

Memories shared at Sr. Virginia's jubilee

Sr. Virginia Meyer SSND returns to St. James and Rosati to celebrate her 70th anniversary in religious life.
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The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

July 5, 2024 • Vol. 67 No. 27

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Walking, praying with Christ through the diocese



Father Ignatius, CFR, carries the Most Blessed Sacrament in procession with pilgrims from the Jefferson City diocese from Sedalia to Pilot Grove along the Katy Trail as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage on July 2. Pilgrims are processing the Most Blessed Sacrament by foot and by car from San Francisco to the July 17-21 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

— Photo by Annie Williams

Hundreds join in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage as part of Eucharistic Revival

By Jay Nies and Jacob Luecke

Jesus once told a man who had been sick for decades to stand up and walk.

Many who recognize the same life-giving presence of Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament stood up and followed him through the heart of the Jefferson City diocese.

"Christ is here with us. He's with us every day," said Deacon Turf Martin, who assists the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Sedalia.

"And throughout today, through tonight and into tomorrow morning when we send the pilgrims off on their way, we know he's walking with us."

Deacon Martin had joined a large contingent of local and visiting Catholics the evening of July 1 in a Eucharistic procession from Sacred Heart Chapel to St. Patrick Chapel, both in Sedalia.

Joining them were eight young laypeople who are processing across the continent by car and by foot with the Most Blessed Sacrament.

They're taking part in the 2,200-mile St. Junipero Serra arm of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage from the West Coast to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

It's part of the three-year Eucharistic Revival called for by the U.S. Catholic Bishops to renew understanding and belief in and increased reverence for Christ fully present in the Eucharist.

The perpetual pilgrims' two-month journey brought them through the Jefferson City diocese via Sedalia, Pilot Grove, Boonville, Columbia, Jefferson City and Starkenburg, July 1-5.

See EUCHARIST, page 11

Mission priest: The Church is a big family, leading people to Christ together

Diocesan Missions Special Collection, July 20-21

Envelope inserted in this edition of *The Catholic Missourian*

By Jay Nies and Annie Williams

Only through God's work in past missionaries did it become possible for Father Joseph Luzindana to serve as a missionary priest in the Diocese of Jefferson City.

This makes him part of a great worldwide circle of mission that dates back to Jesus's command to "go and make disciples of all nations."

"I never dreamt that I would be out of Africa and in America," said Fr. Luzindana, a priest of the Archdiocese of Kampala, Uganda.

He is associate pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish

in Jefferson City and moderator for youth and young adult ministry for this diocese.

"In fact, I never even dreamt that I would study and go into seminary. I was such a poor kid," he said.

"But now, because of the seeds of mission which were sown on fertile ground in Africa, here we are, serving you today," he said.

He spoke in anticipation of this year's diocesan Missions Special Collection, to be taken up in parishes throughout the diocese July 20-21.

Donations can also be made securely online by visiting: diojeffcity.org/donate-missions.

The collection is the main source of revenue for the Missions

See MISSIONS, page 14

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Correction

An article, "Bishop presents papal honors to deacons," in the June 21 edition of *The Catholic Missourian*, gave an incorrect ordination date for Deacon David Miller in Boonville. Deacon Miller was ordained in 1996.

We apologize for the error.

Pray for deceased priests

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

July 12 — **Fr. Henry J. Figge**, Immaculate Conception, Owensville (1978)

July 14 — **Fr. John P. Walsh**, St. Joseph, Westphalia (1992);
Msgr. Raphael P. Keyes, St. Anthony, Camdenton; Our Lady of the Snows, Climax Springs; and St. Bernadette, Hermitage (2010)

Development Director — Rolla Newman Center



Are you good with people? Are you excited about young Catholics who are future Church leaders? The Catholic Newman Center in Rolla is seeking a Director of Development to build a strong community of diverse stakeholders who provide the spiritual, visionary and financial support required to bring the ministry to the next level. This individual will establish a long-term fundraising program supported by regular, special and planned giving from the stakeholder community and other philanthropic sources. Training will be provided for this position, which will grow with the ministry. This is a full-time position with diocesan medical and retirement benefits. For more information or to apply, contact Dcn. Matt McLaughlin at mmclaughlin@stpatrickrolla.org.

Macon, Shelbina Mass times

Effective July 6-7, the new weekend Mass times for Immaculate Conception Parish in Macon and St. Mary Parish in Shelbina are:

Saturday

•4:30 p.m. in Immaculate Conception

Sunday

•9 a.m. in St. Mary Church

•11 a.m. in Immaculate Conception Church

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to include procession, prayers at Fr. Tolton burial place in Quincy, Ill.

DATE: July 9
TIME: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

On Tuesday, July 9, participants in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will walk in procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament to the burial place of the first recognizably Black priest of the Roman Church, Missouri

native Father Augustus Tolton.

From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. that afternoon in Quincy, Illinois, the pilgrims will have a 1-mile Eucharistic procession from St. Peter Church, 2600 Maine St., to Fr. Tolton's resting place in St. Peter Cemetery.

Evening Prayer and Benediction will start at 6:30 p.m.

in the cemetery.

Fr. Tolton (1854-96), born into a family of enslaved people on a farm in northeastern Missouri, transcended extreme racial prejudice in order to answer his priestly calling.

He is under formal consideration for being declared a saint.

Pope: Anointing of the sick offers strength to those seriously ill, elderly

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

The sacrament of the anointing of the sick is not just for those who are nearing the end of their life, Pope Francis said.

"Let us remember that the anointing of the sick is one of the 'sacraments of healing,' of 'restoration,' that heals the spirit," the pope said in a video message released July 2 by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.

The network posts a short video of the pope offering his specific prayer intention each month. For the month of July, the pope dedicated his prayer

intention to the pastoral care of the sick.

"The anointing of the sick is not a sacrament only for those who are at the point of death," the pope said, emphasizing "it is important that this is clear."

Having a priest give the sacrament does not necessarily mean saying "goodbye to life," he said. "Thinking this way means giving up every hope."

"When a person is very ill, it's advisable to give them the anointing of the sick. And when someone is elderly, it's good that they receive the anointing of the sick," Pope

Francis said, underlining how there is no need to wait until a person experiencing a serious illness is at the point of death to receive the sacrament.

"Let us pray that the sacrament of the anointing of the sick grant the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope," he said.

The video of the pope is available at: thepopevideo.org/july-for-the-pastoral-care-of-the-sick.

For God and country

A stained glass window depicting a cross and the flag of the USA adorns St. Pius X Church in Moberly.

— Photo by Jay Nies



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

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Priest to Hispanic Catholics: Follow Jesus, trust him completely

Hundreds join bishop for Hispanic Heritage Mass in Cathedral

By Jay Nies

Shrieks of little voices and the patter of little feet swelled across the great space of the Cathedral.

Then, Father Greivin Rodriguez stepped up to break open God's word, and people of all ages fell attentively silent.

"My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, Jesus invites us today to go to the other shore with him," Fr. Rodriguez, a missionary priest from Costa Rica, passionately proclaimed in Spanish.

"And going to the other side means crossing a sea that may be bristling with storms and waves that frighten us."

More than 500 people from all over the diocese gathered in Jefferson City June 23 for this year's Hispanic Heritage Mass in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Participants worshipped God in the language and cultures of theirs and their ancestors' homelands.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight presided at the Mass in Spanish. Eight priests concelebrated, including Fr. Rodriguez — now serving as parochial administrator of St. Mary Parish in Milan and the Mission of St. Mary in Unionville — who preached the homily.

"Today," he stated, "God's Word reminds us of who God



LEFT: Bishop W. Shawn McKnight greets a child and his family at the reception luncheon after the diocesan Hispanic Heritage Mass on June 23 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph. RIGHT: Father Greivin Rodriguez, now serving as parochial administrator of St. Mary Parish in Milan and the Mission of St. Mary in Unionville, preaches the homily at the Hispanic Heritage Mass.



— Photos by Annie Williams

is and what he is like and invites us not only to believe in this God, but to believe in this God who became one of us."

The priest engaged with the people in the pews, asking them questions about the readings, including the Gospel passage in which Jesus and his apostles are in a boat being battered by wind and waves, and Jesus calms the storm with a simple command (Mark 4:35-41).

"The boat seemed to be sinking," the priest noted. "They were desperate, anguished. It seemed they had forgotten that Jesus was in that boat with them, that it was Jesus who had invited them to cross to the other shore with him."

Fr. Rodriguez acknowledged that some who were there in the Cathedral are going through their own storms, stemming from family, person-

al issues, relationships, work, health, finances or other aspects of life.

"When things get difficult," the priest stated, "when things don't go as I expect, when illness comes to my family, when crises or problems surround me, when friends turn their backs on me, when I lose my job and nothing comes of it, when a child falls into a vice, when we feel helpless ... how many of us have said to God, 'Why me?' — as if Jesus Christ did not say, 'I will be with you

every day until the end of the world.'"

Fr. Rodriguez acknowledged his own anxiety over arriving in the United States while knowing little English, and now preparing to minister to a community that's new to him in Milan and Unionville.

"Perhaps, in this storm that you are going through, you do not see, you do not hear and you do not feel Jesus," he stated. "But brothers and sisters, the Lord is here! And he invites us to come with him to another shore."

The key is to call out to God humbly, trust him completely and follow him wherever he goes.

"Let's move from the shore of fear to the shore of trust," Fr. Rodriguez exhorted. "Let us move from the shore of doubt to the shore of faith. Let us move from the shore of hardness to the shore of mercy. Let us move from the shore of indifference to the shore of love."

See HISPANIC, page 17

Bp. Gaydos returns to St. Louis area

By Jay Nies

Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos, who led the Jefferson City diocese from 1997 until 2018, recently moved to an apartment at St. Agnes Home, a retirement community run by the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus in the St. Louis suburb of Kirkwood.

His mailing address is: Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos, St. Agnes Home, 10341 Manchester Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

"My heart remains in Jefferson City and I pray daily for all the local Church and everyone who is a part of it," said Bishop Gaydos.

He had previously lived in the rectory at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City since retiring.

He said although he feels healthy for his age, the rheumatoid arthritis that's been causing him discomfort for years is "taking its toll."

"You're not going to stop it,"

he said. "All you can do is try to slow it down."

Bishop Gaydos grew up in St. Louis and spent his first 28 years of Priesthood in the St. Louis archdiocese.


St. Agnes Home was established and continues to be run by the same community of religious sisters who served at what was previously known as St. Jo-

seph Home in Jefferson City.

The home's chaplain is Archbishop Emeritus Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis.

St. Agnes is named in honor of the same Roman martyr after whom Bishop Gaydos's home parish and grade school in St. Louis were named.

He asks for prayers as he adjusts to his new home.



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

JULY

Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.

Jul 5	Eucharistic Pilgrimage, Mass with procession following, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 8 am, Jefferson City
Jul 12	Knights of Columbus State Council District Deputies Meeting Opening Mass, 4 pm, Columbia
Jul 13	50th Anniversary of St. Andrew Parish Mass, 4 pm, Holts Summit
Jul 16	Pontifical College Josephinum Alumni Mass, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 5 pm, Cicero, OH
Jul 17-20	National Eucharistic Congress, Indianapolis, IN
Jul 21-30	Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul

Bishop McKnight's July prayer intention for our Local Church

For the promotion of Eucharistic life among the faithful; that our participation in Mass and Eucharistic adoration may inflame our hearts to live out more effectively the Sacrament of Charity.

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

Por la promoción de la vida Eucarística de todos los fieles. Que nuestra participación en la Misa y la adoración Eucarística puedan inflamar nuestros corazones para vivir más eficazmente el Sacramento de la Caridad.



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

St. Louis archdiocese's research into history with slavery reveals three bishops, priests as slaveowners

Three bishops, numerous clergy are included in those who were slaveholders

By Jennifer Brinker

Not much is known about Harry and Jenny. Their last name is listed in records with several variations: Nebbit, Nibbit and Nesbit.

But what is known is that the couple, who were enslaved for much of their lives, was purchased by Bishop William DuBourg in 1822, along with the couple's nine children at the time.

Five years later, their ownership was transferred to Bishop DuBourg's successor, Bishop Joseph Rosati.

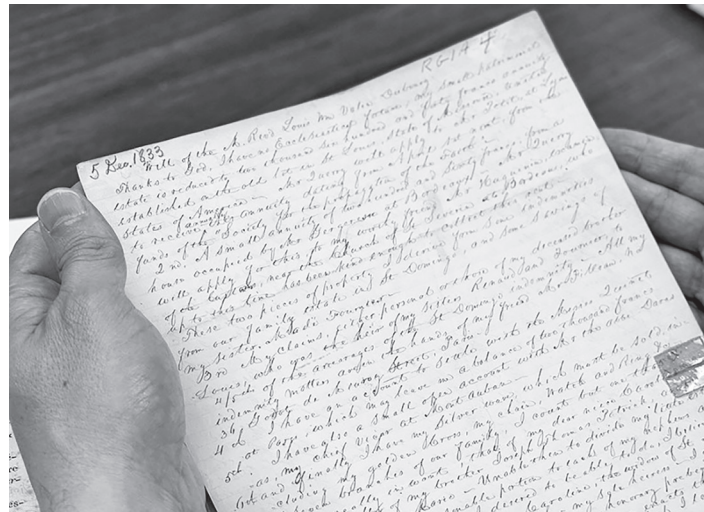
Jenny died in Perry County in 1829; Harry is believed to have died in a tornado at St. Vincent's College in Cape Girardeau in 1850.

One of their children, Eliza "Liza" was transferred by Bishop DuBourg to St. Rose Philippine Duchesne and the Religious of the Sacred Heart.

One of their sons, Clement, was sold to Father Jean-Marie Odin, a Vincentian, who had Clement and his family sent to him in Galveston, where Fr. Odin would become the first bishop of the new Diocese of Galveston in 1847.

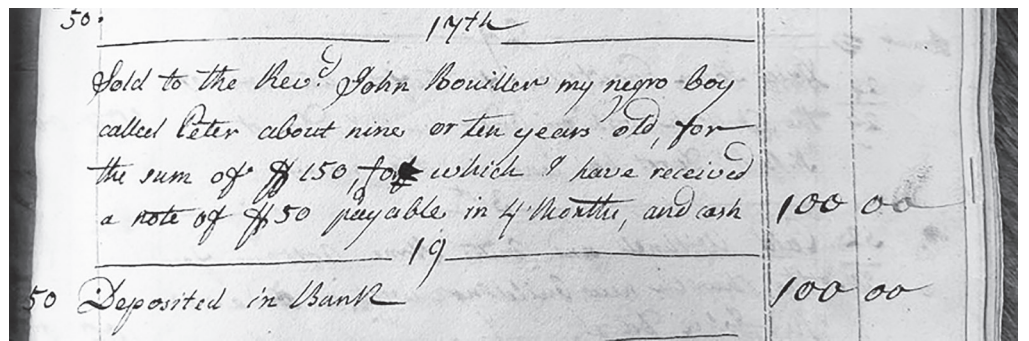
The family is among the first glimpses of African-Americans who were enslaved by numerous bishops and clergy in the Archdiocese of St. Louis in the 19th century.

