

Honoring fast drivers and a well-spoken priest

A sculptor who has honored success on the Indy speedway turns his eyes toward Venerable Fr. Tolton.

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The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

August 2, 2024 • Vol. 68 No. 3

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Taking his Eucharistic presence out into the world



Bishop McKnight: The Eucharist's foundation is God's intense desire to be with his people

By Jay Nies

A matronly voice shattered the stillness into 60,000 pieces.

"Viva Cristo Rey!" — "Long live Christ the King!" she kept chanting from a faraway balcony in some recognizably indigenous key.

Plaintive, pleading, raw and unvarnished, she dared to revel out loud in the gift.

As if to say, "Is this true? Can it be real? Is the One sent by the Father to remediate our brokenness once and for all really here on the altar before me?"

"Rejoice, O Children! Rejoice with me!"

"For the love of God, may we never, ever forget!"

This encounter took place during Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament with tens of thousands of Catholics at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, held July 17-21 in the Indiana Convention Center, the Lucas Oil Stadium and nearby historical St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and about 50 people from parishes in the Jefferson City diocese attended the Congress, a key milestone in the three-year Eucharistic Revival called for by the U.S. Catholic bishops to rekindle belief in, reverence for and an ardent response to Christ fully present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The theme for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress — the first to be held in 83 years — was "... and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world," (John 6:51).

See EUCHARIST, page 11

On massive video screens, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Pope Francis's special envoy to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, can be seen elevating the Most Blessed Sacrament during the sending-forth Mass on Sunday, July 21, in the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. More than 60,000 bishops, priests, deacons, religious and laypeople attended the Mass. — Photo by Annie Williams

Eucharistic Congress bids Catholics to ignite new Pentecost as Eucharistic missionaries

By Peter Jesserer Smith
OSV News

Indianapolis

As five days of the National Eucharistic Congress concluded with one final revival and a beautiful solemn Mass in Lucas Oil Stadium — Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, board chairman of the National Eucharistic Congress Inc., stood in Lucas Oil Stadium.

"I have a question for you," he told the crowd. "This is the 10th National Eucharistic Congress — do you think we should do an 11th one?"

Some 60,000 congress participants — representing 50 U.S. states, 17 countries, and various Eastern and Western churches, and speaking over 40 languages — cheered wildly in the stadium.

They also again rose to their feet to give the U.S. Catholic bishops an enthusiastic standing ovation for making possible the five-day congress with its impact sessions, breakout sessions, special events, revival nights with Eucharistic adoration and Benediction and beautifully celebrated reverent Masses.

The event reflected the diversity of a church all united in the same Eucharistic Lord and eager to use their gifts for a new Pentecost in the Church.

Opening up for an encounter

The first day of the July 17-21 congress began with an evening revival as the 30 perpetual pilgrims, who had walked the four National Eucharistic Pilgrimage routes, took their final

See CONGRESS, page 14

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08/02/24

Pray for deceased priests

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

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

Archbishop prays for people in Canadian town devastated by wildfires

OSV News

Edmonton, Alberta

Edmonton Archbishop Richard W. Smith's heart is with the people of Jasper and tourists forced to evacuate from the wildfire devastating the small alpine town and the neighboring famous Jasper National Park in the overnight hours of July 24 and 25.

"Today is indeed a very sad day, and I wish to convey my sorrow, solidarity and support to the people of Jasper and the parish community of Our Lady of Lourdes," the archbishop stated July 25.

"The status of Our Lady of Lourdes Church is unknown at this point, as residents remain evacuated while emergency crews continue to try to save as much of the town as they can."

"Also greatly impacted by

this horrific fire are the thousands of people who call Jasper home as permanent and seasonal residents, as well as the surrounding communities," Archbishop Smith said. "The loss of property is devastating, but even greater is the heartbreak for this world heritage site."

He also assured Our Lady of Lourdes' pastor, associate pastor, parish staff and congregants to "please be assured of my prayers at this difficult time." According to Parks Canada, over 25,000 people were evacuated from the town and the national park. The organization and Jasper Mayor Richard Ireland's municipal government are working in unified command to manage the crisis from the town of Hinton, located an hour northeast of Jasper.

Masses on Sundays during State Fair

Priests from St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County will offer Mass on both Sundays of this year's Missouri State Fair.

Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Aug. 11 and 18 at the Touchstone Stage on the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia.

In Nigeria, women religious are rescuing, rehabilitating victims of human trafficking

By Valentine Benjamin
OSV News

Lagos, Nigeria

For decades, Nigeria has remained a source, transit and destination country for human trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa, with her citizens making up 6% of immigrants in Libya, where they are commonly traded in open markets, according to a 2021 report from the International Organization for Migration.

But a network of Catholic Sisters of St. Louis at the Bakhita Empowerment center, a safehouse in Lagos, Nigeria's commercial capital, is determined to change this by providing shelter to survivors and conducting education campaigns to prevent others from being victimized.

At the transit shelter, women and girls receive rehabilitation and counseling to restart their lives. The shelter is named after St. Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of human trafficking survivors. Kidnapped at age 7 in Sudan and sold into slavery, Josephine was taken to Italy in 1885 by her last owner. Two years later a judge ruled that because slavery was illegal in Italy, she actually had been free since 1885. She entered re-

ligious life, joining the Canossian Sisters, who intervened in court on her behalf.

The Catholic Sisters of St. Louis offer assistance, counseling and vocational training at the shelter to help trafficking survivors reintegrate into society. They also do prevention and sensitization campaigns, to raise awareness on the causes of human traffickers. The shelter accommodates about 30 survivors whom Sister Patricia Ebegbulem, project coordinator of the safehouse calls "treasures."

She is working with three other women religious who are assisting not only with project management, but also supervision, counseling, spiritual well-being and medical intervention for survivors.

Sister Gertrude Elelegu told OSV News the victims undergo counseling depending on the level of trauma they exhibit. "Some undergo special therapies outside the shelter where they routinely meet with a therapist, especially when it has to do with psychosis."

"We also engage them in occupational therapy to help them regain independence in all areas of their lives, especially with barriers that affect their emotional, social, and physical needs. They undergo training in shoes, bags and bead making ... depending on what we have at that moment for them to learn," Sister Gertrude said.

Following their rehabilitation and counseling program, the sisters place them under observation to examine their recovery. They offer some more counseling upon reuniting survivors with their families.

For those who would like to go back to school, the sisters work with their families to ensure that they are properly enrolled in a school where

they can get the kind of education they deserve.

"Some of them will say that they'd like to learn some skills ... tailoring, hairdressing, basic computer, catering and makeup. These are skills they can acquire within three months, or six months to one year, depending on their ability to learn fast," Sister Gertrude told OSV News.

"To achieve this, we collaborate with artisans where they are enrolled in the apprenticeship system and schools where they acquire formal education," Sister Gertrude added.

Joy Eze, whose name was changed for her security, is one of the survivors living in the shelter.

Now 18, she was trafficked to Ghana by her mother's friend with a vague promise of a better life in 2019 and was forced into prostitution in Accra, Ghana's capital.

"Two other girls and I were crammed into a bus. ... I was separated from the girls two days after we arrived and was compelled to either sleep with men for money in return or go out there and fend for myself," she said.

Eze pleaded for the "madam," her trafficker, not to coerce her into the commercial sex ring. But two months after living in deplorable conditions, she yielded to the pressure.

In 2022, Eze was enrolled in a private high school through a scholarship from an individual donor. But she could not cope due to the trauma of rejection and persecution she was suffering from her family members who have refused to accept her.

Human trafficking is a global plague that generates billions of dollars in profits, with over 40 million people being exploited and trafficked each year.

Development Director — Rolla Newman Center



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

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
Publisher

Jacob Luecke, Director of Communications
jluecke@diojeffcity.org

Jay Nies, Editor
editor@diojeffcity.org

Kelly Martin, Advertising
advertize@diojeffcity.org



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Pope: Jesus' presence in Eucharist helps faithful be truly present for others

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Thanks to Jesus' promise to be with his disciples always, the faithful can be fully present for others, especially those in need, Pope Francis told thousands of altar servers from around the world.

"Thanks to Jesus, always and only thanks to him — you also can say to your neighbor, 'I am with you,' not in words, but in deeds, with gestures, with your heart, with concrete closeness," the pope told the young people July 30.

The faithful can show their closeness concretely, he said, "by weeping with those who weep, rejoicing with those who rejoice, without judgment or prejudice, without selfishness and excluding no one."

This closeness is to be extended "even with those we might not like; with those different from me; with foreigners; with those whom we feel do not understand us; with those who never come to church; with those who say they do not believe in God," he said.

The pope presided over an evening meeting of prayer, song and sharing experiences with nearly 50,000 altar servers from 20 countries making

an international pilgrimage to Rome. The majority of young men and women came from Germany, but there also were pilgrims from Austria, Hungary, France and other countries. The last international pilgrimage was in Rome in 2018.

The pope first arrived by popemobile with a few children accompanying him. He spent about 20 minutes circling St. Peter's Square, as well as a portion of the wide boulevard outside the square where thousands of visitors and altar servers were stuck, having not gotten to their seats in time before security closed the area.

After the pope was seated in front of the basilica, security allowed the special guests to take their seats and fill the square.

Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich of Luxembourg is president of Coetus Internationalis Ministrantium, the association of altar servers that hosted the meeting along with the German bishops' conference.

He told the pope that altar servers approach Jesus in a special way during their service at Mass.

"Through the special bond with Christ comes a true friendship, a connection between us," which also means

"drawing closer to one another."

Jesus inspires the faithful "to be true friends of all people with the help of Christ," which means extending a hand to those in difficulty: the poor, the persecuted, the oppressed, the homeless, the unemployed, the refugees or those without a homeland, the cardinal said.

The pope gave brief remarks that were then translated into German for the crowd.

Reflecting on the pilgrimage's theme of "With You," the pope said, "Your experience of serving the liturgy reminds me that the first subject, the agent

of this 'with you,' is God."

"This occurs above all during Mass, in the Eucharist, where the God who is 'with you' becomes a real and concrete presence in the body and blood of Christ," he said. "When we receive holy Communion, we experience that Jesus is 'with us' both spiritually and physically."

"You too, in Communion, can say to the Lord Jesus, 'I am with you,' not in words, but with your heart and your body, with your love. Precisely because Jesus is with us, we can truly be with him" and then with others, he said.

The pope thanked the young people "for coming here as pilgrims in order to share the joy of belonging to Jesus, of being servants of his love, servants of his wounded heart that heals our wounds, that saves us from death and that gives us eternal life."

At the end of the prayer service, the pope spent another 20 minutes greeting the many bishops who had accompanied their dioceses' altar servers and scores of young people seated in front of the basilica, signing the back of their tickets, taking selfies, exchanging remarks and receiving gifts.

Pope urges political leaders to be at service of people, not power

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Pope Francis has called on political leaders to be at the service of the poor, the unemployed and the common good.

The world cannot promote "universal fraternity" without good politics, the pope said in a video message released July 30 by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.

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

"Today, politics doesn't have a very good reputation: corruption, scandals, distant from people's day-to-day lives," Pope Francis said.

"But, can we move ahead toward universal fraternity without good politics? No," he said.

Good politics, as St. Paul VI defined it, is "one of the highest forms of charity because it seeks the common good," Pope Francis said.

As opposed to "politicking," he said, it is a "politics that listens to what is really going on, that's at the service of the poor, not the kind that's holed up in huge buildings with large hallways."

"I'm speaking of the pol-

itics that's concerned about the unemployed" and understands what it is like for people who are not able to work, he said.

"If we look at it this way, politics is much more noble than it appears," he said.

"Let's be grateful for the many politicians who carry out their duties with a will to

serve, not of power, who put all their efforts toward the common good," the pope said.

"Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poorest," he said.



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

AUGUST

- 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, 12:30 pm, Chancery
- Aug 7** Stewardship Council dinner meeting, 5:30pm, Bishops' residence
- Aug 8** Diocesan Finance Council meeting, 11 am, Chancery
- Aug 13** SSM Health System Executive Leadership Formation presentation, 5 pm, St. Louis
- Aug 14** Assumption Vigil Mass, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 6 pm, Jefferson City
- Aug 20** Communities of the Beatitudes Young Adult Small Group Session, 6:30 pm, Jefferson City
- Aug 22** Annual address to Catholic Charities, noon, Catholic Charities Offices, Jefferson City

Bishop McKnight's August prayer intention for our Local Church

For a greater respect for the dignity of each and every human life in all public policies.

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

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Sculptor known for honoring car racing greats turns attention to Father Tolton

By John Shaughnessy
OSV News

Danville, Indiana

The thrill couldn't get any better — or so Forrest Tucker thought.

As a longtime welder for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and as a talented sculptor, Tucker was honored to be asked to create a lasting tribute to the four race car drivers who have won the Indianapolis 500 four times.

Beginning in 2019, Tucker has sculpted four bronze bricks in honor of A. J. Foyt, Al Unser Sr., Rick Mears and Hélio Castroneves, with their names and the years they won the race on the bricks, which have been placed among the Speedway's original red bricks at the start-finish line.

"To do something in the racing world that is part of the history of the Speedway — and my part will be there long after I'm gone — it's the honor of a lifetime," said the now-retired, 65-year-old Tucker, a member of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Danville. "I got a chance to meet the drivers and had some good conversations with them. I got a really close look at who they are as people. They're all unique, as Christ made us."

While Tucker will always admire these four legends in the racing world, he has a deeper spiritual connection to someone he also regards as an American hero — someone who is on the path to potential sainthood, someone whose remarkable life has challenged Tucker to create a sculpture that captures the essence of that person.



