

## 'Napoleon's favorite day'

Msgr. Robert Kurwicki talks about local Eucharistic history and why it matters, during Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Jefferson City. Page 6



Condemning violence Page 3

Christ fully present. . Page 4

"Cannot be hidden" . Page 5

SHS Class of 2024. . Page 7

V.P. candidate . . . . Page 8

Planting seeds . . . .Page 10

# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

July 19, 2024 • Vol. 68 No. 2

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Pilgrims bring week of Eucharistic revival here



**Bishop McKnight frames Eucharistic Revival in context of a relationship: 'The Lord approaches us first'**

By Jay Nies

Eucharistic processions through town centers and the vast countryside echo the smaller processions that take place throughout every Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

In fact, they all harken back to the evening of the first Easter Sunday, when the risen Christ approached two of his followers, taught them, set their hearts on fire, fed them and sent them running back to where they came from, radiating the Good News with every word and deed.

"Notice that it was the Lord who approached and walked with them, as he continues to do for us today, which enables US to walk with him," Bishop W. Shawn McKnight said in a homily before nearly 500 participants in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

Bishop McKnight presided at Mass in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City, on the last day the perpetual pilgrims were making their way through the diocese on their way to Indianapolis.

Concelebrating the Mass and taking part in the subsequent Solemn Eucharistic Procession from the Cathedral to St. Peter Proto-Cathedral were Bishop Earl Fernandes of Columbus, Ohio, and many priests of this diocese.

The perpetual pilgrims are eight young laypeople who are moving in procession across the continent by car and by foot, adoring Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament throughout the way.

They're traveling the 2,200-mile St. Junipero Serra arm ([eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-junipero-serra-route](http://eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-junipero-serra-route))

See PILGRIMAGE, page 11

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Father Christopher Hoffmann, associate pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia, carries the Most Blessed Sacrament for a portion of a Solemn Eucharistic Procession from the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City to St. Peter Proto-Cathedral near the State Capitol July 5. Hundreds, including Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and Bishop Earl Fernandes of Columbus, Ohio, participated in the procession, which was part of the much larger National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. — Photo by Jay Nies

## National Eucharistic Pilgrimage draws hundreds to Venerable Fr. Tolton's burial place in Quincy

**Bishop Perry, co-postulator for Fr. Tolton's sainthood cause "moved to emotion" by "awesome scene"**

By Jay Nies

The wave of people split into two arms at the paved circle, embracing ever-more-tightly the burial place of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton and the temporary altar enthroning the Most Blessed Sacrament.

There, in the middle of Quincy, Illinois, the history, the mystery and the pilgrim multitude rested together in the bonds of Holy Communion.

"It's really amazing how many people came here to give praise and glory to God through the Eucharist, and to honor Fr. Tolton and pray for him to become a saint," said Paul Quinn, a member of St. Joseph Parish in Palmyra.

Mr. Quinn was among a handful of Missourians who traveled to Illinois July 9 to take part in a segment of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

It was the 127th anniversary of the death of Fr. Tolton, who is under formal consideration for being declared a saint.

Carrying the Most Blessed Sacrament in the procession were Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield and retired Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago, co-postulator for Fr. Tolton's sainthood cause.

Fr. Tolton was born into a family of enslaved people in Missouri and was baptized where St. Peter Church in Brush Creek now stands.

He endured harrowing racism while becoming and serving

See FR. TOLTON, page 13



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## Inaugural diocesan Catholic Rural Life Mass

**DATE:** September 8  
**TIME:** 2 pm

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and priests of the diocese will celebrate the inaugural Catholic Rural Life Mass for the Jefferson City diocese on Sunday, Sept. 8, in Vienna.

The outdoor Mass will be at 2 p.m. at the Maries Creek Farm, 10327 Maries Road 614 in Vienna.

It will bring together Cath-

olics from throughout the diocese to celebrate God's blessing of rural life in Northern and Central Missouri.

A 4 p.m. catered meal will follow the Mass.

In the case of rain, the Mass will be in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 206 Sixth St. in Vienna.

Please sign up for the meal by Sept. 1 by visiting [diojeffcity.org/event/rural-life-mass](http://diojeffcity.org/event/rural-life-mass).

## Pray for deceased priests

July 24 — **Msgr. John F. Kenny**, St. Anthony of Padua, Folk (1981); **Fr. Joseph B. Boland**, Holy Guardian Angels, Brinktown (1998); **Fr. Arthur J. Mersinger**, St. Cecilia, Meta (2003)

July 25 — **Fr. Francis L. Kennedy**, St. Patrick, Jonesburg (1984)  
July 27 — **Fr. Noel F. Brennan**, St. Joseph, Edina (1968)

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

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



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## 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](mailto:mmclaughlin@stpatrickrolla.org).

## Not attending the National Eucharistic Congress in person? Here's where to watch and listen

OSV News

Catholics who will not be among the more than 40,000 people attending the 10th National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21 will be able to watch or listen to key portions of the event, including the evening revival sessions with popular Catholic speakers and musicians, including Bishop Robert Barron, Father Mike Schmitz and Matt Maher.

The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and Relevant Radio plan to broadcast parts of the National Eucharistic Congress, and the National Eucharistic Congress' website, [eucharisticcongress.org](http://eucharisticcongress.org), will livestream events from Lucas Oil Stadium, which will hold the

Indianapolis

event's major gatherings. EWTN and EWTN Radio Católica Mundial will also broadcast parts of the congress in Spanish — including Masses, impact sessions in Spanish and other main events.

Like the congress's attendees, Catholics watching or listening to the National Eucharistic Congress are able to receive Pope Francis' apostolic blessing with a plenary indulgence. The congress is a highlight of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative of the U.S. bishops that began in 2022 to inspire greater understanding of and love for Jesus in the Eucharist.

The congress's full schedule is available at [eucharisticcongress.org/schedule](http://eucharisticcongress.org/schedule).

## Diocesan statement regarding Fr. Ignazio Medina plea

Father Ignazio Medina, a retired priest of the Diocese of Jefferson City, pleaded guilty to federal charges on July 9, relating to interstate transportation of stolen property.

The stolen property belonged to St. Stanislaus Catholic Parish in Wardsville, where Fr. Medina served as pastor during the years 2012-21.

Using accounting protocols established by the diocese, the parish discovered funds were missing, reported concerns to the diocese and the diocese notified law enforcement.

A full account of the diocesan investigations and Church trial regarding Fr. Medina have been previously shared by the diocese and remain publicly available at [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org).

Fr. Medina remains permanently barred from holding

any ecclesiastical office and from hearing confessions. He is also forbidden from celebrating or concelebrating Mass without permission from the Most Reverend W. Shawn

McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City.

Out of respect for the judicial process, neither the parish nor the diocese will offer additional comments at this time.

## Native Americans gather in N.C. to celebrate faith, traditional culture

OSV News

Raleigh, N.C.

The Tekakwitha Conference "is the world's largest gathering of Catholic, Native Americans," said Jody Roy of Chicago, who was in Raleigh to attend the 85th annual conference.

"We represent more than 500 different tribes in the United States. Here, we share how we integrate our traditional culture with Catholic faith," she told *NC Catholics*, the magazine of the Diocese of Raleigh.

Roy, who attended her first Tekakwitha Conference in 2005, was among people from states such as South Dakota, New Mexico, Colorado, New York and Louisiana who gathered July 3-7 at the Raleigh Marriott City Center for the 2024 conference.

Attendees also traveled from Quebec, Canada, organizers said, and programming was offered for both youth and adults.

Roy is Ojibwe, which, she said, is one of the Great Lakes tribes. As she constructed a bookmark of fresh sweetgrass and black ash during an afternoon conference session, she noted that her favorite part of the five-day conference was praying as a group.

The conference offered attendees sunrise services, a trip to Fourth of July fireworks at nearby Dix Park and sacraments such as reconciliation.

It also presented an opportunity to focus on the life of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, known as Lily of the Mohawks. The first North American, Indigenous saint in the Church, she was canonized in 2012.

Four bishops and 12 priests and deacons joined attendees in the celebration of Mass July 5. Bishop Chad W. Zielinski of New Ulm, Minnesota, chairman of the USCCB's Subcommittee on Native American Affairs, was present, as were Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento, California, Bishop Ramon Bejarano of San Diego and Bishop Luis R. Zarama of Raleigh.

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

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# Catholic, civic leaders call for peace, unity following Trump assassination attempt

By Maria Wiering  
OSV News

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight was among the many Catholic and civic leaders calling for peace and unity in the hours after former President Donald Trump was grazed by a bullet and a spectator was killed July 13 in an assassination attempt during the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania.

"I ask you to join me in prayer for Donald Trump's health and for our country to pull together in peace during these divisive times," Bishop McKnight stated over his social media outlets the evening of July 13.

The Holy See, in a July 14 statement in Italian, expressed "concern about last night's episode of violence, which wounds people and democracy, causing suffering and death."

The Holy See is "united in the prayer of the U.S. bishops for America, for the victims, and for peace in the country, so that the motives of the violent may never prevail," according to Catholic News Service.

On July 14, Trump thanked

"everyone for your thoughts and prayers yesterday, as it was God alone who prevented the unthinkable from happening," on his social media platform Truth Social.

President Joe Biden condemned the attack, calling it "sick" in Saturday evening remarks shortly after the incident.

The presumptive Democratic presidential nominee returned to the White House from his vacation home in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and addressed the American public again July 14.

"Jill and I are keeping him (Trump) and his family in our prayers," said Biden, a Catholic. "We also extend our deepest condolences to the family of the victim who was killed. He was a father. He was protecting his family from the bullets that were being fired, and he lost his life. God love him."

That victim has been identified as Corey Comperatore, a firefighter from Pennsylvania who was among the thousands attending Saturday's rally.

Biden said he is also praying for the full recovery of those who were injured and are grateful for the response of the



**Supporters of Republican presidential candidate and former U.S. President Donald Trump comfort each other after Trump was grazed by a bullet during his campaign rally at the Butler Farm Show in Pennsylvania July 13.** — OSV News photo/Brendan McDermid, Reuters

Secret Service agents, other law enforcement and individuals who risked their lives.

"As I said last night, there is no place in America for this kind of violence, or any violence for that matter," he said. "The assassination attempt is contrary to everything we stand for as a nation. Everything. It's not who we are as a nation. It's not American, and we cannot allow this to happen."

"Unity is the most elusive goal of all, but nothing is more important than that right now," he said.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro described Comperatore as a husband and father with two daughters "who died a hero."

## "Reflect the light"

On Facebook July 13, Father Kevin Fazio, pastor All Saints Parish in Butler — a Catholic parish with five churches, one of which is located across from where the rally took place — wrote to parishioners that "We are shocked and saddened by the tragic shooting and act of violence that occurred at the Farm Show grounds on Saturday, July 13."

"There are feelings of fear, hurt, anger, and sorrow in our community right now," Fr. Fazio wrote. "As Christians, we need to remember that during times of darkness, we are called to reflect the light of Christ."

"May we continue to pray for peace in our world, in our country, and right here at home," he stated. "Our prayers to God today for everyone in-

volved in, and all of the victims of this violent act, their families, and friends."

The assassination attempt occurred the weekend before the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, a five-day gathering of Catholics across the country in Indianapolis that begins July 17.

In a July 14 statement, Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, the congress's board chairman, offered prayers for Trump and those killed or injured in the July 13 violence. He also assured congress attendees that they can expect a secure event.

"We feel privileged to gather in prayer at a time with Our Eucharistic Lord when our country and our world need this peace which comes only from him," he said. "We will pray for healing of all divisions in our land and an end to violence."

## "Incessant violence"

Other bishops, including Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, archbishop of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB); and Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh, which includes Butler, issued statements July 13 calling for prayers and peace.

"We are grateful for the swift actions of the Secret Service and our local first responders," Bishop Zubik said. "Let us join together in prayer for the health and safety of all, for healing and peace, and for an end to this climate of violence in our world. May God guide and protect us all."

On X, formerly known as Twitter, Bishop Robert E. Barron of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota, posted July 13: "I would like to offer prayers for President Trump and all those who were injured at the rally in Pennsylvania. We must turn from the path of violence. May the Lord bless our troubled nation."

The same day, Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley of Boston lamented that "our nation has once again witnessed another deadly and tragic shooting today" and joined in prayer for the families of those killed and the recovery of Trump and the injured.

"As a nation, we must come to grips with the incessant violence that has too often become the norm. It must stop," he

See VIOLENCE, page 18



## Bishop McKnight's Calendar

### JULY

*Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.*

**Jul 17-20** National Eucharistic Congress, Indianapolis, IN

**Jul 21-30** Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul, Greece/Turkey

**Jul 31** Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri meeting with Leadership Roundtable, 9 am, Catholic Charities offices, Jefferson City

### AUGUST

**Aug 1** Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri Executive Committee meeting, 10:30 am; Catholic Schools Administrators meeting, noon, Chancery

**Aug 3** Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting, 10 am, Chancery

**Aug 4** Candidacy Mass of Seminarian Gage Neisen, 10 am, Queen of Peace Church, Ewing

**Aug 6** Council of Deans meeting, 11 am; Presbyteral Council meeting, 1 pm, Chancery

**Aug 7** Stewardship Council dinner meeting, 5:30 pm, Bishops' residence

**Aug 8** Diocesan Finance Council meeting, 11 am, Chancery

## 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.



# Eucharistic preacher: The same Christ who performed miracles is made present at every Mass

By Jay Nies

Presence, memory, food, sacrifice, communion, promise.

Eucharistic preacher Monsignor Joseph Malagrecra fashioned those six themes into meditations on the mystery of the Holy Eucharist for several hundred people gathered in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

"You can meditate and pray to Jesus over and over and still find more riches in the reality of the Eucharist," said Msgr. Malagrecra, one of 57 Eucharistic preachers specially commissioned to help bring the Eucharistic Revival to parishes throughout the country.