The archdiocesan Office of Archives and Records has been researching the archdiocese's



TOP LEFT: The last will and testament of Bishop Louis William Valentine DuBourg from Dec. 5, 1833, includes references to what to do with his slaves. **TOP RIGHT:** Program director of the Archdiocese of St. Louis Racial Harmony Joyce Jones addresses volunteer researcher Emory Weber as they met with the director of archives Eric Fair and archivist Rena Schergen at the Cardinal Rigali Center May 26. The group was discussing research into historically enslaved people. **BOTTOM:**

Archival documents list all the financial transactions of Bishop Joseph Rosati, including this entry from March 17, 1832, which recorded the sale of "my negro boy called Peter" for the sum of \$150 to Vincentian Father John Boullier. This ledger is located at the Archdiocese of St. Louis Archives at the Cardinal Rigali Center in Shrewsbury.



— Photo by Lisa Johnston, courtesy of the St. Louis Review

involvement in the institution of slavery since 2018; the project was formally named "Forgive Us Our Trespasses" in February of 2021.

Bishop William DuBourg (who at the time was Bishop of Louisiana and the Two Floridas, with his episcopal seat in St. Louis), Bishop Joseph Rosati, and Archbishop Peter Kenrick, along with an unknown number of clergy, enslaved people.

The archives office has compiled a list of 85 names of people who were enslaved. However, that number is expected to fluctuate as records and variations in names are further researched, said Eric Fair, director of archives.

The project acknowledges that a wrong was done, said Joyce Jones, program director for racial harmony in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, who also serves on an executive committee overseeing the project.

"When you talk about enslavement, there was a period of time in the Catholic Church where our leaders thought of African-Americans as less than human," Jones said.

"There were some racist ideas that were going around," she stated. "Granted, there were

people who were against racism, against slavery, but time after time, you see documentation where archbishops and priests were OK with it. This acknowledges that — for whatever they thought during that time period — it was wrong."

Among the initial goals of the research is to learn more about the individuals who were enslaved by bishops and archdiocesan priests.

Researchers hope to eventually connect with descendants and discuss with them findings from examining sacramental records, financial ledgers, written correspondence, papal documents and business contracts, among other resources.

Modern descendants have not yet been identified.

In a financial ledger from 1830-1839, Bishop Rosati recorded the sale of "my negro boy called Peter about nine or ten years old" to Vincentian Father John Boullier for the sum of \$150.

Another enslaved person, a woman named Aspasia, sued several times for her freedom, before, during, and after her enslavement to Bishop Rosati.

She eventually won her freedom based on her own court re-

ords, other court records from her family members and a freedom license that appears to be hers, according to researchers.

"The names of these people have always been here," said Fair. "They've just been waiting for someone to tell their stories."

Researchers have found overlapping of information with other religious orders who also enslaved people, such as the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), the Vincentians and the Religious of the Sacred Heart.

They have met with the Jesuits USA Central and Southern Province, which launched with Saint Louis University the Slavery, History, Memory and Reconciliation Project in 2016.

Together, they discussed research findings as well as best practices.

For example, in a contract between the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and Bishop DuBourg, in which the bishop gave the Jesuits responsibility over Saint Louis University, a clause was included that gave approval to bring their enslaved people to the area.

"When we talk about the past history of Catholicism in St. Louis, we're more than happy to celebrate our successes and our joys," Fair said. "What we don't

talk about is a lot of those successes, a lot of those joys, were on the backs of enslaved persons."

Jones acknowledged that some people still struggle with the idea of the Church's involvement in what the U.S. bishops have described as the "sin of racism."

While not everyone at the time was on board with the idea of slavery, there were many in the Church who were — and those actions have had a lasting, multi-generational impact upon race relations in the archdiocese, especially among Black Catholics.

"People are horrified to find that the Church sanctioned" slavery, Jones said. "The Church was one of the biggest participants in this. For African-American Black Catholics, the place where they were supposed to be able to come and lay their burdens down and talk to God was the place that was oppressing them."

Mrs. Brinker is a reporter for the St. Louis Review (archstl.org), newspaper of the St. Louis archdiocese, which published a version of this article June 17. This version is published here with permission.



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Servant of God Julia Greeley: The Eucharistic Angel of Denver

Servant of God Julia Greeley grew up enslaved in northeastern Missouri, became Catholic after moving to Colorado, spent her adult life on concrete acts of charity and promotion of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus up to her death in 1918. She is one of six African-American Catholics currently under formal consideration to be declared saints.

The following article by her primary biographer was originally published on the National Eucharistic Revival Blog as part of their American Eucharistic Witnesses Series.



Julia Greeley Angel of Mercy Icon Painting by Imbruglia.
— Photo by Andrew Wright/Denver Catholic

By Father Blaine Burkey, O.F.M. Cap.

Servant of God Julia Greeley was born into a family of enslaved people the farm of Samuel Brice Caldwell, 12 miles west of Hannibal, in what is now part of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

A deacon in the Baptist ecclesial community, Caldwell helped build a small Baptist chapel on his property.

There is no information available, however, as to what connection Julia, as an enslaved person, might have had with that ecclesial community.

The sole memory we have of Julia’s life at Caldwell’s farm is her shattered right eye which continued to ooze fluids

throughout her life, a violent reminder of the slave master’s whip that blinded her as a young girl. She was ill one day, and her mother stayed back from the field to tend to her. The slave master came after the mother with a whip, and Julia’s eye became collateral damage.

After her emancipation, Julia performed domestic services for the Robinson family in St. Louis, the mother and father of whom are buried in the Catholic cemetery in St. Louis; but again, there is no information available as to what connection, if any, Julia might have had with religion.

Julia moved to Denver in mid-winter 1878 to work for the family of Mrs. Robinson’s sister, Julia Gilpin. We know

she developed a close friendship with Mrs. Gilpin, a devout Catholic credited by Julia herself as having “given me my faith.”

Devotion to Jesus’s Sacred Heart

Unaware if she had ever been baptized, she received the Sacrament conditionally on June 26, 1880, at Sacred Heart Parish in Denver.

From then on, she was thoroughly involved in the mission of the Church and became known to the Jesuits who ministered to her as “the most zealous apostle of the Sacred Heart they have ever known.”

Julia died in 1918, on the Feast of the Sacred Heart, a First Friday that year.

Jesuit Father Charles McDonnell said at her funeral that she was charitable to an astonishing degree and had a devotion to the Sacred Heart, the Blessed Virgin and the Most Blessed Sacrament that was marvelous.

“It was not sentimentality,” he added, “but real piety.”

It would be nice if Julia herself could have told us more about these devotions, but the tyranny of slavery had robbed her not only of freedom of movement and oth-

er activity as a youth but also of the chance for formal education, rendering her illiterate.

Those who knew her, however, preserved the memory of her devotion by speaking about her actions.

Seven centuries earlier, St. Anthony of Padua observed in a sermon, “Actions speak louder than words.”

Works of mercy and charity

Much of what her acquaintances shared about her activities spoke of her practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

See JULIA, page 23

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Sr. Virginia Meyer SSND celebrates 70th anniversary in St. James and Rosati, where her years of service still resonate

By Jay Nies

Sister Virginia Meyer of the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) spent 13 of her first 70 years of professed religious life in Rosati and St. James.

Somewhere along the way, these places became her home, and the people became her family.

There she celebrated her golden jubilee in 2004, and there she returned to note her platinum jubilee with an open house in St. James on June 12 of this year and a Mass in Rosati the following morning.

It was the Memorial Feast of St. Anthony of Padua, the Rosati parish's patron saint.

"This morning at Mass, during the 'Gloria,' we prayed, 'We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you' — and that's what Sr. Virginia's life has been all about," said Rosati parishioner Carol Flaim.

"She praised, adored and glorified God by the work she did here," said Mrs. Flaim. "She is a pleasing sacrifice and incense before God, and we thank God for her and all she's done for us."

Rosati parishioner Moni-



LEFT: Sister Virginia Meyer of the School Sisters of Notre Dame addresses friends and well-wishers at a brunch reception after Mass in St. Anthony Church in Rosati June 13 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of her religious profession. **RIGHT:** Sr. Virginia serves up pieces of a cake made in the shape of the number 70, during an open house for her anniversary on June 12 in the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall in St. James.

— Photos by Jay Nies

ca Orlando called to mind the verse from Luke's Gospel that was the antiphon for that morning's responsorial psalm: "The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest."

"Sister planted good seeds in her time here with us, and today was her harvest," said Mrs. Orlando. "You could see that all around you."

Sr. Virginia served in leadership roles at Immaculate Conception in St. James and St. Anthony in Rosati from 1995-2008.

Since 2021, Sister Virginia has been living and assisting at Cardinal Ritter Senior Services in St. Louis through prayer, presence and service.

"It's a great life," she said while carving up slices of a cake baked in the shape of the

number 70. "I have no regrets. I have a lot of challenges but no regrets."

A native of Apple Creek near the southern tip of the St. Louis archdiocese, Sr. Virginia has served in many roles and in many locales these past seven decades.

"I've loved every one of them, but this will always be my home now," she said of St. James and Rosati.

"I'm now the last of 10 siblings in my family," she said. "I have lots of wonderful nieces and nephews, but no immediate family. So, I came here to celebrate."

She also planned to visit the parish cemeteries.

"That's where a lot of the folks are that I knew," she said.

"Something beautiful"

Father Patrick Dolan, a retired priest who lives in the St. James rectory and offers Mass in parishes around the area, presided at Sr. Virginia's Jubilee Mass in Rosati.

In his homily, he lauded Sr. Virginia, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and all the religious sisters whose heroic efforts helped build up the Church in the diocese.

"We should not forget, and we should always be grateful for the great mission you and your community of Notre Dame Sisters have accomplished among us in this part



of the world," he said to her.

The sisters and their lives of sacrificial service help invigorate the memory of Christ and his total, self-giving sacrifice.

"It's that memory that now enriches our celebration of the Eucharist and our great remembrance of all that Christ accomplished for us," said Fr. Dolan.

More photos from this event have been posted in The Catholic Missourian's online edition, cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

He called to mind the words used by an English philosopher and journalist named Malcolm Muggeridge to describe the compassionate work of St. Theresa of Kolkata and her Missionaries of Charity among the poorest of the poor in India.

"Something beautiful for God."

"I borrow those same words and say of you, Sister, and your community, and the other religious communities who have served here — it has been and continues to be something beautiful for God," he said.

A name not given

Sr. Virginia said her jubilee year has been one of deep grat-

itude and celebration.

"My SSND commitment has given me ample opportunities to live out my call to a life of service and availability," she said.

The youngest of 10 children in her family, she was born and raised in Apple Creek, a small farming community in southeastern Missouri.

As a child, she already had the name for her first daughter picked out.

Yet, as time went by, the call to religious life began asserting itself more clearly.

"I fought it long enough!" she said. "I finally gave in."

She entered religious life in St. Louis with the School Sisters of Notre Dame, a congregation of religious sisters founded in Germany and present in this area for over 150 years.

Its founding mission, through which it receives the power of the Holy Spirit, is to respond to the needs of the poor, especially women and children.

That mission has been carried out in this country mostly through educating children in Catholic schools and helping to build up the spiritual life of parishes.

Sr. Virginia made her first profession of vows — promising a life of communal ownership of

See SR. VIRGINIA, page 15



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Retreat leader gives priests tips on using art to pray, evangelize

By Jay Nies

The quest for a fresh encounter with God through classical avenues of truth, beauty and goodness can be enhanced by an unexpected detour.

So said Benedictine Father Pachomius Meade of Conception Abbey to a group of priests of this diocese who were on a retreat he led for them at the abbey this spring.

"I'm not just talking about religious literature or art," Fr. Pachomius noted. "A good novel on the human condition, art like in my conferences, or a movie may touch something in us seemingly unconsciously."

Sometimes, the effect of exposure to a good and unexpected artwork is to "let the Holy Spirit reach me when I am not prepared for it," he said.

Fr. Pachomius, a Palmyra native who ministered for several years at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia while studying at the University of Missouri, is dean of students at Conception Seminary College.

"Our own Fr. Pachomius is an outstanding teacher," stated Father Matthew Flatley, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City, who attended the retreat.

Fr. Pachomius brought forth for the retreatants several insights from his study and work of creating Catholic artwork and his interest in using religious art to draw people closer to God.

He is convinced that the current stewards of Western Civilization have a narrow sense of experiencing the sacred in contemporary Catholicism.

"It may be that the highest mystics appreciate a wordless, imageless kind of union with God," Fr. Pachomius surmised.

"However, in the early Church there appears to be no such demand to transcend the senses completely; we move from external senses to corresponding spiritual senses," he said.

With that in mind, Fr. Pachomius structured his retreat conferences around St.

Peter and artistic depictions of him throughout his life and ministry.

"I have always identified with the prince of the Apostles personally," the priest stated. "Not because I long to be pope or anything — but because in him we see ourselves: impulsive, weak and dense."

Yet, through grace and perseverance that very same simple man becomes the Rock upon which Jesus builds his Church.

Each conference was structured around an event in St. Peter's life as revealed the gospel books and the Acts of the Apostles and even from the non-biblical text known as the Acts of Peter.

Fr. Pachomius offered a word or phrase that summed up each conference and made his points around that.

Each retreat participant received a printed reproduction of each of the paintings, the related Scripture texts, and reflection questions for each lecture.

Ordinary things

Fr. Pachomius reminded his fellow priests that prayer always requires sacrifice.

"Parish priests want to be good pastors and they stay busy, and there is always more work to be done," Fr. Pachomius noted.

Doing something that's seeming more productive might give the feeling of accomplishing something important.

"But, it's possible for us to run around all day long and never actually fulfill God's will for us," said Fr. Pachomius. "So, it's very important for us to make the necessary sacrifice for prayer."

One of his talks was about consistency — a topic he has found to be most beneficial to cultivate in his own Priesthood.

