

## Sharing that last mile

About 185 admirers of Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton processed to and prayed at the place of his burial in Quincy, Illinois, on the 124th anniversary of his death.  
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# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

July 23, 2021 • Vol. 65 No. 2

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Pope to grandparents, all elderly people ‘You are needed’



An elderly woman becomes emotional as Pope Francis greets her as he arrives for a May 2014 weekly audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. Pope Francis wanted the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on July 25 to be inaugurated as the world seeks to recover from a deadly pandemic, calling for the faithful to be “angels,” who care, console and caress.

—CNS photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters

**July 25 a day for appreciating, praying for and reconnecting with grandparents and elderly acquaintances**

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Writing to his peers, Catholics who have reached a venerable age like he has, Pope Francis told older Catholics that God is close to them and still has plans for their lives.

“I was called to become the bishop of Rome when I had reached, so to speak, retirement age, and thought I would not be doing anything new,” said the pope, who is 84 now and was elected when he was 76.

“The Lord is always — always — close to us. He is close to us with new possibilities, new ideas, new consolations, but always close to us. You know that the Lord is eternal; He never, ever goes into retirement,” the pope wrote in his message for the Catholic Church’s first celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

The message was released at the Vatican in anticipation of the celebration July 25, the Sunday closest to the feast of Ss. Joachim and Anne, Jesus’ grandparents.

The Vatican also announced that people who attend a Mass or other celebration for the day, “devote adequate time to actually or virtually visiting their elderly brothers and sisters in need or in difficulty” or join in prayers for the elderly July 25 can receive a plenary indulgence as long as they fulfill the usual requirements of also going to confession, receiving the Eucharist and praying for the intentions of the pope.

The indulgence also is available to “the elderly sick and all those who,

See GRANDPARENTS, page 14

## New diocesan associate director of stewardship is grateful for opportunity to serve

**Patricia Lutz brings commitment, experience to role of helping parishes become incubators for discipleship**

By Jay Nies

Father Stephen Jones was describing the spirituality of Catholic stewardship and the bishop’s vision for fully integrating it into parish life in this diocese.

Patricia Lutz and her husband Brian were sitting in the front row.

“I had been on our parish stewardship committee back when it started,” Mrs. Lutz recalled. “When I heard Fr. Jones’s presentation, I said, ‘I want to be a part of this again.’”

Fr. Jones defined Catholic stewardship as “a grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God’s gifts and shares those gifts in love of God and neighbor.”

He said stewardship is anchored in the understanding that God is the source of all good things, which are given and made holy through His Son.

In fullness of gratitude, the Christian steward works to maximize those gifts in order to make a suitable offering to the Lord in the form of time, talent and treasure.

Fr. Jones, the diocese’s director of stewardship, mentioned that the diocese planned to eventually hire an associate director to help him prepare parishes to operate in a stewardship mindset.

Mrs. Lutz was immediately interested.

“One day out of the blue, I called the Chancery and asked if the position had opened up yet,” she recalled. “They said yes, so I sent my resume that day.”

Her experience included 26 years with Special Olympics Missouri, most recently as vice president of programs, along with hers and Mr. Lutz’s involvement in their home parish, Ss. Peter & Paul in Boonville.

She loved her job, but the idea of promoting stewardship

See STEWARDSHIP page 17

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## Pray for deceased priests

July 25 — **Fr. Francis L. Kennedy**, St. Patrick, Jonesburg (1984)

July 27 — **Fr. Noel F. Brennan**, St. Joseph, Edina (1968)

Aug. 1 — **Fr. Aloysius G. Hilke**, St. Margaret of Antioch, Osage Bend (1979); **Fr. Ralph H. Siebert**, St. Francis Caracciola, Bourbon; and Sacred Heart, Leasburg (1986)

Aug. 3 — **Msgr. Gerard L. Poelker**, St. Lawrence, St. Elizabeth (2009)

Aug. 4 — **Fr. Fred J. Yehle**, Shrine of St. Patrick, St. Patrick (1989)

Aug. 5 — **Fr. Donald J. Kemper**, St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbia (1984)

## Wellness Case Coordinator



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City has an opening for a part-time Wellness Case Coordinator.

The Wellness Case Coordinator serves as an advocate for priests and deacons within the Diocese of Jefferson City. This individual is responsible for educating priests and permanent deacons so that they can take care of their own health, and if needed, can act as an advocate and liaison between the priest/deacon and their medical provider(s).

This is a part-time, virtual position with some travel within the diocese.

The ideal candidate will be a RN, LPN or Nurse Case Manager with a Missouri state nursing license, or a social worker with healthcare experience.

Qualified candidates should send a resume to [HRDir@diojeffcity.org](mailto:HRDir@diojeffcity.org).

## Administrative Assistant



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City is seeking an experienced Administrative Assistant to support the Director of Parish and Charitable Services. This position not only provides administrative support, but is closely aligned with direct ministry; therefore, the individual will need to have a good knowledge of the Catholic faith in order to be successful.

In addition to excellent organizational and Microsoft Office skills, the ideal candidate will need to be available for occasional evening and weekend work, estimated to be approximately 12 times per year.

This is a full-time, year-round position.

The Diocese of Jefferson City offers a comprehensive benefit package including paid holidays, paid vacation and sick days; group health, dental and vision insurance; flexible spending account and matching 403(b) retirement plan.

Qualified candidates should apply on [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com) and complete the skills assessment.

# St. Thomas the Apostle Masses to be in Meta during renovations, starting Aug. 14-15

Renovations to St. Thomas the Apostle Church in St. Thomas will begin the weekend of Aug. 14 and 15.

Beginning then and until further notice, all Masses for the parish will be celebrated in St.

Cecilia Church, 106 E. Sixth St. in Meta.

The weekend Mass schedule at St. Cecilia through the duration of the renovation will be 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 and 10 a.m. on Sundays.

## Six-day Centering Prayer retreat

**DATE: Aug. 29 - Sept. 3**

Contemplative Outreach of Central Missouri (COC-EMO) will hold a six-day intensive/post-intensive retreat from Sunday through Friday, Aug. 29-Sept. 3, at King's House Retreat & Renewal Center in Belleville, Illinois.

Father Matthew Flatley,

pastor of Holy Family Parish in Hannibal and St. Joseph Parish in Palmyra and spiritual director for COCEMO, will lead the retreat.

Contemplative Outreach intensive/post intensive retreats focus on Centering Prayer and are a way to take one's relationship with God and one's practice deeper. They offer extended time and space away from the busy-

ness and demands of daily life, and allow the mind, body and spirit to surrender to God's presence and action within. Retreats are a valuable tool to aid one's interior transformation.

Visit Contemplative Outreach of Central Missouri on Facebook.

For details and to register for the retreat, visit [cocemo.org](http://cocemo.org).

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*"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."*

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

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight  
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## Official Decree of Appointments

*The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City, makes the following appointments:*

### RETIREMENT

**Deacon Francis X. Ruggerio**, from assisting the Pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, to retirement.

*This appointment is effective from June 11, 2021.*

### PRIEST

**Reverend Ignitius Nimwiga**, to Assistant Pastor of St. Joseph Cathedral Parish, part-

time Chaplain at Helias Catholic High School, and as an intern in the Catholic Schools Office at the Chancery.

*These appointments are effective immediately.*

### DEACON

**Deacon James T. Brett**, relieved from ministry duties at the Mission of St. Joseph, Hurricane Branch and St. Raphael Parish, Indian Grove, and to continue duties at St. Boniface Parish, Brunswick.

*This appointment is effective from July 1, 2021.*

Given at the Chancery this 8th day of July 2021.

*W. Shawn McKnight*

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

*Constance Schepers*

Mrs. Constance Schepers  
Chancellor



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# MAKING CONNECTIONS

## Bishop McKnight

### Regarding the Old Latin Mass

On July 16, 2021, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, issued an apostolic letter *motu proprio* entitled *Traditionis custodes*.

This document alters Church law on the use of liturgical books from before the reforms that followed the Second Vatican Council (1962–65).

Under previous legislation, any priest of the Roman Rite was permitted to use the pre-conciliar liturgical books as an expression of that Rite.

The new legislation is more restrictive and envisions a more active role for the diocesan bishop, as guardian of tradition, in providing for celebrations using the older books.

As with any disciplinary document of the Holy See, careful implementation with a sensitivity to the good of the faithful of our diocese is essential. As Pope Francis observes, “We must recognize that if part of our baptized people

lack a sense of belonging to the Church, this is also due to certain structures and the occasionally unwelcoming atmosphere of some of our parishes and communities, or to a bureaucratic way of dealing with problems, be they simple or complex, in the lives of our people.”<sup>1</sup>

It is important to avoid imposing policy changes rigidly or suddenly in a way that could harm the unity of the people of God within our local Church.

Precise implementation of *Traditionis custodes* will re-

ico, and formerly the bishop’s delegate for the Extraordinary Form, the necessary faculty to continue using the *Missale Romanum* of 1962.<sup>2</sup>

I am working with Fr. Schrader to designate and establish the places and times at which the “Old Latin Mass” may be celebrated in other parts of the diocese throughout the year, usually on significant feast days.

I am grateful to the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City devoted to the older expression of the Roman Rite for their prayers and communion with me as their bishop. I challenge them as I do all the faithful of the diocese, both ordained and lay, to greater active stewardship in parish life and fuller participation in the Sacred Liturgy, particularly the Eucharistic sacrifice, which “is the center of the whole of Christian life for the Church both universal and local, as well as for each of the faithful individually.”<sup>3</sup>

One of Pope Francis’s chief concerns in *Traditionis custodes* is the unity of the Church, particularly in her Eucharistic faith and worship. Every celebration of the Mass should evidence the fullness of Catholic faith in the Eucharist and the nature of the Mass as “above all things the worship of the divine Majesty.”<sup>4</sup>

To this end, the Holy Father reminds us of the importance of celebrating the liturgy of the Roman Rite as reformed following Vatican II “with decorum and fidelity to the liturgical books.”<sup>5</sup>

May the Lord Jesus, Who left us a memorial of His Passion, help us so to revere the sacred mysteries of His Body and Blood that we may al-



art. 5.  
<sup>3</sup> *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 16.  
<sup>4</sup> Vatican II, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, no. 33.  
<sup>5</sup> Pope Francis, *Letter to the Bishops of the World That Accompanies*

ways experience in ourselves the fruits of His redemption.<sup>6</sup>

#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> *Evangelii gaudium*, no. 63.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *Traditionis custodes*,

*the Apostolic Letter motu proprio data « Traditionis custodes ».*

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Collect, Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

**“Precise implementation of *Traditionis custodes* will require time for study and consultation with experts in canon law and other disciplines. For the time being, as diocesan bishop, I have granted Father Dylan Schrader, pastor of St. Brendan Parish in Mexico, Missouri, and formerly the bishop’s delegate for the Extraordinary Form, the necessary faculty to continue using the *Missale Romanum* of 1962.”<sup>2</sup>**

— Bishop W. Shawn McKnight

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## Bishop McKnight’s Calendar

Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.

**JULY**

**Jul 29** New School Administrators Lunch, noon, Catholic Center, Jefferson City

**AUGUST**

**Aug 1-5** Seminarians’ Lake Send Off, Lake of the Ozarks

**Aug 4** School Administrators Meeting and Luncheon, 9 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City

**Aug 10** Very Reverend Deans Meeting, 11 am; Presbyteral Council Meeting, 1 pm, Catholic Center, Jefferson City

**Aug 13** St. Peter Parish 175th Celebration, 5 pm, St. Peter Church, Jefferson City

### Bishop McKnight’s July prayer intention for our Local Church

We pray for our country at this moment in history, that the dreams of life, liberty and happiness remain in our hearts as well as the desire that we will always be one nation under God.

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

Oramos por nuestro país en este momento de la historia, que los sueños de vida, libertad y felicidad se arraiguen en nuestros corazones, así como el deseo de que siempre seamos una nación ante Dios.



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



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# Salisbury parishioner David Sturm calls his last game

**Caps off 50 years of officiating high school sports**

By Eddie O'Neill

With five decades of high school, college and professional sports officiating under his belt, Salisbury native David Sturm has heard it all from jeering fans and upset coaches.

However, he admits that some of the jabs aren't all that off the mark.

"Whenever someone hollered at me that I must be blind, I always smiled inwardly because they did not know how right they were," he said.

His vision was bad from early childhood and got worse each year, resulting in thicker and thicker glasses.

"Without glasses I was legally blind by the fifth grade," he acknowledged. "Thankfully, that's all changed now because of Lasik surgery."

In May of this year, Mr. Sturm called his last balls and strikes at a Missouri state quarterfinal baseball game between Eugene and Putnam County high schools played at Versailles.

He noted that he was surprised by his lack of emotion in his final game.

"It felt like the last game of any earlier year," he said. "I was not as emotional as I expected to be."

After graduating from St. Joseph Catholic High School in Salisbury in 1969, Mr. Sturm attended Saint Louis



**LEFT:** Salisbury native David Sturm officiates Missouri's Class 1 State Championship Game in November 1998 in The Dome at America's Center in St. Louis. **RIGHT:** David Sturm officiates a semi-final football game at Valle Catholic High School in Ste. Genevieve in the early 2000s.



University in St. Louis.

He blames his love for the great American pastime for his interest in officiating.

"I loved baseball and I thought if my playing career was to end, then I would still be able to stay in the game as an official," Mr. Sturm told *The Catholic Missourian*. "So when I was a junior at Saint Louis University in the early 1970s studying for my CPA, I gave it a try, and I haven't looked back since."

While he says baseball is his first love, he also has decades of experience as an official with softball, football and basketball.

In his ledger, that accounts for 179 seasons of high school sports and more than 15,000 games — 11,000 of those at high school level.

He has 20 years of college baseball, as well as 15 years of college football.

Add to that a year of women's college basketball at the

NCAA Division II and III level, and that's a lot of refereeing.

As well, Mr. Sturm has been part of more than 20 Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) high school state tournament semi and/or final games in his career.

Those postseason games are a big honor in the world of officiating, as game officials are selected by their peers.

However, he shared that one of his favorite contests he mediated was a just a regular season in 1994. He was chosen to be the referee for the first varsity football contest played between Hickman and Rock Bridge High Schools in Columbia.

"The game, its attendance and intensity was better than any college game that I ever worked," he recalled. "It was evident when meeting with each coach individually before the game that it was not a normal night."

"The one coach was usually outgoing and humorous but on this night, he was very nervous and uptight with very

little to say," Mr. Sturm continued. "The other coach was usually very quiet and almost uptight before a game, but that night he was trying to crack jokes — unsuccessfully,



**David Sturm**

I might add — and act like this was no big deal."

Mr. Sturm added that he is grateful to God for keeping him safe all these years as he runs up and down the court or dons the umpiring gear season after season.

"Before any contest, I always said a prayer to the Lord, asking that He be with the officials and help us to make the correct calls and to not have any problems with the health or behavior of the officials, players, coaches and fans," he related.

"For sure, I know that He heard my prayers about protecting my health, because in 50 years of doing this, I was out just once," he said.