The pastor of Holy Cross Parish in the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York, gave talks on the Eucharist in English and in Spanish and led a bilingual Holy Hour during Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament on July 3 in the Cathedral.

It was the middle day of the St. Junipero Serra Arm of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage moving through the Jefferson City diocese on its way to Indianapolis for this week's National Eucharistic Congress.

The Eucharistic Pilgrimage is part of a nation-wide focus by the Catholic Church in the United States to inspire a stronger relationship with Jesus through the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Msgr. Malagrecra's teaching took place after a mile-long Solemn Eucharistic Procession around the shaded pathways of the park across the street from the Cathedral.

"Part of the reason for a Eucharistic procession is because this Jesus who is present on the altar and present in the tabernacle wants to be present

among his people," Msgr. Malagrecra stated.

"We are the Church walking with the Eucharist, accompanying Jesus, and he is at the heart of the Church, and we are bringing his presence out with us, hoping that as people pass by, their eyes and their hearts will be open and they will worship him with us," the priest stated.

## "The same Jesus"

Msgr. Malagrecra noted that God has always been present in the world he created.

"But certainly when Jesus took flesh in the womb of Mary, God became present in this world in a powerful new way," the priest stated. "God now has a body, has blood, has human form."

Msgr. Malagrecra marveled at what Mary must have experienced, "walking around with God in her womb for nine months, always aware that God is with her."

One of the names given to Jesus is Emmanuel — "God With Us."

"Jesus is born in a manger in a stable," the priest noted. "God is present among us — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity."

Shepherds came to worship him, but not everyone did.

"For 33 years, Jesus walked around Israel, and some people get it, and some people still don't," said Msgr. Malagrecra. "Some are astounded by him. Some are befuddled by him."

Jesus's transfiguration on Mount Tabor gave a clear glimpse to those who witnessed it that he's not just a man but God Among Us.

"They had seen him raise



**Eucharistic preacher Monsignor Joseph Malagrecra, a preacher of the National Eucharistic Revival, speaks of Christ fully present in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and what it means for the people to participate fully in that sacrifice, before leading a bilingual Holy Hour during Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral of St. Joseph on July 3.**

— Photo by Annie Williams

the dead, walk on water, heal the sick, so they were aware of who he is, and they worshiped him," said Msgr. Malagrecra.

Jesus's mother Mary, John the Apostle and Mary Magdalene remained with him at the foot of the cross.

"He is fully present to them as they look on his face covered in blood."

He died, was buried, rose from the dead and appeared to his Apostles, encouraging them to carry on his mission.

Thomas called out, "My Lord and my God!" — something that people still say today at Mass at the Consecration.

"The same Jesus that is standing before Thomas and the others in the upper room is present to us — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — at every Mass," the priest pointed out.

Specifically, Jesus is present in the poor, with whom he identified; in the sacred assembly of people gathered for the Mass; in their priest; in the proclamation of God's Word; in the Sacraments of the Church.

"And it is Jesus who consecrates the bread and wine and Jesus who is the Sacrament in the Eucharist," Msgr. Malagrecra noted. "Jesus acts in all the other sacraments, but in this Sacrament, he himself IS the Sacrament!"

## "Table ministry"

At the Last Supper, after

blessing the bread, breaking it, giving it to his Apostles and saying, "Take and eat, for this is my Body," and after blessing the wine and giving it to them, saying, "Take and drink, for this is my Blood," Jesus told them to "Do this in memory of me."

"He gave the Apostles an order to repeat this action, to remember him," said Msgr. Malagrecra. "And in obedience to him, the Church has been doing this for 2,000 years."

The Mass has been celebrated on every Sunday since then, and every day at least since the fifth or sixth century.

"Not a day goes by — except for Good Friday — without the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass being celebrated somewhere in the world," the priest noted. "In fact at every moment of the day, Mass is being offered somewhere in the world."

The whole Church remembers that God became a man, that he lived among his people, that he gave specific teaching and did specific things, that he died on the cross to save humanity, rose from the dead and continues to fill his people with the Holy Spirit.

"We don't forget who Jesus is, because he gave us a way to remember," said Msgr. Malagrecra. "He reminds us of the past and makes it present in our midst so that we never forget who he is and what he has done for us — how he saved us

with his Body and Blood."

Msgr. Malagrecra noted that in every church, the altar of sacrifice is also a table.

"Jesus wants us to share this meal with him," the priest pointed out. "He is giving us food for the journey."

A precursor to that gift was how he accepted five barley loaves and two fish and miraculously fed 5,000 people with them.

"Everyone was astounded at his power," Msgr. Malagrecra declared. "And Jesus used this miracle as an opportunity to teach them about himself — 'I am the bread of life. This is the bread come that has come down from heaven. Whoever eats

this will never die, because the Bread of God has come down from heaven and given life to the whole world."

Jesus wasn't referring to the miracle he had just performed but about the greater miracle he was planning to do: "He would command bread to become his Body and Blood."

This is the same Jesus who taught with authority, healed the sick, drove out evil spirits and gathered the people around him into one body.

"He loved to sit down and break bread with people," Msgr. Malagrecra noted. "Table fellowship was an important part of Jesus's ministry."

And at the end of that three-year ministry, he raised that table ministry to a sublime level — offering his very self as true food and true drink for the forgiveness of sins.

No one should decline that gift.

"A major aspect of the Eucharistic Revival is to call Catholics to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus worthily," Msgr. Malagrecra noted. "If you are in a state of mortal sin, repent and be healed in Confession. If there is an obstacle, take it away. If the faith is low, take it up and receive the Body of Christ!"

## Sacrifice and Communion

"Sacrifice means taking

See SACRIFICE, page 23



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## Mission collection: Priest from India promotes preaching God's word in all seasons

**Diocesan Missions  
Special Collection, July 20-21**

By Jay Nies

Priests, sisters and laypeople in the Tribal regions of India face numerous obstacles to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Yet, they continue doing it every day.

"There have been many instances when priests and nuns and even ordinary Christians have been harassed and some even put into prison on false accusations," Father Mukti Prakash Minj told the people of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City the weekend of July 13-14.

Nonetheless, "the message of God cannot be silenced and hidden simply because people may or may not like it," he said.

Fr. Minj, a priest of the Diocese of Jashpur in northern India, is visiting parishes in Jefferson City as part of the national Mission Co-op program.

The growing Church in his diocese receives support from the diocesan Missions Office, which has helped pay for new churches and schools and for transportation for priests and helped people escape multi-

generational cycles of poverty.

The Missions Office supports mission and humanitarian partnerships with other dioceses in countries with developing economies.

Its main source of revenue for these partnerships is the annual Missions Special Collection, which will be taken up in parishes throughout this diocese July 20-21.

Special envelopes were inserted into the July 5 edition of *The Catholic Missourian*.

Donations can also be made securely online by visiting: [diojeffcity.org/donate-missions](http://diojeffcity.org/donate-missions).

Fr. Minj said that despite the persecutions, the mission of Christ continues in the Diocese of Jashpur, "and now we have a vibrant local Church with about 200,000 Catho-



**Father Mukti Prakash Minj visits the Proto-Cathedral of St. Peter in Jefferson City July 14.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

Sons and daughters of the Jashpur diocese are serving as priests and nuns all over India and all over the world.

Two priests of Jashpur — Father Alex Ekka and Father Walter Kispotta — are currently missionary priests in the Jefferson City diocese.

Two other priests of the Jashpur diocese were previously on mission here.

Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos and a group of priests

lic."

Catholics now make up about 15 percent of the population in Fr. Minj's home region, in comparison to about 2.3 percent nationwide.

And they are hypercharged with the Gospel.

"One clear proof of the vibrancy of our local Church is the number of vocations we have," said Fr. Minj.

and laypeople from the Jefferson City diocese visited the Jashpur diocese in 2013.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and a mission team visited there in 2019.

The Jashpur diocese operates three high school seminaries with a combined total enrollment of 230 seminarians.

It also runs a college seminary, with 44 currently enrolled.

After completion of the high school seminary, students are free to continue their for-

mation and discernment with any diocese or religious order.

"I'm happy to tell you that an average of about 10 to 15 young sons of our diocese are ordained to Priesthood each year," said Fr. Minj, "some to serve in the home diocese and others to serve in other parts of India and even abroad."

Twelve men from the Jashpur diocese were ordained this year.

See MISSIONS, page 19

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# Pastor on Eucharistic day of rest: 'Jesus is real, powerful, trustworthy and here'

By Jay Nies

Late in life, when France's once-wildly triumphant Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte was in exile, he was asked to talk about the happiest day of his life.

"Without missing a beat, he exclaimed, 'The happiest day was the day I made my First Holy Communion!'" proclaimed Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky, vicar general of the Jefferson City diocese and pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City.

Napoleon was who sold the 828,000-square-mile Louisiana Territory — today consisting of all or parts of 13 states, including Missouri — to U.S. President Thomas Jefferson, after whom the city and diocese are named.

The priest who gave Napoleon his First Communion remained a friend for life and was visited regularly by his inordinately influential communicant.

"There is the saying," said Msgr. Kurwicky, "If we really understood what was going on at Mass, we would all die! Not out of fear, but out of love."

For those who are privi-

leged to receive Holy Communion often, it's possible to become complacent or "receive by rote."

"But what we are receiving is the Bread of Angels, the Bread of Life, our Lord and God, truly present!" said Msgr. Kurwicky.

## "Heroes and heroines"

As part of a Day of Rest and Revival observed on Independence Day by pilgrims passing through the diocese on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, St. Peter Parish hosted all-day Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, with hourly meditations and devotions.

The 11 o'clock hour brought an encapsulation of local Eucharistic history.

"I'm going to be talking here a bit as a historian and a bit as a priest and hopefully will not only give you some additional knowledge but also a little bit of edification into all that was accomplished by the forbears — those heroes and heroines of the past who did so much to build up the Catholic Church in our area," said Msgr. Kurwicky.



Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky, vicar general of the Jefferson City diocese and pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City, gives a talk about local Eucharistic history in the Pro-Cathedral of St. Peter in Jefferson City on July 4, as part of a Day of Rest and Revival observed on Independence Day by pilgrims passing through the diocese on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament took place all day. Rose petals were scattered on the floor of the main aisle and the sanctuary. — Photo by Jay Nies

Th a t home was moved in the 1980s f r o m where the Truman State Office Building now stands to the site of the Cole County Historical Museum.

St. Peter was chosen partially in honor of Archbishop Peter Richard Kenrick, the St. Louis archdiocese's longest-serving archbishop.

"This is a sacred spot," Msgr. Kurwicky declared. "Just think of all the many priests and many people who have encountered God here and received the Eucharist since the first church was built here!"

## Beating heart

What is now known as St. Peter Proto-Cathedral became the focal point of the newly founded Diocese of Jefferson City on July 2, 1956, comprising areas that were once part of the St. Louis archdiocese and the former dioceses of Kansas City and St. Joseph.

"We became the center of the Church in the state," Msgr. Kurwicky said.

The goal for having the see of a diocese in the same city as the seat of state government was to facilitate dialogue among Church and state officials.

"And those conversations have, in fact, taken place over the years," he said. "Sometimes friendly, sometimes in opposition, depending on the topic. But we've always maintained a very good relationship with the State of Missouri."

St. Peter served as the cathedral from 1956 until the Cathedral of St. Joseph was completed in 1968.

"In those dozen years, this was the beating heart of the diocese," Msgr. Kurwicky said. "Our priests were ordained here to bring the Living Bread of Life to people throughout the 38 counties of this diocese. Our missionaries to Peru were sent from here."

He reiterated that the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, that it is truly the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, and that Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist as a perpetual institution at the Last Supper, commanding his Apostles to "do this in memory of me."

"That clear directive was also given to every priest who came after that," said Msgr. Kurwicky.

He noted that because transportation in early 19th century Missouri was mostly by rivers and their tributaries, the first priests came to the middle of the state by boat.

"The Jesuit missionaries would get into boats and travel with the fur traders, who knew where the villagers were, because the priests wanted to win souls for Christ," said Msgr. Kurwicky.

Jesuit Father Ferdinand Helias D'Huddghem, a son of Belgian nobility, built Cole County's first church, St. Francis Xavier in what is now known as Taos, in 1838.

He had begun visiting Jefferson City two years previously, offering the Capital City's first Mass on record in the Upschulte House.

named the new Catholic mission in honor of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order.

That mission later became St. Peter Parish.

"He only had Mass here on the second Sunday of each month," said Msgr. Kurwicky, noting that it was part of Fr. Helias's rotating mission circuit.

Diocesan priests began ministering in the Capital City long before Fr. Helias, known today as the "Apostle of Central Missouri," died in Taos 150 years ago this August.

Father James Murphy, a diocesan priest from Ireland, in 1846 became Jefferson City's first Catholic resident pastor, and St. Peter became the St. Louis archdiocese's 59th parish.

"Two churches were built here before this one," Msgr. Kurwicky noted. "By the time this one was completed in 1883, Fr. Helias had gone to meet God" — and St. Ignatius.

Msgr. Kurwicky is only the 20th pastor in the parish's history. Several of his predecessors ministered there for decades at a time.

He surmised that the name

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See COMMUNION, page 18



# Sedalia Sacred Heart School's Class of 2024 reminded to keep running back to God

By Jay Nies

Mariah Van Leer can't think of a better group to have grown up with.

"I am so grateful for these extraordinary people," she said. "They have taught me some incredible life lessons and given me a childhood I will never forget."

Mariah gave the valedictorian address at Sacred Heart School's 80th graduation ceremony on May 19 in Sedalia.

"I know that we

are going to go out and absolutely crush life, so everyone better watch out!" she said.