"We live in a culture that praises the spontaneous and the zealous," he noted. "However, as many holy people have pointed out: a saint is not one who necessarily did extraordinary things, but did ordinary things with extraordinary love."

So, how do ordinary peo-

ple develop the courage it would require to be a martyr for the faith?

"By being faithful every day in little things, we become ready for big things," said Fr. Pachomius.

He cited a passage from *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway, in which a character is asked how he went bankrupt.

"In two ways," the man replies. "Little by little, and then all at once."

Likewise, a house falls apart after years of letting tiny water droplets buffet the roof.

"Being consistent, even to a smaller degree than one thinks he is capable, is better than periodic bursts of heroism," said Fr. Pachomius.

He urged his fellow priests to allow new forms of art to preach the Gospel to them.

He shared with them an observation from Bob Schuchts Ph.D., founder of the Pope St. John Paul II Center of Healing, that "sometimes, movies proclaim the Gospel to us better than the Scripture themselves."

"Living and ever-new"

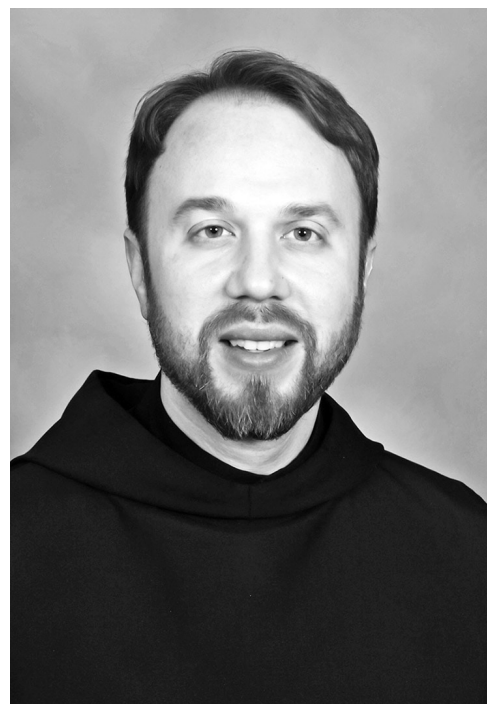
Fr. Pachomius lauded the priests who attended for their attention and engagement.

Several of them thanked him for the reflections, asked for the titles of some of the books he mentioned, and inquired further about aspects of the paintings he used to illustrate his points.

But it wasn't just about individual learning.

"It appeared to me that the priests who attended take their brotherhood in the presbyterate seriously," said Fr. Pachomius.

He saw priests who had been classmates at the semi-



Father Pachomius Meade OSB

nary catching up with one another at check-in, and several missionary priests from other countries enjoying lively banter with one another.

Most said they enjoyed his format and especially the opportunity to reflect on the art.

"I gave them a new way to engage with familiar texts and concepts," Fr. Pachomius stated. "If the Word is living and ever-new, then it must be so!"

He hopes the priests encourage their parishioners to stop and reflect on the spiritual works of art they might otherwise take for granted in their own churches.

"You have many beautiful churches in the Jefferson City diocese that your ancestors built and are worthy of contemplation," he noted.

He tied this in with each Catholic's calling to be a missionary disciple.

"We may think we have to have a masters in theology to speak to others about the faith," he said.

"However, how many of us have reviewed and recommended movies to others without having a PhD in film studies? The same can be said

of religious art," he said.

While it's helpful to know the meaning of certain religious symbols and to develop an appreciation for artistic composition, "beyond that, we are much like kindergartners just trying to say what we see in pictures!" he said.

Something that simple can open up avenues of reflection.

"Like the Bible, in which the text is not meant to be absorbed all at once, great art demands that we come back to it and see new things," said Fr. Pachomius. "We make sense of it over time, and it surprises us upon new

inspection, looking at it slowly."

He asserted that anyone who is not familiar with that approach also doesn't know how to pray well.

"But it is easy enough to learn if one is willing to slow down," he said.

Spirit of adoption

One of the major takeaways for Father Robert Fields — pastor of St. Michael Parish in Kahoka; St. John Parish in Memphis; and Shrine of St. Patrick Parish in St. Patrick — was the many contrasts surrounding events of St. Peter's last few days of life upon earth.

"How are we living this reality?" Fr. Fields continues to ask himself.

Father Thomas Alber, associate pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City, returned to his post refreshed.

"The atmosphere at Conception Abbey is peaceful," he said. "The birds singing evoke the promise of spring. The monks chanting the Liturgy of the Hours marks the vari-

See RETREAT, page 23

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QUESTION CORNER

Is my friend 'dead' in Christ due to her irregular marriage status?

By Jenna Marie Cooper
OSV News

Q: John 6:54 states the following: "Jesus said to them, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.'" I just met a sister in Christ who has a problem. She has a common law spouse and children, but only she has come to the faith. The others (especially her husband) are atheist. There is no holy matrimony in sight. She attends Mass but does not receive the Holy Eucharist. She loves the Church and is devoted. But she feels ashamed, and claims that in the eyes of the Church she is dead, based on the above Scripture. Could a priest or bishop allow a dispensation where somebody like my friend could receive the Holy Eucharist? If not, is she "dead?" I've just met her, and am trying to help her out of the "I'm dead" realm. (Connecticut)



A: Practically speaking, the best advice you can give your friend is to encourage her to find a local parish priest with whom she feels comfortable sharing her situation.

Scenarios like your friend's will not seem surprising or scandalous to a parish priest, or to the many non-priests who serve in other forms of pastoral ministry. While your friend might feel a little nervous about approaching a priest, you can remind her that there really is no reason for her to feel "ashamed." The Church is always happy when someone seeks a closer relationship with Christ in the sacraments, no matter what roadblocks might need to be resolved.

There are ways to work out complicated irregular marriages so that a person can regain a full sacramental life in the Church, but every situation is unique and comes with its own set of concerns and nuances.

For example, was your friend baptized Catholic as infant, but is just now returning to a more fervent practice of the faith? Or is she a non-Catholic who wishes to become Catholic?

If your friend is not technically Catholic, and if her "common law marriage" is one that has secular civil effects, then it is possible that her marriage might already be considered a valid one in the eyes of the Church (though in that case she would still need to complete a process of Catholic initiation before receiving the Eucharist).

If your friend is Catholic but her common law husband is not, there could be other ways to regularize her marriage. For instance, perhaps your friend's legal husband might be willing to exchange matrimonial consent in a very quiet, simple Catholic ceremony. Or if there was already some sort of deliberate legal exchange of consent or marriage vows in their "common law" union, it may be possible to request something called a "radical sanation" from the local bishop, which is somewhat like retroactively declaring the marriage vows valid in the eyes of the Church.

But again, it is not possible to give your friend concrete advice without being there in person to get the whole story and clarify all the details — your friend would need to work all this out with someone who is familiar with the Church's marriage law and able to apply it to the specifics of her own situation.

Regarding the concerns about being "dead," the Church and sacred Scripture often speak in terms of life and death when describing the sacraments and the spiritual life. E.g., in baptism we die with Christ so as to share in his Resurrection; and serious sins are called "mortal" because they cut us off from God, the source of all life. But this sort of language does not

See QUESTION, page 18

Mercy on parade



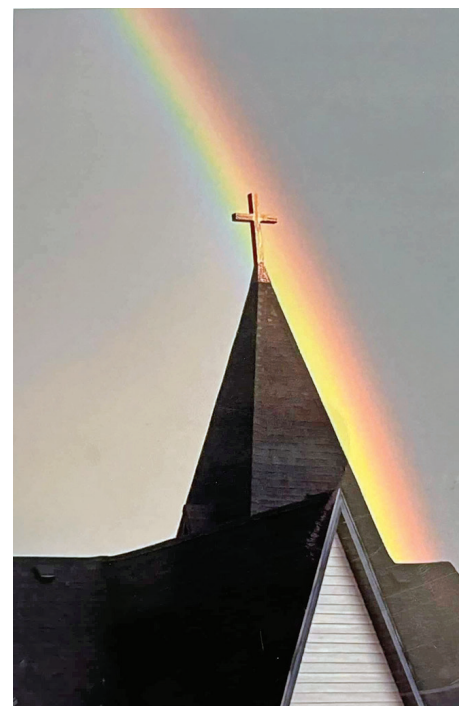
Members of St. Alexander Parish in Belle have fun taking Jesus to the streets of the Belle Parade on June 20. The theme of the float is the image of the Divine Mercy of Jesus.

— Photo by St. Alexander Catholic Church Belle, MO

"I will set my bow in the clouds":

A rainbow appears over the steeple of St. Jude Thaddeus Church in Mokane after an early-evening storm on June 25.

— Photo by Don Woodruff, from the St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church-Mokane Facebook page.



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Sidewalk chalk and civility

By Effie Caldarola
OSV News



Sidewalk chalk, that staple of summer, is easy to spot on an early morning walk. You may be tempted to start skipping over the loosely drawn squares of some little person's hopscotch course. Or, since this chalk often comes in pastel hues, it's hard to create a convincing Elmo, but an artist has given it her best shot.

You smile when you walk by a house with colorful sidewalks.

But what about the neighbor's sidewalks? My granddaughter is a chalk artist, and her creations spilled over to the pathway of the lady next door. My daughter apologized to the homeowner, and told her they would be more careful about boundaries.

"Oh, no," replied her neighbor, who is old enough to be a grandma. "She can draw all she wants on my sidewalk."

Then she recounted a tale from her youth. This woman recalled her own artwork venturing on to the pavement of her next-door neighbor. After these many years, the woman still remembers the scolding she received from that neighbor, the reprimand, the harsh instructions to clean off the sidewalk.

It made such an impression on her

that after all these years she wants to make her sidewalks welcoming.

What memories do you want to leave with the people you encounter? What recollections would you like to remain with a child 50 years from now?

We live in angry times. The political discussions are more acrimonious than anything I can remember in my lifetime, and even within the Church the disagreements become disrespectful and rude.

When I see the bitter, insulting words slung about, the name calling, I remember the election of 2008 and a rally held for Sen. John McCain, the Republican nominee for president. You can easily search for this encounter on YouTube.

McCain was making his case for why he would be a better president than the Democratic nominee, then-Sen. Barack

Obama of Illinois.

But during the question-and-answer period, McCain fielded a question from a woman who said she doesn't trust Obama. Then she referred to him as an "Arab."

At that, McCain, who had been listening and nodding, took the microphone from her hands.

"No, ma'am, no," he says emphatically. "He's a decent family man, citizen, that I just happen to have disagreements with on fundamental issues."

I was not in agreement with McCain on many of those issues, but I always retain that memory of him in that room that night. A good, brave man who was willing to fight for his principles, but not willing to wallow in the dirt of false accusations. His own decency insisted

See CALDAROLA, page 19

The inventive love of the Eucharistic revival

By Ben Akers
OSV News

"Love is inventive to infinity."

These words were spoken by the patron saint of the parish my family attends: St. Vincent de Paul. The saint was reminding a brother priest who was on his deathbed that divine charity is always creative in making God's presence known.

In no way is this more evident than in Jesus' gift of love to his Church, the Eucharist.

The truth of this phrase, uttered almost 400 years ago, has manifested itself at our parish during the National Eucharistic Revival. Both the pastor and the parish community have been "inventive" in increasing Eucharistic devotion over the last several years. These simple additions can be implemented in any parish to the same effect.

Upon his arrival, the pastor's love for our Lord in the Eucharist was evident through his words and deeds. We regularly received faith-filled catechesis on topics related to the worship of God at Mass. He instructed us on the significance of the church's design, the meaning behind the holy vessels used in the liturgy and the formative nature of the music we sing. He accompanied these teachings with stories from the heroic lives of the saints who displayed their belief in the Real Presence.

His witness continued through his deep reverence during the celebration of the Mass. For example, even his pause for a brief personal thanksgiving after distributing Holy Communion and purifying the sacred vessels has been imitated by the altar servers and parishioners. In evidence of his own love for our Lord and the mercy he offers, Father exposes the Blessed Sacrament in between two of the Sunday morning Masses while he hears confes-

sion during that same time — and there is always a line! There has been a noticeable increase in attendance at Mass, especially from young adults and from families with young children.

When my pastor first arrived at the parish, one of his first initiatives was to open an adoration chapel. Through generous donors, a parish meeting room was repurposed into a beautiful space. The intimate setting is conducive to prayer and quickly became a peaceful refuge for parishioners and other local Catholics. I recently heard the story of a young agnostic man who was encouraged to sit in the adoration chapel and "pray like a Catholic." This challenge, along with God's grace, led to his conversion to the Catholic faith this past Easter Vigil.

Knowing that parents with young (and playful!) children might feel unwelcome in the small adoration chapel, on a parishioner's suggestion, Father dedicated Sundays in the chapel to families with young children — stocking the back of the chapel with crayons, coloring pages with images from that week's Gospel readings, and kids' Bible books.

One of the great fruits of this past year was the establishment of Family Adoration Night through the initiative of three married couples in the parish. Once a month at 5 p.m., Father exposes the Blessed Sacrament and then heads into the confessional. Over the next 30 minutes there is silent time, a Gospel reading, short meditation, a decade of the Rosary and singing — all accompanied with many additional kids' noises. After Benediction, the evening continues with dinner and fellowship.

If I had to lay out the key ingredients

See AKERS, page 19

REFLECTION

Rise and shine

Mark Saucier

A quick recap.

Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, where he was met by Jairus. This synagogue leader begged Jesus to cure his dying daughter.

In the pressing crowd, a woman grabbed at Jesus's cloak. She was cured of the hemorrhaging that had impoverished and ostracized her.

Then Jairus's servants arrived and informed him that the girl had died.

Jesus tells the stricken father, "Do not be afraid."

At the house, Jesus takes the little girl's hand saying, "*Talitha koum*," "Little girl, arise."

And she did.

This story also appears in Matthew and Luke, but only Mark has the Aramaic words of Jesus.

I was curious about "*talitha*." I was wondering what the male form would be, but found that it is not gendered, basically meaning "little one."

Then I discovered that "*talitha*" is related to the word for lamb and could be translated as "little wounded lamb."

In one of the other two instances where Jesus restored someone to life, he said to the widow's son in Nain, "Young man, arise."

I wondered if Jesus said, "*Talitha koum*" to him, as well.

"My little wounded lamb, arise."

For me, this possibility added a rich new dimension.

It hearkened back to Isaiah 40 and the origin of Jesus as the Good Shepherd: "He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; and gently leads those who have young."