Forrest Tucker uses a sculpting knife to trim a clay bust of Father Augustus Tolton at his home in Danville, Ind., March 20, 2024. Father Tolton, a candidate for sainthood, is the first recognized priest of African descent in the United States. He was declared "venerable" by Pope Francis in 2019.

— OSV News photo/John Shaughnessy, *The Criterion*

This is the unlikely story of the connection between Tucker, a humble sculptor from the countryside of Hendricks County, and Venerable Father Augustus Tolton, who was born into slavery and overcame the racism of his country and his Church to become a boundless source of hope, humanity and Christ's love in the slums of Chicago in the late 19th century.

Fr. Tolton's sainthood cause began in 2010. In 2019, Pope Francis declared him "venerable," recognizing that he lived a life of heroic virtue. But Tucker

didn't know anything about the first recognized priest of African descent in the United States until he experienced a small, personal moment of doubt and fear in 2021.

At the time, Tucker's friend, Cheryl Shockley, had organized a blood drive in honor of her youngest child, Jack Shockley, who was murdered in 2020, at age 24, during an attempted robbery outside a McDonald's restaurant in Indianapolis.

But Tucker was reluctant to go to the blood drive. His wife of now 47 years, Dawn, has struggled with multiple sclerosis

for most of their married life, and Tucker doesn't like to leave her on weekends when he doesn't have caregiver help. And the blood drive was in the gym at Christ the King Parish on the northside of Indianapolis, a long drive from Danville. Then there were the facts that he had never donated blood and he wasn't fond of needles.

Still, the pull of friendship with Cheryl and her husband, Steve, finally made him go.

"Cheryl was greeting people as they came in," Tucker recalled in an interview with *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. "She had a table full of prayer cards and pictures of saints. And one of the prayer cards was Fr. Tolton. She asked me if I'd ever heard of Fr. Tolton. I said no.

"She said, 'Forrest, I think we need to pray to Fr. Tolton. We need prayers for this country, for the healing — because there's so much violence being done.'"

"Cheryl is one of those persons when they say to do something, you say yes," Tucker said. "So, I took a prayer card. When my number came up to give blood, I sat in the chair, and I was kind of nervous

when I saw the tubes and needles. The technician told me to just relax. I decided to pray to Fr. Tolton. It just came to me. I closed my eyes and prayed to Fr. Tolton, who I knew nothing about."

As he prayed, Tucker said, "I had the strongest image that came to my mind of Fr. Tolton with this grieving woman. It was so different and vivid and strong. It was just these two people in a moment. It was a strange thing that happened to me. There were 100 people in that gym. People were talking, and kids were throwing balls, but I didn't hear any noise during that time. When I got up, I gave Cheryl a hug. I didn't tell her about it."

As he drove home, Tucker couldn't get the image of Fr. Tolton and the grieving woman out of his mind. The father of three grown children also found himself wanting to learn all he could about Fr. Tolton.

Born to enslaved parents in Northeastern Missouri and baptized in old St. Peter Church in Brusch Creek, Augustus Tolton escaped slavery with his mother, Martha Jane Tolton, and two siblings and by crossing the Mississippi River to Illinois and freedom in 1862.

When the Civil War broke out, Augustus's father, Peter, had escaped to serve with the Union Army but soon died of illness. His mother thereafter fled with young Augustus and his two siblings, rowing them across the Mississippi River to Illinois, eventually reaching Quincy, where they settled.

After working in a factory and attending Catholic schools (often facing harassment in the process), Augustus discerned a religious vocation. He moved to Rome in 1880 to study for the priesthood, since no seminary in the United States would accept him due to his race.

Upon his 1886 ordination, Fr. Tolton was sent back to the United States, first to Quincy and then later Chicago.

Despite repeated rejection, he persisted in his pastoral work, founding St. Monica Parish on Chicago's South Side.

See SCULPTOR, page 15

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New St. Louis Art Museum exhibit explores role of Christian art in Spanish America

“Art and Imagination in Spanish America” showcases range of works from 1500-1800

Exhibit continues through Sept. 1

By Laura Kosta

St. Louis

When the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico in December 1531, she instructed him to gather Castilian roses at the top of Tepeyac Hill.

When he presented the roses to the archbishop as proof of Mary’s appearance, an image of Our Lady miraculously appeared on his tilma.

In the centuries following, countless artists have painted their own versions of the miraculous image, now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe, beautifully depicting the monumental event for Catholicism in the region.

Two such oil paintings by Mexican artists welcome visitors to a new exhibit at the St. Louis Art Museum: “Art and Imagination in Spanish America, 1500-1800.”

The exhibit features more than 100 works from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s collection of Spanish co-



“Pietà,” oil on canvas, by Melchor Pérez Holguín.

— Photo by Museum Associates/LACMA

lonial art.

The majority of them were created in Mexico in the 1700s, but the collection also features art from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela.

The collection is divided into five sections, two of which focus on religious art and its role in both personal devotion and the expansion of the Catholic faith.

After the Spanish arrived

in the Americas in the late 15th century, “devotional images became essential to evangelize the Indigenous population and instruct in matters of the Catholic faith,” an exhibit panel explains.

While the first Christian art in the region was brought over from Europe, local artists soon began to create their own devotional work, drawing on a range of traditions.

“We tend to still live with this idea that everything changed with the Spanish, and many things did change. But there were a lot of long-established artistic traditions that were there when the Spanish arrived,” said Judith Mann, one of four St. Louis Art Museum organizing curators for the exhibit.

A silver gilt chalice and altar cross, dating to the late 1500s in Mexico and Guatemala,



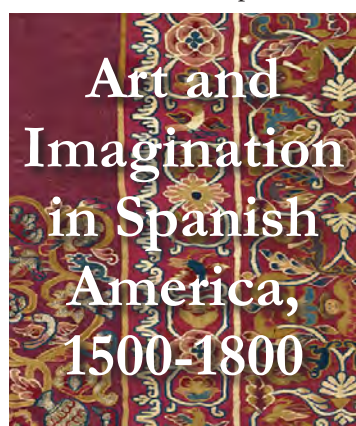
Chalice in silver gilt, rock crystal, wood, and feathers by unidentified artists.

— Photo by Museum Associates/LACMA

showcase the master silverwork already present in the region. The chalice also incorporated rock crystal, wood carving and feathers — understood by some Indigenous groups to be sacred objects — in a new Christian context, Mann said.

A few of the works are tied to miracles, tradition says.

See EXHIBIT, page 23



Where: St. Louis Art Museum, 1 Fine Arts Drive in St. Louis

When: Now open through Sept. 1, 2024

Cost: Adults \$12, seniors and students \$10, children (6-12) \$6, children 5 and under free. Members free. Admission to the exhibit is free every Friday.

For more information, visit: slam.org/exhibitions



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EUCHARIST

From page 1

"Christ wants us to know how much he loves us," said Sheryl Underhill, a member of Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City, who attended the Congress.

"He wants us to know that he loves us so that we can become more like him when we receive him, so that we can go out and love others the way he loves us," she said.

The reason for all of this? "So we can all go to heaven! So we can all have eternal life with him," said Mrs. Underhill.

People of the Beatitudes

The days of the National Eucharistic Congress were filled with opportunities to worship God at Mass, learn about him at an array of daily Impact Sessions and exhibits, hear from world-renowned Catholic speakers at evening Revival Sessions, and enjoy the company of thousands upon thousands of fellow Catholics from all over the United States.

Bishop McKnight likened the event to a massive family reunion — "a reminder that we are one in Christ."

The Holy Eucharist — Sacrament of Unity — is what makes that oneness possible.

Bishop McKnight celebrated Mass for people from the Jefferson City diocese in the ornate and intimate Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Cathedral of Ss. Peter and Paul in Indianapolis.

He chose to offer the Votive Mass for Mary, Mother of the Church.

"She is always at work interceding for us and for our need as a Church to be faithful to her Son," Bishop McKnight stated.

His special prayer intention for the Mass was for all the volunteers who had helped organize events for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which passed through the Jefferson City diocese the first week of July.

Father Paul Clark, diocesan vocation director, director of seminarians and chaplain of Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City; Father Gregory Oligschlaeger, pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Mon-



A group of Catholics from the Jefferson City diocese gather with Bishop W. Shawn McKnight in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Cathedral of Ss. Peter and Paul in Indianapolis after having Mass with the bishop the morning of July 20, during the 10th National Eucharistic Congress that was taking place in the city.
— Photo by Annie Williams

roe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek; and Father James Brockmeier, rector of the Indianapolis cathedral, concelebrated.

Deacon Robert Reinke-meyer, who assists the pastor of St. Andrew Parish in Tip-ton, served as deacon.

Bishop McKnight empha-

the bishop stated. "He wants to reign in our hearts. He wants us to have the love of God in us."

Being with Jesus means being on mission with him.

"It's not a static or merely passive relationship on our part, but one that is very dynamic," said Bishop Mc-

— people of the Beatitudes.

"Hope is about right now," he said. "Hope that Christ is risen, that he is alive with us today in the midst of all our challenges and all our struggles."

The Beatitudes, an integral part of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount, include a litany of blessings: Blessed are the poor in spirit ... those who mourn ... those who are meek ... those who hunger and thirst for righteousness ... those who are merciful ... those who are clean of heart ... the peacemakers ... those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness ... and those who endure insults falsely because of Jesus.

"These are attributes of our Eucharistic Lord," said Bishop McKnight. "And as we are transformed by the grace of the Eucharist to be another Christ, we become Eucharist for others. We become a means of hope for others."

He reiterated that the Eucharistic mission belongs to the entire Church, not just to clergy and religious.

"May our Blessed Mother's intercession under her title of the Immaculate Conception bring about a greater unity for the Church as we fulfill our Lord's mission of becoming

Eucharistic people with hearts full of love of God," he prayed.

"Face of Christ"

Perpetually reminded throughout the Congress of Christ's love, majesty and total self-giving sacrifice, people from the Jefferson City diocese spoke at length about what they were learning and how they hoped the Eucharistic Revival would continue back home.

Anne Mulholland, a member of Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City, learned the power of one-on-one interaction with other people during her years as a registered nurse.

"You really see the face of Christ in other people when you're able to work with them at that level," she said.

She's convinced that people studying, sharing and growing in their faith together in small, intentional groups will build community, enliven parishes and solidify people's commitment to take part in the Eucharist and carry the presence of Christ out into the world with them.

Craig Eufinger, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County, contemplated the urgent need to bring inactive Catholics back to participate in their faith.

He's convinced it will require consistent, courageous witness from friends, family members, neighbors and coworkers.

"Throughout my time here at the Congress, I've been praying for God to give me the words I need to do this," he said.

Mary Madelyn Mertes, assistant director of catechetical formation for the Jefferson City diocese, recently completed her master's thesis on "Reconciliation and the Eucharistic Revival."

"We bring to the world what we receive from God, so the world becomes kinder, easier, more helpful to people in need, to those in our community who need us, who need to know that they're loved, who need to know that they're accepted, that they're welcome," she said.

See REVIVAL, page 7



Hundreds of people take part in Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the middle of the day in this photo taken through the window from the vestibule into historical St. John the Evangelist Church, across the street from the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, during the 10th National Eucharistic Congress on July 18.
— Photo by Jay Nies

sized in his homily that the foundation for the Eucharist is God's yearning to be in communion with his people.

"The Eucharist is a result of God's desire to be with us,"

Knight. "To follow Jesus means we must become Eucharistic disciples of our Eucharistic Lord."

That means becoming people of faith, hope and charity

REVIVAL

From page 6

God's love is the complete opposite of the sadness, fear and loneliness many people are experiencing right now.

"It is community and belonging and acceptance and the experience of being loved by a Father who takes absolute delight in each and every one of us!" said Miss Mertes.

People come to Mass to receive Christ in the Eucharist and experience an incredible level of closeness and intimacy with him.

"We receive God in the Eucharist so that we can become like him, so that we can go out into the world from Mass and change the world and be a little bit of Christ to everyone we encounter," said Miss Mertes.

She said the Sacrament of Reconciliation is important for sustaining the Eucharistic Revival because it not only restores individual people to a state of grace but also heals wounds in the entire community.

"My sin doesn't just hurt my relationship with Jesus," she said. "I'm part of the Body of Christ, and when I'm wounded through my sin, the whole Body of Christ is wounded."

"So, when I go to Confession and put myself before the mercy of the Lord and receive forgiveness through the ministry of the Church, the grace I receive, the whole Body of Christ receives," she said.

"Feet of Jesus"

Gary Wilbers talked about the importance of bringing Christ back to the center of his everyday life and activities.

He's convinced that the Church and society won't grow in holiness without individuals deciding to change.

"You change the world a little at a time, first by being good to the people you spend the most time with," Mr. Wilbers noted.

"Intentionally doing God's will even in smaller things adds up to the living of a Christian life and being truly part of the Church and not just going through the motions," he said.

Mr. Wilbers and his wife Dana are members of St. Stanislaus Parish in Wardsville.

"I was excited to come here and enhance my faith life and my devotion to the Eucharist,"

said Mrs. Wilbers.

Adoring Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament with over 50,000 fellow Catholics filled her heart with joy, as did seeing hundreds of deacons and seminarians distribute Holy Communion at Mass.

She was determined to bring that joy back to her parish and put it to good use.

"I'd like to see our community be more of the feet of Jesus," she said. "Reaching out to show love to neighbor in service — I'd like to see us do a lot more of that."

She spoke about what she hopes parishes will be like in five years if the Eucharistic Revival is successful: "Very full, with a lot of young people and families, and more men answering the call to the Priesthood, and everyone being the hands of Christ out there, serving others in need."