Mariah and her 27 classmates graduated and had their Baccalaureate Mass on the Solemnity of Pentecost.

Sacred Heart is the only Catholic school in this diocese that has pre-school through high school under one roof, so many of the graduates had been together for 13 years.

Kindergarten teacher Jeanine Dove still teaches there and had a group photo with those who had her for class.

Mariah, in her address, thanked all the parents, priests, deacons, teachers, faculty and staff, and fellow parishioners for helping to make hers and her classmates' time at Sacred Heart so successful and enjoyable.

She said what defines this graduating class is "our overall respect and care for one another."

"We each have unique and wonderfully made God-given talents and abilities which when combined made us an incredibly strong group," she stated.

She said the most important thing she learned at Sacred Heart was "how much your faith can keep you grounded."

"We are human beings, and we will make mistakes and fall into sin," she noted, "especially when we won't be under the complete control of our parents."

"But we will always have God to run back to," she said.



The Class of 2024 of Sacred Heart High School in Sedalia participate in their Baccalaureate Mass in Sacred Heart Chapel on May 19, the Solemnity of Pentecost, the morning of their graduation ceremony.

— Photos by Jay Nies

"When we make those mistakes or poor decisions, he doesn't love us any less."

Rather, God wants them to run back into his arms and be forgiven, healed and reconciled in the Sacrament of Confession.

"Turn to him!" said Mariah. "He has a kind of love that we cannot even comprehend. That is the most valuable thing I have taken away from this school."

Salutatorian Samantha Altona also expressed abundant thanks, especially to the graduating seniors' families.

"The love and support you have shown not just for your

## Important lessons

Father Joseph Corel, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County, which sponsors Sacred Heart School, opened the commencement ceremony with prayers of gratitude for the Class of 2024.

"Thank you for giving them the gift of life, for giving them the parents and sponsors who love and support them," Fr. Corel prayed.

"Thank you for allowing them to already make a positive impact on our community, and help them to make a positive difference in the places they travel next."

Sacred Heart High School President Nikki Howell said that the graduates' time at school had given them countless valuable lessons — "not just academic knowledge but also the importance of prayer, integrity, compassion and service to others."

"This is not just a milestone for our graduates but for all of us who have prayed for them and nurtured them along the way," she said.

Sacred Heart's Class of 2024 had a combined cumulative grade-point average of 3.6, with 10 of the 28 carrying a cumulative 3.9 or higher.

Twenty had already completed one or more college courses, taking with them over 343 hours of college credit.

The 28 graduating seniors had been offered \$2,101,800 in scholarships, of which they so far had accepted \$1,240,200.

## "Who you become"

The graduating seniors were dressed in red gowns, with red tassels and mortarboards and white sashes.

Each presented a white flower to his or her parents and exchanged hugs with them before taking a seat at the front of the gym.

Mariah, who participated in a record 10 school musical productions during her time at Sacred Heart and received the National School Choral Award, gave a solo performance of "Promises" by Maverick City.

History teacher Jane McMullin, a proud member of the Class of 1987 and a second-generation graduate with 33 years of tenure at the school, offered solid advice in her commencement address.

"The content of your character is your choice," Mrs. McMullin told the graduating seniors. "Day by day, what you choose, what you think, and what you do will influence who you become."

"Your integrity is your destiny," she continued. "It is the life that guides your way."

She predicted that they would have many successes, which would help them build their character.

However, "what is most important is the personal relationship you build with God, allowing him to guide you, to be open to his call," she said.

She emphasized that the success that's out there waiting for them is not measured with

fame or wealth, "but in what kind of person you become and how you help others improve the world around you."

## Mixed emotions

In interviews between the Baccalaureate Mass and the commencement, four graduating seniors spoke of their joys, regret and excitement as they looked ahead to the next phase of their lives.

"It hasn't really hit me yet, but I'm so excited for what's to come," said Ellie Coruna.

Andres Vanegas said it will mean getting out of his comfort zone and meeting new people.

Ximena Lopez said she'd certainly miss going to school in a building with grade-school students and kindergarteners.

"I love the kids and the homey vibe," she said.

Jackson Manning said he'd also miss his friends and the "smaller-school vibe — how we all know each other and all the teachers care about us in the classroom."

Andres said he'd never thought about attending another school.

"We've always lived here and always been close to the Church," he said.

Jackson came to Sacred Heart in third grade, when his father became principal.

"But then, I was given the option to leave when he left, and I chose to stay because I like the education and I have a lot of friends," he said.

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

children but for everybody in our class is unreal," she said. "You have given us all the tools to succeed in life, one of which is the gift of being able to attend Sacred Heart."

She said graduating is bittersweet.

"I know that each and every one of my classmates is going to achieve great things, but it is so hard to let go of the people and places that we have known for the past decade," she said.



## QUESTION CORNER

## What does 'Ordinary Time' mean in the Church's calendar?

By Jenna Marie Cooper  
OSV News

**Q: I once heard a priest talk about Ordinary Time and that it didn't mean "plain" or that other times were more important. Of course, I can't remember how he explained it. Can you explain some more?**



**A:** I personally was not there when your priest was giving his talk, so I can't comment specifically on what he said. But my guess is that your priest noted that we use the word "ordinary" in our English term "Ordinary Time" because it refers to "ordinal numbers," i.e. numbers that denote a rank or sequence.

Depending on how the days of the week fall in a given year, Ordinary Time is 33-34 weeks long, and the days in Ordinary Time are generally identified by their number. For instance, on the first Sunday of July 2024, we will be celebrating the fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

The Latin term for Ordinary Time is similarly straightforward and practical: *"tempus per annum"* roughly translates into "time during the year."

But although the "ordinary" in "Ordinary Time" does not come from the same source as our word for "unremarkable," in my own opinion the double meaning of the word "ordinary" is a linguistic happy accident. In a certain sense, Ordinary Time is indeed "ordinary" in this way.

Ordinary Time begins after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which marks the closing of the Christmas season. The first few weeks of Ordinary Time occur during the winter, until it is interrupted by Lent and the Easter season. After the Easter season closes with Pentecost, Ordinary Time resumes and carries on through late spring until early winter with the beginning of Advent.

Not only does Ordinary Time represent a quieter period between the Church's major solemnities and more "intense" seasons, but the proper liturgy for a particular day in Ordinary Time is often replaced by various other feasts and commemorations.

Still, just because Ordinary Time might be "ordinary" in more ways than one, this does not mean that we should see it as boring or unimportant. Like all liturgical seasons, Ordinary Time calls us to reflect on particular mysteries of the faith in a more focused way than we would in other seasons. As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops notes: "The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ. Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ."

During the brief period of Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent, we can remember the hidden years of Jesus with his family in Nazareth prior to the beginning of his public ministry — a ministry that began with his 40 days of testing in the desert, which we recall during the season of Lent that immediately follows.

Pentecost calls to mind the birth of the Church and the commission of the Apostles to go out to the whole world to spread the Gospel; and the subsequent return to Ordinary Time reminds us to "get to work" in the normal, daily task of evangelizing in the course of our everyday lives. The green vestments used in Ordinary Time further remind us of life and fruitfulness during the long summer growing season.

See QUESTION, page 19

## Trump names Vance, Catholic senator from Ohio, as his 2024 running mate

By Kate Scanlon  
OSV News

Washington, D.C.

Former President Donald Trump on July 15 named Ohio Sen. J.D. Vance, a Catholic, as his running mate on the Republican ticket in November.

"After lengthy deliberation and thought, and considering the tremendous talents of many others, I have decided that the person best suited to assume the position of Vice President of the United States is Senator J.D. Vance of the Great State of Ohio," Trump wrote in a post on his social media platform Truth Social.

"J.D. honorably served our Country in the Marine Corps, graduated from Ohio State University in two years, Summa Cum Laude, and is a Yale Law School Graduate, where he was Editor of *The Yale Law Journal*, and President of the Yale Law Veterans Association."

If elected, Vance would be just the second Catholic vice president in U.S. history, preceded only by President Joseph Biden, who was vice president for two terms before his own election to the White House.

Vance, author of *Hillbilly Elegy*, was elected to the U.S. Sen-

ate in 2022 after a contentious primary election in the Buckeye State, in which he got Trump's endorsement. Vance, who is Catholic, is married to Usha Vance, a litigator. The couple has three young children.

Vance was at one time a staunch critic of Trump, but became a closer ally of the former president as he campaigned for the U.S. Senate as a populist, and is ideologically aligned with Trump on issues such as foreign policy.

In the days leading up to his selection as the vice presidential nominee, Vance moderated his position on abortion. During his U.S. Senate bid, Vance said he supported a 15-week federal restriction on abortion, but on July 7, Vance said he supported access to mifepristone, a pill commonly used for abortion.

But in a statement, Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, called Vance "an exceptional selection as President



Sen. J.D. Vance, R-Ohio, speaks at a June 16 event held by the national conservative political movement, "Turning Point" in Detroit. On July 15, former President Donald Trump named Vance as his running mate on the Republican ticket in November.

— OSV News photo/Rebecca Cook, Reuters

Trump's running mate."

Dannenfelser argued, "Now through Election Day, the pro-life movement's mission must be to defeat the Biden-Harris extreme abortion agenda. With Vance on the ticket, we are more committed than ever in our efforts to deliver the winning pro-life message to 10 million voters, with four million visits to the homes of voters in key battleground states."

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

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## Media Mindfulness:

# A reflection on time's fleeting nature and our relationship with God

By Sister Nancy Usselmann  
OSV News



As I'm sitting in the chapel, I hear the clock in the sacristy ticking in the silence. The tick of every second is the ever-fleeting present leading to the next moment — the future. St. Teresa of Kolkata's words come to mind, "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."

Filmmaker Christopher Nolan uses the reality of time effectively in his storytelling. Hans Zimmer's soundtrack in "Dunkirk" creates suspense and urgency with a ticking clock underlying his

score. The movie relays the rescue of the beach-stranded soldiers surrounded by the enemy as a race against time. In his sci-fi thriller "Inception," the spinning top symbolizes time and reality. If it falls over Leonardo DiCaprio's character Cobb is awake in the real world, but if it remains spinning, he is immersed in a dream. Nolan tells a group of Princeton graduates his reason for the film's unresolved ending, "Reality matters. ... I want you to chase your reality." In other words, live in the present.

Time reminds us that it is fleeting. It never stops. Like in the story of Cinderella when the clock strikes midnight all the beautiful fantasy fades away. What remains is the reality of the present. We can't stop growing older. We can't stop family and friends from the reality of death. We can't hold back time to relish

the good times. We can only keep moving forward. We can live in the present.

God exists in the "eternal now," that is, outside of time that moves from moment to moment. But he waits for us to discover him in the fleeting moments of beauty before us in a redwood-lined, mountainous trail, the smile of a friend or the gift of grace in prayer. We recognize him in the generosity of strangers, the meaning of our lives and the hope for life with him forever in heaven. Sometimes we may become a slave of time anxiously planning the next thing. We want to live in the present, but it moves on so quickly. Cherishing the time we have now helps us focus on what matters.

So, how can we live in the present? Here are five ways:

— Relish the moments: Let go of the past with its mistakes and disappointments. Be grateful for what you have right now and thank God for these blessings.

— Don't worry: Jesus says, "Do not worry about tomorrow. ... Today's

trouble is enough for today" (Mt 6:34). Surrender all your cares to the Lord.

— Choose the good: Discern the best next step in self-giving love and do that. Choose what will bring you peace.

— Lighten the baggage: Divest yourself of excess possessions.

— Be optimistic: Smile and share a word of joy with others.

I bring these tips into my daily prayer and experiences. My family all live in different areas of the country. I am grateful to God for the opportunity each time we come together. And so, I decide before each visit that I will relish the moments we have as a family. It gets harder and harder to say goodbye when it's time to leave. How much longer will we have together? Only God knows! It's futile to bring up past hurts or be anxious about future concerns. When I live in the present, I find joy in the moment.

Time marches on, like Pink Floyd

See SR. NANCY, page 19

## Wedding bells muse

By Greg Erlandson  
OSV News



I must have skipped the chapter in my "how to parent" instruction manual where it talked about weddings. Not my wedding, of course, but all the weddings of my kids, the friends of my kids and the kids of my friends.

For me, the year 2024 is turning into a banner year for nuptials, including the wedding of one of my sons. Yet we have been invited to at least five other weddings this year as well. We are swamped by the logistics of attending. We get save-the-date cards with a photo of the couple, then the actual wedding invitations. We negotiate wedding websites to R.S.V.P. and to send gifts. In case you didn't know, department store gift registries are now as old-fashioned as department stores. It is far busier for some of our children, who have even more weddings to attend, bridesmaid dresses to buy, bachelor parties to throw, and travel and hotel expenses to cover.

I can't complain, however. My wife and I are cheered by this nuptial rush, for the statistics about young people getting married have been falling for years. Marriage has been in something approaching freefall since the 1960s. Catholic marriage rates have been dropping precipitously as well.

Some of this freefall is due to a rampant distrust of institutions that harkens back to Mae West ("Marriage is a great institution, but I'm not ready for an institution yet"). Some of it reflects

a distrust of the Church itself. Some of it is cautiousness about commitment in an era of divorce. And some of it is the result of a crisis in dating.

We are hearing far too many stories of young men and young women (and some not-so-young men and women) who want marriage but are not finding suitable partners. Even worse are the stories of young men and women who don't know how, or are afraid, to ask someone out on a date. Colleges are even offering dating instruction courses, for which there appears to be a real need. Young men tell me they are afraid that any expression of interest may be interpreted as harassment, and young women tell me of men who seem to be mired in perpetual adolescence.

And for parents who worry about their single children, it is usually made absolutely clear to them that they are not allowed to play matchmaker. Meanwhile, their (quite wonderful) children wait and wait for lightning to strike. But I digress.