That hiatus was for six weeks after he got run over

by a football player resulting in his arm and shoulder being broken in two places.

"Otherwise, I never missed an assignment due to injury or illness," he noted, "only due to deaths in the family."

Mr. Sturm has never left St. Joseph Parish in Salisbury. In fact he has been playing the organ there since he was in the seventh grade.

He is a big believer in the Church's teaching about time, talent and treasure. With that, he has been an on-again, off-again member of the St. Joseph Parish Pastoral Council and the finance committee since 1980.

"You'd be amazed at what good things happen when you offer God your time talent and treasure," he explained. "I might not be the best cook or carpenter but I do know a thing or two about finances and money and have been able to offer that to God and our church."

He said he has been blessed with many wonderful relationships while living as a single man in the Church.

"The one downside to my officiating career encompassing four sports year-round, along with starting and building my own CPA practice, is that it did not leave any time for a social life or at least one that would have been fair to any possible lifelong companion," he shared.

"Luckily, I come from a large family and my brothers and sisters and nieces and nephews have let me be a bigger part of their lives than most uncles get to experience," he said.

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Diocese of  
Jefferson City

# July 9 storms cause damage but no injuries in Perry, Brush Creek

**Saturday, Sunday Masses by candlelight in St. William Church**

**Trees down in Brush Creek cemetery**

**Fr. Henderson, pastor, impressed how people helped each other**

By Jay Nies

Father John Henderson offered the Saturday and Sunday Masses by candlelight.

“It was like ‘Easter Vigil in July,’” said Fr. Henderson, pastor of St. William Parish in Perry and the Mission of St. Frances Cabrini in Paris.

Thunderstorms the night of July 9 produced 80- to 90-mph winds in and around Perry, damaging roofs, downing century-old trees and severing power lines.

“We were going to have Mass here, anyway,” Fr. Henderson noted. “We got a lot of calls about it the next morning, and we told them to come. We had about 60 people at each Mass.”

The National Weather Service at St. Louis reported that intense thunderstorms developed rapidly along a warm front, creating a destructive curtain of rain, wind and hail from east-central Missouri into southwest Illinois.

“The worst damage was noted from Rensselaer southward to Perry, where straight-line winds of 90 mph were found,” the National Weather Service stated.

No injuries were reported in or around Perry, but practically every house and building in town had some roof damage.

A light post near the church snapped in half and landed in the parking lot. A neighbor’s outdoor furniture was blown over the church and into the parking lot.

Trees around the St. William property helped protect the church and rectory, “although we did have to take down one of the pine trees,” Fr. Henderson reported.

He said he wasn’t aware of anyone whose home had been rendered unlivable.

Most important, “everybody’s okay,” he said.

## Stormy blast

Hannibal Courier-Post Staff Writer Meg Duncan in a July



**LEFT: Father Gregory Oligschlaeger VF, pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek, surveys tree and headstone damage in the St. Peter Cemetery in Brush Creek following a July 9 thunderstorm. RIGHT: The trunk of a mature tree outside historical St. Peter Church in Brush Creek was snapped in half during the 80- to 90-mph winds.** — Photos by Brad Copleland



11 article, reported on widespread roof and tree damage in Perry, as well as the owners of a local grocery store having to discard their perishable food after losing electricity.

The storm also brought down 20-30 trees in and around the cemetery behind historical St. Peter Church in Brush Creek.

There was no noticeable damage to the 1862-vintage church, which stands where Venerable Father Augustus Tolton was baptized in 1854.

The cemetery includes a section for people who were slaves.

Brad Copleland, diocesan director of buildings and properties, toured the area on July 13.

“It looks like a bomb went off up here,” he said.

He is confident insurance will help pay to repair damaged headstones in the Brush Creek cemetery, as well as the roofs of other affected church properties.

Fr. Henderson noted that the storms caused no damage to nearby St. Frances Cabrini Church in Paris or the 1860s-vintage St. Paul Church in Center.

He said dam-

age to St. William Church and the rectory included lost shingles and ridge caps. Neither roof was damaged enough to leak.

“We had to put a little shingle patch on the house,” he noted. “Other than that, the structures are golden.”

## Faith in action

Fr. Henderson, who has been stationed in Perry and Paris since 2002, has learned to take a “peace, be still” approach to violent weather.

“What can you do? It is

what it is,” he said. “I’ve been in storms worse than this on my motorcycle.”

He believes the big story isn’t how the storm blew things apart; it’s how it wound up bringing the whole town together.

“This is a story of the Catholic community and the ministerial alliance and different churches and the whole town coming together and working together,” he said.

“We were all amazed at how people reached out and showed up with chainsaws and

food and coffee,” he stated.

Local congregations and disaster-relief agencies used the St. William parking lot for a staging area.

“We survived and the Church is in good stead,” said Fr. Henderson. “Parishioners helped out. The community came together and it’s all good.”

“That’s what church is all about,” said Fr. Henderson. “It’s a community of believers and of people putting their faith into action. That’s what we’re all about.”

## “What so proudly we hailed ...”



**Students of St. George School in Linn, ranging from kindergarten through seventh grade, sing the National Anthem before the St. Louis Cardinals’ June 26 baseball game at Busch Stadium. “I was incredibly proud of the way they sang and the way they conducted themselves,” said Lisa Grellner, principal. “A huge thank you goes out to Stacey Dudenhoeffer for organizing this event. We also want to thank Linda Kruger for working with our students.” The performance is posted on the St. George Home & School Association’s Facebook page.** — Photo by Lisa Grellner

# Student helps organize virtual conference on care for creation

**Promotes simplicity, sustainability and spirituality among friends on campus**

By Jay Nies

Emma Heienickle sees people all around her seeking fulfillment in the college party culture, perpetual Instagram worthiness and other empty pursuits.

She has chosen the better part and will not be deprived of it.

“What I have found is true satisfaction,” said Ms. Heienickle, an environmental and atmospheric science major at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

“If you’re searching for happiness, for joy, for peace, search in God,” she said. “He will provide all of that for you.”

Kinship with God is a priceless gift.

“We are truly loved because we are His daughters and sons,” Ms. Heienickle noted. “There is nothing we have to do to earn it from Him. It is freely given. He shows us that on the cross.”

Taking all of this to heart tends to lead to a counter-cultural life and an ongoing dying-to-self.

“But in doing that,” said Ms. Heienickle, “in dying to ourselves, we come to new life, just as in the Resurrection, truly find the joy and happiness that He intends for us.”

Ms. Heienickle has made a commitment to live simply and sustainably, in keeping with centuries of Church teaching and Pope Francis’s encyclical, “*Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*.”

“We don’t need a lot of material things to be happy,” she asserted. “If we place our lives in God’s hands and in the hands of our family and

friends, and we do things out of love, that’s what’s really going to satisfy us as disciples in Christ.”

In “*Laudato Si’*,” Pope Francis teaches that care for creation is an essential aspect of discipleship, a holy response to being entrusted with a tremendous gift.

“That’s often forgotten,” said Ms. Heienickle. “The world is a gift.”

In the encyclical, the pope calls for nations, cultures and economies to be reoriented toward respect for and active protection of the natural environment, rooted in a sacred relationship with God and His love for all people.

“It really is this full-circle effect, not just ‘care for flowers because they’re pretty,’” Ms. Heienickle noted. “It is necessary in order for all of us to live to our fullest potential.”

God makes everything possible through His revealed wisdom and infinite love.

“It’s really important to recognize that,” Ms. Heienickle stated. “To live lives of love requires us to care for creation.”

“Being pro-life means caring for the fullness of dignity of every single person,” she said. “If people don’t have access to clean water, or if they live near a factory that is polluting the environment, they cannot live their lives in the way God intends.”

“If we care for creation, people will be able to have just lives, which is ultimately what we’re called to do,” she said.

## Path to encounter

Ms. Heienickle grew up in a Catholic family near St. Louis and went to Catholic schools.



Emma Heienickle stands outside Jesse Hall, the administration building at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

She joined the “Earth Angels” high school environmental group at St. Joseph’s Academy.

“I saw how rooted in our Catholic faith the care for creation is, and how many other things are impacted by how we care for our environment,” she said.

Recognizing Ms. Heienickle’s passion, the Earth Angels’ faculty moderator gave her a copy of “*Laudato Si’*,” which she studied intently.

Ms. Heienickle decided to major in environmental and atmospheric science in college, combining her convictions of faith and with science’s potential “to help people see a reason to care about and be concerned about our common home.”

She became active at the St. Thomas More Newman Center and fell deeply in love with her faith.

“College was the first time I had to make my own decision to show up for Christ,” she said. “That willingness to learn more about myself and to give of myself and realize that my life is not my own, that whatever God wants me to do is what I want to do. ...

“That willingness, that ‘*Fiat*’ that Mary said to God’s will when she said ‘yes’ to hav-

ing Jesus — I desire that same attitude in my life, to live a life that will bring me into deeper relationship with God, even if I do things that are not what society expects,” she said.

She resolved to attend daily Mass, spend an hour with Jesus in Adoration every day and

relationship with God, other people, especially the poor, and the glorious web of ecosystems that support all life on this planet.

A husband and wife in St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish helped her attend her first Catholic environmental conference at Creighton University in Omaha two years ago.

“It was unlike anything I had ever experienced before,” she recalled. “It was fun to network with everyone who had been in these careers for such a long time — working in parish life and with schools and campus ministry.”

“It was really good to hear their perspectives on the connection between our faith and care for creation,” she said.

She was the youngest person there.

“There was a distinct feeling of, ‘Why aren’t there more young people here?’” she recalled.

That conference solidified her ambition to share her passion for her faith and her academic studies, “with faith, love and kindness.”

The organizers of this year’s conference, held virtually due to the COVID-19



This banner welcomed participants in a 2019 conference on Pope Francis’s encyclical, “*Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*,” at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

— Photo by Emma Heienickle

initiate conversations with friends about the importance of living sustainably, caring for others and working toward

See COMMON HOME, page 23

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# In Columbia, Former U.S. Rep. Mia Love lauds Vitae Foundation's work to make abortion unthinkable

By Jay Nies

"Of all the sad words of tongue and pen, the saddest are these: It might have been."

Former U.S. Rep. Mia Love of Utah let the words of American poet and slavery abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier sink into her audience's minds.

"All we are asking is that we no longer settle for 'what might have been,'" she told 185 guests at the Vitae Foundation's June 29 pro-life event in Columbia.

Born of immigrants from Haiti, she served from 2015-19 as the first Black Republican woman in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Her parents already had two children when they found out they were pregnant with her while they were settling in the United States.

"It would have been easier for them to have an abortion," she acknowledged. "In fact, they were told over and over again, there were places that could 'take care of that quickly and then get back to your life.'"

They had choices: protect and welcome their unborn child into the world, or always wonder what might have been.

They chose life.

"I owe them a great deal of gratitude," Former Rep. Love stated. "I thank them by fighting here. I honor their choice by helping to save a life."

"You and I honor our parents by being here and supporting life," she said, "by protecting as many of those children as we can."

## Full potential

She called to mind an image of a young woman standing alone in a crowd that was demonstrating for "reproductive rights" in Washington, D.C.

The lone dissenter held a sign: "I survived *Roe v. Wade*, but it will not survive me."

With that same level of conviction, bolstered by being a mother and a survivor of the abortion-on-demand culture in this country, Former Rep. Love ran for Congress in 2015



Former U.S. Rep. Mia Love of Utah gives the keynote address at the Vitae Foundation's June 29 pro-life event in Columbia.

and won.

"My job in Washington was to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness — first and foremost, life," she said. "Our job as human beings is to use our gifts and talents to help God's children, all of them, at all stages of development."

Each carries within himself or herself the capacity for greatness.

"Every child, born and unborn, has the potential to open up our world and take us to places and spaces we can't even imagine," said Former Rep. Love.

She spoke of abortion as a human rights issue.

"Inside the womb and out, life has meaning, and that meaning matters," she stated. "Every child matters, at every stage of development."

She recalled serving as a member of the House panel that investigated allegations of Planned Parenthood selling aborted babies' body parts.

Credentialed neither in law nor medicine, she addressed the abortion giant's agents with the passion of a mother of two teenagers.

"We as mothers share a profound bond with our children, and when that bond dies inside of us, part of us dies, too," she noted.

"We strip a child of their God-given potential when we as a society accept abortion as 'health care,'" she said.

## Now is the time

Former Rep. Love said promoting access to abortion actually takes away "choice" by convincing women there's no other way.

"We cannot accept 'what might have been,'" she asserted. "We won't know what might have been when we allow organizations like Planned Parenthood to convince a pregnant woman that they have no choice but to abort the life and the potential within them," she said.

Former Rep. Love lauded the Vitae Foundation for giving pregnant women the information they need to focus not on what might have been but on "what is and what is to come."

Vitae Foundation is a non-denominational, national media outreach organization created primarily by Catholics in and around Jefferson City 29 years ago.

Vitae uses digital media campaigns to reach women facing unplanned pregnancies.

It leads the world in its research of abortion decision-making, perfects the right

messages to reach women, and produces lifesaving results that encourage a culture of life.

"We all have a responsibility to care for those who cannot vote, who cannot speak, care for themselves, those who deserve the chance to live," Former Rep. Love insisted.

She said there's no better time than now to help Vitae with its lifesaving mission.

"When you have an opportunity to do something great, to do something that you might be a little afraid of, you never know when you're going to have the chance to do it again," she stated.

## "Forge ahead"

Vitae Foundation President Debbie Stokes said that despite daunting challenges, the organization has weathered the COVID-19 pandemic well.

"We know God was preparing us for something big," she stated. "He sent us exceptional staff, built our resources and pushed us far outside our comfort zone — and we have callouses on our knees to prove it!"

She said that Vitae has invested millions of dollars in research but must invest more.

She noted how abortion has become so normalized in the United Kingdom, anyone who speaks on behalf of the unborn is vilified and dismissed.

"That is the America of our future if something isn't done now," she said.

She spoke about the growing use of abortion-inducing drugs.

"The challenges before us are tremendous, but so are the

opportunities," Mrs. Stokes stated.

"We have the leaders, the knowledge and the commitment to win this important battle, but we need your prayers, your financial support and your encouragement to forge ahead," she said.

Elizabeth Parker, Vitae Foundation's media production and pro-life research manager, who previously served as minority outreach coordinator for Students for Life, told the audience about an in-depth Women's Health Study the Vitae Foundation plans to undertake this year.

## Out of desperation

Stacey Kromer, Vitae's Senior Marketing Director, noted that Vitae has established a strong and reliable network of Pregnancy Help Centers (PHCs) located in major abortion markets across the United States.

Research has indicated that if a woman is desperate and determined to have an abortion, she will do whatever it takes, no matter how deplorable the conditions are.

That feeds into Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers successful marketing of abortion as "health care."

"Despite the powerful forces of evil we are facing, we are optimistic," Mrs. Kromer stated. "Vitae's Pro-Woman Approach to the abortion issue will withstand the attacks of cancel culture and will be the key to preserving the sanctity of human life for generations to come."