Jairus and his daughter, the widow and her son, even the bleeding woman who Jesus calls daughter are all wrapped in the loving arms of the shepherd.

But "little wounded lamb" evokes so much more; is so much more personal.

We don't like to admit it, maybe don't even realize it, but we are all little wounded lambs in some way.

Many of these wounds, long forgotten but still painful, go back to our childhood.

Failures, embarrassments, rejections, differences — not only leave a scar, but still fester under the surface, affecting our self-image, our attitudes and our relationships today.

It is not all the baggage of childhood. Even as adults, we can be gravely wounded by lost loves, fractured friendships, dreams that never came to pass, and by not being really known by others.

The Good Shepherd assures us that there is strength to cope, grace to heal, and love to lift us up.

It's there for the asking, but first, like the woman clutching Jesus's clothes, I must admit that I, too, am a little wounded lamb.

Encounter

AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Embracing the Call:

A reflection on service with Catholic Charities



By Mike Maag

After serving on the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) for three consecutive three-year terms, I must now step down from the board, as required by the bylaws.

As I prepare to pass the baton, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity given to me to contribute to this vital organization's mission.

The last nine years serving on the board, with the last two as president, has truly been an honor.

The time has been filled with extended moments of excitement, compassion, resilience, and at times anxiety, yet always with an unwavering commitment to our mission.

As board president, one of my key goals has been to expand Catholic Charities' reach throughout the 38 counties of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

While this goal has yet to achieve full fruition, (because of this, I wish I had more time on the board of directors) I rest assured that Bishop McKnight and the current board will continue to pursue this expansion.

I wish to see Catholics across our diocese truly embrace this organization as their own.

Catholic Charities embodies

the fundamental principle of "Catholic charity" which we all share as a faith community.

By uniting behind its mission, we can create a powerful positive impact on those most in need of support and uplift our communities in the process.

The Parish Social Ministry sub-committee of the board has the goal to transform our parishes into Centers of Charity and Mercy.

I encourage you to get involved through your local parish and deanery, actively participating in this sacred work.

I ask you to please consider becoming a Parish Ambassador to Catholic Charities.

In Bishop McKnight's Pastoral Letter, A Steward's Journey: Our Call to Greater Communion, his three-year diocesan plan outlined establishing Catholic Charities Parish Ambassadors as a key point of strengthening the parish's ability to be Centers of Charity and Mercy.

I am making a broader call to action for Catholics within our diocese.

As Catholics, we are called to witness our faith in our lives and how we live.

Each of us has a role in uplifting those in need, allowing others in our community to witness our faith and parish as



a Center of Charity and Mercy.

When we come together as Catholics, pooling our collective efforts and resources, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

I encourage you to envision opportunities for new programs that can make a positive impact on your community.

You have the power to identify local needs and you can act.

Whenever you recognize an area of need, you can apply for a Charity and Mercy Grant through Catholic Charities.

These grants, providing up to \$5,000 in funding, can help you kickstart initiatives to address those needs.

The application process is straightforward and accessible

through the Catholic Charities website (cccnmo.diojeffcity.org).

With a little effort, you can picture your parish as a Center of Charity and Mercy, where the least fortunate members of your community feel welcomed, supported and uplifted. Imagine the impact on their lives.

By taking such steps, we not only uplift those in need but also inspire others to join our mission of compassion and service.

Together, we (the parish and CCCNMO) can truly embody the principle of "Catholic charity" throughout the diocese.

If asked to serve, say "yes."

If you wish to volunteer at CCCNMO, please call our

volunteer coordinator at 573-635-7719.

As I conclude my time on the board of directors, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency, Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, and Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos for their leadership and support.

My sincere thanks go to our Executive Director Litz Main, former Interim Executive Director Sister Kathleen Wegman, and former Executive Director Dan Lester for their unwavering dedication to the mission.

I am deeply grateful to the previous board presidents, Linda McAnany, and John Landwehr, for their guidance and service, as well as to the entire board of directors, both current and past, for their leadership and governance.

And lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to the entire staff, volunteers, donors, partners, and supporters of Catholic Charities for their generosity and commitment to our mission.

Finally, I wish Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri continued growth and success in its mission of service.

As I reflect on my time with the organization, I am grateful to have been a small part of such a wonderful charity.

Judge says effort to shut down Catholic ministry to migrants violates Texas' religious freedom act

By Kate Scanlon
OSV News

A state judge July 2 denied Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's effort to shut down Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas, a Catholic nonprofit serving migrants.

The ruling by Judge Francisco X. Dominguez of the District Court of El Paso County found that Paxton's office "failed to establish probable grounds for the proceedings" and that the effort violated the Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

"The record before this Court makes clear that the Texas Attorney General's use of the request to examine docu-

ments from Annunciation House was a pretext to justify its harassment of Annunciation House employees and the persons seeking refuge," Dominguez ruled in granting Annunciation House's application for relief.

"This Court previously expressed its concern that the Attorney General did not identify what laws he believed were being violated from the outset," the ruling said.

Paxton's office did not immediately respond to OSV News' request for comment.

In court filings and press statements, his office alleged Annunciation House runs "stash houses," facilitates illegal border crossings, conceals "illegally present

aliens from law enforcement" and did not turn over documents in its investigation.

Annunciation House attorneys denied wrongdoing or illegal conduct and said Paxton's office did not adhere to appropriate legal processes for requesting documents from them.

Paxton's effort to shut down Annunciation House comes as some Republican lawmakers have grown increasingly hostile toward nongovernmental organizations, including Catholic ones, that provide resources such as food and shelter to migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.

A February suit filed by Paxton previously sought to shut down Annunciation House, accusing it of "human

smuggling," in a move that was denounced by local elected officials and Catholic immigration advocates, including El Paso Bishop Mark J. Seitz. In March, Dominguez issued an order blocking Paxton's subpoena of Annunciation House, finding both that Paxton's effort seemed politically motivated and that it must go through appropriate due process in the state court system.

The Diocese of El Paso did not immediately respond to OSV News' request for comment.

In its filing, Paxton's office sought to downplay the "religious component"

EUCHARIST

From page 1

Scheduled throughout the week were Masses, processions ranging from a half-mile through towns to 12.5 miles along the Katy Trail, shared meals, ardent catechetical sessions and all-night prayer vigils before the Most Blessed Sacrament.

"It all comes back to the Eucharist," said Deacon Martin. "Once we realize that God himself, through the Holy Spirit, changes the substance of ordinary bread into his Body, of ordinary wine into his Blood and gives himself to us, we experience him differently because we know that he becomes a part of us.

"People will surely recognize this change in us by the way we act," the deacon said.

Walking and kneeling

"He's now here!" Father Joseph Luzindana told the people who were about to take part in the July 1 Eucharistic procession in Sedalia. "He walked the streets of Jerusalem, of Galilee, of Capernaum. And he's going to walk in our streets and bless us!"

The people gathered in the driveway outside Sacred Heart School as Father Brad Berhorst, associate pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, carried the Eucharist out of the Sacred Heart Chapel in an ornate monstrance.

Priests and deacons from local parishes and seminarians of the diocese gathered around him while parishioners held a richly decorated canopy known as a baldachino over him.

People rang bells and sang hymns while following the Body of Christ down city streets.

A cool breeze swayed the fringe of the baldachino as the sun settled more deeply behind the buildings.

Inside St. Patrick Chapel, the singing grew more intense as participants flowed in and took to their knees in the pews.

Ushers counted 283 people present.

Fr. Berhorst carried the Most Blessed Sacrament to the altar and knelt down in adoration.

Priests heard Confessions in English and Spanish well past 10 p.m. while the hymns and

prayers continued.

The vigil lasted through the night until Father Joseph Corel, pastor, offered Mass at 6:30 a.m.

Adoration and Confessions would be held in similar fashion on the nights that followed.

Never the same

Talks by priests each evening focused on the Eucharistic actions of Christ, through which he gave himself to his Apostles at the Last Supper and continues to do so at every Mass.

Namely, he took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them.

"You give and he takes, and great things happen," said Fr. Luzindana. "Whatever you offer to God as a sacrifice, he's going to accept it and transform it, just as he turned water into wine and turned five barley loaves and two fish into enough food to feed 5,000.

"It's something you actively participate in," the priest said.

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

"You become united with Jesus, and I tell you, you'll never be the same again!"

Wherever Jesus went, he also took burdens, tears, sins and shame and transformed them, as well.

"God wants to take something from you," said Fr. Luzindana.

"So, bring your burdens to him. For those who have been crying, he will bring tears of joy. For those who have never known his presence, he is coming. He will take everything we give him and transform it."

Given in love

Also presenting each evening were one of the perpetual pilgrims and two local people giving witness to the power of the Eucharist in their lives.

Pilgrim Jack Krebs from



A child takes part in a Eucharistic procession through downtown Sedalia.

— Photo by Annie Williams

Wisconsin talked about some of the towns and cities the group had visited since the pilgrimage began.

"Wherever you are with the Eucharist, God wants to take you deeper," he said.

Mr. Krebs urged everyone to approach the altar each Sunday and "ask Jesus what he wants to do in your life, personally" — in the coming weeks, months and years.

Annette Barnes, who became Catholic through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) this past Easter, talked about her interest in the Eucharist being piqued after finding out what her children were learning at Sacred Heart School in Sedalia.

She was ultimately drawn to the truth upheld by the Church that Jesus truly gives himself as spiritual nourishment "because he loves us."

Lifelong Sedalia parishioner Bob Simon remembered his childhood excitement at getting to receive his First Holy Communion.

"Even though I didn't understand what was being offered to me in the Eucharist and the other Sacraments, I began to take my faith seriously and try to live it," said Mr. Simon.

He recalled encountering Christ's relentless love on a Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat while in high school.

God continues to renew Mr. Simon and give him peace every time he receives the Eucharist, especially over the past two years, when he has experienced loss in his family.

"The more I understand the

gift of Christ in the Eucharist, the more I desire to receive him," he said. "The Eucharist is truly the source and summit of my faith."

The miracle

Bishop Edward Rice of Springfield-Cape Girardeau visited this diocese to offer early-morning Mass for the pilgrims in Boonville on July 3.

"I pray that the National Eucharistic Congress will be the beginning of something good, something prayerful, something mystical for the Catholic Church in the United States," he said in his homily.

He pointed out that the miracle of the Mass occurs when the priest pronounces the words of Jesus: "This is my Body ... this is my Blood."

"Christ himself, living and glorious," states the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "is present in a true, real and substantial manner: his Body and his Blood, with his Soul and his Divinity."

Jesus states further, "Do this in memory of me."

"With that mandate to remember his actions and words, every Mass celebrated draws us into his life, his death and his resurrection, as he intercedes in the presence of the Father," said Bishop Rice.

The bishop emphasized that the people at Mass are not merely spectators.

"Every one of us is united with the sacrifice of Christ, and along with Christ, we are offered to the Father," he said.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight was to offer Mass in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson

City the morning of July 5, followed by a Eucharistic procession in nearby Memorial Park.

"Where we are"

Mr. Krebs predicted that throughout the week, people taking part in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage would develop a stronger conviction of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

He shared stories of accompanying and adoring the Most Blessed Sacrament through some of the most scenic landscapes in the country.

It felt very much like stories in the Bible of people walking with Jesus as he taught and healed them, he said.

"I'm really just walking with Jesus out here," said Mr. Krebs. "These Gospel stories aren't dead. In a unique way for us, they're coming to life as we journey with him."

The pilgrims have witnessed great unity and diversity within the Church, along with deep faith and a desire to put it into practice.

Perpetual missionary Jaella Mac Au, a senior at the University of Georgia, said the Lord has been revealing himself to her through all the people she's encountered on the Pilgrimage.

"Our Church is so alive, and it's just such a blessing to be a part of it," she said.

She recalled visiting California's maximum-security Folsom State Prison for men with nine other pilgrims and praying with about 70 of the prison's residents.

She spoke of the range of processions she'd gotten to be part of — from about 30 people in rural areas to thousands of people in big cities.

She called to mind the enthusiastic welcome the pilgrims received from Discalced Carmelite nuns in their cloistered monastery in Utah.

She talked about people's impromptu reactions to the Eucharistic processions, with runners and cyclists stopping and kneeling down before the Lord.

"The important thing is that the Lord is so willing and so desiring to go exactly where we're

See PILGRIMAGE, page 12

PILGRIMAGE

From page 11

at, and it is so beautiful to see," Miss Mac Au said.

Out on the trail

People from around the diocese joined the pilgrims on all or part of a 12.5-mile Eucharistic procession July 2 on the Katy Trail from Sedalia to Pilot Grove.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to bring people of all

ages together," said Ellen Kussman, a member of St. Boniface Parish in Brunswick.

The time in prayerful contemplation helped her reach greater depth of faith in God and appreciation of his gift of the Eucharist.

"Coming from a small, rural community, something like this is very engaging," she said.

"It helps put into perspective religion and faith — and celebrating all of this with other Catholics, that's pretty powerful."

Misty Werkmeister, a member of Holy Spirit Parish in Centralia, had a powerful experience of Adoration a few years ago with thousands of fellow Catholics at a National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC).

"So, when this opportunity came and it was combined with being outside on the trail, I saw it as a chance to walk with Jesus for real!" she said.

She enjoyed praying and singing hymns and meeting people from other parishes.

Kate Hodel, a member of St. Anthony Parish in Camdenton, partook of the procession with her husband.

She said it was awesome for them to walk with Jesus.

"The whole notion of people getting together and publicly proclaiming what we believe seemed really important to me," she said.

Praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet communally along the way touched her soul.

"It's just amazing how close you can feel to Christ among his people," she said.



Father David Veit carries the Most Blessed Sacrament under a bridge along the Katy Trail between Sedalia and Pilot Grove July 2 as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.
— Photo by Annie Williams

Become like him

Maureen Quinn, diocesan director of religious education and youth/young adult ministry, said she was amazed by people's sacrifices and generosity to help make this pilgrimage possible.

"The man handing out water, the woman handing out turkey rollups, the people driving, those planning liturgies — each person is walking this pilgrimage with Christ," she said.

Deacon Martin said he believes the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is awakening many souls.

"I think we'll see a lot of people come to Mass with a different perspective after being part of this experience," he said.

Mr. Krebs said he's come to

realize that God is calling those who receive Christ in the Eucharist "to become what we receive."

"All of these things that I've been reflecting on about the Eucharistic heart of our Lord — his humility, his hiddenness, his self-emptying sacrifice — all of these things I'm supposed to become also," he said.