What I want to tell all the couples that are getting married this year is that they should not focus on the wedding day. It is just one day, after all. It is not worth going into debt for or causing all your friends to go into debt for. The destination, the trappings, the dress — these are all irrelevant when compared to what this day signifies the start of: a shared life together.

After 41 years of marriage, I can testify that (a) marriage is great, (b) marriage does take work (on oneself), and (c) all the effort is worth it.

For Catholics, the challenge and the joy of "becoming one flesh" is that the couple is committing to helping each

See ERLANDSON, page 19

## REFLECTION

### Cry of the poor

By Mark Saucier

"There is your brother, naked and crying. And you stand confused over the choice of an attractive floor covering."

It sounds like the guilt-ridden rant of an activist. In fact, the words belong to Ambrose, the fourth-century saint of whom the emperor said: "I know no bishop worthy of the name except Ambrose."

In Ambrose's time, the population of the planet was less than 200 million, a fraction of the (7.9) billion of today. Most lived in rural areas and were at least fed from their fields, except when starved by weather and war.

Today, Ambrose's world would fit into our 10 largest cities, and all would have to buy their daily bread.

Just as Jesus promised, the poor are still with us — even more so. A staggering billion live on \$1 a day or less. If one man's cheeseburger and fries is another man's weekly wage, hunger should be no surprise, but it is still a secret many find comfortable to keep.

In an average world, one of my children would be destitute and four of my nieces and nephews would be chronically undernourished.

But the world is neither average nor fair, and the table always seems to tip toward us.

It is not the food or the distribution; we have the means for both. It really comes down to how much plenty will suffice.

Most are a generous sort, willing to extend the hand of charity, if not the arm of justice.

Still, before we do what we can, we might consider just what it is that we can.

We can figure our giving in QuickBooks, but only the Good Book will put it in the balance of faith, allowing the needs of others to be weighed in relation to our own.

Your answer will be different than mine, and neither will be final. There will always be tension when it comes to the cry of the poor.

Ambrose just reminds us that if we are stressing out between the Travertine tile and the Berber wool while Lazarus is a paver on our walk, it's time to do a little less shopping and a little more sharing.

*A version of this reflection was originally published in the July 10, 2009, edition of The Catholic Missourian.*



# Encounter

## Planting seeds while growing community

### AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES



By Chelsea Robbins

Community gardens have long been recognized for their multifaceted benefits, from fostering a sense of community to providing fresh produce and promoting environmental sustainability.

We at Catholic Charities have taken this concept to heart with our thriving community garden.

It started with the food pantry, methods for sustainability were a top priority when estab-

lishing our pantry and how we wanted it to operate.

Reuse and Recycle has become a big part of what I like to call "pantry life."

The two main ways we establish this are by recycling all our cardboard (and trust me we see a LOT of cardboard here!).

While the capacity that we recycle is a small portion of the world's cardboard, we feel better at the end of the day knowing that we are not contributing to the massive landfills.

The second way we practice sustainability is by composting all the produce that comes through our pantry when it is no longer safe for our neighbors to consume.

When we first started composting it would be taken to a composting facility offsite, which for our small team was not the most efficient use of

time.

Turns out that a viable solution was not far away, when a volunteer requested if they could take the compost and maintain it on the property, this volunteer already had experience with composting.

When the idea of a community garden was presented, the goal was to incorporate our composted soil into the garden.

Once we had our first garden bed built our composted soil was incorporated and we saw the benefits right away.

Cut to the present where we now have 11 garden boxes built with the generous help of our network of volunteers.

These boxes have allowed our neighbors to grow, harvest and enjoy the fruits of their labor at their own dinner tables.

Many of our neighbors are housed within low-income housing complexes with minimal or no access to grow their own produce.

Our community garden fills that gap and opens opportunities to foster healthy lifestyles and habits.

Another essential resource that helps ensure our garden's success is our partners at MU Extension.

Dawn Seblon, the Nutrition Program Associate at MU Extension spearheads education classes for our



neighbors involved in the community garden.

"We want our participants to know how to stretch their dollars and gardening is one of the ways they can do that. They can purchase seeds and plants with their SNAP benefits so teaching them that they can use that resource for those kinds of purchases too. For example, instead of buying one tomato, they can purchase a plant and have an abundance of tomatoes."

For Dawn, the gardening class is not just about planting the seeds, but also showing neighbors the firsthand benefits of their hard work, "the goal is once the plants in the garden start producing, we then will harvest those items and begin to create recipes with the produce, to then teach the neighbors how to use what they are growing in their own kitchens."

The Catholic Charities community garden has shed such a positive light on our neighbors, staff, and community.

It has provided a hands-on connection with nature, a safe space that is peaceful for the minds of the weary, sustainability and thoughtfulness for our environment, and a place to see neighbors and their hard work flourish and grow.

Community gardens are more than just plots of land; they are vibrant expressions of community resilience and empowerment.

By bringing people together promoting environmental stewardship, and providing economic opportunities, these grassroots initiatives have a transformative impact on the neighborhoods across the globe.

As we cultivate our gardens, we sow the seeds of social connection, environmental sustainability, and economic empowerment, nurturing stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities for generations to come.

In the words of Margaret Mead "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

For Dawn, it has been beneficial to her both professionally and personally stating, "It has been fun for me personally, getting to see the smiles on their faces when we are there. They get to see the plants grow and ask questions about gardening while working and learning together."

Through the simple act of gardening, individuals come together to create positive change in their communities, one plant at a time.

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# PILGRIMAGE

From page 1

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, belief in and increased reverence for Christ fully present in the Eucharist.

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

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.

People from all over the diocese traveled to the events and spent time walking with the pilgrims.

Bishop McKnight noted that Eucharistic processions are not parades or rallies.

"Our processions are not for showing off but for putting off all that inhibits our recognition of our Eucharistic Lord, and makes visible our desire to be with the Lord in our public life," he said.

Likewise, "our participation in the Eucharistic Procession leads to and flows from our encounter with the Eucharistic Lord in the most solemn and supreme action of the Church — the celebration of the Mass," Bishop McKnight stated.

At every Mass, not only are the simple gifts of bread and wine changed into the substantial presence of Christ's Body and Blood, the people who participate at Mass are also fundamentally changed — "renewed in heart and mind to the degree we are open to God's manifold graces," the bishop explained.

"We go forth at the end of Mass to live the Eucharist we have celebrated and received,"



**LEFT: A Solemn Eucharistic Procession approaches the tower of the Memorial Student Union on the campus of the University of Missouri in Columbia on July 3. RIGHT: Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, carries the Most Blessed Sacrament in procession through the University of Missouri campus, with the dome of Jesse Hall, the administration building, in the background.**

— Photos by Annie Williams

he said. "We become Eucharistic disciples of the Eucharistic Lord.

"You and I are called to be Eucharistic," he stated, "not only in our form of worship, and not only in our form of devotion in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; we are ultimately called to be Eucharistic in the way we live and respond to the circumstances that life presents us."

## "Follow me"

A period of contemplation followed the Prayer after Communion at the Mass. A deacon then placed the consecrated host inside a large, gold-plated monstrance on the altar.

Bishop McKnight knelt down and reverently swung a receptacle of burning incense, sending up plumes of aromatic smoke.

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

He then lifted up the Most Blessed Sacrament and carried it aloft as the priests and lay faithful followed him out of the Cathedral.

Children who had recently made their First Holy Communion scattered flower petals in the path of the procession.

Bishop McKnight presented the Most Blessed Sacrament to

Bishop Fernandes, who continued carrying the Lord down West Main Street.

Other priests and deacons took turns bearing the Most Blessed Sacrament along the 2.4-mile procession route.

Seminarians rang bells and burned incense at the front of the procession.

Escorted by a police officer in a patrol car, hundreds of people sang hymns and antiphonally prayed the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Litany of St. Joseph.

The eastern lane of the road was closed to traffic during the procession.

The entire group stepped up onto the sidewalk to make way for a passing ambulance.

The bells of the St. Peter Proto-Cathedral, across the street from the State Capitol, started to peal as the procession came within sight.

The organ leapt into a coronation anthem as Father Paul Clark carried the Most Blessed Sacrament up the church steps and presented it to Monsignor Robert Kurwicki, pastor.

A seminarian carrying the burning incense filled the church vestibule with smoke, then knelt as the pastor carried the Blessed Sacrament down the center aisle covered with gold and white rose petals.

Strains of "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" began outside the church and gradually swelled as the people singing it entered and those already inside joined in.

After a time of silent prayer, Msgr. Kurwicki led Benedic-

tion, followed by prayers for the perpetual pilgrims, their chaplains and support team as they continued toward Indianapolis.

"That was really cool, because we were following Jesus!" Grayson Twyman told his grandmother, Julie Clingman.

Bishop McKnight said he hopes the gatherings and celebrations of the past week will be "an opportunity for us to let the Lord approach us, to teach us, and to reveal himself to us, so that we might be changed for the better."

"May we and our parishes become even more a community of the Beatitudes, centers of charity and sanctuaries of mercy of our Eucharistic Lord," he said.

## "Sweat and tears"

Earlier in the week, an impressive delegation from around the diocese joined the pilgrims in walking 12.5 miles along the Katy Trail from Pilot Grove to Boonville.

That evening, people gathered for catechesis, Adoration and Benediction in Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Boonville.

One of the perpetual pilgrims, Jimmy Velasco, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of San Francisco, said the pilgrimage is bearing fruit.

"The Eucharistic Revival is well under way," he said. "We will continue this fire to show others that Jesus Christ has never left us, that he is here with us in the Eucharist."

For long stretches of the pilgrimage, they traveled in a 10-passenger van, specially modified with an altar of re-

pose in place of the first row of passenger seats.

"We walked through rocky mountains, carrying our Lord," said Mr. Velasco. "We've journeyed through corn fields with Jesus."

Father Paul Clark, diocesan vocation director, director of seminarians and chaplain of Helias Catholic High School, walked with the pilgrims along the 12.5-mile stretch of the Katy Trail that day.

He pointed out that revival is not something people do; it is God stirring the hearts of people.

"So, we're carrying this monstrosity along the trail," Fr. Clark stated. "It has our sweat and tears all over it."

For him, it was a powerful occasion of prayer, "a lot of time literally spent face-to-face with Jesus with sweat in my eyes, and it was beautiful."

He reiterated that Christ is fully present every time Mass is celebrated.

He pointed out that at Mass, the people offer the bread and wine for the sacrifice, along with themselves.

The priest, ministering in the person of Christ, receives the offering and blesses it.

Blessing, said Fr. Clark, is an act of thanksgiving to God.

"Christ was always able to give thanks because he knew the promise and the plan was being fulfilled," he said.

"If we are going to recognize more fully his presence, we must first allow ourselves to say thank you for everything he is

See REVIVAL, page 15



# Pope asks world's religions to push for ethical AI development

By Justin McLellan  
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Pope Francis called on representatives from the world's religions to unite behind the defense of human dignity in an age that will be defined by artificial intelligence.

"I ask you to show the world that we are united in asking for a proactive commitment to protect human dignity in this new era of machines," the pope wrote in a message to participants of a conference on AI ethics which hosted representatives from 11 world religions.

Religious leaders representing Eastern faiths such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, and Bahá'í, among others, as well as leaders of the three Abrahamic religions gathered in Hiroshima, Japan, for the conference, titled "AI Ethics for Peace."

They also signed the Rome Call for AI Ethics — a document developed by the Pontifical Academy for Life which asks signatories to promote an ethical approach to AI devel-

opment.

Microsoft, IBM, Cisco, the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization and the innovation ministry of the Italian government have signed the document.

A July 10 press release from the academy said Franciscan Father Paolo Benanti, an ethics professor at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University, presented an addendum to the document in Hiroshima specifically focused on the ethical governance of generative AI — which can process, interpret and produce human language.

The addendum said generative AI requires sustained commitment to ensuring its use for humanity's good.

In his message to the conference published by the Vatican July 10, Pope Francis noted the "great symbolic importance" of the religious leaders' meeting in Hiroshima and noted the increasingly central role which artificially intelligent technology plays in society.



Participants of a conference on AI ethics, including several representatives of world religions, pose for a photo in Hiroshima, Japan, July 10, 2024. Standing front and center is Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life. — CNS photo/Courtesy Holy See Press Office

"As we look at the complexity of the issues before us, recognizing the contribution of the cultural riches of peoples and religions in the regulation of artificial intelligence is key

to the success of your commitment to the wise management of technological innovation," he wrote.

Echoing his address on artificial intelligence to the G7 sum-

mit in June, the pope asked the participants to jointly push for the ban of lethal autonomous weapons, which "starts from an effective and concrete commitment to introduce ever greater and proper human control."

"No machine should ever choose to take the life of a human being," he wrote.

Opening the conference July 9, Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, academy president, said that artificial intelligence "must be guided so that its potential serves the good from the moment of its design."

"At Hiroshima, a place of the highest symbolic value, we strongly invoke peace, and we ask that technology be a driver of peace and reconciliation among peoples," he said. "We stand here, together, to say loudly that standing together and acting together is the only possible solution."

## Cardinal Tagle: Diversity should unite, not divide

By OSV News

Indianapolis

In a rousing, often laugh-inducing address, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle implored the more than 300 attendees of the Asian and Pacific Islander Catholics National Encounter in Indianapolis to remain committed as witnesses to the truth of Jesus Christ.

"Let us give witness to (Je-

sus's) universal love and let us begin it ourselves. In our diversity, we see the presence of the creative God," he told the diverse crowd, all of whom came

from a cross-section of Asian and Pacific Island nations, like Vietnam, the Philippines, Korea, China, Laos, Myanmar and Samoa, among many others.

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FR. TOLTON

From page 1

as the Roman Catholic Church’s first recognizably Black priest.

