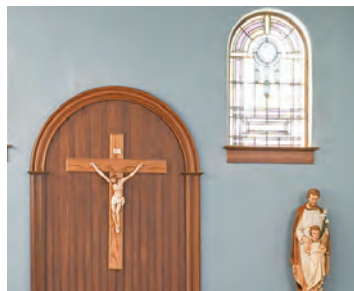


100 years is like a day

The people of St. Mary Parish in Shelbina are proud of their refurbished, century-old church and the people who fill it up.

Page 5



Power of the Liturgy . . . Page 3

Mission to Gabon . . . Page 4

Holy Family School. . . Page 6

Deceased Priests. . . Page 7

RIP, Sr. Rose Mary . . . Page 11

Saints of God Page 17

The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

November 8, 2024 • Vol. 68 No. 10

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Young people give, ‘get’ witness at Youth Rally



Two participants in this year's Diocesan Youth Rally decorate pumpkins during the event held Nov. 3 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City.

— Photo by Jacob Luecke

Missouri's Catholic bishops respond to passage of Amendment 3 — right to abortion amendment

The following statement is from Missouri's Roman Catholic bishops, functioning as the officers of the Missouri Catholic Conference, the Church's public-policy agency in this state, in response to the passage on Nov. 5 of Amendment 3, placing access to abortion-on-demand in the state's Constitution:

"We are saddened that Missouri voters chose not to safeguard vulnerable women and children by voting for Amendment 3.

"However, tonight's result is not the end of our work. The Catholic Church in Missouri will continue to advocate for policies that uphold the dignity of all human life, protect the vulnerable, and provide support for those in need.

"We reaffirm our commitment to walking with mothers and fathers facing unforeseen pregnancies, along with parents facing hardship in their pregnancies.

"For those women and men who have been wounded by abortion, the Church will continue to provide true hope and healing.

"We are grateful to the Catholic faithful, clergy, and all people of good will who worked tirelessly during this campaign to uphold the dignity of life and defend our state's most vulnerable. They, along with us, remain committed to uphold and proclaim the inherent dignity of all.

"Let us continue to pray and work for a greater recognition of the gift of each and every human life in our society."

By Jay Nies

TV's "Cooking Priest" served up a morsel of parental validation.

"Your Mom and Mother Church are both right: You ARE ... WHAT ... YOU ... EAT!" Father Leo Patalinghug proclaimed from the pulpit of the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

He spoke in the context of God's unconditional, self-giving love brought forth in the Holy Eucharist.

"Loving God and loving our neighbor begins with a decision to receive God's love, because you can't give what you don't have," the priest noted.

"When we incarnate the Eucharist in our own lives, we can find a way to heaven," he stated. "Because then, we'll be able to follow Jesus's command to love God and love one another as Jesus loves us."

Fr. Patalinghug, who goes by "Fr. Leo," gave the keynote presentations at this year's diocesan Women's Fall Retreat on Nov. 1-2 and the diocesan Youth Rally on Nov. 3 and preached the homily at the Closing Mass for the rally.

The events were held in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City.

An innovative Catholic ensemble known as the Vigil Project provided the music.

More than 250 people from 22 parishes — mostly in grades seven through 12, along with some of their parents — attended the Youth Rally.

The theme was "Can I Get A Witness?"

Emerson Reinhard, a member of St. Peter Parish in Fulton and a sophomore at North Callaway High School, was there.

"I'm here to build my faith in God and Jesus and spend time with other

See YOUTH, page 18

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MOVING? If you are moving or changing parishes, please fill out information below. Clip and mail to THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914. Or complete the online form at diojeffcity.org/update-information. Allow two weeks.

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11/08/24

Pray for deceased priests

Nov. 10 — **Fr. J. David Maher**, Annunciation, California (2019)
 Nov. 11 — **Fr. Leo P. Holdener**, St. Stephen, Indian Creek (1972)
 Nov. 16 — **Fr. John B. Roettger**, St. Anthony of Padua, Folk (1961)
 Nov. 17 — **Fr. J. Patrick Quinn**, Sacred Heart, Rich Fountain; and St. Alexander, Belle (1999)
 Nov. 18 — **Msgr. Jerome O. Sommer**, PA, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Robert (2012)

Miracles presentations in Fulton, Mokane

St. Peter Parish in Fulton and St. Jude Thaddeus Parish in Mokane will host an event titled "Do You Believe in Miracles? — Seeing Is Believing," on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 9 and 10.

The presentation will be given twice in St. Peter Church, 700 State Highway Z, in Fulton: from 3 to 5:30 p.m. (followed by the 6 p.m. Vigil Mass) on Saturday and from 8:45 to 11:15 a.m. (followed by the 11:30 a.m. Mass) on Sunday.

It will be given in St. Jude

Thaddeus Church, 401 Adams St. in Mokane, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Presenters will give examples of miracles standing up to the text of science.

Included will be exclusive film footage of a stigmatist — one who has received the gift of the wounds of Christ — as well as Eucharistic miracles and other signs and wonders pointing to God's existence, sovereignty and love.

Visit **ScienceTestsFaith.com/MO** for more information.



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- ▶ **Finance Manager**

Job descriptions and links for applying can be found at diojeffcity.org/about-us/employment



Notice of Appointments

I am pleased to announce that the Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City, has recently made the following appointments to provide the most effective pastoral care of the Diocese of Jefferson City:

PRIESTS

Reverend Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024, and appointed to the Board of Directors of the Catholic Cemeteries of Jefferson City for a term of three years, effective Jan. 1, 2025.

Reverend Matthew J. Flatley, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024, and appointed to the Board of Directors of the Catholic Cemeteries of Jefferson City for a term of three years, effective Jan. 1, 2025.

Reverend Stephen W. Jones, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Catholic Cemeteries of Jefferson City for a term of three years, effective Jan. 1, 2025.

RELIGIOUS

Sister Jean Dietrich SSND, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024.

Sister Cathy Vetter CCVI,

The Catholic Missourian

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

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

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
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THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN (ISSN 1083-6977 or USPS 556940), November 8, 2024, volume 68, number 10. Published biweekly at 2207 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. Subscription price \$14 a year through parish plan. Periodical postage paid at Jefferson City, Mo. and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to The Catholic Missourian, 2207 W. Main St., Jefferson City MO 65109-0914.

appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024.

Sister Kathleen Wegman SSND, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024.

DEACONS

Deacon John Beaudoin, granted faculties to serve within the Diocese of Jefferson City and assigned to St. Martin Parish, St. Martins, effective Oct. 25, 2025.

LAITY

Mary Winter, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 1, 2024.

Mary Madelyn Mertes, appointed as a Young Adult Leader on the Youth Council of the Diocese of Jefferson City for a term of two years, effective Oct. 22, 2024.

Nathan Raymer, appointed as a Young Adult Leader on the Youth Council of the Diocese of Jefferson City for a term of two years, effective Oct. 22, 2024.

Nora Seedorf, appointed as a Youth Representative for the North Deanery on the Youth Council of the Diocese of Jefferson City for a term of two years, effective Oct. 22, 2024.

Peter Lyskowski, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective October 23, 2024.

Doug Porting, appointed as a member of the board of directors of the Catholic Cemeteries of Jefferson City for a term of three years, effective Jan. 1, 2025.

Mark Kiekhaefer, appointed to the Board of Directors of the Samaritan Center of Mid-Missouri for a term of three years, effective Oct. 28, 2024.

From the Office of the Chancellor,



Mr. Ben Roodhouse, JD, JCL
 Chancellor

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For more information or to apply use the QR code. For more information or questions answered, please contact Deacon Rob Huff at (417) 866-0841 or rhuff@dioscrg.org.



Greater unity through sacred music: Bishop opens process of discernment toward promoting participation in the Liturgy through sacred music

The text of Bishop McKnight's Nov. 5 decree is on Page 15

By Jay Nies and Jacob Luecke

Sacred music's power to move hearts and orient people toward unity with God and his entire Church has been evident since Christianity's earliest days.

Recognizing that power, and intending to use it to strengthen the bonds of communion among all the faithful in our diocese, Bishop W. Shawn McKnight is opening a year-long process of consultation regarding how sacred music can be best used to encourage active participation in the Liturgy.

In the policy promulgated by a Nov. 5 decree, the bishop established a set of common Mass settings for use by all diocesan parishes.

The decree also prohibits the use of hymns by composers who have been found credibly accused of sexual abuse.

In addition, the diocese will open a conversation about the possibility of phasing out certain songs that may be inappropriate for Catholic liturgies, using criteria established by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Bishop McKnight determined a synodal approach, one of listening and communal discernment, was necessary after the diocese published an initial decree relating to sacred music on Oct. 28,

which is now abrogated by the Nov. 5 decree.

The first decree, which was published following years of research by the diocesan Liturgical Commission and with input from the diocesan Presbyteral Council, included lists of banned songs and composers.

The decision to prohibit specific songs and composers led to a spirited discussion, including on social media, as well as stories and opinions shared in some Catholic media outlets outside the diocese.

"It is inspiring to see such passion and enthusiasm about the music that enlivens our Catholic liturgies," said Bishop McKnight. "Whenever we see this kind of fervor among the faithful, our Church gives us the perfect way to respond — a synodal response."

"Rather than the faithful being relegated to the outside as commenters on a decision, with their only response being either obedience or disobedience, it is better to invite everyone in our diocese into a discernment process," the bishop stated.

"The Holy Spirit is working through each one of us," he said. "When the people of God speak, we have a responsibility to open ourselves to listen, even when that means changing course and trying a

different approach."

Bishop McKnight's new policy tasks the diocesan Liturgical Commission with gathering feedback from musicians, music ministers and

"Music is such an important part of who we are as Catholics. The act of singing is intensely personal, helping us to encounter the mystery of Christ and the Church."

— Bishop W. Shawn McKnight

everyone else who has a perspective on the music used in liturgies across the diocese.

The first priority is determining Mass settings that can be sung and learned in parishes across the diocese. When Mass settings are familiar, it is easier for the faithful to actively participate in diocesan liturgies and other liturgies outside their parishes.

The new policy begins with four Mass settings, with the possibility of revising or adding to these four settings after further consultation and discernment.

The four initial settings include the traditional "Chant Mass;" the "Mass of St. Frances Cabrini" by Kevin Keil; the "Revised Mass of Creation" by Marty Haugen; and for Spanish-speaking congregations, the bilingual "*Misa del Pueblo Inmigrante*" ("Mass of the Immigrant People") by Bob Hurd.

"This is a step toward fostering a common repertoire that we see as helping the Church to grow in unity and communion," stated Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish and Sacred Heart Parish in Columbia, and chairman of the diocesan Liturgical Commission.

"People enjoy traveling and visiting other Catholic churches in the diocese and beyond," he noted. "They appreciate that the Mass is celebrated in diverse and beautifully familiar settings, wherever they go."

"Music is such an important part of that," he said.

He emphasized that parishes are not being limited to four Mass settings.

"We're just saying, 'please be familiar with these,'" he stated.

He said the inclusion of a bilingual Mass setting welcomes the growing number of Hispanic Catholics in the

In addition to doctrinal concerns, this guidance encourages sensitivity to language that may be disrespectful of other religions.

"This is all about providing good direction and guidance," Fr. Merz stated. "We want to foster good music for our liturgies, because we recognize that music is such an important part of how we worship God and pass along the faith."

The Catholic Church has a long and beautiful tradition of music and singing in the Liturgy, and of assessing hymns according to pastoral, doctrinal, aesthetic and liturgical criteria.

An important part of the doctrinal criteria is promoting a fuller understanding of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

See LITURGY, page 10



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

NOVEMBER

- Nov 10-14** USCCB General Meetings, Baltimore, MD
- Nov 14** Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) 60th Anniversary Reception, 6 pm, Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See, Washington, DC
- Nov 15** CARA Board meeting, 8:30 am, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
- Nov 16** Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting, 10 am; Diocesan Youth Council meeting, noon; Chancery
- Nov 17** Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Parish, 2 pm, Jefferson City

Bishop McKnight's November prayer intention for our Local Church

For a spirit of unity and Thanksgiving to be cultivated in our lives and in our nation. That we may see God's light reflected in the blessings of our family, friends and community.

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

Para que un espíritu de unidad y gratitud sea cultivado en nuestras vidas y en nuestra nación. Que podamos ver la luz de Dios reflejada en las bendiciones de nuestra familia, amigos y comunidad.

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Nurse from Columbia serving at Catholic mission in Gabon

By Jay Nies

A previous missionary gave Gemma Saathoff some useful advice.

"Get used to being dirty."

Kind of like being a nurse, which she's already good at.

"But it's also a lot like what Pope Francis said of 'smelling like the sheep,'" said Miss Saathoff, a Columbia native and member of St. Joseph Parish in Westphalia, who recently began a six-month intensive service opportunity at a Catholic mission in the African nation of Gabon.

"That approach allows you to teach and preach and be with the people and adapt yourself to them and to their lifestyle, while at the same time proclaiming the universal truth of the Gospel," she stated.

Miss Saathoff left for France Sept. 10 to become more proficient in the French language before heading to Gabon with a group of fellow missionaries in October.

"This was pretty much an answer to prayer," she said.

She had been looking for a mission opportunity since shortly after becoming a nurse about three years ago, "and I kept not finding one that was a good fit ... or the time wasn't



LEFT: Gemma Saathoff gathers with students who are learning English from her at a Catholic mission in Mouila, Gabon. **RIGHT:** Miss Saathoff enjoys play time with children at the daycare center at the mission in Mouila. "It's such a blessing to be here," she said.



right."

She was at a church event at St. Francis de Sales Oratory in St. Louis and crossed paths with a woman who had served at the mission in Gabon.

"She and I met by divine providence and talked for about an hour," Miss Saathoff recalled.

"She told me about her time at the mission and how amazingly incredible it was and the impact she was able to make while she was there.

"It sounded like a beautiful experience and a wonderful opportunity to be a mission-

ary," said Miss Saathoff.

Located on west-central Africa's Atlantic coast, Gabon is home to about 2.4 million people.

"The mission is in a community called Mouila, in the jungle," Miss Saathoff noted.

The city has about 20,000 residents.

The Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, a Catholic apostolic society of priests who celebrate the Traditional Latin Mass, established the Mouila mission as a hub of ministry in Gabon.

The mission no longer serves as a headquarters for the society, but was restored in 2012 as an active oasis of Catholic life.

This "pearl of faith in the middle of the African jungle" includes a church, a school, a medical clinic, a small bakery and a school library.

Miss Saathoff raised money to help improve the library's collection of books.

"I'm hoping to work some here as a nurse, because that's an important part of who I am," she said.

"But I'm also hoping to do whatever other work they need me to do — like helping teach English at the school, maybe also helping with their choir, helping with their meals, and doing whatever else I can," she said.

Body and soul

Miss Saathoff knew almost no French when she contacted the priest in Mouila last year.

She heard back from him

early in 2024, "and everything started falling into place."

Miss Saathoff grew up in Columbia, was homeschooled, and then went to Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School, then to Hickman High School.

She and her mother travel to St. Joseph Church in Westphalia each Sunday for the Traditional Latin Mass.

Miss Saathoff went to work at a local hospital after completing her nursing studies.

"I loved the aspect of caring for people and being in that intimate setting with others and

bringing God's love to others," she said.

A little way

While in France, Miss Saathoff cultivated deeper devotion to several French saints, including St. Thérèse of Lisieux, who happens to be a patron saint of missionaries.

"I've always loved Thérèse," Miss Saathoff noted. "She's been such a powerful intercessor for me, and I'm asking her to continue doing that."

Miss Saathoff has been appealing to God to maintain her health and safety in a country where outside visitors have been known to contract malaria and other serious illnesses.

"All of this has really helped me grow in trust and in giving it all to God," said Miss Saathoff. "I've taken

provisions for myself like insurance and medicine that I need, but completely giving the rest to God and praying that his will will be done, and trusting that he will take care of me."