Miss Mac Au noted that the third year of the Eucharistic Revival is devoted to mission, inviting people to share what they believe and invite others to do likewise.

"This pilgrimage is really a kick-start to this year of mission and not being afraid to speak the name of the Lord and invite others to Mass as well," she said.

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France's 'night of churches' an opportunity to understand Christian culture through art

By Caroline de Sury
OSV News

Paris

"*La nuit des églises*" has become a must-go-to event in recent years for many French Catholics and those wanting to experience the beauty of the country's Christian heritage.

From June 22 to July 7, many of France's churches will open their doors in the evenings, after dark, for artistic and cultural events of "The night of churches," organized by the French bishops since 2011.

Under the law separating church and state, church buildings in France have been owned by the municipalities since 1905, while the state owns the cathedrals. Places of worship are only allocated to dioceses and their clergy. So "*La nuit des églises*" is organized through the collaboration of parishes and town halls, with the help of heritage preservation associations.

"There are about 42,000 parish churches in France," Father Gautier Mornas told OSV News. "They form a national heritage that is dear to us all."

Fr. Mornas is coordinator and promoter of the event, as head of the Sacred Art Department of the French bishops' conference. "More than 7,000 nights of churches have already been organized over the past 13 years," he said. "More and more churches are taking part in the event, including, this year, four of the five French churches in Rome, for the first time! It is a way of discovering or rediscovering, through art, what a church is, and the meaning of what is lived there."

"Participating churches will be open both literally and figuratively during the night," Fr. Mornas explained. "Until late into the night, the churches will welcome people who don't usually come here, for cultural and artistic programs, respecting the specificity of the place."

"The proposals are very varied," Fr. Mornas said, mentioning there will be torch-lit concerts, photographic exhibitions, chimes, lectures, theatrical performances and

light shows on the stained-glass windows. In one of the churches in southern France, he said, a professional actor will read famous excerpts from French literature, from the centuries-old stone pulpit of a small town church.

This year, "*La nuit des églises*" is sponsored by the French Academy of Fine Arts. To launch the event, several academics welcomed 200 young people from the suburbs and rural communities May 29, invited to Paris by the bishops' conference, for a day of discovering Parisian churches.

"This meeting at the Academy of Fine Arts was a very powerful moment," Fr. Mornas explained. "The young people became aware that heritage is not just a legacy of the past, but also something that we are building today, and in

which they too can be a stakeholder, right where they are."

See CHURCHES, page 18



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Bluegrass Martins from 7-9 pm
Bring your lawnchair!

Quilt Auction @ 5pm | Kiddie Tractor Pull @ 2pm

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LIVE QUILT AUCTION 5pm

Prizes - Country Store - Kids Area
Games - Sandwich Stand - Refreshments

St. Stanislaus Church
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WARDSVILLE

MISSIONS

From page 1

Office, which supports mission and humanitarian partnerships with other dioceses in countries with developing economies, including Fr. Luzindana's home diocese.

"What a wonderful thing!" he said. "I'm very excited to be in America and to say, 'Yes, we can do great things together.'"

Thanks to donations from the Jefferson City diocese, classrooms have been built for children in Fr. Luzindana's home diocese, which is also home to several other mission priests serving here.

"The Church is one family," said Fr. Luzindana. "We are like a body. So, we help one other, depending on each other's need."

"Today, in Africa, the need we have is money to build schools, seminaries, to help schools and seminaries to do expensive things which we do not have the resources to do."

"Here, what you find is that there is a shortage of priests," he stated. "And what happens? We find that we can help each other!"

His archbishop is allowing him to serve here for a time, sharing his gifts as a priest and adept evangelizer while gaining valuable experience he'll eventually put to use back home.

"This loving, caring and sharing of the gifts God has given us: what a wonderful thing!" said Fr. Luzindana. "This shows we are one."

A fiery yes

Fr. Luzindana lauded the European and American missionaries who gave up the comforts of their homelands so they could share with his ancestors the Good News of Jesus Christ.

"People volunteered and came to Africa in very harsh conditions and brought the love of Jesus to us, and they sowed Christianity and the love of God into us," he said.

He called to mind a Jesuit missionary who ministered and led retreats for the young people in his hometown.

"Basically, he would tell us to 'Say YES to Jesus Christ!'" Fr. Luzindana recalled. "It really challenged me to want to serve God more. And that's why I'm a priest."

And once he became a

priest, he wanted to follow in that charismatic Jesuit's footsteps and continue leading young people to Christ.

"So I began the Y.E.S. Center, which stands for 'Youth Encounter the Savior,'" he said.

The Y.E.S. Center (yescenterug.org) is a place for young Catholics in Uganda's largest city to have their faith life, social life and education strengthened.

Preparing young people to share the Gospel with each other is a need Fr. Luzindana still sees at home and even more so in his current mission field.

"What I see being done here and what I wish you all could be doing more is to tap the young generation — to set them on fire," he said.

He's concerned about young people seeming to be able to find time for everything but God.

"I want Jesus to be like chocolate to them — something they really want," he said.

"I think we need to find a way — the language, the style — to attract young people to check out the Church," he stated. "And once they're on fire,

our schools and in the entire Church," he said.

"The suffering Jesus"

Fr. Luzindana spoke of the Missions Special Collection as a way to help people in tremendous need.

"It's very important, with great urgency, to touch the suffering Jesus, the needy Jesus," he said.

"There are many people who really need our help," he said. "They have no water, they have no shelter, they have no education, they have no medication."

"There are things we are all going to leave behind here when we go to heaven," he said. "God will give us heaven. So, please be generous and give."

"It's very important, and with great urgency, to touch the suffering Jesus — the needy Jesus...Your change, just a little change, can make a big difference in one's life."

— Fr. Joseph Luzindana

Associate pastor of our Cathedral of St. Joseph;
ordained in the Archdiocese of Kampala, Uganda

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July 20-21

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they will take that fire to others."

Toward that end, he sees an urgency for Catholics of all ages to be re-evangelized and have that fire rekindled.

"We need this in our families, in our neighborhoods, in

Fr. Luzindana recalled the first parish where he served after his ordination.

There was no electricity, indoor plumbing or flushing toilets.

"I was the only person there who had a car, and my car was

also working as an ambulance," he noted.

The people had to walk up to 10 miles to get fresh water. Children had to walk seven miles to get to school.

Addressing those needs by helping pay to drill wells and build schools changes lives dramatically and prompts entire communities to turn to God in gratitude.

The priest talked about how people of the Jefferson City diocese donated a corn mill to a community in the Kampala archdiocese. People now come from miles away to have their harvested maize processed into flour they can bake with.

"It's so great!" he said. "We can't say enough words of thanks for the generosity of the people here, that they can think of others God has created who are need."

"Do something"

Fr. Luzindana said mission is the primary goal for Christians.

"Jesus told us to go to the entire world and 'make them my disciples,'" he noted. "The mission did not stop in the Holy Land where Jesus was. He wanted to reach everyone, and he sent us!"

Jesus provided three means for people to draw others to himself:

•By proclaiming the Good News of Jesus offering freedom from sin;

•By putting that Good News into action like Jesus, who could have set salvation into motion with merely a word from heaven "but chose to come and act

to the point of giving up his own life";

•By praying for one another, specifically for their souls to be saved.

"It has got to be about action," Fr. Luzindana emphasized. "It's not about talking to God and talking about God and then not doing anything. We've got to do something!"

"Whatever words we say, people should know there is Christ in us," the priest stated. "But we must also

continue doing these things until everyone feels the mercy of God."

He called to mind the group of young adults from this diocese who went to visit his home diocese over Holy Week of this year.

"People from here have gone to Uganda to pray with the people, to eat with them, to pray with their kids, physically to see where these kids live and where they learn," he said.

"They went on mission by going there and trying to see and experience and to show their love," he said. "What a beautiful thing!"

"Beautiful family"

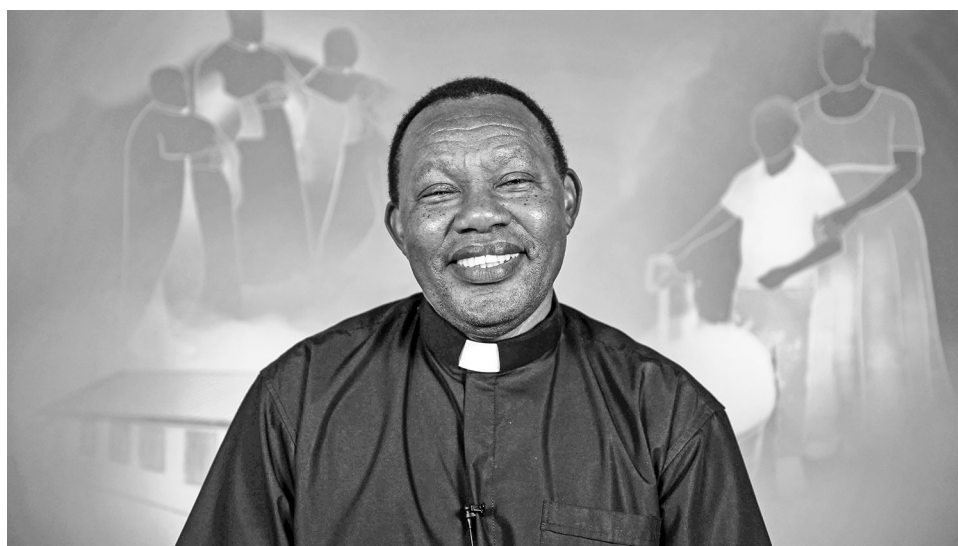
Fr. Luzindana spoke of the whole Catholic Church as "a big family" and "a wonderful community."

"What a beautiful family of God!" he said. "There are no distinctions, there are no divisions, but we all share the one cup of Jesus and the one Body of Christ."

Fr. Luzindana asked for prayers for him and all of his fellow priests to remain faithful, obedient and humble and to serve with all their energy, and for the people of his homeland who are poor and suffering to overcome the effects of bad leadership.

"More importantly, please pray that the fire of Jesus Christ may burn in every heart — in Africa, in America, in Asia, everywhere," he said.

"And may God help us turn to him and be good stewards of his vineyard and be received into heaven!"



Father Joseph Luzindana, a missionary priest serving in the Jefferson City diocese, talks about mission and the Great Commission.
— Photo by Annie Williams

SR. VIRGINIA

From page 6

earthly goods; chastity; and holy obedience to the SSND leadership — on Aug. 2, 1954, at the Motherhouse near St. Louis.

There were 58 other SSND novices in her profession class.

She began her ministry as an elementary school teacher in Belleville, Illinois.

She completed a bachelor's degree in theology from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis in 1960, and a master's degree in elementary education from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau in 1975.

Something new

After many years of teaching in Illinois and Missouri, she served for 14 years as an administrator at several Catholic elementary schools.

In 1986, she returned to Our Lady of Lourdes School in Washington as an educator. The pastor there asked her to move into the role of pastoral minister, helping with religious education, sacrament preparation and spiritual direction.

She accepted the challenge and worked with the pastor while completing certification courses.

In 1995, Bishop Michael F. McAuliffe of Jefferson City, now deceased, invited Sr. Virginia to be pastoral minister at St. Anthony Parish in Rosati and Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James.

She served in this capacity until 2001, when Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos asked her to become pastoral administrator of the Rosati parish and director of religious education of the parish in St. James.

While there, she was diligent about attending to the spiritual needs of the residents at the Missouri Veterans' Home in St. James; as well as being very visible to the community at large, which is predominantly Protestant.

She cultivated friendship and collaboration among the people of both parishes, as well as building up relationships with other faith communities.

She returned to St. Louis in 2008, serving part-time on the Notre Dame Preschool staff until 2010 and as the pastoral



Friends and well-wishers gather with Sister Virginia Meyer SSND, who served in leadership at St. Anthony Parish in Rosati and Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James from 1995-2008, during an open house for her anniversary on June 12 in the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall.

— Photos by Jay Nies

ministry volunteer at Alexian Brothers Pastoral Care until 2020.

In 2010, she also became the hospitality transportation coordinator, overseeing transportation to and from the St. Louis airport for fellow sisters and their families, at Sancta Maria at Ripa in St. Louis, continuing in that role for 10 years.

She remains healthy, sharp and active at 91 and helps at Cardinal Ritter Senior Services with the transportation needs of her fellow sisters, such as shopping and doctor's appointments.

Marching orders

"I was truly called by God through Bishop McAuliffe," Sr. Virginia said of his invitation for her to serve in Phelps County.

She called to mind the great work of the religious sisters who had been in the parishes before her, including the Dominican sisters and Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet who taught in the former Catholic school in Rosati, Sister Peggy Bonnot of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, and Sister Mildred Loddeke SSND.

"Then, I came here and forgot to go home!" said Sr. Virginia.

Richard Cardetti was president of the St. Anthony Parish Pastoral Council at the beginning of Sr. Virginia's time there.

"It was very nice to get to know her as an individual person rather than just a nun," he recalled. "That was always wonderful. We love her, and this is her home."

Immaculate Conception parishioner Darlene "Cookie" Humphrey remembers when the pastor was on sick leave for nine months and visiting priests were coming to offer Mass each Sunday.

"Sr. Virginia stood up at the end of Mass on that first Sunday and said, 'Okay, folks. This is your parish. You have to step up and do your part,'" Mrs. Humphrey recalled.

Sr. Virginia then presented to parishioners a list of things that needed to be taken care of at church — from mowing grass to clearing snow on the sidewalk before Mass.

Lifelong Catholic Ernie Zuplo was serving as caretaker of the St. Anthony Church property when Sr. Virginia first arrived.

"I had sisters teach me while I was growing up, but I went through a divorce and fell out of the Church," he said. "Well, Sister got here and started helping me along. I'd ask her a ques-

tion and she'd answer it.

"That's what gave me the opportunity to get back into the Church," he said.

"A guiding light"

Mrs. Humphrey said Sr. Virginia was a mentor and role model — "maybe even a mother figure" — especially to women in the parishes.

She praised Sr. Virginia's productive honesty: "You could ask her anything and trust that she would be boldly honest with you."

"Sister never made people mad," Mrs. Humphrey noted. "She always found a diplomatic way to do whatever needed to be done, but not to offend."

Immaculate Conception parishioner Marilyn Schwartz spoke of Sr. Virginia as "solid, steady guidance," especially through the parish religious education programs.

"She was a motherly figure to those who needed moth-

ering, and a guiding leader who could stand up and say, 'This is what we need,'" said Mrs. Schwartz.

She talked about how kind Sr. Virginia had been to her grandson — who died two years ago at age 24 — back when he was a child in religious education classes with her.

