAND: Patricia A. Ewert, 87, St. Mary (Moline), July 14; **Mary F. Taylor**, 78, St. Pius X, July 12; **John J. Mottage**, 86, Sacred Heart, July 9; **Lawrence G. Mais**, 96, St. Pius X, July 8, he and wife Catherine were named Volunteers of the Year in Illinois for their prison ministry work;

Kathleen M. Teeter, 72, Sacred Heart (Moline), July 6

SPRING VALLEY: Mindy Jo Taber, 54, Nativity of Our Lord, July 13

STREATOR: Linda L. Washko, 78, St. Michael the Archangel, July 19; **Troy Michael Sangston**, 60, St. Michael the Archangel, July 15; **Clarence C. Creamean**, 88, St. Michael the Archangel, July 8

TOULON: Fred D. Rockwell Jr., 94, St. Dominic (Wyoming), July 14, past grand knight of his Knights of Columbus council

WASHINGTON: Simon J. LaHood, 27, St. Patrick, July 12 in Buford, Georgia; **Robert F. Riffle**, 90, St. Patrick, June 28

WYOMING: Margaret J. Malampy, 100, St. Dominic, July 10

Paul Delgado

Served as principal in Chillicothe, Galesburg

CHILLICOTHE — A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Edward Church on July 21 for Paul Delgado. Burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery, West Peoria.



Mr. Delgado died on July 16, 2022, at his home in McHenry. He was 75.

The son of Ezequiel and Sophie (Lopez) Delgado, Mr. Delgado was born in Peoria on Oct. 7, 1946. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1968, and married Mary V. Kemnetz on Aug. 12, 1972, in Chatsworth.

Mr. Delgado gave more than 35 years to education. He was a teacher or principal at St. Edward School in Chillicothe and Costa Catholic Academy in Galesburg, as well as Elmwood Elementary School and Lindbergh Middle School in Peoria. While teaching, he earned two

master's degrees and worked on his doctorate.

A member of St. Edward Church, Mr. Delgado was currently attending The Church of Holy Apostles in McHenry. He had been active in the Knights of Columbus and Teens Encounter Christ.

Preceded in death by his parents and several siblings, Mr. Delgado is survived by his wife, Mary; their children, Annette (Jason) Reitzel of Villa Park, Michael Delgado of Chicago, David (Vicki) Delgado of Northbrook, and Johanna (Nathaniel) Stubblefield of McHenry; 20 grandchildren; siblings, Olivia (Tom) Geraci, twin sister Paula (Ben) Board, Liz Mercer, Rosemary Putnam, Michele Ordaz, Chris Waugh and Consuelo Garcia; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to St. Edward School, 1221 N. Fifth St., Chillicothe, IL 61523.

Kidnapped Nigerian priest found dead

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — The body of a priest was discovered July 19, four days after he was abducted from a parish rectory in central Nigeria, an official with the Diocese of Kafanchan reported.

Father John Cheitnum, was one of two priests kidnapped by assailants July 15 from Christ the King Church in Lere, a town in the central state of Kaduna, Father Emmanuel Okolo, diocesan chancellor, said in a statement.

The second priest, Father Donatus Suleiman, was able to flee the abductors and is safe, the diocese said.

Father Cheitnum was killed by his abductors on the same day he was whisked away from the parish, Father Okolo said.

The diocesan chancellor called for prayers for Father Cheitnum and his family, and appealed for people not to take the law into their own hands in retaliating against the abductors should they be found.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari condemned Father Cheitnum's murder, saying in a

July 20 statement that he was "deeply disturbed" by the death caused by "outlaws who seem to be bent on creating chaos and disorder in the country."

He added that the persistent attacks by gunmen on innocent people, including religious figures, was of grave concern for his administration.

The kidnappings and the killing were the latest in a series of violent actions against Catholic communities and clergy in recent weeks.

The Kafanchan Diocese reported that during the early morning hours of July 4, Father Emmanuel Silas was abducted from the rectory at St. Charles Parish in Kauru. He was released less than 24 hours later.

Father Vitus Borogo was shot and killed by unknown assailants June 25 while working at a prison farm in Kaduna state. Another priest, Father Christopher Odia, was kidnapped June 26 from the St. Michael Parish rectory in Etsako in Edo state in southwest Nigeria. He died when he was shot by his abductors during a rescue attempt by local police.

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Paint a soup bowl, give a spoonful of help to Sophia's Kitchen on Aug. 17

Who wants to think about soup in summer heat?

Claire Crone hopes you will and participate in Spoonful, a two-part fundraiser for Sophia's Kitchen, a mission of St. Joseph Church in Peoria.

The first part of Spoonful is planned for Wednesday, Aug. 17, when people will have the opportunity to paint two soup bowls. The painting parties will take place at Sophia's Kitchen, 105 N. Richard Pryor Place, from 10 a.m. to noon, from 2 to 4 p.m., and from 5 to 7 p.m.

Crone, director of Sophia's Kitchen, said the materials are being supplied again by Fired Up, a pottery studio in Peoria Heights. The cost is \$30.

While the painting parties were held at Fired Up last year, owner Katie Faletti suggested moving to Sophia's Kitchen this year.

"They have a beautiful place, but it's a little bit smaller," Crone said. "It also means that I'm not out of the kitchen. I can still be available for my volunteers if they need me during that time."

She added that Faletti wanted to make sure that people could see the kitchen and its mission, as well as observe how food is prepared and served and how clients are treated. Crone hopes to provide scholarships so some of the clients can sit in and paint bowls, too.

"We know we have some very talented people out there," she told The Catholic Post.

Registration is preferred so that enough materials are available, but Crone said she would do her best to accommodate people who walk in. There is room for about 50 people during each painting party.

To sign up, visit bit.ly/30gc6H3.

TIME FOR SOUP

The second part of Spoonful will be held on Sunday, Oct. 2, and feature soups made by volunteer chefs at Sophia's Kitchen and then frozen. Quarts of the soup will be sold for \$12, and

may be ordered in advance.

The bowls made on Aug. 17 will be sold for \$25 each that day.

A full list of soups isn't available yet, but Crone said Roxy Baker, one of the hosts of the Rik and Roxy Show on WWCT 99.9 FM, will be offering her popular fish chowder again this year. Another celebrity cook — Annie Perkins, Sophia's Kitchen's 2022 Golden Sandwich Award winner — has committed to making Chicken Sausage Gumbo.