Rock and fortress

At Mass in Westphalia the Sunday before Miss Saathoff departed for mission, Father Dylan Schrader, pastor of St. Joseph Parish and of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Folk, prayed a special missionary blessing of the Church over her.

"It was so beautiful," she recalled.

She's been bracing herself for some eloquent lessons in detachment.

More photos from this event will be posted with this story in The Catholic Missourian's online edition, cathmo.com.

not only helping with their physical needs, but also their spiritual needs," she said. "Loving them and serving them in that intimate setting, when they're the most vulnerable, when they're sick.

"But I also found that at the bedside, it's so difficult in a modern hospital setting to prioritize the patient and to serve without constraint," she said. "I wanted to serve in the context of my faith.

"Being a missionary appealed to me," she stated, "being free from that hospital constraint, free of those boundaries.

"I want to use my nursing skills, caring for people, but in a setting where I can be free about sharing the faith and



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See GABON, page 27

Newly resplendent Shelbina church: home to lively, familial faith

By Jay Nies

What could be more beautiful than a sanctuary awash in muted blue and sun-swept gold ... century-old floors, pews and woodwork made new ... and saint-inspired artwork selected to draw once-separate communities closer together?

How about a church full of people of all ages, families with babies and young children, visitors from near and far with lasting ties to the community, and a collective spirit of collaboration, lifelong formation and sacrificial ardor?

"Your parish community is a living, breathing center of charity and mercy, which stands as a beautiful reminder of the presence of God among us," Bishop W. Shawn McKnight told the people of St. Mary Parish in Shelbina.

The bishop offered Mass in the newly-renovated St. Mary Church Oct. 20 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of its dedication.

Joining him at the altar was Father William Peckman — pastor of St. Mary Parish, Immaculate Conception Parish in Macon and the Mission of



LEFT: Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and Father William Peckman pray the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer during a Mass to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of newly-renovated St. Mary Church in Shelbina. **RIGHT:** A mother holds her child in the vestibule while Bishop McKnight preaches the homily.

— Photos by Jay Nies



Sacred Heart in Bevier.

A meal and reception was held in St. Mary Parish's Fr. Buhman Center after Mass.

People gathered and visited around historical displays for the Shelbina parish, as well as St. Patrick Chapel in Clarence, which became a part of St. Mary Parish in 2023; the former Mission of St. Rose of Lima in Lakenan, which closed in 1988; and the former Mission of St. Michael in Hagers Grove, which closed in 1990.

"Our stories are intertwined, and we want that history to keep going," Fr. Peckman stated.

The current St. Mary Church, constructed in the restrained Arts and Crafts style that was popular in the 1920s and '30s, replaced a 45-year-old frame building that had been struck by lightning and deemed to small and too expensive to repair.

The new church took about a year to build while parishioners gathered for Mass and

other sacred functions in a public hall.

Father Terence Mullins was their pastor.

Men of the parish dug the foundation for the new church. The cornerstone was set in place on March 30, 1924. Masses were celebrated in the basement as soon as it was completed that July.

The \$30,000 church was paid for by the time it was dedicated on Oct. 13, 1924 — not quite a year after the last Mass was celebrated in the old church.

Likewise, the full cost of the latest renovation was raised before work even began.

"In reviewing your parish history, I am struck by the sacrifices and struggles of the people of this parish over these past 144 years," Bishop McKnight stated in his homily at the anniversary Mass.

"Sacrifices made out of love are the most important things we can do in this world," he said. "I implore you to remain faithful to your roots, to your ancestors in the faith who sacrificed so much for God and for the Church."

Lifelong parishioner Joe Dimmitt's mother, Emma Lucille (Buckman) Dimmitt (1924-2022), was the first to be baptized in the now century-old St. Mary Church.

Mr. Dimmitt is convinced she would be delighted both with the church as it now looks and the parishioners who worship there.

"These are very good people," he said.

Lifetime St. Mary parishio-

ner Kayl Gough, a nursing student at Truman State University in Kirksville, considers it a privilege to work at a local nursing home, where people who have been St. Mary parishioners for many decades share their recollections with him.

"I took care of the woman who was the first person to be baptized in this church," he said. "And hearing her stories and those of so many others about the church and what it was like, you hear a lot of the same things about the community aspect of it."

"It's really neat to compare their stories to what we're experiencing here today," he stated.

Joy of serving

Mr. Gough likes how his parish feels like a tight, extended family.

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

He appreciates coming home on weekends whenever he can and spending time with his family and the people of his parish.

He was active in the St. Mary Parish youth group from kindergarten through his senior year in high school. He attended a Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) weekend in Quincy, Illinois, which helped reinforce for him the joy of ac-

tively serving others.

He serves as a cantor at Mass once a month and has been teaching in the religious education program for several years.

"I do it because it brings me joy," he said.

He's noticed an influx of young families into the parish and of children and teens getting active in the youth group and PSR.

"I think of them not as the future of our Church but as the young Church today, and they can be active in it and learn to love God and serve other people, and I like seeing that," he said.

Above and beyond the sacramental grace of Mass, Mr. Gough is most aware of God's presence in the parish "in seeing everyone come together to be a part of fellowship or serving people."

He pointed out that the parish youth group unites students from the county's two public high schools.

"I know people from the other high school who a lot of my classmates didn't know, and the parish brings us together a lot, because we can all go to Mass on Sundays and PSR and youth group together and not be rivals," he said.

"A God thing"

Glen Eagan and his wife, Cathy, moved to Shelbina about 45 years ago.

He loves living in a rural community and being part of a rural parish.

"You've got a lot of families who come together and do

See SHELBIANA, page 19

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Holy Family School in Freeburg gearing up for needed expansion, renovations

Freeburg

“Building a Legacy of Learning” is more than just a title — it’s the mission of the Holy Family School Capital Campaign Expansion project.

Plans began over a year ago to expand the current Catholic school building in Freeburg, to improve the functionality of the school and facilitate both academic and spiritual learning, now and far into the future.

The most recent addition or remodel to the school’s main structure was completed in 1975.

Accommodations were gradually made within the existing facility as the student body grew.

In recent years, the parish has converted the open stage for use as a classroom (where distraction is a given).

The school has expanded to two lunch shifts, while using the cafeteria before and after lunch as a classroom.

Even portions of the basement, which was originally meant for storage and mechanical equipment, have been converted into classrooms and library space.

Prompted by the obvious need for a larger, safer and less



This is a conceptual drawing of a proposed major expansion and renovations to Holy Family School in Freeburg. “Building a Legacy of Learning” is the name of the capital campaign.

distractive school environment, it was determined an expansion should be pursued.

The parish asked skilled parishioner volunteers to form a building committee and a capital campaign committee to begin the expansion process.

The project, estimated to cost \$6 million, would build additional classrooms and a safe student drop-off area (off the public street), construct a modern kitchen and cafeteria, make necessary repairs to the existing building, upgrade the

electrical systems, remodel the existing kitchen and cafeteria into classrooms, convert the basement back into much-needed storage while maintaining an area for parish meeting rooms, build a fully functioning regulation-size gym, and finish the necessary site construction.

Capital Campaign chair, Nyla Bassett, along with other committee members established a goal of \$1.2 million in cash donations to start the initial phase of the building project, beginning with hiring consultants and contractors to complete the building plans.

This goal was reached in the summer of 2024.

In addition to cash donations, the project received pledges and in-kind donations that have the project moving forward at a steady pace.

Pledges and donations have come not only from parishioners but also, in large part, from alumni, businesses, friends and foundations.

Currently, the “Building a Legacy of Learning” campaign has raised \$1.7 million total in cash and pledges.

Unfortunately, as in many instances, things don’t always

go as planned. Unforeseen issues with the existing building such as a settling foundation, water leaking into the basement, and crumbling asbestos flooring forced the committees to move up portions of the overall project to the summer of 2024.

But thanks to grants, multiple donations, and funds raised by the parish, along with hundreds of volunteer hours from the parishioners, the parish was able to complete multiple repairs to the school.

The projects completed included removal of the old asbestos flooring in the kitchen and cafeteria and replacement with new epoxy floors.

Repairs to walls, ceilings and the pantry were completed, and the cafeteria was topped off with a fresh coat of paint.

Contractors stabilized the school’s foundation, and the drainage issues were corrected, in coordination with the city of Freeburg, to prevent further flooding in the basement.

Also, the loud, squeaky gym floor was repaired. The floor joists were reinforced, a new subfloor placed, and commercial laminate flooring was laid.

Currently, tuckpointing and sealing of the exterior brick is under way, which will wrap up the summer projects.

Throughout the summer, overwhelming support from parishioners was obvious. Vol-

unteers removed and replaced equipment, dishes, cabinetry, window treatments, flooring etc. from the kitchen, cafeteria and gym.

After all the projects were completed, the entire school was deep-cleaned to eliminate all the construction dust and debris while preparing the building for the new school year.

An open house was held on Aug. 7 to welcome the community to see the renovations and celebrate the hard work completed over the summer.

For many Holy Family parishioners, this school expansion is a new experience. It is clear, however, that parishioners welcome the opportunity to be part of the “Building a Legacy of Learning” campaign and embrace the Holy Family School expansion.

After all, this school has been serving the community for 120 years — an exciting milestone reached in October of this year.

It’s also clear that additional donations are greatly needed to complete this campaign and building expansion.

Donations large or small can be made online at holyfamilyfreeburg.com or by mailing a check or filling out a pledge card.

All donations are tax-deductible. “Thank you for prayerfully considering to support the future of our children and community,” the capital campaign committee stated.


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Deceased priests remembered, prayed for at diocesan Mass, with confidence in God's merciful love

By Jay Nies

The priest who preached at Father Stephen Jones's Anglican ordination 24 years ago dropped some heavy words from a saint on him.

Fr. Jones never forgot.

"Those words spoken to me on that day have stuck with me through the years, taking on a new sense of solemnity and soberness as I came into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and was ordained a priest," he said.

Fr. Jones shared those words, attributed to fourth-century priest and bishop St. John Chrysostom, with his brother priests of this diocese:

"The road to hell is paved with the bones of priests and monks!"

"These can be overwhelming words, actually ... because each one of us knows we are unworthy," Fr. Jones stated from the pulpit of the Cathedral of St. Joseph Nov. 6.

He was preaching the homily for the annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Priests of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

"We are all sinners," Fr. Jones noted, "and all of us can probably imagine that our mistakes and failing surely deserve the fate Chrysostom proclaimed."

But, thanks be to God, that's not all of the story.

Fr. Jones also called to mind the words of Jesus to the penitent thief who was crucified next to him on Calvary.

"We hear the words of the thief on the cross ... his recognition and ownership of his own failings and sin" — and his plea to the Savior nailed to the cross next to him, "and the thief's plea that 'he might be remembered when that man came into his kingdom,'" (Luke 23:33, 39-43).

Fr. Jones asserted that that portion of the Lord's Passion narrative should speak to everyone present — priests and all Christians.

"For it reminds us of our utter dependency on the love and mercy of the Lord," the homilist stated. "We, who — held to a higher standard by virtue of Holy Orders — are



LEFT: Father Stephen Jones, pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish in Jefferson City and rector of the Cathedral, preaches the homily at this year's Memorial Mass for Deceased Priests of the Diocese of Jefferson City, on Nov. 6. **RIGHT:** Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and priests of the diocese pray the Eucharistic Prayer at the Mass.

rightly condemned in our sins, cry out to Jesus ... asking to be remembered in his kingdom ... a request which is met with the promise of Paradise with him."

It is with that confident assurance that the priests of this diocese gather each year during the Octave of All Souls to pray and offer the Sacrifice of the Mass for the priests who went before them.

"Some were holy men, some were worldly men," Fr. Jones acknowledged. "Some virtuous, some ... perhaps ... without so much virtue."

"Some kind and loving," he continued, "some harsh and abrasive. Most, probably a mixture of all these things."

"All were sinners — human beings in need of redemption," he said. "Like the thief who hung next to Jesus."

Each of those deceased priests, men who turned their unworthiness over to God in answering his call to Holy Orders, was unique.

"Each was called by the Lord and his Church, each anointed with the Oil of Chrism on their palms," said Fr. Jones. "Each a recipient of the grace which comes through the laying on of apostolic hands."

"All were priests, just as we are, and thus, they were set apart," he said.

Fr. Jones stated what he believes to be the consensus of the gathered clerics that the Priesthood they share with their deceased brethren is something they are privileged and honored to undertake as

servants of Jesus, their Master.

"We are glad to do it, we are blessed to be called to do it," Fr. Jones stated. "But we also know that, as much as it is a joy, it can also be a burden."

Namely a burden of submitting one's own will to God and obedience to the call of the Church.

It's a ministry that must be reflected by self-sacrifice and self-denial — "a Priesthood which is shown forth by the image of Jesus on the cross."

"It is this priestly burden — borne out of joy and hope — carried by our forebears in the Diocese of Jefferson City, that we remember today as we gather to recall them individually and pray for the repose of their souls."

Perpetual light

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight presided at the Memorial Mass, with many priests concelebrating.

The hymns and prayers were filled with ancient solemnity.

"May our prayers be for them, and their prayers today be for us," said Fr. Jones. "As we stand today as priests, offering the re-presentation of the sacrifice of the cross on the altar of our Cathedral Church, let us fully unite ourselves to Jesus and cry out to him: 'Remember us ... and our departed brethren .. when you come into your Kingdom!'"

After the homily, Monsignor Michael T. Flanagan, pastor emeritus of Our Lady



of Lourdes Parish in Columbia; and Monsignor David Cox, pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in Wardville and St. Margaret of Antioch Parish in Osage Bend, took turns reading the names of the priests of this diocese who died since its founding in 1957.

At several points during the reading of the names, the priests and laypeople present sang together the refrain from the Song of Farewell, imploring the saints to "Receive their souls" and "present them now to God Most High."

After all the names were read, the cantors chanted the "In Paradisum" — an ancient Catholic hymn inviting saints and martyrs to lead a person who has died into heaven to be with God.

A plea for intercession from the Blessed Mother in times of

difficulty, it's what the priests sing together whenever one of them passes from this life into the next.

Catholics are especially encouraged during the eight days following the Solemnity of All Saints to pray for those who died and are preparing to share the fullness of their Master's joy.

The closing hymn was a joyful one, titled: "Sing With All the Saints In Glory."

After Mass, the priests gathered downstairs in Cana Hall to share a meal.

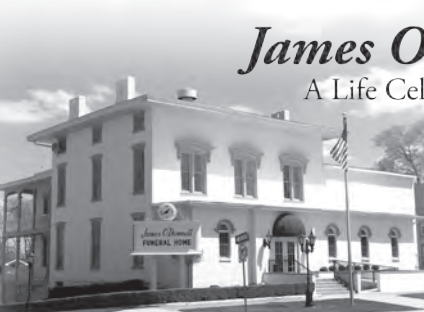
Laughter filled the room as they shared stories and memories of priests they had ministered with and been inspired by.

Priests who served in the diocese before its founding are remembered in the prayers of the various neighboring dioceses to which they belonged.



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QUESTION CORNER

What are 'non-sacramental' marriages?

By Jenna Marie Cooper
OSV News

Q: I have heard some priests refer to "non-sacramental" marriages on the annulment question. I presume these are civil marriages. Is it so? Or do these marriages become "non-sacramental" due to the various other faults in the couple's status? (Midwest USA)



A: Terms like "sacramental marriage," "non-sacramental marriage," "civil marriage," and "valid marriage" all refer to slightly different things, even though they often involve overlapping concepts.

The Code of Canon Law gives us a basic definition of marriage itself in Canon 1055, when it describes the marriage covenant as that "by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of their whole life, and which of its own very nature is ordered to the well-being of the spouses and to the procreation and upbringing of children." The code goes on to note that marriage is a permanent union (see Canon 1056) which can only be contracted by the free consent of the parties involved (see Canon 1057).