Each year on the anniversary of his death, the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois, holds a procession from St. Peter Church in Quincy to Fr. Tolton’s burial place in St. Peter Cemetery.

This year’s special Eucharistic Procession coincided with eight young adults moving on foot and by car through the Springfield diocese while adoring Christ in Most Blessed Sacrament along the St. Junipero Serra arm of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

The pilgrims, who traveled through the Jefferson City diocese the previous week, were set to arrive at their destination, the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, this week.

The congress event is the pinnacle of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“No cross, no crown”

In Quincy, a standing-room-only crowd filled St. Peter Church and spilled over into the vestibule for Solemn Vespers during Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Rain was falling outside when the service began but diminished as the procession got under way.

“When we were in church,” Bishop Paprocki later recalled, “I prayed to Fr. Tolton for his intercession to make the rain stop.

“Fr. Tolton is a good and holy priest and always obeys his bishop!” Bishop Paprocki stated.

The church bell rang as he processed out of the church, carrying at eye level the monstrance containing the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Bishop Perry, an impressive delegation of priests and a legion of laypeople slowly followed him.

Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus carried the four poles of the baldachino, an ornate canopy that shielded the bishop and the Body of Christ.

The people sang hymns praising God for the gift of the Holy Eucharist — Christ fully present in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

Volunteers ventured ahead of the procession to tilt up branches on nearby trees, emptying the leaves of rainwater and making straight a path for the Lord.

Bishop Perry carried the Most Blessed Sacrament for the

last half of the mile-long journey.

Most of the procession took place down a wide thoroughfare called Maine Street. Maine was admitted to the Union as a free state at the time Missouri was admitted as a slave state under the Missouri Compromise of 1820-21.

Altar servers bearing a crucifix and candles led the procession into the cemetery where Fr. Tolton’s earthly remains have

been at rest since 1897.

Nearby, a headstone for a 21-year-old woman who died in 1883 proclaimed: “No, cross, no crown.”

After leading the people in the prayers for Benediction, Bishop Paprocki held up the monstrance and blessed everyone present.

He then led the offering of prayers inspired by Fr. Tolton

See QUINCY, page 14

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian’s* online edition, [cathmo.com](http://cathmo.com). Select “Photo Galleries” from the “Multimedia” tab on the menu bar.



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## QUINCY

From page 13

for an end to racism and for more priestly vocations, followed by the official prayer composed by Bishop Perry for Fr. Tolton's canonization.

The recessional hymn, Fr. Tolton's favorite, was "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name."

### Growing interest

Father Daren Zehnle, newly appointed director of Campus Ministry at Quincy University, has been organizing the July 9 processions in Quincy for the past eight years.

"Each year, it has grown by about 20 people," he said.

But this year, with it tying into the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, "it has increased about threefold," he noted.

Fr. Zehnle asked everyone to continue praying for deeper Church-wide devotion to Christ fully present in the Eucharist, and for Fr. Tolton's canonization — "that the Lord might give us a new saint, right here in this diocese."

Bishop Paprocki thanked Bishop Perry for coming to Quincy; Fr. Zehnle for organizing the event; everyone who helped with activities related to the Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the diocese; and all who had helped organize the pilgrimage nationally.

Bishop Perry said the procession "for all its length was truly an awesome scene."

"I was moved to emotion to see so many Quincians and folks from neighboring towns, pilgrims and visitors joining in this truly Catholic event honoring the Holy Eucharist and a priest of our heritage, Father Augustus Tolton," he said. "The touching story of his life has truly spread wide and far!"

### Peace and healing

Tracy Grove, the first-grade teacher at Holy Rosary School in Monroe City, took her son George, to Jefferson City the previous Friday to take part in a Eucharistic Pilgrimage with Bishop W. Shawn Mc-Knight.

She brought him to Quincy five days later for the Fr. Tolton segment of the National Pilgrimage.

"What a wonderful time to be Catholic!" she said.

"I'm a new Catholic, so I think this is a phenomenal time

for the whole Church," she stated. "And it's been really spectacular for someone new like me and my family."

Mrs. Grove began teaching at Holy Rosary School four years ago, piquing her curiosity about the Church and its 2,000-year deposit of faith and inherited wisdom.

She enrolled in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at Holy Rosary Parish and was received into the Church at Easter this year.

George received his First Holy Communion last spring.

She's convinced of the importance of celebrating and spreading interest in and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

"Because Christ heals!" she said. "He is your food. He heals. Grace! You've gotta' have it. We live in such a crazy world. We need his healing, his nourishment, his peace."

Mrs. Grove suggested praying for healing — "healing for the sick, and for some peace in this world."

### Bringing Jesus to others

Dominican Sister Suzanne Walker of Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City said attending the Eucharistic Pilgrimage with so many participants in Quincy was "truly an experience to bolster the faith of everyone."

"It was so good to see so many people coming together to pray, especially through the intercession of Fr. Tolton," she said.

She's confident the Eucharistic Pilgrimage will help Catholics recognize their role in helping others know Jesus Christ.

She pointed out that Fr. Tolton faced many challenges in his quest to bring Jesus Christ to others.

"Many of those challenges are still present today," said Sr. Suzanne. "By coming together, we can meet that challenge."



**Retired Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago, co-postulator for Venerable Father Augustus Tolton's sainthood cause, carries the Most Blessed Sacrament with hundreds of people in Quincy, Illinois, July 9, en route to Fr. Tolton's burial place in St. Peter Cemetery.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

She said it's important for people today to follow the example of Fr. Tolton "and know that what we do is part of God's plan to bring the message of Jesus Christ."

### "Hope, mission, celebration"

Sister Clementia Toalson of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George (FSGM), grew up in Hannibal.

She now helps coordinate sacrament preparation for the Springfield diocese.

She was at her congregation's

traveling to Quincy for the Fr. Tolton portion of the pilgrimage.

"Fr. Tolton is near to my heart because I'm from near here," she said.

"Being here, being present, seeing people that I know and love and have grown up with in the faith, who have helped me develop my own vocation and enter more deeply into it — it's just beautiful to be here with them, to walk with the Eucharist and to be present here at the grave of Fr. Tolton," she said.

While there, she prayed for everyone who's close to her — "wanting and desiring for their hearts to be enflamed with the fire of God's love."

"There's this deep need for Eucharistic revival, for the hearts of our diocese here in Springfield but also the Diocese of Jefferson City, to come alive and to bring others to know the love of Jesus Christ," she said.

"I desire it so deeply. So, that's why I'm here!"

She noted that the upcoming year of the Eucharistic Revival is a Year of Mission.

An important aspect of that mission is for people to personally get to know Christ in the Eucharist.

Toward that end, Sr. Clementia suggests fearlessly inviting people to Mass and to Adoration.

"Introduce them to the beliefs of the Church and not be afraid of that — be bold," she said.

"That is my prayer for that year of mission, the grace to be bold!" she stated. "The Lord wants us to be bold and spread his love and the knowledge of his presence in the Eucharist."

"God has not abandoned us! He is here! He is present!" she said.

She noted that the Year of Mission for the Eucharistic Revival will coincide with the Church's Jubilee of Hope in 2025, as well as the 100th anniversary of the FSGM sisters' presence in the United States.

"So, we'll have a year of hope, mission and celebration!" she said.

"That's what the Lord desires of our hearts, of our faith — to partake of that missionary aspect but also that joy of celebration and hope that he has not left us, that he is present!"

### Resting at home

Born seven years before the Civil War, 7-year-old Augustus Tolton, his mother and siblings escaped enslavement by crossing the Mississippi River after the war broke out.

Growing up in Quincy, he endured overwhelming obstacles along the road to Priesthood before being accepted into formation at the Urban College in Rome, run by the missionary Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith.

He was ordained in the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome in 1886 and offered his First Solemn Mass the next day in St. Peter's Basilica.

He hoped to be sent as a missionary to Africa but was missioned instead back to Quincy. He ministered with great courage and pastoral sensitivity there and later in Chicago until his death of heat stroke on July 9, 1897, at age 43.

Grateful for all the people in Quincy who had helped him grow closer to God and answer his priestly calling, he always said he wanted to be buried in St. Peter Cemetery.

A large stone cross marking his burial place and that of at least one other priest stands at the cemetery's highest and most prominent point.

Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic School in Columbia is named in his honor.

*Contributing to this report was Maria Wiering, senior writer for OSV News.*



**Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield, Illinois, conducts a solemn Benediction at the burial place of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton in St. Peter Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois, July 9, the 127th anniversary of Fr. Tolton's death, following a Eucharistic procession as part of the National Eucharistic Revival.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

motherhouse in Alton, Illinois, when the Eucharistic pilgrims arrived there in driving rain that morning.

"It was wonderful!" she said. "We had a Eucharistic procession in the rain, and people could see how important it is to us."

She made a point of then



## REVIVAL

From page 11

doing, whether we can see the purpose or value of it or not, and prepare to say thank you in an even larger way whenever we enter into the Mass," he said.

### Everyday encounters

Ss. Peter & Paul parishioner Patricia Lutz, diocesan director of stewardship, spoke of how timely exposure through friends and her husband to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist led her to become Catholic.

"In 1997, at the Easter Vigil, when it became time to receive the Eucharist, I literally felt whole," she said. "I felt like something had been missing, but now I felt whole." Years later, she took part in Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at a Steubenville Conference in Springfield. "Jesus was right in front of me, and I wanted to see him face-to-face," she said.

"I knew at that moment that my life did not belong to me, it belonged to Jesus, and I intended to give him thanks for everything he gave to me."

For the Eucharistic Revival, she advised everyone to keep learning about and going deeper into their faith by becoming active in their parishes, going to Mass regularly, participating in Bible studies and small faith-sharing groups, finding a good Catholic app, praying the Liturgy of the hours, asking questions, and being unapologetically Catholic.

"The Mass is not about the music or the preaching," she said. "It's about the Eucharist — the Body and Blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. That's why we go to Mass. That's what makes us Catholic."

Nathan Imhoff, an eighth-grader at St. Joseph School in Pilot Grove, said going to a Catholic school helps him grow in his relationship with God and appreciate the time he gets to spend at Mass.

"Receiving Holy Communion is a gift in itself, which also makes me feel like I'm part of a community of Catholics who are likeminded in their belief that bread is transformed



**LEFT:** Bishop Edward J. Rice of Springfield-Cape Girardeau carries the Most Blessed Sacrament in solemn procession through Boonville on July 3.

— Photo by Annie Williams



**RIGHT:** Father Joseph Luzindana presides at Benediction at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg before bidding a group of national Eucharistic pilgrims farewell on July 5.

— Photo by Jay Nies

into the Holy Body of Christ," he said.

"But we don't just encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. We encounter him all the time in everyday life."

### "Grace and renewal"

Each evening after the pilgrims walked, a parish hosted a meal, teaching on the Eucharist, personal witness and Adoration.

Jen Cordia, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County, said one of the things she loves most about being Catholic is the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

"Each time we receive Holy Communion, we are choosing to accept the new covenant God made with us by accepting the love Jesus has for us, which he offered through his sacrifice for us," she said.

She called the Blessed Sacrament "the ultimate love story" of Christ sacrificing himself in love for others.

Father Benjamin Nwosu said walking with the pilgrims and being graced by the Lord's presence in the Most Blessed Sacrament filled his heart with indescribable joy.

He called it "a night of grace and renewal for our diocese and a profound spiritual experience."

The pastor of St. Ann Parish in Warsaw, St. Bernadette Parish in Hermitage and the Mission of Ss. Peter and Paul in Cole Camp said hearing Confessions while Adoration was going on was "deeply reassuring and uplifting."

"Witnessing the profound work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the pilgrims who came to adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament was a deeply inspiring and humbling experience."

It was "a reminder to place Christ in the center of our lives and always seek his presence in the Holy Eucharist," said Fr. Nwosu.

### "I will give you rest"

Heavy rain on July 3 flooded out part of the Katy Trail, so the pilgrims processed with the Most Blessed Sacrament, carried by Father Daniel Merz, around the University of Missouri campus in Columbia.

July 4 was a day of rest for the pilgrims, with Adoration taking place all day in St. Peter Proto-Cathedral in Jefferson City.

Sights and sounds of the holiday surrounded the church, but all mortal flesh kept silence within the candle-lit confines.

Gold and white rose petals adorned the center aisle leading to the altar upon which the Most Blessed Sacrament was enthroned in a monstration.

The candles on the altar and along the walls seemed to grow brighter as clouds dimmed the sunlight.

Groups of parishioners led prayers and devotions at the top of each hour.

People occasionally stepped forward to kneel on an ornate *prie dieu* placed directly in front of the altar.

It was the same historical fixture Bishop Joseph M. Mar-

ling C.P.P.S., founding bishop of Jefferson City, knelt and prayed upon at his Installation Mass in 1956.

### "Jesus at the center"

Tall trees formed a canopy over the outdoor altar and pews at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg, where people from throughout the diocese gathered again for Adoration before bidding the national pilgrims farewell.

"What a blessed several days of walking with and worshipping Jesus!" said Father David Veit, pastor of St. Brendan Parish in Mexico, who had traveled for miles by foot with the pilgrims.

"It was the opportunity and experience of a lifetime, filled with laughter and blisters, tears of joy, sweat, acts of kindness to others and over 11 hours total of confessions heard!" he stated.

Father Joseph Luzindana, associate pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish in Jefferson City and moderator for youth and young adult ministry for this diocese, gave a rousing meditation.

"It's beautiful for us to be here with Jesus Christ," said Fr. Luzindana. "Believe me! He has blessed us, and everything will be fine."

He emphasized that people who receive Holy Communion are to become what they receive.

"We present ourselves to God," he stated. "And by the time we leave Mass, we have already been broken, and God

transforms us to be Eucharistic people.

