

An ocean of support for Fr. Mike Coleman

As Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School chaplain is recovering from surgery to remove a cancerous tumor, the community holds him up in prayer.
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The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

June 26, 2020 • Vol. 63 No. 26

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Giving and gratitude in a time of pandemic



U.S. dollars are seen with face masks during the coronavirus pandemic in this illustration photo. Dioceses are helping parishes tap revenue streams while Masses are canceled because of the health crisis.

— CNS photo/Dado Ruvic, Reuters

Bishop clarifies Mass obligation, calls for continued health measures

Latest decree follows Governor's action
Full text can be found on Page 14

By Jay Nies

The parishes of this diocese continue to balance the spiritual and temporal well-being of all people, especially the most vulnerable, under Bishop W. Shawn McKnight's latest decree regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the decree, which took effect June 16, the bishop lifted until Sept. 11 the obligation for all the faithful of the diocese, as well as all who are present within its 38 counties, to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

However, he stated in the decree that the faithful who do not attend Mass in person are required to participate in the Sunday or holy day Mass livestreamed, or by praying and

meditating on the Scriptures with the recitation of a Rosary or Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Bishop McKnight's updated instructions came in response to Missouri Gov. Mike Parson's lifting of statewide regulations, leaving the determination of public health requirements to local officials.

Under the bishop's decree, people who are infected with COVID-19 are not permitted to enter church properties.

All are directed to check their temperature at home before going to church.

Important safety measures should remain in place in all Catholic churches to help protect congregants from infection and slow the spread of the virus, according to the judgment

By Jay Nies

There's nothing like a crisis to shed light on the nature of Church finances.

They aren't about budgets, spreadsheets or those ubiquitous Sunday envelopes.

They're about ministry.

"Specifically, they're about maximizing the ministry we can do with the resources we have," stated Deacon Joseph Braddock, Chief Financial Officer for the Jefferson City diocese.

The COVID-19 pandemic has tightened those resources, even as it has revealed new opportunities for charity and outreach.

In that way, it has highlighted the importance of a Christian ethic of returning to God a portion of His generosity.

"As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord," Bishop W. Shawn McKnight explained.

That return includes a financial tithe.

Parishes receive most of their money from Sunday offertory collections, which go toward carrying-out essential ministries, including Catholic schools, religious education and outreach to the vulnerable and the poor.

Disrupted household finances and an eight-week suspension of publicly celebrated Masses have contributed to a 20- to 50-percent decline in parish revenue.

Parishes that rely on parish fundraisers to help pay their bills are also suffering. State health mandates aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 have led to the cancellation or heavy modification of numerous fish fries, spring dinners, summer picnics and other events.

See GRATITUDE, page 17

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See DECREE, page 15

MOVING? If you are moving or changing parishes, please fill out information below. Clip and mail to THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914. Or email changes to dbarnes@diojeffcity.org. Allow two weeks.

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06/26/20

Administrative Assistants Needed



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City is seeking two Administrative Assistant positions in their Jefferson City office at 2207 West Main Street.

An experienced Administrative Assistant is needed to support the **Vocations and Diaconate Offices** of the diocese. This position requires excellent skills in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.), with the ability to take meeting minutes. Office hours are typically Monday–Friday, however, occasional evening or weekend hours may be needed to assist with events and programs. This is a great opportunity to be involved with individuals who are discerning a call to Priesthood.

The **Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General** are seeking an accomplished Administrative Assistant to support their clerical needs. This individual must have excellent skills with Microsoft Office and the ability to prioritize and switch tasks as needed. This position is also responsible for training others, holds the key position for coordinating maintenance on office equipment and will serve as a back-up administrative assistant to the Bishop as necessary. Professionalism and confidentiality are essential.

Qualified candidates for either of these positions should email a resume to HRDir@diojeffcity.org.

Position Openings



Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Jefferson City is EXPANDING our Pre-Kindergarten Program and is looking to hire for the following positions beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.

Please send your resume to Mrs. Heather Schrimpf if you are interested in any position listed below. (hschrimpf@icangels.com)

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Pre-Kindergarten Teaching Aide: Full-time position during the school year (9am-3pm daily). Experience in early childhood education is preferred. Wages dependent on experience.

Pre-Kindergarten Aide/PreK After School Care: Part-time position during the school year (3-5:30pm M/W/F & 1:30-5:30pm T/TH) Wages dependent on experience.

Pre-Kindergarten Aide/PreK After School Care: Part-time position during the school year (3-5:30pm daily). Wages dependent on experience.

Totus Tuus teams are planting seeds, branching out, accepting invitations

By Jay Nies

Three teams of Totus Tuus missionaries have been visiting parishes throughout the Jefferson City diocese, offering children and young adults an opportunity to grow in knowledge of their faith in a fun and engaging environment.

“Especially in this time, it is so important to remind youth that they are not alone,” stated Natalie Clark, a member of St. Joseph parish in Edina.

She is one of 12 Totus Tuus missionaries serving in the diocese this summer.

“We are college-age students who are on fire with the faith and desiring to serve the youth of our diocese,” she said. “We desire to give them an opportunity to encounter God. Ultimately, it’s for the salvation



This year’s Totus Tuus missionaries for the Jefferson City diocese gather on the steps of St. Pius X Church in Moberly.

of souls.”

This year’s Totus Tuus curriculum focuses on the Ten Commandments and the mor-

tal life of the Church, as well as faith and the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.

“Totus Tuus” is Latin for “Totally Yours,” which was Pope St. John Paul II’s papal motto.

Logistic concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing have required some creative thinking on behalf of the missionary teams.

See TOTUS TUUS, page 20

Pray for deceased priests

June 29 — Fr. Stephen S. Sandknop, St. Joseph, Canton (1976)

July 5 — Msgr. Ralph G. Kutz, St. Aloysius, Argyle (2000)

July 8 — Msgr. John H. Dreisoerner, Sacred Heart, Eldon (1999)

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— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
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THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN (ISSN 1083-6977 or USPS 556940), June 26, 2020, volume 63, number 26. Published monthly at 2207 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. Subscription price \$14 a year through parish plan. Periodical postage paid at Jefferson City, Mo. and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to The Catholic Missourian, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City MO 65109-0914.

Director of Religious Education



St. Stanislaus Church in Wardsville is seeking a director of Religious Education to oversee the religious and spiritual formation of youth and adults. This will entail scheduling Parish School of Religion Classes, as well as sacramental preparation and events. For more information, please email ststansec@socket.net.



If you or someone you know has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, believe in the possibility for Hope, Help and Healing.

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- The Missouri Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-3738
- The Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-0210
- Your local civil authorities

For information from the State of Missouri regarding reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, please visit <http://dss.mo.gov/cd/can.htm>

Diocese of Jefferson City



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Bishop McKnight

Addressing racism through the Immaculate Heart of Mary

On June 21, 2020, the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the patroness of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Bishop W. Shawn McKnight preached a homily at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, in which he called on Catholics to purify their hearts of the evil of racism.

The full text of the homily follows:

Today we celebrate the feast of the principal patroness of our diocese under the title of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

First, a word about patrons. Every parish has a title, often

under the name of a saint, like St. Joseph for the Cathedral parish.

The practice of having patrons or patronesses makes a connection between the community of faith and the saint under their patronage. We seek their protection as we contemplate their particular virtues or role in salvation history.

When the Diocese of Jefferson City was established in 1956, Bishop Marling proclaimed that the Immaculate Heart of Mary would be our patroness.

This rounds out a “trin-

ity” of Marian titles that we can claim: We have Our Lady of Guadalupe as the Patroness of the Americas. And we have the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary as our national patroness.

With our particular Marian patroness, the connection is made between the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

These twin feasts of the Sacred Hearts celebrated this weekend cause us to contemplate their meaning together:

The heart is an essential part of the human body, the part most apt to symbolize the essence of who we are. We die if our heart stops beating.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is thus a symbol of His humanity. Jesus was not *like* a human, He *WAS* human — fully human and fully divine.

Except for sin, He took on all the mental and physical frailties and the limitations we all face from nature.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart seals our true faith in the humanity of the God Man, Jesus Christ. The Sacred Heart symbolizes the profound mystery of God loving us with a human heart.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary also manifests the interplay between the human and divine, but from the opposite perspective.

In Mary's Immaculate Heart, we see a human being fully immersed in God's merciful grace and love.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary stands as a symbol of the salvation of the whole human race.

When we have God at the center of our hearts, the center of our lives, as Mary did completely and without fail, we can experience the limitless love of God, which purifies our hearts of all weakness and sinfulness.

The love of God in the human heart enables heroic actions, the practice of reconcili-

ation, and the ability to “love one another as I have loved you.”

Called to love as she does

Mary was the perfect mother, the perfect disciple, and no other human being, except her divine Son, ever loved others more than she.

Our devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, therefore, forces us to contemplate the full reality of what we see happening throughout our nation as we continue to grow in our awareness of the

ten unaware of what people of other races experience in life, even in simple things like going to a store and being treated suspiciously because of the color of one's skin.

Too many good and faithful Catholics remain unaware of the connection between institutional racism and the continued erosion of the sanctity of life.

Because of the spiritual danger it presents, the bishops of the United States issued a pastoral letter, “Open Wide Your Hearts,” against racism in November 2018.

In it, the bishops teach that racism arises when — either consciously or unconsciously — a person holds that his or her own race or ethnicity is superior, and therefore judges

persons of other races or ethnicities as inferior and unworthy of equal regard.

When this conviction or attitude leads individuals or groups to exclude, ridicule, mistreat, or unjustly discriminate against persons on the basis of their race or ethnicity, it is sinful.

See CONNECTIONS, page 23

“Our devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary forces us to contemplate the full reality of what we see happening throughout our nation as we continue to grow in our awareness of the evil of racism.”

— Bishop W. Shawn McKnight

evil of racism.

We need first to purify our own hearts from any blemish of this kind of evil, which is contrary to the love of God.

The difficulty with racism is that it is often very subtle. Very few individuals think of themselves as racist, even as they may harbor prejudices of all kinds in their hearts.

We who are white are of-



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

JULY

Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.

The following appointments are tentative, depending on the pandemic:

- July 19** Parish Pastoral Planning Meeting, 2 pm, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- July 19** Seminarian Formation Evening, 5:30 pm
- July 26** Parish Pastoral Planning Meeting, 2 pm, Catholic Center, Jefferson City

Bishop McKnight's July prayer intention for our Local Church

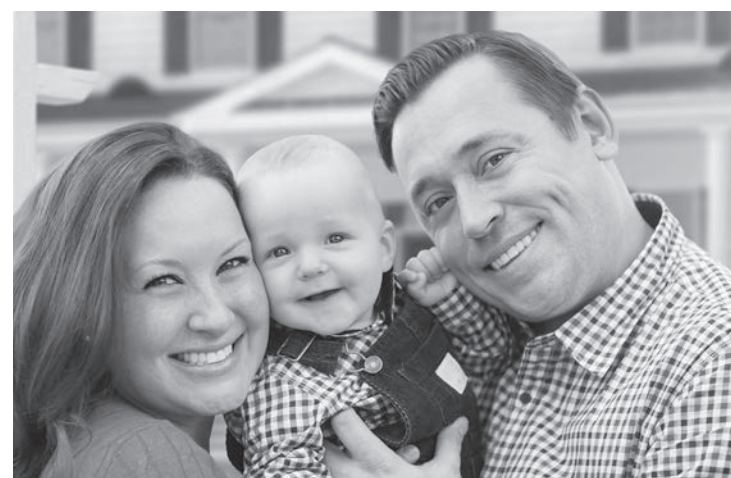
For the unity of our country: that the God of truth may open our hearts to the truth of the Gospel, that peace may rule our hearts, and that justice may guide our nation of one people of many races.



Intención del mes de julio del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Por la unidad de nuestro país: que el Dios de la verdad abra nuestros corazones a la verdad del Evangelio, que la paz reine nuestros corazones y que la justicia guíe nuestra nación de un pueblo de muchas razas.

Please be so kind as to make this a part of your group and private prayer.



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Role reversal: Tolton Catholic community rallies around Fr. Coleman, beloved chaplain

By Langston Newsome

Columbia

A genuine man.

That's how Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School athletic director Gary Link describes Trailblazers chaplain Father Michael Coleman.

Fr. Coleman is never forcing a smile when greeting students in the school hallways, loudly cheering for the Trailblazers at sporting events or cracking jokes with faculty.

Mr. Link has always seen Fr. Coleman's personality as authentic.

The two have known each other since they were teenagers, and their relationship — bonded by faith and sports — has only grown at Tolton, especially after Mr. Link became AD last year.

"(Fr. Coleman) is a terrific person," Mr. Link said. "He has relationships not only with the students but with the staff and parents that are genuine. He has a smile on his face each and every day. He is very supportive of all our student-athletes."

It's something that former Trailblazers AD and football coach Chad Masters noticed

when Tolton Catholic opened in 2011.

Fr. Coleman was always around, whether it was announcing basketball games, traveling with the football team or providing counsel to players or coaches.

Mr. Masters, now the head football coach at St. John Vianney High School in St. Louis, saw Fr. Coleman develop into more than just the school's chaplain and the Trailblazers' biggest cheerleader on the sidelines.

Fr. Coleman became the essence of what Tolton Catholic strived for its athletic programs to be about.

"He really became an important piece of what we were as an athletic department," Mr. Masters said. "Great ef-



Fr. Mike Coleman hugs Serena Berrey after they sang the national anthem before a basketball game Feb. 7, 2017, at Tolton High School. Fr. Coleman, who serves as the Trailblazers' chaplain, recently announced his cancer diagnosis and underwent surgery in June.

—Photo by Sarah Bell, *Columbia Tribune*

fort and enjoyment ... all of that. He's just a great person to have around the kids and a lot of fun to be around personally as well. I don't know during the eight years I was there if I could separate Fr. Coleman from our athletic department."

What friends are for

Fr. Coleman over the years has displayed an admirable ability to be a friend, colleague and spiritual leader all mixed in one.

Mr. Link witnessed his capability to not only relate and connect with students but then do the same with adults.

His positivity and strength in faith led to Mr. Link viewing him as a mentor, even though the two are almost the same age.

Fr. Coleman has always been there as a confidant and leader for everyone at Tolton Catholic for nine years.

Last week, however, those roles have reversed — even if slightly — as Tolton, Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Columbia, Holy Spirit parish in Centralia and the surrounding community rally to support Fr. Coleman after he recently announced his diagnosis of thy-

mus gland cancer.

Fr. Coleman underwent surgery June 17 to remove a large tumor resting above his lungs and heart.

"Reports from the doctors indicate that his surgery went great," Tolton Catholic posted Wednesday afternoon to its school Twitter account. "His tumors were invading the superior vena cava and most of his right upper lung, so they had to take out most of his right upper lung (which was mostly collapsed from the tumor)."

