

# The Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301

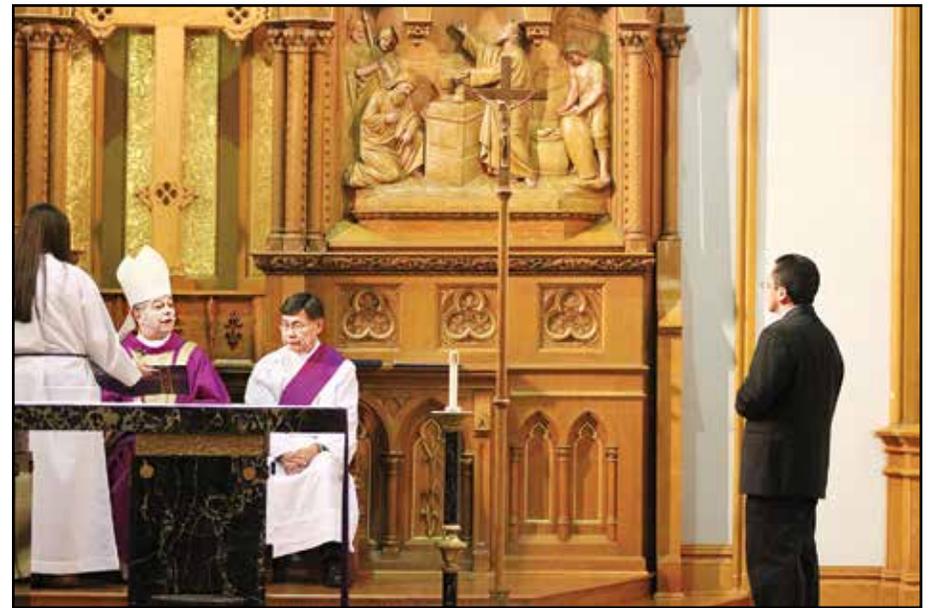
Volume 42, Number 1

January, 2015

Graphic by Allison Hayden



**Diocesan Offices Now Called The McRaith Catholic Center**  
On Friday, December 5th the Diocese of Owensboro celebrated Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith's 80th birthday which was on Dec. 6, 2014. In honor of Bishop John's dedication and servant style leadership to the Diocese for 27 years, Bishop William Medley found it fitting to honor him on his 80th birthday with the re-naming of the Catholic Pastoral Center at 600 Locust Street in Owensboro as the McRaith Catholic Center. See story on page 4. Mel Howard photo



**Candidacy** Basilio Az Cuc was joyfully accepted as a candidate for the priesthood for the Diocese of Owensboro on Saturday evening, Nov. 29th, during the First Sunday of Advent Liturgy at Holy Name Parish in Henderson. Bishop William Medley offered the prayers of the Rite of Candidacy just after Father Jason McClure, the Vocation Director of the diocese, formally presented Basilio as a qualified candidate for priesthood. Deacon Jamie Tiu is seated beside Bishop Medley. Photo by Larena Lawson



## National Catholic Schools Week 2015

Sunday, January 25, 2015 to Saturday, January 31, 2015

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2015 is January 25 - 31. Schools typically observe National Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open house and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.



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## Consecrated Religious Read Signs of the Times To Know How and Where To Proclaim The Gospel



Most Reverend  
William F. Medley,  
Bishop of  
Owensboro

Dear sisters and brothers,

Pope Francis has announced a Year for Consecrated Life to celebrate the men and women of the Church living out their lives as vowed religious. He quotes St. John Paul II in the Apostolic Letter announcing this extended observance: "You have not only a glorious history to remember and to recount, but also a great history still to be accomplished! Look to the future, where the spirit is sending you in order to do even greater things."

The Year for Consecrated Life began on the first Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014 and will continue through the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple on February 2, 2016.

Pope Francis identified three aims of this extraordinary observance: to look to the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion, and to embrace the future with hope.

Religious communities of men and women will use this year to reflect upon their distinct charismas, celebrate their histories, and commit anew to their mission, which must always be rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There are thousands of religious communities throughout the world. Occasionally someone will ask why so many. Well, there is an answer to that question in the history of every single community. Charismatic leaders perhaps saw a unique need that warranted the establishment of a distinct community in a particular time and place.

One of the distinctive phrases to come from Pope John XXIII and the Second Vatican Council was the call that the Church always respond to the "signs of the times," asking where and how to proclaim the Gospel in a particular time and place. The history of most religious communities might be summed up as answers to this core and timeless question.