Where change begins

A volunteer usher in one of the hallways of the Lucas Oil Stadium the morning of the Closing Mass made himself heard over the passing crowds.

"Don't leave the Revival here!" he appealed. "It's just getting started! You have to take it home with you!"

"It's real! It's happening in front of you at every Mass — this wonderful sacrifice that Jesus made for us," said Donna Long, director of faith formation for Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek.

"And it's an immense love that he gives us that I think is way beyond our ability to realize."

He made that sacrifice and draws people into participating in it because he wants to save them.

"All he asks is that we truly love him in return," said Mrs. Long. "We do that by helping each other and by showing up at church, by helping the parish grow and thrive."

Mrs. Long did not grow up Catholic but entered the Church after meeting her husband.

"He and his family were very involved, and everything I saw, I wanted for my own life," she said.



Father Mike Schmitz, a priest of the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota, known for chart-topping podcasts "The Bible in a Year" and "The Catechism in a Year," addresses the multitudes during the July 18 evening Revival Session in the Lucas Oil Stadium during the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.
— Photo by Annie Williams

Mrs. Underhill said she went to Indianapolis because she wanted to do something different in her relationship with God.

She had recently completed the *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* preparation for Eucharistic Consecration by Matthew Kelly, and had several conversations with her son, Darin, author of a book titled *Navigating Catholicism*.

"I always believed in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist," she stated. "I would like to feel his presence more in my heart."

The sessions she attended gave her a lot to think about, especially about receiving the Eucharistic Christ fully in her heart and helping those around her to do likewise.

Her husband, Jim Underhill, also a Monroe City parishioner, arrived in Indianapolis thinking the Eucharistic Congress would change the Church.

"The message I've gotten here is, it's got to change ME first," he said. "I need to allow Christ more into my life."

He's taken the presenters' repeated call to repentance to heart.

"Right now, I'm praying for knowledge for God's will for me," he said. "That, and the power to carry it out."

Called to depth and unity

Mark Rehagen, a member of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson

City, was pleased to see many young families and a tremendous number of priests and consecrated religious at the Eucharistic Congress.

"There's certainly a lot of energy here," he said. "It's all very encouraging."

Throughout the Congress, he was struck by the consistent message of the need for action: "Go out and do something in the world now. Go and be Eucharistic missionaries and disciples. Go spread the Gospel! In our homes, in the workplace, in the culture."

He marveled at an inquiry Catholic evangelizer Bishop Robert Barron had given about what kind of an impact the nation's 70 million Catholics could make if they all took their faith seriously and put it into practice every day.

Mr. Rehagen also took to heart the urgent appeals for Catholic unity in these times of rampant division.

"Our credibility suffers whenever we get on the bandwagon of battling each other," he said. "We need to flip the switch and live our faith in a way that's appealing to others and makes them want what we have received."

Erick Chinchilla, assistant director of pastoral ministry for the Jefferson City diocese, came away from the Eucharistic Congress with a renewed understanding that all baptized Catholics, regardless of their

state in life, have an obligation to God and the world.

"Whenever we give back to God what he bestows on us for the benefit of the whole Church, we know we're putting it to good use," said Mr. Chinchilla.

He also rediscovered a depth of prayer he hadn't experienced for several years — "something less superficial, more of a resting with God."

He doesn't have specific predictions for what the Church will be like when the Eucharistic Revival takes hold, "but I know it will be beautiful," he said.

"It's not like there won't be difficulties in life, but man, what a beautiful world!" he stated. "We saw it and we got to have a taste of it at the Congress."

Being transformed

Fr. Clark reflected on four actions of Jesus at the Last Supper — took, blessed, broke and gave — and how they apply to living a Christ-centered life, "allowing ourselves to participate in what the Lord is doing, saying yes to becoming Eucharistic and being Eucharistic."

"And when we truly offer ourselves to God and allow him to take that offering, when we give thanks, when we have that blessing of gratitude, when we're honest that we're all sinners, broken and in need of Christ, it allows for us to be given to others," he said.

He pointed out that revival is not something people do; it's an act of God.

"If it is to spill out into mission, we have to be aware of God stirring our hearts and moving us to a response," said Fr. Clark.

That response is to become people of the Beatitudes, sent on mission to be the presence of Christ in the world.

"Ultimately allowing ourselves to be transformed into him, into Eucharist," the priest stated.

Fr. Oligschlaeger was honored to take part in the giant Eucharistic Procession in Indianapolis, led by children who had recently made their First Holy Communion.

QUESTION CORNER

Can Catholics married outside the Church take Communion?

By Jenna Marie Cooper
OSV News

Q: My son is dating a Protestant girl. If my son married outside of the Catholic Church, is he not permitted to take the Eucharist? I am praying that the girl consents to have a Catholic matrimony, but that is uncertain for now.



A: For the most part, Catholics who do not abide by the Church's marriage laws are not permitted to receive Holy Communion. But there are a lot of considerations involved in interfaith marriages, and so the upshot is that your son's life of faith within the Church is certainly not a lost cause due to his current relationship.

For general background, Catholics and only Catholics are required by canon law to be married in a Catholic ceremony, what canon lawyers refer to technically as "marrying according to canonical form" (See Canon 1117 of the Code of Canon Law). A person is bound by this uniquely Catholic obligation if they were ever Catholic at any point, since the rule of thumb is "once a Catholic, always a Catholic." So, if a person was baptized Catholic as an infant but later drifted away, and even if they eventually committed to practicing another religion, they would still be considered bound to canonical form.

Canonical form is an important concept to understand and be aware of because if a Catholic does not marry according to canonical form — say, if a Catholic decided to get married by a justice of the peace — this marriage would be considered not only illicit, but also invalid.

However, it is possible in some circumstances for a Catholic to receive a "dispensation from canonical form" in some situations. This is a special concession from the local diocesan bishop which allows a Catholic to marry in a non-Catholic ceremony, typically due to serious pastoral concerns involving a non-Catholic spouse-to-be (See Canon 1127, 2).

Very strictly speaking, canon law technically requires Catholics to marry only other Catholics (See Canon 1086, 1 and Canon 1124).

Still, it's common knowledge that Catholics do sometimes marry non-Catholics. If a Catholic is seeking to marry a non-Catholic who is nevertheless a baptized Christian (for example, a Christian baptized in a Protestant denomination that uses a Trinitarian baptismal formula, such as an Anglican or Lutheran), in canon law this is called a "mixed marriage." A Catholic would need permission from the bishop for a mixed marriage in order to marry licitly, even in a Catholic ceremony. Similarly, if a Catholic seeks to marry a non-baptized person, this situation is called a "disparity of cult." A Catholic would need a dispensation from disparity of cult, once again from the local bishop, in order to marry a non-baptized person validly.

All of this might sound rather complicated, but typically this can all be discussed and worked out with the Catholic party's parish priest during Catholic premarital preparation. Parish priests usually take care of requesting whatever dispensations or permissions might be necessary, and in the United States the paperwork involved in these kinds of issues is very routine for most diocesan chancery offices.

Circling back to your son's case in particular, let's assume for the sake of argument that he and his girlfriend do eventually get engaged, and your son appropriately consults his parish priest about his upcoming wedding. Further assuming that your son's Protestant fiancée was validly baptized, the priest would request permission for a mixed marriage on the couple's behalf. If the fiancée was willing to marry in a Catho-

See QUESTION, page 19

Signs and wonders

By Jay Nies

"If you're looking for a sign, heere it is!"

The sisters in white were standing in the concourse of the Indiana Convention Center, surrounded by throngs of people attending the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.

This one lowered her classroom voice, smiled and let me take her picture.

"Okay, Sister, now that you have my attention, which way do I go?"

"That way!"

More sisters cheerfully ushered me and hundreds of others to a giant room filled with priests from all over the United States, each eager to hear our Confession and dispense the grace of Absolution.

Twenty minutes later, I was on my way, the slate cleared, ready for a new day to begin.

I tapped the sister in the photo on the shoulder: "To-day, I was the paralytic. To-day, you sisters opened the roof and lowered me down to the Healer."

"All in a day's work! Glad we could help!"

Jay Nies is editor of The Catholic Missourian.



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Grandparents and faith: A direct legacy that transcends generations

By Silvio Cuéllar
OSV News



During my high school years, I lived with my grandmother Matilde. Sunday night was a sacred time when she would always take me to church. Back then, I lived in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, and we had two options to go to Mass: Our Lady of the Rosary Church, three blocks away, or the Salesians' Maria Auxiliadora parish, a little further, five blocks away. During those years, it was my grandmother — who I'd see praying

every night before going to sleep — who planted the seed of faith in my heart.

In his apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis reminds us of the importance of grandparents in family life and how their role can be fundamental in transmitting the Catholic faith to future generations. The Holy Father invites us to reflect on the importance of this intergenerational connection and its impact on the spiritual growth of our families.

"Very often it is grandparents who ensure that the most important values are passed down to their grandchildren, and many people can testify that they owe their initiation into the Christian life to their grandparents," noted the pope.

That was my experience, not only

with my own *abuelitas* but also with my children's grandparents.

My wife Becky and I were blessed to have my in-laws, Paul and Barbara, just 10 minutes from home. They were a great help to us, supporting us during the extracurricular activities of our seven children. They were always present at soccer tournaments, musical performances, plays and they are the ones who taught my children about the lives of the saints.

When involved in the lives of their grandchildren, grandparents can become the family's treasure — their experience, wisdom and unconditional love can become an invaluable legacy that nurtures and strengthens family life.

Through their words, prayers and

actions, grandparents can be beacons of spiritual light, guiding their grandchildren toward a deeper relationship with God and teaching them the value of prayer, mercy, forgiveness and Christian love.

The pope also wrote: "A family that fails to respect and cherish its grandparents, who are its living memory, is already in decline, whereas a family that remembers has a future." In our modern society, where the elderly often end up alone and isolated, this is a great challenge.

Recently my dad had three strokes and had to be in a rehabilitation center twice, but it was very difficult for him to

See CUÉLLAR, page 19

The little church-library by the river

By Christina Capecchi



The little church in this river town looks like the kind of porcelain church you'd place in a Christmas village, its white siding dotted with tall green windows, centered by arched green doors and topped with a green gable roof. It lacks only an oversized wreath with a red bow.

Built in 1868 as a Baptist church, it was similar in size and structure to other country churches of the period. But when the church ceased to be, it assumed another sacred purpose: It was filled with books and became the town library.

The fact that it still operates as a library today, open five days a week, feels like a miracle in itself.

The moment you step inside, you sense its history. The church-library sounds like creaky floorboards and smells like old books. It houses two floors of books, the upper level being a wrap-around loft, where rocking chairs sway at window tops. There are reading nooks aplenty, including a cozy space beneath the staircase.

Its entire book collection was donated — and donations continue to roll in, contributing to the ongoing sense of goodwill. Classics like the *Hardy Boys* and *Nancy Drew* are shelved alongside historical fiction such as *Dear America* and *American Girl* books. Even its community offerings feel old-timey, from Cursive Club to puzzle rentals. Visitors who read for 15 minutes receive a free snack, joining The Munch Bunch.

The activities held here aren't all that different from the ones that ensued in its early years. On Wednesday afternoons, "Adult Crafters" gather. On Saturday, families come for "Storytime." Tutoring is offered Mondays after school. These

are functions of church: to make something beautiful, to hear a great story, to feel less behind.

Folks who meet for cribbage on Tuesdays at 10 am swap strategies on how best to skip down a long, winding path. The "Introvert's Book Club" devotes an hour every Monday morning to silent reading time because, as the website notes, "participants find that reading alone together keeps them focused on their book."

This is a space for community, in all its forms — now just as surely as in 1868.

"I figure when kids are here," says the librarian, "they're staying out of trouble."

She welcomes two sweaty preteen boys who drop their bikes at the door and hop on the computers.

The little church-library feels like a balm, a hidden gem whose very existence is a comfort, countering the many ways modern life isolates us. Covid made us less sociable. So do the small glowing screens that masquerade as the entire world at our fingertips.

It's no mistake that community and communion share the same origin. As Catholics, we believe that the ultimate community is offered through Holy Communion. When Mass is celebrated, Heaven touches Earth. The communion of saints flock to the altar: doctors of the Church, gardeners, librarians, children, the beloved parish priest who married your great grandparents.

We sing. We pray. We kneel and wait and wonder. And in the process, we are fed.

It is a sacrament that does not, cannot happen anywhere else. And we need it — no matter how much secular culture tells us otherwise.

Summer is a time for restoration, for slowing down and sinking in. When we connect with others, we are renewed. We replenish the reserves that will help us make it through the winter.

Like the church-library by the river, embrace simple communal pursuits this

season — cribbage and crafts, puzzling side-by-side, reading together in silence. Then join the communion of saints at Holy Communion, where the bonds are

eternal.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

REFLECTION

Degrees of ark

By Mark Saucier

"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" Shakespeare's sonnet asks.

"It all depends," I insist.

Does he mean a summer day of kids' play, beach reading and infinite sunsets?

Or is it those summer days when I am a mosquito buffet, the moles have built a subway system in the yard, and the deer are less than endearing when they mow down my wife's hostas, moss roses and phlox.

It could have been different. In Genesis 6, when God was giving Noah the passenger list for the ark, exceptions could have been made.

"Of all other living creatures, you shall bring two into the ark, one male and one female."

That could have meant just the cute ones, the friendly ones, and the edible ones. But in the very next chapter, there is a different math.

"Of every clean animal, take with you seven pairs, a male and its mate; and of the unclean animals, one pair, a male and its mate."

This verse certainly makes the ark much more crowded than the "two of each" in Genesis 6, but I see it more instructional than contradictory.

It makes a point to acknowledge and include the undesirable, even the dangerous.