"Doctors are confident that they were able to get most of the tumor, but due to their size, he will still undergo chemo/radiation to clear the margins."

"No. 1 fan"

Jeremy Osborne, the Trailblazers' head basketball coach, received a call from Fr. Coleman while on the road for a family vacation when he found out the news of the cancer before it was made public.

Mr. Osborne had to pull off the highway to collect his thoughts, shaken by the development.

Fr. Coleman is a supporter of all of Tolton Catholic's athletic teams, but especially basketball, where he can be seen announcing games with nicknames for each player.

"He's the No. 1 fan of Tolton athletics and he always embodies the passion we want to have not only in our faith but in the competitive side of things," Osborne said. "He's definitely always been there to support the kids, coaches and the department as a whole."

"Now, it's time for people to support him."

"In God's hands"

Fr. Coleman gathered some of Tolton Catholic's adminis-

trators earlier this month and personally told them about his diagnosis.

Mr. Link held back tears as he embraced Fr. Coleman.

"I was a tough-love guy," Mr. Link said before heading to his office to cry alone. "I looked him right in the eye and said, 'You know you're going to beat this, right?' ... We'll put this in God's hands."

It's a sentiment shared by Mr. Masters after recently speaking with Fr. Coleman and reflecting on his time with Fr. Coleman in Columbia.

He remembers Fr. Coleman greeting him at Tolton, making him feel comfortable and providing joy each day.

Fr. Coleman has always had a clever sense of humor to Mr. Masters. Fr. Coleman would tease Mr. Masters about not seeing the classic movie "The Godfather."

"He and I would always go around and around about whether Don Corleone was a good Catholic or not," Mr. Masters said with a laugh. "He really made that place special with his presence."

"He's going to fight"

The thought of not being about to joke again with Fr. Coleman hasn't even crossed Mr. Masters' mind.

After being supported by Fr. Coleman for so many years, the Tolton Catholic community is now lifting him up with encouragement during this trial.

The school's faculty and staff even pulled together funds to have several celebrities share video greetings and well wishes with Fr. Coleman, including St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame shortstop Ozzie Smith.

"I took it pretty hard," Mr. Masters said about learning of Fr. Coleman's diagnosis. "But we're not memorializing him right now. He's going to fight and he's going to do a great job because his spirits are so positive."

Mr. Newsome is a reporter for the Columbia Daily Tribune newspaper (www.columbiatribune.com), which published this article June 17. This slightly revised version is published here with permission.

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Senior food boxes: part of CCCNMO's growing slate of services

By Jay Nies

Judith Mutamba, director of food and nutrition services for Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO), and Rebecca Jennings, nutrition education AmeriCorps member at Catholic Charities, took down names, handed out boxes of nutritious food and visited with residents of the Robert Hyder Apartments in Jefferson City.

"See you next month!" Ms. Jennings said while sporting a turquoise Catholic Charities T-shirt and facemask.

They were signing people up on June 16 for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). The program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and overseen locally by The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, is for people who are age 60 or older and have a household income at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty level.

That amounts to \$16,237 annual income for a household of one, \$21,983 for two, \$27,729 for three or \$33,475 for four.

People who qualify for the program will have a free monthly box of food delivered to their home by Catholic Charities.

CCCNMO is the charitable arm of the Jefferson City diocese.

On this day, it was working in partnership with Aging Best, a private, not-for-profit agency that operates senior nutrition centers in 19 counties in Central Missouri, to reach out to seniors they serve.

Hyder Apartments, managed by the Jefferson City Housing Authority, provides low-income housing for seniors. It stands within direct sight of the Shikles Center, the former La Salette Seminary chapel and gymnasium that CCCNMO recently purchased to create a hub of charitable work in the area.

Ms. Mutamba started working for Catholic Charities in January, when the agency established its food and nutritional services program, which will be linked to the food pantry that it plans to open at the renovated site.

"Our goal is to help serve



Judith Mutamba, Diane Elam, Rebecca Jennings and Cristal Backer of Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri staff a sign-up for the senior food box program at a senior housing complex in Jefferson City.
— Photo by Jay Nies

people in Jefferson City who don't have enough food for whatever reason — whether they're low-income or just lost their job," she said.

Catholic Charities anticipates doing that in tandem with other local food pantries, in order to help people who are not yet being helped.

"We plan on extending nutrition services out into the community," said Ms. Mutamba, "which means the pantry is only part of our activities. We'll be distributing food and also providing nutrition education."

She said a high percentage of people who don't have enough money to buy nutritional food also suffer from chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease.

"Down the road, we'll be scheduling specific days when clients can come in and receive information about nutrition and physical activity," she stated. "These are things that can help reduce the severity of chronic illnesses."

Each month, Catholic Charities will provide recipes for items people regularly receive in the food boxes.

Ms. Mutamba pointed out that many people cannot afford nutritious food, including fresh fruits and vegetables and therefore do not know how to cook it properly.

When the transformation of the new home for Catholic Charities is complete, it will include a grocery-store-style food pantry, along with a demonstration kitchen for trying new recipes and learning how to prepare them.

"A big thing"

Ms. Jennings came to serve alongside Catholic Charities as an AmeriCorps member on June 1, shortly after completing her master's degree in dietetics.

AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs aimed at addressing critical community needs.

She said this is exactly the kind of work she was looking forward to doing.

In learning about Catholic Charities and its mission, she's come to understand that working there is less of a job and more of "something who you are as a person."

She recognizes the biblical parallels to this important ministry.

"Jesus fed people who were hungry," she said. "It was a big thing to Him, so I think it should be a big thing to us."

"To the last person"

Ms. Mutamba said she's excited about helping assess the needs and build the food and

nutrition program from the ground up.

CCCNMO Director of Development and Outreach Cristal Backer helps raise money and apply for grants to expand the nutritional services offerings.

"We're not doing this by ourselves," Ms. Mutamba noted. "We're working with other partners in a way that complements their work without duplicating it, so we can make sure the resources reach to the last person who needs help."

She emphasized that Catholic Charities isn't just for Catholics.

"It's service to everybody in need," she said. "And it's not only Catholics who are employed at Catholic Charities.

There are many other denominations represented. So it's an interfaith community working together to address the needs of the people."

They intend to target hunger in a way Jesus would have found suitable when He preached the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25): "You saw Me hungry, and you fed Me."

"That's exactly what we are trying to achieve here through Catholic Charities," said Ms. Mutamba.

Anyone interested in supporting Catholic Charities' Food and Nutrition Services program may visit cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give, or make a check payable to CCCNMO and mail to P.O. Box 104626, Jefferson City, MO 65110.

For information about CCCNMO's food and nutrition services, visit:

cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/programs/food-nutrition-services



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Diocese of
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Linn parishioner has helped respond to numerous disasters

**Currently serving
as chair of St. George parish's
Disaster Response Team**

By Jay Nies

To borrow a phrase from TV, Donna Zeilmann knows a thing or two about disaster response because she's seen a thing or two.

That's why Father Daniel Merz, current pastor of St. George parish in Linn and Our Lady Help of Christians parish in Frankenstein, asked her to coordinate St. George parish's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on the greater Linn community.

For nearly a quarter-century, Mrs. Zeilmann and her late husband Richard served as American Red Cross disaster responders during numerous catastrophes, including Hurricane Katrina.

"What's going on now is different but it isn't," she said of the pandemic and its associated difficulties. "You're helping God's people, regardless of where you are or who you're helping."

As chair of St. George parish's Disaster Response Team, she worked with a core group of parishioners to assess people's needs, take inventory of available resources and put together a plan.

"A lot of what we've done could be classified as mental-health-type work," she said. "Our biggest concern was making sure people were not getting

totally depressed because of their inability to get out and see other people."

This especially applies to those who are over 60 or are otherwise at greater risk of contracting COVID-19 and are sheltering-in-place.

About 70 St. George parishioners volunteered to help, using the online portal the diocese set up in March when the state's pandemic measures kicked in.

"Each volunteer on the team got a list of six or seven names, and those were the people you were to stay in contact with," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "You were to call them at least once a week. And if you determined that you needed to contact them more often, then that's what you did."

The callers offered help with such things as running errands or picking up groceries or medication.

"Some of them we didn't need to call for long, because they said they have family members looking out for them," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "But there are some that we're still calling."

She continues to check in with a handful of people on her own list.

"The people are very, very appreciative for this," she said. "And several of our callers say they've made some wonderful friends in the process."

The parish coordinated its response with the First Baptist



Donna Zeilmann, chair of St. George parish's Disaster Response Team in Linn, and her husband, Richard, now deceased, worked for many years together as American Red Cross disaster responders during numerous catastrophes.

Church in Linn.

"Their pastor brought a list of names to our rectory, and we included them on the lists we gave out to callers," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "It was neat because we weren't just calling to help the people of St. George. We got to give and receive the love of Christ with other Christians."

Just being able to talk to someone who's concerned about them meant a lot to many people on the contact list.

"That moral support is life-saving," Mrs. Zeilmann noted. "If you don't have that kind of support, the isolation and depression can absolutely destroy you."

"Beauty in everything"

Mr. and Mrs. Zeilmann had finished raising their family in the St. Louis area when they moved to Bonnots Mill 27 years ago and joined St. Louis of France parish.

The epic Flood of '93 took hold a few months later.

The couple went to Jefferson City to look for a squeegee and were referred to the Red Cross disaster responders from the United States and Canada. The Red Cross offered to come to Bonnots Mill to distribute food to people displaced by the biblically invasive floodwaters.

"Every day at noon, we helped a group of Canadian Red Crossers serve meals and put supplies out," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "They said, 'You're really good at this. You ought to join us.'"

The couple wound up taking classes and becoming certified

Red Cross disaster responders.

"When things started to dry out, we started going out on assignment," she said.

They would go on three-week-long deployments to places devastated by natural disasters.

"You'd go out and work 14-, 15- and 16-hour days," Mrs. Zeilmann recalled. "Then, you'd go lay down somewhere — sometimes in a car or on a cot. Sometimes you'd get really lucky and stay in a hotel or a motel."

They were usually too exhausted to care.

"But your heart felt so full and you knew you had done something good for God's people that day," she said. "That's where you learn to see the beauty in everything, just doing that type of work."

Those shared experiences deeply enriched the Zeilmanns' marriage.

"We worked side-by-side," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "I was usually in charge of logistics, and he was head of transportation and was working under me most of the time."

They could talk privately, vent to each other after a bad day and simply encourage each other.

"He was my support," said Mrs. Zeilmann. "I've often referred to him as my knight in shining armor."

She lost track of how many hurricanes they endured together.

"We were in some very scary situations," she said. "But we trusted that the Lord was going to take care of us. And He did."

The only serious thing that happened to either of them while they were serving was in 2005, after Hurricane Katrina devastated huge swaths of the Gulf Coast.

"I found out that Mississippi mud is very slippery," she said. "I was out walking and I fell and broke my ankle."

She remained on the job for the next five months, working in a wheelchair, and came home with a walking cast on.

"And never a moment's regret!" she said. "Those were some of the best years of our marriage. We made some great friends, and God used it to bless us and help us grow closer and closer."

She remains in touch with friends from the Red Cross, who she said are like extended family.

From death to resurrection

Mr. Zeilmann was diagnosed with dementia about five years ago.

As his health deteriorated, the couple decided to buy a house in the neighborhood he had grown up in in Linn.

He died in December 2018, before they could move in.

Mrs. Zeilmann fell into a serious depression that almost claimed her life.

Fr. Merz ministered to her and helped her connect with fellow parishioners.

She returned to being a parish religious education teacher, which she and Mr. Zeilmann had done together when their children were young.

She became an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and began visiting and praying with people in local nursing homes and helping prepare for daily Mass at church.

Encouraged by Fr. Merz, she went on a weeklong silent retreat in Indiana.

"I spent each day, just me and God," she said. "I was trying to figure out, 'What am I supposed to be for the rest of my life? Where does God want me to be?'"

She came home convinced that God was calling her to make a commitment of lifelong devotion to Him.

See ZEILMANN, page 17

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Helias Catholic sends 186 forth with God's blessing

By Jay Nies

The energy level spiked as Helias Catholic High School's graduating seniors joined in singing a worship anthem at the end of their Baccalaureate Mass.

"You're the name above all names! You are worthy of our praise! And my heart will sing, 'How great is our God!'"

The Mass and the graduation ceremony that followed came more than a month later than originally planned.

Protocols for social distancing due to COVID-19 placed all 186 graduates in chairs spread 6 feet apart in the Rackers Fieldhouse the afternoon of June 19.

It was the first time the graduating seniors gathered as a class since in-school instruction was suspended on March 18.

The Mass was offered in memory of Jackson Careaga, a member of the Class of 2020 who died last October.

"Seniors, you've had a heck of a year, one for the history books," said Father Stephen Jones in his last homily as president of Helias Catholic.

"You have experienced great tragedy, sadness and loss," he said.

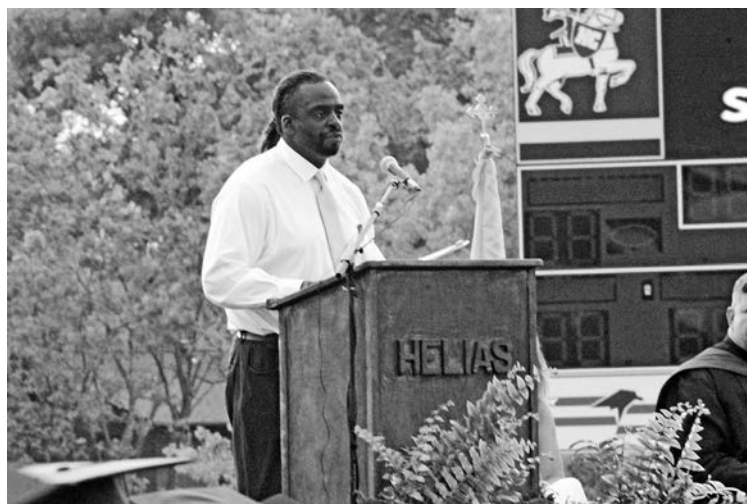
"You've experienced great success and glory. Let Jesus share these things with you as you go forth into the next chapter of your lives.

"I promise you — I promise you! — you won't regret it," he said.

It was the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"We are the object of Jesus's love," said Fr. Jones, "and the ultimate good that His Sacred Heart desires for us is a living relationship with God — intimate union and communion with Him. In other words, heaven."

Created in God's image, all must aspire to emulate His



LEFT: Victor Bell, a teacher and coach at Helias Catholic High School delivers the keynote address to the Helias Catholic Class of 2020 during commencement exercises June 19 at the Crusader Athletic Complex. **RIGHT:** Father Joshua Duncan, a chaplain at Helias Catholic, elevates the Most Precious Blood during the Baccalaureate Mass in the Rackers Fieldhouse. **BELOW:** Graduating seniors line up to receive their diplomas.