"She is just a solid lady," said Mrs. Schwartz, "a guiding light along your path and your journey."

"She still knows so many of these people very personally," said Rosati parishioner Kim Cardetti. "She watched our families grow up. She had our children in CCD classes."

"I mean, we're a family, and I'm so thankful for her," Mrs. Cardetti stated. "Sister is such a blessing and a treasure for us."

Lesson learned

Fr. Dolan acknowledged that there aren't as many religious sisters as there used to be.

"WE are to continue the mission they begun among us!" he said.

Sr. Virginia pointed out that SSNDs tend to follow the motto, "train and move on."

"And evidently, we have done a good job, because you have been good students," she told the people of Rosati and St. James.

"It's so obvious to me that you are, indeed, continuing the work. Keep it up!"

For more information about Sr. Virginia and this year's other SSND jubilarians, visit: ssnd.org/2024-jubilee.

Open Church's doors to evangelization, pope tells new archbishops

Catholic News Service

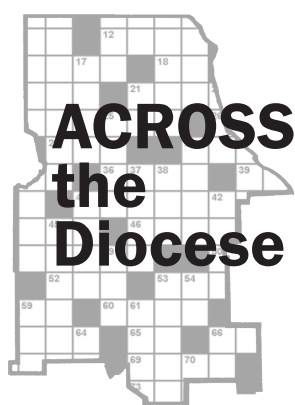
Vatican City

While Jesus entrusted St. Peter with the keys to the kingdom more than two millennia ago, and his modern-day successor conferred apostolic authority to newly appointed archbishops June 29, it is ultimately God who holds the power to open the Church's doors and lead the Christian community forward in its mission of evangelization, Pope Francis said.

Both Ss. Peter and Paul "witnessed first-hand the work of God, who opened the doors of their interior prisons but also the actual prisons into

which they were thrown because of the Gospel," he said during his homily during Mass for the two saints' feast day June 29, adding that God also opened for them the "doors of evangelization, so they could have the joy of encountering their brothers and sisters in the fledgling communities and bring the hope of the Gospel to all."

After the entrance procession, deacons brought out the palliums from the tomb of St. Peter for Pope Francis to bless them. The palliums, made from the wool of lambs blessed by the pope on the feast of St. Agnes, emphasize the role of the archbishop as a pastor who guides and protects his flock.



By Father Donald Antweiler

ACROSS

1. Nearly 90% of Missouri's wetlands have been lost. But high-quality wetlands can still be found and are esp. preserved in 18 ____ Areas across our State.
11. Fifth book of the Bible (abbr.).
13. This northwestern State is called the Beaver State (abbr.).
14. You might notice a faint ____ when you visit a wetland because of the gases that arise from the muck. Marsh muck contains billions of bacteria doing their job of breaking down dead plants and animals and emits gases that smell like rotten eggs.
15. Word before plate or run.
16. This northeastern State is called the Granite State (abbr.).
17. Dagwood to his friends.
19. "...we ought not to think that the divinity is like an image fashioned from gold, silver or stone by human ____ and imagination," (Acts 17:29).
20. "...until day dawns and the morning ____ rises in your hearts," (2 Peter 1:19).
21. "If...you chance upon a bird's nest with young birds or ____ in it...you shall not take away the mother bird..." (Deuteronomy 22:6).
23. My wife asked me to pick up ____ of milk on the way home (2 wds.).
25. In a card game, three-spots.
26. Greyhound or Trailways.
27. Can be found in a Church or movie theater.
29. Sixth planet from the sun with prominent rings. Or, car company established in 1985 and out of business in 2010.
31. My team hustled down the court for the winning basket but time simply ____ (2 wds.).

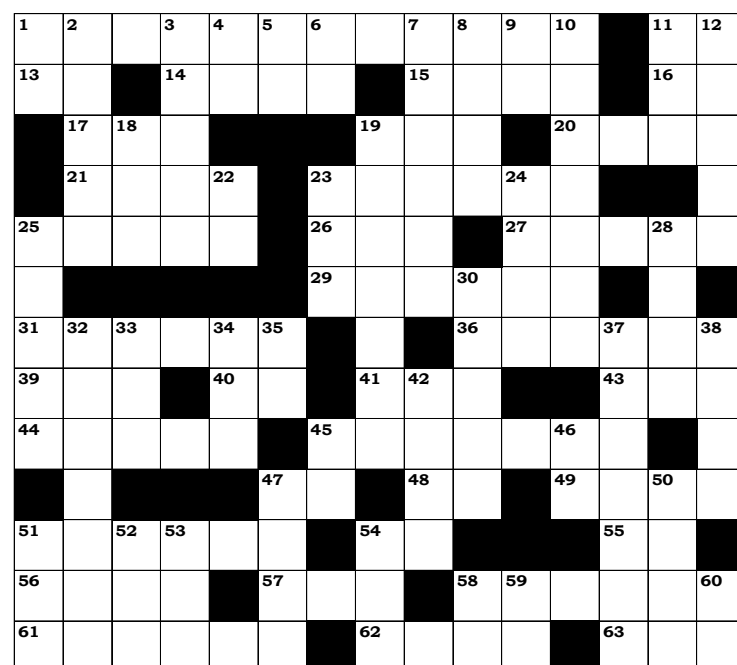
36. To come to be ineffective or invalid (e.g., alcohol can ____ the benefits of some medicines).
39. ____ and flow.
40. Letters for Post Office.
41. "Here" in Paris.
43. MU belongs to this college football conference.
44. On the "Flyway" highway, Pelicans, Snow Geese and at least 16 different kinds and colors of ____ use the Mo. wetlands, including the Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Bufflehead, etc.
45. From shallow pools on the wetlands come ____ of amphibian songs, from, for example, the Spring Peeper, Wood Frog, American bullfrog, etc. (2 wds.).
47. The First Testament (abbr.).
48. "Within the camp, Mass could be said only if the greatest precautions were taken. There were informers ____ every work brigade," —*He Leadeth Me*, Fr. Walter Ciszek, S.J.
49. A type of Japanese wrestling.
51. "The act of self-defense can have a double ____: the preservation of one's own life; and the killing of the aggressor...The one is intended, the other is not," —*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2263.
54. "The sun showed up ____ schedule — which was a relief given the alternative," —*Deadline*, John Sanford.
55. This midwestern State can boast more than 110 wineries (abbr.).
56. He would buy or ____, steal or cheat, if the price was right.
57. Holiday or Comfort.
58. Eagles not only use the Flyway, but more are wintering in Mo.'s wetlands and along _____. Look up high at their mansions among the branches. They return to the same nest every year, building it ever bigger.
61. Marsh mammals come out at dark so probably won't be seen but you might spot the signs they leave behind (e.g., a raccoon's footprints, an otter's narrow slick slide down a muddy bank, a beaver's dam or pointed ____, a muskrat's messy mound of plants and mud).
62. "The sheep had long, haughty, inscrutable fac-

es, and sharp ____, and knowing yellow eyes that could outstare a saint," — *Monk's Hood*, Ellis Peters.

63. ____ *gratias* (i.e., Thanks be to God), from the Latin Mass.

DOWN

1. "...we may merit to be ____ heirs to eternal life..." —Eucharistic Prayer II.
2. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal service ____ founded by Fr. Michael McGovney in 1882.
3. Wetlands can be muddy and buggy, ____ and stinky. One can easily get stuck in the muck. But wetlands are hardly wastelands.
4. Asner or Sullivan.
5. Letters for Reverse Osmosis, a water filtration system.
6. Letters for Virtual Reality, a computer-generated three-dimensional environment via headsets so users can interact with the simulations as if they were real.
7. According to NASA, the two Solid Rocket Boosters on a rocket have a ____ equivalent to 44 million horsepower.
8. An infinitesimal amount; jot (e.g., He did not show an ____ of sense.). Also, ninth letter of the Greek alphabet.
9. Buddhist meditation mantra.
10. Missouri is the halfway point on the Mississippi Flyway, a highway in the sky for waterbirds to get from their northern ____ grounds to southern wintering areas. They gather in wetlands to rest and refuel.
11. Genetic material.
12. "Amen, I say to you, this very night before the cock crows, you will deny me ____ times," (Matthew 26:34).
18. "The ____ of martyrs is not yet over...the Church has more martyrs now than during the first centuries," —Pope Francis.
19. There are 17 species of turtles in Mo. wetlands; we find both hard-shelled and soft-shelled ____ turtles (e.g., the Red-eared Slider, the Yellow Mud turtle, the Stinkpot turtle, etc.) crowded onto logs,



- stretching, soaking up sunshine which helps raise a turtle's temperature and provides vitamin D.
22. Short for Sacred Scripture.
23. Stomach muscles.
24. How some people like their steak.
25. "Give me your ____, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," —Statue of Liberty plaque.
28. "I think being able to age gracefully is a very important talent. It is too ____ for me," —Clint Eastwood.
30. "The Rebels are now in Missouri ravaging a country where many ____ men are found. Why have they not left? —*Troubled State: Civil War Journals of Franklin Archibald Dick*, by Gari Carter.
32. The oozy mud and mucky water of the wetland mudflats are jam packed with insects, worms and snails. This is ____ for Herons, Sandpipers, Egrets and many other shorebirds (2 wds.).
33. A major TV network.
34. The "brown" delivery company.
35. "God gives us Himself and His plan in an earthly package we are able ____ receive," —*Divine Revelation*, Curtis Mitch.
37. Mary was ____ into heaven.
38. Canyon feedback.
42. "The most important thing any broken individual can do is keep their ____ up and keep moving forward," —Matt Hardy.
45. "Fr. Brown had felt from the first that he was in what was, or had been, a Catholic household; but

- was ____ least partly inhabited by lapsed or very loose Catholics," —*The Insoluble Problem*, Fr. Brown of the Church of Rome, G.K. Chesterton.
46. Two signers of the ____ Constitution were Catholic: Daniel Carroll of Maryland and Thomas Fitzsimons of Pennsylvania.
47. Elevator man.
50. "Once ____ I have yielded to the temptation of the desert, which has always been the love niche where I can encounter the Absolute that is God," —*I, Francis*, Carlo Carretto.
51. 19th letter of the alphabet.
52. I was down with the ____ and had to stay home.
53. As a result of Dutch ____ disease which arrived in America in the 1930s, millions, as many as nine out of ten, of these stately trees have been lost.
54. "Philip was wholly absorbed into the demonic conflict that no ____ seemed able to end," —*Brother Cadfael's Penance*, Ellis Peters.
58. Reading or Short Line in Monopoly.
59. "The most important function of government ____ to protect the lives of its citizens," —Thomas Jefferson.
60. "After a time, you may find that having is not, after all, ____ satisfying a thing as wanting. It is not logical, but it is often true," —Mr. Spock in *Planet of Judgement*, Joe Haldeman.

See ANSWERS, page 19

HISPANIC

From page 3

"Let us go from the shore of this world to the shore of eternal life!" he called out. "Do not be afraid, let God be with you and help you."

Journeys converge

Buses and vehicles from all over the diocese began arriving at the Cathedral around noon for the 1 p.m. Mass.

Confessions were available in Spanish.

A group on pilgrimage from St. Peter Parish in Marshall arrived by bus about a half-hour before Mass began and processed into the Cathedral together, singing hymns.

They placed a statue of the Blessed Mother and bouquets of flowers near the ambo in the sanctuary.

"It was a really beautiful highlight of the day," said Deacon Enrique Castro, diocesan Executive Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation, who also assists the pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City.

At God's throne

Joining Bishop McKnight and Fr. Rodriguez at the altar were: Father Thomas Alber, associate pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City; Father César Anicama; Father Joseph Corel, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Pettis County; Father Francis Doyle, pastor of St. Peter Parish in Marshall and St. Joseph Parish in Slater; Father Christopher Hoffmann, newly ordained, associate pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia; Father Stephen Jones, pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish and rector of the Cathedral; and Father Anthony Viviano, pastor of Annunciation Parish in California and St. Andrew Parish in Tipton.

Deacon Castro; Deacon Santos Rubio, who assists the pastor of St. Peter Parish in Marshall; and Rev. Mr. Gregory Clever, a transitional deacon preparing for Priesthood, assisted at Mass.

The Hispanic youth choir from St. Peter Parish in Marshall led the singing.

Other liturgical roles were carried out by volunteers from the parishes in California, Columbia, Jefferson City, Marshall, Mexico and Milan.



A husband and wife nearing their 50th wedding anniversary worships God during the diocesan Hispanic Heritage Mass on June 23 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

— Photo by Annie Williams

Deacon Castro noted that most of the people in the congregation were in their 30s or younger, reflecting the youth-

fulness of local Hispanic populations in general.

"We probably had more than 300 people in their 30s or

younger, and something like 200 children," he said.

But some were not as young, including a couple who's about to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

After Mass, the worshippers gathered for a festive luncheon and fellowship in Cana Hall on the lower level of the Cathedral.

enal, which helped lead to this year's Mass.

Bishop McKnight hopes it will become an annual celebration, with next year's incorporating the theme of the upcoming worldwide Jubilee Year in the Church.

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

That would be a wonderful thing, said Jorge Lugo, a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Columbia.

Emerging tradition

The diocese organized a Hispanic Heritage Mass last summer to give Hispanic Catholics an opportunity to worship together in the newly renovated Cathedral.

The response was phenom-

"The Hispanic community appreciates the efforts of our bishop to meet our faith needs," he stated.

"It's also an opportunity for the community to interact and socialize with priests of our diocese," he said.

Planning for death is as natural for the Christian as planning for life. Having a will is good stewardship and planning of your assets. Remember to always take care of your family, and consider taking care of your parish family long after you are gone.

Have you already remembered your parish or school in your estate plans? Please let us know!



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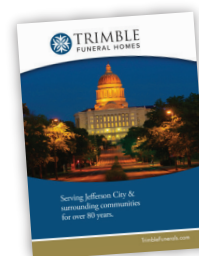


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Visit the diocesan EVENT CALENDAR at diojeffcity.org/events.
Want your event listed?
Fill out the ONLINE FORM at diojeffcity.org/event-listing.