A matrimonial union that includes all the necessary elements — i.e., the true freedom of the parties, a basic knowledge of what marriage involves, an openness to begetting new life and the honest intention of both parties to enter into a permanent and exclusive relationship — is called a valid marriage. A valid marriage is essentially a marriage where the wedding "worked," and produced a true bond. In contrast, an attempted marriage where one of these necessary elements was absent would be considered an "invalid" or "null" marriage.

Understood in this way, marriage is an ancient institution, as old as human society itself. Since marriage has existed since the dawn of history, it obviously pre-dates the Church and, therefore, also the sacraments. And even today, marriage is not uniquely Christian. God created marriage as part of his creation of humanity in general. Thus, men and women from all cultures and religions can and do enter into true matrimony.

A valid marriage that is not a Christian marriage is a non-sacramental marriage, which is more properly called a "natural marriage." A natural marriage is not a sacramental marriage, but this does not mean that a natural marriage is somehow sinful or bad. It's good to recall that holy Old Testament figures like Abraham and Sarah had a merely natural marriage, as did Mary and Joseph.

But when we are considering Christian marriage, the Code of Canon Law tells us that "(marriage) has, between the baptized, been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament. Consequently, a valid marriage contract cannot exist between baptized persons without its being by that very fact a sacrament" (Canon 1055). So, for Christian spouses, their marriage has essentially been "upgraded" by Christ to include the graces of a sacrament in addition to the goodness found in a natural marriage.

In broad terms, a "civil marriage" simply describes any marriage, religious or not, that is recognized by the secular state government. But the phrase often takes on a particular nuance when applied to Catholics. This is because Catholics, and only Catholics, are bound to observe "canonical form," meaning that Catholics are required to marry in a specifically Catholic ceremony, or else to obtain a special dispensation from their local diocese.

If a Catholic marries in a non-Catholic ceremony without a dispensation from canonical form, then their attempted marriage is not valid in the eyes of God and the Church, even if their union is recognized by the secular government. So, for Catholics

See QUESTION, page 23

Papal Audience
November 6, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church, we now consider the role of the Spirit in prayer. In the Gospels, Jesus teaches us to pray for the gift of the Spirit, who dwells in our hearts and testifies that, in union with the Risen Lord, we are truly sons and daughters of our heavenly Father. Guided by the Spirit, we truly pray as we ought, both personally and in the Church's celebration of the Liturgy. As the "Paraclete," our Advocate and Comforter, the Holy Spirit not only intercedes for us, but also enables us, in the unity of Christ's mystical Body, to do the same for the needs of our brothers and sisters. As we look forward to the coming Holy Year, let us ask the Spirit to bestow upon us, and upon the whole human family, his gifts of holiness, unity, justice and peace.

I welcome all the English-speaking pilgrims, especially the groups from England, Ghana, the United States of America, Malaysia, the Philippines and the United States of America. I also greet the priests coming from England and Wales, who are celebrating significant anniversaries of priestly Ordination. Upon all of you and upon your families I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Only love will save humanity,
pope says in encyclical on Sacred Heart

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

A world that has become "heartless" and indifferent to greed and war, and a Catholic Church in need of revitalizing its missionary joy need to open themselves up to Christ's infinite love, Pope Francis wrote.

By contemplating Jesus' Sacred Heart, the faithful can be filled with the "living water that can heal the hurt we have caused, strengthen our ability to love and serve others, and inspire us to journey together toward a just, solidary and fraternal world," the pope wrote in his encyclical, "*Dilexit nos*" ('He loved us'): on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ.

The Vatican released the 28,000-word text Oct. 24.

While it is the pope's fourth encyclical, he wrote that it is meant to be understood in tandem with his previous two encyclicals, "*Laudato Si*," on Care for Our Common Home" and "*Fratelli Tutti*," on Fraternity and Social Friendship.

"The present document can help us see that the teaching of the social encyclicals ... is not unrelated to our encounter with the love of Jesus Christ,"

he wrote. "For it is by drinking of that same love that we become capable of forging bonds of fraternity, of recognizing the dignity of each human being, and of working together to care for our common home."

The pope had said in June, the month the Church traditionally dedicates to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, that he was going to release a document in the fall on the devotion to "illuminate the path of ecclesial renewal, but also to say something significant to a world that seems to have lost its heart."

"Do I have a heart"

The encyclical includes numerous reflections from the Bible, previous magisterial texts and the writings of saints and his fellow Jesuits, to re-propose to the whole Church the centuries-old devotion.

Since 1899, there have been four papal encyclicals and numerous papal texts dedicated to the Sacred Heart — a symbol of Jesus' infinite love, which moves the faithful to love one another.

"In the deepest fiber of our being, we were made to love and to be loved," the pope wrote.

However, he wrote, "when we witness the outbreak of new wars, with the complicity, tolerance or indifference of other countries, or petty power struggles over partisan interests, we may be tempted to conclude that our world is losing its heart."

"It is heartbreaking," he wrote, to see elderly women, who should be enjoying their golden years, experiencing the anguish, fear and outrage of war. "To see these elderly women weep, and not feel that this is something intolerable, is a sign of a world that has grown heartless."

"The most decisive question we can ask is, 'Do I have a heart?'" the pope wrote.

The human being is more than an instrument, a material body and a carrier of intelligence and reason, the pope wrote.

The human person also embodies spiritual, emotional, creative and affective dimensions that are often undervalued, neglected or squelched in today's world, he wrote. It is the heart that integrates all these dimensions that are so often fragmented or neglected.

See SACRED HEART, page 21

A Eucharistic Word: Fruitfulness

By Michael R. Heinlein
OSV News



What do we do when we return to the pew after receiving Holy Communion? Having welcomed the Lord of the universe into our own corner of it, in the most humble yet profound of ways, how should

our prayer be directed?

For years, I'd attempt various strategies hoping to make the most of this most intimate time with Jesus. But I was always left wanting. Trying to find a balance between giving and receiving, I was

more often than not unfocused and distracted, more than I'd like to admit.

But, as a member of the Pauline Family founded by Blessed James Alberione, I was struck immediately upon using the prayer book he authored by the prayers proposed for after Holy Communion. And a couple years after regularly praying with them, I'm very grateful for how they've shaped my own reception of the sacrament.

Space and copyright don't allow me to include the full texts here. Rather, allow me to share a bit about the basic principles in the prayers and how they can shape your conversation with the Lord after receiving him.

The "Act of Adoration" directs my mind, will and heart in welcoming

Christ's Eucharistic gift but also in returning it and sharing it. Phrases like "make me an ardent apostle" or "let the light of your Gospel shine to the farthest bounds of the world" help better to attune me to the reality that Christ is alive in me so that I might enliven the world through him. Praying the words "may there be eternal praise, thanksgiving and supplication for peace to all people" sharpens my attentiveness to the work that Christ puts before me in the circumstances and undertakings of my daily life. Our prayer after Holy Communion should certainly include a longing to worship God more fully by our lives, for the life of the world.

The "Act of Resolution" directs me to allow Christ to shape my mind, will and heart more fully and completely. The

phrase "make me similar to you" in the prayer emphasizes what should be the longing of our hearts, that we should not receive the Eucharist, we should not leave Mass, without this fundamental desire. We must be resolved, having been nourished by Christ's Body and Blood, to want to live more like him in every facet of our lives. I appreciate that this prayer reiterates some of the fundamental characteristics of Christ, like "humility and obedience," or "poor and patient," or "model of charity and ardent zeal." The Eucharist truly is the gift that shapes our character into his. We pray, as St. Augustine preached, that we will ever more fully become who we receive.

See HEINLEIN, page 23

Finding meaning in wonder: A journey of the heart

By Brenda Noriega-Flores
OSV News



Have you ever found yourself pondering the meaning of life? If so, you're definitely not alone! Most people, especially between 13 to 30 years of age, frequently wrestle with these big questions.

Wonder is part of what it means to be human and, as St. Thomas Aquinas wisely noted, it's a deep desire for knowledge.

During our younger years, it's natural to seek answers about who we are, where we come from, and where we want to go. These questions can be both exhilarating and daunting. But here's the truth: Life without wonder feels empty. Genuine wonder doesn't just come from grappling with the unknown; it originates from a deeper source within us. It's God who plants that sense of wonder in our hearts, inviting us to seek him out and all goodness, truth and beauty in the world.

When we move through life on autopilot — just going through the motions without dreaming or being surprised by new experiences — we risk losing touch with our true essence. Our hearts can become weary and unresponsive. In other words, our hearts get old.

Jesus tells us that he came so we could have life abundantly (Jn. 10:10). This isn't just about our hearts beating faster or our lungs taking in more air. It speaks to two deeper realities: eternal life and how we perceive and engage with the world around us.

In "Christus Vivit," Pope Francis' letter to young people (and the rest of the church), reminds us that Christ is alive and that he desires for us to be fully alive. But what does this mean, especially when we're tossed by life's challenges?

When someone asks for directions, we typically start by understanding where they are. Similarly, to navigate our lives effectively, we must first recognize our own starting point. This involves understanding who we are, how we feel and our relationship with God.

By reflecting on our place in the world and articulating our understanding of ourselves in relation to God, we can chart a path toward the ultimate goal for every Christian: holiness. In other words, we can learn to live in abundance.

Now, I am not talking about a financial abundance, but the type of abundance that — with or without material possessions — makes life matter. Abundance in Christian discipleship means to leave it all so that we can receive. I know that sounds contradictory but please bear with me. We are invited to renounce any type of security and usually, it is more about mental securities or comfort zones. When we have grown wounds or resentments toward a friend, relative, classmate, co-worker or even a stranger, it is easier to walk away from that relationship than to do the hard work of reflection, healing and reconciliation. Similarly when we have biases against a person for whatever "otherness" we may perceive. It is more comfortable to ignore differences and a Christian call to communion and recognize God in the other and all of creation.

The same goes for those times when we opt against getting involved in the face of suffering or injustice and we turn a blind eye for fear of being negatively affected if we are to speak up; or when we get so wrapped up in our list of tasks and accomplishments that we leave no time for listening attentively to the pain and needs of others.

When we withdraw from a suffering world or challenging conversations or relationships due to fear, resentment, apathy or anger, our hearts start getting old, and instead of living, we turn into

walking bodies that breathe and even reason but do not dream and love. Trust me, I've been there. But, Pope Francis reminds us that seeking security and com-

fort can limit our horizons and dampen that youthful excitement we should carry

See NORIEGA-FLORES, page 23

REFLECTION

A command to love and heal

By Mark Saucier

Coincidence or providence?

In the gospel reading on the Sunday before Election Day, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Love of neighbor was nothing new or radical. Jesus was just going back to his Jewish roots. The Book of Leviticus says the same thing.

The other Abrahamic faith also teaches neighborly love. "Serve Allah ... and do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers."

For a Hindu, the Mahabharata explains, "This is the sum of duty, do naught unto others that you would not have them do unto you."

These are the four main religions of Americans, all calling for love of neighbor, for aiding them in need, for desiring what is best for them to flourish.

Yet, for so many of us, the fear, the anger, the dread of what may be if our side does not win has a hold on our soul much stronger than the most basic teaching of our faith.

Regardless of who wins, no administrative policy, no governmental reform, no campaign promise is going to achieve or restore the idyllic freedom from intrusion, fear and want that all politicians claim to offer.

The division and rancor are not going to magically disappear. Half the country will feel that it has been left unheard, ignored, cheated out of hope.

We can, and should, drop to our knees and pray for our country, to beg for the healing it so desperately needs.

But divine intervention is not the normal way of our God. We must put some skin on our prayers and assume the agency God expects of us.

That begins with the love of neighbor, a love that truly cares for those who vote differently than we do, who think differently than we. We must extend a hand, and an ear, to those look different, sound different, act different but whose stories, at the deepest level, are the same as ours.

At the end of the Great Commandment passage, Jesus tells the scribe, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God."

To me, that means, "You understand it — now go and do it."

We're created in God's image, but I believe that we become God's likeness by the love we live.

Encounter

AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Giving, from gratitude



By Nancy Samp

There is so much that I am grateful for in my life, all of which makes me a willing volunteer.

I have always been surrounded by family and friends who helped others whenever there was a need. Growing up, whether it was a school activity, church fundraiser or a bereavement meal, my parents were there and all six of us children helped at one time or another.

My mother continued to help at her church's bereavement meals until she was 95.

They would put a chair in the kitchen for her.

She was right there if anyone had a question, especially a question about one of her specialties — making gravy.

At that advanced age, she still enjoyed being a volunteer and they appreciated her knowledge.

Years ago, before I retired, I read about Catholic Charities moving to a larger facility and

all the programs they were going to offer.

I was really interested in the plan for Health and Nutrition services.

As I read about the food pantry, I thought it was a great concept and I was curious about the details.

At the time, I was still working.

When I retired, it seemed like I finally had extra time, and I was eager to fill it by volunteering somewhere I could make a meaningful contribution.

United Way had started "Give 5," a program to recruit retirees wanting to commit to volunteer work by introducing them to the United Way member agencies, the tremendous services they provide to our community, and their volunteer opportunities.

A feature of the program is visiting agencies to observe their operations.



One day we visited the Catholic Charities facility.

We toured the warehouse, the "grocery store" where food

is displayed for the clients to select, and then the checkout counter where food items are scanned and bagged for them to take home.

Mark Smith-Vandergriff, Warehouse Manager of the food pantry, explained how food items are assigned a point value.

Clients have so many points to spend per month.

The program is designed to encourage nutritional food choices. I got to see first-hand the program I read about years ago when Catholic Charities moved to their present location.

"Give 5" got its name because the program encourages people to give at least five hours a month at one of the many United Way agencies.

The program succeeds at connecting people with particular skills, talents and interests to the causes that need them.

It succeeded with me — I chose to give my hours to Catholic Charities food pantry.

Food and nutrition, my professional career, made the food pantry a perfect fit.

You could draw a straight line from the youngster who, along with her siblings, showed up with her mom and dad to provide some kind of service — frequently, feeding people — to the adult volunteer I am today.

I am grateful that my parents instilled service to others in me.

Grateful that I am *able* to serve.

Grateful for the opportunity to do such important work supplementing the food needs of so many in our community.

Grateful for the many kind and generous fellow volunteers I have met "on the job," as I stock pantry shelves and sack clients' food choices at checkout.

I see some of the most genuinely appreciative people for the food they receive.

Each time I leave my volunteer shift, I know that what I received cannot be quantified.

For more information about the Catholic Charities Food Pantry or for information about becoming a volunteer, visit:

cccnmo.diojeffcity.org

LITURGY

From page 3

"Part of the concern is that a lot of the songs that we sing overemphasize one dimension of the Eucharist," Fr. Merz noted.

For example, he cited highlighting the communal and social dimensions of the Eucharist, without giving proper emphasis also to the Sacrifice and Real Presence of the Lord, and the need for continuing conversion among every communicant.

"It's about the Great Commandment," he said. "Love God first, and that enables you to love your neighbor. When we get the first part right, the second part will follow."

"Many of the common themes of our hymns speak to our humanity and highlight the emotions that people struggle with, so they come up over and over again," Fr. Merz noted.

"But we have to remember we not only want to express who we are, but also be called to something more," he said.

"I am eager to hear from everyone, in a synodal process of deep listening, as we embark on this process together."

— Bishop W. Shawn McKnight

The new policy directs the Diocesan Liturgical Commission to invite the assistance of the diocesan chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) to consult parish ministers throughout the diocese.

This input will then be reported to the Diocesan Pastoral Council and Presbyteral Council for their deliberations and advice to Bishop McKnight on the present policy and what additional steps should be taken.

"I am excited about moving forward with an open mind and an open heart," said Bishop McKnight. "Music is such an important part of who we are as Catholics. The act of singing is intensely personal, helping us to encounter the mystery of Christ and the Church."