"With your help and prayers, we can change the culture and restore the sanctity of all human life," she said.

[vitaefoundation.org](http://vitaefoundation.org)

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## QUESTION CORNER

## Mass vessels and vestments / Jesus on the cross

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



our faith? (Derby, Indiana)

**Q.** As I have reached old age (82), my thoughts have been on Jesus and the apostles being poor and humble. By contrast, I see priests, bishops and cardinals attired at Mass with gold-embazoned apparel and celebrating the consecration using chalices of gold. Yet the statuary of Christ and the saints depicts them as people of poverty. Why this obvious imbalance in celebrating

**A.** I agree in substance with your observation. It's probable that Jesus at the Last Supper used a humble clay cup in blessing the wine, and I don't think we should stray far from that simplicity.

At the same time, though, the Church does want to highlight the "specialness" of the Eucharist. What we receive in Holy Communion is the greatest gift of all, and sacred vessels denote the preciousness of the contents in a way that common and profane containers do not. The sacrifice of the Mass brings us into contact with the divine and "lifts us up" to heaven.

And so, the guidance the Church offers us on this is contained in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, which is the Church's "rule book" on liturgical matters.

There we read, "Sacred vessels should be made from precious metal. If they are made from metal that rusts or from a metal less precious than gold, they should generally be gilded on the inside.

"In the dioceses of the United States of America, sacred vessels may also be made from other solid materials which in the common estimation in each region are considered precious or noble, for example, ebony or other harder woods, provided that such materials are suitable for sacred use" (Nos. 328-329).

In a section on sacred furnishings, the *General Instruction* says that "noble simplicity" should be the governing goal in matters liturgical (No. 325). As applied to vestments, this would mean that "it is fitting that the beauty and nobility of each vestment not be sought in an abundance of overlaid ornamentation, but rather in the material used and in the design" (No. 344).

I have noticed over the years a tendency toward greater simplicity in liturgical vestments, and that trend is consistent with the Church's goal.

**Q.** What was the meaning of Christ's words from the cross when He said, "Father, why have You forsaken Me?" (Leicester, United Kingdom)

**A.** Both Matthew and Mark indicate in their Gospel accounts that among the last words of Jesus on the cross were the following: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me?"

Some readers might find this puzzling and ask, "How can God abandon God?" Actually, though, Jesus was uttering the first words of a familiar psalm, Psalm 22.

That psalm/prayer, as it develops, is really a testament to the enduring love and support of the Lord.

Though it addresses God with the anguished plea, "Do not stay far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help," the psalm goes on to proclaim the confident assurance of divine support:

"For He has not spurned or disdained the misery of this poor wretch, did not turn away from me, but heard me when I cried out."

See FR. DOYLE, page 18

## Bishop, Helias Catholic president view construction progress at Catholic Charities' new center

By Jay Nies

As Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri's (CCCNMO's) new health and social services center in Jefferson City nears completion, one of its big neighbors are getting excited about the possibilities.

"I saw a beautiful building that will one day provide a multitude of services to our sisters and brothers who are most in need of assistance," said John Knight, the new president of Helias Catholic High School.

Mr. Knight joined Bishop W. Shawn McKnight in touring the construction site and viewed recent progress with CCCNMO representatives.

Among them were Jim Wisch, a member of the CCCNMO board of directors; Executive Director Dan Lester; and Cristal Backer, director of development and outreach.

"I was very impressed with the leadership and vision of Catholic Charities," said Mr. Knight, who recently moved to Jefferson City and became president of Helias Catholic July 1.

The new Catholic Charities campus, scheduled to be completed this fall, is located within walking distance of Helias Catholic's campus.

It stands within view of the State Capitol and in a neighborhood where needs are now abundant.

The completed facility will help meet those needs and many others throughout the diocese.

It will include a full-service client choice food pantry, in addition to other services and opportunities for collaboration with churches, charitable agencies and other organizations in the community.

"It will be a place where our whole community may feel at home, expand our ability to serve our neighbors in need, and restore a piece of our Mid-Missouri Catholic heritage," Mr. Lester stated.

The building originally served as the chapel and gymnasium for the former seminary of the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.

Catholic Charities looks forward to a continued partner-



**TOP:** Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, Helias Catholic High School President John Knight and Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri Executive Director Dan Lester tour the construction site of CCCNMO's new health and social services center July 16. **BOTTOM:** Bishop McKnight, CCCNMO Board Member Jim Wisch, and a construction worker survey the large open room in the middle of the new center.

— Photos by Cristal Backer

ship with the Helias Catholic community, which is known for promoting service as a way of life.

"My hope is that the Helias Catholic community will joyfully embrace the many opportunities to share our gifts and talents with the good souls who are served by Catholic Charities," said Mr. Knight.

Mrs. Backer noted that fundraising for the project is ongoing, with matching grants from the Mabee Foundation and another contributor basically

tripling the impact of each gift people make toward the renovation.

To contribute to Catholic Charities' "Open Hearts, Open Doors" renovation, visit [cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give) or send a check payable to "Catholic Charities" to P.O. Box 104626, Jefferson City, MO 65110-4626.

For information about the ongoing renovations, contact Ms. Backer, at 573-635-7719 or [cbacker@cccnmo.org](mailto:cbacker@cccnmo.org), or visit [cccnmo.diojeffcity.org](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org).

## Going on pilgrimage right at home

By Effie Caldarola  
Catholic News Service



Someone once gave me a plaque that read, “If you want to be a pilgrim on the road of life, you have to travel light.”

I can’t find that plaque, which amuses me because I realize its absence means I’m a little lighter than I would be if I still had it. Instead, the quote is stored in my mind, and as I try to pare

down my possessions and reorganize, those words are my mantra.

One consequence of our recent isolation is that we’ve become more aware of the excess clutter in our homes. What is all this stuff? What do I really need? What’s essential? And, why, as isolation ends, do I feel tempted to buy more?

St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, often referred to himself as “the pilgrim” as he began his spiritual journey. Pilgrimage is a great concept, the idea of going off, a few items stuffed in a backpack, in search of the truth.

Of course, we can make a pilgrimage in our own home, but it seems that even

this demands some simplifying of our lifestyles. Everything won’t fit in a backpack, but we can pare down.

Beginning in May 2021, and lasting until July 2022, we are celebrating an Ignatian year, meaning we’re celebrating St. Ignatius himself and his great spiritual gifts to us. It was exactly 500 years ago, in May, that Ignatius experienced a “cannonball moment” that led to his dramatic conversion.

Ignatius did not start out as a spiritual pilgrim. Indeed, Íñigo, as he was named, was a man who desired wealth, honor and military success. Born into an aristocratic family, he was a knight who hoped

his prowess on the battlefield would improve his success with the ladies. When he was 24, a criminal charge of “nocturnal misdemeanors” was on his police record, and he and his brother were briefly jailed.

A short biography at [Fordham.edu](http://Fordham.edu) puts it succinctly: “In short, Íñigo was an experienced sinner before an inexperienced saint.”

In other words, he was a bit like us.

On May 20, 1521, Íñigo’s life changed dramatically. While leading men into battle against the French at Pamplona, a

See CALDAROLA, page 18

## The centenary of the Victory Noll Sisters

By Moises Sandoval  
Catholic News Service



On Aug. 5, 2021, Our Lady Victory Missionary Sisters will begin a yearlong celebration of their 100th anniversary. Although the congregation was not officially founded

until 1922, that was the date its first two catechists, Julia Doyle and Marie Benes, arrived in Santa Fe, New Mexico, by train from Chicago to begin the first mission.

The founder, a charismatic young priest from Chicago named John Joseph Sigstein, had been inspired by the material and spiritual needs of Hispanics he saw on a visit to New Mexico.

His message to the catechists was “Go to the poorest first. Always have preference for them.” That became their charism as they worked throughout much of the United States and in Bolivia, where they founded a mission that endured for 40 years.

Fr. Sigstein’s vision was not enough to ensure the growth and success of the congregation. But an early contributor, then Monsignor John Francis Noll, later a bishop and archbishop, provided the resources and administrative talent.

He donated the land on which the motherhouse and training complex were built on a hilltop on the western rim of the Wabash Valley, a sacred site for the Miami tribe Native Americans who once lived there. The buildings were constructed in Southwest mission style.

In New Mexico, their ministry was largely in rural and isolated communities where parishes were few and widely scattered. They lived in adobe or log structures like the people they served, no running water, sewerage or electricity. They rode on horseback or horse-drawn vehicles; it was not until 1928 that they got cars and learned to drive.

They often got stuck on muddy dirt roads. One time their car had to be pulled out of a mountain stream by a team of horses. But the women, who had grown up in Chicago and other cities, Midwest farms or villages in New Mexico and other states, faced all the obstacles with a sense of adventure.

One time Sister Mary Frances Meyer and another sister were traveling from Pintada to the village of Anton Chico in the Pecos valley. Nineteen miles away from home on a desolate road, the transmission malfunctioned. The car would not go forward.

But since it did go backward, they drove in reverse for 11 miles, where, not wanting to arrive that way, they tried the forward gear again and it worked. There was little that the catechists could not handle.

Victory Noll had a prominent role in my family’s history. We met them around 1935 when four sisters drove to our farm along a New Mexico foothills dirt road named Highway 94. In several visits they prepared me and several of my brothers to make our first confession and First Holy Communion.

Then in 1944 when our family moved to Brighton, Colorado, it was as if they followed us there. At St. Augustine parish they taught CCD religion classes and organized a corps of altar boys called Knights of the Altar. Six of my brothers and I were members. They loved our family, especially my mother. We corresponded for many years.

The yearlong anniversary observance will begin with a special Mass at the Archbishop Noll Memorial Chapel, with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, presiding.

But only a few sisters will be attending, the surviving remnant of the hundreds who passed through there. When people stopped having large families, they suffered a steep fall in vocations.

Now, the Victory Noll Sisters do not even own their beautiful campus. The

congregation sold 107 acres of forest and prairie to ACRES Land Trust to preserve and protect for future generations. The medical facilities were transferred to St. Anne Communities, which provide elder care, and early this year the remaining three buildings were sold to

Huntington County’s Department of Corrections for people struggling with addictions.

The leadership, now living in a house in Huntington, Indiana, will continue in mission as long as age and health permit. They know no other way.

### REFLECTION

## A dress for Vilma

By Mark Saucier

My friend is an Irish nun, an English nurse, and a Peruvian missionary.

I met her over 40 years ago when she was an energetic idealist with a call to dress the wounds, cure the sickness, and hold the hands of the dying among Lima’s poor.

Today, in her 80s and with health concerns of her own, she is an energetic idealist who still can’t seem to do enough to answer that call.

She runs a small hospital tucked away in a mountainside that was once the city dump.

She has attracted a community of nurses and doctors who refuse care to no one, birthing their babies, mending their limbs and removing their tumors.

Each day, hundreds line up for their meds for everything from HIV-AIDS to diarrhea, both common and chronic in neighborhoods like hers.

Catching her one evening at the end of another 12-hour day, I asked her what kept her going. I expected to hear about the personal reward of saving countless lives and helping those who had nowhere else to turn.

I got the story of Vilma instead.

Vilma was 17 — thin, cute and penniless like many her age in the barrio. Her health was average for the deficient nutrition and crowded conditions of her home.

Her brother got tuberculosis, not the consumption that sent the wealthy to sanatoria a century ago or posed the tragedy in Victorian novels, but the kind that plagues the poor — the mycobacteria that feast in humble homes, infecting one member of the family after another, leaving a path of night sweats, weight loss, and bloody coughs.

Vilma got it. She started a regimen of free medication.

Then she saw a dress in a store. She had to have it for her 18th birthday and pursued it with the singular passion of someone who never had anything new.

She worked long hours at a bakery to put aside a little for the prize. She didn’t have time for meds and in the euphoria of her quest, she felt fine.

She sloughed off the fatigue and didn’t notice her hanging clothes. She bought that dress, but at 18, she was buried in it.

My friend confesses that she doesn’t understand how anyone, no matter how poor, could risk her life for something like that. Still, it is the lost like Vilma, and not the saved, that get her out of bed.

*The reflection was originally published in the July 12, 2013, edition of The Catholic Missourian.*

## Fr. William Debo to play Mr. Brownlow in Capital City Production of 'Oliver!'

By Jay Nies

Father Bill Debo was hoping to play against type.

He auditioned for the role of Fagan, the shady but affable ringleader of a gang of young pickpockets in Capital City Productions' interpretation of the musical "Oliver! The Musical."

"That would be a great character to play," the priest thought to himself. "You spend your whole life trying to be the good guy, and then you get to be someone like him on stage."

Not that Fagan's all bad.

"He has a certain charm about him that attracts the audience to him," Fr. Debo noted.

The day after the audition, he got a call, offering him the smaller but unquestionably more sympathetic role of Mr. Brownlow, a grandfatherly figure to the play's young protagonist.

"I've finally 'matured' in my role!" said Fr. Debo, pastor of Holy Family Parish in Freeburg and Sacred Heart Parish in Rich Fountain.

The lighthearted production, based on *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens, highlights

hope and optimism, the bonds of friendship and the individual impulse to respect other people's humanity even when society does not.

Performances will be Thursdays through Saturdays, Aug. 12-14 and Aug. 19-21 in Jefferson City.

"Come and enjoy a night of the award-winning musical adaptation of the classic Dickens novel as it springs to life with some of the most memorable characters and songs ever to grace the stage!" the event's promoters stated.

Mr. Brownlow deals mercifully with an unfortunate lad named Oliver and sets out to help him, building up to a moment of intense reflection.

"There's a scene where (Mr. Brownlow) looks at a locket and kind of stares off into the distance and mumbles his line, oblivious to everything that's going on around him," said Fr. Debo.

"It's one of the tender moments in the play," he stated.

### Another stage

Fr. Debo had played several theatrical roles at the Showboat Theatre in Hermann during

his previous assignment as pastor of St. George Parish in Hermann and Church of the Risen Savior Parish in Rhineland.

He started attending Capital City Productions (CCP) performances when the teachers at Holy Family and Sacred Heart schools gave him season tickets for Christmas his first year as their pastor.

"I was so impressed with the professional quality of the productions — the acting, the singing, everything," he said.

He was pleased to learn that CCP gives back to the community by helping various causes.

He thought back to the times he got to play the role of Albert in "Bye Bye Birdie," Cornelius Hackl in "Hello, Dolly!" and a member of the barbershop quartet and several other roles in "Music Man" back in Hermann.

"I started to miss it," he said.

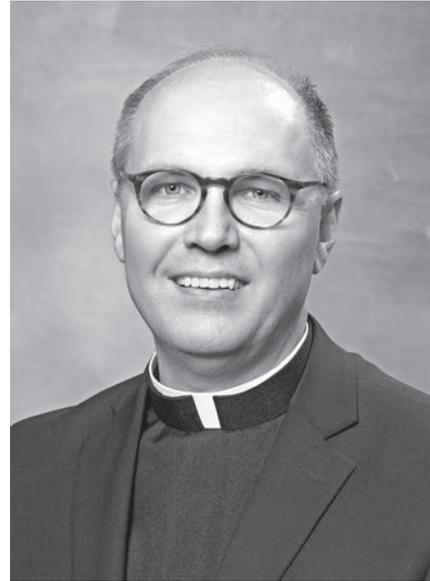
Several friends encouraged him to try out for a role with CCP, but he didn't think he had the time.