The fauna of creation, from Angus beef to skin-clinging chiggers, all have a role in this intricate web of life of which we are an inseparable part.

The mosquito may be a miserable, disease-carrying pest, but it is also a pollinator, essential to the reproduction of certain plants, as well as a delectable and nutritious part of a bird's diet.

The author of Genesis 7 realizes that what we may see as less than good is essential to the overall good and must be protected and preserved.

In Scripture, the number 7 signifies wholeness or perfection. A ratio of seven pairs of clean animals to one pair of unclean says that the good is abundant, but it needs the less-than-good to be complete.

I'll still grumble about the pests that ravage my legs, lawn and garden, but I will admit their right to exist in a design marvelously beyond my understanding.

But maybe the message is deeper than that. Maybe it's more than mosquitoes and moles. Maybe it is about human pain and failure, as well — not just as inevitable, but necessary.

As Walter Brueggemann wrote: "The riddle and insight of biblical faith is the awareness that only anguish leads to life, only grieving leads to joy ..."

Encounter

AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Empowering Refugee Youth: A spotlight on Catholic Charities' programs for International Youth Day



By Amber Kemp

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) enrolls approximately 50 elementary and middle-school-aged refugee children each year in the Mentoring All Refugee Kids (MARK) program.

This youth mentoring and academic support program, provided in partnership with the St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, supports refugee youth in achieving their academic and social-emotional goals.

The Newman Center contributes space, helps recruit volunteers and provides a student leader to plan program activities.

Through one-on-one and group mentoring, the children engage in a variety of enriching activities tailored to their interests, such as art, puzzles, reading and outdoor games.

This fosters a sense of social connectedness and positive relationships between the children and volunteers.

Newly-arrived children in the United States can greatly

benefit from this type of support as they navigate through a period of transition.

The program's success is made possible by the generosity of dedicated volunteers, who donate their time, kindness and compassion.

The academic support component tailors its approach to the unique needs and goals of each child.

Program staff, student leaders and volunteer mentors collaborate to provide a range of engaging academic support activities, such as reading with mentors and playing educational games like Pictionary and word searches.

The program also incorporates subject integration techniques to increase student engagement across diverse learning styles.

The MARK program is not the only program designed to support refugee youth.

Catholic Charities' Youth Mentoring (YM) program assists youth and young adults aged 15-24.

The YM program offers academic support, opportu-

nities for social engagement with peers and help in pursuing educational and vocational goals.

Clients are matched with volunteer mentors who can guide them with tasks, such as filling out job applications, visiting college campuses or exploring the local community.

CCCNMO staff work with clients to determine the best next steps to achieve their goals.

Improving English language proficiency is often a primary objective.

CCCNMO partners with Sacred Heart Church in Columbia, to offer weekly English language classes, which several YM program clients attend each semester.

Staff offer transportation to and from the class and provide childcare for participants, if needed.

As the Youth & Education Coordinator, I work alongside Andrea Bustillo, the Youth & Education Specialist, to assist clients as they begin working towards their goals.

Ms. Bustillo, originally from



Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri intern Lauren Hock facilitated an educational activity for participants in the Mentoring All Refugee Kids (MARK) program.

Honduras, says she can relate.

"Moving to a different country without knowing the language or culture was one of the biggest moments of uncertainty I have had in my life. I was grateful I found a support system, and a program for people like me that need to learn English," said Bustillo. "I went to these classes, and I was able to learn the language and be part of a community where I made friends from different cultures."

Alongside our youth mentoring initiatives, CCCNMO offers additional support for newly-arrived refugee families with young children.

This includes a diaper program in collaboration with First Chance for Children, which provides Catholic Charities with monthly diaper donations that are then distributed directly to the families.

Furthermore, CCCNMO works with the Voluntary Action Center to enroll 20-30 families each year in their annual holiday program, with our staff completing the applications and delivering gifts

to the families' homes in early December.

Catholic Charities staff also enroll the children of newly-arrived refugee families in Columbia Public Schools (CPS).

As part of this process, they schedule appointments for the children to be tested by the CPS English Language Department.


This assessment determines the students' English proficiency levels and eligibility for additional English learner support services at school.

The program team provides families with an orientation to the school system, covering essential details about bus transportation, meal options, applying for free or reduced meals, enrolling in summer school and the various educational levels.

The primary goal is to empower clients and help them achieve self-sufficiency, enabling them to independently support themselves after they are no longer receiving services.

The generous support of our volunteers, donors, and dedicated staff ensures this vision becomes reality.

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Fight against trafficking must include combating its crimes online, advocate says

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Strategic collaboration, especially with law enforcement monitoring crimes online, is needed in the fight against human trafficking, according to the head of an international network of religious orders and partners against trafficking.

“New challenges in preventing and combating human trafficking affecting children have emerged,” particularly as traffickers are using the Internet “to advertise and sell children online for sexual exploitation and to distribute child sexual abuse material,” said Maryknoll Sister Abby Avelino, international coordinator for the international network, Talitha Kum.

There is also another worrying trend, according to the Global Slavery Index 2023 report, of “orphanage trafficking,” in which children are recruited to live in private, donor-funded

residential care facilities that have little to no government oversight and where they are exploited for profit, she said in an article published in the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, July 29.

July 30 marks the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, sponsored by the United Nations.

This year's day was dedicated to children. One in three victims of human trafficking globally is a child and a disproportionate number of them are girls, according to the U.N.'s Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. Children are also twice as likely to face violence during trafficking than adults.

“Amid overlapping crises such as armed conflicts, pandemics, economic hardships and environmental challenges, children are increasingly vulnerable to trafficking,” the report said.

“Furthermore, the proliferation of online platforms poses additional risks as children often connect to these sites

without adequate safeguards. Traffickers exploit online platforms, social media and the dark web to recruit and exploit children, utilizing technology to evade detection, reach wider audiences, and disseminate exploitative content,” it said.

Sr. Abby wrote, “Every year on July 30, Talitha Kum joins the annual U.N. campaign” to add its appeal to help protect children and prevent them from falling into human trafficking.

“Children are subjected to various forms of trafficking, including exploitation in forced labor, forced marriage, criminality or begging, trafficked for illegal adoption, and online and sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children,” she wrote.

Given the ongoing and new challenges affecting children, she wrote, “we need a strategic collaboration, particularly with law enforcement agencies with skills in combating technology-facilitated human trafficking

by monitoring online platforms.”

“It is the call for urgent action to protect vulnerable groups, especially children, from exploitation and support child victims of trafficking,” she wrote, encouraging people to learn more about the work of Talitha Kum, including through its new app, “Walking in Dignity.”

Founded 15 years ago, the Rome-based Talitha Kum network supports training programs in preventing trafficking and building awareness among vulnerable groups, particularly among women, girls, migrants and refugees. More than 623,000 people were involved in their prevention campaigns in 2023, she wrote.

“Many victims and survivors remind us of the need to create norms and rules that support the flourishing of men and women as people and members of their community, but above all to promote a culture of dignity and an economy of care,” Sr. Abby wrote.

USCCB backs legislation that aims to help religious groups develop affordable housing

By Kate Scanlon
OSV News

Washington, D.C.

Legislation under consideration in Congress would help faith-based organizations respond to a shortage in affordable housing by easing restrictions on the use of their land to develop affordable housing, supporters say.

The Yes in God's Backyard Act, introduced in March by Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, would provide technical assistance to faith-based and nonprofit groups interested in using land they already own to respond to housing shortages in their communities, as well as technical assistance to local governments to facilitate training on best practices for working with such groups.

The bill would also create challenge grants to provide additional resources to communities that ease burdensome regulations on affordable rental housing on property owned by faith-based organizations and institutions of higher education.

In a July 12 letter to members of Congress, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops urged lawmakers to pass the bill, arguing it would “would help faith-based and nonprofit organizations improve their capacity to meet the housing needs of poor and vulnerable community members.”

Metropolitan Archbishop Borys A. Gudziak of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, said, “The United States is in the midst of a profound and prolonged housing crisis. A systemic lack of affordable housing drives up housing costs for low-income households, exacerbating their financial insecurity.”

The legislation, he argued, would help the church serve low-income individuals and families at risk of homelessness by “empowering faith-based and other nonprofit institutions to use their resources responsibly to serve more vulnerable families.”

Brown's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment from OSV News

about the status of the bill, but a review of the Congressional Record shows its status has been unchanged since it was referred to the Senate Housing committee in March.

In a March 12 statement issued when he introduced the legislation, Brown said, “Housing is too expensive and too hard to find in almost every community in America.”

“This is a common sense solution — families need more housing, and churches, synagogues, and other religious organizations want to put their faith into action by developing housing on land they already

own,” Brown said. “By helping these institutions cut through red tape, we can lower the cost of housing and expand options in Ohio and around the country.”

Other signatories on the USCCB letter included Jesuit Father Christopher Kellerman, secretary of the Office of Justice and Ecology at the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States; Kerry Alys Robinson, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA; and John Barry, president of the National Council of the United States for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the U.S. has a shortage of 7.3 million rental homes that are affordable and available to renters with extremely low incomes, defined as incomes “at or below either the federal poverty guideline or 30% of their area median income, whichever is greater.” The group's data shows that only 34 affordable and available rental homes exist for every 100 extremely low-income renter households.

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

New bishop of Knoxville, Tennessee, heralds ‘a day of great beginnings’

OSV News

Knoxville, Tennessee

In a historic day for the Diocese of Knoxville, Bishop Mark Beckman was ordained July 26 as the Church in East Tennessee's fourth shepherd.

Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre of Louisville, Kentucky, the province that includes the Knoxville Diocese, was the principal consecrator in the ordination at the Knoxville Convention Center.

Co-consecrators were Bishop J. Mark Spalding of the Diocese of Nashville and Bishop

James V. Johnston Jr. of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri.

Bishop Beckman, 61, a native of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, in the Diocese of Nashville and a priest in that diocese since his ordination in 1990, was elevated to bishop in a ceremony before a gathering of 4,000 in the convention center.

“In his wisdom, God has chosen you, James Mark Beckman, to be bishop in this new season for the Diocese of Knoxville,” Archbishop Fabre said in his homily.

Remembering Catholic comedian Bob Newhart

By Kurt Jensen
OSV News

About the same time Chicago-area native George Robert Newhart was inching his way from an accounting job toward a career in comedy, his older sister Joan was professing her final vows as a Sister of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In 1949, she entered the congregation from her family's home parish, St. Catherine of Siena in Oak Park, Illinois, and took her final vows on July 16, 1957. She spent several years teaching, including in Bogota, Colombia, and volunteered as a computer consultant later on in Chicago and Dubuque,

Iowa. She died in Dubuque in 2018, a week shy of her 90th birthday.

"I always lived in her shadow," Bob Newhart said of Sister Joan in a 1979 interview. By then, he had not only two smash-hit comedy albums to his credit, but a long-running TV sitcom as well. "Maybe that's why I'm a comedian today," he continued, "because she was always the extremely bright one."

Newhart, who died July 18 at age 94 at his home in Los Angeles, parlayed his fine comedic timing and deadpan delivery into a triumphant career that spanned decades.

Highpoints included his two television series, "The Bob Newhart Show" (1972-78) and "Newhart" (1982-90), sporadic appearances as Professor Proton on CBS-TV's "The Big Bang Theory" as well as film roles, including in "Catch-22" (1970) and "Elf" (2003).

Newhart seldom told stories about his Catholic upbringing during his many talk show appearances. He usually saved such anecdotes for settings where he knew they would bring the laughter of recognition.

"I attended Jesuit schools," Newhart reflected in a 1985 interview, before going on to wryly credit the order for "the somewhat twisted way I look at life." But he was by no means alienated from the faith; he and his wife of 60 years, Virginia "Ginnie" Quinn, were longtime parishioners at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Beverly Hills.

Born Sept. 5, 1929, Newhart graduated from St. Ignatius College Preparatory School, then went on to Loyola University Chicago, where he received a degree in business management in 1952 before being drafted into the Army.

Throughout his career on



Actor Bob Newhart laughs after delivering story during a tribute to Newhart at the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, Colo., March 2, 2001.

— OSV News photo/Gary C., Reuters

record, stage and screen, Newhart was careful to keep his routines suitable for a family audience. During an appearance on The Christophers' TV program "Christopher Close-up" in the early 1990s, he told series host Father John Catoir that, because of his faith, he refused to "work blue," meaning rely on sexual material to garner laughs.

Such a serious moral commitment didn't mean, however, that Newhart was blind to the lighter side of religion.

Thus he told a Las Vegas audience in 2004 that his childhood training in Catholicism had sometimes left him confused:

"Thou shalt not worship false idols. That was an easy one to follow. You can drive around Chicago all day and not see any false idols — and if you do see one, you aren't going to stop to worship it."

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife," he added. "I'm 12. I thought it was, 'Thou shalt not cover thy neighbor's wife.' I didn't want to cover her anyway. I thought it meant you can cover any other wife, just not your neighbor's ..."

In a similar vein, Newhart recalled during a 1997 commencement address at The Catholic University of America that, "Growing up in Chicago, the best time to go to confession was during the Notre Dame — SMU (Southern Methodist University) game."

"You could tell the priest anything — 'I just killed my family' — (and the response would be) 'Well, don't do it again, my son.'"

Newhart was pursuing a less-than-stellar business career when he suddenly shot

See NEWHART, page 19

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Michelangelo's Pietà' getting new high-security barrier in anticipation of Jubilee Year pilgrims

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service
Vatican City

The Vatican is installing a new set of nine bullet-proof and shatter-proof glass panels in front of one of its most famous works of art, Michelangelo's marble "Pietà" sculpture in St. Peter's Basilica.