"I am eager to hear from everyone, in a synodal process of deep listening, as we embark on this process together," he said. "Let us use this time to ensure that we hear the Holy Spirit through all voices as we work to make our approach to sacred music a reason for unity across the Diocese of Jefferson City."

Let us sing with one accord

Comments will be gathered by Aug. 1, 2025.

Rest in peace, Jefferson City native Sr. Rose Mary Forck CCVI

By Jay Nies

Mike Zuniga wrote a paper about Jefferson City native Sister Rose Mary Forck CCVI during his freshman year at the University of Kansas.

More specifically, he wrote about what happened when he broke the rules.

"I got caught chewing gum on campus. Big mistake on my part," said Mr. Zuniga, a member of the Class of 1976 at St. Sebastian School in St. Louis.

"I'll always remember that day in the principal's office — my penance and having to explain to my parents what I did to earn the punishment," he said. "A transformative day for sure!"

His teaching assistant thought it was great and gave him a high mark.

"Rest In peace, 'Sr. Gerard,' and thank you for your vocation as a religious sister and educator," said Mr. Zuniga.

Sister Rose Mary (formerly Sister Mary Gerard) Forck CCVI, 91, a Sister of Charity of the Incarnate Word, died on Oct. 16 at The Village at Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 21 in the Chapel of the Incarnate Word in the CCVI Generalate in San Antonio.

Sr. Rose Mary is a sibling to Sister Bernadette Forck CCVI, who taught in Jefferson City for many years and moved to The Village at Incarnate Word several years ago.

Sr. Rose Mary was born on Feb. 14, 1933, in Jefferson City, a daughter of the late Gerard and Rose Mary (Castrop) Forck.

She entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in 1951 and professed first vows in 1954 and final vows in 1959.

Versatile educator

Much of Sr. Rose Mary's work as a sister involved education ministry.

In the Jefferson City diocese, she taught from 1957-58 at the former St. Patrick School in St. Patrick.

Howard Kirchner, a lifelong member of Shrine of St. Patrick Parish, was in middle school at St. Patrick School during Sr. Rose Mary's short time teach-

ing younger grades there.

"Sr. Gerard was the youngest sister I remember being there," he recalled. "She was really nice. They were all nice, but she was younger than the rest and wanted to play ball with the kids at recess and things like that. The kids really loved that."

She also taught at St. Frances of Rome School in Cicero, Illinois, from 1954-55; at St. Sebastian School in St. Louis from 1955-57; and at St. Dismas School in Florissant from 1958-62.

She served as a principal and educator at St. Catherine Laboure School in Cahokia, Illinois, from 1962-64; at Our Lady of Victory School in Paris, Texas, from 1964-66; at St. Catherine Laboure School in Cahokia, Illinois, from 1966-70; and at St. Sebastian School in St. Louis from 1970-75.

She was elected to congregational leadership in 1975, serving a term as a councilor for the CCVI St. Louis Provincialate until 1981.

She studied at the Oblate School of Theology, a graduate school for theological studies and spirituality in San Antonio, in 1981-82, then served until 1985 as the head of formation for the CCVI novitiate in San Antonio.

She then served for 10 years in ministry at the San Antonio residential facility, followed by a yearlong sabbatical.

She returned to San Antonio in 1996 and was assistant to the director of the Oblate School until 2003.

She was then her congregation's contact person for new members until 2009.

She then served until 2013 as a full-time caregiver at the Village at Incarnate Word in San Antonio.

Teacher, friend

Jefferson City native Sister Cathy Vetter CCVI's memories of Sr. Rose Mary go back to Sr. Cathy's first year after professing vows, when she was sent to teach at St. Sebastian School in St. Louis, where Sr. Rose Mary was the new principal.

"Since I was so new at teaching — I had not even finished my undergraduate degree at that time — she had to

mentor me in many ways," Sr. Cathy recalled.

Sr. Cathy got to teach English to all the seventh- and eighth-graders at the school, with about 50 students in the classroom, in addition to working toward a degree to teach chemistry and math to high school students.

"Sr. Rosie," as we fondly called her, was very patient with me as she helped me to have some kind of rapport with the students who treated me like I was their big sister and not their teacher," Sr. Cathy recalled.

She said Sr. Rose Mary was always a delight to live with and ready for whatever fun her fellow sisters and she might invent.

"She loved our sisters and was a good leader," said Sr. Cathy. "I recall meeting students she had known from several of our schools, and they only recalled what a fine teacher and friend she was to so many over her years in education."

Inspiring leader

Kathy Forck of Holts Summit met Sr. Rose Mary when Mrs. Forck married Sister's nephew, Mike Forck, in 2007.

"What a delight she always was!" Mrs. Forck posted on the funeral home's tribute board. "Her sweet smile, infectious laugh and concern for all was a delight to behold."

Mrs. Forck recalled that Sr. Rose Mary was interested in pro-life work and spent time praying on the sidewalk outside Columbia's Planned Parenthood clinic.

"I'm sure the babies, who felt her love for them, were there to greet her on her way to her heavenly home," Mrs. Forck wrote.

News of Sr. Rose Mary's passing brought forth many memories from graduates of the former St. Sebastian School in St. Louis.

Jim Pickett remembers her as a very kind second-grade



Sister Rose Mary Forck CCVI (1933-2024)

teacher.

Kathy Rocco Greifzu had Sr. Rose Mary as her principal during her eighth-grade year.

"I remember her being very strict, but I know she wanted us all to work hard and succeed in life," said Ms. Greifzu. "I'm sure we were a handful at that age. God bless her, as I am sure she guided us into our future in high school."

"She had a good, caring heart," said fellow St. Sebastian alum Cheryl Gould.

"I remember her being very thoughtful and kind," said Therese Michalski Gabriel.

Margaret Huelsing Posner echoed that sentiment: "very kind."

"So good, so fair," said Amy Mulholland, a member of the St. Sebastian Class of 1970.

Joyce Willenbrink Lenoir remembers Sr. Rose Mary as being "very strict, but I respected her."

"She taught us how to be respectful to her and to others," said Cindy Powell. "We stood when she entered the classroom, but it was not out of fear. Showing respect helped make us stronger, better-rounded people."

Leesa Luu recalled observing Sr. Rose Mary's unique mannerisms.

"It seemed like she always had her right hand on her chin, with her right finger on the side of her cheek, tapping as if she was thinking, and she would rock back and forth on her heels at the same time," Ms. Luu said.

Such devoted sisters

In recent years, Sr. Rose Mary was a resident of The Village at Incarnate Word Senior Living Community, where her sister, Sr. Bernadette, came to live several years ago.

A fellow resident, a writer, once wrote of the two sibling-sisters' days together there.

"They were born into the same family — and their closeness was beauty to behold," the sisters' friend wrote. "... How dear are two Sisters who are beautifully in community

and in communion one with the other."

Sr. Rose Mary was one of three girls and one boy in the St. Peter High School Class of 1951 who entered religious life.

In February 2021, she joined classmates in recalling the class production of "The Song of Bernadette," about the child who received the gift of apparitions from the Blessed Mother in 1858 in a grotto in Lourdes, France.

The future Sr. Rose Mary portrayed the Blessed Mother in that production.

She was also active in a high school group known as Mary's Messengers. Members would visit blocks throughout the city and invite people to join them in invoking Our Lady's powerful intercession.

Fellow Jefferson City native Sister Josetta Eveler CCVI was a member of Sr. Rose Mary's graduating class at St. Peter High School.

"When we were in high school, the Fatima statue was moving around St. Peter Parish, and the high school students were asked to accompany it and give a talk," Sr. Josetta recalled.

"Sr. Rosie volunteered to do this, and my parents let me be her chauffeur since I had just gotten my driver's license," she said.

In an interview three years ago with *The Catholic Missourian*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Cross Catholic Outreach's Home Building Program Restores Hope to Haitian Families

Emma and Thelius earn a small income by farming and selling a portion of their crops at a market in the rural community of Colladère, Haiti. Like most of their neighbors, they don't make enough money to afford a home beyond the dilapidated patchwork shack they lived in for many years.

"These new homes are a life-transforming blessing..."

Michele Sagarino,
Cross Catholic Outreach

Raising eight children in that small home was challenging enough, but they also faced additional hardships when it would rain. Water poured in through the roof, ruining their belongings and making them sick.

"Sometimes mud falls on the children's heads," Emma explained at the time. "Sometimes they sleep on the bed with me, and sometimes I can't even walk in the house without getting my feet wet and muddy."

For families with few economic opportunities, the idea of escaping this abject poverty and obtaining a safer, more secure home must seem like an unachievable goal — and it would be in most circumstances — but with God, all things are possible. Through a special outreach of the Kobonal Haiti Mission, Emma's family received a simple but sturdy new home, and many others are being rescued out of terrible living conditions thanks to the gift of safe housing.

"The visionary Catholic leaders at the Kobonal Haiti Mission have launched several life-transforming programs to

help the poor in the Central Plateau region of Haiti, but one of their most impactful efforts involves constructing sturdy cement-block houses for the area's poorest families," said Michele Sagarino, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, a Vatican-recognized ministry involved in those projects. "Our U.S. donors have been contributing to the mission's ministries for years, and there is a growing interest in expanding its housing program because so many families still need our help."

The idea of funding a house for a needy family may initially seem daunting to some donors, but Sagarino said those concerns disappear when they learn more about the outreach.

"It may seem hard to believe, but a contribution of \$13,141 can bless a family in Haiti with a new, safe home," she explained. "That gift will build a four-room concrete block house that includes a solid cement foundation, a galvanized steel roof, a solar light system for indoor electricity and an outdoor latrine. Once they hear that, some of our donors sponsor an entire house. Others make a partial gift, and we combine those to achieve the same result. Their generosity has enabled us to build thousands of homes for the poor in recent years."

Sagarino also pointed out that the Kobonal Haiti Mission involves the benefiting families in the process as much as possible, because they view the program as a "hand up" rather than a handout. Family members help with unskilled labor such as clearing the land, helping move construction materials, mixing cement and painting.

Of course, the experience produces important spiritual blessings as well. "These new homes are a life-transforming blessing, and we make it clear they are a gift from God,"



Before and after photos of families benefiting from the mission's home-building project are dramatic and clearly reveal why providing safe shelter is such a vital part of Cross Catholic Outreach's ministry work. The Nicolas family was provided with one of these houses last year, and the gift has changed their lives. Cross Catholic Outreach is confident U.S. Catholics will help their ministry continue this effort so many other Haitian families can escape extreme poverty and enjoy a brighter future.



Sagarino said. "That's our ultimate goal. We want to bless people materially and spiritually — to restore their hope and strengthen their faith."

Readers interested in supporting Cross Catholic Outreach's housing programs and its other outreaches to the poor can contribute through the ministry brochure inserted in

this issue or send tax-deductible gifts to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC04084, PO Box 97168, Washington DC 20090-7168. The ministry has a special need for partners willing to make gifts on a monthly basis. Use the inserted brochure to become a Mission Partner.

Unique Christmas Catalog Created To Bless Donors — And the World's Poor

In many families, it's an age-old tradition for children to browse through catalogs and circle the presents they want for Christmas.

This Advent and Christmas season, Cross Catholic Outreach is offering a catalog too — but theirs is a very different offering with a very different purpose. It has been designed to bless both givers and receivers by using the holiday gift-giving tradition to help the world's poorest families.

Rather than offering gizmos, gadgets, neckties and jewelry, the Cross Catholic

Outreach Christmas Catalog is giving Catholics with a concern for the poor an opportunity to share the blessings in their lives with needy families by sponsoring practical and urgently needed items like medicines, milk powder, seeds for farming, access to safe water or materials for roof repairs. Of course, it also offers blessings for children, including toys and sports equipment, so individuals can choose to sponsor both practical items suitable for families and gifts to bring children joy.

"Like most Christmas catalogs, ours

offers lots of items so donors can choose to give something very specific. That said, they can also make a general gift to address the poor's greatest needs," explained Jim Cavnar, CEO of Cross Catholic Outreach, the Catholic relief and development ministry offering this program. "When donors choose to give to Most Urgent Needs, they provide us and the Catholic missions we serve with the freedom to address any critical need that arises. The priests and religious sisters we support really appreciate that flexibility. It's an excellent way to

empower their work among the poor."

This unique Christmas catalog is easy to access. Readers will find a link for it at the ministry's website (CrossCatholic.org) or they can reach it directly by entering the web address: CrossCatholic.org/Christmas.

"Our hope is that everyone will be blessed by the experience," Cavnar said. "It's a wonderful way for us to celebrate the birth of our merciful Lord!"

Scan this code to visit
Cross Catholic Outreach's
Christmas Catalog web page.



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Ministry Seeks Support From U.S. Catholics To Build Homes for Poor Families in Developing Countries

Your rusty sheet metal roof leaks like a sieve when it rains. Your plank-and-mud walls have begun to crumble around you. Your fabric curtain “door” provides no security from intruders, and your children have to place mats on the dirt floor to sleep at night. You have no running water, no electricity and no indoor plumbing for sanitation.

Who among us would even call a place like that a home?

“At best, the makeshift houses you find in the world’s poorest communities are the simplest form of shelter,” said Michele Sagarino, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, one of the world’s leading Catholic relief and development ministries with an expanding program for providing improved housing for the poor. “Until you see one of those fragile little houses firsthand, it’s hard to imagine how a couple could live there — or raise their children there. But the sad truth is that millions of people in Haiti have been living like that for generations because there hasn’t been an alternative. They grew up living in those conditions, and without some kind of intervention, their children will too. That’s why our ministry has made it a priority to provide families with safe, sturdy housing. It’s a way to break that terrible cycle of poverty, improve lives and change things for future generations.”

According to Sagarino, Cross Catholic Outreach achieves this objective by partnering with local Catholic leaders, mobilizing community participation in its home-building projects, and utilizing the support of compassionate Catholics in the United States. Donations made by those compassionate Catholics enable Church leaders to build quality cement-block homes for those who need them most.

According to Sagarino, Cross Catholic Outreach’s current work includes extensive home-building projects in central and southern Haiti. That work is underway in and around Kobonal (See the related story on the opposite page) and in the city of Jérémie.

These efforts are supported by U.S. Catholics, many of whom have worked with the ministry for years to restore hope in deeply impoverished communities.

“When I ask those men and women why they specifically want to provide the poor with sturdier, more dignified homes, some say it is because they feel God has blessed their lives and they want to give back in a way that will make a significant impact,” Sagarino said. “Others say they do it because they understand how important a home is to creating stability



Some families live in old, one-room stone or wood houses, but these are typically crumbling with age, have leaky roofs and include interior kitchens that fill the small space with smoke when meals are prepared.

and security for a family — and that’s very true. Once people have a safe place to call home, they are able to focus on improving their lives in other ways. They can use their resources to educate their children, take care of medical needs and provide more nutritious meals. A safe, reliable house offers more than improved shelter. It provides a foundation for building a better life.”

Sagarino, who has been involved in humanitarian outreaches for more than two decades, considers providing better housing for children and the frail elderly one of the highest priorities, and the Catholic ministries she partners with in the developing world agree.

“They follow the model Jesus Christ set for us,” she explained. “He sought out the weak, the isolated, the forgotten and the destitute. He addressed their urgent needs and gave them hope. That is what our partners in Haiti, Guatemala and other countries are doing — and it’s what our generous Catholic donors in the U.S. also want to accomplish with their charitable giving. They want to help the poorest of the poor in Christ’s name and for his glory.”

The fact that Cross Catholic Outreach works through existing Catholic

ministries in these countries where it serves has two purposes, according to Sagarino. It properly respects the role of the local Catholic leaders and it allows more of a donor’s gift to be used directly on home construction.

“The local Catholic ministries have the buildings and staff in place to manage the process, so our donors’ contributions can be used to buy the raw materials needed and to hire local workers to do the actual construction. It’s an approach that allows us to do more with less, and it also strengthens the local Church.”