But then came this Dickens-inspired production.

"I wouldn't necessary call it a 'bucket list' item, but I love anything by Dickens," he said, especially on account of the 19th-century English writer's sense of justice and favorable treatment of society's discarded people at the height of the Industrial Revolution.

"When I heard about this, I thought this may be my last opportunity to be in a Charles Dickens production," Fr. Debo stated.

He checked his calendar and



Father William Debo

decided to work the rehearsals into his slower summer schedule and to take vacation time during the production.

"So here I am, stepping into new territory, meeting a lot of new people — great people. It's been kind of exciting," he said.

"And I'm still amazed at the level of talent they have to choose from right here in Central Missouri," he stated.

### Behind the scenes

Fr. Debo is impressed at how everyone pitches in to help behind the scenes, designing and building sets and props and getting the theater ready for the production.

"Everyone works together," he said.

"Oliver! The Musical" includes a large cast of children. Many of parents stay around to help organize, clean and build sets while the children are rehearsing.

"The other night, a group of us helped paint the backdrops,

and we'll do more of that as we get closer to show time," he said.

He enjoys that more than being on stage.

"My art background kicks in then," he noted.

During rehearsals, he gets to visit with cast and crew members of all ages about the community theater and whatever else is on their mind.

"That's what I enjoy about it," he said. "Visiting with people and learning their background."

Another cast member is a minister in the United Church of Christ.

"When he found out I'm a priest, he said, 'I think we're in the same line of business,'" Fr. Debo recalled. "So we visited about our various ministries."

He's amazed at how many people he talks to have connections to CCP or have taken part in its offerings over in the past 30 years.

"Anywhere you go, when the subject comes up, there's someone who was in a production maybe five, 10 or 20 years ago," he said.

He believes it's good for priests to get away from their day-to-day duties at their parishes and interact with people in a different way.

"I think I'm able to carry on with my daily work even better because this kind of thing rejuvenates me," he said.

Capital City Productions performances are held at 719 Wicker Lane, off of Missouri Boulevard in Jefferson City.

Call 573-681-9612 for information, or visit their website at [ccpj.org](http://ccpj.org).

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## Pope expresses closeness with Cuban people as unrest continues

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Pope Francis expressed his closeness to the people of Cuba a week after protests erupted on the island nation.

In his first public appearance after his release from Gemelli hospital, the pope told pilgrims in St. Peter's Square July 18 that he was "near to the dear Cuban people in these difficult moments, in particular to those families suffering the most.

I pray that the Lord might help the nation

construct a society that is more and more just and fraternal through peace, dialogue and solidarity," he said, as a large group of pilgrims in the square held Cuban flags.

Thousands of Cubans in Havana and elsewhere took to the streets July 11 to protest economic hardships, lack of basic freedoms and the Cuban government's handling of the coronavirus outbreak, making for what some have described as the most significant unrest in decades.

## Emeritus Abp. Carlson leads retreat for priests of this diocese

**Acclaims their participation, cohesiveness, mutual respect**

By Jay Nies

"They're a great group of priests you have there. Wonderful human beings, great priests, holy men."

Archbishop Emeritus Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis spoke of 28 priests of the Jefferson City diocese who were on a June 28-July 2 retreat he directed at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center in Kirkwood.

He believes it was one of the best retreats he's ever led.

"That has a lot to do with the people who were participating," he stated. "They were excellent in their openness and full participation and in their questions."

He said two of the greatest strengths he recognized among the priests were their closeness and mutual respect.

"They are fraternal with each other, they are respectful to each other, there was none of the sarcasm you sometimes find," he said. "Where there's humor, it's good-natured, nothing with an edge."

The theme for the retreat was from Chapter 4 of the Rule of St. Benedict: "Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."

Archbishop Carlson drew extensively from Chapters 13 through 17 of St. John's gospel, which he calls the Priestly Chapters of John.

"The love of Christ is a tremendous blessing, but it comes with a challenge," he noted.

Many who attended the retreat commented on the archbishop's willingness to speak openly about lessons he had learned from past experiences as a priest.

"A retreat that has excellent theology is fine," he noted. "But if you're going to touch the heart of somebody, you have to give them a view into your heart."

"If you're going to talk about weakness, you talk about your own weakness," he said. "If you're going to talk about prayer, you talk about your own prayer. And you have to talk from the heart."

They key is to address the

group in a way that meets each participant where he is.

"You want that individual to be able to reflect on the joy he experiences as a priest and as a son of God, along with any crisis of holiness he may be dealing with," he said. "Otherwise, the retreat is not going to be real."

He challenged the priests to be aware of their own personal challenges and shortcomings as they strive to be servant leaders, in the image of Christ, to the people.

He shared stories from his priestly youth and how he would handle things differently now, given the wisdom that comes with taking the time to pray and cultivate a deeper personal relationship with Jesus.

He emphasized the importance of being in a good relationship with God in order to offer Mass and administer the sacraments well, especially Reconciliation.

He called to mind a few of Pope Francis's observations about what it takes to be a priest today.

**The love of Christ is a tremendous blessing, but it comes with a challenge.**

— Archbishop Emeritus Robert J. Carlson

"If we're going to be effective, if we're going to bring Christ to people, we have to reflect on being close to the people we serve, and on being people of compassion," the archbishop said.

It might be easier to scold someone who does something wrong, "but compassion is what's going to bring them to Christ," he noted.

He said everyone knows someone who radiates the love of Christ in a way that makes their example irresistible.

"They could be very intelligent or simple and down-to-earth," he said. "But whoever they are, something happened that opened their heart to the Lord's heart, and as a result, they are able to love and make a difference."

"That's something we're all called to do," he said.

**Greater love**

Fifty-one years into his

Priesthood, Archbishop Carlson still asks God every day to love him more.

"I'm fond of asking people, 'When is the last time you asked Jesus to love you more?'" he said. "Or do you think you have enough?"

He pointed out that the Church must evangelize differently now in order to carry-out its mission effectively.

"Big institutions just don't have the influence they used to have," he said. "It's got to be one-on-one. You have to reach out to the individual."

He said the Church in the United States has reverted from a state of Christendom to something more like Apostolic Times.

"When I was growing up, there were 19 Dominican sisters in my grade school, there were three priests in the parish," he noted. "There were 21 seminarians just from my parish."

A priest could preach whatever he thought he needed to, and no one would challenge

him.

"Of course, you always said what Father should say," he noted. "Some took it to heart and became great Catholics, some floated around but weren't going to rock the boat, because 'this is Christendom and everyone just accepts that.'"

In Apostolic Times, Jesus's Apostles went out, filled with the passion of the Holy Spirit, and talked about Jesus Christ and His place in their life.

Some accepted the Good News, some walked away.

"Today, we're in a time of relativism, where 'your truth' and 'my truth' are not the same and I won't listen to you if you don't accept my truth," Archbishop Carlson observed. "That makes the role of the priest much more challenging."

It starts with inviting people to open their hearts to the love of Christ.



**Archbishop Emeritus Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis concelebrates Mass with other U.S. bishops from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome Jan. 14, 2020.**

— CNS photo/Paul Haring

"If we don't love, it's hard to minister," he said.

**Time well spent**

Priests of the diocese or ministering in this diocese are expected to take time out for a spiritual retreat each year.

This was one of two retreats the diocesan Ministry to Priests Committee organized for the priests in 2021.

Many who were present said it was one of the best retreats they've ever attended.

"I thought it was one of the best diocesan retreats I've been on," said one of the priests. "I heard the same from a number of other priests who were there."

Another lauded "the down-to-earth personal experience and honest challenges the archbishop incorporated into his presentations and reflections."

"He did a nice job speaking to us as a fellow priest," a priest stated.

"He was so open," another

priest said. "He gave us great sacramental theology."

"I found the retreat and the quiet and prayer time very uplifting," another priest stated. "And I always enjoy visiting time with the other diocesan priests as well."

"We really appreciated him and he seemed to really appreciate being with us," said another. "He said he really enjoyed being with this group of priests, who have a lot of care and concern for each other."

**Pray for priests**

Archbishop Carlson emphasized that priests need a lot of prayers.

"We expect them to pray for us, and we should also be praying for them," he said. "Sometimes, we forget they're human just like everybody else. And because they're human, they need prayer every single day."

Specifically, people should pray for their priests to be men of compassion and tenderness, who are close to the people they serve.

"I'm just stealing Pope Francis there, but it's true," Archbishop Carlson said.

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# Catholics across western Illinois diocese honor Venerable Father Augustine Tolton

By Andrew Hansen

About 135 Catholics and others devoted to the Venerable Servant of God Father Augustine Tolton, who was born in northeastern Missouri and grew up in Quincy, commemorated the 124th anniversary of his death with a pilgrimage procession in Quincy on July 9.

Fr. Tolton is recognized as the first Black priest in the United States and his cause for

the beatification and canonization of sainthood is ongoing in Rome.

The mile-long pilgrimage procession began at the statue of Fr. Tolton outside St. Peter Catholic School and ended at St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery, where Fr. Tolton's earthly remains are buried.

Upon entering the cemetery, the procession stopped at the grave of Fr. Tolton for the



**LEFT:** Father Daren Zehnle leads Evening Prayer July 9 at the grave of Fr. Tolton at St. Peter's Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois. **RIGHT:** Those devoted to Fr. Tolton process from St. Peter Catholic School in Quincy, Illinois, to St. Peter's Cemetery in Quincy where Fr. Tolton is buried. — Photo by Wayne Wienke

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celebration of Evening Prayer, which is composed of Psalms, a reading from Scripture, a homily and petitions.

Father Daren Zehnle, pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Ashland, Illinois, and a native of Quincy, preached.

“Turning our attention to the Psalms we have just prayed, the very same Psalms that Christ Jesus not only sang but

also lived, we can see how they took form also in the life of Father Gus, particularly in these words from the first Psalm we prayed: ‘My enemies whisper together against me’; ‘they all weigh up the evil which is on me’” (Psalm 41:7),” Fr. Zehnle said.

“There were those who whispered against ‘Father Gus’ when he was in slavery,” Fr.

Zehnle continued. “There were those who whispered against him when he was a schoolboy. There were those who whispered against him when he was teaching his fellow blacks about the Christian faith.

“There were those who whispered against him when he wanted to enter the seminary,” the priest continued. “And there were those who whispered against him when at last he was ordained a priest, forcing his removal from this Gem City.”

Despite those many whisperings, and even some shoutings, ‘Father Gus’ neither whispered nor shouted back.

“Why? Because he knew that the Lord God was his friend and trusted that he would ‘be unharmed and set in [God’s] presence for evermore,’” said Fr. Zehnle, echoing Psalm 41:11-12.

After Evening Prayer, the pilgrims prayed for an end to racism and for more priests through Fr. Tolton’s intercession, as well as for Fr. Tolton’s canonization as a saint.

The pilgrimage procession concluded with the singing of “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name,” which was Fr. Tolton’s favorite hymn.

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# FR. TOLTON

From page 12

Parish in Mattoon, Illinois, also honored Fr. Tolton on the anniversary of his death.

Father Peter Chineke, parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, blessed a recently completed Fr. Tolton statue, which now stands in the Immaculate Conception Parish Center in Mattoon. The new image, sculpted by Teresa Clark of Terre Haute, Indiana, will remain in the parish center until Fr. Tolton is beatified.

Then, the statue will be moved to the altar to join the St. Mother Theodore Guerin statue, also sculpted by Clark, in the sanctuary on the “Quincy” side of the reredos.

An original script, prepared especially for this event, “Tolton, My Life,” was read by its author, Patrick Coulton of Charleston, Illinois, and Deacon Paul Lesupati of the Mattoon parish. Immaculate Conception in has a personal connection to Fr. Tolton as in 1892, he came there to preach.

“There wouldn’t have been many African Americans in Mattoon at the time,” Father John Titus, the pastor, noted. “But Fr. Tolton was well re-



ceived and many, many people came to see him.”

Fr. Tolton was born into a family of slaves in Missouri in 1854 and was baptized in St. Peter Church in Brush Creek.

In 1862, his mother and siblings made a daring escape across the Mississippi River to Illinois.

After settling in Quincy, he went to school at St. Peter’s Catholic School.

He later went to seminary school in Rome because no American seminary would accept a Black man.

Thinking he would minister in Africa, once he was ordained, he was instead sent back to Quincy, where he arrived to thousands of supporters.

Known for his incredible singing and homilies, Fr. Tolton spent several years in Quincy before transferring to Chicago.



vice greet one another at the burial place of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois.

**RIGHT:** Father Peter Chineke (left), parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, Illinois, blesses a new statue of Father Augustine Tolton in the parish center at Immaculate Conception Parish in Mattoon, Illinois. Seminarian Phillip Gorrell is seen carrying the holy water. The statue was sculpted by Teresa Clark of Terre Haute, Indiana.

He died of heatstroke at the age of 43 on July 9, 1897, and is buried at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Quincy.

The Archdiocese of Chicago opened a formal sainthood cause for him in 2010.

Most recently, Pope Francis declared him “Venerable” on June 12, 2019, the second step of four to becoming a saint in the Catholic Church.



**LEFT:** The procession of admirers of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton arrive at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois. **RIGHT:** Participants in a prayer service greet one another at the burial place of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois.

— Photos by Tim Scherrer

— Photo by Carla Will

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## GRANDPARENTS

From page 1

unable to leave their homes for a serious reason, will unite themselves spiritually to the sacred functions of the World Day, offering to the merciful God their prayers, pains or sufferings of their lives," the Vatican said.

### Despite isolation

Pope Francis' message, which was distributed in writing and on video, acknowledged how much many older people around the world suffered and continue to suffer physically, emotionally and spiritually because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

But he also insisted that the Christian call to share the Gospel is as pertinent now for all of them as it ever was.

"Think about it: what is our vocation today, at our age? To preserve our roots, to pass on the faith to the young and to care for the little ones," he wrote. "Never forget this."

"It makes no difference how old you are, whether you still work or not, whether you are alone or have a family, whether you became a grandmother or grandfather at a young age or later, whether you are still independent or need assistance," he said. "There is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to your grandchildren. You just need to set out and undertake something new."

Pope Francis said he knew many older people might won-



This statue of St. Ann and her grandson, the child Jesus, adorns Immaculate Conception Church in Jefferson City.

— Photo by Jay Nies

der how they could be called to something new when their "energy is running out" or they cannot even leave the residence where they live. They may even ask, "Isn't my solitude already a sufficiently heavy burden?"

"You are needed in order to help build, in fraternity and social friendship, the world of tomorrow: the world in which we, together with our children and grandchildren, will live once the storm has subsided," the pope insisted.

A better future, he said, must be built on the pillars of "dreams, memory and prayer," pillars that "even the frailest

among us" can help erect with God's help.