"If I get enough volunteers to sign up — and I think that I will — we're going to try a fresh option this year where people can come in and dine on Oct. 2. We'll be here from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.," she said. "I'm also work-

ing on getting some sweets and some bread made so that we'll have that on-site, too."

Last year's Spoonful fundraiser made about \$10,000 for Sophia's Kitchen.

For more details, look for Sophia's Kitchen on Facebook.

MORE NEED, DESPAIR

As many as 400 people are receiving sack lunches and something to drink each weekday this summer at Sophia's Kitchen, according to Crone.

"We're seeing new faces this year," she said. "We always have a little bit of turnover, but I'm getting calls almost daily from people who have never been to a soup kitchen before, who are finding that they're really struggling and want to know what we're going to be able to offer them."

Inflation is hitting her clients hard and people are reaching out because their cupboards are bare. "So there's a lot more need in that direction," Crone said.

In addition to more homeless people, she's seeing more people with mental illness that are not being served right now. On a recent morning, for example, one client who came to the window was threatening to commit suicide.



Beth Wharton painted the word "amore" or "love" at the bottom of the bowl she made as part of the Spoonful fundraiser for Sophia's Kitchen in Peoria last fall. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems

And there are more children. Crone said funding for food stamps is a bit less this year so families are struggling with that, as well.

Sophia's Kitchen is offering a food pantry every Friday and a pet pantry on Thursdays.

"For a lot of these people, (their pet) is the only stable thing in their life that provides them love, which is pretty said," Crone told The Post. "They've been hurt and damaged by so many people in their life, but their dog is a constant for them."

She tries to make certain that they can count on Sophia's Kitchen and its volunteers, however.

"We're going to give as much as we possibly can — and that's more than just a peanut butter sandwich," Crone said. "It's going to be respect. It's going to be whatever else we can find to help them out of the despair that they're in."

DEADLINES

Deadlines for Around the Diocese are Friday, Aug. 5, for the issue of Aug. 14; Friday, Aug. 19, for the issue of Aug. 28; Friday, Sept. 2, for the issue of Sept. 11; and Friday, Sept. 16, for the issue of Sept. 25. Items may be sent by email to cathpost@cdop.org or mailed to The Catholic Post, P.O. Box 1722, Peoria, IL 61656.

Anniversary announcements are welcome for those couples celebrating 50, 60, 70 or more years of marriage (in five-year increments). To receive an anniversary announcement form, contact Jennifer Willems at jwillems@cdop.org or (309) 677-7036.

EAST PEORIA

VOCATION HOLY HOUR: St. Monica Church, 303 Campanile Drive, will host a Holy Hour for Vocations on Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. It is sponsored by the diocesan Office of Priestly Vocations and will include a meditation by Father Chase Hilgenbrinck, diocesan vocation director of recruitment. For more information or a digital Holy Hour Companion, visit comeandfollowme.org.

EL PASO

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY: The El Paso/Bloomington Circle of the Christ Child Society of Central Illinois will meet from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Aug. 12, and Wednesday, Aug. 31, in the parish hall of St. Mary Church, 79 W. Third St., El Paso.

MORTON

ULTREYA: The Peoria Cursillo community is planning an Ultreya for Saturday, Aug. 6, at 7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1020 S. First Ave. There will be a lay reflection by Cheryl Sprague and Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Jerry Ward, pastor. A social time will follow in the parish hall. Guests and families are

welcome. Reservation forms will be available for the September and October Cursillo weekends. For more information, call the Cursillo office at (309) 676-5587 or send email to cursillopeoria@gmail.com.

PEORIA

PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR: The Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn will be held on Monday, Aug. 1, at St. Mark Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave. It will begin at 7 p.m. and include Benediction, the rosary and other prayers.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY: The Christ Child Society of Central Illinois will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 3, and Monday, Aug. 15, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in the lower level of the Family Resources Center, 415 N.E. Monroe St. This is a secured environment, so call (309) 415-0040 when you arrive so someone can meet you at the door.

PONTIAC

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY: The Pontiac Circle of the Christ Child Society of Central Illinois will meet on Thursdays, Aug. 11 and 25, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Rosary Room of the St. Mary Parish Hall, 501 N. Chicago St. For more information, call Shari at (815) 419-8620.

URBANA

GARAGE SALE: After two years, St. Patrick Church, 708 W. Main St., is bringing back its Cellular to Garret Garage Sale on Thursday, Aug. 11, from 5:30 to 9 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 13, from 8 to 11 a.m. There will be an entrance fee of \$2 on Thursday and free admission on Friday and Saturday, with a \$3 bag sale on Saturday. Items include shoes, accessories, clothes, books, DVDs, toys, housewares, small electronics, holiday decorations and more.

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Cross Catholic Outreach Partners With Pwoje Espwa to Rebuild Homes Destroyed by Haiti Earthquake

Within a few horrifying minutes, the lives of hundreds of Haitian families were literally turned upside down. On Aug. 14, 2021, a massive earthquake struck Haiti's Tiburon Peninsula, causing 2,248 deaths, injuring more than 12,760 people, and damaging hundreds of homes, parishes, schools and medical buildings. It was a day Jim Cavnar remembers very well. As the president of Cross Catholic Outreach, he understood exactly how the disaster would impact Haiti's poorest families.

“They can be confident knowing they will receive a house that will provide better protection from any major storm or earthquake to come.”

Jim Cavnar,
Cross Catholic Outreach

“The earthquake came without warning, killed indiscriminately, and left scores of shattered lives — and homes — in its wake,” he explained. “While it was centered in a part of Haiti that is less populated than the country's capital city, we were on high alert that day because the Tiburon Peninsula contains a lot of makeshift homes, and we knew they would never hold up to an earthquake of that severity.” (See related story on opposite page.)

Even before roads had been cleared and damaged bridges could be repaired, Cross Catholic Outreach had found routes to provide earthquake survivors with food and other relief supplies. The ministry continued this emergency relief work for weeks following the disaster, but it also began working with its in-country Catholic partners to determine what kinds of long-term support would be needed. It was then that Cross Catholic Outreach's staff learned something encouraging. The homes it had been building for poor families prior to the earthquake through an in-country partner called

Pwoje Espwa (Project Hope) were among the few structures that had remained intact during the tremors.