While providing safe housing serves an obvious purpose by improving a poor family’s living conditions, Sagarino said the gift actually has a much greater impact than most people realize.

“When people move into a sturdy home, their hope is restored. They feel they can finally escape generations of poverty and provide a better life for their children,” she said. “I see that when I visit villages transformed by a major housing project. Families see the change as an answer to prayer and they praise God for the mercy he has shown them.”

Be Someone’s Miracle!

To fund Cross Catholic Outreach’s effort to help those in need this season, use the Christmas catalog inserted in this newspaper, or mail your gift to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC04084, PO Box 97168, Washington, DC 20090-7168. You can also scan the code with your phone to purchase your gifts online. The catalog also includes instructions on becoming a Mission Partner and making a regular monthly donation to this cause.

If you identify an aid project, 100% of the donation will be restricted to be used for that specific project. However, if more is raised for the project than is needed, funds will be redirected to other urgent needs in the ministry.



Mass offered in historical Brush Creek church

By Tracy Grove

About 60 people from as far as St. Louis, Kansas City and Quincy, Illinois, and from as near as Monroe City, Palmyra and Shelbyville attended the fall Mass Oct. 20 in historical St. Peter Church in Brush Creek.

Father Gregory Oligschlaeger, pastor of Holy Rosary parish in Monroe City and St. Stephen parish in Indian Creek, presided at the Mass.

Many who have familial ties to St. Peter Church, built in the 1860s and used every Sunday until the parish closed

in 1968, attended the Mass. The church stands at the site of where Venerable Father Augustus Tolton (1854-97), a candidate for sainthood, was baptized. Born into a family of enslaved people on a nearby plantation, Fr. Tolton endured overwhelming racism along the way to becoming the Roman Catholic Church's first Black priest, ministering in Quincy and later in Chicago.

Dominican Sister Loretta Keller, who lives in Monroe City, was present, having received her First Holy Com-

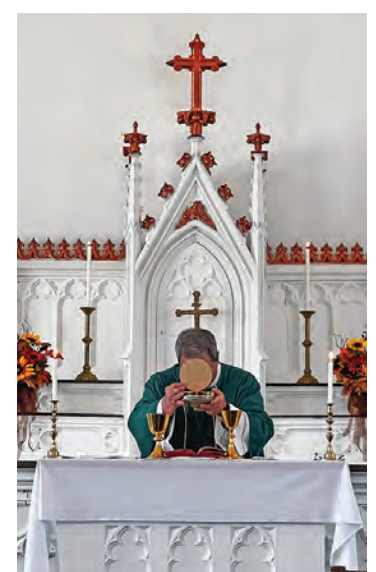
munion in this church as a child.

The Oct. 20 Mass was the first Mass for a week-old baby

whose parents brought him there for Mass.



— Photos by Tracy Grove



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Decree

On the Use of Liturgical Music in the Diocese of Jefferson City

"I simply want to invite the whole Church to rediscover, to safeguard, and to live the truth and power of the Christian celebration. I want the beauty of the Christian celebration and its necessary consequences for the life of the Church not to be spoiled by a superficial and foreshortened understanding of its value or, worse yet, by its being exploited in service of some ideological vision, no matter what the hue. The priestly prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper that all may be one (John 17:21) judges every one of our divisions around the Bread broken, around the sacrament of mercy, the sign of unity, the bond of charity" (Pope Francis, "Desiderio Desideravi," no. 16).

With the recent issuance of *Suggested Mass Settings and*

Prohibited Hymns, which had as its aim to foster the active participation of the laity in the Liturgy by providing common Mass settings for singing by the whole assembly in diocesan liturgies, it is now clear that an authentically synodal process of greater consultation did not occur prior to its promulgation.

The Eucharistic Liturgy is "the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, no. 14); moreover, it is my duty, with care and vigilance, to regulate the liturgical celebrations within the Diocese of Jefferson City (cf. *Traditionis Custodes*, Art.

2); and in order to provide for a more comprehensive consultation with the relevant parties within the diocese;

I therefore decree that the previously promulgated *Suggested Mass Settings and Prohibited Hymns* is hereby abrogated and replaced by the corresponding diocesan policy *Promoting Active Participation in the Liturgy through Sacred Music*.

It shall be promulgated by being published on the diocesan website, and it will take effect immediately.

It is approved *ad experimentum* for a period of one year, all things to the contrary notwithstanding.

I would like to reinforce

that these rules and regulations are particular law for the Diocese of Jefferson City and are therefore obligatory for all who reside within its boundaries.

Pastors, administrators, chaplains, and liturgical ministers are obliged to see that the norms of this policy are implemented in their parishes and institutions.

Given at the Chancery in Jefferson City, Missouri, on the 5th day of November in the Year of Our Lord 2024.

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

Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse, JD, JCL
Chancellor

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Dr. Mary Healy is professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and a bestselling author and international speaker. She is one of the first three women ever to serve on the Pontifical Biblical Commission and is a consultant to the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.



NEWMAN
PARISH

Dr. Mary Healy
Biblical Healing, Then and Now

Sunday | November 10, 2024 | 1 PM - 6:15 PM

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602 Turner Avenue, Columbia, MO

1:00 pm - Welcome and Introduction
1:10 pm - Praise and Worship
1:30 pm - 1st Talk - Jesus, the Healer
2:30 pm - Break
3:00 pm - 2nd Talk - Walking in the Supernatural
3:50 pm - Prayer for Empowerment in the Spirit
4:30 pm - Healing Service
6:15 pm - Conclusion

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

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

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

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

Jacqueline Baldwin, Victim Assistance Coordinator

reportabuse@diojeffcity.org | 573-694-3199



**DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City**



All Saints Day celebrations around the diocese



LEFT AND CENTER: St. Clement School, St. Clement
— Photo by Henry Mary Ussher



Holy Family School, Freeburg
— Photo from the Holy Family School and Parish Facebook page



St. George School, Hermann
— Photo from the St. George Catholic School - Hermann, MO Facebook page



Sacred Heart School, Rich Fountain
— Photo from the Sacred Heart School Facebook page

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65-69	5.7-6.2%
70-74	6.3-6.8%
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YOUTH

From page 1

young people who are like me in loving to learn about God," he said.

The rally included food and fellowship; powerful sacred music; inspirational talks; activities such as pumpkin decorating and a Cathedral scavenger hunt; Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament; and Mass with Bishop W. Shawn McKnight.

Fr. Leo gave a presentation on the Christian witness of the saints, followed by Adoration of Christ in the Eucharist.

The gifted musicians and singers of the Vigil Project set a timelessly prayerful tone.

"This incense is representative of our prayers," said Fr. Leo. "It's representative of the direction our life is called — toward heaven."

He reminded all the young people that Christ is truly present on the altar.

"We're not talking about some theory or an idea," the priest emphasized. "He is a true person, a defined person, who dwells in this church, in this tabernacle."

"And he doesn't want to remain in this beautifully decorated box holding his monsternance," said Fr. Leo.

"He wants to dwell with YOU, so that you can go out into this world and show the love of God."

"All sweetness"

Many young people and their parents chose to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

"There's some serious prayer going on in here!" said Father Paul Clark, diocesan vocation director, director of seminarians and chaplain of Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. "This is what the Church at prayer looks like. It's beautiful, it's incredible."

Games and ice cream downstairs in Cana Hall followed Adoration.

"The Bread that Came Down from Heaven, having all sweetness within it," said Fr. Clark. "Wouldn't it be great if we celebrate that sweetness with a little bit of ice cream?"



LEFT: Father Joseph Luzindana, diocesan moderator for youth and young adult ministry, leads young people in praising God during this year's Diocesan Youth Rally, held Nov. 3 in the the Cathedral of St. Joseph. **RIGHT:** Father Leo Patalinghug incenses the Most Blessed Sacrament during Adoration at the Diocesan Youth Rally.

Father Joseph Luzindana, diocesan moderator for youth and young adult ministry, raised the young people's spirits even higher, while Fr. Leo spoke separately to their parents and other adults.

"We can never give the devil a chance!" Fr. Luzindana proclaimed. "Adam and Eve gave the devil a chance, and look where it got them."

"No! We're here to give Jesus a chance!" he stated. "We want the Holy Spirit to fill us up."

"We are the cloud of witnesses — the apostles of today," he said. "Don't be afraid to be a witness, don't be afraid to be a saint!"

He offered several effective ways of giving witness to the Gospel: loving God and other people in word and action; praying frequently and humbly; participating in the life of the Church; caring for other people who are lonely or in need; and sharing the Good News of God's love and the salvation won by Jesus.

"That is how we become witnesses," said Fr. Luzindana, "and when we do these little things, people will know God is in us."

Shedding light

Mary Immaculate School seventh-graders Sofia Ramirez and Kennedy Bonnell and eighth-grader Callyn Schwend traveled about two hours from Kirksville to the Youth Rally.

All three said it was worth it.

Callyn believes God is calling her and other young people

to spread his Good News.

"I think that means enlightening others who might not know Jesus's love and letting them know everything Jesus had done for them, and that when you put your trust in him, he can make your life so much better than it already is," she said.

Kennedy said young people are also called by God to help others.

"Just to make sure that everyone knows the grace of God, and constantly remind them of all that he has done for them," she said. "And helping them with that can make them feel better about themselves and deepen their faith."

"Holy and good"

Emerson believes that as a young person in the Church, he's being called to share God's love with people who don't believe in him yet or who are moving in a less-than-saintly direction.

"It is a tough conversation to have with people who may not fully believe," he said. "But, you have to trust the Lord to help you share and shine your light, which is his light, on them."

Johanna Cook, a sixth-grader at St. Peter School in Fulton, gives her singing voice back to God as a cantor at Mass in her parish.

She's convinced that God is calling her and other young people to be there for others.

"We're all called to serve God, to fulfil his work, to do what he's calling us to do," she

said.

Daniel Morris believes every young person's calling is "to be a saint and to spread the Gospel."

"Because his Church is universal and it's meant to be spread throughout the world," said Daniel, a member of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish and a sophomore at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City.

Paisley Murphy is a member of St. Jude Thaddeus Parish and an eighth-grader at South Callaway Middle School, both in Mokane.

She feels called "to be a good person and to do things in the name of the Lord — because the name of the Lord is holy and good."

Companions

Bishop McKnight presided at the closing Mass for the rally.

Fr. Leo preached the homily, addressing Jesus's command to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength" and to "love your neighbor as yourself."

"I have to caution you that if you don't love God with your whole heart mind and soul, then heaven is not guaranteed for you," said Fr. Leo.

He spoke of saints who echoed Jesus's total, self-giving love with their willingness to serve the poor, to serve those who have been cast aside, and die for love of God.

He noted that love of neighbor can be difficult, and that

many people put impossible conditions on whether they even love themselves.

He pointed out that Jesus eventually clarifies this command at the Last Supper, when he tells his Apostles to "love one another as I have loved you."

"Which kinds of blows this whole Scripture wide open, because now we realize that before we can even love God and our neighbor as ourselves, we first have to know that God loves us!" said Fr. Leo.

"We have to actually recognize that love isn't just simply a feeling or something that I do, but first and foremost a decision to receive it," he said.

As a priest and a professional chef, Fr. Leo spoke of his international ministry of trying to solidify families through the meals they share together (PlatingGrace.com).

"Families, the dinner table is where you prove you love one another!" he stated. "It's around the table that we serve one another, that we become companions with one another."

He noted that the word "companion" comes from the Latin words for sharing bread.

"And that's why the Eucharist is the great way we receive God's love. And guess what: in a short while, you're going to come up here to receive God's love in the Eucharist and you're going to be able to taste and see the goodness of the Lord!"

— Photos by Jay Nies



SHELBINA

From page 5

all kinds of different events in town,” he noted. “And when we have a church function, they bring all the kids and get them involved.”

People also step up to do things such as visit local nursing homes, organize pilgrimages and mission trips and teach classes for young people.

“I’m sure it’s a God thing,” he said. “The community takes to heart their religion and the need to bring the kids up in it and do so many good things for everybody.”

He noted that God wants people not only to worship him at Mass on Sunday but also to celebrate and honor him throughout the week.

“We have to visit the elderly and take care of the sick and teach the young people and pray for the dead,” he said. “These are all very important things.”

Mr. Eagan observed that Fr. Peckman has been working to draw his parishes in Shelby and Macon counties into closer collaboration with one another.

“St. Mary’s tries to reach out in both directions to help out with whatever we can,” said Mr. Eagan.

Influx of youth

Eulynn Keller sees more than a fresh look and a resplendent worship environment when she goes to Mass in the renewed St. Mary Church.

“I see that our church is full!” she said. “I absolutely love full! It’s so full of babies and kids, and we’ve always been very fortunate to have priests who are very supportive of children in church.”

Mrs. Keller did not grow up Catholic, but encountered Catholicism in college when she met the man she would marry.

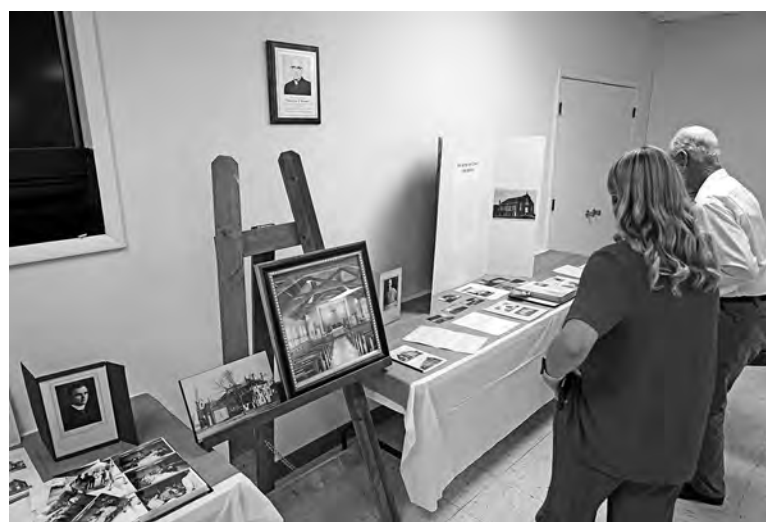
“It felt like coming home,” she said.

She’s still actively growing in faith and has been working especially hard on that since she became a mother.

“Right now, my big focus is on getting my kids and family to heaven someday,” she said. “I definitely feel like at St. Mary’s, there are so many people in your corner for do-



LEFT: Sun through century-old golden stained-glass windows containing geometric patterns floods the interior of newly renovated St. Mary Church in Shelby during an Oct. 20 Mass to celebrate the 100th anniversary of its dedication. **RIGHT:** People inspect displays of historical photos during a reception after the Mass.



— Photos by Jay Nies

ing that.”

Mr. and Mrs. Keller work a farm in Shelby County.

“It isn’t easy, and there are a lot of sacrifices our kids make for us to be able to raise them in that environment,” she said. “During planting and harvesting, our Sundays at church are our time as a family because during the rest of the week, we’re passing each other coming and going.”

“Not one of us would trade it for anything!” she added.

When the couple moved to Shelby about a decade ago, Mrs. Keller wondered about the future of the parish and the local community at large.

“But I feel like the world as a whole has changed a lot since then, and people are now looking for these small communities and needing more of that ‘village’ we talk about to make it through life in general,” she said.

“It seems like all of a sudden, there’s quite a movement of people starting young families here, and people reaching out to each other to get adult groups going and get our kids involved in the Church at even-younger ages,” she stated.

Many of these young parents openly encourage their children to consider whether God is calling them to be a priest or religious sister or brother.

Mrs. Keller pointed out that every community has its struggles and that too many people paint individuals in rural communities with the same brush.

“You actually have to advocate for the faith just as much as you do in places with larger

populations,” she insisted. “It really starts with your neighbors, and you do have to work at it.”

“We’re convinced this is one of the easier places to do that,” she said.