It is altogether proper that the Year for Consecrated Life is happening within a larger ongoing celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, which extended from 1962 through

1965. The most evident manifestation of Vatican II came to dioceses and parishes in the changes in the liturgy, when the Mass and sacraments began to be celebrated in vernacular languages rather than Latin. But the significant teachings of the Council came in leaders, particularly consecrated religious, giving wings to the Council's emphatic call to all men and women to a universal call to holiness. This has triggered growth in ministry and service of all people who have embraced a fuller meaning of the Baptismal call.

It was religious, and particularly women religious, who studied the Council documents and recognized the breadth

of the "new Pentecost" that Pope John XXIII envisioned for the church. They have been on the front lines of a Church in the modern world.

We owe men and women of consecrated life a deep debt and I pray that this year will present us many ways to recognize and celebrate their histories and their futures.

May God Bless You all!

*+William F. Medley*

+Most Reverend William F. Medley,  
Bishop of Owensboro

### Bishop Medley's Calendar For January 2015

January 3-4	FOCUS Conference, Nashville, TN
January 4-8	Region V Bishops Retreat, New Orleans, LA
January 10	9:30 a.m. Catholics at the Capital Regional Gathering, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
January 11	10:30 a.m. Confirmation, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
January 12 - 15	Priest Convocation, Saint Meinrad, IN
January 16	4:00 p.m. Diocese of Owensboro St. Vincent de Paul Society, Vincentian Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral
January 17	9:30 a.m. Catholics at the Capital Regional Gathering Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville 4:00 p.m. Diocesan Confirmation Retreat and Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral
January 18	10:00 a.m. Confirmation, Sts. Joseph and Paul, Owensboro
January 19	9:45 a.m. Priests' Personnel Board Meeting, CPC 1:30 p.m. Priests' Council Meeting, CPC
January 20	9:00 a.m. CPC Staff Mass and Meeting
January 22	12:05 p.m. Mass for Life, St. Stephen Cathedral 6:00 p.m. Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, CPC
January 26	9:00 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
January 27	9:30 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass, St. Mary School System, Paducah 12-3:00 p.m. Paducah Office
January 28	6:00 p.m. Confirmation, St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
January 30	8:00 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass, Christ the King, Madisonville
January 31	5:00 p.m. Confirmation, St. Joseph, Mayfield



### Confirmation Candidates

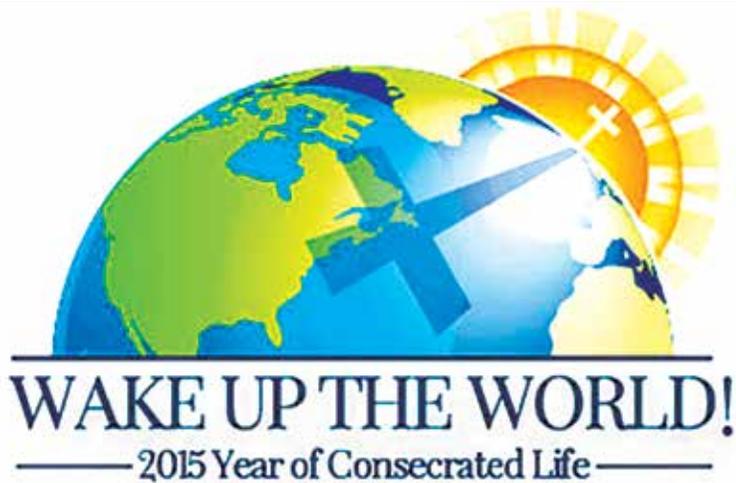
*Bishop Medley invites the Confirmation Candidates of the Diocese of Owensboro to come see him and tour the Cathedral Church the Mother Church of the Diocese*

**When:** January 17, 2015 12:30 – 5:00 (Mass at 5:00 with Bishop Medley) Registration begins at Noon

**Where:** Fr. John Vaughan Community Center (Former Cathedral Undercroft)

**Who:** Confirmation Candidates (Reservation required; limit of 150 candidates)

Parish Confirmation coordinators: Please contact Donna Biggs at 270-852-8324 or [donna.biggs@pastoral.org](mailto:donna.biggs@pastoral.org) to reserve your spots. You will be informed immediately if we have filled our limit.



November 30, 2014- February 2, 2016

***Consecrated Life in our Diocese:  
Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph***

We are women religious who “come together attending holiness” for the sake of the mission of Jesus, a mission to teach the Gospel to those who want to hear it. In the wake of Vatican Council II, we spent long and sometimes painful years in a renewal process that the Council challenged us to enter. We looked at every aspect of our life together as did other communities around the world, both women and men, to bring our founder’s life, vision and inspiration into our conscious choices moving into a renewed Church. We trusted the Spirit to guide us through the process to a renewed commitment to our vowed life and ministry.