While it is true that the energy and enthusiasm of the young is needed to help set the global society on a new path, "our dreams of justice, of peace, of solidarity can make it possible for our young people to have new visions," the pope wrote.

"You need to show that it is possible to emerge renewed from an experience of hardship," the pope stated. "I am sure that you have had more than one such experience: in your life you have faced any number of troubles and yet were able to pull through. Use those experiences to learn how to pull through now."

### Stories to tell

While many people, young and old, act as if the reminiscences of the elderly are boring, Pope Francis said that "without memory, however, we will never be able to build; without a foundation, we can never build a house. Never. And the foundation of life is memory."

As examples, the pope cited the experience many older people have had of war or of needing to emigrate.

Sharing "the painful memory of war," he said, is important "for helping the young to learn the value of peace."

"I also think of my own

grandparents, and those among you who had to emigrate and know how hard it is to leave everything behind, as so many people continue to do today, in hope of a future," he said. "Some of those people may even now be at our side, caring for us. These kinds of memory can help to build a more humane and welcoming world."

### Power of prayer

Turning to the importance of prayer, Pope Francis cited "my predecessor, Pope Benedict, himself a saintly elderly person who con-

tinues to pray and work for the Church" at the age of 94.

"The prayer of the elderly can protect the world, helping it perhaps more effectively than the frenetic activity of many others," the pope quoted his predecessor as saying. "He spoke those words in 2012, toward the end of his pontificate. There is something beautiful here."

"Your prayer is a very precious resource: a deep breath that the Church and the world urgently need," Pope Francis told the elderly. "Especially in these difficult times for our human family, as we continue to sail in the same boat across the stormy sea of the pandemic, your intercession for the world and for the Church has great value: it inspires in everyone the serene trust that we will soon come to shore."

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated annually on the fourth Sunday of July, beginning this year on July 25.

## Prayer for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

I thank You, Lord,  
for the comfort of Your presence:  
even in times of loneliness,  
You are my hope and my confidence,  
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family  
and for having blessed me with a long life.  
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,  
for the dreams that have already come true in my life  
and for those that are still ahead of me.

I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness  
to which You call me.  
Increase, O Lord, my faith,  
make me a channel of Your peace,  
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,  
to never stop dreaming  
and to tell of Your wonders to new generations.

Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,  
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth.  
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,  
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,  
the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness  
and help me to live life to the full  
in each moment that You give me,  
in the certainty that You are with me every day,  
even until the end of the age.  
Amen.

## A moment to reconnect

By Msgr. Marion Makarewicz

On Sunday, July 25 — the day before the Commemoration of Ss. Joachim and Anne — the Church will celebrate the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

I hope that each of us can take time on that day to make a personal visit to a grandparent or an elderly person and share the grace of the day.

The day should remind us of the special burdens that the elderly carry, especially the outsized effect of the pandemic on their health and social bonds.

The pastoral notes that accompany the promotion of the day challenge us all to learn from our experiences of these past 18 months. We have all become more aware of the problem of isolation and neglect in our communities.

This day can be the path to reintegration and outreach, making our communities greater centers of charity and compassion.

*Msgr. Makarewicz is pastor of Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville and the Mission of St. Rose of Lima in Novinger.*

# Spending bills without Hyde seen as move to expand abortion

By Julie Asher

Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

In eliminating the Hyde Amendment in spending bills for fiscal year 2022, the “pro-abortion” Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee “destroy over 40 years of previously unprecedented bipartisan support for a measure aimed at saving human lives,” said the president of National Right to Life.

“This is a campaign by pro-abortion Democrats to ensure that abortion is available on demand, for any reason, at any time and paid for with taxpayer dollars,” Carol Tobias said.

She made the comments late July 15 after the committee marked up the legislation.

“The most egregious aspect of the bill presented today is the removal of the Hyde Amendment, which protects lives and prohibits taxpayer funding of abortion,” said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Oklahoma, during the markup session.

Hyde first became law in 1976 to prohibit federal funds appropriated through the Labor Department, the Health and Human Services Department and related agencies from being used to cover abortion or fund health plans that cover abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the woman would be endangered.

Hyde has been reenacted in spending bills every year since it was first passed.

House Democrats said they had planned to keep Hyde out of spending bills because President Joe Biden released his proposed budget May 28 without the amendment, according to an ABC News report.

ABC quoted House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro, D-Connecticut, as saying at a July 12 hearing of the committee: “Allowing the Hyde Amendment to remain on the books is a disservice to our constituents. We are finally doing what is right for our mothers, our families and our communities by striking this discriminatory amendment once and for all.”

DeLauro, like President Biden, is a Catholic who supports keeping abortion legal.

Jennifer Popik, legislative

director of National Right to Life, cited data showing that Hyde has “saved over 2 million American lives” since 1976.

“The Hyde Amendment has proven to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress,” she added in a statement.

Also missing from the appropriations bills was Weldon Amendment language to protect the conscience rights of medical providers and prevent them from being forced to participate in an abortion.

Rep. Andy Harris, R-Maryland, who is Catholic, told the committee members: “I will tell you as a practicing physician, the Weldon Amendment is incredibly important at protecting people with deeply held conscience and religious beliefs from being forced to participate in something they don’t agree with.”

Another Catholic member of Congress, Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, issued a statement July 15 lamenting the move by House Democrats to break from the decades of bipartisan consensus on Hyde “to advance legislation that would force U.S. taxpayers to pay for abortion on demand.”

The majority of the American people remain opposed to forcing taxpayers to fund elective abortion, said Smith.

“Polling consistently shows that a majority of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion — nearly six in 10,” he said, citing a recent a Marist poll. “Another eight in 10 Americans think laws can protect both the well-being of a woman and the health of her unborn child.”

Smith, who is co-chair of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, and many other pro-life leaders have noted how Biden as a senator always supported the Hyde Amendment.

In a 1994 letter to a constituent, he said that “on no fewer than 50 occasions,” he had voted against federal funding of abortions. “Those of us who are opposed to abortion should not be compelled to pay for them,” he said. In a 2007 memoir, he similarly stated he similarly said he was against federal funding of abortion.

In June 2019, President Biden declared he no longer

supported the Hyde Amendment. The *New York Times* quoted him as saying: “If I believe health care is a right, as I do, I can no longer support an amendment that makes that right dependent on someone’s ZIP code. I can’t justify leaving millions of women without access to the care they need and the ability to exercise their constitutionally protected right.”

The “ZIP code” reference was in relation to his opposition to the efforts in a number of states to enact restrictions on abortion.

Smith is the author of the

No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2021, or H.R. 18, which would make Hyde and similar provisions permanent. He has 166 co-sponsors.

Over the past couple of months, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB’s) committee chairman, individual bishops, the head of the Catholic Health Association and several pro-life organizations, including March for Life, the Susan B. Anthony List, National Right to Life and Students for Life of Amer-

ica have called on Americans to write to their members of Congress demanding the Hyde Amendment be included in spending bills.

The USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities is asking Catholics and all “people of goodwill” to sign an online petition, *notaxpayerabortion.com*, urging Congress not to let federal funds be used to pay for abortions.

The petition, “Save Hyde. Save Lives,” will be sent to members of Congress and staff. As of late July 16, the petition had 121,000 signatures.

## St. Joseph, migrant spouse and father

By Hosffman Ospino

Catholic News Service

Pope Francis has invited Catholics to focus our attention this year on St. Joseph, patron of the universal Church.

I commend him for this invitation.

I have always been fascinated about how much Christians have said throughout the centuries about someone for whom we have no record of having said anything! Our Catholic imagination is creative.

I have been reading some books and articles about St. Joseph and have arrived at two conclusions.

On the one hand, we must not assume that the silence of the Scriptures about his words means that Joseph did not say anything. As I meditate upon the few scenes in the Bible that mention Joseph, I bet he said a lot in prayer, his interactions with his beloved Mary and their discernment about building a life together.

I am sure he had much to say when anxious to find shelter as his wife was about to give birth, when he had to flee to Egypt to protect his family and in the everyday interactions at home raising the child Jesus.

On the other hand, most of what we know and can infer about Joseph comes from what we extrapolate from his relationships with Mary and Jesus, as well as his actions toward them.

In my own reflection about Joseph, I want to be cautious about not idealizing him to a point at which one cannot relate to him at all. There are so many reflections about Joseph, all written with the best intentions, that tend to downplay his humanity. Projecting Joseph as an almost angelic being or nearly perfect human takes the inspiration away.

His relationships and actions reveal a man in love with his wife and child, ready to do anything possible to ensure their well-being. Life throws us curveballs all the time, and Joseph had to handle quite a few in the handful of scriptural



passages where he appears.

I am particularly drawn to the events associated with the flight to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-23). There Joseph, spouse and father, becomes an immigrant, a refugee. As an immigrant myself and as someone regularly working with immigrants in ministry, the story hits home.

In his December 2020 apostolic letter “*Patris Corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”),

Pope Francis wisely brings our attention to this moment in the life of Joseph as he risks everything in order to protect what he loves most, his family:

“The Holy Family had to face concrete problems like every other family, like so many of our migrant brothers and sisters who, today too, risk their lives to escape misfortune and hunger. In this regard, I consider St. Joseph the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty” (No. 5).

Contemplating the lives of many immigrant men who are part of my life, fathers and husbands, I grow in my appreciation of St. Joseph and what he could have said.

He must have said goodbye to friends and relatives. He must have worried how he was going to support his family. He most likely learned a few words to get by in the language of the new land. He surely must have lost sleep thinking about the safety of his family in a society that treated them as foreigners.

As an immigrant, I am sure that Joseph prayed aloud and in silence. He must have cried while expressing his frustrations. I can imagine having to explain himself to others many times; bless and curse; defend and justify. How do I know this? Because I have. I have also seen many immigrant fathers and husbands do likewise.

*Ospino is professor of theology and religious education at Boston College.*



By Father Don Antweiler

### ACROSS

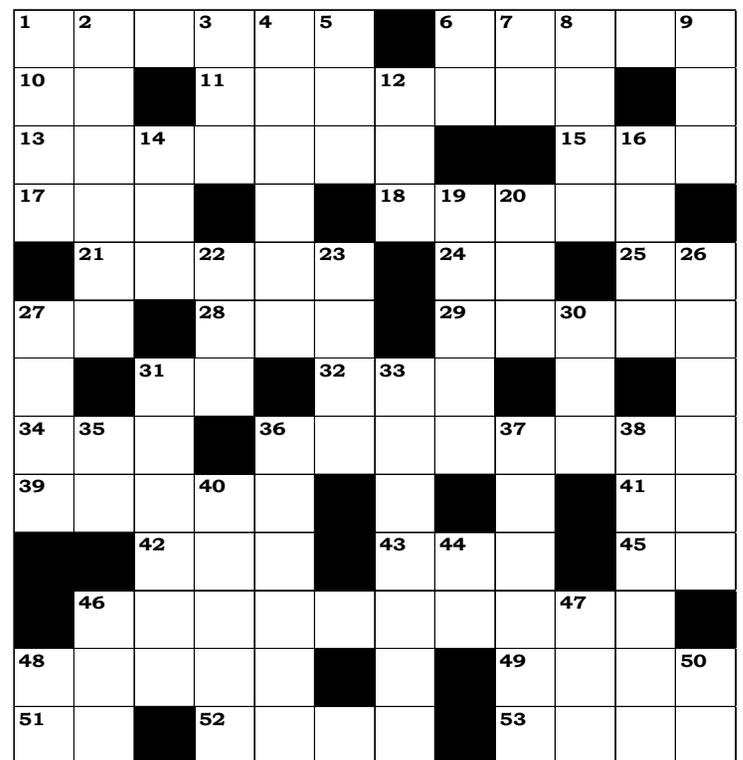
1. Prior to the Am. Revolutionary War, Catholics were persecuted in every \_\_\_\_\_. (All themed clues are from *The Return of George Washington*, 1783-1789; Edward J. Larson.)
6. Place for arriving/departing trains or buses.
10. "I am the Bread \_\_\_\_ Life;" —Catholic hymn by Sister Suzanne Toolan; she wrote it for a San Francisco archdiocesan event in 1964, during a free period between the high school classes she taught.
11. I asked my \_\_\_\_ look in on my mom while I was gone (2 wds.).
13. Massachusetts had made it a capital \_\_\_\_ (!) for priests to even to say Mass, much less proselytize.
15. Where the ante goes.
17. "If we are not to \_\_\_\_ when we call ourselves 'Christians,' we must bear witness to it by our way of living." —St. Gregory of Nyssa, bishop, 335-395 A.D., *Treatise on Christian Perfection*.
18. This massive anti-Catholic prejudice came partly from Protestant England's long warfare with Catholic France, which softened but wasn't \_\_\_\_ when France became an ally during the Revolutionary War.
21. I always like to get my two \_\_\_\_ worth into any argument.
24. Letters for *Entertainment Weekly*; a now monthly magazine that covers popular culture.
25. He carried the same exact name as his father and so was entitled to add \_\_\_\_ after his name.
27. Kool-Aid was invented in this State in the town of Hastings in 1927 (abbr.).
28. "The \_\_\_\_ that mocks a father or scorns an aged mother will be plucked out by ravens in the valley..." (Proverbs 30:17).
29. "We've become a world of children, with all the \_\_\_\_ of children, such as immediate small pleasures, shrill insistence, tantrums and invectives against all authority," —Grandchild Rose, from *Grandmother and the Priests*, by Taylor Caldwell.
31. Letters on a medical notepad meaning Family History.
32. One of the Three Stooges.
34. Padre \_\_\_\_; Italian friar, priest, stigmatist and mystic; 1887-1968; famous for receiving the stigmata early in life, bilocation, spiritual knowledge.
36. With the anti-Catholic bias in the individual States, it was a singular event when, on the first Sunday of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787, the delegates chose to attend Catholic Mass. Though done out of \_\_\_\_ and curiosity and not "compliment," and not well re-

ceived by all, it gave hope to Catholics.

39. Showers in this month bring flowers in the next.
41. It precedes the NT.
42. Wildebeest.
43. Kansas City is famous for its great \_\_\_\_-B-Q.
45. \_\_\_\_7; James Bond designation.
46. The Sunday after Washington had been elected President of the Constitutional Convention, he led a \_\_\_\_ of leading Philadelphia Protestants to Mass at St. Mary's Chapel. His attendance and leadership sent a clear message.
48. Student at Mexico Military Academy in Mexico, Mo.
49. City in Normandy, France that was the scene of heavy destructive fighting as part of the WW II D-Day invasion of Europe.
51. Prefix for venture or verb.
52. "...while (the man) was asleep, God \_\_\_\_ out one of his ribs..." (Genesis 2:21).
53. I prefer a person who \_\_\_\_ on the side of compassion rather than holding a strict accounting.

### DOWN

1. "Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and \_\_\_\_ my tongue..." (Luke 16:24).
2. Catholics could not vote or hold public \_\_\_\_ anywhere, not even in Maryland, founded as a haven for Catholics, nor tolerant Rhode Island where even atheists had rights.
3. "If (suffering) is the only way Christ can transform me, \_\_\_\_ of His friends, into His loving Presence on earth, I say, bring on the suffering," —"Joy in the Midst of Hardship"; online *Catholic Stand* newsletter; Melanie Jean Juneau, 2018.
4. "Or can Sarah give birth at \_\_\_\_?" (Genesis 17:17).
5. Oui in New York.
6. Prefix for liver or brief.