“We were very impressed by the quality of homes our partner had built. Few sustained any serious damage, while many other cement houses in the area had been reduced to rubble. That proved the importance of our commitment to build simple but high-quality homes through the ESPWA team,” Cavnar said. “It also inspired us to expand our plans so we could provide new homes to the families that had lost everything in the earthquake. The quality of Espwa's work will be a comfort to them too. They can be confident knowing they will receive a house that will provide better protection from any major storm or earthquake to come.”



Photo courtesy of Overture International.

As with all of its programs, Cross Catholic Outreach will approach this housing project in a way that blesses families both materially and spiritually, according to Cavnar.

“We believe in integral human development. That is a formal term used



Photo courtesy of Overture International.

The impact of the earthquake reduced poorly constructed homes to rubble in a few minutes, so Cross Catholic Outreach and Pwoje Espwa — the ministry's in-country partner in Haiti — are using improved construction techniques on the new homes being built.

by the Catholic Church, but its meaning is actually very simple,” he said. “It means we believe spiritual and emotional support must accompany the material aid we provide. We stress that because we know true, lasting change is only possible when we address the needs of both the body and the soul.”

Cavnar added that Cross Catholic Outreach feels a sense of urgency and is eager to get its next large-scale housing project underway.

“We'll be launching a campaign soon to get funding for this effort from Catholic donors in the U.S.,” he said, “and we are confident a lot of individuals, families and even Catholic businesses will want to participate. No one wants these Haitian families to be homeless or living in tents because of this disaster. Our housing project

will build quality homes at a very reasonable cost using local labor, which also helps support poor families in Haiti through job training and employment. There's not a more impactful or life-transforming gift a donor could give.”

Readers interested in supporting Cross Catholic Outreach's housing program and other ministries to the poor can contribute through the brochure inserted in this issue or by sending a tax-deductible gift to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC02146, PO Box 97168, Washington, DC 20090-7168. The ministry has a special need for partners willing to make gifts on a monthly basis. Use the inserted brochure to become a Mission Partner, or write “Monthly Mission Partner” on mailed checks to be contacted about setting up those arrangements.

Cross Catholic Outreach's 'Day of Prayer' Blesses Catholics Spiritually

Each year, one of the nation's leading international relief and development ministries sets aside a special day to offer prayer as a gift to those in need — particularly to Catholics in America who have been supporting its work overseas. It is yet another sign of the organization's deeply spiritual approach to charity.

“Since our inception, we have always set aside a day of the week to pray for those who have shared their intentions, and those requests have typically come to us through the many

priests who visit U.S. parishes to share about our mission during the homily of the Mass,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. “The Day of Prayer we celebrate in August is a full day dedicated to prayer for others, particularly our missionary partners overseas and those they serve. It also includes a wonderful additional blessing: in Rome, on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski will offer a special Mass for the collective intentions of all our benefactors.”

Individuals interested in participating in the Day of Prayer are encouraged to use the ministry's special online form to submit their prayer intentions. It can be found at [CrossCatholic.org/dayofprayer](https://www.crosscatholic.org/dayofprayer).

“While Cross Catholic Outreach is best known for the many things it does to support Church missions serving the poor — delivering shipments of food and medicines, funding educational and house-building initiatives, and developing self-help projects that allow people to escape poverty — we are very intentional

about serving the poor spiritually as well,” Cavnar said. “That is not always the case with charities, even religious ones, but we believe communicating the Gospel of Christ and promoting the means of grace — including prayer — must be part of our relief and development mission.”

“This approach is also in keeping with the points made in the papal encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*,” he added. “It very clearly states that those of us who become involved in works of mercy must also be people of prayer.”

US Catholics Play Critical Role in Helping Poor Haitian Families Still Struggling After Major Earthquake

On Aug. 14, 2021, more than 60,700 homes were destroyed and 76,100 damaged by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Days later, a tropical storm battered the same area, dumping torrential rain that destroyed crops at the peak of the harvest season.

“Those two devastating natural disasters shook thousands of families to their core and left many wondering if it would ever be possible to rebuild their lives,” confirmed Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, one of the leading Catholic ministries serving in Haiti and involved in relief efforts after these events. “It was terrible to see the suffering, to learn about how many lives had been lost and how many homes had been reduced to piles of rubble. Roads and bridges were destroyed, and families were driven into the streets in fear. Fortunately, the Church was in a position to help, and we could join in with the work they were doing to provide help and hope to the families that were suffering most.”

While the destruction caused by the 2021 earthquake was staggering, most Americans were unaware of the disaster because they saw or heard very little about it on the news.

“We work in Haiti, so we understood the scale of the Aug. 14 disaster, but very few American Catholics were aware of what had happened,” said Cavnar. “That’s probably because the earthquake occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, and because a blitz of other international news stories hit during the same week. The disconnect is understandable, but you can imagine how discouraging it was to the earthquake survivors. Thousands had lost family members, homes and possessions, and they wondered if their pleas for help were even being heard.”

Fortunately, Cross Catholic Outreach was aware of the disaster’s impact and remained vigilant, doing whatever it could to provide relief. In the months following the earthquake, it arranged shipments of food, medicines, tarps for temporary shelter, and other important supplies to the areas where the needs of the poor were greatest.

Eventually, the focus of Catholic leaders working in the hardest-hit areas of Haiti shifted from providing emergency aid to finding solutions to long-term challenges. For example, families had found ways to create makeshift shelters or were huddling under tarps, but they clearly needed more substantial shelter, especially if they had children.

“That’s why constructing housing is our priority now,” Cavnar said. “Once food, water and medical needs are addressed after a disaster, it is essential that we get families out of tents and other primitive shelters and into safe, sturdy homes. The house can have a simple design, but it should be well constructed and secure and meet sanitary needs. Supplying this housing is critical because it restores hope and gives families a foundation for rebuilding their lives. The



Photo courtesy of Overture International.

Families who were displaced by the Haiti earthquake are finally able to start rebuilding their lives — thanks to an outreach of Cross Catholic Outreach funded by compassionate Catholic donors in the U.S. Much has been accomplished, but more remains to be done.

homes we build are perfectly suited to the areas we serve, and they are designed to address these poor families’ need for shelter and security.”

According to Cavnar, Cross Catholic Outreach has launched this major housing reconstruction project in Haiti, and an in-country ministry team called Pwoje Espwa (Project Hope) will be involved in managing the process to ensure each house is built to a high standard. (See related story on opposite page.)