— Photos by Jay Nies

perfect love.

"It must form and direct our lives — the way we treat others, the way we treat ourselves, the choices we make," said Fr. Jones.

Graceful exit

A tumultuous downpour gave way to sunshine in time for commencement exercises

"Heck of a day"

Victor Bell, a history and social studies teacher and coach who arrived at the school when the seniors were freshmen, spoke of the consuming, self-giving love their parents have been showing for them since before they were born.

"And you, ultimately, are

going to do that," he said. "You're going to love something more than you love yourself."

The Class of 2020 voted overwhelmingly to have Mr. Bell as their commencement



speaker. That evening at the Crusader Athletic Complex.

Families gathered in assigned seats, continuing to practice social distancing.

Principal Kenya Fuemmeler said that when the Helias Catholic faculty picked "Grace" as the theme for this academic year, "I don't think any of us understood how much grace we were going to need in the year 2020."

She said the students met the challenges of distance learning and cancelled activities with resilience and resolve.

"We know they are well prepared as they leave the walls of our school," she said.

speaker.

In an interactive format that mirrored one of his classes, he prayed with them and pointed out positive character traits that he had observed in individual students.

Among these were working persistently hard, doing the right thing when no one is watching, setting and achieving high aspirations, making sacrifices for the greater good, speaking honestly, leading humbly, giving full effort, helping friends become their best selves, and persevering through pain and adversity.

"You've been building all these characteristics through-

out your last four years here," he noted.

He shared a quote from college basketball coach Jim Valvano: "If you laugh, you think and you cry, that's a full day. That's a heck of a day."

Hopeful future

Graduating seniors Jack Crull and Holly Hentges received the Fr. Helias Award for their outstanding contributions to Helias Catholic during their four years of attendance.

Mr. Crull led the opening prayer for graduation.

"Heavenly Father, we ask You to accompany us as we face new adventures and challenges," he prayed. "May the paths we take always lead to You and to the eternal joy

that is ours through Your Son."

Miss Hentges proclaimed a reading from the Book of Jeremiah, which included:

"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord — plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope."

This year's graduates performed a combined total of 15,500 hours of service over their four years.

The class included 19 who maintained 4.0 cumulative grade-point averages; two with perfect ACT scores; eight who completed more than 500

hours of community service apiece; 29 Bright Flight scholars and one student who is a Top 100 Missouri Scholar.

Collectively, the graduates have been offered more than \$4.8 million in college scholarships, including \$386,000 in A+ scholarships.

The co-valedictorians were Gabriel Borgmeyer, Samuel Bruce, Molly Bruns, Griffin Buschjost, Luke Distler, Grace Holloway, Andrew McDonald, Madaeline Mueller, Jonathan Myers, Sophey Nivins, Jacob Schepers, Carson Schroer, Elle Wilbers and Veronica Worthen.

Each carried a perfect GPA while taking at least four Advanced Placement classes.

Griffin Buschjost and Ve-

ronica Worthen received the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award, based on citizenship, scholarship, and good attendance.

Gabriel Borgmeyer and Olivia Hennon received the American Legion Citation, based on leadership, scholarship and service.

Cherished moments

In interviews after Mass, students said they had grown to love the familial camaraderie that helped define their years at

See HELIAS CATHOLIC, page 20

QUESTION CORNER

Rules on Holy Communion/
'Starting again' in marriage

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service



Q. My cousin was married 40 years ago in a civil ceremony when she was only 17. After eight years, that marriage ended in divorce. She has now been remarried for some 25 years — once again, not in the Catholic Church. All these years later, she still attends Mass regularly but never receives Holy Communion. Is this right? (I feel terrible for her.) What are the rules of the Catholic Church on this?

A. Your cousin is correct in not receiving Holy Communion when she attends Mass. In the Church's view, those eligible to take the Eucharist are those who are living "in communion with" Catholic teaching. For a married person, this would mean having been married in a ceremony with the Church's approval.

I, too, feel badly for your cousin, and I admire her honesty in choosing not to take Holy Communion. The solution, though, might be a fairly easy one. Because her first marriage was a civil ceremony (and presumably without Church approval), and since your cousin (I'm assuming) was a Catholic at the time, that marriage "did not count" in the Church's eyes and could be dismissed with some simple paperwork. It's called, technically, a "declaration of nullity for absence of canonical form."

That would leave her present marriage (which seems to be a stable one, since it has lasted 25 years!). And assuming that her present husband had not been married before, this marriage could then be "convalidated" or "blessed" in the Catholic Church by having the couple repeat their vows in the presence of a Catholic priest or deacon. Following that, of course, your cousin would be eligible to receive the Eucharist — and probably thrilled to do so.

Q. I am a Christian, although not much of a religious person at heart, but I could use your advice. I have a wife and a 5-year-old daughter whom I love very much, but I have hurt them a lot — not by any means physically, but instead through my complete arrogance. I have seldom considered their own feelings and always just pushed ahead with my own selfish wants. Now, thanks to a wake-up call in my life, I have asked for forgiveness directly, and my wife has offered me the chance. But the feeling of guilt still haunts me; I have a deep-seated sadness for what I have done to damage the relationships within my family. What should I do, Father? (Las Vegas)

A. The first thing I think you should do is thank God for the "wake-up call." Then, in quick succession, thank God for your wife — for her willingness to forgive and to move forward in your marriage. But there is more: You surely could profit by speaking with a counselor.

The guilt and sadness you now feel are understandable, but your marriage will be healthier and happier if you can give yourself a second chance. A counselor may well think it wise to include your wife in some parts of that counseling.

This leaves your daughter — who is old enough to have been hurt by your selfishness and may need, herself, some time to recover. A counselor may be able to suggest what you might say to your daughter by way of an apology and a pledge to do better.

And finally, I would recommend prayer — speaking with God in your own words, sharing with the Lord your wishes and your worries. You don't have to be a "religious person" to know that each of us is weak and needs some help from above.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.

Papal Audience

June 24, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now consider the prayer of David. Called by God to become King of Israel, David was deeply formed by his early experiences as a shepherd, which he would draw upon in leading his people. The young David was also a lover of music and poetry, and it was from his lyrical appreciation for the wonder of God's creation that his prayer was born. We see this reflected in the many psalms traditionally attributed to his authorship. David — as pastor and king — prefigures Jesus the Good Shepherd and universal King, whose prayerful relationship with his heavenly Father sustained his whole life. David, for his part, was both saint and sinner, full of contradictions, yet in his vocation of leadership he was constant in prayerful dialogue with God. Our lives too are often marked by contradictory forces and incoherent impulses, but if, like David, we persevere in prayer — whatever our own vocation and the difficulties we may face — we will come to know the closeness of the Lord and be able to share this joy with others.

I greet the English-speaking faithful joining us through the media. Upon you and your families I invoke the joy and peace of the Lord. May God bless you!

Giving witness, thanks to Jesus Christ
in the Most Blessed Sacrament

By Jay Nies

Father Leonard Mukiibi knelt down before the Most Blessed Sacrament and prayed a litany of gratitude before leading God's people on a procession around the St. Thomas the Apostle Church grounds.

It was June 14, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*"Corpus Christi"*).

"We are going to be moving around our church to show You that we love You, just as You love us," Fr. Mukiibi prayed. "Thank You for being present every time we come to be with You. Moving around our church with You, let it be a gesture of moving around in our hour loving, moving around in our families, moving around in our community, moving around in the Church, moving around in the world."

He asked Jesus to bless all who are sick, hurting and in need of reassurance.

Bearing the Eucharist in a monstrance under an ornate canopy carried by local Knights of Columbus, the priest led the people out into the churchyard



and to the steps of the rectory.

They stopped at a temporary altar there for Benediction.

From there, singing "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus," as they processed to the next altar, set up near parish's baseball diamond, under a large tree that formed a natural canopy of leaves and branches.

The sweet and pungent aroma of flowers and blossoms mixed with the burning incense.

Each time a bell rang during Benediction, Fr. Mukiibi swung the sensor of burning incense, and two girls gently threw rose petals into the air.

The people sang "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" as they processed back into church for a third

Benediction.

"*Corpus Christi* is the celebration of the abiding presence of the loving God as *Emmanuel*, God-with-us, in order to give collective thanks to our Lord living with us in the Eucharist," Fr. Mukiibi explained.

"This solemnity gives us an occasion to learn more about the importance and value of His Real Presence, so that we may appreciate the sacrament better and receive maximum benefit from receiving Jesus in Holy Communion," the priest stated.

A gallery of photos will be posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

Teaching children about race relations

By Carole Norris Greene
Catholic News Service



I was in college in the '60s when a classmate told me about a little child who had never seen a black person before. My classmate had been traveling with her husband, a U.S. soldier stationed in Europe.

"Mommy, look! A chocolate lady!" the little girl exclaimed, much to my classmate's amusement — and relief.

Those five words spoke volumes about the child — and her mother.

That child's innocence was beautiful. Apparently she hadn't been taught the N-word that little white children outside homes near my Catholic high

school chanted as I ran by with a black classmate. Monica Taylor and I were participating in the John F. Kennedy physical fitness program, running laps around our school.

But children are not born racists. They learn this attitude from adults and others around them. I doubted even back then if those precious little ones even understood the profundity of what they were saying.

Fast forward to today when whites and people of color around the world are marching together in protest against systemic racism. Many protesters are bringing their children along with them in an effort to teach them to stand against social injustice.

I favor teaching young children about race relations and the pitfalls of making assumptions based on skin color by being ever vigilant, listening for their ques-

tions.

Questions will come when the child yearns for understanding. Adults can even observe a child watching news on television, for example, and begin a talk by asking what the child is thinking.

To sit a child down and bombard him or her with complex information can be very confusing.

One of my sisters met a little neighbor while walking her dogs recently. The child admired her dogs and asked their names.

My sister then asked the girl's name. She replied, "Freeya."

"That's not her name!" said a boy nearby who said he was her brother. "It's 'Free Up!'"

His own name, he added with pride, was "Make a Way!"

Their parents embodied their hopes in the names they gave their children. How

well those children express who they actually see themselves as being will rest on the clarity of answers to their own questioning that no doubt will continue as they mature.

In anticipation of race-related questions, parents, older siblings or other adults in a child's life should do their own homework. This isn't a time for opinions. Being white or a person of color doesn't make one an authority on race relations.

Seek out those whose objectivity is sharpened, who can point out what subtly and historically has influenced our attitudes about race.

I highly recommend an article written by Fordham University theology professor Father Bryan Massingale, titled "The assumptions of white privilege and what we can do about it." His commentary ex-

See GREENE, page 18

I love my parish priest! Why is he being reassigned?

By Andrew Hansen

It's a common question: Why is my parish priest being reassigned to another parish? This question especially comes up when the priest is beloved by parishioners and then, quite naturally, there is angst about what the future of the parish will look like.

The first thing to remember is that diocesan priests don't "belong" to a parish, but in fact, belong to the universal Church. Diocesan priests, through their ordination by their local bishop, therefore, serve the people of their diocese.

When they were ordained priests, they made a promise of respect and obedience to the bishop and his successors. The purpose of obedience is not a matter of arbitrarily imposing authority or seeking to exercise control for its own sake but flows rather out of a sense of mission — a mission to serve the Catholic faithful in their diocese, not just one parish.

If your parish has a priest that is beloved and has brought new life and a spiritual awakening to the people, and he is now being reassigned, give thanks to God for the blessing that he has been to your parish. Then, look at it from a perspective that with the new assignment, that priest can now help people at another parish in our diocese grow spiritually. Think of it as "paying it forward." Also, think about how your new priest will be able to bring new gifts to your parish that will enable you to continue to grow.

It's also important to remember that priests have different strengths and talents. The dynamics of parishes change over time. So, the strengths and talents of a "new" priest might fit the needs of that parish better. In addition, it's easy for parishes to sometimes go into "cruise control" when a pastor has been in place

for a long time, even if things are going well. A new priest can bring new ideas, which in turn, sends a signal to lay leadership at the parish to get out of "cruise control" and try new initiatives that can help people grow in our faith.

There are also other practical reasons for moving priests. It allows them to expand their experiences and gain new perspectives. Priest retirements and new priests being ordained each year naturally translates into having some rearrangement of assignments.

You might also ask: Why make these changes now with the uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic? While being mindful of the pandemic, the Catholic Church must still prepare for the return to normal life when this crisis passes.

If you are getting a new priest, make him feel welcome. Remember that transitions are difficult for the priests themselves, so they deserve the same love and support that you gave to your last priest. Avoid forcing him to conform to something he might not be familiar or comfortable with by saying to him, "That's how we've always done it here" or "That's not how the previous pastor did things."

Don't gossip and don't publicly voice your objections about a new priest to anyone. Patience is a virtue, so give him a chance, and help him navigate the parish, the school, and city. Invite your new priest over for dinner or write him a welcome card with perhaps a gift card to a local eatery.

Our priests are very dedicated and work hard, so please pray and support all our priests, especially if you are getting a new pastor. Remember, without our priests, we the faithful don't have access to the sacraments.

Andrew Hansen, the director of Communications, is also the editor of Cath-

olic Times, magazine of the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois. This article from the May 3 edition is republished here with permission.

REFLECTION

Where thanks fell short

By Mark Saucier

It was the best Father's Day.

For the first time in many months, we had all the kids and grandkids together. The weather was beautiful, with a gentle sun, a whispering breeze and comfortable shade.

We spread tables across the lawn for some modicum of distancing, but there were times when the familial was stronger than the social. Platters and plates were piled high with the fruits of gifted cooks.

The children scurried about, from one imaginative enterprise to another, culminating in a dance performance with the emphasis on interpretive.

To top it off, our youngest announced a coming addition to the clan. Joyous news at any time, this was special because it is their first.

So it was strange that night, reviewing the day and all the abundance of life, when thanksgiving was not enough. I was profoundly grateful, but I needed another prayer. The words that formed on my lips were unexpected.

"Disturb me, O Lord. Discomfit and afflict me. Give me a heart aching with another's pain. Let me feel another's hunger. Let me bleed with the wounds of injustice. Let me tremble with another's fear and sink to my knees in another's despair."

I was surprised as anyone that I had given voice to those words. They were not intentional, not even necessarily welcome, but there they were.

Only slowly did I begin to understand.

Indeed, my life has been blessed. I have a family that loves me despite myself, a home that is more than adequate, the leisure of retirement, and more money than a significant portion of the world.

That's all good, but it is so tempting to think that's enough, so appealing to be complacent, so easy to forget that my life was given to me for others.

Jesus was a subverter, an up-ender. He did this to the institutions of His day, but also challenged individuals to turn their lives around, even upside down, to encounter the fullness of life.