"We become like Jesus," he said. "We are united with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. You are a child of God!"

Christ remains in the people who receive him in Holy Communion.

"And wherever we go, we are like that monstration, and Jesus is in the center of our lives," he said.

### "God showed up!"

People lined the walkway from the outdoor altar to the national pilgrims' specially outfitted vehicle.

People knelt down in the grass as Fr. Luzindana carried the Most Blessed Sacrament, pronounced the prayers of Benediction, placed the monstration on a special altar for Adoration inside the van, and led the singing of "*Tantum Ergo*."

"God showed up in small and big ways," said Maureen Quinn, diocesan director of religious education and youth/young adult ministry.

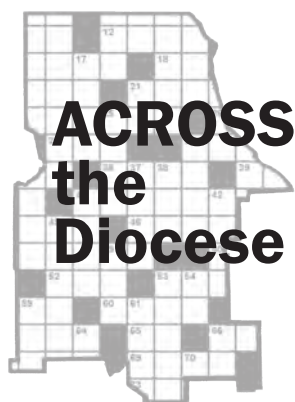
She urged everyone to keep the spirit of the Eucharistic Pilgrimage active and always close to their hearts.

"Our pilgrims have moved on, but our Savior is still here — very real and very present," she said.

She invited everyone to become more active in their parishes and to invite inactive Catholics back into the fold.

"Because we want to bring the Savior to as many people as possible," she said.





By Father Donald Antweiler

**ACROSS**

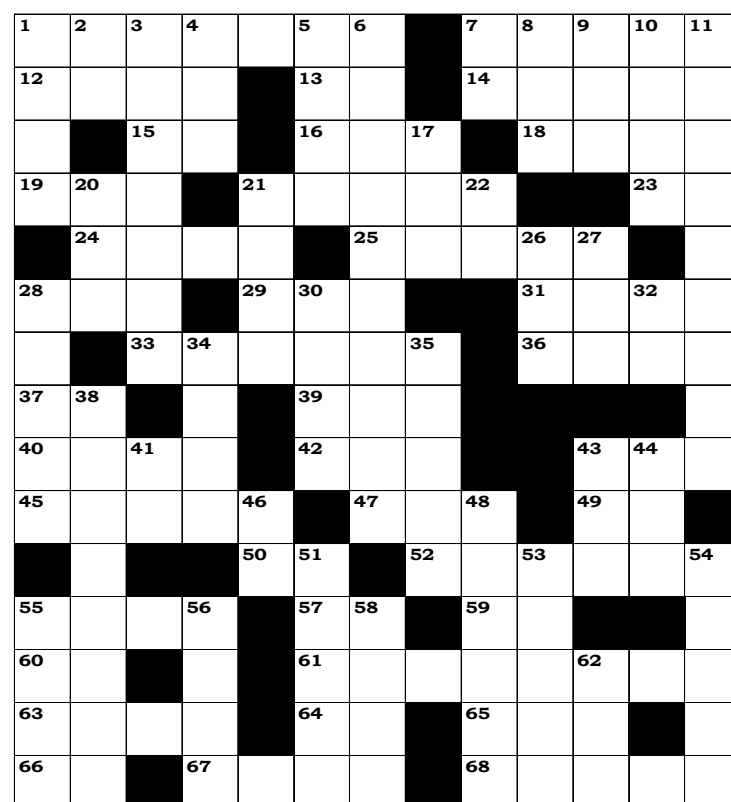
1. Many plants rely on \_\_\_\_ for pollination. Bumblebees are the superstars of what can be called flower farming.
7. "He who exercises government by means of his virtue may be compared to the \_\_\_\_ polar star, which keeps its place and all the stars turn towards it," — Confucius.
12. Slang for illegal drugs, esp. heroin or cocaine.
13. The preferred translation of the Hebrew word AMEN is "So be \_\_\_\_."
14. January in Madrid.
15. Comparative suffix.
16. Letters for the British air force.
18. Paradise.
19. Abbr. at the end of a list, perhaps.
21. King who massacred the innocents of Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16-18).
23. Dir. from St. Peter Parish in Marshall to St. Andrew Parish in Tipton.
24. To collect enough food for themselves and the \_\_\_\_, a bumblebee may visit nearly 500 flowers each day.
25. Only female bumblebees have stingers that can inject painful \_\_\_\_.
28. A yes vote in Congress.
29. Radio Corporation of America, better known by its acronym \_\_\_\_, is known for its long-time success as a record label.
31. "Behold the \_\_\_\_ of

33. The most common bee, prized for its production of honey, has a barbed stinger which remains behind when used and the bee dies. Bumblebees, however, have \_\_\_\_ stingers which can be used again and again.
36. The \_\_\_\_ of the Rock is an Islamic shrine at the center of the Al-Aqsa mosque built on the ancient Jerusalem Temple site in the Old City of Jerusalem.
37. Original 12-step grp.
39. Offense against the 8th commandment.
40. "No one takes (my life) from me, but \_\_\_\_ it down on my own," — John 10:18 (2 wds.)
42. Head of a mafia "family."
43. \_\_\_\_ Cruces, at 116,000, is the second most populated city in New Mexico.
45. "No \_\_\_\_ has touched my head, for I (Samson) have been consecrated to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaved, my strength will leave me," (Judges 16:17).
47. Gun club.
49. King of Bashon (Numbers 21:33).
50. Hawkeye State (abbr.).
52. Bumblebees are large, fuzzy and colorful, with black and \_\_\_\_ or orange bands.
55. Prophet from Judea who was called to deliver sweeping indictments of the morally corrupt break-away northern State of Israel (as opposed to the State of Judea). 37th book of the Bible.
57. "If there were any two people who deserved to toot their own accomplishments or tout their A-List of friends, it was President and Mrs. Bush. We never heard them do \_\_\_\_," — Wm. Webster (St. Louis native), former head of the FBI and CIA, and wife Lynda in *Character Matters, Life Lessons from President George H.W. Bush*, by Jean Becker.
59. Prefix for mark or ward.
60. Prefix for centennial or annual.
61. "Oh, if I could but live another century and see the \_\_\_\_ of all the work for women!" — Susan B. Anthony.

63. One of the seven deadly sins.
64. Two letter add-on to "al" or "can."
65. "Did Einstein know Hawthorne was obsessed with the number 64? Doubt it. As the general theory of relativity slips farther from my grasp, that cushions my \_\_\_\_ just a bit," — *The Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to Become the Smartest Person in the World*, by A.J. Jacobs.
66. Letters for a T-shirt size.
67. European Union money.
68. "...addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual \_\_\_\_, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts..." (Ephesians 5:19).

**DOWN**

1. "In the morning sow your seed, and at evening let not your hand be \_\_\_\_," (Ecclesiastes 11:6).
2. "Fantasy, when people have \_\_\_\_ hope, is better than reality," — *Jonah*, by Ellen Gunderson Traylor.
3. According to the Mo. Dept. of Conservation, Mo. has 6-10 native \_\_\_\_ of bumblebees.
4. Suffix for auction, musket or profit.
5. A product of Goodyear or Goodrich.
6. Bumblebees must eat almost constantly. Even with a full stomach, a bee is only about 40 minutes away from \_\_\_\_.
7. Dir. from Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Lake Ozark to Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish in Chamois.
8. \_\_\_\_ out of every three bites of food you eat has help from pollinators like bumblebees.
9. "Even at this distance, fifty feet from the brick oven, the heat was intense as it radiated from the \_\_\_\_-hot interior," — *Melchizedek - King of Jerusalem*, by Ellen Gunderson Traylor.
10. Three in Lima.
11. Unlike \_\_\_\_, bumblebees don't make enough honey to last the winter. When flowers die in the fall, bumblebees do too.
17. "Give us aid against the \_\_\_\_; worthless is human help," (Psalm 60:13).
20. Hallowed be \_\_\_\_ name...
21. "I'm no \_\_\_\_, but I served.



I was privileged to wear the cloth of our country, as sergeant in the U.S. Army Infantry," — *You Never Know: A Memoir*, by Tom Selleck.

22. Prophet for whom Son of Man was a Messianic title with divine implications. Jesus often applied this phrase to describe himself; 34th book of the Bible (abbr.).
26. "Joan knew she would not see them any more in this life; then she turned and went from us, sobbing bitterly. It was her birthday and mine. She was seventeen years \_\_\_\_," — *Personal Reflections of Joan of Arc*, by Mark Twain.
27. \_\_\_\_ Tse Tung; former Chinese Communist leader.
28. \_\_\_\_ Co., with Kirksville as its county seat, can boast of two universities, Truman State Univ. and A.T. Still Univ., founding institution of osteopathic healthcare, and also Thousand Hills State Pk. with its 573-acre lake, and last but not least, Mary Immaculate Parish and School.
30. Because they are so fuzzy, bumblebees can survive \_\_\_\_ weather better and longer than other bees and bugs. They're the first bees buzzing around in late winter and the last bees to disappear in the fall.
32. I like my \_\_\_\_'s candy

with almonds in them.

34. Hellmann's, for ex.
35. King \_\_\_\_ VIII in England on July 6, 1535, ordered the execution of Sir Thomas Moore, his friend and the Chancellor of England, because Moore stoutly refused the King's making himself the Head of the Church in England.
38. As with many pollinators, bumblebees are disappearing in \_\_\_\_ numbers, plummeting by 90% since 2000.
41. The Grand Canyon State (abbr.).
43. A hearty laugh online.
44. "A long time \_\_\_\_ in a galaxy far, far away..." — opening screen words to Star Wars movie.
46. The Ocean State (abbr.).
48. Eagle nests.
51. "\_\_\_\_ me and my household, we will serve the Lord," (Joshua 24:15).
53. "When I \_\_\_\_ of what I have, I receive what I need," — Lao Tzu (2 wds.).
54. If a bumblebee nest gets too hot, workers gather at the entrance and flap their \_\_\_\_ to fan out the hot air.
55. Young brother of Cain (Genesis 4:1-2).
56. A red, painful lump near the edge of the eyelid that may look like a boil or pimple.
58. Delicious sandwich cookie.
62. Charged particle.

See ANSWERS, page 19



**301 Monroe**  
**Jefferson City**  
**(573) 635-6101**

Charles Prather • Rick Prather  
 Tom Kummer



# PROMISE TO PROTECT



# PLEDGE TO HEAL

**BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HELP AND HEALING. THERE IS HOPE.**

Your local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you. We will help you make a formal complaint and arrange a personal meeting with the bishop, or his delegate, if desired. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

To report abuse, call the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline:

**1-800-392-3738 or 1-844-CAN-TELL**

Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-0210

Any known or suspected abuse or neglect of children or adults should be immediately reported to the appropriate legal authorities.

**To report concerns or suspected abuse by diocesan personnel, also contact:**

**Jacqueline Baldwin, Victim Assistance Coordinator**

**[reportabuse@diojeffcity.org](mailto:reportabuse@diojeffcity.org) | 573-694-3199**



**DIOCESE OF  
Jefferson City**





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

## Fundraisers & Social Events

Jul. 21

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

Aug. 4

**Osage Bend**, St. Margaret of Antioch Parish picnic, 11 am-6:30 pm; **Westphalia**, St. Joseph Parish picnic, 11 am-6 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; **St. Thomas**, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 25

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

## Meetings & Conferences

Jul. 20

**Mexico**, Parish Engagement and Charity Event (PEACE) with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, 9 am-noon, St. Brendan Parish, for info visit [cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/peace](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/peace)

Jul. 23

**Laurie**, "Finding Sanctuary" presentation with Jennifer Hubbard and luncheon, 11:30 am, registration required at [mothersshrine.com](http://mothersshrine.com)

Jul. 27

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

Aug. 10

**Rolla**, Parish Engagement and Charity Event (PEACE) with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, 9 am-noon, St. Patrick Parish, for info visit [cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/peace](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/peace)

## 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](mailto:ecastro@diojeffcity.org); **Sedalia**, Planificación Familiar Natural — Familia de las Américas, 9 am-noon, Parroquia San Patricio, para información sobre instructores y clases contacte a Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 o por correo electrónico a [ecastro@diojeffcity.org](mailto:ecastro@diojeffcity.org), para más información sobre este método, visite [diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning/](http://diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning/) y/o [familyplanning.net/es](http://familyplanning.net/es)

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 [ecastro@diojeffcity.org](mailto:ecastro@diojeffcity.org)

[tro@diojeffcity.org](mailto: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](mailto:jimkemna@gmail.com)

Every Friday

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

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](http://snows.org)

Jul. 27-28

**Jefferson City**, Marriage Encounter Weekend, Best Western Plus Capital Inn, for info or to register visit [jeffcityme.com](http://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](http://menofsignumcrucis.com)

## Liturgical

Aug. 13

**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](http://icangels.com/youngadults)

Third Sundays each month

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

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](http://diojeffcity.org/camp-siena)

## Health & Wellness

Aug. 13

**Jefferson City**, Healthy Living Forum: Living in Retirement, sponsored by SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital, 8 am-2:30 pm, Capitol Plaza Hotel, for tickets visit [tinyurl.com/3w5x3t32](http://tinyurl.com/3w5x3t32)

## VIOLENCE

From page 3

continued in his social media post. "We must find peaceful ways to resolve our differences & avoid all political violence."

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez of Philadelphia also prayed for consolation for "those mourning the loss of a loved one" and for a swift recovery for Trump and those injured.

"Americans must join in solidarity to condemn today's act of political violence and violence in all forms," he said in a multipart message on X. "Working together, we can resolve our differences through peaceful dialogue and conquer the sin of hatred."

In addition to prayers, Bishop Michael T. Martin of Charlotte, North Carolina, also called the violent incident "a call of conscience to all people of goodwill" and a time for self-reflection to bring an end to all violence.