Based on the way U.S. Catholics have supported previous efforts like these, Cavnar is confident many will again want to join the cause and build homes for these displaced families.

“I have been involved in ministries to the poor for 30 years and worked on many relief projects like this before. In my experience, Catholics are deeply compassionate people and are always eager to help needy families, particularly in the wake of a disaster,” he said. “They understand how important having a safe home is to their own family, and they sympathize with parents who feel

hopeless desperation when their children are suffering and there is nothing they can do to improve their situation. For some, providing a home to a poor family is also a way to show gratitude to God for the blessings he has bestowed on them. Others see it as a tangible way to respond to Christ’s call to love others as you love yourself.”

Sponsoring a home for a needy family is also popular because it produces a tangible impact with long-term benefits, Cavnar said.

“When people give, they want to know

their contribution is achieving something specific and will improve someone’s life in a profound way,” he shared. “That is another reason both our disaster relief efforts and our home-building initiatives are so popular. When you donate to those causes, you know your gift is going to produce a significant benefit to the families being helped. In the case of relief efforts, it can literally save a life. With the gift of a home, you restore lost hope and bless a family for many years to come.”

How to Help

To fund Cross Catholic Outreach’s effort to help the poor worldwide, use the postage-paid brochure inserted in this newspaper, or mail your gift to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC02146, PO Box 97168, Washington, DC 20090-7168. The brochure also includes instructions on becoming a Mission Partner and making a regular monthly donation to this cause.

If you identify an aid project, 100% of the donation will be restricted to be used for that specific project. However, if more is raised for the project than needed, funds will be redirected to other urgent needs in the ministry.



‘I am sorry’: Three very powerful words

On our refrigerator at home is a magnet produced by Our Sunday Visitor listing three phrases that Pope Francis has repeatedly said are essential in a family: “May I?” “Thank you.” And “I’m sorry.”

This week in Canada, Pope Francis is emphasizing the third phrase during his “penitential pilgrimage” to seek forgiveness for the sins Catholics committed against Indigenous Canadians in residential schools. (See story, page one.)

For Tammy Ward of the Samson First Nation, the words brought tears.

“It’s just very powerful,” she said of the pope’s apology. Ward, 49, recalled to The Catholic Register of Toronto that her parents’ childhood was spent institutionalized in residential schools that left them unprepared for family life.

“For me,” she said, “it’s the healing.”

“The pope’s apology is not asking for instant trust,” said Ted Quewezance, an elder from the Keeseekoose First Nation in Saskatchewan. “Today I am willing to extend my hand to the pope and to the bishops,” added Quewezance, who oversaw a radar search for unmarked graves at two of the residential schools.

Pope Francis is the Holy Father of a global family of faith. May his example of humility inspire us to consider who we might owe a healing apology in our families, relationships, or to God. With no apologies to the character in the movie “Love Story,” love often means having to say you’re sorry. — *Thomas J. Dermody*

Climate crisis can’t be ignored

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The care of the environment and the fight against climate change is not a lofty goal for humanity but a moral imperative, Pope Francis said.

The worsening climate crisis can no longer be ignored, and it is up to all human beings, who were entrusted by God as “stewards of his gift of his creation,” to act, the pope said in a message July 13 to participants at a Vatican conference on climate change.

“Care for our common home, even apart from considerations of the effects of climate change, is not simply a utilitarian endeavor but a moral obligation for all men and women as children of God,” the pope said. “With this in mind, each of us must ask: ‘What kind of world do we want for ourselves and for those who will come after us?’”

The July 13-14 conference, titled “Resilience of People and Ecosystems under Climate Stress,” was sponsored by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. It came during a month when heatwaves across multiple continents dashed records, threatened public health and buckled infrastructure, in what scientists say are signs of the climate crisis’ impact on day-to-day weather.

In his message, the pope said climate change has reached a state of emergency that not only reshapes “industrial and agricultural systems” but also negatively affects “the global human family, especially the poor and those living on the economic peripheries of our world.”



“Nowadays we are facing two challenges: lessening climate risks by reducing emissions and assisting and enabling people to adapt to progressively worsening changes to the climate,” he said. “These challenges call us to think of a multi-dimensional approach to protecting both individuals and our planet.”

Citing his 2015 encyclical “Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home,” the pope said addressing the climate

crisis requires an “ecological conversion” marked by a “change of mentality and a commitment to work for the resilience of people and the ecosystems in which they live.”

This conversion, he added, “has three important spiritual elements.”

“The first entails gratitude for God’s loving and generous gift of creation. The second calls for acknowledging that we are joined in a universal communion with one another and with the rest of the world’s creatures. The third involves addressing environmental problems not as isolated individuals but in solidarity as a community,” the pope wrote.

Religious, political, social and cultural leaders, he said, must work together to form “courageous, cooperative and farsighted efforts” to address the current crisis, including reducing emissions and providing technological assistance to poorer nations.

Supporting women in choosing life is pro-life priority

BY GEORGE P. MATYSEK JR.
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BALTIMORE (CNS) — In the 10 days following the U.S. Supreme Court’s June 24 ruling overturning the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide, the Archdiocese of Detroit’s “Walking with Moms in Need” webpage received nearly 1,600 unique page views.

That number represented about half the views the page had garnered in the entire previous two years combined, according to Kathleen Wilson, pro-life coordinator for the archdiocese.

“We know the interest is out there,” said Wilson, noting the archdiocese also fielded more than 50 calls from individuals looking for information on how to support the “Walking with Moms in Need” outreach, an initiative

Backgrounder

of the U.S. bishops to connect pregnant women and their families with parishes and to a growing network of resources.

“People want to know how they can be a part of redoubling our efforts to help,” Wilson said. “We have probably more than 80 parishes actively trying to increase the resources.”

PROVIDING A COMMUNITY

Wilson was among approximately 50 pro-life leaders who gathered in Baltimore July 18-20 for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Diocesan Pro-Life Leadership Conference, livestreamed for remote participants.

The conference included a special Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed

Virgin Mary in Baltimore as well as discussion sessions at a conference center.

Supporting women in choosing life was a constant theme for many participants.

Erin Younkens, director of the Office of Life, Justice and Peace in the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Institute for Evangelization, said there are now about 60 parishes involved in “Walking with Moms in Need” in the Baltimore Archdiocese — up from 45 at the end of 2021.

“People really want to get in and actually meet the women, which is exactly what ‘Walking with Moms in Need’ is supposed to be,” Younkens explained.