Creating family ties

Lifelong Catholic and Shelby County resident Amanda Durbin noted that the statues of St. Patrick and St. Rose of Lima and the icon of St. Michael the Archangel are placed in St. Mary Church according to the relative locations of Clarence, Lakenan and Hagers Grove.

She pointed out that the first weekend after the renovations at St. Mary’s were complete, a full slate of weekend Masses, a wedding and a funeral were celebrated in the church.

“The excitement of having that all back is hard to describe,” she said. “We are so grateful.”

Teens and young adults are accepting leadership and service roles in the parish.

Kindergartners through high school seniors in the parish youth group meet once a week in Macon or Shelby — kindergarten through sixth grade right after school, followed by sixth through 12th grades.

Both groups occasionally take part in service projects or a trip.

The current youth group model at St. Mary began around 2011, after Carolyn Saucier, former diocesan associate director of religious education, visited the parish and talked about how many young Catholics fall away from prac-

ticing their faith shortly after Confirmation.

“Helping them feel like they’re part of a family was what we were missing,” said Mrs. Durbin. “Because having them together for an hour on Sunday at Mass wasn’t enough. Of course, it’s important to be here for Mass, but in terms of growing as a family, they have to have more time together.”

She regularly observes children and teens at non-church events seeking each other out “like cousins.”

“They’re tight even outside of church because of the bond that they’ve formed together,” she said. “Because they don’t just study together at CCD, but there’s a specific night that they get together to pray for each other, break bread together and play.”

Emerging role models

“We have a lot of key people in our church who really, strive to give back and keep giving more of who they are,” said Mrs. Keller.

She recently spoke with a group of wives and moms at a women’s spirituality gathering in the parish hall.

“They asked me to do a little talk about how to bring prayer to your family and kids,” she recalled. “A few other women spoke ahead of me. They talked about the women they grew up looking up to at church.”

“In my talk, I reminded them that ‘you are those ladies now, and we’re all looking up to you. Never underestimate yourself or how much you do bring to the Church,’” she said.

Mr. Gough is confident that even more young people can be drawn into the Church through patient listening and everyday Christian witness.

“What we believe doesn’t necessarily appeal to people right off the bat,” he noted. “But I’ve seen how if you give people enough to think about and enough time to think, you start to get rid of all the false beliefs they may have about the Catholic Church and actually come to appreciate what it truly teaches.”

It’s often a slow process, mostly of listening and some responding.

“It’s also a process of you, yourself, getting out of the way and letting the Holy Spirit act through you,” he said.

Her children’s children

Mrs. Durbin is confident that St. Mary Parish will still be a thriving, God-centered, service-oriented community of faith when her infant granddaughter is old enough to want to raise her own children there.

“I honestly think it will be stronger than it’s ever been,” she stated. “I’m seeing a lot of young families coming back or new families moving in. And to those who are arriving, babies are being born.”

“The young people are going to pull through to the next 100-year celebration, and it’s going to be a big one!” she said.

But, will the church be big enough for all of them to fit?

“Hopefully, not!” she said. “And hopefully, we’ll have more than enough priests by then to add Masses to the schedule.”



By Father Donald Antweiler

ACROSS

1. "Even Missouri residents seldom associate their state's name with the once powerful Missouria native ____ that gave its name first to the river, and then to the state," —*The People of the River's Mouth, In Search of the Missouria Indians*, by Michael Dickey.
6. More times than not; commonly done; habitual.
10. "They all ____ and were satisfied," (Mark 6:42).
11. All the Holy ____ used in the sacraments are usually kept in a container often in the sanctuary called the ambry.
13. "God's love embraced (Therese) as she willingly endured the pain of her shattering ____, identity and the collapse of her false world," —*Walking the Way of Therese of Lisieux* by Bro. Joseph F. Schmidt, FSC.
14. Opening in 1995 in Branson, Dolly Parton's ____ features world class performances with 32 horses, a cast of top-notch trick riders in a 35,000-sq.-ft. arena, a four-course dinner and blue grass/country pre-show.
16. The Mo. Dept. of ____ has five divisions: business development; animal health; grain inspection and warehousing; plant industries; weights, measures and consumer protection (abbr.).
17. Letters for American Eagle, a women's and men's clothier.
18. Saturday Night Live (____) is a late-night live comedy sketch variety show, now in its 50th season on NBC.
19. "Whether we shall meet again, I know not. If we do meet again, we'll smile indeed; if not, '____ true, this parting was well

made," —"Julius Caesar," Act 5, Scene 1; Wm. Shakespeare.

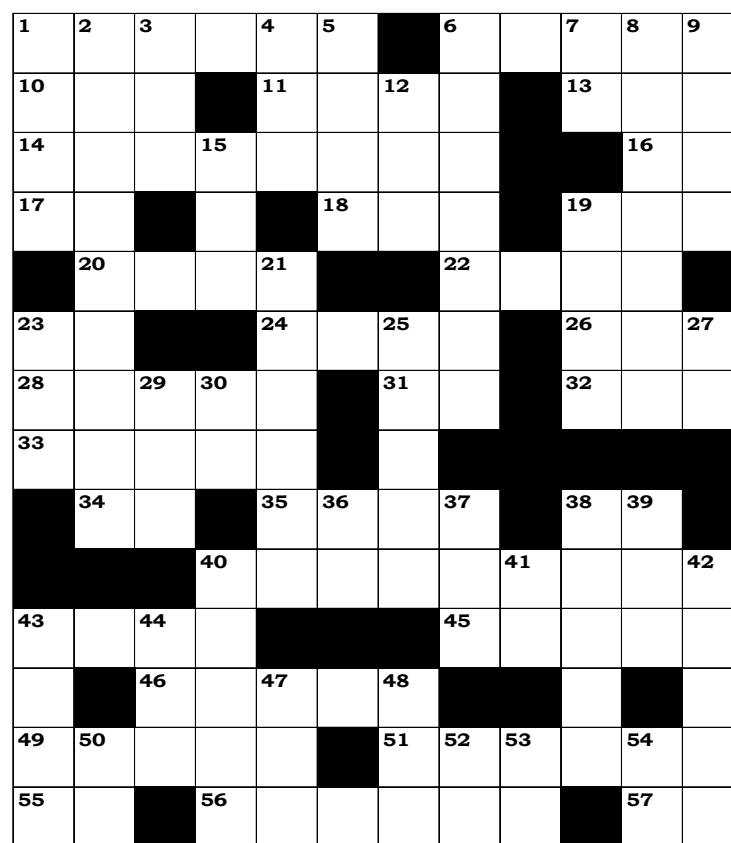
20. Afternoon snoozes.
22. "Science is a wonderful thing if one does not have to ____ one's living at it," —Albert Einstein.
23. "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education ____ all" —Aristotle.
24. Part of a BA degree.
26. In 1953, Dinah Shore was singing on TV: "See the ____ in your Chevrolet."
28. The Illinois tribe's name for this tribe meant "people of the wood canoes"; this was very distinct from their own ____ bark canoes.
31. "The forgiveness of God ____ and always will be," —*The Mist of Mercy: Spiritual Warfare and Purgatory*, by "Anne," a lay apostle.
32. Possible letters on an airport schedule board.
33. Processed bean which is the source of chocolate.
34. Chemical letters for sodium.
35. "____ avis," Latin phrase meaning "rare bird"; meaning in English is a rare or unique person, prodigy.
38. The capital of this State is, like Mo.'s, named for a U.S. President; Elvis Presley was born in this State (abbr.).
40. The Missouria's huge wooden canoes were the only craft able to safely negotiate the ____ lower Mo. River that would smash the bark canoes used on the Mississippi and other rivers.
43. "My mother loves her work, I love _____. So the fact that we don't love each other...well, I hardly ever think about it," —*People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks.
45. Formerly referred to a Native-Am. mother or wife, now viewed as derogatory.
46. Traditionally each of the Magi had one to ride.
49. The difference between mild and ____ cheddar cheese is the length of aging with the latter having a more tangy, nutty taste.
51. "It is possible to have too ____ a good thing," —fabulist Aesop, 620-564 BC (2 wds.).
55. "Teack nodded, knowing,

as all officers did, that rank must not be invoked when it is not likely ____ be heeded," —*The March*, by E. L. Doctorow.

56. Lector: "The Word of the Lord." Congregation: "____ be to God."
57. "The maps came to them from the Defense Mapping Agency Aerospace Center at _____. Louis, Mo," —*Kolymsky Heights*, Lionel Davidson.

DOWN

1. U.S. Space Agency.
2. The Missouria Indians first came to the ____ of Europeans from the Fr. Jacques Marquette expedition in 1673 coming down the Mississippi.
3. Earl Grey or Lipton.
4. Alley ____; comic strip cave man.
5. Jay ____; longtime intrepid editor of *The Catholic Missourian*.
6. "I urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus...who was once ____ to you but is now useful to both you and me," (Philemon 1:10-11).
7. Letters for Union Electric, old name of Ameren Electric, the largest electric provider in Missouri.
8. "Watch it, Padre. Shooting kids isn't ____ my religion. Priests, either, for that matter," —*Run For Your Life*, by James Patterson.
9. Missouria canoes or dugouts were hewn from gigantic cottonwood, sycamore or walnut ____, 20-50 feet long.
12. A Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist (____) is a person State-certified to practice dietetics and qualified to provide effective and evidence-based nutrition counseling.
15. The Illinois tribe's name for the first tribe up the (Mo.) river from the Mississippi was recorded on a Fr. Marquette ____ as "OUmes-souriT," from which came the name Missouri.
19. "At least one thing that Pak had told the general was ____ — in life, honorable men were rare. But the graveyards were full of them," —*Zero Hour*, by Don Bentley.
21. Largest desert in the world, equal in size to the lower 48 United States, and growing.



23. First three of 26.
25. Crown for a queen.
27. American Airlines (____) is the largest in the world, measured by passengers carried, number of daily flights, and revenue per passenger mile.
29. Old record label.
30. "...we may merit to be ____ heirs to eternal life..." —Second Eucharistic Prayer.
36. One of the National Parks in this State is considered one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, and the only one located within the United States (abbr.).
37. The Cure of ____, St. John Vianney, is the patron of priests, and esp. parish priests.
38. The Missouria tribe's name for itself was "People of the River ____." Their main village was near the junction where the Grand River, which drains much of central northern Mo., empties into the Missouri River, near present day Miami, Mo.
39. "____ Sanctitate"; Latin phrase used in referencing the Pope as "His Holiness."
40. "It fills my ____ with joy to remember my very special fishing buddy, President Bush (41). Over thirty-five years I came to know this gentleman who always led by his faith and love of his family and

country," —Johnny Morris, founder and owner of Bass Pro Shops, in *Character Matters*, by Jean Becker.

41. Fast food chain where "Happy Tastes Good."
42. "This (Mo.) river is frightfully ____, esp. in the springtime when it is high, uprooting and carrying off trees," —French explorer Andre Pericault in *The People of the River's Mouth*, by Michael Dickey.
43. "An old priest had once said to him, 'If, under certain circumstances, the reasonable does not appear, and nothing can be explained in a rational manner, then the incredible remains and ____ be accepted,'" —*Grandmother and the Priests*, by Taylor Caldwell.
44. Letters for the National Coffee Assn., the main market research, consumer info, and lobbying assn. for the coffee industry in the U.S.
47. Letters indicating a car's speed.
48. K-O
50. Land ____!
52. The United Kingdom (____) consists of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
53. Abbr. for County Seat.
54. For optometrists, traditional abbr. from the Latin "*oculus sinister*" meaning "left eye."

See ANSWERS, page 23

WITNESS

From page 18

going to be able to taste and see the goodness of the Lord!”

“Truth faith”

Sofia, Kennedy and Callyn believe it matters for them to remain Catholic.

“Every time I am go to church, I’m surrounded by people who also love God, and it’s really important to me to be a church where I can love God and have morals and commands to follow, and I think God has given me the Bible and everything I need,” said Callyn.

“We want everyone around us to go to heaven,” said Ken-

nedy. “I want to preach the goodness of the Lord and I want to encourage others to spread the faith of God and enlighten themselves on it so that everyone around me, I can see their faces in heaven and continue that love for them that I have for them on earth.”

Johanna plans to stay Catholic for the rest of her life.

“It means loving God a lot,” she said. “Because he created us, we’re all called to love God and to serve him.”

Emerson plans to remain Catholic “because I want to go to heaven.”

“And I believe that to go to

heaven, you have to not just say that your Catholic, you have to live it out in your actions and your words,” he stated.

He said being Catholic means to love the Lord with every aspect of one’s own being, and put that love into action.

Paisley also plans to remain a daughter of the Church.

“My family has always been Catholic,” she noted. “I’m actually the sixth generation of my family in my parish.”

“And God is very much the most trustworthy being to believe in,” she said.

Daniel intends to remain Catholic, “because I believe it’s the true faith.”

“You’ve got to believe in Jesus, that he is the true Son of God, that the Eucharist is Jesus’s true Body and Blood,” he said.

He said it’s important to go beyond fulfilling the basic duties of being Catholic, such as going to Mass every Sunday, and helping other people find the truth.

“Our goal is heaven! Eternal life with God!” he said.

Thoughts and prayers

Emerson asked for adults in the Church to pray for young people to mature into the people God wants them to be while holding onto the fire of their youth.

To help young people do that, he suggested that adults “continue teaching the words of Christ and helping us get to church, get to youth events like this, and help share our beliefs with others.”

Daniel asked for prayers for him and other young people “keep God as our main focus and not to forget about God as we progress through life.”

Sophia requested prayers to “help us grow with God and help us in everyday tasks and to know that Jesus is always there for us.”

“In the world we’re growing up in,” said Callyn, “there are a lot of things that can distract us from our faith and from God.”

“So, I think it’s really important that our role models who are older than us help us to keep in touch with God and be our reminders of faith.”

“This world that we’re grow-

“Plating Grace”



Father Leo Patalinghug, a priest and professional chef known as TV’s “Cooking Priest” (PlatingGrace.com) prepares a meal for the women who attended the second annual Ladies’ Night Out Nov. 1, the evening before the diocesan Women’s Fall Retreat in the Cathedral of St. Joseph. The event was sponsored by the diocesan Women’s Ministry Office.

— Photos by Annie Williams

Infinite love

At a Vatican news conference presenting the encyclical Oct. 24, Archbishop Bruno Forte of Chieti-Vasto, Italy, said the document is a “compendium” and the “key” to understanding Pope Francis’ pontificate.

This encyclical explicitly presents the spiritual and theological foundation underlying the pope’s message to the church and the world for the past 12 years — that everything “springs from Christ and his love for all humanity.”

Christ’s heart is aflame with infinite love, and Christ desires to be loved and consoled in return, the pope said, especially by loving and serving one’s neighbors and those who are most marginalized.

Jesus associated with “the lowest ranks of society,” he wrote, introducing the “great novelty of recognizing the dignity of every person, especially those who were considered ‘unworthy.’”

“In union with Christ, amid the ruins we have left in this world by our sins, we are called to build a new civilization of love,” the pope wrote. “That is what it means to make reparation as the heart of Christ would have us do.”

Urgency of mission

In his encyclical, the pope emphasized how only a deep and abiding love in the Lord can inspire and fuel Catholics to share the Gospel and God’s love with the world.

Mission requires missionaries who are “enthralled by Christ” and are “impatient when time is wasted discussing secondary questions or concentrating on truths and rules because their greatest concern is to share what they have experienced,” he wrote.

“They want others to perceive the goodness and beauty of the Beloved through their efforts, however inadequate they may be,” he wrote.

The encyclical can be found at: vatican.va.

ing up in is kind of crazy,” said Kennedy. “So just to help us to have the support we need, so that we can grow together.”

Paisley requested prayers for “good health, for wealth for people who don’t have much, and just a good, holy life overall for everyone who is around.”

Take it with you

Fr. Luzindana urged the young people to remember what they learned and experienced at the rally and to become active in the work of the Church in their parishes.