"Let us not simply condemn today's attack but root out the anger in our own hearts that can affect our words and our actions," he said in a statement shared by diocesan media.

In the USCCB statement, Archbishop Broglio said that the bishops "condemn political violence, and we offer our prayers for President Trump, and those who were killed or injured."

"We also pray for our country and for an end to political violence, which is never a solution to political disagreements," Archbishop Broglio stated. "We ask all people of goodwill to join us in praying for peace in our country."

## COMMUNION

From page 6

The first concelebrated Mass in the diocese was celebrated in St. Peter's shortly after the close of the Second Vatican Council in 1965.

This took place nine years after Bishop Marling, who attended all four sessions of the Council, was installed as bishop of Jefferson City.

"Here with us"

Msgr. Kurwicki said the history of the Eucharist here becomes more momentous and inscrutable with each passing decade.

"When you come to an old parish like this, there is no way to fathom how many Masses have been said here, how many Confessions have been heard here, how many marriages have been blessed here, how many Holy Communion received here."

"What you do know is this: Jesus is real. Jesus is powerful. Jesus is here. And 'Jesus, I trust in you!'" he said.

The priest suggested that every time the Body and Blood of Christ are raised up during the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass, the people

should pray silently the words St. Thomas the Apostle exclaimed while kneeling before the resurrected Christ: "My Lord and my God."

"My friends, that's what Jesus is for us," said Msgr. Kurwicki. "And he's here with us."

The priest urged everyone present to receive Holy Communion in a state of grace — having been absolved of all mortal sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation — "and as many times as possible."

"And when you do, take time to pray for all the people who want to be there at Mass with you but cannot," he said.

He requested fervent prayers for God to call more men to be priests, and for those men to hear and act upon that call.

He urged everyone to pray and work to bring inactive Catholics back to the practice of their faith.

"Jesus is here with us today because he loves us and wants to feed us, and he wants us to be strong," said Msgr. Kurwicki. "And the last thing he wants is for us to keep that to ourselves."

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Diocese of  
Jefferson City



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](http://diojeffcity.org/update-information)

Anniversaries

Sister Genarose Buechler of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ (ASC), who previously taught at Visitation Inter-Parish School in Vienna, her 70th anniversary of religious life; Sister Rose Anthony Mathews of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ (ASC), who previously served as director of religious education and pastoral associate at the former Sacred Heart Parish in Sedalia, her 70th anniversary of religious life.

- Centralia, Holy Spirit  
Bud & Chickie Neff, 50 years
- Cole Camp, Ss. Peter and Paul  
Doug & Kristi Craig, 35 years
- Hermann, St. George  
Michael & Denise Witthaus, 40 years
- Moberly, St. Pius X  
Mike & Libby Mattox, 35 years
- Vandalia, Sacred Heart  
Robert & Nancy Stotler, 25 years

Marriages

St. Martins, St. Martin — Dawson Schulte & Kaitlyn Pecher

Birthdays

- Benedictine Father Kenneth Reichert, a Brunswick native and monk at Conception Abbey, his 91st on Jul. 7
- Argyle, St. Aloysius — Margie Otto, her 92nd on Jul. 5
- Marshall, St. Peter — Virginia Sprigg, her 94th on Jul. 9
- Vandalia, Sacred Heart — Boyd Bounds, his 90th on Jul. 29

QUESTION

From page 8

During the autumn, when the days grow shorter, the readings of Ordinary Time take on a more apocalyptic tone, reminding us of Christ's second coming at the end of all time. Ordinary Time thereby appropriately culminates in the feast of Christ the King. Then the Church's reflection on Christ's second coming as Judge flows seamlessly into a sense of joy at his first coming as a humble infant during the Advent season. And so the whole cycle begins again.

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](mailto:CatholicQA@osv.com).

cathmo.com

Baptisms

- Argyle, St. Aloysius — Brenner Lee Vossen, son of Nathan & Haley Vossen
- Hermann, St. George — Michael David Conway, son of Lance & Mary Conway; Kley Curtis Overkamp, son of Allen & Ashley Overkamp

Deaths

- Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — Doreen Frappier; Phyllis Goetz
- Hermann, St. George — Clarene "Mutzi" Grass; Marilyn Landolt

Elections

- Jefferson City, Knights of Columbus Fr. Helias Council 1054 — Michael Bish, grand knight; Joe Schaefer, deputy grand knight; Jerry Dunn, chancellor; Jack Kramer, advocate; Tory Brandel, treasurer; Zeke Vanderfeltz, recorder; Larry Schetzler, lecturer; Nicholas Dolson, warden; Isaac Stegeman, Pat Schaefer, guards; Mike Flanagan, Dave Kiesling, Rory Stegeman, trustees; Kevin Stegeman, financial secretary
- Jefferson City, Knights of Columbus Dan C. Coppin Fourth Degree Assembly 573 — Mike Flanagan, faithful navigator; Father Richard Frank, faithful friar; Doug Smentkowski, faithful captain; Mark Javersak, faithful pilot; Rich Anderson, faithful comptroller; Scott Sellner, faithful scribe; Gary Meyer, faithful purser; Alan Mengwasser, Sam Orr, sentinels; Joe Schaefer, faithful admiral; Joe Schaefer, Mark Rehagen, Vic Rackers, trustees; John Richardson, Scott Sellner, Honor Guard coordinators

SR. NANCY

From page 9

sings in the song "Time." Before we know it, we question if we've really lived. Instead, the present holds the reality of life in view of eternity. We live well when we focus on the now with a grateful heart. When we do, we find God. For God is in the present moment

waiting for us to recognize that we have today to live and to love. So, let's begin.

Sister Nancy Usselmann, a Daughter of St. Paul, is director of the Pauline Center for Media Studies in Los Angeles and a media literacy education specialist.

ERLANDSON

From page 9

other become more like Jesus, that is to grow in life-giving and generous love. That is why we get married, why we hope to have children, why we make a lifelong commitment. Marriage is an ongoing seminar in selflessness. It's not always easy. We even fail at times. But after 41 years of marriage, I can testify that the rewards are greater than anything those young couples can imagine

right now.

So raise a glass and toast the beginning of one of life's most rewarding adventures.

Greg Erlandson is an award-winning Catholic publisher, editor and journalist whose column appears monthly at OSV News. Follow him on Twitter @GregErlandson.

MISSIONS

From page 5

From death to new life

The Jashpur diocese is a rural area made up mostly of indigenous Oraon people — commonly known as Tribals.

Chronic manifestations of poverty are overshadowed by the people's joy-filled fidelity to the Gospel that was preached to their ancestors no more than three or four generations ago.

The Oraon people had been outcasts for centuries when Jesuit missionaries from Belgium arrived to offer the first Mass in the district in 1906.

The people had been subject to forced, unpaid labor, which left them poor, uneducated, full of misery and devoid of hope.

The missionaries helped them realize that were not inferior. In fact, they were created in the image and likeness of God, who loved them enough to send his only Son to suffer, die and rise for them so they could spend all eternity with him.

With that revelation came a call for the Tribal people to worship God and repent of sinful ways while embracing the dignity and justice that are rightfully theirs.

Just as those missionaries gained people's trust and confidence by educating children, caring for the sick and advocating for human rights, present-day Catholics in and around the Jashpur diocese continue to preach the word with action.

The Church has opened numerous Catholic schools, hostels and health clinics, helping thousands of people not only to live healthier lives and escape the poverty of subsistence farming but also to know Jesus and share

Him with others.

The Indian government has enacted rigid anti-conversion laws in recent years, but the Church continues to grow and thrive by revealing the presence of Christ in word and action.

All the while, tribal customs dating back to the time of Christ, baptized through revelation and His Good News, continue to be cherished and celebrated.

"The Word of God is like a double-edged sword, piercing both heart and mind," said Fr. Minj.

"We are all successors to those first Twelve and we are the Church," he said. "So we, too, must proclaim the Kingdom of God to the people of our own time, whether they like it or not, knowing that a great reward lies in store for those who do listen and believe."

Crossword puzzle answers

S	G	N	O	S		O	R	U	E		G	T
G		O	G	E		O	E		V		N	E
N	O	I	L	I	U	E	R		L		B	I
I			E	R		S	O		S	O	M	A
W	O	L	E		V	I	A				R	
	G		O		N	R	A		O	Z		R
S					N	O			V		I	T
E					E				A		V	A
E	M	O			H		O		O			D
B		L	A				A		V	E		A
Y		M	O		N		E		V	E		H
E	S				D		O		E	H		C
N		D	E				A		R		E	R
O							I		L			O
H		R	O				S		C	E		N



## Flowers for Our Lady



Sethuli Jayasundera and Lia Cubero, members of St. Peter Parish in Marshall, take part in the parish's Mother's Day May Crowning on May 12. All children attending the Mass were invited to carry flowers to the Blessed Mother.

— Photo by Carol Wolfe

## Keeping things light



High school teens and adult chaperones from Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek gather for a group photo on July 7, the last day of the Steubenville STL Mid-America Catholic Youth Conference they attended together in Springfield.

— Photo by Lindsay Thome

## Making a stop along the way



Six high school teens from St. Pius X Parish in Moberly take part in the Steubenville STL Mid-America Catholic Youth Conference in Springfield. Along the way, they were able to join in the Solemn Eucharistic Procession that took place in Jefferson City on July 5. It was a weekend full of moving experiences spearheaded by the Holy Spirit.

— Photos from the St. Pius X Catholic Church Facebook page





## Bible Accent

There are several stories in the Old Testament about God using ordinary people to perform food-related miracles.

For example, in Exodus 17, we read that Moses and the Israelites were wandering in the desert. The people complained about not having water to drink.

God told Moses to strike a rock with his staff. When he did, water flowed out of the rock.

In 2 Kings 4, a widow could not pay her late husband's creditor. Her only possession of value was a jug of oil.

The prophet Elisha told her to borrow as many empty vessels as she could and fill them with oil from the jug.

The oil did not run out until every vessel was filled. Elisha told the woman to sell the vessels to pay the debt.

Also in 2 Kings 4, Elisha ordered his servant to make a vegetable stew for the guild prophets.

Someone who had picked a few wild gourds added them to the stew, not realizing the gourds were poisonous.

"Man of God, there is death in the pot!" the guild prophets said when they received the stew.

Elisha asked for some meal. He threw it into the stew, and the stew became safe to eat.

## St. Radegund

Born in 518, St. Radegund was a princess of Thuringia in what is now central Germany. She was taken captive to France in 531 after the Franks invaded Thuringia and was wed to Chlotar I, who became king of the Franks. Chlotar was violent and cruel. Radegund comforted herself by being pious and doing good works, such as caring for the poor and founding a hospital for those with leprosy. She fled her husband's court in 550 after he murdered her brother. She eventually founded a monastery of nuns near Poitiers, France, and spent 30 years there in prayer, scholarship and good works. Radegund died in 587, and we remember her on Aug. 13.



## Jesus uses five loaves and two fish to feed 5,000 people

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic Courier

One day, Jesus and the apostles were in Jerusalem on the Sabbath.

As Jesus was walking by the pool near the city's Sheep Gate, he saw a large number of ill and disabled people.

One man who was there had been ill for 38 years.

Jesus stopped to speak to him.

"Do you want to be well?" Jesus asked the man.

"Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; while I am on my way, someone else gets down there before me," the man replied.

"Rise, take up your mat and walk," Jesus responded.

The man immediately became well, took up his mat and walked.

Not long after curing the ill man, Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee.

He was followed by a large crowd of people who had witnessed the signs he was performing on the sick.

Jesus went up a mountain with the apostles and sat down.

After Jesus was seated, he saw the large crowd that had followed him.

Jesus turned to one of his apostles, Philip.

"Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" Jesus asked.

Jesus already knew what he was going to do for the hungry people, but he had asked Philip the question as a test.

Philip scanned the crowd.



Illustration by Linda Rivers

There were many thousands of people who had followed Jesus up the mountain.

"Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little," Philip replied.

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, came up to Jesus.

"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Andrew said.

"Have the people recline," Jesus told the apostles.

So, the men in the crowd reclined, about 5,000 in number.

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks and handed out the loaves to those who were reclining, plus gave them as much of

the fish as they wanted.

When everyone had eaten their fill, Jesus told the apostles to collect the fragments of left-over food so nothing would be wasted.

The apostles collected enough food fragments to fill 12 wicker baskets.

"This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world," the people said when they saw the sign Jesus had done.

Read more about it...  
John 5 & 6

1. How many loaves and fish did the boy have?
2. How many people did Jesus feed?



What did Jesus think the crowd would do?  
(Hint: John 6:15)

Answer: Carry him off to make him king.

## Puzzle

Fill in the blanks in the sentences using the hints provided from John 6.

1. The apostles went across the sea to \_\_\_\_\_. (verse 17)
2. Jesus began \_\_\_\_\_ on the sea. (verse 19)
3. The crowd wanted to know how to \_\_\_\_\_ the works of God. (verse 28)
4. "I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of life," Jesus told the crowd. (verse 35)

Answers: 1. Capernaum; 2. walking; 3. accomplish; 4. bread.

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## 'Envision' offers unique introduction to T.O.B. for middle schoolers

By Sarah Robsdottir  
OSV News

Ascension Press is attracting some attention for "Envision," their newly updated Theology of the Body (TOB) program for middle schoolers.

Teresa Tomeo recently spoke on Ave Maria Radio about the catchy, eight-part video and workbook series based on Pope St. John Paul II's masterful work dealing with the human body, identity, relationships and sexuality.

"I'm excited about it," Tomeo exclaimed, "I think it's great ... I like it because it's real; it's not over the top in terms of too heady. Kids can understand it; we all can understand it. It's a great refresher course even for adults."