“It’s not supposed to be just a way to raise money or kind of dole out some goods,” she continued, “but to actually make relationships with women and provide a community for them so they don’t feel pressured into abortion.”

Since Maryland has some of the most permissive abortion laws in the country, it is expected to become a magnet for women seeking abortions from other states that have outlawed the procedure in the wake of the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization ruling that overturned Roe.

Younkens said pro-life pregnancy resource centers in Maryland have been working “full throttle” in preparation for the possible influx.

LINKED TO EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

In a July 18 keynote address to the conference, Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori said the Dobbs decision represents a “new moment” for the pro-life movement.

According to a written text of the address provided by the archbishop’s office, Archbishop Lori connected the church’s pro-life advocacy with the U.S. bishops’ recently launched National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year effort to renew Catholic understanding and love of the Eucharist.

“The high court’s recognition that there is no constitutional right to an abortion signals not an end, but a new beginning of our ongoing efforts to build a culture of life,” Archbishop Lori said.

“The eucharistic revival is a new moment in the church’s evangelizing mission, a moment for reclaiming the eucharistic foundations of the church herself,” he added.

The archbishop, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said being true to the eucharistic foundations of the culture of life means “engaging in the works of mercy, both corporal and spiritual, with a loving heart, a long-suffering heart, a patient heart, even when our love is neither returned nor required.”



The Dobbs decision represents a ‘new moment’ for the pro-life movement.

Fr. Barclift enjoyed being a priest; had contagious, positive spirit

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are excerpts from the homily given July 19 at the funeral Mass for Father Richard Barclift. His obituary is found on page 2. The Mass was celebrated at Christ the King Church in Moline, and the homilist was Msgr. Gerald Ward, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Morton.

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The day that we decided it was time for Father Barclift to be cared for by hospice, I brought him Holy Communion, for which he was grateful and understood what he was receiving. As I prayed with him and gave him the Eucharist, he put his hand over his face and wept! He was so thankful and humbled to receive the Lord in Holy Communion. It was overwhelming to him. I was thinking that a lot was going on his confused mind, but still he understood the significance and love he had for the Eucharist.

Funeral homily

I want to express the sympathy and prayers of all of us here today to Father's nephews, Steve and Rich, and nieces, Jane and Julie, and to your families, and to the other relatives of the Barclift family. Thank you for sharing your uncle with us. To all the parishioners of the many parishes that Father Barclift served, thanks for all the prayers you offered for him and for coming and praying with us today.

To my brother priests, it is always difficult to say goodbye to one of our brothers and it is good that we can be together today to show our support and prayers. Thank

you, Bishop Lou, for being here today. You may not have had the chance to meet Father Barclift in person, but I can tell you that your picture is hanging all over his room.

PRESENT TO HIS PARISHIONERS

My relationship with Father Barclift, or "Barks," as his priest friends called him, began in 1979. I was assigned to St. Ambrose Parish in Milan as my first assignment and Barks was the pastor. As the priests all know, your first pastor is like your first grade teacher, you always remember them, and they can either make it or break it for you.

Barks was a great first pastor. I was always grateful that my first three years of being a priest were so positive and fun. He had a gift of enjoying being a priest and being present to the parishioners; socializing with them and consoling them when needed. I learned a lot of small ways to be a priest, to be present to the parishioners and to enjoy priesthood.

This is what many people will remember about Father Barclift. He enjoyed being a priest. There was a contagious and positive spirit about him. Even these last few years, he may have not known your name, but that didn't stop him from kidding around and treating you like an old friend,



Father Barclift faithfully carried out what he was entrusted with. He served God and the Church with care, and used his gifts to bring others to Christ, through his love of Christ.

and many people that he came across were his friends. Father Barclift was well known here in the Quad Cities.

A LIFE DEDICATED TO HELPING OTHERS

We heard in the second reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans; "none of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself, for if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord." I certainly felt that Father Barclift had that in his mind and in his life in many ways. Even in his confused and deteriorating mind, he did not forget that he was a priest.

The Friday that Father John Cyr and I took him back to Overlook after his fall, we were told that his kidneys were not working. He said to both of us many times that day, "Now if you need any help, if you want me to take a Mass or a weekend for you, just let me know." He wanted us to know that he would be happy to help out. That was his life, and it was so frustrating for him these last years; not being able to help other priests. His life was dedicated to loving and helping others.

We all know that Father Barclift liked his cars. He liked the freedom of getting in his car and just driving wherever. He liked to travel, and he did a lot of travel. After he was granted senior status, he then signed up to

PLEASE TURN TO **FR. BARCLIFT** 19

Decision-making: Stepping in from the threshold of the door

I have a bit of a complicated relationship with decision-making. Sometimes I charge in impulsively ("where angels fear to tread," as my Mom used to say) without sufficiently thinking — or more importantly, praying — things through beforehand, and must beat a retreat later.

Other times I stand at the door dithering so long that the door closes.

The biggest decision commitment for me recently has been about pursuing U.S. citizenship. I immigrated here from Canada and established permanent residence more than three years ago, and for someone married to a U.S. citizen, one can apply after that time (five years otherwise).

I love my wife, and the fact that she is "home" here means a lot. As well, I love the welcome I have received here (not the least of which is the opportunity to write this column), and the ideals for which the United States stands. Over the years, I have thought on and off

about whether I would apply for citizenship when the time came, and the main barrier has been simple indecision. To quote Scarlett O'Hara: "I'll think about that tomorrow."

INHIBITED TO "COMMENTATE"

Citizenship does not overly affect my everyday life. I pay taxes. I can work. I even have Medicare, with God's Grace (as a spousal benefit based on my wife's work record). The only thing is, I can't vote. As well, as a commentator, I feel a little more inhibited to "commentate"

than if I had a horse in the race.

I felt this most keenly while writing my last column, which involved a discussion of pro-life and gun control ("First and second things," July 10, 2022).

I still wrote what I felt compelled by conscience to write, but the thought struck me, "Hmm, I appreciate the freedom I have in this country to write about life and faith, but when the discussion veers into politics, as it sometimes must, shouldn't I decide whether I'm in or out?"

FACING THE (MASS) MUSIC

I've been facing a different sort of commitment decision recently at church. Our new pastor at St. Mary of Lourdes, Father Bolek, wants to encourage more engagement with the liturgy of the Mass, and part of that involves us becoming even more of a "singing parish." I thought that sounded like a wonderful idea. However, Father wasn't content with it staying an idea. He asked those of us in the music ministry to start singing the Mass parts. All of them.