The rich young man couldn't do it, but Zacchaeus could, as could the woman at the well, the Gerasene demoniac, and most of all, Paul.

There's a big risk of being selfishly insulated, distracted and unaware. I don't want to give up all the good things of my life, but in the end, I don't want to say, "Lord, I didn't see You hungry, thirsty, suffering or in prison!"

I don't want Him to respond, "Of course you didn't, you never looked!"

Fr. Litzau reflects on Dominican legacy and his time in Columbia

By Jay Nies

For as long as he's been preaching, Dominican Father Richard Litzau has been reminding Catholics that they were anointed at baptism as "priest, prophet and king."

They are accordingly obliged to conform their lives to all three roles.

"A priest stands as a go-between between God and the people," he noted. "A prophet speaks the truth, and a king leads. That's what we're called to do as Catholics!"

Fr. Litzau hopes the people of St. Thomas More Newman Center parish in Columbia, where he's been pastor for the past six years, will keep reminding themselves of that after he takes on his new assignment in Madison, Wisconsin, on July 1.

He will serve as senior associate pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace parish.

Dominican Father Michail Ford, current associate pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center parish, will become associate pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

They are the last two members of the Dominican Community of St. Raymond of Penafort in Columbia, which was established in 2006.

The leadership of the Dominican Province of St. Albert the Great announced last November that the Dominicans in Columbia would be reassigned to larger communities, in order for them to "engage in a more

robust common life while attending to the demands of their ministries."

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight has appointed two diocesan priests, Father Daniel Merz and Father Paul Clark, to succeed Fr. Litzau and Fr. Ford as pastor and associate pastor at St. Thomas More.

Obedience

Fr. Litzau said that while he regrets leaving people and a place he loves, it is the nature of Dominican life to be itinerant.

"Blessed Father Dominic inculcated that character into our charism," he stated. "It encourages us to live in a detached way — detached from possessions and places and occasionally even from experiences."

This frees up members of the order to live simply, focused on the mission of their order: "to preach, to bless, to praise!" he said.

He added that as ministers and shepherds, Dominicans are obliged to fall in love with the people of God.

"We are called to minister and shepherd and then, as a cost of doing business with that same God, we are called to break our hearts and theirs, when we are called to leave," he said.

For Dominicans, that call filters down through their superiors in religious life, obedience to whom they offer as a solemn profession to God.

"It is a vow I take very seri-



Dominican Father Richard Litzau, who will take up a new assignment in Wisconsin after serving for six years as pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center parish in Columbia, blesses the people at the end of a Mass in the Newman Center chapel.

— Photo by Jay Nies

ously," said Fr. Litzau, and one that he keeps with God's help and that of his fellow Dominicans.

After ministering for 15 years on university campuses, he is being missioned to a more traditional parish with a grade school.

Our Lady Queen of Peace School has about 500 students.

"It will be a joy and a challenge to keep up, and I am looking forward to trying," he said.

"Very simple"

The Dominican order is formally known as the Order of Preachers.

People have told Fr. Litzau that they appreciate the Dominican emphasis on preaching good homilies at Mass.

"I want people to know that we were committed to ministering to the people and setting a good example of what religious life looks like," he said.

He's grateful to the parishioners for the openness, support and love they have shown to the Dominicans and urged them to continue that with their new priests.

He said it's been an honor to partake of the priestly fraternity of this diocese.

"The priests here are honest, hardworking, dedicated, compassionate people," he said.

He feels blessed to have been a part of this diocese, supported and encouraged by Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos and then by Bishop McKnight.

"I thank them for their

prayers and direction," Fr. Litzau stated. "The friendships that have grown over my time here have been a source of strength and energy, of challenge and support."

He noted that the bishop, clergy and laypeople have been navigating nearly nonstop challenges and obstacles while working to implement Bishop McKnight's priorities.

"The people need to continue to support that," said Fr. Litzau. "I am absolutely convinced that the Trine God is right here in our midst. Our job is to find out where, and what that presence means and requires of us."

It starts with listening to God's clear direction in Scripture.

"Jesus made it very simple: 'Love God ... neighbor ... self,'" said Fr. Litzau.

"Listen to your heart"

Since arriving in Columbia, Fr. Litzau has referred to his role as "servant leader."

"For me, that term speaks to how you lead and where you lead from," he said. "The priest is called to serve."

He summed his understanding with a quote he once read from Jesuit Father Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955):

"To the fullest extent of my power, because I am a priest, I wish from now on to be the first to become conscious of all that the world loves, pursues and suffers. I want to be the first to seek, to sympathize and to suffer; the first to unfold and sacri-

fice myself, to become more widely human and more nobly of the earth than of any of the world's servants."

"That is an operational definition of servant leader and of pastor," Fr. Litzau asserted.

A philosophy professor at Saint Louis University defines a vocation as "something you cannot imagine yourself not doing." Fr. Litzau can't imagine not being a Dominican priest.

"I was invited — called — when I was young," he noted. "I just waited a long time to RSVP."

The call was there all along, and with God's help, he answered it "right on time."

He encourages anyone else who feels called to Priesthood or religious life in the second phase of their adult life to "listen to your heart."

"Religious orders and congregations all have age limits," he noted. "But it never hurts to seek."

"Ongoing conversation"

Fr. Litzau asked for prayers for him and all the other Dominican priests and brothers who have served in Columbia.

"Prayer is a constant in my life, as it should be in all our lives," he said. "The ongoing conversation with God is a source of strength and wisdom, it was very much a part of the discernment of God's will for us."

In this time of crisis, he called to mind a prayer recently published in *America* magazine:

"God of justice, give us the courage to admit our sins and failings. Give us the freedom to seek Your mercy and reconciliation with our brothers and sisters. And give us the strength to continue crying out to You for the healing of our nation until it fulfills its commitment to recognize that You have created all people equal."

Calling upon God to bless the people, he urged them to "be bold in your mission, be gentle in your relationships, and be kind in your thoughts of the Dominicans."

Fr. Litzau's mailing address at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish will be: 401 S. Owen Drive, Madison, WI 53711.

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Speakers at assembly offered direction on parishes learning about, addressing racism



LEFT: Joyce Jones, program director of racial harmony for the St. Louis archdiocese, introduces William Critchley-Menor S.J. and Katie Jansen Larson, speakers at an afternoon workshop on becoming an anti-racist parish, during the 2019 MCC Annual Assembly on Oct. 6 in the State Capitol. **RIGHT:** Audience members listen to each other speak about recognizing and removing systemic racism from society.

— Photos by Jay Nies

By Jay Nies

It cannot be done without God's help and grace.

But since that grace abounds, there's no excuse not to begin the uncomfortable process of fashioning anti-racist parishes throughout the United States.

"It's true that we can't do this on our own, but God's grace never gives us permission not to work," stated William Critchley-Menor S.J., a Jesuit scholastic at Saint Louis University in St. Louis. "We must recognize that God is always calling us to more, and try to respond to that."

Mr. Critchley-Menor and Katie Jansen Larson, parish administrator at St. Francis Xavier "College Church" parish in St. Louis, led an afternoon workshop titled "The Love of Christ Impels Us — Becoming an Anti-Racist Parish," at the Missouri Catholic Conference's (MCC's) 2019 Annual Assembly in Jefferson City.

The event was held Oct. 6 in the Missouri State Capitol.

About 35 people — including Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso of St. Louis and Hermann native Franciscan Father Edward Mundwiller — attended the interactive session.

It was one of several workshops offered during the assembly.

MCC Public Policy Committee member Joyce Jones, program director of racial harmony for the St. Louis archdio-

cese, served as emcee.

"Welcome to an uncomfortable conversation," said Ms. Jansen Larson. "That is what you're getting into, as a room of mostly white people talking about race."

"The only thing that I can say with any certainty is that I need to be uncomfortable," she stated. "And if I'm not uncomfortable, then I'm not in the right headspace for this conversation."

She noted that racial prejudice generally refers to a belief that some racial groups are better or worse than others.

Structural racism describes the way in which institutions and societal structures create and maintain racial inequality.

"Anti-racism goes beyond simply avoiding racism and is an effort to oppose and dismantle racism and to promote racial equity," Ms. Jansen Larson stated.

"To be anti-racist means to look for places where racism exists and try to stop it," she said.

Her parish, which includes the Saint Louis University Campus, is mostly white, although there are many people living nearby who are African American.

She said that when her pastor, Jesuit Father Daniel White, challenged the parish to work toward becoming an anti-racist parish, the issue of colorblindness quickly came up.

"The color I think most of us are truly blind to is white," Ms.

Jansen Larson asserted.

That's important to keep in mind when working to become a community that is at odds with systemic racism.

"The focus is actually on us, more than it is on people of color," she said. "Specifically, it's our relationship with people of color."

"A third rail"

A recent online statement from St. Francis Xavier parish said its efforts to become an anti-racist parish "are based on the realization that we are bound intimately to institutional racism, and that this is not of God. To do nothing in the face of great sin is itself sinful."

The parish began the process by inviting parishioners to gather for prayer and discussion.

At each meeting, participants would agree to abide by a set of principles, including openness, respect, forgiveness, personal responsibility and a willingness to listen in order to understand.

Each meeting would include small group or one-on-one discussions in which people could speak candidly about their understanding or personal experiences of racism.

This part of the process known as "illuminating dissatisfaction."

Mr. Critchley-Menor acknowledged that discussions about race and racism are like "a third rail" in American culture.

"There's an inability to name

the fact that there's a problem — the problem being racism in our country, in our neighborhoods, in our Church," he said.

"So we want you to be able to talk about: Do you see that there's a problem? How do you see it? How do you experience it?" he stated.

Ms. Jones pointed out that race relations in the United States are often framed in terms of black and white, "because that's the model that our country has been built on."

But racism actually refers to all discrimination against whoever the "other" is, she noted.

Cleansing and forgiveness

Mr. Critchley-Menor is a member of the leadership team for the Jesuit Midwest Province's Anti-Racism Sodality.

He called to mind a passage from the First Letter of St. John: "If we say we are without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sins, (God) is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and will cleanse us from every wrongdoing."

Mr. Critchley-Menor became conscious of racism in the Church by hearing from fellow Jesuits who are Hispanic or African American, about how they had been marginalized in their own religious community.

"It's things like who gets a voice at the table, who is invited to things, who is listened to and has credibility," he stated.

Lauding the U.S. Catholic bishops' November 2018 pastoral letter on racism, called "Open Wide Our Hearts," he quoted an excerpt:

"We, the Catholic bishops of the United States acknowledge the many times when the Church has failed to live as Christ taught us to love our brothers and sisters.

"Acts of racism have been committed by leaders and members of the Catholic Church, by bishops, clergy, religious and laity, and by Church institutions.

"We express deep sorrow and regret. We also acknowledge those instances when we have not done enough or stood by silently when grave acts of injustice were committed.

"We ask for forgiveness from all who have been harmed by these acts, in the past or in the present."

"The water you swim in"

Ms. Jansen Larson noted that in "Open Wide Our Hearts," the U.S. bishops call on priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters, lay leaders, parish staff members and all the faithful to see themselves as missionary disciples, "carrying forth the message of fraternal charity and human dignity."

"We ask them," the bishops state, "to fight the evil of racism by educating themselves, reflecting on their personal

See ANTI-RACIST, page 15

A Rosary for Fr. Aubuchon

About 150 people gather near the playground of St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City the morning of Saturday, June 13, to pray a Rosary for Father Christopher Aubuchon, a priest of the Jefferson City diocese whose heart has been weakened by a virus. He is in Kansas City awaiting a heart transplant. "Know that Father Aubuchon appreciates it very much," said Father Louis Nelen, pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph parish. "He feels these prayers and is very thankful." A gallery of 30 photos from this event has been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, *cathmo.com*. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

— Photos by Jay Nies



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Baby saved from abortion when mom changes her mind halfway through procedure

By Katie Franklin

Rolla

In the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and global government lockdowns, a young woman named "April" made what may have seemed like an irreversible decision to have an abortion.

She hadn't planned on having one when she first visited PRC of Rolla, a pro-life pregnancy help center. She was actually determined not to have one.

"She said she wasn't completely sure what she would do, but definitely not abortion," said Paula Marti, a certified Life Coach who met with April at the center. "That is what she told me."

April and Marti hit it off great during that first meeting.

April's mom, who accompanied her to the appointment, even knew Paula, having gone to high school with her years ago.

As the mother and daughter left the center, April's mom thanked Paula, but alluded to potential trouble down the line.

"They were worried about talking to the boyfriend because he had some possessive behaviors, just some concerning things," Marti said.

Threats and manipulation

Indeed, after they left the center, April's boyfriend began pushing her to do the unthinkable.

able.

"Her boyfriend started pressuring her to have an abortion about two weeks after she found out she was pregnant," said Joseph Dalton, executive director of PRC of Rolla. "He said she was ruining his life. That it was her fault."

He even threatened to take her to court for custody of the baby if she didn't have an abortion.

So together with a friend, April drove across the Missouri border to Granite City, Illinois, for an abortion at Hope Clinic, a facility that has been performing abortions since before *Roe v. Wade*.

The appointment was quick. The staff performed a brisk ultrasound, flashed the image of the little baby at April, and told her what to expect after taking the drugs: period-like cramping and blood clots — perhaps the size of a lemon.

April swallowed the first dose and was given four doses of a second drug to take at home the next day.

The appointment was done in about five minutes.

Change of heart

April's regret set in fast.

"On her way home, she told me this, that she immediately regretted taking it," Marti said. "And as soon as she got home, she started Googling, 'What

happens if you don't take the second medication?' And that's where she found the abortion pill reversal hotline."

Operated by Heartbeat International's 24/7 call center, Option Line, the hotline is staffed by a team of nurses on the Abortion Pill Rescue Network, a group of more than 800 medical providers offering the life-saving treatment.

PRC of Rolla, which offers free pregnancy tests and limited obstetric ultrasound, began offering the reversal treatment this year.

April was the center's first client to seek it out.

Upon finding *abortionpillrescue.com*, April dialed the number (877-558-0333) and was connected once again to PRC of Rolla.

"She came to us that afternoon and she was really happy to see us again," Marti said. "She was happy that she was going to be doing something to hopefully save her baby's life."

A chemical abortion — often referred to as the "abortion pill" or RU-486 — actually involves two drugs.

The first, which April took

in Granite City, is mifepristone, a drug that destabilizes the pregnancy by blocking progesterone receptors.

The second, typically misoprostol, triggers contractions, forcing the woman's body to expel her baby in very premature labor, often at home.

If a woman changes her

terone treatment: peanut oil.

With that information in mind, the center's medical director, physician Christopher Baldwin, began calling pharmacies to find a peanut-free version of the treatment.

Finally, he landed on one: Sinks Pharmacy in St. Clair, located an hour away.