Tomeo was interviewing TOB expert Brian Butler, one of several authors featured in the "Envision" series that was first released in 2011 but was updated this year to deal with issues such as social media, personal identity and dating.

The program also includes other recognizable names such as Jason Evert, Sister of Life Sr. Mary Grace, Chika Anyanwu and a few others.

Jason Evert, the main video presenter, shares his excitement about "Envision" in the series' introduction:

"Everyone — especially middle schoolers — desire to know the answers to life's deep questions: Who am I? Where am I going? How should I get there and how should I live? ... John Paul II gave us his Theology of the Body to answer these fundamental questions and to show us what it means to live and love in freedom of heart."

I recently had the chance to check out the "Envision" program with my own middle schoolers, ages 12 and 13. I have to say I'm impressed and very grateful. The short, catchy videos and graphic-filled workbooks are helping us navigate difficult issues such as body image, identity and dating.

The guidance is incredibly helpful, especially because the culture-at-large has changed so much since I was in junior high school. The workbooks and videos are giving me the tools I need to discuss difficult issues with my teens such as gender dysphoria through a Catholic lens. The content is incredibly engaging, upbeat and yet still very reverent.

"Your identity is not who you're sexually attracted to," this powerfully crucial message (summarized) is proclaimed in the first video's opening montage, "Your identity is not defined by who likes you or how

many friends you have. Rather, your identity is found in the sum of God's love for you."

It was really cool to glance over at my teens during that section of the video. My one son who has special physical needs and for this reason is very small for his age sat up a little straighter in his seat. This teen is especially bright and has always needed to know the why behind every argument.

I'm convinced these TOB lessons arrived in all of our lives just in time, but they are specifically equipping my special-needs teen with the theological and philosophical basis required to face his unique challenges head-on.

It's been 40 years since Pope St. John Paul II gave his final address on Theology of the Body in St. Peter's Square, and yet his wisdom is more relevant today than ever. To request a free preview of the program, visit Ascension Press.

*Sarah Robsdottir (sarabrobsdottir.com) is a Catholic convert and homeschooling mom to seven sons. Her debut novel, Brave Water, is available at Voyage Publishing.*

## Movie Ratings



General Patronage

Despicable Me 4 (PG)



Adults and Adolescents

Inside Out 2 (PG)  
Sound of Hope: The Story of Possum Trot (PG-13)  
The Watchers (PG-13)



Adults

Fly Me to the Moon (PG-13)  
A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13)



Limited Adult Audience

Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F. (R)  
The Bikeriders (R)  
The Exorcism (R)



Morally Offensive

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

Ratings are supplied by OSV News Service.

## Bishop Robert Barron named CMA's 2024 "Author of the Year"

Bishop Robert Barron, founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries and Bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester (Minnesota), has been named the 2024 "Author of the Year" by the Catholic Me-

dia Association (CMA).

Bishop Barron released three new books last year, including *This Is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival*, which sold over 1.3 million copies and became one of the bestselling books in the United States.

Dr. Holly Ordway, Cardinal Francis George Professor of Faith and Culture at Word on Fire, was named runner-up in the "Author of the Year" category, receiving a Second Place honor for her groundbreaking study *Tolkien's Faith: A Spiritual Biography* and *As Kingfishers Catch Fire*, an annotated collection of poems by Gerard Manley Hopkins.

The CMA also recognized Word on Fire Publishing, granting it more accolades than any other book publisher, including 41 awards across several categories, such as Theological and Philosophical

Studies, Poetry, Scripture, Pastoral Ministry, Collections of Prayers, and Children's Books, among others.

In many categories, Word on Fire earned both First and Second Place finishes, such as the Design and Production and Theological and Philosophical Studies categories.

"This has been a marquee year for Word on Fire Publishing in our mission to creatively engage the contemporary culture with Christ's revelation, a revelation of beauty, goodness, and truth," said Bishop Barron. "I congratulate all of this year's winners, most especially all the outstanding authors and illustrators at Word on Fire, and I would like to recognize in a special way Word on Fire's publishing team along with all the staff who work tirelessly to distribute, promote, and support their efforts."



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94.7 FM, Columbia  
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K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton



GRADUATE

From page 7

Gremlins forever

This fall, Jackson plans to study mechanical engineering and play soccer at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

Andres plans to attend State Fair Community College in Sedalia and play soccer there.

Ellie plans to major in computer science and minor in business at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Ximena plans to double-major in international business and Spanish at Rockhurst University.

All are convinced that people would be able to pick them out as graduates of Sacred Heart.

“I think they’ll know I’m a Gremlin because of my energy and my Gremlin pride,” said Ximena. “Especially when I’m cheering and watching the teams play.”

“I think people from Sacred Heart act differently because we’re a little school and how much the people around us care about us,” said Andres.

Ximena said an important lesson she learned outside the classroom is always to be herself.

“I learned the importance of getting out of your comfort zone and always trying something new,” said Ellie.

All four said they plan to remain Catholic.

“The message of Catholicism doesn’t end here,” Andreas emphasized. “It’s what I believe,

and I don’t intend to leave it behind.”

“I’m proud to be Catholic because of the many important teachings and the faith and hope and he promise of everlasting life,” said Ximena.

Jackson believes parish youth ministries and events such as the National Catholic Youth Conference go a long way toward helping young people stay connected with the Church.

With thanksgiving

All four expressed abundant gratitude.

“I’m grateful for my classmates and my family,” said Jackson.

“I’m grateful for the opportunities that Sacred Heart game me, and my family and my friends,” said Andres.

“I’m grateful for the leadership I have to look up to here,” said Ellie.

“I’m grateful for every single little thing I have,” said Ximena.

They asked for prayers:

- “for our futures and educations,” said Jackson.
- “for a safe and successful future,” said Ellie.
- “for success in overcoming any obstacles we have to overcome,” said Ximena.

*Contributing to this report was Chris Howell, a reporter for the Sedalia Democrat newspaper.*

SACRIFICE

From page 4

something of your own and giving it to someone else,” said Msgr. Malagrec.

He believes parents tend to be experts on what it means to sacrifice.

“It’s amazing how much parents love their children, how much they give, how much they work, how much they do,” he said.

But not even parents’ sacrifices compare in importance to the sacrificing of oneself to God, in union with Christ.

“God is only pleased with one sacrifice,” said Msgr. Malagrec.

“The self-offering of his Son on the altar of the cross.”

That’s why the altar in any Catholic church is not merely a table.

“It is an altar because of what is done here — the eternal sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Jesus,” Msgr. Malagrec.

“And we enter into the one sacrifice of Christ at every Mass.”

The priest, ministering in the person of Christ, offers with the people the eternal sacrifice of the Body and

Blood of Christ.

“It is the sacrifice of Jesus who saved us by offering himself on the cross,” said Msgr. Malagrec.

The people at Mass do not stand by as a passive audience.

“You are participants!” said Msgr. Malagrec.

“You are baptized Catholics and you are invited by Jesus to join yourself in his offering.”

That’s why members of the congregation come forward to present the bread and wine for consecration at the Offertory.

“You’re saying, ‘There I go. That’s me. I’m putting my life on the altar, and God is going to transform my life into the Body and Blood of Jesus, and I’m going to offer myself with Jesus,’” the priest stated.

Msgr. Malagrec noted that “Communion” means becoming one.

It’s like the taste of heaven a man and woman who love each other experience in Holy Matrimony.

It’s also a taste of heaven when a parish is united with a sense of holy brotherhood and sisterhood.

“Jesus has given his Body and Blood to us so that we may have Communion, so that we may be one with him,” said Msgr. Malagrec.

Communion brings unity with God and one another.

“In the Body and Blood of Jesus, we have access to the Father and are one with God,” the priest noted.

“At the same time, we are made one with our brothers and sisters in the Body and Blood of Jesus that is offered on the cross for us.”

“Thy Kingdom come”

The celebration of the Mass reaches into the past, celebrates in the present and reaches into the future.

“When you partake of the Mass, you celebrate the promise that God’s kingdom will come,” said Msgr. Malagrec.

“It is a foretaste of heaven. It’s as if you’ve left earth behind and walked into heaven.”

It reflects the belief and hope that better things are still to come.

“No matter what our problems are, what our difficulties are, what our tragedies are —

Daily Readings

<b>Sunday, Jul 21</b> SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jer. 23:1-6 Ps. 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 Eph. 2:13-18 Mk. 6:30-34	<b>Sunday, Jul 28</b> SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2 Kgs. 4:42-44 Ps. 145:10-11, 15-18 Eph. 4:1-6 Jn. 6:1-15
<b>Monday, Jul 22</b> St. Mary Magdalene Sg. 3:1-4b or 2 Cor. 5:14-17 Ps. 63:2-6, 8-9 Jn. 20:1-2, 11-18	<b>Monday, Jul 29</b> Ss. Martha, Mary and Lazarus Jer. 13:1-11 Dt. 32:18-21 Jn. 11:19-27 or Lk. 10:38-42
<b>Tuesday, Jul 23</b> St. Bridget, Religious Mi. 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps. 85:2-8 Mt. 12:46-50	<b>Tuesday, Jul 30</b> St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the church Jer. 14:17-22 Ps. 79:8, 9, 11, 13 Mt. 13:36-43
<b>Wednesday, Jul 24</b> St. Sharbel Makhluf, priest Jer. 1:1, 4-10 Ps. 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17 Mt. 13:1-9	<b>Wednesday, Jul 31</b> St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest Jer. 15:10, 16-21 Ps. 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18 Mt. 13:44-46
<b>Thursday, Jul 25</b> St. James, apostle 2 Cor. 4:7-15 Ps. 126:1bc-6 Mt. 20:20-28	<b>Thursday, Aug 1</b> St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church Jer. 18:1-6 Ps. 146:1b-6ab Mt. 13:47-53
<b>Friday, Jul 26</b> Ss. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jer. 3:14-17 (Ps.) Jer. 31:10-12abcd, 13 Mt. 13:18-23	<b>Friday, Aug 2</b> St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest Jer. 26:1-9 Ps. 69:5, 8-10, 14 Mt. 13:54-58
<b>Saturday, Jul 27</b> Jer. 7:1-11 Ps. 84:3-6a, 8a, 11 Mt. 13:24-30	<b>Saturday, Aug 3</b> Jer. 26:11-16, 24 Ps. 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 Mt. 14:1-12

**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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if people die, if we get sick, if we get injured or are infirm — we get that foretaste of heaven, and it sustains us,” he said.

Before leading the people in a bilingual period of Adoration, Msgr. Malagrec urged his audience to do six things based on the themes he presented:

- Worship Jesus, who is fully present in the Eucharist;
- Be conscious of who Jesus is and all he has done;
- Receive Holy Communion at every opportunity, in a proper state of grace;
- Renew daily the giving of oneself to God through the Body of Jesus;
- Cast away sinful obstacles in order to be in Communion with the Lord.
- Never lose hope that God’s kingdom is coming “and that it will be great.”



**ST. MARY'S PICNIC**  
WIEN MISSOURI  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

**DINNERS SERVED**  
11 AM - 2 PM  
ADULTS \$15 / KIDS 4-10 \$6  
KIDS 3 AND UNDER FREE

FRIED CHICKEN - ROAST BEEF  
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY - DRESSING  
SLAW - TOMATOES - GREEN BEANS - CORN  
HOMEMADE BREAD - PIE - CAKE - TEA - COFFEE

**RIBEYE STEAK SANDWICHES**  
1 PM UNTIL SOLD OUT

**GAMES FOR ALL AGES**  
BALL THROW • DUCK POND  
KIDDIE RIDES • GRAB BAG  
MONEY PITCH • WHEEL  
TURTLE RACES • BOUNCE HOUSE

**COUNTRY STORE**  
HAMBURGERS • SODA  
SNO-CONES • ICE CREAM

**5TH ANNUAL CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT**  
REGISTRATION FROM 3-3:30 PM  
BAGS FLY PROMPTLY AT 4 PM

St. Margaret of Antioch Parish  
**PICNIC**  
Osage Bend  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

**Fried Chicken & Roast Beef Dinners**  
Served family style  
11 am-6:30 pm  
Adults \$15 | Kids 6-12 \$8  
5 & under free  
\$15 carryouts in basement

Shaded grounds with tents and outdoor seating  
Prizes - Country Store - Games  
Refreshments & more!  
QUILT AUCTION 5 pm

## St. Vincent de Paul society regional meeting

**DATE:** July 27  
**TIME:** 10 am

The North Central Missouri District Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will meet from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday July 27.

It will be in the St. Pius X Parish undercroft, 209 S. Williams St.

The St. Vincent de Paul society is a prayerful, charitable organization that has several conferences in the Jefferson City diocese.

All who are interested in knowing more about the society are welcome to attend.

Contact Margaret Gladbach at 573-449-8256 or [nemdcjc@gmail.com](mailto:nemdcjc@gmail.com) for information.

## Hubbard to speak at Laurie luncheon

**DATE:** July 23  
**TIME:** 11:30 am

Award-winning Catholic author, writer and speaker Jennifer Hubbard will share firsthand insights on discovering hope in tragedy during a luncheon on Tuesday, July 23, at The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, in Laurie.

The luncheon will start at 11:30 a.m. Seating is limited. Advance registration is required at [mothersshrine.com](http://mothersshrine.com).

Ms. Hubbard is president and executive director of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary, named for her 6-year-old daughter who died in 2012 in a mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newton, Connecticut.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$50 apiece; a limited number of free tickets are available for those who purchase one.

All proceeds will benefit The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church.

# St. Stanislaus PICNIC

## SUNDAY, JULY 21

**\$15** per Adult  
age 6-12 \$7  
5 & under Free

**Fried Chicken & Pot Roast Dinners**  
Cafeteria Style and Carry-Out Meals  
Served 11am-7 pm

**LIVE QUILT AUCTION 5pm**

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

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