7. Alien.
8. Anti-Catholic prejudice was also deeply rooted in the widespread Protestant perception that all Catholics obeyed the \_\_\_\_ and his worldwide network of priests on all matters both spiritual and temporal.
9. Small child.
12. Average grade.
14. \_\_\_\_-fi-fo-fum.
16. Garfield's doggie friend.
19. "It \_\_\_\_ does any real good to forget. It is best to remember, and then try to forgive," —Fr. Shayne; *Grandmother and the Priests*; Taylor Caldwell.
20. Drinking and driving ticket.
22. One of the "historic" books of the Bible, after Ezra and before Tobit (abbr.).
23. Acronym for Southeast Mo. State univ. in Cape Girardeau; est. 1873; 10,000+ students.
26. "But \_\_\_\_ you, whoever is angry with his brother..." —Matthew 5:22 (3 wds.).
27. California wine valley.
30. \_\_\_\_ Guevara; Argentine Marxist revolutionary in the 1960's; major figure of the Cuban revolution; a popular cultural symbol of rebellion.
31. During the Revolutionary War, Washington had welcomed both French and Polish Catholics as American officers (Lafayette, Pulaski, etc.) and \_\_\_\_ lasting friendships with them.
33. "Eve was created within the lush beauty of Eden's garden. But Adam was created outside the garden, in the wilderness. Man was born in the \_\_\_\_, the untamed part of creation," —*Wild at Heart*; John Eldredge.
35. Your \_\_\_\_ address (Internet Protocol) identifies your computer from all others and makes internet communications possible.
36. We gave him a good \_\_\_\_ start the scavenger hunt so he would have a chance (2 wds.).
37. Common word in Shakespeare (e.g., "Macbeth," "Romeo and Juliet," "Much Ado About Nothing"), though now archaic, meaning 3 times.
38. Oklahoman.
40. The Murrells \_\_\_\_ off the coast of S. Carolina leads to the long-ago lair of the infamous pirate Blackbeard.
44. Here's looking back \_\_\_\_ cha!
46. "Being a \_\_\_\_ means being comfortable with the word hero," —Ryan Reynolds.
47. Rowboat propulsion tool.
48. The Golden State (abbr.).
50. Letters for Nova Scotia; Canadian Province where a filmed massive treasure hunt on Oak Island has become the most popular show on the History Channel.

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## STEWARDSHIP

From page 1

throughout the diocese animated her heart.

"I want to help people become closer to God and be able to live out their faith better," she said.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and several advisers evaluated each candidate's credentials.

The bishop then set up a one-on-one interview with Mrs. Lutz and offered her the job.

She will serve as a resource to parishes as the diocese continues to move toward a stewardship model.

She will provide training to pastors, parish staff, school staff and parish volunteers who will serve in leadership roles on parish stewardship councils.

These councils will work in each parish to promote the pillars of stewardship: hospitality, prayer, formation and service.

Mrs. Lutz intends to provide a centralized location for parishes to gain access to the tools they need to educate, motivate and engage their parishioners to be active participants in the community and in the Eucharist.

"My hope is that through the Holy Spirit, we will create a hospitable, prayerful environment in each parish that is built on a solid foundation of formation and service," she said.

### "Something new"

Mrs. Lutz chose to be Catholic.

Her mother grew up Catholic, became Protestant and eventually returned to being Catholic.

Mrs. Lutz took part in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and became Catholic around the time she got married.

"I didn't join the Church because I got married," she pointed out. "I joined the Church because I wanted to."

In fact, she had already been moving toward becoming Catholic before she met Mr. Lutz.

Her father was agnostic but celebrated with her when she entered the Church.

"He raised me to be an independent thinker and respected my choice," Mrs. Lutz

noted. "And he had a lot of respect for my husband."

She has learned that faith is a constant journey.

"You learn something new every day," she noted.

For instance, she didn't truly appreciate what the Eucharist is until she and Mr. Lutz served as chaperones at a Catholic youth conference sponsored by Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

"I had never experienced Adoration until then," she stated. "That's when it finally hit me: 'Wow! THIS is the Body and Blood of our Lord!'"

### Nine headings

Mrs. Lutz started out with Special Olympics Missouri as an administrative assistant.

She became steadfast in promoting the organization's mission of helping people with disabilities train and compete at a level that helps them achieve their full potential.

She and Mr. Lutz went about balancing their roles as parents, active Ss. Peter & Paul parishioners and boosters and facilitators of the Special Olympics.

Their daughter, Rachel, a senior majoring in special education at Missouri State University in Springfield, caught on to the stewardship mindset. She attended five Steubenville youth conferences as a participant and served as a chaperone on two more. She helped with Vacation Bible School at their parish and served as a *Totus Tuus* youth missionary for two years. She now serves on the peer ministry team for faith formation with Catholic Campus Ministry at MSU.

Mrs. Lutz worked her way up to vice president of programs — managing grants, working with young people and overseeing the entire program staff who deliver the mission of Special Olympics to the athletes.

She held eight titles in the course of her time with the organization.

"They say my ninth title will be volunteer," she stated. "The athletes and the volunteers are amazing. They know I want to stay connected."

### Consistent message

Mrs. Lutz and her husband have become more active in the life of the Church since he began discerning a possible calling to the permanent diaconate.

They were together at a meeting of aspirants for the diaconate and their wives when they heard Fr. Jones's presentation on stewardship.

"I'm thoroughly convinced that it was a God thing, part of God's plan," said Mrs. Lutz. "Because it fits

in really well with what I'm passionate about and with my husband and me committing more of our time and talent to the Church."

She noted that her parish has been actively promoting stewardship for about 10 years.

"It's been kind of a way of life for us as parishioners," she said. "We're fortunate in that we've had pastors who are very much agents of change and are very supportive."

She has found that people have a much easier time accepting change when they understand why it's important.

"People want to know why," she said. "If you have the basis of the 'why' and it's something you consistently share in a message to everyone, your message is going to have a positive effect."

All the more so when people see that message being put into practice, in season and out.

"People will respond to you if they see you truly making an effort to be a disciple of Christ and living a stewardship way of life," she said.

### Team effort

Fr. Jones talked about some of the things that made Mrs. Lutz an ideal candidate for her new role.

"She and her husband are imbued in the life of their local parish — a pro-stewardship parish — and have a willingness to grow in knowledge of what stewardship is theologically," he said.

"She has great people skills," he added. "And she's a doer with a proven track record



Brian, Rachel and Patricia Lutz gather for a photo in their home.

of being able to accomplish goals."

Fr. Jones is excited about working with Mrs. Lutz on day-to-day tasks and on bringing big ideas to fruition.

"It's a team effort with a shared goal in mind," said Mrs. Lutz, "which is implementing the bishop's vision for stewardship."

That vision is for the members of every parish to adopt a stewardship mindset and to pledge one-tenth of their time, talent and treasure to their parish.

Each parish, in turn, will tithe their offertory collections to the diocese, which assists all parishes in their ministries.

Once people start recognizing the fruits of putting their faith into action in this manner, "they're going to get really excited about what they see," Mrs. Lutz predicted.

### A necessary response

For the past year, Fr. Jones has been visiting parishes on weekends, preaching and teaching about stewardship and its inseparability from the call to discipleship, and meeting with all the people involved in the leadership of the parish.

"I talk to them about being active participants in their parish life and how becoming more educated in their faith is going to help them grow closer to God and be able to live a joyful life," he said.

He emphasized that stewardship is an ongoing response to the invitation to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

"Authentic stewardship is about our response to the love that God has shown us — the gifts He has freely bestowed on us," he said. "It is about our faith, our trust and our response to an encounter with the living God, which unites us to Him."

It is what motivates followers of Christ to invest themselves fully in becoming disciples — followers of Christ — and in making disciples.

"It is the difference between being faithful Catholics and faith-filled Catholics," Fr. Jones noted.

He and Mrs. Lutz will now work together on teaching stewardship committees at each parish how to carry-out their mission.

Parish stewardship committees will assess the available talent in the parish and help find practical, achievable ways to channel it into service for God and one another.

The parishes Fr. Jones has visited have received the message well.

"Once they hear what it's all about, the people are like, 'Okay! Let's go, let's do it,'" he said. "They know the why, so they say, 'We're on board. This is our Catholic faith.'"

### The long view

Mrs. Lutz asked for prayers for guidance and patience as she takes up this new opportunity to serve God.

"It's not a sprint, it's a marathon," she noted. "It's going to take a while to see the fruits of all of our work."

She's confident it will be well worth the work and the wait.

"You're going to have truly active parishioners who are on fire with the Holy Spirit, who want to give of their time and talent and share those gifts with others," she said.

"This our calling," she stated. "It's what we're created to do, to love and serve one another. And the Holy Spirit is going to fill us with inspiration."

Need more info about an event or want to see more events?  
Visit the diocesan EVENT CALENDAR at [diojeffcity.org/events](http://diojeffcity.org/events).  
Want your event listed?  
Fill out the ONLINE FORM at [diojeffcity.org/event-listing](http://diojeffcity.org/event-listing).

## Fundraisers & Social Events

Jul. 25

**Bahner, RESCHEDULED** St. John Chapel annual ice cream social, 5:30 pm; **St. Elizabeth**, St. Elizabeth Community Picnic, 11 am-6:30 pm, Community Center

Jul. 31

**Centralia**, Holy Spirit Parish St. Anne Sodality garage sale, 8 am-noon

Aug. 1

**Osage Bend**, St. Margaret of Antioch Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 5-6

**Holts Summit**, St. Andrew NCYC rummage sale, 7:30 am-6 pm

Aug. 7

**Freeburg**, Holy Family K of C seafood shindig, 5-8 pm

Aug. 8

**Belle**, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am; **Rich Fountain**, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 13

**Montgomery City**, K of C drive-thru fish fry, 4:30-6:30 pm

Aug. 15

**St. Thomas**, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 21

**Fulton**, St. Peter Parish golf tournament, 1 pm, Tanglewood Golf Course, for info email [smaupin@hgreprs.com](mailto:smaupin@hgreprs.com)

Aug. 22

**Eldon**, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-6 pm

## Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

7-8 Agosto

**Marshall**, Retiro de Jovenes, Iglesia de San Pedro, favor de inscribirse llamado a Marcelino Chavez al 660-631-3748

## Meetings & Conferences

Aug. 11

**VIRTUAL**, Catholic Charities refugee resettlement program orientation, 5:30-6:30 pm, for info or to register, contact Diana Twombly at 573-442-7568 or [dtwombly@cccnm.org](mailto:dtwombly@cccnm.org)

## Liturgical

Jul. 25

**Mexico**, Sung Latin Mass, noon, St. Brendan Church

Jul. 31

**Columbia**, Profession of candidate Terrie Foltz to the Secular Franciscan Order, 5 pm Mass, St. Thomas More Newman Center

Aug. 15

**Mexico**, Sung Latin Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, noon, St. Brendan Church

## Retreats & Spiritual Renewal

Aug. 6-8

**Moberly**, Engaged Encounter weekend, St. Pius X Parish, for info or to register visit [diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/engaged-encounter](http://diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/engaged-encounter)

Aug. 30-31

**California/Tipton**, Annunciation & St. Andrew Parishes mini-mission, with Tim Francis & Donna Cori, 6:30-9 pm each evening; Tim Francis at St. Andrew on Mon. and Annunciation on Tues; Donna Cori at Annunciation on Mon. and St. Andrew on Tues.

## Youth & Young Adults

Jul. 24

**Laurie**, "Courage" youth pilgrimage with Maggie Craig, 8 am-5:30 pm, National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, for info visit [thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com](http://thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com)

Jul. 31

**Jefferson City**, JP2 Young Adults Summer BBQ, 5-11 pm, Memorial Park Pavilion, for info email [alloch92@gmail.com](mailto:alloch92@gmail.com)

Aug. 2-6

**Jefferson City**, Ancient Rome "Summa Camp" for grade school students, 7:30 am-5 pm each day, St. Peter Interparish School, for info or to register email [mrehagen@heliascatholic.com](mailto:mrehagen@heliascatholic.com)

## Health & Wellness

Jul. 25

**Columbia**, Blood drive, 8 am-1 pm, St. Thomas More Newman Center MPR

# Parish representatives needed for Diocesan Women's Council

*LeAnn Korsmeyer, diocesan director of parish and charitable services, which includes the Office of Women's Ministry, submitted the following invitation:*

Throughout Scripture, we see how God placed women together in relationships to encourage one another and find a place of retreat. Just as God sent Mary to Elizabeth

and Ruth to Naomi, He continues to place women together for mutual support, accountability and friendship.

We especially know that Christ-centered friendships are vital to our growth and endurance as Christians.

The Office of Women's Ministry is in the process of forming a Women's Ministry Council. This is not to be

confused with the National Council of Catholic Women, but instead this will be a stand-alone Diocese of Jefferson City Women's Council.

In each of the five deaneries, women will come together two times a year.

With a very organized agenda, we will discuss our hopes, vision and goals for the ministry.

Our women representatives will help guide, direct and implement women's ministry

activities, programs and events within their respective parishes and deaneries.

As we become organized, we will focus our goals into an action plan which includes networking and sharing resources for women's ministries.

Each parish has an opportunity to be represented on the council by two women parishioners.

In particular, we need Spirit-led women who are strong in their Catholic faith, who

have gifts of organization and hospitality and who will encourage other women to use the gifts God has given them to serve others.

If you are interested in serving as a representative from your parish, please contact LeAnn Korsmeyer, Director of Parish and Charitable Services at [lkorsmeyer@diojeffcity.org](mailto:lkorsmeyer@diojeffcity.org) or 573-636-9127, ext. 222.

A recommendation letter from your pastor is required to serve on the council.

## FR. DOYLE

From page 8

And the last line of the psalm lauds God's triumphal reign: "The generation to come will be told of the Lord, that they may proclaim to a people yet unborn the deliverance you have brought."

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

### Prayer for a Communion of Desire

My Jesus, I believe 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.

## CALDAROLA

From page 9

cannonball shattered his leg.

Amid the intense pain and boredom of recuperation in a family castle, Íñigo yearned for something to read, hoping for the popular romance novels of chivalry. Fortunately for us, this particular castle was all out of pulp fiction, so the young knight read instead the lives of the saints and Scripture.

That's when Ignatius' life really began. The cannonball moment led to conversion. And there's so much to learn from his life, especially his development of the Spiritual Exercises, which have changed the lives of so many.

During the past 14 months, I've been doing the 19th annotation of the Spiritual Exercises, led by a trained director. The Spiritual Exercises

can be done in the formal format of 30 days at a retreat house. But the 19th annotation provides a way to do them over a much longer time, fitting into our regular lives. Just add time for prayer, discernment and a good spiritual director.