As we learned more intimately who Saint Angela Merici was for us and for Ursulines around the world, we found a woman who was neither married nor cloistered. She spent her days on the farm or in city life, and her nights and early hours of the morning in prayer “at the feet of Jesus” interceding for those people who filled her days. She found a “third way” to be a woman in 16th century Renaissance Italy: she chose to live like Saint Ursula, a virginal love for God alone, a life of prayer in community with other women living in their family homes, balanced with a life of work among the people in need. She was especially attentive to the young women who were without parents or in need of nurturance. Families were torn asunder by war and violence, plague and social turmoil. The Church was in upheaval and clerical abuses and corruption unchecked.

Sound familiar? The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph took the challenge of the Council document on Religious Life, studied the writings of Saint Angela, and listened to the Spirit of God within and among us. We meticulously applied the Legacy and Counsels of Saint Angela to our hearts and lives and made changes to our Ursuline Way of Life, “according to the times and circumstances” to meet the needs of others in our Church and world today. We became especially aware of the Church’s social teachings as we held them “in one hand” and the Scriptures in the other. The poor became a lot more vivid in our congregational and individual consciousness. The needs of the poor became a cry to be heard as we chose ministries that put our talents and education to service in the States and countries where we live.

During this Year of Consecrated Life we want you to know us better. We do not always know what the Spirit of Jesus will ask of us next. Our life is “supported by prayer and community” that has an amazing power to keep us vibrant. We know that Saint Angela and Jesus made us a similar promise: “I will be with you always.” We ask for the prayers of the parishes and schools where we serve and have served as we continue to grow in holiness and to serve the teaching mission of the Church. May the Kingdom of God be manifested in our lives and yours!

- Sr. Suzanne Sims, OSU

**My dear friends in the Diocese of Owensboro, January, 2015 3**

My heart is filled with gratitude today for the life God has given to us through our Catholic faith passed on by those giants on whose shoulders we stand today. The pioneer Catholics who came to western Kentucky to freely worship God in community, parishes, and later in the Diocese of Owensboro, those mothers and fathers, priests, deacons, brothers and Sisters believed in God’s power to transform their lives and spread the love of God for all his creation. They sacrificed and built churches, schools, and religious congregations to be the homes where Jesus’ love can be present every day in the Eucharist and in the sacraments. As the bishop here, I came to know the names of these pioneer Catholics and to get acquainted with their sons and daughters, their descendants who have kept the Faith alive in our own time.

Now, as I wish to express my gratitude for your willingness to minister with me as bishop, to support all the priests, deacons, and consecrated religious of our diocese, and to accept God’s call to share the mission of the Church as lay ministers, each according to her and his gifts, I want to thank each of you for all the lives you have touched and still inspire with God’s love as you teach and help others to know Jesus. Know that you have touched my life deeply, that I am humbled as I see your faith, your love for one another, and your belief that the future is a blessed hope, a new life in Christ, a movement of the Communion of Saints as one Body in Christ toward Heaven.

You have celebrated with me my eightieth birthday and given me good memories, a lot of laughter, and the best gift of all, your sharing of the Spirit of God which lives within you as we greeted one another’s hearts in St. Stephen Cathedral on Dec.5. One could just feel God’s Spirit in our faith community during the Mass with our Bishop William Medley, priests and deacons who concelebrated and in the reception held in the Pastoral Center.

I want to especially thank my brother bishop and dear friend William Medley who has been so good to me, and the whole diocesan staff who worked so hard to make this day so perfect. The Cathedral was full and the music beautifully played and sung.

Last, but not least, I am so grateful for all the beautiful cards and gifts that were given to me on this happy occasion. When I came here 32 years ago, I prayed that we could have a long life together and that prayer has certainly been answered. I’ve known the joy of working with so many people who have made this happen.

And now, as I think of you and thank each of you with all my heart, I have a hope for you, a prayer from one of our Church’s giants, Saint Paul, who wrote “Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God whenever I think of you, and every time I pray for you all, I always pray with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the very first day up to the present. I am quite confident that the One who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the Day of Jesus Christ comes.” Philippians 1: 2-6.



I love you all.