The new glass panes were crafted for improved security and "maximum transparency" to improve visibility for the thousands of visitors who stream through Christianity's largest church each day, according to the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the office responsible for the upkeep of the basilica.

"Specially designed by a team of experts, it will be equipped with an innovative high-tech anchoring system, carefully studied in every component for the best protection and enjoyment of the venerated and admired sculpture," the office said on its website July 22.

In the runup to the Holy Year 2025, restoration work on the side Chapel of the Pietà, housing the sculpture, and the glass barrier in front of it began in May. Work is expected to finish in September, the



Michelangelo's Pietà is seen in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican May 30, 2023. The sculpture was coronated in 1568, but Mary's crown and Jesus' halo were removed in 1924.

— CNS photo/Lola Gomez

The sculpture depicts a disproportionately large Mary holding the limp body of her dead son, Jesus, in her lap after his crucifixion.

Michelangelo was just 23 years old when he sculpted the piece in just nine months between 1498 and 1499, according to the Fabbrica website. It is the only sculpture the artist signed when he inscribed his name on a ribbon falling from Mary's shoulder.

website said.

Because the sculpture will not be visible to the public during that time, the basilica was showcasing its "official" copy, a plaster replica created by Francesco Mercatali in 1943. It moved the replica in mid-July from the basilica's museum in the Vatican sacristy to the front of the chapel that is blocked off to visitors for the restoration.

The enormous sculpture, carved from a single block of Carrara marble, has been protected by a transparent barrier ever since a 33-year-old, Hungarian-born Australian geologist, Laszlo Toth, attacked it with a hammer in 1972. It was restored after his blows shattered the left arm of the Virgin Mary and also chipped her nose, left eye and the veil covering her hair.

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CONGRESS

From page 1

official steps of their eight-week journey into the stadium carrying icons of each route's respective patron saints — St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, St. Junipero Serra, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Blessed Virgin Mary — that were put around the altar where the Blessed Sacrament was placed.

"How will we know that we are experiencing Eucharistic revival?" Cardinal Christophe Pierre, the papal nuncio to the U.S., asked in his keynote speech July 17, encouraging everyone to surrender their hearts to the Lord over the next few days.

"When we are truly revived by the Eucharist," he said, "then our encounter with Christ's real presence in the sacrament opens us to an encounter with him in the rest of our life" and then "spills over in our daily life, a life of relating to others, our way of seeing others."

Hub of activity

Every day of the congress began with most congress-goers joining in beautifully and reverently celebrated Eucharistic liturgies in the stadium — including a July 20 Holy Qurbana, the Syro-Malabar



LEFT: The Most Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession toward the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis, with thousands of people participating, on July 20 during the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. **RIGHT:** People gather around the monument while waiting to fold into the procession and follow the Most Blessed Sacrament to the Indiana War Memorial for Benediction.

— Photos by Annie Williams

form of the Eucharistic liturgy, prayed in English.

Additional morning and evening Masses at nearby sites in different languages, such as Spanish or Vietnamese, or in different forms, such as the Byzantine rite or the older usage of the Roman rite.

Three days of the congress, July 18-20, were split between seven morning impact sessions and nearly 20 afternoon breakout sessions on a variety of topics meant to form, equip and inspire people, including clergy, to live more deeply their faith in light of Jesus making himself truly present in the Eucharist — and how to practically bring what they have learned into their parishes, ministries, groups and families.

The exhibit halls in the Indiana Convention Center were packed throughout the congress, as long lines formed for exhibits such as the Shroud of Turin or Eucharistic miracles.

Religious sisters provided a kind of spiritual air traffic control that guided people to the lengthy confession lines.

The convention center was also a place where the spontaneity of joy could be seen and

and the liturgies as well — eagerly joined their voices in singing the beautiful hymns and chants, both traditional and contemporary, in English, Spanish, Latin and other languages.

created a sensory experience of awe around the Eucharistic Lord, as tens of thousands prayed in silent contemplation before the Eucharist on the altar — illuminated in the dark stadium by spotlights.

Adoring Jesus in the stadium, concluding with Benediction, was the pinnacle movement of each evening.

Keynote speakers and testimonies helped keep people's eyes fixed on Jesus' personal love for them and his desire to be close to them.

One such nightly revival, focused on healing, indicated the problem with Catholic belief in the Eucharist — was more about the heart than the head, and needed Catholics to repent of their indifference to Jesus.

"Knowledge can make us great, but only love can make a saint," said Father Mike Schmitz, the Diocese of Duluth,

Minnesota, priest known for chart-topping podcasts "The Bible in a Year" and "The Catechism in a Year."

Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, who survived four wars in the Middle East, recounted how in the midst of her own personal suffering she heard Jesus say in her heart: "That even on the cross and through the cross, we can still choose to love."



Thousands of people gather in the park outside the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, for Adoration after a Eucharistic Procession from the Indiana Convention Center on July 20. The Most Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a monstrance on a temporary altar on the steps leading up to the memorial, where prayers would be prayed, hymns sung and Benediction given as part of the National Eucharistic Congress.

— Photo by Annie Williams

felt.

Young people marched through chanting their love for Jesus, while further on, a group of Catholic women, dressed in traditional apparel from Cameroon, sang and danced their love for Jesus and Mary to the delight of people who gathered around them.

To be a saint

Tens of thousands of congress-goers at the revivals —

The congress saw the musicianship of Dave and Lauren Moore, Sarah Kroger and Matt Maher, as well as the talents of the men's ensemble Floriani and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

"The reverence was just awe-inspiring, and that's something I would like to take back to our parish," Deacon Robb Caputo of the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois, told OSV News.

The nightly revival sessions

See INDIANAPOLIS, page 15



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INDIANAPOLIS

From page 14

Jonathan Roumie, the actor famous for his portrayal of Jesus in the hit miniseries "The Chosen," told the audience at the final revival night July 20 after reading Jesus' Bread of Life discourse from John 6, "The Eucharist for me is healing. The Eucharist for me is peace, the Eucharist for me is my grounding. The Eucharist for me is his heart within me."

"Touching hearts"

Congress organizers also made intentional efforts to be inclusive of families and of people with disabilities, particularly those with sensory disorders, so they could also experience the congress and participate fully in the experience.

Murielle and Dominic Blanchard of Gallup, New Mexico, navigated the congress with six children aged 8 and under, including 20-month twins, and a baby on the way. They said the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium was key for them, because it provided both formation for their older children and had space for the twins to play.

Throughout the congress, the historic and stately St. John the Evangelist Church across from the Indiana Convention Center's main entrance fulfilled its role as a spiritual hub.

A steady flow of pilgrims came and went from the main church during 24-hour adoration throughout the congress. It had times for silence as well as times geared toward families, where children were invited to get close to the Eucharist, put a flower in a vase near the monstrance, and just adore as beautiful, simple melodies lifted up the packed church in prayer.

More than 1,200 religious sisters and brothers, 1,170 priests, 630 deacons, 610 seminarians and 200 bishops participated in the congress, according to congress organizers. At a press conference July 19, Philadelphia Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez said he had never seen anything like the congress, as a non-papal event, in his 35 years of Priesthood.

"You can sense the energy of what's happening here, which is touching hearts," he said, adding the experience

was making him think about how to respond to the need for the Church's sacraments to be more accessible.

"Share Jesus's tender love"

The highlight came July 20 as tens of thousands of Catholics followed behind the truck-pulled, flower-rimmed float carrying the Blessed Sacrament accompanied by Bishop Cozzens and Indianapolis Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

They walked 10 blocks from the convention center through downtown Indianapolis to the Indiana War Memorial Plaza for what Bishop Cozzens said "might be the largest Eucharistic procession in the country in decades."

Nancy Leuhrmann of Cincinnati told OSV News the experience, which culminated in Eucharistic adoration and Benediction at the plaza, was "really wonderful, seeing all the people just quiet, reverent and joyful." Leuhrmann said the security presence didn't have much to do and she noted the officers thanked the crowd for



Chris Stefanick holds a crucifix while speaking July 21, 2024, during the final day of the National Eucharistic Congress at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

— OSV News photo/Bob Roller

making their jobs easy.

At the sending-forth Mass July 21, Pope Francis's special envoy to the congress, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, delivered a homily with warmth, joy and humor that made participants both laugh and feel inspired as he told them, "A Eucharistic people is a missionary and evangelizing

people."

"We should not keep Jesus to ourselves," he said, exhorting them not to use their time in church to escape others, but to "share Jesus' tender love" with "the weary, the hungry and suffering ... the lost, confused and weak."

"Go and share Jesus' gift of reconciliation and peace

to those who are divided," he said, emphasizing, "Let us proclaim Jesus joyfully and zealously for the life of the world!"

Bishop Cozzens revealed there would be another National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in 2025 from Indianapolis to Los Angeles, and possibly an earlier National Eucharistic Congress than 2033.

But he invited people to take this experience of the congress and — echoing Cardinal Tagle's call for Eucharistic "missionary conversion" — join the congress's "Walk with One" initiative.

"Commit yourself to walking with one person," he said. "Commit yourself to becoming a Eucharistic missionary, someone who lives deeply a Eucharistic life, and having received that gift, allows themselves to be given as a gift."

Peter Jesserer Smith is national news editor for OSV News. Staff from OSV News, The Criterion and Simone Orendain contributed to this report.

SCULPTOR

From page 4

His reverence, humility, zeal and exceptional singing voice drew both Black and white Catholics from all economic classes.

In 1897, Fr. Tolton collapsed from heat stroke July 8, 1897, and died the next day. He was 43.

"Perseverance comes to mind about him," Tucker said. "Despite what he went through, the obstacles that were in his way, he never wavered in his faith. He let nothing separate him from God. That was one of the big takeaways for me."

While Fr. Tolton's life was marked by an undeniable perseverance, the image of him extending his hand in compassion to a grieving woman persisted in the mind of Tucker.

"At first, it didn't even come to my mind that this was a sculpture," Tucker said. "But I kept thinking about it. The image lingered, but I didn't tell anybody about it, not even Dawn."

Tucker's most personal pieces have always been related to the sacred.

One of his most impressive sculptures is of Christ's crown of thorns, one of the special times that he believes the Holy Spirit was guiding his hands. So, he turned to the Holy Spirit for guidance about what he should do with his mental image of Fr. Tolton and the grieving woman.

"I was praying, 'Holy Spirit, what am I

supposed to do with this?' The image was too complicated, too detailed. I don't have the ability to do this as a sculpture. It's way out of my league.

"The Spirit kept pulling me, and finally I said OK. I said I'll sculpt this in clay, but it's not going to look good. It won't work out. But I said I'll have faith."

He started sculpting it in May 2022, working on it all summer and fall. In October, "I finally had a sculpture in clay of the image I saw," he said, but he didn't know what to do with it.

Conversations with two priests in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis led him to a meeting with the diocesan postulator for Fr. Tolton's cause for sainthood — retired Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago.

Bishop Perry invited Tucker to come to Chicago, and they met in April 2023.

"Forrest's sculpture of Fr. Tolton is among the only few sculpted figures of Tolton over the years," Bishop Perry told *The Criterion*. "When he showed me his clay model of the sculpture of Fr. Tolton extending his hand to a downtrodden woman, I immediately became aware that Forrest had captured the temperament of Fr. Tolton, who ministered all his priesthood to the abject poor in Quincy and in Chicago."

Tucker "shares with Fr. Tolton those

Christian attributes that have the power to change society and the world if people would struggle through their fears of one another," said Bishop Perry, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism. "Forrest's sculpture brings complement to this cause for sainthood of our beloved first priest of African descent to labor in the United States."

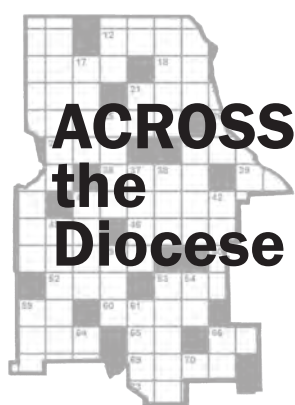
After casting the sculpture in wax for six months, Tucker's next step is bringing the sculpture to life in bronze. He plans to finish the process so he can share it with Bishop Perry when the shepherd comes to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress in July.

One of the questions that he gets regarding the sculpture of Fr. Tolton and the grieving woman is, "Who is the woman depicted in that moment?"

Tucker said it's a mystery to him.

"Life can be pretty tough, and you can encounter some pretty tough obstacles," Tucker said. "Yet no matter what happens to you, there's nothing that can separate you from God."