However, there are also many books and online sites that delve into the Spiritual Exercises. Our parish is offering a retreat during July (Ignatius' feast day is July 31) using *Ascending with Ignatius: A 30-Day at-Home Retreat*, a book by Jesuit Father Mark Thibodeaux, which can be ordered online. It's a great intro to Ignatian spirituality.

For those of us stay-at-home pilgrims, with St. Ignatius' help the book might just be our own cannonball moment.

## Anniversaries

**Argyle, St. Aloysius**  
Rick & Laure Falter, 43 years  
Derek & Abby Havens, 22 years  
Frank & Aggie Nuetzler, 13 years  
Brad & Rachel Heimericks, 11 years

**Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul**  
Gene & Emilie Herigon, 56 years  
Bill & Glenda Richey, 55 years  
Logan & Elizabeth Pfeiffer, 51 years  
Bruce & Darlene Smith, 51 years  
Earl & Cindy Felten, 46 years  
Robert & Karen Gerke, 46 years  
M.L. & Carol Cauthon, 45 years  
Danny & June Taft, 45 years  
Kevin & Nancy Hyland, 43 years  
Jeffrey & Carla Brengarth, 42 years  
Terry & Joyce Davis, 40 years  
Dave & Sue Miller, 40 years  
Darrell & Rhonda Kusgen, 35 years  
Scott & Joyce Storjohann, 35 years  
Kerry & Connie Shipman, 33 years  
Gary & Mary Leathers, 32 years  
Rich & Dawn Kuster, 31 years  
Donald & Joann Schupp, 31 years  
Andy & Kris Stodgel, 31 years  
Ardan & Stacie Eichelberger, 30 years  
Phillip & Lori Imhoff, 29 years  
Tim & Betty Edwards, 27 years  
Lynn & Robby Harvey, 26 years

**Brookfield, Immaculate Conception**  
John & Kay Osterman, 48 years  
Carol & Mary Ann Sensenich, 45 years  
Donald & Angie Downey, 27 years  
Lee & Melinda Wilbeck, 23 years  
Glen & Barbara Hayes, 19 years  
Curtis & Rachel Hays, 11 years

**Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels**  
Bryan & Wilma Rowden, 37 years  
Donnie & Kathy Hale, 22 years  
Timothy & Crystal Wiebert, 13 years

**Fayette, St. Joseph**  
Allen & Connie Hackman, 42 years  
Benji & Sandy Dorson, 20 years  
Clinton & Carlei Wies, 13 years  
Tim & Sabrina Flaspohler, 12 years

**Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians**  
Don & Betty Stieferman, 60 years

**Jefferson City, St. Peter**  
Gary & Shirley Arnel, 50 years

**Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake**  
Duke & Mary Dorge, 62 years

**Martinsburg, St. Joseph**  
Cletus & Freda Deimeke, 63 years  
Bob & Sharon Cope, 46 years  
Ron & Sherri Deimeke, 36 years  
Bob & Denise Becker, 34 years  
Jeff & Patty Fennewald, 34 years  
Jon & Dana Robnett, 24 years

**Montgomery City, Immaculate Conception**  
Jerry & Nancy Fischer, 28 years

**Russellville, St. Michael**  
Mike & Loretta Broker, 57 years  
Robin & Judy McFarland, 53 years  
Dave & Carol Trimeloni, 50 years  
Dave & Karen Phillips, 49 years  
Martin & Mary E. Hummel, 45 years  
Mike & Marlene Kirchner, 38 years  
Jeff & Linda Jansen, 34 years  
Randy & Rhonda Briot, 31 years  
Chuck & Anne Brennecke, 29 years  
Ken & Sharon Murphy, 14 years

**St. Martins, St. Martin**  
Flavian & Jean Volmert, 65 years

**St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle**  
Al & Jan Carter, 50 years

**Salisbury, St. Joseph**  
John & Dorothy Boss, 45 Years

**Vienna, Visitation**  
Bob & Sheri Stormer, 53 years  
Fred & Kay Ragan, 48 years  
Randy & Brenda Swyers, 38 years  
Kevin & Robin Wieberg, 22 years

## Birthdays

Palmyra, St. Joseph — **Agnes V. Buckman**, her 100th on Aug. 10

## Deaths

**Maria T. Berry**, 43 — daughter of Deacon Kenneth Berry, who assists the pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Edina — on July 7. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 12 in St. Joseph Church in Edina.

**Mary W. Rackers**, 85 — wife of Deacon Robert Rackers, retired director of the diocesan Diaconate Office — on July 9. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 13 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City.

Bevier, Sacred Heart — **John L. Sawtell**

California, Annunciation — **Joan W. Colozza**

Camdenton, St. Anthony — **Jane Sanderson**

Chamois, Most Pure Heart of Mary — **Carol A. Keilholz**

Cuba, Holy Cross — **Theresa Hopkins**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Shirley A. Kempker**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Betty Jo "B.J." DeLong, Velma R. Renkemeyer, Deborah Scheppers**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Wanda L. Buechter**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **Leonard Komers, Joseph Schutzenhofer**

Linn, St. George — **Steve Laffoon, Roseline Voss**

Macon, Immaculate Conception — **Bonnie Bruno**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Bernice E. Sporedler**

Meta, St. Cecilia — **Florentine E. Hagenhoff**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Linda Schulte**

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Enrique Buso, Shirley Collins, Betty Smasal**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Judith A. Schenewerk**

Westphalia, St. Joseph — **Kennedy Marie Luebbert**

## Baptisms

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Luka Alexander Brune**, son of Jacob & Taylor Brune; **Emerson and Jonathan Penn**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Thomas Isidore Pund**, son of Jonathon & Anna Pund

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Charles David Rackers; Grayden Thomas Redel**

Marceline, St. Bonaventure — **Ellie Lee Krumpelman**, daughter of Charles & Lindsay Krumpelman

Marshall, St. Peter — **Alex Mercado Garcia**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Natalie Louise Dickneite**, daughter of Stephen & Brianna Dickneite; **Sutton James Luetkemeyer**, son of Russell & Karley Luetkemeyer

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Reese Stegeman**, daughter of Tyler & Kelsey Stegeman

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Amelia Gene Hopkins**, daughter of Matt & Rachel Hopkins

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Brooks Henke**, son of Derek & Hailey Henke

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Falyn Louise Niemeier**, daughter of Luke & Alyssa Niemeier

## Sacraments of Initiation

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **Fiona C. Nowicki, Marley G. Nowicki, Cherie D. Yow**

## Elections

**Franciscan Sister Renita Brummer**, former director of the Rolla Newman Center, to a five-year term on the Congregational Leadership Team for the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, effective July 1

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Lynette Keegan, Clinton Kliethermes, Cyril Ohiemu, Kelly Wheeler**, new members; **Mary Jo Creech**, president; **Brad Korman**, vice president; **Janelle Lutz**, secretary, of the Parish Pastoral Council

Folk, St. Anthony of Padua — **Adrian Heckman, Brian Scheppers, Karen Veit**, to the Parish Pastoral Council

Frankenstein, Our Lady Help of Christians — **Edith Kirsch**, president; **Sarah Koenigsfeld**, secretary; **Janet Stiefermann**, treasurer, of the Ladies Sodality

Glasgow, Knights of Columbus Satolli Council 1752 — **Joe Morris**, grand knight

Hannibal, Holy Family — **Amelia Johnson, Tim Maguire**, to the School Advisory Board

Indian Creek, St. Stephen — **Lee Anderson, Matt Hays**, to the Parish Pastoral Council

Jefferson City, Knights of Columbus Dan C. Coppin Fourth Degree Assembly 573 — **Vic Rackers**, faithful navigator; **Richard G. Anderson**, faithful comptroller; **Father Richard Frank**, faithful friar; **Mark Rehagen**, faithful captain; **Brent Cain**, faithful admiral; **Gary Meyer**, faithful purser; **Sam Orr**, faithful pilot; **Scott Sellner**, faithful scribe; **Mike Flanagan, Alan Mengwasser**, sentinels; **Brent Cain, Gary Eggen, John Lansford**, trustees; Ladies Auxiliary — **Eileen Rackers**, president; **Susan Rehagen**, vice president; **Carol Meyer**, secretary

Jefferson City, Knights of Columbus Fr. Helias Council 1054 — **Gary Eggen**, president; **Vic Rackers, Pat Schaefer, Rory Stegeman**, new members of the Home Association Board

Lake Ozark, Knights of Columbus Council 9273 — **John Akscin**, grand knight; **Wes Wilson**, deputy grand knight; **Mike Scherer**, chancellor; **John Weidler**, recorder; **Larry Bayliss**, financial secretary; **David Miller**, treasurer; **Tom Lorraine**, advocate; **Billy Hilt**, warden; **David Hotop, David Kneefter**, guards; **Charles Cassmeyer, Gary Chaput, Luke Graessle**, trustees; Ladies Auxiliary — **Karen Blevins**, president; **Theresa Brown**, vice president; **Lusica Hankins**, treasurer; **Marilee Poulter**, secretary; **Colleen Parise**, sergeant of arms; **Arlene Cordaro**, parliamentarian; **Karen Chaput, Melodi Graessle, Annette Miller**, trustees

Meta, St. Cecilia — **Emily Libbert, Joanne Schroeder, Janice Schanzmeyer, Katie Werdehausen**, to the Parish Pastoral Council

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Troy Wieberg**, to the Parish Pastoral Council

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Kathy Jarman, Mariam Kuensting, Larry Lehman**, to the Parish Pastoral Council; **Christy Carel, Heather Heberle, Daniel Toosley**, to the School Advisory Board

### Crossword puzzle answers

S	R	R	E	K	O	O	L	D	V
N	E	V	C	L	E	V	C		
N	O	I	V	G	E	E	D		
O	R	V	R	U	N	G			
J	H	J	T	I	R	J	V		
X	S	E	J	R	U	O	C	O	I
V	H	E	O	M	H	F	V		
S	E	C	I	V	E	E	E	N	
I	I	W	S	L	E	C			
D	E	D	E	E	E	E	I	T	
L	O	P	E	S	N	E	F	E	O
O	O	L	E	C	E	I	N	E	O
L	O	P	E	D	X	N	O	T	O

# STL Steubenville Youth Conference



A group from St. Joseph Parish in Salisbury gathers inside the arena July 17 during the STL Steubenville Youth Conference in Springfield. —Photo from the St. Joseph School-Salisbury Facebook page



A group from St. Mary Parish in Glasgow gathers with Father Mike Schmitz, one of the featured speakers.



Young people and chaperones from St. Mary Parish in Glasgow, St. Joseph Parish in Palmyra and Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City gather during Week 1 of the STL Steubenville Youth Conference in Springfield. The theme was "Restored."

 Find us online @ **CATHMO.COM**

## STEM Camp in Marshall



Students entering third through sixth grade this fall gather while wearing their lab coats during STEM Camp at St. Peter School in Marshall. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. — Photo by Carol Wolfe



Students and chaperones gather outside St. Mary Church in Shelbina July 16 before departing for the STL Steubenville Youth Conference in Springfield. — Photo from St. Mary Parish in Shelbina's Facebook page

### A prayer for summertime

Dear God,  
 Let us revel in summer. Let us soak up the long days and warm sun. May our feet walk on sandy beaches and our heads rest on thick grass under blue skies. May we listen to and marvel at the singing of the birds and stop to watch blissful children at play. This summer, God, may our breathing slow and our hearts open. God help us to be present to all that is so that we might best see all that might be.

— Written and offered by David Johnson  
*xavier.edu* (search "summer prayers")

# The Israelites start to worship a golden calf

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

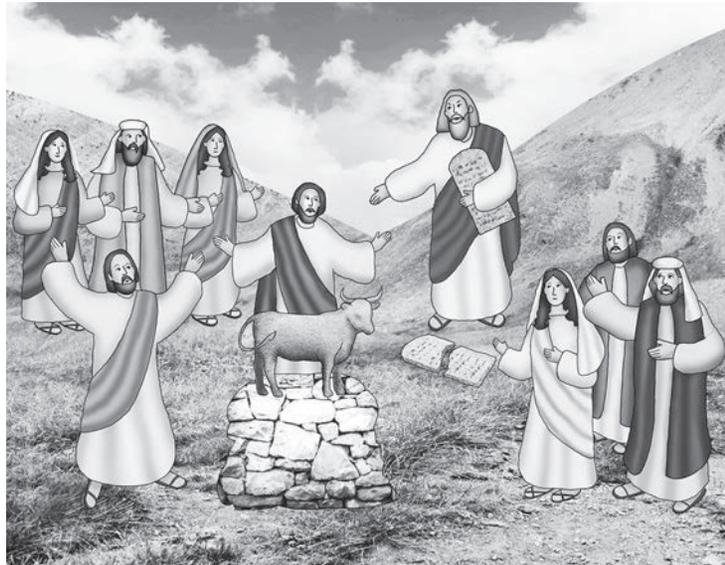
During the Israelites' time in the desert, God summoned Moses to come up Mount Sinai.

"While you are there, I will give you the stone tablets on which I have written the commandments intended for their instruction," God said, referring to the Israelites.

Moses went up the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights. When Moses was delayed in returning, the Israelites gathered around his brother, Aaron.

"Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for that man Moses who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him," they said.

Aaron asked the people for



gold jewelry, and he fashioned the gold into a molten calf.

"These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt," the people cried out.

Aaron built an altar in front of the calf and declared a feast of the Lord the following day.

The next day, the Israelites sacrificed burnt offerings and brought communion sacrific-

es. Then they sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to revel.

God saw all that was going on in the Israelite's camp.

"Go down at once because your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, have acted corruptly," He told Moses.

Moses came down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hands. As he drew near the camp, he saw the calf and the dancing. Moses was so angry that he threw the tablets down and broke them on the base of the mountain.

"What did this people ever do to you that you should lead them into so grave a sin?" Moses asked Aaron, who explained what had happened.

The next day, Moses returned to God.

"Ah, this people has indeed committed a grave sin in making a god of gold for themselves! If You would only forgive their sin! If You will not, then strike me out of the book that You have written," Moses said.

"Him only who has sinned against Me will I strike out of My book," God answered.

God said that when it came time for Him to punish, He would punish those who had sinned.

### Read more about it... Exodus 24, 31 and 32

1. What did God say He'd give Moses on Mount Sinai?
2. What did the people do when Moses was gone?

## Bible Accent

In Exodus 34, we read about how God restored the stone tablets Moses had broken on the base of Mount Sinai.

"Cut two stone tablets like the former, that I may write on them the words which were on the former tablets that you broke," God told Moses. "Get ready for tomorrow morning, when you are to go up Mount Sinai and there present yourself to Me on the top of the mountain."

Moses again spent 40 days and 40 nights on the mountain with God.

"Here is the covenant I

will make," God told Moses. "Before all your people I will perform marvels never before done in any nation anywhere on earth, so that all the people among whom you live may see the work of the Lord. Awe-inspiring are the deeds I will perform with you!"

God told Moses to write down the words He was saying.

"For in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel," God said.

When Moses came down the mountain with the new set of stone tablets, the people

were afraid to come near him at first, because the skin of his face had become radiant after being in God's presence.