+ Bishop-Emeritus John Jeremiah McRaith

**The Western Kentucky Catholic  
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4 January, 2014

## Diocese Hosts Celebration of 80th Birthday of Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith

By Mel Howard

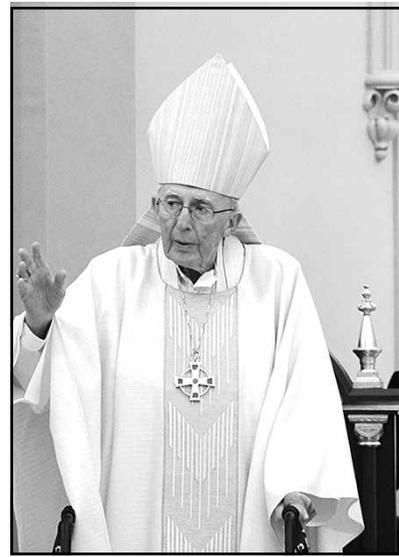
OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Friday of the first Week of Advent, 2014, the Diocese of Owensboro celebrated in St. Stephen Cathedral with Bishop William Medley and Bishop Charles Thompson, Diocese of Evansville, In., the 80th birthday of Bishop Emeritus John Jeremiah McRaith, third bishop of Owensboro. More than 200 guests attended the Mass and shared a prepared lunch afterwards in the newly names McRaith Catholic Center first floor meeting room.

Many of the diocesan staff people who have served the diocese since 1982 attended. Bishop John McRaith made it one of his first priorities when he became bishop here to recruit a diocesan staff who would then be models for parish staffs within the diocese. Many on the diocesan staff were priests and Sisters in those early days. Later, as Bishop McRaith called more laity to service for this local church, some of the goals of RENEW came to fruition, a more widespread presence of the laity in all areas of ministry within this local church.

Bishop William Medley preached the homily for the Mass on a theme, "Jesus has revealed to us that our God is always in our midst." He recounted some major events in the life of Bishop Emeritus John McRaith from birth to ordination as a priest, then bishop, and called his many of years of service as priest and bishop as his cooperating with God as an "instrument of hope to people, a priest of hope. Bishop John is a shepherd in our midst in western Kentucky, very much in the sense of Pope Francis; urging of pastors to be among their sheep. His life has been eighty years of good living!"

Toward the end of the homily, Bishop William Medley announced that the diocesan offices in Owensboro would be re-named in honor of Bishop Emeritus John Jeremiah McRaith as the McRaith Catholic Center, and still be located at 600 Locust Street in Owensboro.

**Photos: top - Fr Joe Mills greeting Bishops William Medley and Charles Thompson before the Mass; the Consecration of Mass; center - first Family Life Office Director Marcy Allman enjoying Bishop Medley's homily; Bishop Emeritus McRaith's blessing; Drury Howard of Owensboro greets Bishop John; at right - at the reception, Waitman Taylor greeting Bishop John; Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, O.S.U. offering birthday wishes to Bishop John. Mel Howard photos**



# St. Denis Catholic Church Celebrates 100th Anniversary

January, 2015 5

By Sandra McGrath

In 1634, Lord Baltimore sailed for the new world on the ship, Ark and Dove, along with persecuted Catholic Irish families. The group landed in what is present day Baltimore. The immigrants set up their Cross and planted the English flag in what they called St. Mary's which became the colony of Maryland.

About 150 years later, sixty of these original families were persuaded to travel into Kentucky. They brought their Catholic faith with them. These intrepid pioneers settled in what is now Marion, Washington, Nelson, Scott, Bullit, and Jefferson counties. In the 1830's, several of these families decided to venture further west to new lands and lives. They settled in what is now known as Graves, Carlisle, and Hickman counties. Several of these families settled next to what is the present day site of St. Denis Catholic Church.

The people who lived in the Hickman County area in 1913 wanted a church of their own. They contacted Bishop Denis O'Donaghue (1910-1924) of the Louisville Diocese who agreed to the building of St. Denis Catholic Church. It was a joyous Sunday, October 7, 1914, when the first Mass was celebrated at St. Denis.

On October 26, 2014, the Joseph Bridger Chapter Colonial Dames XVII Century located in Cadiz, Kentucky, placed a marker at the site of St. Denis Catholic Church, having found this site to be historically significant.

The Church celebrated its 100th year anniversary with a Mass (approximately 200 parishioners strong) followed by a catered lunch. Bishop William Medley of the Owensboro Diocese presided at the Mass. Three former priests, Fr. David Willett, Fr. Jerry Riney, and Fr. Bruce Fo-

gel were present at the ceremony as well as Fr. Darrell Venters from Fancy Farm, St. Jerome parish. The present pastor, Fr. Chrispin Oneko, was installed as the new parish priest of St. Denis.