John Shaughnessy is assistant editor at The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

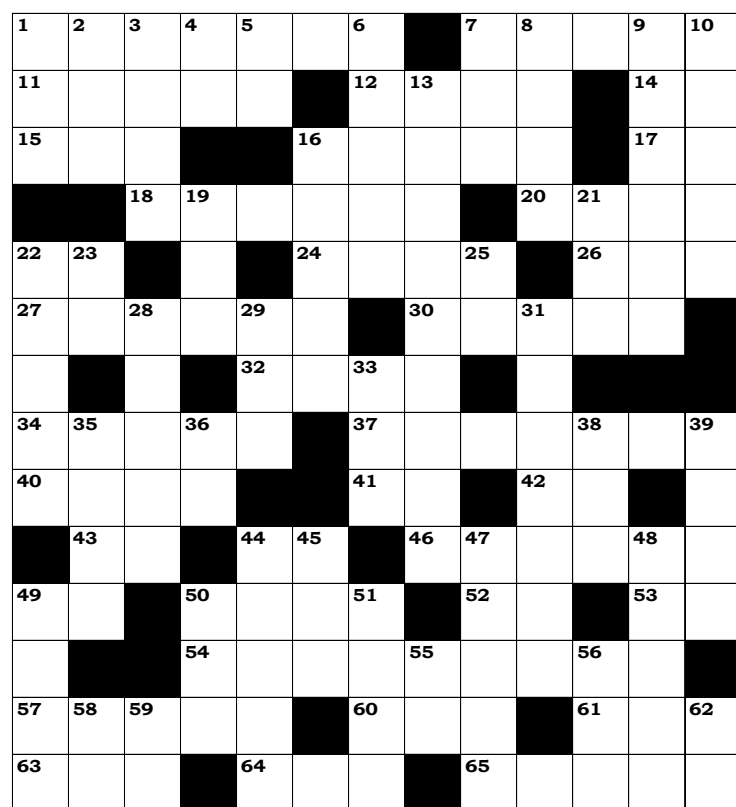


By Father Donald Antweiler

ACROSS

1. The Jewish people in the OT and in the time of Jesus took the burial of the dead quite seriously. Absolutely no dead body was to be left unburied, even those of one's worst _____. This horror of being unburied is expressed well in Psalms 78:2-3.
7. Choices of _____ at breakfast at a diner can often include wheat, white, rye or sourdough.
11. To paraphrase Matthew 5:4-5: I have been fishing all night and caught nothing. But if you _____, I will lower the nets (2 wds.).
12. All funeral processions were expected to have people wailing loudly and throwing dust in their _____ while a flautist played mournful music. With these expectations, professional mourners were often hired to assist.
14. "To survive this (prison) situation, a man needed more than food or even intellectual sustenance; _____ needed spiritual courage," —*He Leadeth Me*, by Walter Ciszek, S.J.
15. "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve _____ world," — Anne Frank.
16. "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own _____," (Mark 6:4).
17. Wal-Mart is headquartered in this State (abbr.).
18. The body had to be wrapped elaborately in a _____ and the face covered with a special cloth. The hands and feet were tied with strips of cloth.
20. Uncultured or clumsy persons.
22. Cousin of Ave. or Ln.
24. At Four Corners, _____ meets Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona at right angles, the only such meeting place of States in the country.
26. Abbr. for route.
27. The body was carried to the grave in a _____ with the person's relatives and friends taking turns carrying the body as a sign of affection.
30. The typical tombs of Jesus's day were _____ or excavations cut into a rocky cliff, sometimes shared by groups of families.
32. A wine region in Italy.
34. The tomb cut in a cliff might lead to a _____ of several rooms with outer and inner chambers. After the final farewells, a large round stone, usually rolling in a groove, would be rolled into place to cover the entrance.
37. Jews incurred ritual uncleanness by coming into close _____ with a dead body. This could be endured as an act of love and charity for a dead relative but others were spared. The entrance stone was whitewashed to warn people of this.
40. "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a _____?" (Luke 22:48).
41. Mizzou.
42. Pope St. John Paul _____.
43. One of the original 13 colonies, this State (abbr.) is the birthplace of the hamburger, the first speed limit law in the U.S. and the Frisbee was invented at Yale Univ.
44. Letters that can stand for Politically Correct or Personal Computer.
46. There are seven _____ Heart Catholic entities in our diocese, counting parishes, missions, chapels, and the Catholic Community at Ft. Leonard Wood.
49. "Bishop Cauchon refused (Joan) again and said she must get along with her case as best she might by herself. _____, his heart was a stone," —*Personal Reflections of Joan of Arc*, by Mark Twain.
50. _____ Velva; brand of after shave.
52. This State has over 100,000 earthquakes each year and is the home of wetsuits, barbie dolls and fortune cookies (abbr.).
53. Letters for Sacred Scriptures.
54. A brief funeral meal would follow burial. For the spouse and child(ren), mourning lasted for 30 days with special clothing and not answering _____ in the street.
57. After a year, family members returned to the tomb. They collected the _____ and placed them in a stone box (ossuary) which would be marked and put in the back room where the remains of other relatives were stored.
60. "_____ or fight — both bad choices, but the only ones I had," —*Run For Your Life*, by James Patterson.
61. "Finally, the President gave up trying to cut the _____ tape that prevented my father's reinstatement. Mr. Lincoln said he had very little influence in this administration," —*Tad Lincoln's Father, A Memoir*, by Julia Taft Bayne.
63. Museum contents, perhaps.
64. The _____ top predators in Mo.'s Ozarks streams are smallmouth bass and goggle-eye (rock bass). They are popular with anglers as they put up a good fight.
65. "It is a _____," they said and they cried out in fear," (Matthew 14:26).

DOWN



19. Pizza _____ pizza chain, founded in 1958 in Wichita, Kansas.
21. "Do what you can, with what you have, where you _____," —Theodore Roosevelt in *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin.
22. "The man who is _____ in his work is brother to the man who is destructive," (Proverbs 18:9).
23. 7th note.
25. That's a laugh!
28. Secret rendezvous for lovers.
29. "You are free to _____ from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and bad," (Genesis 2:16-17).
31. The 16 documents of the Second _____ Council have shaped the modern Catholic Church and are profitable for revisiting, esp. the Constitutions on the Sacred Liturgy, the Church on Divine Revelation, and the Church in the Modern World.
33. Letters for Turner Classic Movies, a two-time Peabody Award-winning cable network presenting classic films, uncut and commercial free.
35. "_____ and poor have a common bond; the Lord is the maker of them all," (Proverbs 22:2).
36. Letters for Post Script, indicating an addition after the body of a letter.
38. "The Internal Revenue Act of 1862 taxed almost every-
- not be delayed.
- thing but the _____ north-erners breathed," —*Battle Cry of Freedom, The Civil War Era*, by James McPherson.
39. Turner and Kennedy.
44. O – U.
45. A _____ stick is a need in billiards.
47. My daughter is excelling at school, _____ all her exams!
48. The tracks a downhill skier makes.
49. "...you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry '_____, Father!'" (Romans 8:15).
50. "So this was his destiny. To work, despite his _____ and frailty, in the maw of Rome's devil island," —*John, Son of Thunder*, by Ellen Gunderson Traylor.
51. Prefix for dynamic or sol.
55. "Et _____, Brute?" Caesar's last words to his former friend Brutus as he recognized him as one of his assassins; from Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," Act 3.
56. Miracle-_____; brand of plant food.
58. "What is distinctive of (Jesus's) shepherding is not the authority _____ power he claims over the sheep, but his intimate knowledge of and love for them," —*The Churches the Apostles Left Behind*, by Fr. Raymond Brown.
59. Companion to OT.
62. 5th book of the Bible (abbr.).

See ANSWERS, page 19

SENT

From page 7

to pour out his love and grace while urging everyone to turn away from sin.

"Overflowing with that love and grace, it is our obligation to share what Christ has bestowed on us," the priest stated. "I come to Mass not with the sole purpose to get what I need as an individual, but rather to receive what I need in my soul to share God's love with everyone I meet in the coming days of the week."

Fr. Oligschlaeger spoke of how the Church uses the grace it receives from Christ to work toward overcoming the imperfect and sinful dimensions of human existence.

"The Church's best asset is the saintly activity and example of those who have chosen the Christian way of life," he said.

"All of this is fueled by the Eucharist we receive at Mass and the Body of Christ, which we adore and present ourselves to in homage before the tabernacle and monstrance," he said.

Fr. Oligschlaeger noted that

all who took part in the Eucharistic Congress were sent home to share what they experienced in their parishes, communities, towns and nation.

"If we accept the mission given to us by Christ our King, we are assured by his promise that we will change the world to be united as one Body of Christ," he stated.

"Fearless, dauntless faith"

Gage Neisen attended the Eucharistic Congress as a seminarian for the diocese.

He brought back some clear insights into how the Church will become more Eucharistic.

"I would start with the unity of the Church and the necessary communion that comes from the Eucharist itself," he said.

"Then, the need for a deeper prayer life in the heart of every Catholic, and the need for us to be fearless in our faith, in the knowledge that we have the truth of the Eucharist," he stated.

Sharing that knowledge ef-

fectively requires patience and humility, along with conviction and understanding.

"It's rooted in a fearless, dauntless faith in the presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist," he said. "You'll never be able to understand it completely, but we all have to grapple with it internally, and that's where our faith steps in."

"Our goal in the Revival is to bring the truth of Jesus's presence in the Eucharist," he said. "To do that, we need to turn to his words, knowing that we have the truth, but starting by finding a simple way to walk with one person."

Mr. Neisen prays for the fire of the Holy Spirit to motivate every Catholic to step out of his or her comfort zone, make more time for prayer and get involved.

"We know that we're only created for infinite love, and that is wholly contained for us in the Eucharist," he said.

Annie Williams, creative services coordinator for the diocese, was struck by the univer-

sal message of being sent out to reveal and actually become Christ's presence in the world.

"What I experienced and what I'm still trying to hold onto is seeing each person I meet as a soul, a heart who Jesus desperately wants to draw to himself," she said. "So, how can I help bring each of these people closer to Christ?"

She was impressed with such diversity of people being

drawn together for the purpose of honoring and adoring Christ and wanting to draw others into that experience.

"There's real power in our unity, just knowing that we're loved by Christ," she said.

"As we go forth to the ends of the earth, we give thanks to God and everyone involved in this extraordinary moment in our Church's history," she stated. "This is just the beginning!"



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

Fundraisers & Social Events

Aug. 2

Camdenton, St. Anthony Parish FREE diaper giveaway drive-thru event, 11 am-6 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; **Rich Fountain**, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

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. 24

Westphalia, Lions Club Tractor Pull, 3 pm-midnight

Aug. 25

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

Sep. 8

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

Sep. 15

Marshall, St. Peter Parish Annual Harvest Festival, 11 am-3 pm

Meetings & Conferences

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

Aug. 11

Mary's Home, Protecting God's Children for Adults (VIR-TUS® training), 6 pm, Our Lady of Snows Parish, for info email flaverty@diojeffcity.org or call 573-635-9127

Sep. 28-29

Des Moines, IA, 2024 Christ Our Life Conference, Wells Fargo Arena, for info or to register visit christourlifeiowa.com

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; **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, para más información sobre este método, visite diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning/ y/o familyplanning.net/es

agosto 8

Jefferson City, Protección de los niños de Dios para adultos (sesión de Virtus), 6-9 pm, Parroquia de San Pedro, del padre Ahren room

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

septiembre 14

Columbia, Planificación Familiar Natural — Familia de las Américas, 9 am-noon, Sagrado Corazón, para información sobre instructores y clases contacte a Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 o por correo electrónico a ecastro@diojeffcity.org, para más información sobre este método, visite diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning/ y/o familyplanning.net/es

septiembre 27

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

Faith Formation & Spiritual Renewal

Every Tuesday

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

Every Friday

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

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

Sep. 5

Laurie, "Ministry on the Move! Solving Problems Like Mary," women's ministry event with Sterling Jaquith and Barb Prasad, 10-11:30 am, St. Patrick Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events/

Sep. 6

St. Martins, "Ministry on the Move! Peace in Any Storm," women's ministry event with Sterling Jaquith and Barb Prasad, 6:30-8:30 pm, St. Martin Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events/

Sep. 7

Kirkville, "Ministry on the Move! Solving Problems Like Mary," women's ministry event with Sterling Jaquith and Barb Prasad, 10-11:30 am, Kirkville Newman Center, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events/

Sep. 8

Salisbury, "Ministry on the Move! Peace in Any Storm," women's ministry event with Sterling Jaquith and Barb Prasad, 11:30 am-2 pm, St. Joseph Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events/

Sep. 18

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

menofsignumcrucis.com

Sep. 19-22

Edina, Men's Cursillo Weekend #74, St. Joseph Parish Center, for info or to register contact jeffcity.diocese.cursillo@gmail.com

Sep. 21

Jefferson City, Pre-Cana Conference for engaged couples, 8:45 am-4:30 pm, Alphonse J. Schwartz Memorial Catholic Center, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/mariage-preparation

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

Sep. 8

Vienna, Diocesan Catholic Rural Life Mass, 2 pm, Maries Creek Farm, followed by picnic-style meal, for info or to RSVP, visit diojeffcity.org/event/rural-life-mass or call 573-308-9665 or 573-202-4592

Sep. 10

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

Health & Wellness

Aug. 2

Camdenton, St. Anthony Parish FREE diaper giveaway drive-thru event, 11 am-6 pm

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

US sisters, advocates call on Big Tech to do more to end human trafficking

OSV News

Chicago

An anti-trafficking group founded by U.S. Catholic religious sisters is calling on leaders of Big Tech firms to counter human rights abuses that allow human trafficking to fester.

The Alliance to End Human Trafficking issued an open letter July 30 addressed to Tim Cook, CEO of Apple; entrepreneur Elon Musk, owner of the X (formerly Twitter) platform; Google CEO Sundar Pichai; Mark Zuckerberg, founder and CEO of Meta, which among other platforms owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp; and other leaders in the technology sector.

The letter was released on the 10th annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons, established by the United Nations to highlight

exploitation estimated to impact some 50 million victims, 27.6 million through forced labor and another 22 million through forced marriage.

One in three trafficking victims is a child, with girls particularly at risk.

The alliance urged tech leaders to take several action steps, including ensuring exploitation-free supply chain practices, offering fair wages and safeguarding fair labor practices, and exploring alternatives to high-risk mining of materials used in electronic devices.

"The decisions you make today will shape an ethical landscape for technology," said the alliance. "Your platforms hold the power to bring people together. We believe the same power can be harnessed to dismantle networks that traffic in human lives."