Dalton, the center's director, jumped in his car to fetch the treatment.

"It was kind of cool because, you know, here we are on lockdown," he said. "We're seeing people by appointment only, and this happened and

it felt like — I don't know — I felt like, we're always involved in the 'save,' but this one felt different to me because I was actually physically doing something."

Dalton pulled into the pharmacy later that day and was met with a surprise greeting.

"When I arrived in the drive-thru and told them who I was picking up for, the pharmacist and a couple of staff members came to the window, smiled, waved and gave me the thumbs-up as I drove away," Dalton said. "Not a word was spoken."

See BABY, page 18



mind after taking the first drug, she may be able to save her baby through abortion pill reversal.

Time is of the essence. If administered within 72 hours of taking the abortion drug, progesterone has a 68-percent success rate in saving unborn babies.

Lifesaving journey


Luckily, April was able to get into PRC of Rolla within 24 hours of beginning the abortion.

But there was a snag. April had an allergy to one of the ingredients used in the proges-

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Official Decree

On pastoral activities in the Diocese of Jefferson City

Following the Governor's Declaration Lifting of Statewide Restrictions for the COVID-19 Pandemic

Whereas Governor Mike Parson has lifted the statewide health order beginning 16 June 2020, leaving the determination of public health requirements to local governments; and

Whereas the Department of Health and Senior Services of the State of Missouri and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Federal Government continue to recommend: the observance of social distancing and the use of face masks when in gatherings; that persons 65 years of age and older, as well as those with certain medical conditions, avoid public gatherings as much as possible; and the practice of frequent hand-washing or use of hand sanitizers; and

Whereas the common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible;

I therefore declare, as the Diocesan Bishop, the following:

1. All the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and those who are present in the territory of the Diocese, are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until 11 September 2020, provided that for days of precept after 1 July 2020 they do one of the following:
 - a.) Participate in the Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, or the Vatican.
 - b.) Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation, and recite the Rosary.
 - c.) Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation, and recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet.
2. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation through Labor Day weekend.
3. Those who are symptomatic for COVID-19 are not permitted to enter church properties, in accordance with national, state and local health directives. All are asked to check their temperature at home before going to church.

4. Those who are 65 years of age or older, and those with medical conditions, are highly encouraged not to go to Mass when it is likely that there will be a large number of the faithful in attendance or if social distancing and the wearing of face masks are not observed.
5. Those who do not attend Mass on Sundays are encouraged to attend Mass on a weekday if it would be easier to observe the proper social distancing and other health recommendations.
6. Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Parish Life Collaborators, and the Presidents and Principals of Catholic schools are strictly obliged to follow the public health requirements, directives or orders of local government officials for gatherings of the faithful, including for the celebrations of Mass, weddings and funerals, other liturgies, devotions, school and catechetical activities, social events, sports activities and meetings.
7. The celebration of weddings outside of Mass may take place outdoors on the grounds of and in proximity to the parish church or chapels, according to the judgement of the Pastor, Parochial Administrator, or Parish Life Collaborator.
8. The observance of social distancing, the use of face masks, and all other public health recommendations of state authorities should be followed whenever possible, according to the judgment of the Pastor, Parochial Administrator, Parish Life Collaborator, President or Principal. Consultation with the Bishop, Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia, local Dean, Liturgy Commission Chairman, or Superintendent is recommended.
9. The use of face masks upon entering the church, during the celebration of Mass except when in place in the pew, during the Communion procession, and upon leaving the church is highly encouraged.
10. The offertory procession, the sign of peace, and Holy Communion from the chalice shall continue to be suspended. One or more stationary collection baskets are to be used rather than baskets passed or taken up by ushers. Where it has been the practice, the holding of hands during the Our Father must not be done.

11. Communion ministers are to sanitize their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion, and they must use face masks during the distribution of Holy Communion.
12. Communicants are encouraged to wear face masks during the reception of Holy Communion, and it is requested that Holy Communion be received in the hand.
13. Those who persist in their desire to receive Holy Communion on the tongue may do so, but only after those who receive Holy Communion in the hand, or in a Communion line designated solely for Holy Communion on the tongue. Communion ministers must purify and then sanitize their fingers after distributing Holy Communion on the tongue to each household.
14. High use areas within the church must be cleaned after each service:
 - a.) The pews used by the assembly shall be cleaned after each use.
 - b.) Restroom facilities and door handles, push plates, and knobs are to be sanitized after each service.
 - c.) It is advisable to have entrance and exit doors propped open during high traffic volumes before and after Mass.
15. Hymnals and other books are to remain stored for the duration of the pandemic. No materials may be left in the pews or adoration chapels. The faithful are encouraged to bring their own missals, hymnals and devotional books.
16. Holy water fonts shall remain empty.
17. Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.

This decree is effective from June 16, 2020, and until September 11, 2020, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Given at the Chancery
of the Diocese of Jefferson City
on this 15th day of June, 2020**

+ Shawn McKnight

**Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.
Bishop of Jefferson City**

Constance Schepers

Mrs. Constance Schepers, Chancellor

Prayer for a Communion of Desire

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, renew my heart now with the power of Your Spirit. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Unite me more closely to Your Body, the Church. And never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

ANTI-RACIST

From page 11

thoughts and actions, listening to the experiences of those who have been affected by racism, and by developing and supporting programs that help repair the damages caused by racial discrimination."

Ms. Jansen Larson said this is a helpful but daunting order, because racism isn't always easy to notice.

"We're not looking at really overt things as much anymore," she said. "Not that they aren't there, but that's not really where racism is so powerful."

She said it's easy to condemn something as blatant as burning a cross in someone's yard, "but there are structures in place that we don't even notice anymore, much less question, that also enable continued racism."

For white people, she likened it to "recognizing the water you swim in."

That's why St. Francis Xavier parish sought guidance from Crossroads Ministry, a national organization that works to help institutions identify racist structures.

"Because it's not much about people

in your institutions who have racist thoughts or feelings," she said. "Assuming you have good people in your institutions, it's about identifying the structures that unintentionally enable racism."

She referred to a detailed chart provided by Crossroads Ministry that outlines a six-stage transformation from an exclusionary institution to an anti-racist, multicultural organization.

"We're not trying to make everyone the same," she stated. "When we talk about racism, what we are talking about are power and structures: Where is the power? What are the structures that give that power? Who's in those roles?"

She pointed out that as much work as her parish already put into becoming anti-racist, "we have a very long way to go, and I'm still not sure how we're going to get there."

She said a group of 12 people continues to lead the process in her parish, and it's important for the pastor to be a part of that group.

The process is long and requires a

sustained commitment, "and we figure it out one step at a time," she stated.

She said people who have not experienced racism must not be intimidated by their lack of understanding of the experiences of people who have.

"All you have to know is how to start a conversation," she said. "You just say, 'Do you think there's a problem? I think there might be a problem. Do you want to talk about it?'"

Mr. Critchley-Menor pointed out that no parish has to embark on this journey alone.

"There are tons of anti-racism organizations that help communities work through trying to become anti-racist," he said.

"So find a mentor. Reach out to other groups in your diocese who are doing this work, to try to learn about it," he stated.

Heightened conviction

Bishop Rivituso said it was a blessing to participate in the workshop.

"It was inspiring to see so many who care about raising the awareness of racism and our Church and societal need to address this evil," he stated.

He said the recent peaceful protests as well as the violence of civil unrest surrounding the tragic circumstances of George Floyd's death have shed light on this perennially relevant subject.

"All people are challenged to heighten our conviction and efforts to eradicate racism from our communities and nation and work together to uphold the equality and human dignity of every person," Bishop Rivituso stated.

"Jesus calls us not to be complacent with racism in our midst but work for true justice to assure all be treated according to their God-given dignity," he said.

For information about beginning this process in your parish, contact Katie Jansen Larson at katie@sfxstl.org or Joyce Jones at JoyceJones@archstl.org or (314) 792-7596.

DECREE

From page 1

of the local pastor, parochial administrator, or parish life collaborator.

People who come to church for Mass and other activities are highly encouraged to practice social distancing, use face-masks, and otherwise observe health measures that promote the common good.

People who are age 65 and over or are otherwise at increased risk for contracting COVID-19, as well as people who live with or take care of people at increased risk, are encouraged not to attend Mass in situations where proper social distancing is not taking place, or where masks are not being used.

People who do not attend Mass on Sundays are encouraged to consider attending on a weekday if it would be easier to observe the proper social distancing and other health recommendations.

Bishop McKnight said the faithful should eagerly look forward to the day when all may safely return to active participation in the Mass.

"The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass remains the source and summit of our Christian life," he stated. "Receiving Holy Communion and worshipping as a community are privileges

that should never be taken lightly or casually excused."

The bishop recommended that all people over age 2 wear facemasks upon entering the church, during the celebration of Mass except when in place in the pew, during the Communion procession, and upon leaving the church.

"This is an act of Christian charity," he stated. "While it might not be comfortable, we can offer this discomfort up as a penance and as an act of solidarity with people who suffer from chronic health issues."

"It is especially important for children to see adults making sacrifices for the common good," he added.

Sunday observance

Bishop McKnight stated that all who do not attend Mass on Sunday or a holy day of obligation should do one of the following in its place:

•Participate in a livestreamed Mass from their own parish church or chapel, the Cathedral of St. Joseph, or the Vatican;

•Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for that Sunday or holy day, and pray the Rosary; or

•Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for that Sunday or holy day, and pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Parishes are highly encouraged to continue livestreaming Masses at least through Labor Day weekend (Sept. 5-6).

For a parish list of livestreamed Masses, visit diojeffcity.org and click on the "Livestream Mass Links" button.

Daily Scripture readings can be found online at: uscbb.org/bible/readings.

Visit uscbb.org and type "Rosary" or "Divine Mercy Chaplet" into the search box to find a guide for praying each of those prayers.

Salus populi

The bishop also directed parishes and schools to strictly follow the public health requirements, directives or orders of local government officials for gatherings of the faithful,

"including for the celebrations of Mass, weddings and funerals, other liturgies, devotions, school and catechetical activities, social events, sports activities and meetings."

Furthermore, the Offertory Procession, the Sign of Peace, and reception of Holy Communion from the chalice remain suspended until further notice.

Accommodations have been added for people who feel strongly about receiving Holy Communion on the tongue.

A special allowance is given for weddings to be celebrated outdoors, but only in proximity to the parish church or chapel.

High-use areas in churches, including doors, pews used by the assembly, and restroom facilities are to be cleaned with

disinfectant after each liturgy.

Hymnals and other books are to remain in storage for the duration of the pandemic.

Holy water fonts are to remain empty.

Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.

These and other directives in the decree reflect recommendations of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the U.S. government's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"The common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible," Bishop McKnight stated.

The entire decree can be found online at: diojeffcity.org/public-health.



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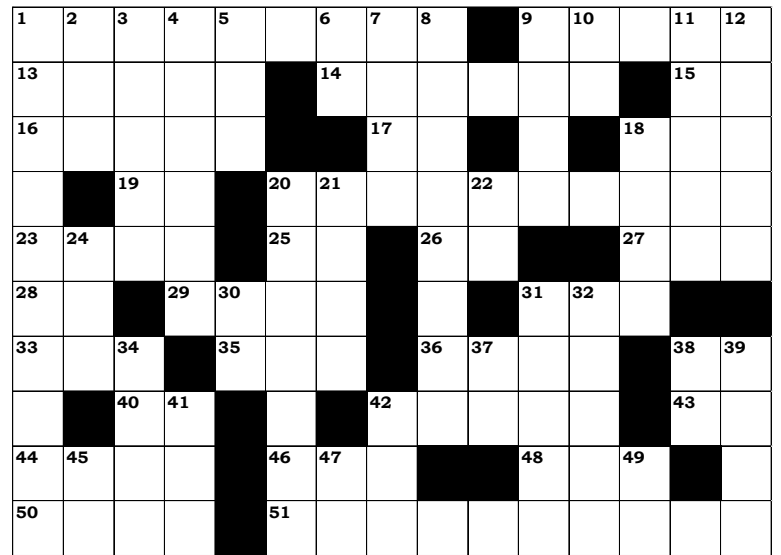
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By Father Don Antweiler

ACROSS

1. Mo. is home to more than 30 naturally ____ orchid flower species.
9. God's name in this religion is Allah.
13. For a writer, words are the ____ of his trade.
14. Orchids in Mo. are incredibly diverse growing in specialized settings and blooming in different ____ and each at specific times of the year.
15. "____, the Lord will strip (Tyre) of her possessions..." (Zechariah 9:40).
16. What one does at a roast.
17. Second biggest metro area in the U.S. (abbr.)
18. A brand of health/energy drink claiming antioxidants, low calories and low sugar.
19. As the story goes, ____ Robert Bellarmine parish just outside Ft. Leonard Wood was named after its early pastor, Fr. Bob Arnold.
20. In degraded ____, orchids will be the first to disappear. "They are always going to be rare. Even jaded botanists get excited about them," —Peter Bernhardt, biology prof., St. Louis Univ.
23. To learn by ____ (i.e., to memorize).
25. Pope Paul ____ was the Pope who carried the main load of implementing the second Vatican Council.
26. "Where there is ____ vision, people perish," —George Washington Carver.
27. Mo____, Missouri's transportation dept.
28. 4 of the first 5 U.S. Presidents were from this State (abbr.).
29. "But (the seed sown on rocky ground) has no ____ and lasts only for a time," (Matthew 13:21).
31. Actor Pacino and gangster Capone.
33. The 16th amendment to the U.S. constitution, passed by Congress in 1909 and ratified by the States by 1913, established Congress's right to impose a federal income tax, and so made this federal agency possible (abbr.).
35. He was as ____ as a fox.
36. ____ *de estar*; living room in Baja California.
38. WW II soldier.
40. "Et ____, Brute?" — Caesar's last words, according to Shakespeare.
42. The most common orchid in Mo. is a family (7 species) called Ladies' Tresses with small yellow-whitish flowers on a ____ up to 20 inches high. They grow in open fields, even along roadsides.
43. The only active diamond mine in the U.S. is located in this State (abbr.).
44. Prairie fringed orchids (2 species) in Mo. have a long time getting started. Although eventually growing 1-3 feet tall, they take up to 3-4 years to send up a ____ and 5-7 years to have enough resources to bloom.
46. Letters one might see in an airport.
48. "...the ramparts we watched..." —from our national anthem.
50. Saarinen, Arch architect.
51. \$ (2 wds.).
5. Q thru U
6. Short for the 8 parishes in our diocese named for Mary's freedom from original sin.
7. "____ *contendere*"; a plea by a defendant in a trial who accepts conviction but does not admit guilt.
8. When the Communist reformer Mikhail Gorbachev became the head of the USSR in 1985, his policies of ____ (openness, transparency) and *perestroika* (limited market incentives) were meant to kick-start a dying philosophy and economy. But this small dose of freedom led to the fall of the Soviet system.
9. Part of the eye.
10. Adam Wainwright of the St. Louis Cardinals won the 2017 NL Silver Slugger (____) award for pitchers.
11. Car rental agency.
12. The second most common orchid in Mo. is the spring-blooming yellow Lady's Slipper; very showy with 6-in. blooms and found in ____ woodlands throughout the State.
18. It is a difficult and usually unsuccessful task to transplant orchids (e.g., from fields to flower ____), because of the delicate relationship of each species to its specialized environment.
20. Orchids are one of the largest and most intricately ____ plant families in the world.
21. The towns of Monroe, Jefferson, and Montgomery in our diocese all need this word to complete their names.
22. "____ ho ho and a bottle of rum," —song lyrics derived from Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*.
24. "A straight ____ looks bent in the water. It matters not merely that we see a thing, but how we see it," —Michel de Montaigne.
30. Medical abbr. for left eye; in Latin, *oculus sinister*.
31. Are you in? It's ____ nothing (2 wds.).
32. Truman and Mark Twain.
34. The Magi followed one.
37. Battery size.
38. Civil War Gen. Tecumseh Sherman made his infamous March to the Sea through this Confederate State (abbr.).
39. This Mo. County in Mo.'s Lead Belt region is named after the abundant ____ ore within its borders. It is also the home of Mo.'s tallest point, Taum Sauk Mountain, the popular Elephant Rocks State Park, a Civil War battle site, the Battle of Fort Davidson, and over 96,000 acres of the Mark Twain National Forest.
41. Alien craft?
42. "My Gal ____"; this 1905 song was the first song ever performed in a motion picture film, "The Jazz Singer" in 1927.
45. Wide shoe size.
47. ____ what do I owe this pleasure?
49. State known as Little Rho-dy (abbr.).