“Say to your parents, ‘I’m ready to become a witness. I

am ready to become a saint!’” he said.

He also urged the adults of every parish to encourage young people to bring forth their best efforts for the Lord and become whatever he’s calling them to be.

“Do not be afraid to be soldiers of Christ!” he said. “Do not be afraid to make a team for Jesus.”

A highlight video from the Women’s Fall Retreat and the Diocesan Youth Rally can be found the Diocese of Jefferson City’s Facebook page at:

facebook.com/diojeffcity/

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

Nov. 17

Morrison, Assumption Parish sausage breakfast & bake sale, 8 am-noon; **Wien**, St. Mary of the Angels PSR/CYO St. Jude breakfast, 7:30-11 am

Nov. 23

Loose Creek, Christmas Extravaganza & pork burger sale, 9 am-4 pm, Loose Creek Community Center

Nov. 24

Jefferson City, St. Cecilia Sing, afternoon of song & prayer, 2-3:30 pm, Cathedral of St. Joseph

Nov. 28

Camdenton, St. Anthony Parish free Thanksgiving dinner, 11:30 am-1:30 pm; **Tipton**, St. Andrew Parish Thanksgiving Festival, 10:30 am-9 pm

Nov. 30

Starkenburg, Sounds of Starkenburg concerts, 2pm & 5 pm, St. Martin Church Museum, with vendor market & soup supper 1-5 pm, Valentine Hall

Dec. 7

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus Parish Winter Market, 9 am-2 pm

Dec. 8

Belle, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am; **Eureka, Mo.**, "Magnificat — An Evening with David Kauffman," concert & dinner, 5:30-9 pm, Marianist Retreat and Conference Center, for tickets, visit marianistretreat.com

Meetings & Conferences

Every Tuesday

Jefferson City, Divorced Catholics group, 6:30-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Emmaus Room

Every Wednesday & Saturday

Jefferson City, 12-Step Meetings, 7-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Emmaus Room

Nov. 9

Columbia, Central Deanery music ministers "Chat & Chew," 11 am-1:30 pm, Sacred Heart Church Activity Building; **Fulton**, "Do you believe in Miracles?" presentation, 3-5:30 pm, St. Peter Parish; **Holts Summit**, 40 Days for Life dinner with speaker Dan Smedra, 6-8 pm, St. Andrew Church, RSVP to 573-821-5130; **Jefferson City**, Catholic Charities Parish Engagement and

Charity Event, 9 am-noon, Catholic Charities Central Office, for info or to register visit cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/peace

Nov. 10

Columbia, "Biblical Healing: Then and Now" presentation with Dr. Mary Healy, 1-6:15 pm, St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish, for info visit comonewman.breezechms.com/form/b5fef198; **Fulton**, "Do you believe in Miracles?" presentation, 8:45-11:15 am, St. Peter Parish; **Mokane**, "Do you believe in Miracles?" presentation, 3-5:30 pm, St. Jude Thaddeus Parish

Nov. 14

Jefferson City, "History of the Jefferson City Diocese" presentation by Msgr. Robert A. Kurwicki, VG, 6:30-7:30 pm, Cana Hall, all men are invited

Nov. 19

Jefferson City, 2024 Fall Directors of Religious Education & Youth Ministry Workshop, 9:30 am-2:30 pm, Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/2024-fall-dreym-workshop-rsvp

Dec. 5

Columbia, Ultreya for Cursillo, 6:15-8 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes

Parish's Flanagan Hall, for info visit diojeffcity.org/cursillo

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, 11 am-noon, Immaculate Conception Parish

Nov. 10-12

Columbia, "Call to the Deep: Becoming Who God Created You to Be" parish mission led by Deacon Ralph Poyo, each evening 7-8:45 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Nov. 20

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

Dec. 1

Eldon, Advent by Candlelight evening for women, 5-7 pm, Sacred Heart Parish's Catholic Center, for more info visit sacredhearteldon.diojeffcity.org

Dec. 2

Columbia, Monthly CoMo Charismatic Prayer gathering, 7-8:30 pm, Korean Martyrs Room, St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish

Dec. 4

Columbia, Faith, Fun, Fellowship Nite (F3 Nites), discussions for all ages about the Catholic faith, 6:30-8 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's Flanagan Hall, for info or to RSVP visit tinyurl.com/ymw7m3ae

Dec. 6-8

Eureka, Mo., "The Word is Still Becoming Flesh," annual Advent retreat, Marianist Retreat and Conference Center, for info or to register visit marianistretreat.com

Dec. 18

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

Liturgical

Nov. 12

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

Nov. 9

Monroe City, 2024-2025 Confirmation Retreat, 11 am-4 pm, Holy Rosary Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/confirmation-retreat

Nov. 23

Wardsville, 2024-2025 Confirmation Retreat, St. Stanislaus Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/confirmation-retreat

On All Souls, pope prays at graves of children, miscarried infants

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Rome

Pope Francis prayed at the graves of children and of miscarried babies on the feast of All Souls before concelebrating Mass with several hundred mourners.

The pope traveled Nov. 2 to Rome's Laurentino cemetery, which has a special section for children who have died and, nearby, a section called the "Garden of the Angels" where parents who have experienced a miscarriage can opt to have their children buried rather than having a hospital dispose of the remains.

A father who had lost a son greeted the pope, kneeling to kiss the pope's hand, and then pointing to his son's grave.

Pope Francis left a bouquet of white roses at the entrance to the garden where stuffed animals, toys, pinwheels and pots of white chrysanthemums in the shape of a heart stand in contrast to the candles

and flowers on other graves. The grave markers have only one date on them.

Rather than giving a homily during the Mass, the pope led the congregation in a long moment silent reflection.

Pope Francis's prayer intention for the month of November is for parents who have lost a child. In his video message asking people to join him in the prayer, he began by saying, "What can we say to parents who have lost a child? How can we console them? There are no words."

At the end of the Mass, the pope prayed that by visiting the graves of their beloved deceased, people would renew their faith in Jesus, who died, was buried and rose again to save humanity.

The bodies of those who have died will rise again on the last day, he said, and those who have fallen asleep in the Lord will join him in the triumph over death.

He prayed that God would hear people's prayers for their beloved dead and

would "open your arms of mercy" and receive them into the heavenly host.

"Comfort those who are suffering the pain of separation with the certainty that the dead live in you," he prayed, "and that even the bodies entrusted to the earth will one day participate in the paschal victory of your son."

The main celebrant at the Mass was Archbishop Diego Ravelli, the master of papal liturgical ceremonies. However, unlike at most public Masses in the last few years where the pope presides, but does not concelebrate, Pope Francis stood for the Eucharistic prayer and concelebrated the Mass.

*May the souls
of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.*

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Diocese of
Jefferson City

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

Anniversaries

Argyle, St. Aloysius
Alvin & Carol Wieberg, 40 years
Gerald & Darla Schwartze, 35 years

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul
Herman & Betty Gerke, 65 years
Randy & Lila Huebert, 50 years
Scott & Dianne Jackson, 45 years
Jerry & Debra Rapp, 45 years
Kyle & Abby Martin, 10 years

Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus
Mike & Debbie Droste, 50 years

Osage Bend, St. Margaret of Antioch
David & Anna Marie Braun, 65 years

Palmyra, St. Joseph
Howard & Paula Kroeger, 45 years

Rhineland, Church of the Risen Savior
Deacon Gerald & Mary Korman, 55 years

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus
Tom & Mary Buschjost, 40 years

Baptisms

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Bryleigh Ann** and **Beau Delmar Wulff**, children of Kyle & Rachael Wulff

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows — **Quinn Margaret Kempker**, daughter of Chad & Jennifer Kempker; **Ryann Whitley Lepper**, daughter of Devin & Olivia Lepper

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Josephine Lynn Huegerich**, daughter of Alexander & Ashleigh Huegerich

SR. ROSE MARY

From page 11

an, Sr. Rose Mary said she enjoyed going to various homes and praying the Rosary with people.

She was convinced that that experience, along with portraying Our Lady of Lourdes in her senior play, helped steer her toward religious life.

Just like the visionary's mother in "The Song of Bernadette," Sr. Rose Mary said in 2021 that she was amazed at how quickly time goes by.

"It sure does catch up with you," she stated. "That's a great thing for young people to remember."

Preceding Sr. Rose Mary in death were her parents; her sisters Mary Ann (Kolb), Irene and Sister Mary Rose; and her brothers Jerome, Luke and Mark.

Surviving are her sister, Sr. Bernadette, of San Antonio, and by numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives, friends and her community, the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.

A remembrance video can be found by searching "Prayer of Remembrance, Sr. Rose Mary Forck" at [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

Birthdays

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Ragene Schulte**, her 90th on Nov. 2

Fayette, St. Joseph — **Jane Weiland**, her 94th on Nov. 11; **Ken Wies**, his 94th on Nov. 6

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Catherine Haake**, her 90th on Nov. 17

Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception — **Hubert Bescheinen**, his 103rd on Nov. 7 **Connie Haslag**, her 90th on Nov. 20

Osage Bend, St. Margaret of Antioch — **David Braun**, his 90th on Nov. 13

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Edmund Schaefer**, his 90th on Nov. 5

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Gertrude Henke**, her 93rd on Nov. 11

Marriages

Morrison, Assumption — **Gregory Pohlmann & Blake Bocking**

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Jacob Graessle & Erin Fennwald**; **Kaitlyn Otto & Zachary McKinney**

Deaths

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Elizabeth Howser**

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Margaret Nilges**

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Beverly Henke**

HEINLEIN

From page 9

The "Act of Supplication" directs the longings, desires and petitions I bring to Christ. This prayer offers the opportunity to ask Christ to open my mind, will and heart to loving him more and more, but also all those he loves. At this moment of sacramental union with Christ, we beg him to keep us united with him more fully and to keep his grace alive and active within us and bear fruit for the coming of his kingdom and a multiplication of those who work to bring it about in the apostolate. We remember those dear to us — living and deceased. Our prayer should be shaped to make Christ's own desires our own.

I believe these principles can effec-

NORIEGA-FLORES

From page 9

throughout life. As we grow and mature, we should strive to maintain our enthusiasm and openness to new realities. Every moment offers a chance to renew our sense of youthfulness ("Christus Vivit," 160).

Stepping out of our comfort zones may feel challenging, but it's essential for growth as disciples. Living in abundance means fostering relationships with God and all of creation, allowing our hearts to be renewed by love, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience (Col. 3:12-14). To do otherwise is to live in scarcity.

So, dear friends, I invite you to ponder God's infinite love for you. Allow yourself to wrestle with and rest in the

tively shape our post-Communion personal prayer, magnifying that time and increasing its fruitfulness. Gifts are given for a purpose. If we want to more fully find the Eucharist's purpose in our lives, I believe the roadmap laid out by these prayers help us to do so. If nothing else, praying for that grace itself can certainly help us more abundantly receive Holy Communion and shape our lives accordingly.

Michael R. Heinlein is author of "Glorifying Christ: The Life of Cardinal Francis E. George, O.M.I." and a promised member of the Association of Pauline Cooperators.

idea that you are cherished beyond measure. Let God heal any biases, divisive thoughts, narratives or worldly expectations about success.

Embrace the capacity of wonder and dreaming that define youthfulness, and don't let comfort or apathy rob you of that joy. Ask questions, explore your feelings and don't be afraid to seek out Christ who is the greatest mystery of life. Each step you take on this journey brings you closer to discovering the meaning and fullness of your unique life.

When things get tough, ask the Holy Spirit for help. In Christ, every heart can be renewed. Today, let's strive to live in abundance and be fully alive!

Brenda Noriega-flores is a doctoral candidate in theology and education at Boston College Clough School of Theology and Education. She additionally works as a research assistant and project coordinator for Nuevo Momento, a leadership and capacity-building initiative for ministerial organizations serving Hispanic Catholics.

QUESTION

From page 8

are, for example, married by a justice of the peace without the needed dispensation, we might call the resulting invalid union a "merely civil marriage."

Although it might sound surprising, the sacramentality of a marriage is not usually relevant to the work of a marriage tribunal. Typically, a tribunal seeks to investigate only whether or not a true marriage — that is, either a valid but merely natural marriage, or a sacramental marriage between Christians — ever took place. Since a non-sacramental marriage can still be a valid marriage, and because the tribunal's concern is with whether the marriage in question was valid, a tribunal generally would not investigate whether a marriage was sacramental.

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.

Crossword puzzle answers

1	J	S		S	K	N	V	H	J		O	J
2	F	O	H	C	U	M		P	R	V	H	S
3	I		J			T	E	M	V	C		U
4	W	V	U		S				E	N	I	M
5	S	U	O	D	R	V	Z	V	H			
6		S	M		V	R	V			V	N	
7						V			A	O	C	C
8	V	L	E		S	I		H	C	R	I	R
9	V	S			S	J		V		J		
10		N	R	V	E		S	P	V	A	N	
11	S	I	J		T	N	S		V		E	V
12	G	V			E	D	E	P	M	V	J	S
13	O	G	E		S	T	I	O		E	J	V
14	T	V		S	U	N		I	J	V	N	I

Song and dance

LEFT: The students of St. Peter School in Marshall sing patriotic songs and variations on Psalm 23 during the school's Grandparents Day celebration Oct. 17. **RIGHT:** Fourth-graders dance to the "Missouri Waltz" with their grandparents.

— Photos by Carol Wolfe



Circle unbroken



Members of the Sacred Heart School junior high soccer team in Sedalia join in a prayer circle in the middle of the field at the invitation of their opponent, the Christian Fellowship team, before a game in Columbia Oct. 11.

— Photo from the Sacred Heart School, Sedalia, MO Facebook page

Rosary for Peace

RIGHT and BELOW: Middle school students at St. Stanislaus School in Wardsville pray the Rosary together Oct. 7 for a world day of fasting and prayer called for by Pope Francis. All students at the school ate their lunch in silence as part of the observance.

— Photo from the St. Stanislaus School Facebook page



Saints alive in Centralia!



RIGHT: Lucy Benoit (dressed as St. Lucy) and Lillian Benoit (dressed as St. Gianna) pause for a photo with their mother, Lauren Benoit, after the 7 a.m. Mass on Nov. 1, the Solemnity of All Saints in Holy Spirit Church in Centralia.

— Photo by Meredith Stidham

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Bible Accent

God performed another miracle through Elijah while the prophet was staying with the widow in Zarephath.

One day, the widow's son became very ill. He became sicker and sicker until he stopped breathing and died.

"Why have you done this to me, man of God?" the widow asked Elijah. "Have you come to me to call attention to my guilt and to kill my son?"

Elijah looked at the woman.

"Give me your son," he told her.

Elijah took the boy from his mother's lap and carried him to the upper room of the house where the prophet had been staying. He laid the child on the bed and called out to God.

"Lord, my God, will you afflict even the widow with whom I am staying by killing her son?" Elijah cried.

He again called out to God.

"Lord, my God, let the life breath return to the body of this child," Elijah prayed.

God heard Elijah's prayer and returned the son to life. Elijah then brought the boy back downstairs to his mother.

"Now indeed I know that you are a man of God, and it is truly the word of the Lord that you speak," the widow said to Elijah.

St. Felicitas

St. Felicitas was a Christian who lived in Italy in the second century. She is said to have been a widow who had seven sons. Felicitas also was said to be very devoted to works of charity. She won many people to the faith, which greatly upset local pagan priests, who often complained about her. Around the year 165, Felicitas was arrested for being a Christian. She was ordered to worship pagan gods or face death. After she refused to worship the false gods, the Roman emperor had her executed. Felicitas was buried in the cemetery of Maximus on the Salarian Way in Rome, and we honor her on Nov. 23.



A widow helps Elijah after he proclaims a drought

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic Courier

King Ahab of Israel did what was evil in God's sight, more than any king who came before him.