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

Anniversaries

- Fulton, St. Peter**
Lewis & Sue Beaty, 50 years
- Hermann, St. George**
Jerry & Rhonda Scheible, 25 years
- Kirkville, Mary Immaculate**
Gary & Evelyn Ledford, 55 years
George & Teresa Peters, 50 years
John & Lisa Dahlman, 40 years
- Marshall, St. Peter**
Gerald & Carolyn Bonen, 60 years
Raymond & Nancy Thompson, 50 years
- Palmyra, St. Joseph**
Frank & Judy Caldwell, 35 years
Sean & Stacey Webster, 25 years
- St. Martins, St. Martin**
Steven & Alice Barnes, 50 years
Dan & Linda Pawliczak, 50 years
- St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle**
Gilbert & Hermina Strobe, 60 years
- Wardsville, St. Stanislaus**
Dannie & Sue Gipe, 60 years

Baptisms

- Marshall, St. Peter** — **Reid** and **Ruby McKinney**, children of Koeln & Kristen McKinney; **Malone** and **Quinn Mullins**, children of James Mullins & Paige Simpson; **Wilson Revolorio**, son of Yanci Morales & Junior Revolorio; **Jeremy** and **Roxanne Leiva**, children of Yanci Morales & Douglas Leiva
- Salisbury, St. Joseph** — **Garrin “Philip” Linneman**, son of Ryan & Cailla Linneman; **Myles Patrick** and **Olsyn Michelle McFadden**, children of Alex & Brittany McFadden

NEWHART

From page 12

to showbiz stardom in 1960 with his first album, “The Button-Down Mind of Bob Newhart.” The LP went on to earn a Grammy Award as Album of the Year — a first for a comedy recording. Newhart worked steadily well into his 80s. The Newharts had four children: Robert, Timothy, Jennifer and Courtney. Robert graduated from Gonzaga University, and Timothy from the Catholic University of America. Kurt Jensen is a guest reviewer for OSV News.

Birthdays

- Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception** — **Bernard Schwartze**, his 90th on Aug. 7
- Kirkville, Mary Immaculate** — **Bobbi Hogenson**, her 92nd on Aug. 1; **Elsie Eddy**, her 92nd on Aug. 17
- Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception** — **Margaret Kliethermes**, her 98th on Aug. 15
- St. James, Immaculate Conception** — **Cletus Drone**, his 101st on Aug. 29

Deaths

- Argyle, St. Aloysius** — **Theresa Josephine Hilke**; **Karen Lynn Sankey**
- Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes** — **Eva M. Mooberry**
- Kirkville, Mary Immaculate** — **Sherri Ray**
- Tipton, St. Andrew** — **Charles Holloway**
- Wardsville, St. Stanislaus** — **Clara Anne Eaton**; **Susan Jane Noblett**; **Clara Marie Struempf**; **Donnie Lynette Twenter**

Echoes of Missouri history at Eucharistic Congress

Missouri Street runs past the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, site of the larger gatherings during the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, hinting at other hidden connections. For the Closing Mass, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle used a crosier that had belonged to Bishop Simon Bruté, who was founding bishop of Vincennes — now the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Bishop Bruté was consecrated a bishop by Bishop Rosati in the old St. Louis Cathedral — which itself had been consecrated only two days previously, on Oct. 26, 1834. Also, the late Cardinal Joseph E. Ritter, who led the St. Louis archdiocese during the time in which the Jefferson City diocese was created, previously served as a priest of the former Indianapolis diocese, then as its bishop, and then as first archbishop of Indianapolis prior to being appointed to St. Louis in 1946.

QUESTION

From page 8

lic ceremony, there would be a discussion of whether a Catholic wedding service outside of a Mass might be more appropriate and pastorally sensitive. But if the bride had strong feelings about having a non-Catholic service, the possibility of a dispensation from canonical form would likely be considered. 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.

CUÉLLAR

From page 9

feel alone and away from the family. In that place, his mental health worsened, and he started to get depressed. Ultimately, my siblings and I decided to take him home and take turns nursing him, so he would not feel alone. There was no perfect solution but being at home gave him more tranquility and peace in his heart. Sadly, I was able to observe how many elderly people live in neglect and loneliness in rehabilitation centers for the elderly. Grandparents can also be key pillars in the formation of a strong faith community, encouraging the passing on of family traditions and stories. In this regard, Pope Francis affirmed: “Listening to the elderly tell their stories is good for children and young people; it makes them feel connected to the living history of their families, their neighborhoods and their country.” I was not able to share much with my grandparents since they passed away when I was very young, but I carry in my heart the many stories that my grandmothers told me. My grandmother Elsa used to tell me how she emigrated from a small town to the city. With a lot of effort

and hard work, she was able to progress and own a hotel, restaurant and store. My grandmother Matilde would tell me fascinating stories about her great-great-grandfather, an adventurous explorer in northern Bolivia bordering the Amazon, looking for the trees to extract rubber, for making tires. Grandparents have an essential role as transmitters of the faith. Their love, wisdom and testimony are invaluable gifts that can strengthen family ties and nurture the spirituality of future generations. At the same time, we must not leave them alone and isolated from our families, within what the pope calls a “throwaway culture.” Let us take advantage of the treasure of our grandparents, their stories and their support, to build strong Catholic families and communities where elders are respected, and the faith is lived and transmitted with joy and love.

Silvio Cuéllar is a writer, liturgical music composer and journalist. He was coordinator of the Hispanic Ministry of the newspaper El Católico de Rhode Island, the newspaper of the Diocese of Providence.

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

Crossword puzzle answers

1	L	S	O	H	G		O	W	L		L	R		63
2	D	E	R	N	U	R		S	E	N	O	B		64
3		S	G	N	I	J	E	R	G					65
4	S	S		A	C	A	U	O	A		H	A		66
5	D		C	R	E		S	C	P		C	L		67
6	E		I				M		S	S	I			68
7	J	A	C		T	N	O	C		X	C	R		69
8				A		I	J	S	A		R		A	70
9		S	E		A			R		T	L	I		71
10	E	L	R		H	A	L	U		U		L	S	72
11	S	F		O	D	O	R	H	S					73
12	R	A			S	U	O	H			H	L		74
13	H		R	I	A	H		O	S	A	V	S		75
14	J	S	V	O	L		S	E	I	M	E	N		76

Totus Tuus for youth held in St. Elizabeth



Youngsters from St. Lawrence Parish in St. Elizabeth and St. Anthony of Padua Parish in St. Anthony tour St. Lawrence Church with their pastor, Father Christopher Aubuchon, as part of their Totus Tuus activities, facilitated by young adult missionaries the week of July 22-26. Teams of Totus Tuus missionaries led these events at parishes throughout the diocese. — Photos by Lauren Kliethermes

Communications Contest on Life Issues Grand Prize winners announced

Each year, the Vitae Foundation and the Alphonse J. Schwartze Community Foundation sponsors the Osage County Communications Contest on Life Issues, to provide Osage County seventh- through 12th-grade students with a platform to affirm the belief that all human life is valuable and should be respected.

Students communicate their convictions about life issues such as abortion, bullying, euthanasia, capital punishment, human trafficking, suicide, or human abuse/neglect.

This year, Vitae Foundation added another way to enter the contest. Along with writing an

essay, students could write a 30-second radio ad. Grand prize winners of both the essay and radio ad contests were invited to throw the first pitch at a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game. Additionally, the author of the winning radio ad could record his or her ad in a professional studio, and the ad would air in-stadium during the ceremonial opening pitch presentation.

This year's grand prize winners were Maggie Kloeppel, a ninth-grader from Fatima High School in Westphalia, for her radio ad, and Nevaeh Ames, an eighth-grader from St. George School in Linn, for her essay.

Nevaeh Ames, 8th grade, St. George School, Linn: "There are lots of controversial topics being talked about today and if a woman is unexpectedly pregnant and is afraid, she can be overwhelmed by all the voices around her saying things like, 'you won't be able to achieve your dreams,' 'your life may never be the same,' or 'being a mom is scary!' But she can talk to a parent, doctor, or friend to find out how they can help her create a life plan that includes motherhood. For more information on lifesaving messaging, visit Vitae-foundation-dot-org."

Maggie Kloeppel, 9th grade, Osage County R-III, Westphalia:

There are many life issues today that cause a large number of problems in our society.

Abortion is one life issue that continues to affect a large number of teens, adults, and children. Knowing more about the impact of abortion can help you to make the best decision for you and potentially save an unborn life.

The decision to carry through with an abortion can have a great impact on many people and their families. Thankfully there are many ways you can help yourself and others to make this issue inapplicable.

Even if this life issue doesn't affect you and your life, it could be affecting people you love and care about.

Before you learn how you can help, it is important to truly understand what this issue is.

Abortion is a very controversial topic due to the debate on what rights women should have and the limited options that women have to handle unexpected pregnancies.

Abortion is done as a procedure in a hospital or clinic by destroying a fetus in a woman. In the medical industry, abortion is classified as a miscarriage which makes it seem an innocent option to go through with.

This procedure has been banned in many states and many others are fighting to try to get it banned.

For anyone who supports the pro-life movement, it is really important to have this easy accessibility of abortion banned in not just some states, but every state. Since the *Roe v Wade* court case was overturned, the number of women going through with an abortion has drastically lowered but is still very large.

Monthly provision study shows that an estimated 1,026,690 abortions occurred in the health care system in 2023. This means that there are even more abortions happening in private clinics and even in homes.

This shows that over 1,026,690 babies could have been born and could have lived a fulfilled life, but didn't get the chance. Even though

many women have an abortion, many of them also have ramifications after the fact.

When dealing with an unexpected pregnancy, abortion may seem like your best option, but it also has a lasting effect on the mothers who go through with it.

After dealing with an abortion, many women have drawbacks and are filled with regret and shame. It can be hard to never know what would have happened or who that baby could have grown up to be.

Numerous women also say that after making the decision to have an abortion, they experience lowered self-esteem and even fall into depression. It can make you feel as if you may not be able to conceive again, or don't deserve to.

There are also many women that are scared to go to a medical professional and choose instead to take an abortion pill at home, which can lead to different health problems and difficulties.

Luckily, there are ways you can help yourself and people you love to make the right decisions, so there will be no regrets.

Learning more about alternatives to an abortion can show you there are other options you can take rather than going through with an abortion. Finding out you are pregnant unexpectedly or unintentionally can be hard, but there are help centers that can assist you through it.

There are almost 80 help clinics just in the state of Missouri. These businesses help to save hundreds of lives every year. They not only help to try to prevent an abortion, but they also help mothers, family and friends, and anyone else that may be struggling with the mental stress of an unexpected pregnancy.

Reaching out to others to get help can often be a hard thing to do, especially as a young adult or teen.

It is important for us to build a society that normalizes teens being able to talk to adults and others about these issues, so they don't have to struggle alone and can avoid making a decision they will regret.

Bible Accent

It was not uncommon for Queen Jezebel to plot against people and have them killed.

In 1 Kings 21, we read that King Ahab visited a man named Naboth, who owned a vineyard the king wanted for his own.

Ahab offered to buy the vineyard or trade it for another one, but Naboth refused.

“The Lord forbid that I should give you my ancestral heritage,” Naboth said.

This upset the king. He returned to his palace, climbed into bed and refused to eat.

Queen Jezebel saw that Ahab was upset. He told her what was wrong.

“A fine ruler over Israel you are indeed!” Jezebel said. “Get up. Eat and be cheerful. I will obtain the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite for you.”

Jezebel wrote letters to the elders and nobles in the king’s name. She told them to proclaim a fast and set Naboth at the head of the people.

“Next,” the queen wrote, “get two scoundrels to face him and accuse him of having cursed God and king. Then take him out and stone him to death.”

When the evil deed was done, Jezebel returned to Ahab.



“Go on, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you, because Naboth is not alive, but dead,” she told the king.

Ahab arose and started off toward the vineyard to take possession of it.

St. Margaret Ward





St. Margaret Ward was born in Cheshire, England, and lived in London in the 1580s. During this time, Catholics were persecuted in England. While in London, she visited and brought food to Father Richard Watson, who had been imprisoned for being Catholic. One night, Margaret and an Irishman named John Roche helped Fr. Watson escape. Margaret and John were arrested. They were told to reveal where the priest was, apologize to Queen Elizabeth I and attend the Protestant Church of England. They refused and were hanged at Tyburn, England, in 1588. We remember Margaret on Aug. 30.



Puzzle

Using the hints provided, circle the correct word to complete each sentence about Elijah.

- Pigeons/Ravens** brought Elijah bread and meat to eat. (1 Kings 17:6)
- Elijah brought the **king’s/widow’s** son back to life. (1 Kings 17:20-22)
- Elijah wanted all Israel summoned to **Mount Carmel/Mount Sinai**. (1 Kings 18:19)
- Elijah was taken up to heaven in a **whirlwind/cloud**. (2 Kings 2:1)



Answers: 1. Ravens; 2. Widow’s; 3. Mount Carmel; 4. Whirlwind

Elijah fears for his life and seeks God’s help

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic Courier

One day, God told the prophet Elijah to tell King Ahab of Israel that there would be no dew or rain in the land except at Elijah’s word.

Drought and famine spread through the land for three years.

During this time, Elijah went into hiding, because the pagan Queen Jezebel was killing the other prophets of God.

In the third year, God told Elijah to return to Ahab and end the drought.

Just before Elijah ended the drought, he put to death all the false prophets of two false gods.

After that, a heavy rain fell.

When Jezebel heard what Elijah had done to the false prophets, she was furious.

The queen sent a messenger to Elijah.

“May the gods do thus to me and more, if by this time tomorrow I have not done with your life what was done to each of them,” she said.

Elijah was afraid and fled for his life.

He first went to Beer-sheba of Judah. He left his servant there and went a day’s journey into the desert.