Shirley Jean Toon, a member of St. Denis parish, read the history of the Church citing its very origins and naming many of the past parishioners who were responsible for the building of St. Denis Church. She read the names of all the priests that ever served at St. Denis and the years they served. The gift bearers were Glen and Judy Carter, the servers were Chloe Ellegood, Luke Hayden, Chase Wiley, and Nichole Wilson. Several members of St. Charles parish were present and acknowledged. At the end of the Mass, the Higgins family, Chris, Tammy, and Barry, and Whitney Wiley played and sang a Colonial song about the Boston Tea Party. Denise McWhorter played the organ and singers, Wanda Carter, Rebecca Cornwell, and Robert Ellegood, gave forth a "joyful noise unto the Lord". The parish was thankful for the beautiful



Pictured above are the Colonial Dames of XVII Century, a national organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Bowling Green, Ky. chapter is the Joseph Bridger Chapter; there are 6 chapters in the state of KY. The history of St. Denis church is significantly historical and on the 100th anniversary The Colonial Dames marked the church with a plaque. The bell in the center is significant as it was part of the original church and is still used today before Mass. From left, are Mary Sue Hubbard, Betty Thomas, Dianne King, Kathy Kessinger, Sandra McGrath, Alberta Baker, Linda Fritz, Chapter President, Martha Maxfield, and Margery Sumner. Photos submitted by Sandra McGrath



Bishop William Medley blessing the Historical Marker

weather and the abundance of spirit and love.

Kathy Kessinger, National Chairman of Gravestone Preservation, gave the history of Colonial Dames XVII Century and Mary Florence Taney, the founder. State President, Alberta Baker, gave the keynote speech and placed a wreath.

Those attending the marking from the Joseph Bridger Chapter were Linda Fritz, Barbara Smith, Martha Maxfield, Margery Sumner, Dianne King, Mary Sue Hubbard, and Sandra McGrath (a member of St. Denis parish). In addition other guests were Ronnie Hubbard, James Sumner, and prospective member, Betty Thomas.



Shirley Toon told the history of St. Denis Parish.



Bishop William Medley installing Fr. Oneko as St. Denis pastor.

## Diocesan Priest Assignments

December 22, 2014

- **Fr. Brandon Williams** has been appointed administrator *pro tempore* to St. Joseph Church, Bowling Green, KY effective January 3, 2015.
- **Fr. Andrew Garner** has been granted a leave of absence from his assignment as pastor of St. Joseph Church, Bowling Green, KY effective January 3, 2015. Fr. Garner has requested this leave to assume responsibilities as caretaker for his ailing parents. Note that this is a leave from his assignment, not from priesthood.
- **Fr. John Meredith**, at his request, has been assigned to a life of prayer and penance. Note that this is not to be considered a permanent status and he could be considered for a ministerial assignment in the future.



Bowling Green Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Christ the King	Scottsville	172	119	69.19%	79.87%	-10.68%
Holy Redeemer	Beaver Dam	160	203	126.88%	107.33%	19.55%
Holy Spirit	Bowling Green	3361	1501	44.66%	50.08%	-5.42%
Holy Trinity	Morgantown	55	83	150.91%	135.71%	15.20%
Sacred Heart	Russellville	399	235	58.90%	62.03%	-3.13%
Saint John The Baptist	Fordsville	68	50	73.53%	85.07%	-11.54%
Saint Joseph	Bowling Green	2249	1202	53.45%	51.31%	2.14%
Saint Mary	Franklin	295	217	73.56%	67.40%	6.16%
Saint Susan	Elkton	143	115	80.42%	67.52%	12.90%
Saints Mary & James	Guthrie	169	137	81.07%	72.90%	8.17%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>7071</b>	<b>3862</b>	<b>54.62%</b>	<b>56.38%</b>	<b>-1.76%</b>

Central Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Holy Name of Jesus	Henderson	3973	1418	35.69%	40.98%	-5.29%
Sacred Heart	Waverly	194	128	65.98%	52.28%	13.70%
Saint Agnes	Uniontown	783	398	50.83%	53.27%	-2.44%
Saint Ambrose	Henshaw	91	46	50.55%	32.59%	17.96%
Saint Ann	Morganfield	976	470	48.16%	51.33%	-3.17%
Saint Francis Borgia	Sturgis	144	89	61.81%	55.80%	6.01%
Saint Michael	Sebree	330	170	51.52%	52.55%	-1.03%
Saint Peter of Antioch	Waverly	518	283	54.63%	54.93%	-0.30%
Saint William of Vercell	Marion	136	66	48.53%	57.75%	-9.22%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>7145</b>	<b>3068</b>	<b>42.94%</b>	<b>46.07%</b>	<b>-3.13%</b>