My challenge — I'm ashamed to say — is that I don't really know all the Mass parts or how they fit together. I'm accustomed to simply filling in when the regular song leader isn't there. With my wife playing the keyboard (and helping me learn the songs earlier in the week), I've been quite content to help lead the singing for the bare musical minimum: Entrance, Offertory, Communion, and Recessional.

Now, I was being asked to help play a more active role in weaving together the perfect puzzle that is the Sacrifice of the Mass with the gift of sung praise. I would have to really start paying attention (!) and become a true participant in the various liturgical elements, rather than being satisfied with more of a visitor's attitude, passively

permitting the chords of the Mass to wash over my spirit.

The Gloria, the Responsorial Psalm, the Gospel Acclamation, the Holy, Holy, the Lamb of God . . . and more — the Liturgy of the Mass is a grace-filled dance with many moving parts.

Furthermore, our music coordinator was asking me to take over a regular role in the singing rotation rather than solely as a fill-in. If I was going to wriggle out of this gig, now was the time.

ENTERING IN MORE COMPLETELY

Thank God, and with my wife's infinite patience, I found the desire to try to learn. She helped me practice the various parts and map out the sequencing of what to sing when (though my first Mass after the change found me hopping up from bended knee during the Eucharistic prayer, as I should have been standing at the microphone leading the Memorial Acclamation).

Along the way I have learned a new respect for the people who have been doing what I have been benefiting from all my life as a person in the pews.

I see better now how hard it is to fully love either God or country hovering at the threshold of the door. With God's Help, I have decided to enter in more completely — to apply for U.S. citizenship, and through music, to apply myself to a deeper participation in the mystery of faith "hidden in plain view" that unfolds in every Mass.

PAUL THOMAS MOORE is a Catholic communicator and singer-songwriter. He and wife Mary Louise attend St. Mary of Lourdes in Germantown Hills. He can be reached at paulthomasmoore@hotmail.com.



In My Father's House
Paul Moore

Christ can fill spaces in our life if we let him

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/July 31

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Psalm 90:3-4,5-6,12-13,14,17;
Colossians 3:1-5,9-11; Luke 12:13-21

I always find there to be a little bit of humor in thinking about what it must have been like for members of the early church to process what Jesus meant when he spoke about greed, wealth, or riches. In our current society, these things can take real tangible images. The wants and needs that we have today are vastly different from that of the early church in both spiritual and worldly senses. Our desire for instant gratification, the limitless opportunities found in the modern age, the hunger for success — we can easily name and identify the list of things that might occupy this space in our lives and cultivate our desire for more.



Living the Word

Carla Oliver

The Greek word used for “greed” is *pleonexia*, which translates literally to “a desire to have more.” As we strive to live life as intentional disciples, great wealth is not typically the most common thing that the average lay faithful struggles to give over. But if we shift our understanding of this encounter with Jesus’ teachings to the origin of the word “greed” we can see a little more into the simplicity and ordinary of Jesus calling us to live in greater union with him.

Shifting my worldview to a lens that is more fixated on seeing Jesus as the center, this Greek translation of “greed” — the desire to have more — is something that I know well in my heart and life. Perhaps you do as well. Maybe it is money, maybe it is more followers on social media, more success in your job, more people attending your event, more attention, more people recognizing your accomplishments, more possessions, more clothes. There are many things that our world is telling us that we have earned the right to have more of. That we should be striving for and desiring more of, that we should rely more on ourselves to get those things and satisfy these wants than to create the room for Jesus to be the one to satisfy.

ABUNDANT HOLINESS, PEACE

Jesus is teaching us through this parable of the rich man to be vigilant against these desires. He is bringing awareness of the need to be on guard against the quiet whisper of the enemy that attempts to push us toward wanting what could be and away from the gratefulness for what is. This specific greed kills us spiritually, for when we are wanting more of things there is little room left for wanting more of Jesus. The enemy wants nothing more than for you to be comfortable relying on yourself and minimizing the capacity for Jesus to satisfy.

I believe that it is very easy today to be distracted with being self-reliant and limiting that room for Jesus, and that is where we all could grow. Lately I have become more aware of how chasing the fulfillment of my personal desires — of what could be and not recognizing what is currently allowing me to be on fire for Christ — and working within my own reliance wears me down so quickly. How when I try to rely solely on my own will, I am exhausted, anxious, burdened to the point of frustration, yet when I rely on Jesus and my desire for more of Him, I am more satisfied than I could imagine. That the holiness I am seeking and longing for is more tangible and peace is more abundant.

The best way I have learned to create the needed space for Christ to fulfill my desire for more is to give Him more of my day. This comes from a habit of daily prayer, of being able to be in union and conversation with Him. To be able to pray, discern, discuss, and repeat until it is with conviction that I am able to respond freely to the more that Jesus has for me.

This grace that we are given — to take ownership of our desires and bring them to the master of the harvest to provide — is great beauty. In your life what are you desiring more of? Things or Jesus?

CARLA OLIVER is the administrative assistant in the diocesan Office of Vocations. In addition to teaching for four years, she served for two years as a missionary with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), which included leading Bible studies. She can be reached at coliver@cdop.org.

Not self, service: What is God calling you to do?

People, plans, parties. These are things we are obsessed with today. We want to know who you know; we want to know what you have going. Why do we want to know? Because we are focused on ourselves. How does your status help improve my status? It’s not how we can give — it’s how we can receive.



Guest column

Catie Crowley

Catholics, Christians, we can all fall into this trap. The trap of focusing on ourselves instead of turning our eyes to see how we can serve.

In Peoria alone, we have so many people suffering in many different ways. There are those who don’t have housing or don’t have enough food. There are those struggling to find and hold jobs. There are those struggling with unplanned pregnancies. There are those struggling to pass classes or make a team. At the same time, there are many great people and organizations in our community that are working to make a difference.

Through my book “Stepping Up,” I’ve met with some of these hidden angels that I never knew existed.

- Did you know that Catholic Charities has a van, St. Nicholas on Wheels, that delivers necessities to those in need throughout our community at least twice a week?
- Did you know that Sophia’s Kitchen serves meals Monday through Friday and also stocks an outdoor food pantry that is accessible 24/7?
- Did you know that the Women’s Care Center and Esther House help serve women in crisis situations?
- Did you know that St. Thomas the Apostle Parish has a food

pantry in the old school gym where Peoria Heights residents can get grocery store food items?