Elijah came to a lone broom tree and sat beneath it. He began praying for death.

“This is enough, O Lord! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers,” he prayed.

Elijah then fell asleep under the broom tree.

He awoke when an angel of God touched him and ordered



Illustration by Linda Rivers

him to get up and eat.

Elijah saw a hearth cake and a jug of water. After eating and drinking, he lay back down.

The angel returned and again told him to get up.

“Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!” the angel warned.

Elijah ate and drank some more. He then walked for 40 days and nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.

Elijah took shelter in a cave just as God called out to him.

“Why are you here, Elijah?” God asked.

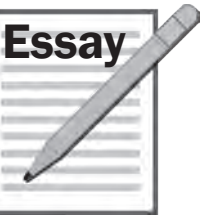
Elijah said that he was

frightened for his life and also complained about the unfaithful people of Israel.

God gave Elijah a new mission and reassured him that all would be well. God told him to go back and anoint Jehu as the new king of Israel. He also said that Elijah would have a new helper, Elisha, who would eventually succeed him.

Read more about it...
1 Kings 18 & 19

- Who wanted to kill Elijah?
- Where did Elijah go to talk to God?



Essay

Reading for
August 11, 2024:
1 Kings 19:4-8

How has God strengthened you during hard times?

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Book explores every Catholic's call to Eucharistic mission

For the Life of the World: Invited to Eucharistic Mission, 136 pages, Our Sunday Visitor, \$11.95.

By Lauretta Brown
OSV News

The average Catholic in the pew hearing the term "Eucharistic missionary" might think this is a special role in the Church, performed by well-trained holy people in some far-flung region.

And yet, every Catholic is called to be a Eucharistic missionary.

The faithful's everyday call to a Eucharistic encounter that ultimately leads to the life of a Eucharistic missionary is the topic of the book *For the Life of the World: Invited to Eucharistic Mission*.

The work is co-authored by Bishop Andrew Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, who has been leading the U.S. bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival, and Tim Glemkowski, the outgoing CEO of the National Eucharistic Congress, Inc.

A fruit of the bishops' Eucharistic Revival efforts, the work outlines the foundation of a Eucharistic life that the faithful are called to participate in, and also concrete ways to embrace that call.

The book offers a poignant re-emphasis on the need to en-

counter Jesus Christ as a living person in the Eucharist, drawing from Scripture and the saints.

In one letter from Mother Teresa of Calcutta to her sisters, she asks "Do you really know the living Jesus — not from books, but from being with him in your heart? Have you heard the loving words he speaks to you? Ask for the grace, he is longing simply to give it. Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear him saying 'I thirst' in the hearts of the poor."

An understanding of one's identity in the Eucharist follows this personal encounter with Jesus. Quoting the Second Vatican Council, the authors note that "the other sacraments, as well as with every ministry of the Church and every work of the apostolate, are tied together with the Eucharist and are directed toward it."

A portion of the book is dedicated to understanding how to live in communion with one another, centered around the Eucharist.

This means loving, serving and forgiving others as well as joining in the sacrificial aspect of the Eucharist by offering our trials and sufferings in union with the sacrifice of the Mass.

According to the great Carmelite spiritual writer Father

Wilfrid Stinissen, "A great deal would happen in our lives if every time we celebrated the Eucharist we would place on the paten something of our own, something that we know is directed wrongly and therefore blocks us. ... We imagine all too often that we must offer beautiful things to God. But the beautiful does not need to be offered to God. It is already in God's sphere. It is the evil, that which has not yet found its right place, that must be lifted up and placed there, where it belongs, in God's radiance."

As the faithful draw closer to Jesus in the Eucharist, we are sent out on a mission to spread His message to others. The two are linked, the authors emphasize, writing, "the Eucharist is the heart of the Church's mission, its source and summit. And mission is not an accidental quality, but essential to the reception of Jesus in the Eucharist. In every Mass, Jesus himself goes on mission, rushing down to the altar, to accomplish some definite purpose. Therefore, the final step in becoming a Eucharistic missionary is to make his purpose in becoming the bread of life ours."

As the authors highlight inspiring words of the saints and point out ways to be Eucharistic missionaries in our everyday lives, they also acknowledge the climate of division in our world today.

"We believe that the Eucharist is the answer to the prob-

Movie Ratings



General Patronage

Despicable Me 4 (PG)



Adults and Adolescents

Sound of Hope: The Story of Possum Trot (PG-13)



Adults

The Convert (not rated)
Fly Me to the Moon (PG-13)
A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13)
Twisters (PG-13)



Limited Adult Audience

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



Morally Offensive

Deadpool & Wolverine (R)
Hit Man (R)
Maxxxine (R)
Tuesday (R)

Ratings are supplied by OSV News Service.

lems of our world," they write, "because the Eucharist contains the entire spiritual wealth of the Church: Christ himself." They ask the Lord to "form us in the Eucharistic life that he himself lived, so that we might

give ourselves, too, for the life of the world."

The book can be ordered at:
orderosu.com

Lauretta Brown is culture editor for OSV News.

Priest-podcaster's video 'The Bible in 10 Minutes' garners huge interest

By OSV News
OSV News

Exton, Pennsylvania

"The Bible in 10 Minutes," a new viral video offering by Father Mike Schmitz and Ascension, earned 358,000 views in just 24 hours, according to a July 10 news release from Exton-based Ascension, a multimedia Catholic network and a leader in Catholic faith formation and digital content.

The audience response makes this Fr. Schmitz's most "viral video ever, more than doubling his previous one-day record of 160,000 views set with his 2022 review of 'The Sound of Freedom,'" the release said.

Fr. Schmitz, a priest of the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota, has gained a national following for, among other things, his popular "The Bible in a Year" and "The Catechism in a Year" podcasts from Ascension.

See VIDEO, page 23



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KEFL 91.5 FM, Kirksville
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103.3 FM, Fulton
K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton

EXHIBIT

From page 5

“Christ of Ixmiquilpan” by José de Páez depicts a large crucifix that was created from corn stalk paste for a church. The story goes that the statue had become deteriorated and moldy, and the archbishop ordered it removed from the church. But a storm lifted the roof off the church, blew the figure of Christ off the cross, and returned it in newly perfect condition. The crucifix was transferred to the Carmelite convent of St. Teresa in Mexico City, where it gained a reputation as a miracle worker.

The oil painting of that crucifix is a “statue painting” — exactly what it sounds like — that became a traditional art form in Spanish America. Another statue painting, “Virgin of Bethlehem,” shows a figure of the Blessed Mother and baby Jesus that is still displayed in a parish church in Cuzco, Peru, and featured in the city’s annual Corpus Christi procession.

The Virgin of Bethlehem’s richly decorated garments showcase “brocateado,” a Southern American technique of applying gold leaf ornamentation to the surface of the canvas. Brocateado is also found on Bolivian artist Melchor Pérez Holguín’s “Pieta,” where the gold leaf decoration contrasts sharply with Jesus’ beaten and bloody body in Mary’s arms.

“The blood is all there, the suffering is all there. But by putting it against the background of this beautiful textural work, it kind of allows you to stand it,” Mann said. “That makes it a beautiful image that invites you in, and I think mitigates some of the force of (the blood), although it is there and it is important.”

The Blessed Mother is depicted in several more works throughout the exhibit, including a depiction of the presentation of the child Mary in the temple, her marriage to St. Joseph and the Visitation to St. Elizabeth.

Mary’s popularity in the art of this time period speaks to the way the early Spanish American converts gravitated toward the Blessed Mother, a devotion that remains strong throughout Catholics in Cen-



“Virgin of Guadalupe” oil on canvas on wood, inlaid with mother-of-pearl, by Miguel Gonzalez. — Photo by Museum Associates/LACMA

tral and Southern America, Mann said.

This is the first exhibit at the St. Louis Art Museum to be presented fully in both English and Spanish, with bilingual interpretive panels and gallery descriptions. Mann hopes that visitors will come away with a new appreciation for the art and culture of Spanish American people throughout the period of colonization.

“I do hope they understand that this is such a rich area and a rich tradition, whether you’re looking at religious images or furniture or other

things, rather than seeing it as kind of ‘less than,’” Mann said. “I think there is still that kind of overriding understanding that this is not inherently very interesting material, and it’s actually quite beautiful and engaging.”

Laura Kosta is a reporter for the St. Louis Review (stlouisreview.com) and Catholic St. Louis magazine, publications of the St. Louis archdiocese. A version of this article was published July 17 in the St. Louis Review. This version is published here with permission.

VIDEO

From page 22

Fr. Schmitz begins his new video, seated on screen.

“The Bible is amazing,” he says, “but sometimes confusing and hard to read. ... We’d like to read it, but without a map, it’s easy to get lost. There is a narrative throughout the Bible that tells a single story. The story of God’s plan for our salvation. Once we understand

that story, we can understand the context of every book of the Bible. So, here’s the story in less than 10 minutes.”

In addition to Fr. Schmitz, a team of Ascension employees spent months on the production of “The Bible in 10 Minutes,” according to the release. The video’s animation was developed in collaboration with

Daily Readings

Sunday, Aug 4

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Monday, Aug 5

The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major

Jer. 28:1-17
Ps. 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102
Mt. 14:13-21

Tuesday, Aug 6

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Dn. 7:9-10, 13-14
Ps. 97:1-2, 5-6, 9
2 Pt. 1:16-19
Mk. 9:2-10

Wednesday, Aug 7

St. Sixtus II, Pope, and companions, martyrs; St. Cajetan, priest

Jer. 31:1-7
(Ps.) Jer. 31:10-12ab, 13
Mt. 15:21-28

Thursday, Aug 8

St. Dominic, priest

Jer. 31:31-34
Ps. 51:12-15, 18-19
Mt. 16:13-23

Friday, Aug 9

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin and martyr

Na. 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7
(Ps.) Dt. 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41
Mt. 16:24-28

Saturday, Aug 10

St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr

2 Cor. 9:6-10
Ps. 112:1-2, 5-9
Jn. 12:24-26

Sunday, Aug 11

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kgs. 19:4-8
Ps. 34:2-9
Eph. 4:30-5:2
Jn. 6:41-51

Monday, Aug 12

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, religious

Ez. 1:2-5, 24-28c
Ps. 148:1-2, 11-14
Mt. 17:22-27

Tuesday, Aug 13

St. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, priest, martyrs

Ez. 2:8-3:4
Ps. 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131
Mt. 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday, Aug 14

St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest and martyr

Ez. 9:1-7; 10:18-22
Ps. 113:1-6
Mt. 18:15-20

Thursday, Aug 15

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Holyday of Obligation)

Rv. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Ps. 45:10-12, 16
1 Cor. 15:20-27
Lk. 1:39-56

Friday, Aug 16

St. Stephen of Hungary

Ez. 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63
(Ps.) Is. 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6
Mt. 19:3-12

Saturday, Aug 17

Ez. 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32

Ps. 51:12-15, 18-19
Mt. 19:13-15

The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for August:

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

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“We would love to make more videos like this that impart the truths of the faith in such a beauty-forward manner,” senior video producer Sean Boyd remarked. “It’s up to our audience to help us fund more videos and make it pos-

sible!”

“The Bible in 10 Minutes” can be found on the “Ascension Presents” YouTube channel.

Those interested in supporting future projects like “The Bible in 10 Minutes” can contact Ascension at AscensionPress.com/Support.

VITAE

From page 20

Unplanned pregnancy is not an easy thing to go through. Knowing how to get help, who to get help from, and learning about your options can make the difference of a life being saved. Saving an unborn life is truly harder than people could imagine.



SACRED HEART
Parish Picnic

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 25
Dine-in or Drive-thru 11am-6pm
FRIED CHICKEN & HAM DINNER
Adults \$15 • Children (6-11) \$6 • Under 6 free

LIVE AUCTION 3 PM
RUMMAGE SALE 9 AM-2:30 PM
CRUISE-IN CAR SHOW
REFRESHMENTS
BURGER, BRAT & SODA STAND
CHILDREN'S GAMES
CRAFT VENDORS • LIVE MUSIC
PRIZE DRAWING 6:30 PM

SACRED HEART PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, August 11

Rich Fountain

Golden Fried Chicken & German Pot Roast Dinners
with mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, bread & dessert
All you care to eat buffet style from 11 am to 7 pm
Adults \$16 / Kids 5-10 \$10 / 4 & under free
Carryouts available

Quilt Auction 6 pm (sacredheartpf.com)
Prizes - Sandwiches & Refreshments - Country Store - Kiddie Tractor Pull - Kettle Corn - Games

St. Thomas the Apostle
PARISH

PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

JOIN US **START 11 AM**

SERVED CAFETERIA STYLE 11 AM - 7 PM ~ CARRYOUTS & DRIVE-THRU AVAILABLE
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FRIED CHICKEN, ROAST BEEF, REAL MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY,
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LIVE MUSIC FROM 2 - 4:30 PM & 6 - 9 PM

QUILT AUCTION AT 5 PM

PRIZES, GAMES, KIDSVILLE, COUNTRY STORE, BOUNCE HOUSE, KETTLE CORN, REFRESHMENTS

NEW THIS YEAR: KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL 3 - 4:30 PM

There are many life issues in our world and abortion is just one of them. Thankfully, nobody is alone and no one has to choose abortion when going through this. The decision to have an abortion happens all too often, but can be eliminated if you think before you act. The great impact that can come from one decision is astronomical and can and will affect you the rest of your life. Life is so precious and valuable, so it is important to not take someone's life before they get to live it.



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Sunday, August 18
10 AM - 3 PM
Knights of Columbus - Paradise Park Event Center
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Check out the diocesan calendar at diojeffcity.org/events