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ANSWERS on page 19

GRATITUDE

From page 1

"All of this is having a significant impact at the local level," Deacon Braddock noted. "The needs do not go away. The work of the Church continues, even during a pandemic."

Zeal and Innovation

On the whole, parishes that provide options for online giving and automatic withdrawal have been weathering the COVID crisis better than parishes that don't.

However, a recent survey indicated that only 30 of the 108 parishes in the diocese offer some sort of online giving option.

Putting such options in place and encouraging people to use them could go a long way toward ensuring fiscal viability.

"If the faithful utilize the online giving options or simply mail their offertory tithe to the parish, the parishes and schools throughout the diocese will have a better chance of being strong when the pandemic is over," said Deacon Braddock.

Other factors, such as demographics and local economies, have affected parish finances.

The major employers in some communities shut down for a time due to the pandemic, and industries such as farming and tourism have taken a hit.

Some parishes are still recovering from serious flooding last year.

Even so, "many parishes have really stepped up their works of charity and mercy by providing for the needs of not just their parishioners but of people in the local communities," Deacon Braddock noted.

He said the Church's response to the pandemic continues to highlight the importance of the three pillars of the diocese's pastoral planning process:

- a spirituality of Christian stewardship;
- co-responsibility among laity and clergy; and
- a universal recognition of parishes as centers of charity

and mercy.

"Parishes that are farther along in embracing this vision are expanding their outreach to people in need, giving witness to why this is so essential in living out our Catholic faith," he said.

Bishop McKnight pointed out that the loss of event revenue is another reminder of why tithing is "a more reliable, stable and spiritually mature way of financing the work of the parish."

Help staying afloat

In mid-March, the diocesan Finance Office helped eligible parishes apply for federal loans through the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

"These funds have had a tremendous impact on our ability to continue our works of charity and mercy," said Deacon Braddock.

That money from the PPP has also benefited local communities because employees have been able to continue paying for goods and services.

"Without the PPP funds, many workers would have been furloughed," he said, adding that church employees in Missouri do not qualify for state unemployment benefits.

The Finance Office is now working with parishes to apply for forgiveness of the PPP loans under the terms of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

"We expect that all of the loans will be forgiven since they are being used 100-percent for personnel costs," said Deacon Braddock.

He noted that Congress intentionally created the PPP to include religious and other not-for-profit organizations, with the understanding that the services of churches and other nonprofits are a necessary component of the social safety net, especially during times like this.

One of the conditions for loan forgiveness is that the employer maintain its current staffing level.

"Without these loans, it's likely that most parish and school employees would have been furloughed," Deacon Braddock stated, "and many schools would not be able to reopen for the next school year."

He noted that U.S. Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri worked closely with the Small Business Administration to clarify that the loans do not create any issues related to the separation of church and state and that religious liberty would be protected.

Treasure in heaven

Deacon Braddock pointed out that one of the Church's main hallmarks is unity.

"We are not alone," he stated. "We have each other and Christ, and we will get through this."

He called to mind that Jesus told His first followers to go forth and spread the Good News to the ends of the earth.

"Most of us today aren't in a position to do that, so we send others in our place," said Deacon Braddock. "It's the same with our care for the poor and outcast and sick. The tithe we give to the Church is used to provide works of charity and mercy as Christ asks of us."

Parishes, Catholic schools and the diocese have employees to help carry on the mission

of Christ.

"Each of us individually can do these things on our own, but there are economies of scale with doing things organizationally, so that we can minister to a greater number of people," Deacon Braddock

"What we are is the largest provider of charitable services. We are the largest private educators of students. We are the largest private funder of the sciences."

— Deacon Joseph Braddock

noted.

He pointed out that contrary to a common claim, the Church is not financially wealthy.

"I see the finances, I know that we aren't," he said. "What we are is the largest provider of charitable services. We are the largest private educators of students. We are the largest private funder of the sciences."

People think the Church has vast earthly riches because it possesses priceless works of art, "but you don't hear people say the Smithsonian Institute is rich or that the Metropolitan Museum of Art is rich," he noted.

No quick fix

Deacon Braddock has been in contact with fellow diocesan CFOs from around the country. "Many dioceses are being

hit quite hard," he said. "While we have our own challenges, we are faring better than many other dioceses because of being able to get the PPP funds early."

He emphasized that those funds have been extremely helpful but are not a permanent fix. Once they are exhausted, parishes will have to draw on any reserves they have available.

Full recovery from the pandemic is expected to take

a while.

"Parish and school budgets will be tight for the foreseeable future," said Deacon Braddock. "Hopefully, once an effective vaccine is created and widely available, we will be able to return to a more normal life."

In the meantime, pastors are encouraging parishioners to stay current on their tithing and remain focused on the Church's multifaceted mission of worship, evangelization, education and charitable outreach.

"We do need to continue or even increase our sacrificial giving, going forward," Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. George parish in Linn and Our Lady Help of Christians parish in Frankenstein, recently wrote to his parishioners. "This enables us to continue the ministries of our parishes and school."

ZEILMANN

From page 6

She looked into various communities of lay associates of religious orders before discovering the Benedictine Oblates.

Oblates are Christian individuals who associate themselves with a Benedictine community in order to enrich their Christian way of life. By integrating their prayer and work, they seek God by striving to become holy in their chosen way of life.

"It's first and foremost a means of growing in your love for God and in your devotion to Him," said Mrs. Zeilmann.

She spoke to the Benedictine priest in charge of the Oblate community at Conception Abbey in northwestern Missouri.

"And the rest is history," she said.

As a novice, she began studying the rule of St. Benedict and learning how to live according to it, including praying the Liturgy of the Hours at various times of the day.

"I periodically go up to Conception and visit

with my spiritual advisor there," she said. "Fr. Merz is my spiritual advisor here."

She made her first promises to God as a Benedictine Oblate during a Mass in St. George Church. Family members, friends, and students from St. George School attended.

"I can't tell you how pleased I am with what's transpired since then!" she said. "I've learned so much about obedience, about humility. The depth of my feeling of love for our Lord is so much different from what it was."

She will continue her studies and formation and hopes to make a final profession before the end of this year.

After that, she will persist in cultivating a life of prayer, service and intense gratitude.

"It certainly makes you appreciate all that God does for you," she stated.

www.conceptionabbey.org/monastery/about-oblates/



**Diocese of
Jefferson City**

Things To Do

Fundraisers & Social Events

Jun. 26

Eugene, Wardsville/Osage Bend K of C golf tournament, 1 pm shotgun start, Redfield Golf Course

Jul. 11

Jefferson City, Pregnancy Help Center of Central Missouri's "Bubbles & Bounces" 5K Walk/Run, 8:30 am, Memorial Park, for info or to register visit friendsofphc.org

Jul. 12

St. Martins, St. Martin parish "Fish Fry in July" drive-thru fun, faith & fellowship event, noon-5 pm

Youth & Young Adults

Jul. 18

Laurie, Camp Siena one-day retreat for high school girls (grades 9-12), 9 am-4 pm, National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, for info visit campsiena.com

Jul. 26-Jul. 31

St. Robert, Camp Maccabee for high school boys (grades 9-12), St. Robert Bellarmine parish, for info visit campmacabee.com

Health & Wellness

Jul. 6

Rich Fountain, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, Sacred Heart School cafeteria

Jul. 7

Loose Creek, Blood drive, 3-7 pm, Loose Creek Community Center

Jul. 16

St. Robert, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, St. Robert Bellarmine parish hall

BABY

From page 13

Mission accomplished

By the time Dalton got back to the center, April was already meeting with Marti.

"I knocked on the door and walked in with the progesterone and handed it to her," he said. "She had tears streaming down her face."

"Should I take it now?" April asked.

"Absolutely," Dalton replied.

With that, April began the process of saving her unborn baby.

Additionally, the following week, PRC of Rolla received a \$250 donation from the pharmacy — totally unexpected.

Now, two months later, April and her child — a boy due later this fall — continue to thrive.

Over the last two months, Marti and Dalton have continued fostering a relationship with April as she navigates new motherhood.

"You're in charge"

Dalton believes that life coaches like Marti are effective in working with clients because they empower them to find their own voices and own their choices. In April's case, it was a matter of reclaiming her choice from the coercion of her child's own

father.

"Most of these women that we're serving are just blown away by life coaching because when you're being coached, you're in charge," Dalton said.

"You're in charge of the conversation," he stated. "People are listening to you. A lot of these people have never had people actually listen to them before and care about what they're saying."

"You know, that's not the world they live in, so it's special to them."

For April, whose choice was almost taken from her, that coaching has been lifesaving.

"She's really grateful and she's just happy," said Marti. "She's pretty excited, I think."

Katie Franklin is a staff writer for Pregnancy Help News (pregnancyhelpnews.com), where this originally appeared, and content writer at Heartbeat International. She previously served as director of communications for Ohio Right to Life. She lives in Columbus, Ohio, with her husband Miles and daughter Elizabeth.

The article is reprinted here with permission.

To help support the PRC of Rolla, visit supportmyprc.com.

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Mo. awarded \$91,506 grant

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO), has received a grant in the amount of \$91,506 from Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) Midwest Early Recovery Fund.

The grant will fund long-term disaster case management services for survivors of the May 2019 tornado that devastated areas in the communities of Jefferson City and Eldon, as well as households impacted by May and June flooding in additional counties.

"Our fund has worked with CCCNMO before and they were excellent grantees," said Nancy Beers, program director of the Midwest Early Recovery Fund. "We look forward to continuing this important work in Missouri to support those still struggling to recover from the

storms of 2019."

This generous contribution from CDP will enable Catholic Charities disaster case managers to remain committed in their roles of guiding clients through the recovery process, receiving the benefits and services needed to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

CCCNMO staff members supports short-term and long-term recovery efforts for individuals and families dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters like tornados, floods, and other catastrophes.

"Recovery is a long process," said Dan Lester, executive director of Catholic Charities. "We are grateful to have a partner like CDP that recognizes the long-term nature of recovery, and supports community agencies like Catholic Charities,

who are committed to continuing to serve survivors long after the initial storm has passed.

Catholic Charities has established a Disaster Relief fund to help tornado and flooding survivors, in addition to residents in need when tragedy impacts a local community.

Checks may be made payable to CCCNMO, and mailed to P.O. Box 104626, Jefferson City, MO 65110, or contribute online at cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give.

GREENE

From page 9

amines why the assumptions of Amy Cooper, the white woman who in May called police on Christian Cooper, an African American man in Central Park, hold the key to how race works in America.

"To create a different world, we must learn how this one came to be. And unlearn what we previously took for granted," writes Fr. Massingale, also the author of "Racial Justice and the Catholic Church," another revealing read. He continued, "This means that we have to read. And learn from the perspectives of people of color."

When a friend urged me to go online and listen to historian Carol Anderson's talk on "White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Nation's Divide," I did so. The professor and chair of African American studies at Emory University documents how subtle and corrosive what she labels "white rage" is when it operates through the judiciary.

I am interested in this topic considering some of the angry responses I received over the years

when writing my column on race relations. It was clear that these readers were tired of being the bad guy. They wanted the Achilles' heel of blacks to be acknowledged forthrightly.

After listening to Anderson, who, like Fr. Massingale, is black, I clicked on another video featuring a white sociologist, Robin DiAngelo, a professor at the University of Washington. That video was about her book, *White Fragility: Why It Is So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*.

A major hurdle, DiAngelo explains, is the emotionally charged defensiveness felt by many who contend only bad people are racists and they themselves aren't bad. Better still, she shares how reparation can be achieved when people across racial lines are willing to participate in it.

It is that reparation that I want to be a part of by listening to frustrations without condemning and seeking common ground.

The lives of little ones will be shaped by what we show them and tell them.

Greene was an associate editor in CNS' special projects department for nearly 22 years.

Prayer for Christian unity

Eternal Father,
we praise you for sending your Son
to be one of us and to save us.

Look upon your people with mercy, for we are
divided in so many ways, and give us the Spirit of
Jesus to make us one in love.