Eastern Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Holy Guardian Angels	Irvington	282	203	71.99%	48.25%	23.74%
Immaculate Conception	Hawesville	309	176	56.96%	43.55%	13.41%
Saint Anthony	Axtel	476	304	63.87%	70.84%	-6.97%
Saint Anthony	Peonia	174	121	69.54%	82.90%	-13.36%
Saint Augustine	Grayson Springs	103	65	63.11%	71.72%	-8.61%
Saint Benedict	Wax	130	108	83.08%	74.42%	8.66%
Saint Columba	Lewisport	223	106	47.53%	30.80%	16.73%
Saint Elizabeth of Hung	Clarkson	170	119	70.00%	70.62%	-0.62%
Saint John the Evangel	Sunfish	102	57	55.88%	76.19%	-20.31%
Saint Joseph	Leitchfield	464	316	68.10%	70.00%	-1.90%
Saint Mary of the Wood	McQuady	150	172	114.67%	128.29%	-13.62%
Saint Paul	St. Paul	451	258	57.21%	62.73%	-5.52%
Saint Romuald	Hardinsburg	1400	605	43.21%	35.22%	7.99%
Saint Rose of Lima	Cloverport	428	166	38.79%	48.12%	-9.33%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>4862</b>	<b>2776</b>	<b>57.10%</b>	<b>54.26%</b>	<b>2.84%</b>

Paducah Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Rosary Chapel	Paducah	125	88	70.40%	55.26%	15.14%
Saint Francis de Sales	Paducah	1300	1217	93.62%	87.64%	5.98%
Saint John the Evangel	Paducah	700	398	56.86%	64.30%	-7.44%
Saint Mary	LaCenter	185	93	50.27%	55.10%	-4.83%
Saint Thomas More	Paducah	2060	1059	51.41%	47.59%	3.82%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>4370</b>	<b>2855</b>	<b>65.33%</b>	<b>62.67%</b>	<b>2.46%</b>

The Lakes Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Saint Anthony of Padua	Grand Rivers	110	86	78.18%	105.19%	-27.01%
Saint Henry	Aurora	201	170	84.58%	101.62%	-17.04%
Saint Leo	Murray	1028	734	71.40%	71.27%	0.13%
Saint Mark	Eddyville	109	116	106.42%	118.37%	-11.95%
Saint Paul	Princeton	110	75	68.18%	64.55%	3.63%
Saint Pius X	Calvert City	350	200	57.14%	58.68%	-1.54%
Saint Stephen	Cadiz	305	172	56.39%	56.45%	-0.06%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>2213</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>70.18%</b>	<b>73.01%</b>	<b>-2.83%</b>

<b>All Totals:</b>		<b>49639</b>	<b>27978</b>	<b>56.36%</b>	<b>56.89%</b>	<b>-0.53%</b>
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## Mass Attendance Remains Steady In Diocese Of Owensboro

Every year around the end of August forms are sent out to the parishes to ask them to count attendance at the weekend Masses in September. Even though Labor Day falls in the month, it is a month that most people have returned from vacation and weather usually doesn't affect traveling to and from parishes.

The latest figures covering September, 2014 have relatively good news. The good news is that over the past five years our Mass attendance remains steady. In September 2014; 27,978 Catholics attended Mass, approximately 56% of registered Catholics versus in 2010 when that figure was 58%. During the in between years, 2011, 2012 and 2013 attendance held firm at 57%.

Now we all would feel better if the seat next to us actually had someone in it, but the fact of the matter is that the Diocese of Owensboro, still boasts one of the higher Mass attendance rates in the country.

CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University) reports a national average of 19 percent of U.S. adult Catholics who say they attend Mass at least once of month but not weekly, while 24% of U.S. Catholics say they attend Mass at least once a week.

Fancy Farm Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Sacred Heart	Hickman	58	42	72.41%	52.86%	19.55%
Saint Charles	Bardwell	136	105	77.21%	79.43%	-2.22%
Saint Denis	Fancy Farm	134	76	56.72%	71.79%	-15.07%
Saint Edward	Fulton	90	86	95.56%	68.18%	27.38%
Saint Jerome	Fancy Farm	1244	803	64.55%	60.58%	3.97%
Saint Joseph	Mayfield	1255	835	66.53%	66.77%	-0.24%
Saint Jude	Clinton	68	32	47.06%	58.33%	-11.27%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>2985</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>66.30%</b>	<b>64.60%</b>	<b>1.70%</b>