- Did you know that The Hope Chest in Pekin serves as a soup kitchen as well as a discount store where you can buy clothes, books, even furniture for just a few dollars?

Along with organizations, there are individuals who are trying to make a difference in their careers. There are medical students and residents who want to put their faith into their medical practice. There are teachers and tutors who are helping students learn so that they can get a job and out of poverty. There are police officers who sacrifice their own safety on a daily basis to keep us safe. There are lawyers willing to stand up for what’s right and to defend the voiceless.

CALL TO ACTION

Whether you work for a company or volunteer for an organization, there are countless ways to serve. There are many great causes that all need help.

It can sometimes be easier to say “I can’t solve all the world’s problems.” While that is correct, if nobody does anything, then nothing will ever change. The questions you should ask in prayer are, God, what do You want me to do with my life? What is Your will for my life? How are You asking me to serve?

You don’t need to figure it out on your own. You need to ask our Lord what He is calling you to do. Don’t keep Him waiting.

CAITIE CROWLEY is a member of St. Jude Parish in Peoria and author of the book “Stepping Up: How Christ Turned My Pain and Suffering into Hope and Joy” telling of her recovery from a car accident. She works for a Fortune 100 company as a human resources communications representative.

Daily Readings

Monday, Aug. 1:

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Jeremiah 28:1-17
Psalm 119:29,43,79,80,95,102
Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday, Aug. 2: Weekday

Jeremiah 30:1-2,12-15,18-22
Psalm 102:16-18,19-21,29 and 22-23
Matthew 14: 22-36
or Matthew 15:1-2,10-14

Wednesday, Aug. 3: Weekday

Jeremiah 31:1-7
(Psalm) Jeremiah 31:10,11-12ab,13
Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday, Aug. 4:

St. John Vianney

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:12-13,14-15,18-19
Matthew 16:13-23

Friday, Aug. 5: Weekday

Nahum 2:1,3; 3:1-3,6-7
(Psalm) Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41
Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday, Aug. 6:

Transfiguration of the Lord

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14
Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,9
2 Peter 1:16-19
Luke 9:28b-36

Sunday, Aug. 7: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9
Psalm 33:1,12,18-19,20-22
Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19
Luke 12:32-48

Monday, Aug. 8: St. Dominic

Ezekiel 1:2-4,24-28c
Psalm 148:1-2,11-12,13,14
Matthew 17:22-27

Tuesday, Aug. 9: Weekday

Ezekiel 2:8 — 3:4
Psalm 119:14,24,72,103,111,131
Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14

Wednesday, Aug. 10:

St. Lawrence

2 Corinthians 9:6-10
Psalm 112:1-2,5-6,7-8,9
John 12:24-26

Thursday, Aug. 11: St. Clare

Ezekiel 12:1-12
Psalm 78:56-57,58-59,61-62
Matthew 18:21 — 19:1

Friday, Aug. 12: Weekday

Ezekiel 16:1-15,60,63
or Ezekiel 16:59-63
(Psalm) Isaiah 12:2-3,4bcd,5-6
Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday, Aug. 13: Weekday

Ezekiel 18:1-10,13b,30-32
Psalm 51:12-13,14-15,18-19
Matthew 19:13-15

EDITOR’S NOTE: For a full listing of daily readings, visit bible.usccb.org.

EMMAUS: Bishop answers retreatants' questions

FROM 7

and meets with the Congregation for Causes of Saints in early September.

Daily prayer? "I pray a lot," said Bishop Tylka. "When I first get up I spend an hour in the chapel praying." He also prays the Divine Office, celebrates daily Mass, pauses in prayer before making decisions, and prays at public and private gatherings. "We are called to pray without ceasing," he reminded the youth.

Best encounter? "A lot of times we find in life's most difficult moments an aware-

ness that God is so powerfully present to us," he said, noting God's "overwhelming presence and love" at his mother's death when he was 19 and the passing of his sister two years ago.

Happy? "Yes, I'm very happy because I'm responding to what the Lord has called me to and what the church has given me responsibility for. When I go to bed every night I reflect on my day and I'm grateful God gave me the day to do what was put before me and I pray I did my best."

FR. BARCLIFT: Homily from funeral Mass

FROM 17

be a chaplain for cruise lines, and he took many cruises. Yes, traveling and getting away was a priority for him. In fact, one of the lessons I learned early on from him was a survival secret. When you come home from a trip, go the next day to the travel agency to book another trip. There was some wisdom in that!

LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES

There were a lot of changes in his life journey. Some of his most difficult changes were the deaths of his mother, his father and his brother Jim. They were all painful times in his life, as it is for us all. His faith in the promise of the resurrection helped him through.

Perhaps one of the most life-changing experiences was when he had to confront the disease of alcoholism. I was a part of helping him get into recovery, and it was

a change that had a profound effect on his life and opened up for him a spiritual awakening and growth that he found a new life. In AA, he found new friends, a supporting community and many who have cared for him through his recovery.

A significant part of the ordination rite for a priest comes after the anointing of the priests' hands. When the bishop then hands a paten and a chalice to the priest and says, "Receive the oblation of the holy people, the gifts to be offered to God. Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross."

Father Barclift accepted those gifts and faithfully carried out what he was entrusted with. He served God and the Church with care, and used his gifts to bring others to Christ, through his love of Christ.

We now entrust his soul to Our Lord.

GROUNDBREAKING: Building project in Moline

FROM 20

He was ordained by Bishop Edward W. O'Rourke on May 29, 1982, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria.

After ordination, Father DeSutter served as a member of the Rock Island-Milan Cooperative Ministry as parochial vicar at St. Pius X, Rock Island, and then as parochial vicar at Holy Trinity, Bloomington. In addition to Sacred Heart, Moline, he was pastor at Blessed Sacrament, Morton, for 14 years, and nearly 70 members of the Morton parish traveled to Moline for the July 17 celebration.

His ministry also took him to St. John's Catholic Newman Center in Champaign, and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Newman Center in Macomb as chaplain.

Father DeSutter received an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis for his 40th anniversary, and the children of Sacred Heart Parish have donated a flowering tree that will be planted in his honor as part of the new landscaping.