We ask this gift, loving Father, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Anniversaries

Argyle, St. Aloysius
Charles & Gertude Schwartze, 60 years
John & Vicky Hagenhoff, 40 years
James & Beverly Loehner, 37 years
Chris & Joan Brundick, 36 years
Larry & Carol Jones, 27 years
Steve & Stephanie Laux, 22 years
Kurt & Tonya Schaben, 16 years
Andrew & Kelly Schwartze, 14 years

Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels
Michael & Robin Kleffner, 34 years
Derrick & Lindsay Otto, 10 years

Chamois, Most Pure Heart of Mary
Larry & Vivian Boss, 60 years

Freeburg, Holy Family
Ray & Viola Dudenhoeffer, 65 years
Fred & Phyllis Wieberg, 59 years
Jack & Jean Berhorst, 58 years
Jim & Wanda Dyke, 56 years
Norbert & Anne Falter, 55 years
Dan & Betty Berhorst, 49 years
David & Mickie Herzing, 47 years
Dan & Sherri Stratman, 46 years
Paul & Donna Luetkemeyer, 44 years
Phil & Cathy Sestak, 36 years
Kevin & Rhonda Allen, 35 years
Romeo & Lisa Bexten, 26 years
Jamie & Becky Wiles, 25 years
Butch & Kathy Hilkemeyer, 24 years
Les & Heather Hutchison, 20 years
Ryan & Lisa Stuecken, 20 years
Bryan & Kristi Beck-Brune, 19 years
Ben & Erin Berhorst, 17 years
Brian & Alicia Gillispie, 17 years
Matthew & Amanda Reichel, 12 years

Hermann, St. George
Melvin “Sonny” & Virginia Kiel, 50 years
Harold & Geralyn Gloe, 40 years

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph
Alan & Betty Mudd, 51 years
Tony & Charlotte Wening, 50 years

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception
Dennis & Ann Bax, 50 years
Carl & Carolyn Landwehr, 50 years

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake
Jerry & Marlen Frank, 60 years
Mike & Pam Scherer, 51 years

Palmyra, St. Joseph
Tony & Mary Beth Lenzini, 52 years
Clinton & Linda Reeves, 50 years
Greg & Kathryn Cox, 45 years
Gilbert Jr. & Rosemarie Hudson, 44 years
Herb & Alice Schwartz, 44 years
Rich & Kim Donelson, 40 years
Raymond & Cammie Foster, 39 years
Steve & Kim Buntin, 35 years
Larry & Helen Huber, 34 years
Kerry & Monica Bross, 29 years
Doug & Amy Hoerr, 27 years
Darin & Joelle Goodwin, 22 years
Bernard & Shelly Hirner, 21 years
Joe & Deanna Jones, 14 years
Dustin & Mary Smith, 10 years

Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart
Herman & Georgia Mebruer, 62 years
Wilfred & Evelyn Luebbert, 60 years
Paul & Mary Bexten, 59 years
Joe & Betty Frank, 58 years
Jerry & Marlene Halle, 55 years
Tom & Betty Kremer, 54 years
Ralph & Mary Jane Bexten, 50 years
Dennis & Jonie Bruemmer, 39 years
Steve & Julie Siegler, 34 years
Ken & Christy Fick, 29 years

Russellville, St. Michael
Lance & Lynn Stegeman, 42 years
Kent & Debbie Malzner, 29 years
Josh & Brandy Jurgle, 21 years
Paul & Elaine Buschjost, 17 years
Matt & Katie Strobel, 17 years
Dan & Nichole Voegeli, 15 years

St. Clement, St. Clement
Ralph & Markie Niemeyer, 56 years

St. Martins, St. Martin
Leon & Brenda Gosche, 51 years
Larry & Shirley Schwarzer, 50 years

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle
Tom & Carol Backes, 27 years

Taos, St. Francis Xavier
Harry & Cathy Bernskoetter, 54 years
David & Sharon Vieth, 46 years

Vienna, Visitation
Roger & Kathleen Steuber, 49 years
Alan & Teresa Fick, 38 years
Gary & Nancy Stratman, 33 years
Don & Joyce Kilmer, 17 years
Ron & Liz Rowden, 13 years

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus
Bill & Marilyn Wilbers, 55 years

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels
Brian & Jamie Sturm, 23 years

Marriages

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Katelyn Cook & Tevin Townson**

Kirksville, Mary Immaculate — **Elizabeth Silvey & Tommy Bowman, Chiara Degenhardt & Andrew Schaper**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **Aubree Knutson & Matt Grendell**

Mary’s Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Alison Buechter & Dalen Bell**

Birthdays

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Tony Bauer**, his 97th on June 19

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Jerome Schwartze**, his 91st on July 1

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Mark Copeland**, his 91st on July 6

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — **Cecilia Kempker**, her 101st on June 14

Elections

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Jeff Guinn**, president; **Mary Jo Creech**, vice president; **Ashleigh Boyd**, secretary; parish council members

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Aaron Hildreth, Erin Lammers, Melanie Lanigan, Chandra Prasod, Morgan Trimble**, parish council members

Baptisms

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Luke and Jude Foster**, sons of Jarrod & Kim Foster; **Blake O’Kane**, son of Bryant O’Kane & Kaci Linebaugh; **Emilia Fiala**, daughter of Tommy & Heather Fiala

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Edebo-oyo Abutu, Finn Rielley, Matthew Sarkar, Simon Anderson**

Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians — **Jakoby Daniel Lee**, son of Ryan & Heather Lee; **Parker Dean McCubbin**, son of Terry & Melissa McCubbin

Hermann, St. George — **Elsie Mae Heying**, daughter of Wesley & Ashten Heying; **Adaline Grace Schowe**, daughter of Craig & Ashley Schowe

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Tate Karson Minnix**, son of Christopher & Kathryn Minnix

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Rowan Wittkop**, son of Richard & Michele Wittkop

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Oliver Michael James Distler**, son of Jacob & Maykayla Distler; **Weston Beck**,

Marceline, St. Bonaventure — **Payton and Rosslyn Gladbach**, children of Clinton & Brandy Gladbach; **Daxton Lodder**, son of Ryan & Brooke Lodder; **Chase and Adelynn Quinn**, children of Christopher & Julia Quinn

Mary’s Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Bauer Michael Isenberg**, son of Clayton & Laura Isenberg

Morrison, Assumption — **Jane Ann Rost**, daughter of Jason & Ashley Rost; **Halle Ann Rost**, daughter of Michael & Casey Rost

Russellville, St. Michael — **Henry Thomas Butner**, son of Timothy & Kristi Butner

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Charli Denise Wankum**, daughter of Darren & Sarah Wankum

Names for the People Page

Information for the People Page comes from parish correspondents and individual parishioners, as well as bulletins and newspapers. Submissions for anniversaries (10 years or more), birthdays (90 years or more), and baptisms, deaths, marriages and initiations of local parishioners may be e-mailed to editor@diojeffcity.org; faxed to (573) 635-2286; or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914.

Deaths

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **John J. Schaffer**

Bonnots Mill, St. Louis of France — **Bruce A. Sieg**

Boonville, Ss. Peter and Paul — **Gerald “Joe” Zey**

Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels — **Bernard Wenzel**

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **David Marsh**

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **Sylvia L. Kimball**

Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians — **Agnes C. Kever**

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Maggie Dudenhoeffer, Raymond C. Dudenhoeffer, Elaine S. Wibberg**

Hannibal, Holy Family — **Sandra S. Distler, Billy Ebers**

Hermann, St. George — **Tom Dildine**

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Daniel J. Hendricks**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Bernard P. Boillot, Marceline A. Branum, Roman H. Even, Rodney A. Hughes, Anna M. Knaebel**

Kirksville, Mary Immaculate — **Roaryn M.R. Schulte**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **Rosmarie Forest**

Linn, St. George — **Robert W. Niekamp**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Fortunato L. Abon**

Meta, St. Cecilia — **Harold J. Porting, Daniel G. Scheulen**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Phillip G. Hunt**

Novinger, St. Rose of Lima — **Perry J. Broseghini**

St. Anthony, St. Anthony of Padua — **Alma C. Blomberg**

Steelville, St. Michael — **Mary “Pat” Goodman**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **David L. Rackers**

Tipton, St. Andrew — **Mary Lou Hainen, David P. Orscheln**

Crossword puzzle answers

N	G	I	S	R	A	T	T	O	D		E	R	O	E	
O		R					A	J	E		E	A	V	E	T
R	V	K	T	V	J	S	A			U		J			T
I	G		V	T	V	S		X	T	S		S		R	I
			S	T	V		O		J	O	O	R		A	V
J	O	D			O	N		I	A		E	J	O	R	
S	M	E	J	S	A	S	O	C	E		J	S			E
I	V	B		I		V	T				L	S	V	O	J
O	T		S	R	O	T	O	C			S	T	O		J
M	V	T	S	I		G	N	I		R		C	C	O	I

HELIAS CATHOLIC

From page 7

to love the familial camaraderie that helped define their years at Helias Catholic.

"I'm going to miss the community and all the teachers and friends that I've met and grown in relationship with for the past four years," said Katelyn Brenneke, a member of St. Margaret of Antioch parish in Osage Bend.

"The family aspect of it!" said Madelyn Luebbering, also a member of St. Margaret parish. "You can be friends with any and everybody here, and the administration, teachers, staff all care about you and would give anything to help you out."

Ms. Luebbering and Ms. Brenneke plan to be roommates at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg this fall.

Graduating seniors said they believe God helped them become better people through their time at Helias.

"Because I've got God as No. 1 in my life, and with Him, I can accomplish anything I want to," said Samuel Bruce, member of Immaculate Conception parish in Jefferson City.

"I've made so many friends," said Ms. Luebbering. "I feel like I've gotten much deeper into the Catholic faith through Him."

Ms. Brenneke said she's grown in love and knowledge of God and developed character traits that will help her throughout adulthood.

She's also learned "never take a moment for granted, because tomorrow is not guaranteed."

"Happy to help"

Members of the class said they've been aware of God's day-to-day presence at the school.

"He's absolutely been here with all of us, through the good times and the bad times," said Mr. Bruce.

"He is watching all of us, and He is happy to help us get through this time," said Jason Haselhorst, a member of St. Francis Xavier parish in Taos.



"I've learned that you need to take God with you wherever you go," said Miss Luebbering. "He will get you through any circumstance, good and bad."

Mr. Bruce recalled the day he walked into religion class and found out that a classmate had died the previous day.

"You could hear a pin drop throughout the whole school," he said.

He and his classmates stormed heaven with prayers, solidifying in the process their camaraderie and friendship.

"There's no way to describe it," he said. "It's unbelievable. I can't put into words how meaningful that is."

Now and forever

Miss Luebbering asked for prayers for mental and emotional wellbeing for the entire class.

"Keeping yourself healthy and knowing when to ask for help is big, especially in light of this past year," she said.

Ms. Brenneke requested prayers for the graduates to keep God at the center of their lives and know that He will help them find their way.

Those who were interviewed said they intend to remain Catholic.

"To me, that means trusting in God in everything that you do and knowing He has a plan for you," said Mr. Haselhorst.

"I want to be fully involved with the Church," said Mr. Bruce. "I know that with God, I can do anything, and I want to spread His love to

everyone else and make this world a better place."

"God is there for us," said Ms. Brenneke. "I want to spend the rest of eternity with Him — and growing to know and love Him in this life will help me in the next."

Part of the main

Ms. Fuemmeler, who will succeed Fr. Jones as the school's president July 1 while continuing to serve as principal, thanked him for his seven years of "service, leadership

and pastoral care."

She credited his leadership and commitment to building up the school's Catholic identity with bringing new life and growth.

Fr. Jones will serve as the school's chaplain while carrying out his new role as diocesan director of stewardship.

He reminded the graduating seniors that they are an important part of something much larger than themselves.

"Strive to be the best human you can be," he urged

them. "Strive to build up humankind for good. Strive to love your neighbor as yourself.

"Strive to love God and serve Him, seeing His face in every other person you meet, no matter who they are."

Carrying on

Father Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia was to hold its graduation on June 26. Sacred Heart High School in Sedalia will hold its baccalaureate and graduation on July 25 and 26.

TOTUS TUUS

From page 2

"The safety of the children is our utmost priority," Ms. Clark noted. "We have had to adjust how we deliver our content. The program is altered to fit to regulations specific to each parish."

They also spent a few days on the grounds of Holy Guardian Angels Church in Brinktown and the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg, developing a virtual experience for the children who have had to let go of their Totus Tuus experience.

"That helped us stretch and grow as teammates in new ways," she said. "We learned a lot. It's a constant exercise in saying 'yes' to a new beautiful challenge."

The group is also carving out a social-media presence at dijeffcitytotustuus on Instagram.

"The whole experience has made the program more accessible and well-known," said Ms. Clark. "We have learned to remain open and adaptable. Because this is a difficult journey, the fruit is so much sweeter."

This is Ms. Clark's first year serving on the Totus Tuus team.

"I kind of brushed it off because I didn't know how I felt about giving of my summer," she said.

She met with John DeLaPorte, the diocese's director of youth ministry and religious education, and he encouraged her to apply.

"I took that leap into the unknown and I'm so glad I

did," she said.

It has provided numerous unexpected opportunities for her to step into leadership positions that I was not expecting.

"It has also presented a lot of moments to grow in virtue," she said. "When you pray for patience, God truly gives you opportunities to practice patience."

She said the parishes the missionaries have visited so far have been very welcoming and hospitable.

"We've observed a rejuvenated level of excitement from parishes that are eager to minister to the youth," she said. "We have definitely been able to see Christ in all of the children we've encountered. The Holy Trinity is present in authentic relationships that we've been able to form in such a short time."

Dates still open

The missionaries still have some open dates this summer.

Mr. DeLaPorte said parishioners who "would like to bring a team of faith-filled, dynamic missionaries" to their parish should contact their pastor, check their parish calendars and contact him at jdelaporte@dijeffcity.org to learn how.

"We have open and eager hearts, ready to serve based on exactly what your parish needs," said Ms. Clark. "If you have even an inkling of a desire to host the program, do it!"

She asked for prayers for the three Totus Tuus teams in the diocese, specifically for openness, perseverance and courage.

"We are here to plant the seeds," she said. "Please pray that the seeds we plant bear fruit in the lives of all we encounter."

dijeffcity.org/totus-tuus

Resource for connecting college-bound seniors with a Newman Center

Newman Connection is an online resource to help high school seniors connect to the Newman Center serving their college campus.

Newman Centers rely heavily on their affiliation with Newman Connection for support in evangelizing to the incoming class of students.

For digital materials for parishes and schools to use to help connect your seniors to a Newman Center next year, go online to: <https://landing.newmanconnection.com/hso-materials>

Or, share this sign-up page with your high school seniors and they can sign themselves up to connect with a Newman Center at their college or university:

signupnc.newmanministry.com

Jesus calms a raging storm at sea

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic News Service

One day, Jesus went up the mountain to preach to the people.

When He came down, crowds of people followed Him.

One man, a leper, approached Jesus.

"Lord, if You wish, You can make me clean," he said.

Jesus stretched out His hand, touched him and said, "I will do it. Be made clean." The leprosy was cleansed immediately.

Jesus continued to heal people. In Capernaum, He was approached by a centurion.

"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully," the centurion said.

Jesus said that He would come to the man's house and



heal the servant.

"Lord, I am not worthy to have You enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed," the centurion replied.

"You may go; as you have

believed, let it be done for you," said Jesus, and the servant was healed.

On another day, Jesus saw the crowd around Him. He and the apostles got in a boat to cross the Sea of Galilee.

As they were crossing, a violent storm suddenly came upon the sea.

The boat was soon being tossed around and swamped by waves. But Jesus slept through the commotion.

The apostles, however, were wide awake with fear. They shook Jesus awake.

"Lord, save us! We are perishing!" they cried.

"Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?" Jesus said.

Then Jesus stood up. He rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm.

The apostles were amazed.

"What sort of Man is this, Whom even the winds and the sea obey?" they asked one another.

When they reached the oth-

er side of the sea, in the territory of the Gadarenes, a herd of swine could be seen in the distance. Two demoniacs came from the nearby tombs and met Jesus on the shore.

"If You drive us out, send us into the herd of swine," the demons begged Jesus.

"Go then!" Jesus commanded.

The demons came out of the two people and entered the swine, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea.

Read more about it...

Matthew 8

1. What sea did Jesus and the apostles cross?

2. What were the apostles in the boat afraid of?

Bible Accent

According to information in the *New World Encyclopedia*, the Sea of Galilee is Israel's largest freshwater lake.

It is about 13 miles long, 8 miles wide and 209 meters below sea level, and the Jordan River is its main water source.

The lake is located in an area called the Jordan Great Rift Valley. The area is prone to earthquakes, and geological evidence suggests there was once volcanic activity in the area as well.

The hills and plateaus surrounding the sea protect it, resulting in mild winters and

warm summers. However, since it lies so low in the rift valley, the sea is prone to sudden and violent storms. According to the encyclopedia, the main feature of the lake seems to be its ever-changing character.

The sea's warm water supports many types of plant and animal life. Over the centuries, the fishing industry has thrived there.

The lake may be best known for its connection to Jesus, as much of His earthly ministry took place in or around it. For example, Jesus calmed a storm

on the sea and walked on its waters, and His Sermon on the Mount was given overlooking the sea.

Trivia

Whose prophecy about the Messiah was fulfilled by the healings of Jesus?
(Hint: Matthew 8:16-17)

Answer: The prophet Isaiah.

Saint Spotlight

St. Clelia Barbieri was born near Bologna, Italy, in 1847. As a child, she spent her days weaving or sewing and praying in church. She joined a catechetical group in her village, and she and several young women from the group later founded the Sisters Minims of Our Lady of Sorrows. The congregation was devoted to good works and contemplation. Clelia died of tuberculosis in 1870, just two years after founding the order. She is considered the youngest founder of a religious community in Church history, and we remember her July 13.



Puzzle

Unscramble the letters in each word and arrange them to form a quotation from the children's story.

rae droL, su! eW vase repginhis!

Sentence:

_____, _____! _____!



Answers: are, Lord, us, we, save, perishing! Lord, save us! We are perishing!

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Corrected history: Authors debunk myths tied to Church controversies

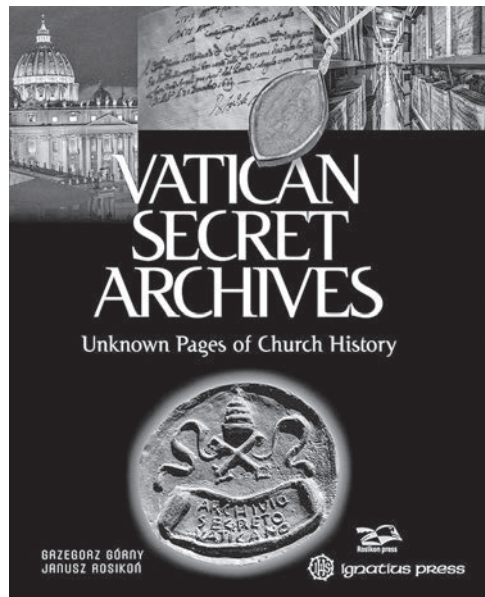
By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

The Inquisition, the Crusades, the trial of the Knights Templar, the condemnation of Galileo Galilei and the role of Pope Pius XII during World War II are just a few “hot” historical events in the life of the Church that can still today ignite controversy and fiery debate.

However, most people only have a vague notion of what those events were about, with facts colored or clouded by political censorship, social biases and urban legends fueled by fictionalized accounts made popular in film and other media.

Grzegorz Gorny and Janusz Rosikon — two Polish journalists — wanted to debunk some of the myths and fill in the gaps with their illustrated book, *Vatican Secret Archives: Unknown Pages of Church History*, which was published in English by Ignatius Press.



After co-authoring a number of books on such themes as St. Faustina Kowalska, the relics of Christ and the events at Fatima, “we decided to familiarize people with the turbulent history of this extraordinary institution (the Vatican archives) and with various controversial episodes regarding the history of the Church as seen through the prism of the documents housed in the Vatican Secret Archives,” Gorny

told Catholic News Service in an email response to questions.

To learn from and assess the past correctly, “one must first thoroughly and accurately ascertain the facts,” which is why the two journalists visited what are now called the Vatican Apostolic Archives and others.

They also met with numerous historians to look at controversial figures and events from a different point of view, they said in the book’s introduction.

“We are against journalism of the Ctrl C-Ctrl V sort” that copies and pastes, Gorny said.

“We are doubting Thomases,” who have to “touch everything” by spending years visiting the places they were writing about, talking to witnesses and scholars and spending time in archives, he said.

Rosikon, who took most of the photographs, said they wanted to give the reader the feeling of “finding himself in the places we described.”

The book’s release was timed to coincide with the March opening of the Vatican archival material relating to the wartime period under Pope Pius XII. The last chapter is devoted to how the Pope became the center of controversy with accusations he did not say enough publicly against Nazi atrocities and to what Jesuit historian, Father Peter Gum-

Movie Ratings



Adults and Adolescents

Artemis Fowl (PG)
Mr. Topaze (not rated)
Scoob! (PG)



Adults

The High Note (PG-13)
7500 (R)
Shirley (R)
True History of the Kelly Gang (R)



Limited Adult Audience

Da 5 Bloods (R)
The King of Staten Island (R)



Morally Offensive

Capone (R)
How to Build a Girl (R)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit www.usccb.org for current reviews.

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pel, and others have found in available archives.

“There’s just no question that that Pope has been terribly slandered,” said Vivian Dudro, senior editor at Ignatius Press.

“But, how do you interpret his silence? How are you going to weigh the man’s actions when so many of them were deliberately kept secret for reasons of safety and security of the people he was trying to help? When someone’s been silent and his actions have been covered up, how are you supposed to know what he did?” she said.

Historians expect it will take years of combing through the Vatican’s newly available documents to get an even better and clearer understanding of what happened and why.

“History teaches us that life is the art of making decisions,” Gorny said, so the book describes the people “responsible for the fate of large communities, people who had to make decisions between, for example, security and freedom, between a greater and a lesser evil.”

Dudro said the authors aren’t engaged in “Church triumphalism,” but instead show “the good, the bad and the ugly on the part of players

on the Church’s side or in the Church’s interest.”

“If you admit that sometimes things get done badly, that’s not an act of disloyalty against the Church,” she said.

But the authors’ approach is, “if all you’ve heard about is terrible things done by the Church, there’s more to this story and let’s listen to some scholars who’ve uncovered some of these things,” Dudro said.

Gorny said he finds inspiration from St. Luke, whose Gospel and Acts of the Apostles “are classic reportages.”

St. Luke wrote that he wanted to depict events as faithfully as possible, on the basis of eyewitness accounts, supplemented with what he himself saw.

“That is how a reporter works: he describes what he himself saw or what he had heard from reliable people,” Gorny said. In fact, “journalism is an evangelical profession, as its mission is to bear witness to the truth,” he added.

Dudro, who has also worked as a reporter for the Catholic press, said having an open mind is critical for journalists and readers, too.

See ARCHIVES, page 23

CONNECTIONS

From page 3

Racist acts are sinful because they violate justice. They reveal a failure to acknowledge the human dignity of the persons offended, to recognize them as the neighbors Christ calls us to love (Matthew 22:39).

Racism occurs when a person ignores the fundamental truth that, because all humans share a common origin, we are all brothers and sisters, all equally made in the image of God.

When this truth is ignored or denied, the consequence is prejudice and fear of the other, and — all too often — hatred.

Every racist act — every such comment, every joke, every disparaging look as a reaction to the color of skin, ethnicity or place of origin — is a failure to acknowledge another person as a brother or sister, created in the image of God.

Profound and incidious

Racism comes in many forms. It can be seen in deliberate, sinful acts. In recent times, we have seen bold expressions of racism by groups as well as individuals.

Too often, racism comes in the form of the sin of omission, when individuals, communities and even churches remain silent and fail to act against racial injustice when it is encountered.

Despite the great blessings of liberty that our country offers, we must admit the plain truth that for many of our fellow citizens, who may have done nothing wrong, interactions with the police are often fraught with fear and even death.

That is something most of us who are white have a hard time understanding.

At the same time, we reject harsh rhetoric that belittles and dehumanizes law enforcement personnel who labor to keep our communities safe, and who take risks in order to protect and to serve.

We, as Catholics, condemn violent attacks against police just as we do police brutality.

With the positive changes that arose from the Civil Rights Movement and related civil rights legislation, some may believe that racism is no longer a major affliction of our society — that it is only

found in the hearts of individuals who can be dismissed as ignorant or unenlightened.

But racism still profoundly affects our culture, and it has no place in the Christian heart.

This evil causes great harm to its victims, and it corrupts the souls of those who harbor racist or prejudicial thoughts.

People are still being harmed, so action is still needed.

Conversion of heart

What is needed, and what the bishops are calling for, is a genuine conversion of heart, a conversion that will compel change, and the reform of our institutions and society.

Conversion is a long road to travel for the individual. Moving our nation to a full realization of the promise of liberty, equality and justice for all is even more challenging.

However, in Christ, we can find the strength and the grace necessary to make that journey.

Each of us can make a commitment to educate ourselves on the pain being experienced by our brothers and sisters and try to deepen our empathy towards them.

We can take the risk of talking with someone whose skin color or ethnicity is different, listening to their perspective.

We can take the time to read and reflect on the bishops' pastoral, and watch documentaries or read about others' point of view.

All of this must be done in an attitude of prayer, embracing the model offered to us by our Mother Mary.

We all know how strong our mothers are! And so it is with our spiritual mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

From the moment of the Annunciation, a special mission of Mary has been to visit the People of God who are in need.

Think of St. Elizabeth, her cousin who was six months pregnant. And then think of her intervention at the wedding of Cana, where, like a good mother, she provoked the beginning of Jesus' miraculous signs with the command to the servants: "Do whatever He tells you."

And think of all the officially-sanctioned devotions to the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin down through the centuries — Lourdes, Fatima, Knock and Guadalupe — often in places where there is a desperate need, in desperate times.

Let us therefore invoke the protection and aid of the Mother of our Lord for our diocese, in this time of racial distress, beseeching her maternal assistance by renewing our consecration to the Sacred Hearts:

Most kind Jesus, humbly before thee, we renew our consecration to thy Divine Heart.

Be thou our king forever! In Thee we have full and entire confidence.

May Thy Spirit penetrate our thoughts, our desires, our words and our deeds.

Bless our undertakings; share in our joys, in our trials and in our daily labors.

Grant us to know Thee better, to love Thee more, to serve Thee without faltering.

By the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Peace, set up thy Kingdom in our land.

Enter closely into the midst of our families and make them Thine own so that soon one cry may resound from home to home: "May the triumphant Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved, blessed and glorified forever!"

Honor and glory to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, protect our families!

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!

Saint Joseph, friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

Our Patron Saints and Guardian angels, pray for us!

Daily Readings

Sunday, June 28

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2 Kgs. 4:8-11, 14-16a
Ps. 89:2-3, 16-9
Rom. 6:3-4, 8-11
Mt. 10:37-42

Monday, June 29

SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

Acts 12:1-11
Ps. 34:2-9
2 Tm. 4:6-8, 17-18
Mt. 16:13-19

Tuesday, June 30

The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Am. 3:1-8; 4:11-12
Ps. 5:4b-8
Mt. 8:23-27

Wednesday, July 1

St. Junipero Serra, priest (USA)

Am. 5:14-15, 21-24
Ps. 50:7-13, 16bc-17
Mt. 8:28-34

Thursday, July 2

Am. 7:10-17
Ps. 19:8-11
Mt. 9:1-8

Friday, July 3

St. Thomas, Apostle
Eph. 2:19-22
Ps. 117:1bc, 2
Jn. 20:24-29

Saturday, July 4

Independence Day
Am. 9:11-15
Ps. 85:9ab-14
Mt. 9:14-17

The Holy Father's prayer intentions for July:

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

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ARCHIVES

From page 23

"Have the humility to accept that you don't know as much as you think you do, be open to new information and weigh it," look for people's vested interests or motives, and "go out of your way to talk to people who think differently," she said.

People need accurate information to make good decisions and there is too much at stake today to be limited to one polarized side, she said.

"If God didn't want us to go to all this trouble to try to figure out what the truth is, he would have made us like the other animals and we would just be operating on instinct every day," she said. "But no, he gave us brains so we are supposed to use them to try to apprehend the truth as best we can, to try to conform ourselves to the truth as best we can, and that is an ongoing process that takes your whole life."

NPM virtual convention

The 43rd annual convention of the National Pastoral Musicians (NPM) will be held July 7-10 virtually.

A full schedule, registration details and more are available at: npm.org/43rd-annual-convention/

Updates on summer youth activities

Here is an update on the status of several Catholic summer experiences for young people in the diocese:

•**Camp Siena:** Young women of high school age are invited to participate in a one-day retreat in the spirit of Camp Siena on Saturday, July 18, at the National Shrine of Mary Mother of the Church in Laurie. The day will include activities, talks, prayer, food, sacrament ... and likely ice cream and dance parties.

For information, write to Kris Hartman, diocesan events coordinator, at khartman@diojeffcity.org, or visit camp.siena.com.

•**Camp Maccabee:** Week 1 of Maccabee has been consolidated into week 2 — July 26-

31. Campers have been notified and space is still available. To learn more or to download camper registrations visit campmaccabee.com.

•**CHRISTpower:** The CHRISTpower retreat has been cancelled and transformed into a weeklong #CHRISTpower challenge.

CHRISTpower alumni and people from across the diocese will be invited to perform spiritual and corporal works of mercy in their homes and local communities and share their work through the social media campaign. Visit diojeffcity.org/christpower.



Fish Fry in July!

A St. Martin's Fun, Faith & Fellowship Event
at St. Martin Church in St. Martins

Sunday, July 12
Noon-5 pm

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Pope adds 'Comfort of Migrants,' other Marian titles to litany

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Among the many titles under which Catholics invoke Mary, Pope Francis has asked them to add "Mother of Mercy," "Mother of Hope" and "Comfort of Migrants."

Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, sent a letter to the presidents of bishops' conferences around the world asking that the titles be inserted into the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, more commonly known as the Litany of Loreto.

The litany, which begins by invoking God's mercy, then turns to Mary, asking for her prayers. The Litany of Loreto already had close to 50 titles for Mary with verses like "Queen of All Saints, pray for us."



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