Later, all the Israelites came up to Moses, and he told them all that God had told him on Mount Sinai.

## Trivia

What did Moses do when his facial skin became radiant after seeing God? (Hint: Exodus 34:35)

Answer: Covered his face with a veil.

## Saint Spotlight



St. Lydia lived in the first century. Her name is taken from her place of origin, the city of Thyatira in the province of Lydia, which is now Turkey. Lydia met St. Paul when he was evangelizing in Philippi. In Acts 16:13-15, she is called "a dealer in purple cloth" and "a worshipper of God." God opened her heart as Paul was speaking, and she became his first convert to Christianity in Philippi. After listening to Paul, she and her entire household were baptized. We remember Lydia on Aug. 3.

## Puzzle

Using the hints provided, put a T next to the sentences about Moses that are true and an F next to the ones that are false. If a sentence is false, write the correct answer at the end of it.

1. \_\_\_ God did not allow Moses to cross into the Promised Land. (Numbers 20:12) \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_ God told Moses to strike a rock and water would flow from it. (Exodus 17:6) \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_ Moses' eldest son was named Gideon. (Exodus 2:22) \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_ Moses was 100 years old when he died. (Deuteronomy 34:7) \_\_\_\_\_



Answers: 1. T, 2. T, 3. F (Gershom), 4. F (120)

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## Collection of heroic, sweet dog stories highlight God's presence

*Dogwinks: True Godwink Stories of Dogs and the Blessings They Bring*, by Squire Rushnell and Louise DuArt. Howard Books. (New York, 2021). 304 pp., \$19.99.

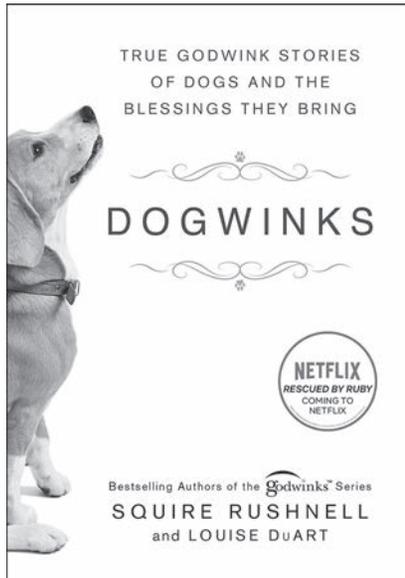
Reviewed by Regina Lordan  
Catholic News Service

*Dogwinks* is a collection of remarkable, heartwarming short stories highlighting that nothing is impossible with God, and that sometimes His blessings are even more apparent with dogs along life's twists and turns.

Written by Squire Rushnell and Louise DuArt, authors of the best-selling *Godwinks* series, the book features epic tales of heroic canines, second chances and seemingly serendipitous encounters.

However unbelievable but true, each dog story represents a little wink from God, an acknowledgment that He is present in the lives of humans.

No strangers to storytelling, the married authors know exactly how to develop characters without too much distracting



detail or frivolous language.

Rushnell is a former television executive who can take credit for more than 75 Emmy awards under his leadership, and DuArt is a comedian, speaker and former host of a daily talk show on the ABC Family channel.

Stories from Rushnell's *Godwinks* series appear routinely on the NBC "Today" show, so it won't come as too much of a surprise the *Dogwinks* vignettes

seem fit for the screen.

One particularly charming story about Ruby, a valiant rescue dog, is soon to be an original Netflix movie.

Ruby was an unwanted, mischievous shelter dog destined to be put down until her energies were channeled into search and rescue missions. Her skills eventually resulted in her saving the life of someone quite incredibly connected to Ruby's survival.

All of the dogs, or as the authors like to call them, "God's furry friendly agents on earth," are representative of so much that is to be celebrated about faith: mercy, service, compassion, hope and love.

The dogs' companionship and bravery exemplify that God does have a plan for all of us, and if He is in control, remarkable things can happen.

Take, for example, Landon and Bogart. Landon was born with a cleft palate. Just as he was becoming more aware of his physical differences, he met a puppy named Bogart. Bogart, too, was born with a cleft palate and needed special care and patience simply to be fed. Bogart became Landon's dog, and theirs is a symbiotic relationship of survival and love.

Then there's the tale of Booga, his owner, Mac, and his hardened friend Gerry. Booga is a champion retriever and Gerry a firm nonbeliever.

After storm waves toppled

## Movie Ratings



General Patronage

Luca (PG)



Adults and Adolescents

The Boss Baby: Family Business (PG)  
Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (PG)  
Space Jam: A New Legacy (PG)



Adults

Black Widow (PG-13)  
The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It (R)  
F9: The Fast Saga (PG-13)  
A Father's Legacy (not rated)  
In the Heights (PG-13)



Morally Offensive

The Forever Purge (R)  
The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R)  
Zola (R)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for current reviews.

their small boat, Booga and Gerry struggle to tread water while trying to keep afloat an ailing Mac.

Gerry tries to give Booga swimming breaks by lifting him up by his collar, but eventually orders Booga to swim to shore so that Gerry can focus on saving Mac.

Although Gerry acknowledges the dog might not make it, he knows this might also be Booga's only chance for survival.

Feeling utterly desperate, Gerry calls out to God, begging for a second chance at a relationship with Him and for life itself.

Moments later, a boat named *Second Chance* spots their bobbing heads in the water, and the men are saved.

Back on shore, the exhausted retriever appears from the marsh after surviving a treacherous swim. With a not-so-discreet answer to Gerry's prayer, both dog and man got second

chances at life.

Miraculous reunifications abound in *Dogwinks*. There's Muff, a Dalmatian lost during a tornado who was found by her owners after years of abuse, and Reckless, a pit bull mix who was reunited with his family after being lost during Hurricane Sandy.

The dogs in the book also gently help their humans cope and heal. Each story includes a short reflection tying the dogs' journeys into God's plan, making it ever more obvious that dog spelled backward is God, as the authors (and dog lovers) point out.

The dogs are mirrors of God's love.

*Dogwinks* is a sweet book to digest after a long day, like a warm cup of tea with just enough honey and milk.

Easy enough for an older child to read, *Dogwinks* is appropriate for all audiences.

*Lordan, a mother to three young children, has master's degrees in education and political science and is a former assistant international editor of Catholic News Service. She currently teaches and is a court-appointed advocate for children in foster care.*

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## School Sisters of St. Francis jubilarians served in Frankenstein

More than three dozen School Sisters of St. Francis of the United States Province are celebrating milestone anniversaries of service as women religious in 2021.

In addition, one lay woman in Associate Relationship with the community will celebrate her 40-year Jubilee and two lay women their 25-year Jubilees.

Sister Theresa Lesnak (75 years) and Sister Joanne Thomas (60 years) are among those being honored. Their ministry includes service in the Diocese of Jefferson City.

**Sister Theresa Lesnak** was born in Chicago. She received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Alverno College in Milwaukee and a master of science degree in education from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

In this diocese, she served as teacher-organist at St. Mary School in Frankenstein from 1959-64. She has also taught in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska and Wisconsin.

In her retirement, Sister served as a volunteer at St. Joseph Convent in Campbellsport, Wisconsin (2007-15) and served in the ministry of prayer and presence at Sacred Heart in Milwaukee and, since 2015, at Our Lady of the Angels in Greenfield, Wisconsin.

**Sister Joanne Thomas** was born in Mount

Olive, Illinois. She received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Alverno College in Milwaukee.

In this diocese, she taught at St. Mary School in Frankenstein from 1973-80.

She also taught in Catholic schools in Illinois and Nebraska.

In retirement, she volunteers and lives at a local convent in Lincoln.

Cards and donations in honor of the sisters' years of service may be mailed to their attention, c/o Jubilee Committee, School Sisters of St. Francis, 1545 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53215.



## COMMON HOME

From page 6

pandemic, challenged her to help invite more people her age to attend.

She helped lead the college track for the conference, focusing on themes of eco-spirituality, sustainability and simple living, along with environmental advocacy, service and justice.

"It's been a joy to spend time with people who have this passion to work for the environment, bring clean air and water to people who need it, and help them live lives that are worth living," she said.

### Respectful dialogue

Ms. Heienickle is a member of a sorority on the MU campus and has a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

She's committed to engaging in patient dialogue with people who don't understand her spiritual or earthly pursuits.

"I try to approach each situation with love and with grace and truly try to understand their side of the story,

their perspective," she said.

"Their journey is valid, and it's their journey," she insisted. "I just need to go in and love that person how they need to be loved, how they are meant to be loved.

"That's how Jesus did things. He would act with love."

She is aware of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit at work in her, especially fortitude, "which is basically the gift of courage."

"I'm not saying it hasn't been difficult," she said. "I've had some difficult conversations with people and have lost friends from the way I'm living now."

"But I have to trust the Lord's plan for me that He will provide," she said. "The journey is hard and long but it's also good, it's already really fruitful."

### Into the deep

Upon graduating, Ms. Heienickle plans to put her degree to use doing research to help uncover the next steps in the climate change process.

"I hope to be doing research about the climate and working on sustainability issues," she said.

She noted that climate change relates to many other fields of study, including social sciences and education.

"And faith!" she declared. "So I want to be doing something from a Catholic perspective and educating people in the importance of learning science and applying our faith to it."

For anyone who's interested in drawing closer to God in simple ways, Ms. Heienickle suggests going to daily Mass and starting with 15 minutes a day of uninterrupted prayer.

She also suggests taking prayer walks through nature and pursuing opportunities to serve in the community.

"Once a month, you could perform an extra day of service," she said. "Whether that be yard work for a neighbor who can't do it anymore, or going to volunteer at a nearby soup kitchen, or getting into

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, Jul 25

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2 Kgs. 4:42-44  
Ps. Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18  
Eph. 4:1-6  
Jn. 6:1-15

### Monday, Jul 26

Ss. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ex. 32:15-24, 30-34  
Ps. 106:19-20, 21-22, 23  
Mt. 13:31-35

### Tuesday, Jul 27

Ex. 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28  
Ps. 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13  
Mt. 13:36-43

### Wednesday, Jul 28

Ex. 34:29-35  
Ps. 99:5, 6, 7, 9  
Mt. 13:44-46

### Thursday, Jul 29

St. Martha  
Ex. 40:16-21, 34-38  
Ps. 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11  
Jn. 11:19-27 or Lk. 10:38-42

### Friday, Jul 30

St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the Church  
Lv. 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37  
Ps. 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab  
Mt. 13:54-58

### Saturday, Jul 31

St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest  
Lv. 25:1, 8-17  
Ps. 67:2-3, 5, 7-8  
Mt. 14:1-12

### The Holy Father's prayer intentions for July:

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

### Sunday, Aug 1

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ex. 16:2-4, 12-15  
Ps. 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54  
Eph. 4:17, 20-24  
Jn. 6:24-35

### Monday, Aug 2

St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest  
Nm. 11:4b-15  
Ps. 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17  
Mt. 14:13-21

### Tuesday, Aug 3

Nm. 12:1-13  
Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13  
Mt. 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

### Wednesday, Aug 4

St. John Vianney, priest  
Nm. 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35  
Ps. 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23  
Mt. 15:21-28

### Thursday, Aug 5

The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major  
Nm. 20:1-13  
Ps. 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9  
Mt. 16:13-23

### Friday, Aug 6

The Transfiguration of the Lord  
Dn. 7:9-10, 13-14  
Ps. 97:1-2, 5-6, 9  
2 Pt. 1:16-19  
Mk. 9:2-10

### Saturday, Aug 7

St. Sixtus II, Pope, and companions, martyrs; St. Cajetan, priest  
Dt. 6:4-13  
Ps. 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47, 51  
Mt. 17:14-20

### The Holy Father's prayer intentions for August:

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

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your community and learning about people and having a relationship with them — just getting out and trying to understand people, even that is an indirect way to evangelize."

She also suggested pondering the passage from Mark about Jesus calming the storm

(4:35-41).

"Think about accepting Jesus into your life, accepting Him onto that boat, following truth, following Jesus, stepping out of our comfort zone, doing what is hard — but ultimately, the storm will calm," she said.

## Secular Franciscan Order profession July 31 at Columbia Newman Center

**DATE: July 31**  
**TIME: 5 pm**

The Joyful Servants Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will celebrate the Solemn Profession of one of the fraternity's candidates, Terrie Foltz, at Mass on Saturday, July 31, in Columbia.

The Mass will be at 5 p.m. in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel, 602 Turner Ave.

Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish, and Franciscan Father Pio Jackson, spiritual assistant for the St. Clare Region of the Secular Franciscan Order, will concelebrate the Mass.

The Secular Franciscan Order, previously, known as Third Order Franciscans, are the larg-

est branch of the Franciscan Order.

Members are single or married laypersons or diocesan clergy.

They are a community of Catholic men and women in the world who seek to pattern their lives after Christ in the

spirit of St. Francis.

They do so according to the Rule of Life of the Secular Franciscan Order, with help and encouragement from fellow members of their local fraternity.

For more information, visit:

[joyfultservantsofs.wordpress.com](http://joyfultservantsofs.wordpress.com)

## Pope reacts to Baghdad market bombing

Catholic News Service

Pope Francis expressed his condolences after a suicide bombing in a busy market in Baghdad claimed the lives of dozens of people.

In a telegram sent July 21 to Archbishop Mitja Leskovar, papal nuncio to Iraq, Cardinal

Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said the pope was "deeply saddened to learn of the loss of life in the explosion at the al-Wuhailat market."

## St. Peter Parish in J.C. 175th anniversary celebration Aug. 13

**DATE: August 13**  
**TIME: 5 - 7 pm**

**Fireworks at 9 p.m.**

St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City will hold a celebration of the 175th anniversary of its founding from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 13.

The event will take place on the parish grounds, 216 Broadway, near the State Capitol.

A variety of food trucks will be available for dinner and snacks, along with a beer garden, kid's zone with bounce castle, laser tag and many blowup games with

cotton candy and sno-cones.

A silent auction will be held featuring a round of golf for four at Hawthorn Golf, tickets to Capital City Productions dinner theatre, tickets to a St. Louis Cardinals game, a beautiful quilt, a three-day getaway to Lake of the Ozarks, and an original slate tile from St. Peter Church steeple with bullet holes.

Entertainment will be by Jefferson City favorites Dave Baker and Apostles Creek.

The celebration will close with a spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m.

## U.S. bishops express solidarity with Cuban people, Church leaders

Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the chairman of the USCCB's international policy committee expressed their solidarity and that of all the U.S. bishops "with our broth-

ers in the Cuban episcopate, and with all men and women of goodwill in Cuba."

Released late July 19, the statement acknowledged "the ongoing protests in Cuba and among the diaspora in the United States."

It was jointly issued by

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB president, and Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on International Justice and Peace.

"As the Cuban bishops declared in their July 12 statement, 'A favorable solution will not be reached by impositions, nor by calling for confrontation, but through mutual listening, where common agreements are sought and concrete and tangible steps are taken that contribute, with the contribution of all Cubans without exception, to the building-up of the Fatherland,'" the two U.S. prelates said.

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