One of the evil things King Ahab did was to marry his wife, Queen Jezebel. She was a pagan who influenced her husband to begin serving and worshiping the false god Baal.

In light of this, God told his prophet Elijah to give Ahab a warning.

Through Elijah, God informed Ahab that no dew or rain would fall on the land for a long time. The dew and rain would only come again when God instructed Elijah to say so.

God then instructed Elijah to go into hiding.

"Leave here, go east and hide in the Wadi Cherith, east of the Jordan," God said. "You shall drink of the wadi, and I have commanded ravens to feed you there."

Elijah had plenty to eat and drink at the Wadi Cherith. However, since there was a drought, the wadi — which is a stream bed that has water in it only during the rainy season — eventually dried up.

God continued to provide for Elijah's care.

"Arise, go to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow there to feed you," God told Elijah.

Elijah went to Zarephath. As he entered the city, he saw the widow, who was gathering sticks to make a fire. He called to the woman and asked for a cup of water. As she was leaving to get Elijah a drink, he

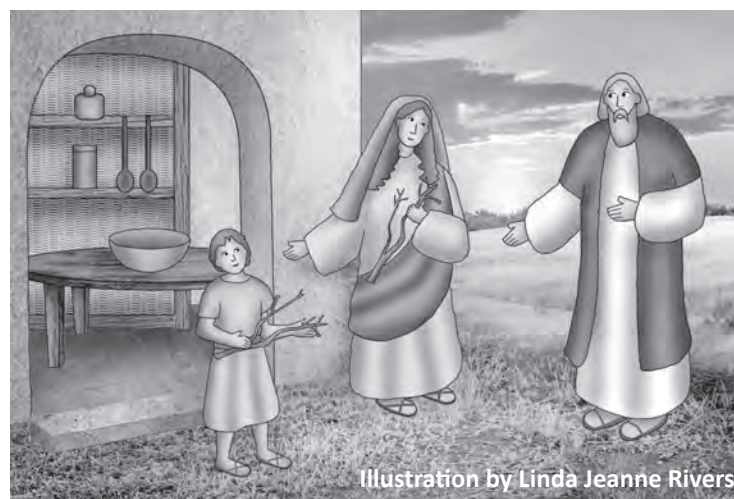


Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

also asked that she bring him a bit of bread.

"As the Lord, your God, lives, I have nothing baked; there is only a handful of flour in my jar and a little oil in my jug," the widow replied. "Just now I was collecting a couple of sticks, to go in and prepare something for myself and my son; when we have eaten it, we shall die."

Elijah told her not to be afraid and to make him a little cake before making something for herself and her son.

"For the Lord, the God of Israel, says, 'The jar of flour

shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the day when the Lord sends rain upon the earth,'" he said.

The widow did what Elijah asked. And just as God had said through Elijah, the widow's jar of flour and jug of oil did not go empty, and she, her son and Elijah had plenty to eat for an entire year.

Read more about it...

1 Kings 17

1. Where was the first place God told Elijah to hide?

2. Who was afraid of running out of flour and oil?

Essay

Reading for
November 10, 2024:
1 Kings 17:10-16

How do you show your
trust in God?

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Puzzle

Using the hints provided from 1 Kings 18, put a T next to the sentences that are true and an F next to the ones that are false.

- ___ Obadiah saved 100 prophets from being killed by Jezebel. (verse 4)
- ___ There were 5,000 prophets of Baal. (verse 22)
- ___ God told Elijah to end the drought in the fifth year. (verse 1)
- ___ All of Israel was summoned to Mount Carmel. (verse 19)
- ___ Elijah told his servant to look at the sea three times. (verse 43)

Answers: 1. T; 2. F; 3. F; 4. T; 5. F

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Saving Catholic marriage may need the whole Church

The Road to Family Missionary Discipleship, by Ryan and Mary Rose Verret with Peter Jesserer Smith, Witness to Love (2023), 203 pages, \$19.95.

Reviewed by Elizabeth Scalia
OSV News

“Current efforts in standard (Catholic) marriage preparation are not working,” write Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret, in *The Road to Missionary Discipleship: Forming Marriages and Families to Share the Joy of the Gospel*.

It’s hard to imagine anyone disagreeing.

In the past decade, my husband and I have attended nearly a dozen wedding celebrations of Catholic couples. Only three of them took place in church — two nuptial Masses and one Liturgy of the Word.

The rest occurred at catering venues — outdoors, weather permitting. A curious journalist, I’ve always wondered to the couples (or their parents), why the sacrament was so easily sacrificed?

Answers varied, but most involved some combination



of outdoor preference coupled with personal or political grievances against the Church, or with eye rolling unwillingness to “jump through the Catholic hoops,” and attend multi-session marriage prep required by their diocese.

Many couples had already been living together for years before marrying, and Catholicism had not been meaningful to them since fleeing the pews after their Confirmations. For

them, Pre-Cana (or other programs seemingly unchanged since the 1970s) were deemed useless, unnecessary time-sucks intruding into their busy lives.

The decline in Catholic marriage is a worldwide issue. Of the three main objections expressed in my casual research, the social and political tensions (women’s ordination, sexual abuses of clergy, same-sex marriage, etc.) were big, complex and sincere, and this must be an ongoing concern for teachers of the Church. But outdoor weddings are a subject on which some U.S. bishops are already evolving.






In 2021, after a three-year experiment in chancery-approved outdoor weddings, Baltimore’s Archbishop William E. Lori permanently allowed them.

“(Couples) were not coming for any kind of preparation, or even conversation about marriage, once they found out that their chosen venue was ‘not permitted,’” explained the diocese.

In St. Augustine, Florida, the Marywood Retreat and Conference Center is a designated diocesan location for outdoor weddings.

So, with such weddings slowly becoming available, that leaves the spiritual and social relevancy of required diocesan wedding prep programs to be assessed and improved.

Movie Ratings

	The Wild Robot (PG)
	The Carpenter (PG-13) Lost on a Mountain in Maine (PG) Piece by Piece (PG) Reagan (PG-13) Transformers One (PG) White Bird (PG-13)
	AfrAld (PG-13) Venom: The Last Dance (PG-13)
	Beetlejuice Beetlejuice (PG-13) Conclave (PG) Joker: Folie à Deux (R) Megalopolis (R) Saturday Night (R) Speak No Evil (R)
	The Front Room (R) The Killer’s Game (R) Never Let Go (R) Smile 2 (R)

Ratings are supplied by OSV News Service.

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K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton

In *The Road to Missionary Discipleship*, the authors argue for a full-on marriage catechumenate — deep discipleship formation that takes not weeks, but years:

“If the longstanding Pre-Cana classroom approach was a successful model, with its handful of meetings with the priest, we would see more than a marginal impact on Catholic divorce rates, and we would see more couples in church after the wedding.”

The idea of a marriage catechumenate is not new — Pope St. John Paul II envisioned such a program in his 1981 exhortation *Familiaris Consortio*, writing, “only by the acceptance of the Gospel are the hopes that man legitimately places in marriage and in the family capable of being fulfilled.”

Pope Francis breathed new life into the subject with *Amoris Laetitia* in 2016, which was followed by the Vatican releasing “Catechumenal Itin-

eraries for Marriage Life” — a comprehensive presentation on “the need for a new catechumenate that includes all the stages of the sacramental journey: the times of preparation for marriage, its celebration and the years that follow.”

In *The Road to Missionary Discipleship*, Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret, along with Catholic journalist Peter Jesserer Smith, national editor for OSV News, do an excellent job of selling all the ways a marriage catechumenate could answer the continuum of ideas and expressed wishes of our three most recent popes, and they make it sound very attractive, indeed.

Who wouldn’t want to see our young engaged couples blessed with a Rite of Betrothal, their faith fed and fostered by their parish community; their marriage mentored and supported, literally for years, by the ongoing presence and

See MARRIAGE, page 27

GABON

From page 4

"Here in the U.S., we're not used to certain levels of discomfort that people are used to in some other countries," she noted.

She's also been preparing for what she believes will be inevitable spiritual battles.

"The best way to do that is by taking care of yourself physically and spiritually," she stated. "Really working on the prayer life, the interior life — I think that's really the most important thing — to take on extra spiritual protection, especially through prayer and the Sacraments.

"You're fortifying yourself with God's grace and protection," she said. "You also need to go into it with humility, knowing that we all still have so much to learn, so much growth to be done."

She's preparing to weather "all kinds of little humiliations" — "whether it's a language barrier or things being so different from back home, all kinds of frustrations, preparing myself to be in very defeated situations."

She sees these things as opportunities to trust God even more.

"To know God will be there and we'll be able to bring good out of those seemingly defeated or seemingly hopeless situations," she said.

Through a dark valley

In her time as a nurse — the first year of which she worked in a cancer ward — Miss Saathoff has become acquainted with suffering and death.

"There's really no way to prepare yourself to help people through that," she noted. "You almost have to just go through it first."

It never gets easier, but experience has shown her how to handle it better and know what to say to grieving loved ones.

Toward that end, she's confident that this mission experience will change her forever.

"I want to come home with a more sensitive heart to the sufferings of others," she stated. "To have a deeper understanding and willingness to put myself aside as much as possible."

She said she needs to continue dying to herself as much as she can.

"We all need to put off our old selves and put on the new,"



Gemma Saathoff and fellow missionary Anna stand outside Chantilly Castle while in France preparing to serve in the French-speaking nation of Gabon in Africa.

she said. "I hope that winds up being the most profound thing about this trip, and that I'll see others the way God sees them.

"That's something we all need to do," she said. "To really have that eternal perspective, that eternal point of looking at each and every person as much I can as God sees them, and seeing Christ in them."

Solemn beauty

Miss Saathoff has taken as her new motto a quote from St. Francis de Sales: "Cook the truth in charity until it tastes sweet."

She sees the mission in Mouila as a living testament to how the solemnity of prayer and worship draw people to sacrifice significantly in order to share the truth and proclaim the Good News to every corner of the world.

She is quick to thank all the people who are supporting her in this mission through their giving and their prayers.

"I am so very grateful, and I will be praying for them," she said.

For herself, she asked for prayers for courage and perse-

verance.

"And for wisdom and fortitude for everyone else who's there, as well, for prudence with how we navigate the roles, the tasks, how we evangelize to each person there, so we can meet every need as individuals and as a group."

She also requests intercession for deliverance from physical and spiritual dangers, as well as for the hearts of the people she meets to be "really, really open to the truth and seeking God and joining the one true, holy, Catholic, apostolic Church."

She noted that the charism of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest emphasizes beauty and reverence in the Liturgy in order to bring souls to God.

"Since we are incarnational beings — body and soul composites — we benefit from the elevation of the senses through rich artwork, solemn rubrics and transcendent music," she stated.

"So, I pray that seeing the beauty and goodness of it all in this little mission, the people may be drawn closer to God, that it may bear spiritual fruit," she said.

MARRIAGE

From page 26

prayerful encouragement of others?

But wow, that sounds like a huge commitment of time and availability by all concerned, doesn't it?

The authors don't deny it; they realistically and thoughtfully address the truth that in order to create a successful marriage catechumenate the Church must possess a well-catechized flock of believers who —

on fire with the love of Christ — will agree to be more than six-week volunteers but a Christian community of companions and role models, ready to go some distance on the walk of life, with a family in its tenderest years.

A marriage catechumenate is an ambitious vision, one that, given the roots it must plant and grow within the Church,

will take not years but decades to fully implement.

It sounds like such a necessary undertaking, by the people of God, and it will require rebuilding all of our religious education programs, from the ground up.

Elizabeth Scalia is editor-at-large for OSV.

Daily Readings

Sunday, Nov 10

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kgs. 17:10-16
Ps. 146:7-10
Heb. 9:24-28
Mk. 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

Sunday, Nov 17

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Dn. 12:1-3
Ps. 16:5, 8-11
Heb. 10:11-14, 18
Mk. 13:24-32

Monday, Nov 11

St. Martin of Tours, bishop
Ti. 1:1-9
Ps. 24:1b-6
Lk. 17:1-6

Monday, Nov 18

*The Dedication of the Basilicas of
St. Peter and Paul, Apostles;
St. Rose Philippine Duchesne,
virgin (USA)*
Rv. 1:1-4; 2:1-5
Ps. 1:1-4, 6

Tuesday, Nov 12

St. Josaphat, bishop and martyr
Ti. 2:1-8, 11-14
Ps. 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29
Lk. 17:7-10

Tuesday, Nov 19

Rv. 3:1-6, 14-22
Ps. 15:2-5
Lk. 19:1-10

Wednesday, Nov 13

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin (USA)
Ti. 3:1-7
Ps. 23:1b-6
Lk. 17:11-19

Wednesday, Nov 20

Rv. 4:1-11
Ps. 150:1b-6
Lk. 19:11-28

Thursday, Nov 14

Phlm. 7-20
Ps. 146:7-10
Lk. 17:20-25

Thursday, Nov 21

The Presentation of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Rv. 5:1-10
Ps. 149:1b-6a, 9b
Lk. 19:41-44

Friday, Nov 15

St. Albert the Great, bishop and
doctor of the Church
2 Jn. 4-9
Ps. 119:1, 2, 10-11, 17-18
Lk. 17:26-37

Friday, Nov 22

St. Cecilia, virgin and martyr
Rv. 10:8-11
Ps. 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131
Lk. 19:45-48

Saturday, Nov 16

St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, virgin
3 Jn. 5-8
Ps. 112:1-6
Lk. 18:1-8

Saturday, Nov 23

St. Clement I, pope and martyr;
St. Columban, abbot; Blessed
Miguel Agustín Pro, priest and
martyr (USA)
Rv. 11:4-12
Ps. 144:1, 2, 9-10
Lk. 20:27-40

The Holy Father's prayer intentions for November:

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

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African Thanksgiving Mass in Columbia

DATE: November 17
TIME: 3 p.m.

The African Community in Columbia invites everyone to join them for a Thanksgiving African Mass, to be celebrated at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17, in Sacred Heart Church, 105 Waugh St. in Columbia.

A reception will take place in the parish hall after Mass.

Second Tuesday Mass in Starkenburg

DATE: November 12
TIME: 10 am-2 pm

The Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows will have its final Second Tuesday Mass of 2024 on Nov. 12.

An optional history tour of

St. Martin Church Museum, the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows and some stops in between will begin at Valentine Hall on the Shrine property at 10 a.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at 11:15

a.m. The Rosary will be prayed at 11:40 a.m.

Mass will be offered at noon in the Shrine Chapel.

A locally prepared meal will be available in Valentine Hall after Mass.

40 Days for Life Closing Rally, Dinner

DATE: November 9
TIME: 7 pm

The Closing Rally and Dinner for the 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. at St. Andrew Parish's Veit Hall, 400 St. Andrew Drive in Holts Summit.

Donations will be accepted. Mass will be celebrated at

5:30 p.m. in the church.

The doors to the hall will open and the silent auction will begin at 6 p.m.

Dinner prepared by Knights of Columbus St. Andrew Council 8400 will be at 7 p.m.

Dan Smedra from St. Louis will be the speaker.

Call 573-821-5130 to RSVP for the event.



Sounds of Starkenburg
Holiday Concerts
Saturday, November 30
2:00 pm & 5:00 pm

St. Martin's Church Museum, 197 Hwy. P
Starkenburg, MO

FEATURING
1860s Pfeiffer Pipe Organ - Barry Bierwirth, Organist
Vocal Performances - Instrumental Performances - Sing-alongs

Soup Supper & Vendor Market,
1-5 pm at Valentine Hall



ST. ANDREW PARISH'S
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*Due to renovations at St. Andrew,
Mass will be at 8 am at
Annunciation Church in California*

Prayer of Abandonment

Father, I abandon myself into your hands. Do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you.

I am ready for all. I accept all. Let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures. I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul. I offer it to you with all the love of my heart.

For I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve and with boundless confidence. For you are my father! Amen.

— St. Charles de Foucauld



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