Fundraisers & Social Events

Jul. 12

Columbia, Sacred Heart Parish Ladies Auxiliary fundraiser "Are you smarter than an 8th grade nun?" with Vicki Quade, 7-9 pm, Battle High School, for tickets visit givebut-ter.com/2QKU6o

Jul. 14

Meta, St. Cecilia Parish picnic, 11 am-6 pm
St. Martins, St. Martin Parish picnic, 11 am-9 pm

Jul. 21

Indian Creek, Swinkey Picnic, 11 am-7:30 pm, St. Stephen Parish
Wardville, St. Stanislaus Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 4

Osage Bend, St. Margaret of Antioch Parish picnic, 11 am-6:30 pm
Wien, St. Mary of the Angels Parish picnic, 11 am-10 pm

Aug. 11

Belle, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am

Aug. 18

Moberly, St. Pius X Summer Feast Picnic, 10 am-3 pm

Meetings & Conferences

Jul. 23

Laurie, "Finding Sanctuary" presentation with Jennifer Hubbard and luncheon, 11:30 am, registration required at mothersshrine.com

Jul. 27

Moberly, St. Vincent de Paul Society North Central Missouri District Council meeting, 10 am-noon, St. Pius X Parish undercroft

Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

agosto 3

Columbia, Retiro de Quinceañera, 9 am-3 pm, Sagrado Corazón, para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 en su celular o en WhatsApp o por correo electrónico a ecastro@diojeffcity.org

agosto 24

Jefferson City, Retiro de Quinceañera, 9 am-3 pm, San Pedro, para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 en su celular o en WhatsApp o por correo electrónico a ecas- tro@diojeffcity.org

Faith Formation & Spiritual Renewal

Every Tuesday

Jefferson City, "Tuesday With Faith," small group discussions, 6:30-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall, for info, call 573-645-2478 or email jimkemna@gmail.com

Every Friday

Jefferson City, Centering Prayer Group, Immaculate Conception Parish, 11 am-noon

Jul. 14

Monroe City, "Discovering the Women of the Bible, Part 2," 3-5 pm, K of C Hall, for info visit holyyrosary.diojeffcity.org

Jul. 17

Jefferson City, Monthly gathering of the Men of Signum Crucis, 5:30-8 pm, Helias Catholic High School, for info visit menofsignumcrucis.com

Jul. 19-21

Florissant, REFLECT retreat for midlife singles, Pallottine Renewal Center, for info or to register visit ReflectRetreat.com, email reflect.stlouis@gmail.com or call 630-222-8303

Jul. 25-Aug. 5

Belleville, IL, 81st Annual Healing and Hope Novena, National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, for info or to register visit snows.org

Jul. 27-28

Jefferson City, Marriage Encounter Weekend, Best Western Plus Capital Inn, for info or to register visit jeffcityme.com

Aug. 21

Jefferson City, Monthly gathering of the Men of Signum Crucis, 5:30-8 pm, Helias Catholic High School, for info visit menofsignumcrucis.com

Liturgical

Jul. 9

Starkenburg, Second Tuesday Mass, with Sacrament of Reconciliation, Rosary and luncheon following Mass, 11

am-1 pm, Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows

Youth & Young Adults

First Wednesdays each month

Jefferson City, Rooted/Connected/Searching in Community young adult group, 5-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall, for info visit icangels.com/youngadults

Third Sundays each month

Jefferson City, Young Adult Mass, 5 pm, Immaculate Conception Church

Jul. 7-11

Cook Station, Mo., Camp Lolek Session 3 for junior high girls, Mound Ridge Retreat Center, for info or to register, visit diojeffcity.org/camp-lolek

Jul. 14-19

Cook Station, Mo., Camp Maccabee for high school young men, Mound Ridge Retreat Center, for info or to register, visit diojeffcity.org/camp-maccabee

Jul. 21-26

Cook Station, Mo., Camp Siena for high school young ladies, Mound Ridge Retreat Center, for info or to register, visit diojeffcity.org/camp-siena

CHURCHES

From page 13

Among the academia special guests was Thierry Escaich, organist and international concert artist and composer. He was appointed organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris in April by the cathedral's rector. He will be one of four titular organists who, from Dec. 15, will give a concert every Sunday afternoon at Notre Dame, on the nearly 40-foot-high organ which, since the fire, has

been completely dismantled, cleaned and reassembled.

The link between worship and culture is Fr. Mornas' specialty. He is a member of the commission appointed by the French Ministry of Culture, which is currently examining the candidacies of some 100 pairs of artists and master glassmakers who have applied to create the new contemporary stained-glass windows for Notre Dame Cathedral. The

windows will be based on the biblical theme of the "tree of Jesse" and Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would be an "offspring of Jesse."

The committee will select a list of artists and forward it to the archbishop of Paris for discussion with President Emmanuel Macron. "Celebrities from the contemporary stained-glass market have not hesitated to take part in the competition, alongside lesser-known artists," said Fr. Mornas.

The issue of Notre Dame's stained-glass windows is also a delicate one, as many cultural and religious figures are opposed to the very idea of creating contemporary stained-glass windows for the cathedral. They would prefer to preserve the "grisailles," the clear, unpatterned stained-glass windows created in the

19th century, which the newly discussed version is intended to replace by 2026. The old ones were designed by architect Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, who restored Notre Dame at the time.

Even though this year's night of churches does not include Notre Dame, set to reopen Dec. 8, it is the one most discussed church in France these days.

In June a "frank discussion," Fr. Mornas said, took place in Paris regarding the cathedral's keys, which Macron was planning to solemnly hand over to Archbishop Laurent Ulrich of Paris at the official reopening of Notre Dame.

"The archbishop pointed out that while the state owns the cathedral and is piloting the works, the assignment of the cathedral to the Diocese of Paris has never been called

into question or interrupted," Fr. Mornas said. "So he said there was no reason for him to receive the keys to the cathedral from the president."

Eventually, the case was fraternally resolved, Fr. Mornas added. "There will be no key handover, and no speech by Emmanuel Macron inside Notre Dame either, because there must be no political speeches in the cathedral. If (the president) has to speak that day, it will be on the square," he said.

"It is emblematic of the dialogue between church and state in France today! 'La nuit des églises' shows it: The organizers are half church bodies and half public players ... and it works!" Fr. Mornas told OSV News.

Caroline de Sury writes for OSV News from Paris.

QUESTION

From page 8

mean to imply that the spiritually "dead" are dead in the sense of being beyond the church's love and concern. Even if your friend does not yet enjoy the fullness of life found in the Eucharist, she is still precious and valuable in God's sight.

Jenna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News. Send your questions to CatholicQA@osv.com.

To submit items for the PEOPLE PAGE, including **Baptisms, Birthdays** for ages 90 and older, **Anniversaries** of 10+ years in increments of 5 ONLY (e.g., 15, 25, 45 years, etc.), **Marriages, Deaths, Elections, Honors and Appointments**, please go to:
diojeffcity.org/update-information

Anniversaries

- Fayette, St. Joseph**
Randy & Kathy Redenius, 50 years
- Hermann, St. George**
Michael & Denise Witthaus, 40 years
- Jefferson City, St. Peter**
Norman & Marilyn Allen, 65 years
Kenneth & Robin Payne, 50 years
Daniel & Jeanne Livers, 40 years
- Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake**
Duke & Mary Dorge, 65 years
Mike & Pam Scherer, 55 years
Paul & Melanie Schifferdecker, 50 years
- Mexico, St. Brendan**
Ray & Karen Wilbers, 60 years
- Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus**
Terry & Debbie Caminiti, 30 years
- Palmyra, St. Joseph**
Tom & Tammy Schroeder, 45 years
Steve & Brenda Bland, 35 years
Jeff & Michelle Merkel, 35 years
Mark & Renee Goldinger, 25 years
Steven & Triston Jones, 15 years
- Russellville, St. Michael**
Michael & Loretta Broker, 60 years
- Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul**
John & Donita Shipman, 40 years
- Wien, St. Mary of the Angels**
Glen & Bridgett Fessler, 35 years
Charles & Elena Long, 25 years
Stephen & Mary Helen Moser, 15 years
Jeff & Stephanie Henke, 10 years

Marriages

- Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Jade Forck & Derek Rueffgers**

Baptisms

- Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Lainey Jo Wieberg**, daughter of Austin & Kylee Wieberg
- Centralia, Holy Spirit — **Noah Cameron Cosby**, son of Colin & Sidney Cosby
- Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — **Peyton Leigh Rogers**, daughter of Jessie & Brittany Rogers

Birthdays

- Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Kathleen Eggen**, her 90th on Jul. 9
- Kirksville, Mary Immaculate — **Joan Butt**, her 91st on Jul. 12
- Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception — **Maxelinda Cleveland**, her 90th on Jul. 1
- Mexico, St. Brendan — **Evelyn Fennessey**, her 92nd on Jul. 5

Deaths

- Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Robert Devoy**
- Centralia, Holy Spirit — **Maria Yaninas**
- Fayette, St. Joseph — **Pam Flaspohler; Jane Kauffman**
- Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Robert Bradley; Allan Mueller; Robert Reuter**
- Marshall, St. Peter — **John “Jackie” Desmond; Sara Lakenburger; Nancy Syron**
- St. James, Immaculate Conception — **Ralph “Mike” Presson**
- Slater, St. Joseph — **Barbara Ann Wright**

CALDAROLA

From page 9

that he acknowledge the decency of his opponent.

When did our political discourse change?

It may seem a leap from a sidewalk chalk controversy to a presidential election. But most of us aren't players on the national scene. We're neighbors, family members, parishioners, and perhaps social media users, who will be remembered, maybe years from now, by how we speak to each other, how we give each other the benefit of the doubt, and how we attempt to create meaningful dialogue. Those are things we live out in daily life. Ultimately, those are the memories and the legacy we leave.

Are we the people who respond in anger? Do we spend hours ruminating on things we see online that irritate us to the point that even our thoughts become embittered?

Or do we respond with love to our neighbors and initiate conversation? Do we sincerely listen to those with whom we disagree?

Amid the name-callers, let's do our part to make things better. Be like my daughter's neighbor. Be like John McCain.

Effie Caldarola is a wife, mom and grandmother who received her master's degree in pastoral studies from Seattle University.

AKERS

From page 9

which mark the event's success, I would include the prayerful atmosphere, a regularly scheduled event (pick the same Sunday each month), the clear time limit on adoration, a supportive priest, and, of course, the free dinner. This is all structured around worshiping Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Personal invitation and word of mouth also drive the fruitfulness of the event to bring in new families — some who have never attended adoration, some that have fallen away from the

faith, and some that are looking for a faith-based community.

From my own witness in my parish's revival, I'm drawn to ask what parish community would not benefit from these simple yet creative ideas, born of love for Christ's presence in the Eucharist? For, "love is inventive to infinity."

Ben Akers is the chief content officer at the Augustine Institute and has represented the same organization on the National Eucharistic Revival Executive Team.

MINISTRY

From page 10

of Annunciation House's mission, arguing, "Instead, Annunciation House's members appear to subscribe to a more Bohemian set of 'seven commandments,' including commandments to 'visit' people when 'incarcerated' and 'care (for them) when they're sick.'"

However, those quotes come from a witness who appeared to be referring to what the Catholic Church calls the "seven corporal works of mercy," according to a review of the document by OSV News.

The case even caught the attention of Pope Francis, who criticized Paxton's attempt to shut down Annunciation House, calling it "madness" during a recent interview with CBS News.

In the pontiff's first one-on-one interview with a U.S. broadcaster, CBS journalist and interviewer Norah O'Donnell asked, "The State of Texas is attempting to shut down a Catholic charity on the border with Mexico that offers undocumented migrants humanitarian assistance. What do you think of that?"

"That is madness. Sheer madness," Pope Francis replied.

Annunciation House operates several shelters in the El Paso area, helping migrants and refugees with food, housing and other assistance, as well as providing information about how to fill out the required legal documents to seek asylum in the U.S.

Kate Scanlon is a national reporter for OSV News covering Washington.

Crossword puzzle answers

O	E	D	S	R	A	E	S	P	M	U	L	S
S	R	E	A	R	I	R	N	N	L	T	T	E
O	M	S	N	O	N	O	L	C	E	F	E	F
O	U	S	N	I	T	O	A	F	E	F	E	F
H	S	U	R	O	H	C	A	S	K	C	U	D
C	E	I	C	I	T	O	P	B	B	R	B	E
J	E	G	N	E	N	J	L	U	N	V	A	T
A	N	R	J	V	S	A	S	E	R	E	R	I
T	S	A	V	S	U	B	S	A	V	E	R	E
E	S	T	A	V	U	O	A	S	G	G	E	T
R	V	T	S	T	A	R	V	G	G	E	D	I
H	N	E	M	O	H	I	V	O	R	O	N	O
J	D	N	O	I	T	V	A	R	E	S	N	O
L	T	I	O	I	R	6	9	5	4	3	2	1



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Camping Week at I.C.J.C.



Children taking part in the I.C. Summer Camp at Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City enjoy “Camping Week” and a visit to Adrian’s Island on June 20.

— Photos from the IC Summer Camp Facebook page

Having fun and getting closer to God



Youngsters from Annunciation Parish in California brave the warm weather during their week of Totus Tuus activities, facilitated by young adult missionaries the week of June 25. Totus Tuus missionaries are leading these events at parishes throughout the diocese.

— Photos from the Annunciation Catholic Church Facebook page



Honoring Our Lady of Fatima

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students at Holy Family School in Hannibal gather in the sanctuary of Holy Family Church May 9 after sharing a skit about Our Lady of Fatima in anticipation for her feastday that was coming up. “They did an amazing job,” said Principal Sara Hooley. “We are so proud of them.”

— Photo by Sara Hooley

Bible Accent

In 2 Kings 24, we can read about Babylon attacking Jerusalem.

In verse 8, we read that Jehoiachin was king of Judah. He was Hezekiah's great-great-grandson, and he did what was evil in the sight of God.

One day, officers of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, attacked Jerusalem and laid siege to the city. Nebuchadnezzar himself arrived during the siege.

Jehoiachin, along with his mother, ministers, officers and functionaries, surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar. They were all taken captive to Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar also carried off all the treasures from God's Temple and the king's house.

He also broke up all the gold utensils that King Solomon of Israel had provided for the Temple, as God had decreed.

Nebuchadnezzar deported all Jerusalem to Babylon: all the officers and warriors of the army, which was 10,000 people, plus all the artisans and smiths.

Only the lowliest of the people were not taken captive to Babylon and were left behind in Jerusalem.

St. Ignatius of Loyola



Inigo Lopez de Loyola was born in Spain in 1491. He worked as a page and then became a soldier. He was wounded in battle, and while he was recovering, he read about Jesus and the saints.