HISTORIC DAY

Before the groundbreaking, Peter Murray,

who represented development, fundraising and building committee teams at Sacred Heart, gave a short history of the parish, starting in September 1906, when Bishop John Lancaster Spalding assigned Father John Baptist Culemans to form a parish for the Belgian Catholics in the Moline area.

The TTT campaign was launched in January 2019, and over the last 30 months has allowed the parish to restore 34 of Sacred Heart's stained glass windows and construct a new living space for the priests on the north side of the first floor in the Lee Parish Center.

The new Gathering Center sits on land formerly occupied by the rectory. It was designed by Streamline Architects of East Moline, and Hodge Construction of Moline is bringing it to life.

After 11 parish dignitaries donned hard hats and took shovels in hand, Father DeSutter offered the final blessing. Then everyone was invited take their turn with a shovel.

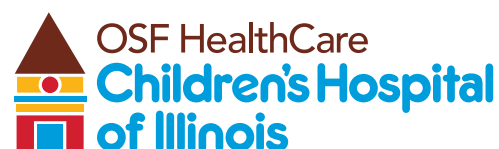
"Come forward and scoop some dirt, otherwise Father Matthew will have to move all that dirt himself," Father DeSutter quipped.



Peoria's only 24-hour emergency room specially designed for children and families is at OSF Children's Hospital.

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This page is sponsored by Randy and Suzie DeSutter of Woodhull in memory of deceased members of the DeSutter, Moens, Davis, and Reed families

Building project begins at Sacred Heart, Moline

Groundbreaking for Gathering Center also marks pastor's jubilee

BY JENNIFER WILLEMS
OF THE CATHOLIC POST

MOLINE — Remembering where they've been, rejoicing in where they are, and ready for what's ahead, members of Sacred Heart Parish here broke ground for a Gathering Center on July 17.

The ceremonial turning of dirt followed a Mass of Thanksgiving for the formal start of construction for the new building and the 40th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood for their pastor, Father Mark DeSutter. A reception followed in Culemans Fellowship Hall.

The \$2,337,000 addition will provide a handicapped accessible entrance to the church, as well as accessible restrooms, a bride's room, gift shop and gathering area over 5,000 square feet. If all goes according to plan, the community will be coming together next spring for a blessing and dedication.

Making it possible is Sacred Heart's Today Tomorrow Together Capital Campaign, which has raised more than \$3.25 million in donations from more than 620 households.

Jim Harl, who has been working on the TTT campaign for "four memorable years," said there had been several generous gifts, but also "contributions that came with much personal sacrifice." Among them were people who gave up vacations and donated the funds, children who contributed their allowances, and families who directed memorials to the campaign.

"These are people who will never benefit from this, but wanted to leave a legacy. . . . People who quietly, lovingly, faithfully gave to their parish," he said in remarks at the end of the Mass of Thanksgiving.

"In the months ahead, we will walk through new doors into this sacred building. We will gather in the space that we, Sacred Heart, built," Harl said. "All that seek to worship here will benefit from this moment in time. We will be remembered for all that we achieved, for how the good Lord blessed us with the

"All that seek to worship here will benefit from this moment in time. We will be remembered for all that we achieved, for how the good Lord blessed us with the gifts of community, fortitude, generosity and faith."

Jim Harl

On behalf of Sacred Heart's Today Tomorrow Together Capital Campaign



gifts of community, fortitude, generosity and faith."

In a letter expressing his "heartfelt congratulations," Bishop Louis Tylka said he was grateful for the leadership of Father DeSutter, in particular with the Today Tomorrow Together Capital Campaign.

"No doubt the success of this endeavor is shared by all who dreamed of the possibility to create this space, and then set out to make that dream a reality," the bishop wrote. "May God bring to completion the good work that he has begun in you!"

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

The Today Tomorrow Together Capital

Breaking ground for the new Gathering Center at Sacred Heart Church in Moline on July 17 are (from left) Dave Coene, Sandy Madison, Andrew Dasso, Missy Gasiorowski, Peter Murray, Don Lewis, Jim Watson, Connie Morris, Jim Harl, Father Matthew Cole, parochial vicar, and Father Mark DeSutter, pastor. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems

Offering a hug and good wishes to Father DeSutter for his 40th anniversary of ordination is Wilma Gaydos of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Morton. She was one of about 70 people from the Morton parish who traveled to Moline to celebrate the milestone with their former pastor. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems

Campaign was conducted in conjunction with Christ the King Parish, also in Moline, and Seton Catholic School, which serves the community but is located on the Sacred Heart Parish campus. Father Donald Levitt, pastor at Christ the King, joined Father DeSutter and Father Matthew Cole, SMA, parochial vicar, to concelebrate the Mass of Thanksgiving.

In his homily, Father DeSutter credited his immediate and extended Catholic family for having an influence on his vocation with their faith and high regard for priests. Some of them, including his sister, Josephine Arnold of Quincy, their

Before the Mass of Thanksgiving on July 17 at Sacred Heart Church in Moline, parishioners were invited to sign a banner marking the official start of construction for the new Gathering Center. The banner will be hung in the center when it is completed. The Catholic Post/Jennifer Willems



An artist's rendering of the Gathering Center planned for Sacred Heart Parish in Moline.

uncle Maurice DeSutter of Woodhull, and cousins came for the celebration.

As a young man, Father DeSutter read books about priests who had admirable qualities, such as sensitivity, a desire to serve, and humanity, as well as those who were flawed. He realized that he, himself, at times fell short of his goals, but could rely on the unconditional love of God and those around him.

"As I look around this church today, I see friends who are battling chronic diseases. I see parents who have difficulties with their children. I see those who have lost spouses and live in grief. I'm also aware of those who have struggled with broken relationships and old hurts," he said.

"When I see how others handle these setbacks in life, I'm humbled by all of that, what I witness every day," Father DeSutter told those who filled Sacred Heart Church.

"When we come here to this eucharistic table, we come here with trust because we are the body of Christ," he explained. "Little do we know who we touch by how we act."

The son of Joseph and Mary Ann DeSutter, Father DeSutter was born May 25, 1955, in Kewanee. He earned a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in philosophy from St. Meinrad College in St. Meinrad, Indiana, and completed his studies for the priesthood at St. Meinrad School of Theology, where he received a master of divinity degree.

MORE PHOTOS from the Mass and groundbreaking are found on The Catholic Post's Facebook site. 

PLEASE TURN TO **GROUND BREAKING 19**