Hopkinsville Deanery						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Christ the King	Madisonville	511	335	65.56%	49.48%	16.08%
Holy Cross	Providence	32	15	46.88%	35.00%	11.88%
Immaculate Conception	Earlington	86	42	48.84%	47.57%	1.27%
Resurrection	Dawson Springs	87	61	70.11%	70.00%	0.11%
Saint Charles Borromeo	Livermore	90	59	65.56%	79.27%	-13.71%
Saint Joseph	Central City	270	154	57.04%	66.67%	-9.63%
Saint Michael the Archd	Oak Grove	789	468	59.32%	54.06%	5.26%
Saints Peter & Paul	Hopkinsville	1765	754	42.72%	46.15%	-3.43%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>3630</b>	<b>1888</b>	<b>52.01%</b>	<b>51.13%</b>	<b>0.88%</b>

Owensboro Deanery -- East						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Blessed Mother	Owensboro	2272	1252	55.11%	62.53%	-7.42%
Our Lady of Lourdes	Owensboro	1929	1083	56.14%	53.48%	2.66%
Saint Anthony	Browns Valley	467	111	23.77%	46.23%	-22.46%
Saints Joseph & Paul	Owensboro	1379	1135	82.31%	74.03%	8.28%
Saint Lawrence	St. Lawrence	336	220	65.48%	60.53%	4.95%
Saint Mary of the Wood	Whitesville	2344	1027	43.81%	47.28%	-3.47%
Saint Pius X	Owensboro	1146	566	49.39%	61.86%	-12.47%
Saint William	Knottsville	1090	725	66.51%	66.29%	0.22%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>10963</b>	<b>6119</b>	<b>55.82%</b>	<b>58.87%</b>	<b>-3.05%</b>

Owensboro Deanery -- West						
Parish	City	2014 Population	2014 Mass Count	2014 Mass Attendance	2013 Mass Attendance	2014-2013 Change
Blessed Sacrament	Owensboro	116	64	55.17%	60.00%	-4.83%
Immaculate	Owensboro	1945	1239	63.70%	63.67%	0.03%
Precious Blood	Owensboro	750	393	52.40%	51.88%	0.52%
Saint Alphonsus	Saint Joseph	560	292	52.14%	44.25%	7.89%
Saint Augustine	Reed	110	68	61.82%	68.33%	-6.51%
Saint Elizabeth	Curdsville	165	81	49.09%	36.67%	12.42%
Saint Martin	Rome	239	303	126.78%	99.08%	27.70%
Saint Mary Magdalene	Sorgo	729	441	60.49%	62.25%	-1.76%
Saint Peter of Alcantara	Stanley	263	167	63.50%	53.54%	9.96%
Saint Sebastian	Calhoun	259	130	50.19%	54.37%	-4.18%
Saint Stephen Cathedr	Owensboro	1264	700	55.38%	57.38%	-2.00%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>6400</b>	<b>3878</b>	<b>60.59%</b>	<b>58.50%</b>	<b>2.09%</b>

## Three OC Students Win Conservation Art Contest

### The Top 3



The Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus students in Mrs. Byrd's Art Class entered the Jim Claypool Conservation Art Contest. This year's theme is "Protect Kentucky's Soil".

Pictured here are the top three winners : Spencer Harris, Andrew Brauer, and Veronica Higdon. Photo by Lori Whitehouse

## Please pray for abortion to end.

Right to Life of Owensboro would like to invite you to our annual commemoration at the Daviess County courthouse on Friday, Jan.23, 2015 at noon. It will be a time of prayer, a time where many of the Owensboro pro-life leaders will explain what they do and how you can help, and it will also be a time for political updates from our Congress people. If the weather is too cold, we will be inside. We are conducting a prayer service in memory of all those who have lost their lives and everyone one else who have been affected by abortion. If you are unable to attend, please take a moment and join us in prayer where you are. Take a moment and ponder on the devastating statistics; in the next hour 136 babies will be aborted; while you were at work today 1,088 babies were aborted; and during this entire day 3,300 babies were aborted. Please pray for abortion to end.



The 6th grade at St Mary of the Woods Catholic School in Whitesville invited Right to Life of Owensboro's Executive Director Robin Beatty to come talk their class. Instead of exchanging gifts these generous students donated their money to Right to Life. Thank you, job well done students.

## Contemporary Woman Program Announces Programs for Winter/Spring Semester 2015

January, 2015 7



Brescia University's Contemporary Woman Program, directed by Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph Rose Marita O'Bryan, enters the winter/spring semester with a variety of programs in celebration of its 52<sup>nd</sup> year.