He experienced a personal conversion, and he wound up making a long retreat and traveling to Jerusalem. For 10 years, he studied in Barcelona and Paris, changing his name to Ignatius and associating with like-minded men. He and his friends founded the Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits, and Ignatius became the new order's superior general. Ignatius also wrote the "Spiritual Exercises," which is still a popular guide. He died in 1556, and we remember him on July 31.

God cures Hezekiah of his illness

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic Courier

King Hezekiah ruled Judah, the southern kingdom of Israel, from the city of Jerusalem.

One day, Hezekiah became deathly ill.

The prophet Isaiah came to speak to the king.

"Thus says the Lord: Put your house in order, for you are about to die; you shall not recover," Isaiah told him.

Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to God.

"O Lord, remember how faithfully and wholeheartedly I conducted myself in your presence, doing what was pleasing to you!" the king said, and then he wept bitterly.

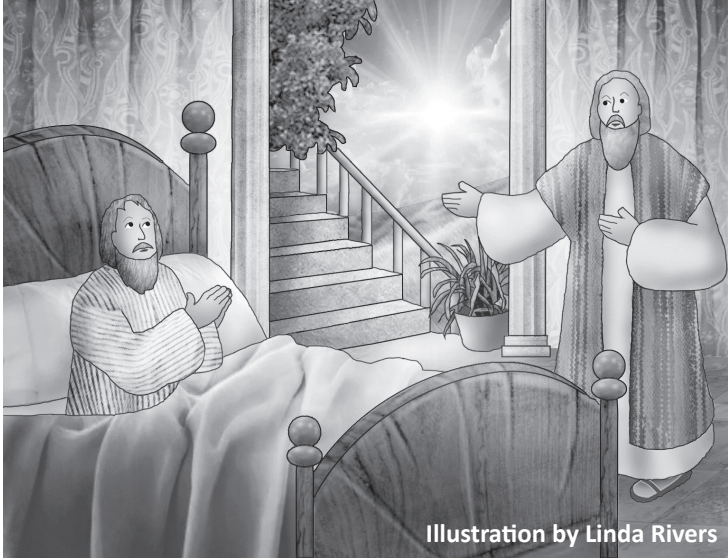
The word of God came to Isaiah:

"Go, tell Hezekiah: Thus says the Lord, the God of your father David: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you: in three days you shall go up to the Lord's Temple; I will add 15 years to your life. I will rescue you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; I will be a shield to this city."

After Isaiah was done relaying God's message to Hezekiah, the king sang a hymn of thanksgiving.

"The living, the living give you thanks, as I do today. ... The Lord is there to save us. We shall play our music in the house of the Lord all the days of our life," Hezekiah sang.

Isaiah then ordered that a medicine made from figs be applied to the boil that was causing the king's illness so he



could recover.

After Hezekiah became well, the son of Babylon's king heard what had happened to Hezekiah. He sent Hezekiah gifts and visited him in Jerusalem.

During the visit, Hezekiah showed the king of Babylon's son all of the gold and silver in the treasury and everything valuable in his house and realm.

After the visit, Isaiah relayed to Hezekiah another message from God.

One day, God said, all the treasures that Hezekiah's an-

cestors had stored up would be carried off to Babylon. Even his descendants would be carried off and made to serve Babylon's king.

"The word of the Lord which you have spoken is good," Hezekiah replied, for he thought, "There will be peace and stability in my lifetime."

Read all about it...
Isaiah 38 & 39

1. Who came to speak to Hezekiah?
2. What did Hezekiah do to show his thanks to God?

Puzzle

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

ton

uoy

vecorer

slahl

Sentence:

Answers: not, you, recover, shall; You shall not recover.

Essay

Reading for
July 19, 2024:
Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8

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God to heal you or
someone you love?**

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Bp. Reed: Catholic communications is 'journeying alongside people in faith'

By Gina Christian
OSV News

Catholic communications is more than "delivering a message," but rather "journeying alongside people in faith," said the chair of the U.S. Catholic bishops' communications committee.

Auxiliary Bishop Robert P. Reed of Boston shared his thoughts on the topic as part of his June 19 keynote address at the Catholic Media Association's annual conference, held this year in Atlanta June 18-21.

Incorporated in 1911, the CMA is a Chicago-based organization of Catholic publishers and media professionals in North America and beyond.

Bishop Reed, who also serves as president of the Archdiocese of Boston's CatholicTV Network, reflected on the role of Catholic communications professionals — who include journalists, diocesan and organizational communications directors, graphic artists and multimedia content producers — particularly amid the three-year Synod on Synodality, which centers on "communion, mis-

sion and participation."

Noting that the theme of the 2024 CMA conference was "Connect in Atlanta," Bishop Reed pointed to the "many ways" in which Catholic communicators "share the same road."

Even more important than mutual professional interests and collaboration is the spiritual bond that unites Catholic communicators, he said.

"Our Baptism, our common faith, our discipleship, bid us to be connected with the Lord Jesus, whose mission we share," said Bishop Reed, whose address was infused with prayer, song and numerous references to the Holy Spirit.

Synodality "isn't magic," he said, citing recent remarks by Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas — who is shepherding the synodal process in the U.S. — that the synodal process is "a call to humility in discerning what we are about."

Bishop Reed quoted "*Communio et Progressio*," the Second Vatican Council's pastoral instruction on social communication, which states that

"all men of good will ... are impelled to work together to ensure that the media of communication do in fact contribute to the pursuit of truth and the speeding up of progress. The Christian will find in their faith an added incentive to do this."

"These words say it well," Bishop Reed remarked.

He emphasized that "our faith is local," touching "individuals, families and parishes," and pointed to the words of Pope Francis, who in his message for the 58th World Day of Social Communications said, "Information cannot be separated from living relationships."

The pope "would want us to do our communication work in a way that fosters compassion and connection," said Bishop Reed. "We don't just transfer data."

"The commission of Jesus to communicate the Good News, to evangelize the world from the individual, the family, and the parish all the way up is a task not to be taken lightly and not to be done alone," he said. "So we need each other's support."

Bishop Reed acknowledged that "to be Catholic communicators, sharing the Gospel within our contemporary culture, is a tremendous challenge, and it seems to become more so every year."

"As a matter of fact, every day when you wake up in the morning, you just never know

Movie Ratings



General
Patronage

The Garfield Movie (PG)



Adults and
Adolescents

IF (PG)
Inside Out 2 (PG)
The Watchers (PG-13)



Adults

A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13)
Tarot (PG-13)



Limited Adult
Audience

The Bikeriders (R)
The Exorcism (R)
Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R)
The Strangers: Chapter 1 (R)




Morally
Offensive

Bad Boys: Ride or Die (R)
Hit Man (R)
Tuesday (R)

Ratings are supplied by OSV News Service.

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what you're going to find," he said, underscoring "the hard work that it takes to inform, to educate and to evangelize."

Additional challenges include reaching youth and young adults amid a swiftly evolving technological landscape, one where the Church needs to be present, he said.

Yet "effective communication with youth and young adults is not just about adopting new tools and technologies," which "come and go," said Bishop Reed.

"It's about understanding their world, about being authentic, telling compelling stories, using engaging content, listening actively, addressing real issues and being consistently present," he said.

He noted as well that "our communications must be relevant to the real issues that young people face today ... such as mental health, social justice, relationships, finding purpose in life. We need to show how faith intersects with these areas, offering hope and guidance and support."

At the same time, he said, "being doctrinal is important, but it isn't often the first approach" in reaching younger generations, since "building trust and engagement takes time," and must incorporate a "two-way" approach to dialogue and listening.

"Our communication must come from the heart," said Bishop Reed. "This means not only sharing our successes and joys, but also our struggles and our doubts. In our vulnerability, we can connect most deeply with people, especially young people."

He exhorted Catholic communicators to draw strength and guidance from prayer, and said, "I hope you see your good and important work as a genuine ministry in the Church."

Gina Christian is a multimedia reporter for OSV News.

Contributing to this report were Peter Jesserer Smith, OSV New national news and features, and Maria-Pia Chin, Spanish editor at OSV News.

RETREAT

From page 7

ous hours of the day.”

One of Fr. Pachomius’s points that resonated with him was that under Roman law, the father of a household to accept or reject a natural born son as member of his household, usually at the age of 4 or 5.

But that option did not apply to an adopted son, because in agreeing to the adoption, the father had previously made the decision to accept the son.

“So, we are adopted sons and daughters of God,” Fr. Alber repeated. “We are already accepted as members of God family, even though our status is one of adoption.”

Prayers and support

Fr. Pachomius encourages laypeople not just to pray for priests but also to engage in serious reflection about how to help them.

While married people have a spouse and child who likely can help mitigate loneliness and help set boundaries for work-life balance, “a priest has to go in an unmediated relationship to God for support and comfort,” said Fr. Pachomius.

This, said Fr. Pachomius, sometimes in-

cludes laypeople taking them for granted, treating them unfairly or with immaturity, and assuming the worst about his intentions when he does what he thinks is good for the parish.

“We love our priests, just like we love our parents,” he said. “But for many priests who are overworked and underappreciated, especially when the prayer life is in low ebb, this weighs heavily upon them.”

So, Fr. Pachomius recommended praying not only for priests but also for one’s one conversion.

“Shepherds are ready to take hits from wolves, but most of the time they’re getting nipped by the flock!” he said.

“Pray that you can be supportive to your priest who is pouring himself out for you.”

This can include laypeople providing a place of occasional refuge for priests among their families and in their homes.

“This is something our priests need very much now,” said Fr. Pachomius. “If they have people who support them, give them the benefit of the doubt, and offer genuine appreciation, then these men will be better able to sacrifice in prayer and service.”

JULIA

From page 5

She earned her living as a domestic servant, and whatever was left after providing for her own needs, she shared with Denver’s neglected poor in the form of food, clothing, fuel and anything else they needed.

To avoid embarrassing the recipients of her charity, she made her deliveries mostly at night through dark back alleys.

One editor called her a “one-woman Vincent de Paul Society.”

Julia also devoted much of her time each month to spreading the literature of the Apostleship of Prayer and the Sacred Heart League all over Denver.

Since she was illiterate, someone must have informed her each month of the general content of the leaflets she recommended to others.

It follows from this that she must have consecrated her daily activity to the apostleship’s intentions. This surely was one of the secrets of her own spirituality: to place all her day’s activities into the secret service of the Sacred Heart.

Fewer witnesses spoke explicitly of Julia’s Eucharistic devotion, but in fact, all these devotions were but different facets of one another.

Julia’s devotion to the Sacred Heart was toward the same love of Jesus that one experiences in Jesus’ Body truly present in the Eucharist.

This love of Christ empowered and accompanied her in all her charitable efforts to serve Jesus, whom she encountered in the poor and forgotten.

Devotion to the Eucharist

Fr. McDonnell said Julia had been a daily Communicant practically ever since her conversion, thus revealing the strength of her devotion to her Eucharistic Lord.

The Apostleship of Prayer, of which she was a parish promoter, asked its members to “receive Our Lord in Holy Communion once a week, or once a month ... in reparation for the sins of ingratitude and irreverence committed against our Lord, particularly in the Eucharist.”

Julia, however, sought to receive him every day.

It is well documented that Julia, even in her poverty, rented a small two-seat pew just in front of the far left of the Communion rail. This surely suggests she wanted to be as close as possible to where her Eucharist Lord was resting.

Several other people recorded that Julia made a special effort to attend their First Communions, which they had received in parishes far removed from Sacred Heart Church.

She did so on foot, with considerable pain. Recent forensic examination found her bones covered with the marks of arthritis.

One woman, who later became a Carmelite nun, said Julia followed the city’s schedule of Forty Hours Devotions and “walked to every parish, participating in the Masses, litanies, benedictions, and worshipping for hours at the Court-Throne of Incarnate Love.”

She “knelt motionless with perfect posture, intently absorbed in the adorable Eucharist.”

One of these churches was 10 miles away from where Julia was working at the time, and for three days she arrived early with flowers for the altar of Exposition, “remaining until the closing cadence, then disappearing into the darkness, with a brisk step.”

Altar Society ladies everywhere were acquainted with Julia because of her luxurious

Daily Readings

Sunday, Jul 7

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ez. 2:2-5
Ps. 123:1-4
2 Cor. 12:7-10
Mk. 6:1-6a

Monday, Jul 8

Hos. 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22
Ps. 145:2-9
Mt. 9:18-26

Tuesday, Jul 9

St. Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, and companions, martyrs

Hos. 8:4-7, 11-13
Ps. 115:3-10
Mt. 9:32-38

Wednesday, Jul 10

Hos. 10:1-3, 7-8, 12
Ps. 105:2-7
Mt. 10:1-7

Thursday, Jul 11

St. Benedict, abbot
Hos. 11:1-4, 8e-9
Ps. 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16
Mt. 10:7-15

Friday, Jul 12

Hos. 14:2-10
Ps. 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14, 17
Mt. 10:16-23

Saturday, Jul 13

St. Henry
Is. 6:1-8
Ps. 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5
Mt. 10:24-33

Sunday, Jul 14

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Am. 7:12-15
Ps. 85:9-14
Eph. 1:3-14 or 1:3-10
Mk. 6:7-13

Monday, Jul 15

St. Bonaventure, bishop and doctor of the Church
Is. 1:10-17
Ps. 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23
Mt. 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, Jul 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Is. 7:1-9
Ps. 48:2-3a, 3b-4-8
Mt. 11:20-24

Wednesday, Jul 17

Is. 10:5-7, 13b-16
Ps. 94:5-10, 14-15
Mt. 11:25-27

Thursday, Jul 18

St. Camillus de Lellis, priest (USA)
Is. 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Ps. 102:13-14ab, 15-21
Mt. 11:28-30

Friday, Jul 19

Is. 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8
(Ps.) Is. 38:10-12abcd, 16
Mt. 12:1-8

Saturday, Jul 20

St. Apollinaris, bishop and martyr
Mi. 2:1-5
Ps. 10:1-4, 7-8, 14
Mt. 12:14-21

The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for July:

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

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donation of flowers, which she brought from her employers on the other side of town.

Julia herself did say something revealing about the centrality of the Eucharist in her life: she believed that Jesus was present in the Eucharist, offering himself as food that sustained her in all she was doing.

A week after her death, her local diocesan newspaper said, “She never ate any breakfast, except when she was going to do heavy work and it was abso-

lutely necessary to have sustenance. This fast was a religious act, and was not caused by her poverty, for her friends would gladly have given her this meal.

She was asked various times by Fr. McDonnell whether she had eaten breakfast and replied, “My Communion is my breakfast.”

American Eucharistic Witnesses Series on the National Eucharistic Revival Blog can be found at: eucharisticrevival.org.



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