The brochure lists new and continuing programs available to both women and men:

- **The Wisdom of Women**, exploring the gifts of the feminine soul which are for men as well as women, is presented on four Friday mornings, beginning on February 6 from 10:30-11:30.
- **The Canticle Group**, examining materials that develop issues of spirituality, peace and justice, meets on six Friday mornings from 10 till noon, beginning on March 20. This semester the group will explore the Enneagram as a possible tool for our spiritual journey.
- **The Partnership Group**, in its 26th year, meets on the second Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m., beginning in September and continuing through May. The book chosen for continued dialogue is "Resurrecting Jesus" by Adyashanti. Registration is closed at this time.
- **Soul Gardening with Teresa of Avila**, a special opportunity for four Tuesday afternoons in April from 1:30-2:20, consists of guided reflections on the life and writings of woman doctor of the Church, Teresa of Avila.
- **Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide**, a program of three Monday morning sessions which begins on February 9 from 10:30 - 11:20, is a passionate call-to-arms, urging us not only to bear witness to the plight of the world's women but to help transform their oppression into opportunity.
- **Hildegard of Bingen: Sybil of the Rhine**, which begins on March 5 from 1:30-2:20, continues for four Thursday afternoons through March 26. The program explores the life and writings of Hildegard of Bingen, fourth woman doctor of the Church.
- **Ecology and Religion**, beginning February 4 from 1:30-2:20, continues for three Wednesday afternoons in February.
- **AND on one Wednesday afternoon from 1:30-3:00 on March 25, the focus will be on praying with the elemental universe.** Participants will dive deeply into the elements of air, earth, fire and water and hopefully will be drawn into contemplation of the abiding presence of God in all things.

For a brochure and/or more information regarding programs, dates and costs, contact Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, OSU, at Brescia University, 717 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301; 270-686-4275; [rosemarita.obryan@brescia.edu](mailto:rosemarita.obryan@brescia.edu). Participants are asked to pre-register at least **two weeks** in advance for each program.

## Nine Days of Prayer, Penance and Pilgrimage

9 Days for Life: January 17-25, 2015

On January 22 our nation will mark the 42nd anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the U.S.

Since that tragic decision, more than 56 million children's lives have been lost to abortion, and many suffer that loss -- often in silence.

Join thousands of Catholics across the country coming together in prayer for a "culture of life" from Saturday, January 17 - Sunday, January 25!



By Jamie Clark

On November 5, 1924, Father Charles Philip Riney was born as the seventh of eleven children of Len and Irmine Riney.

I first met Father Phil in 1970 when I was invited by Father Charlie Fisher to go spend the day on the boat that Father Fisher and Father Phil owned together. They also had what they called the "corn crib", they pulled out into Rough River. It was very efficient but you really should have seen how we could fish, swim, nap, and grill out on this.

Then in 1977 he became my boss with him as our pastor and in 1979 when he hired me as a teacher at St. Mary's in Whitesville. I always have held Father Phil in high regard and with tremendous respect. Now, I prefer to see Father Phil as a really great friend and as my confessor.

In the summer of 2013 Father Phil became very seriously ill with congestive heart failure and we all thought he was dying, but God wasn't finished with Father Phil. In the late summer of 2013, I started visiting people from St. Mary's now living at the Carmel home. Father Phil is one of the people I visited there and have learned a lot more details about him as a priest in the Diocese of Owensboro. Here below are a few of the facts I've learned about this amazing, holy man of God.

After finishing his junior year at St. Francis High School in Owensboro, Kentucky, Phil was looking forward to leading his basketball team as a senior with high hopes of even beating Owensboro Senior High. However, the Lord had even bigger and better plans. When talking with the Vicar General, Monsignor Henninger, Monsignor said that this calling to go to the seminary his senior year may be a true test of his vocation. As usual, Phil followed this call of God's and entered the seminary at St. Mary in Kentucky in September, 1941. In two and one-half years he completed College and Philosophy there and went on to study theology at St. Mary's Major Seminary in Baltimore. He finished Theology in two and one-half years and was ordained by Bishop Cotton in Owensboro on April 5, 1948. At the age of twenty-three, Father Phil was the youngest man to ever be ordained in Owensboro.

He spent his first year as a priest as

## Happy Ninetieth Birthday, Father Phil



**Father Phil Riney, right, with Father Joe Mills, entering Blessed Mother Parish Hall for a celebration of his birthday which was Nov. 5. Mel Howard Photo**

the Assistant to the Pastor at Saint Joseph in Owensboro. He then went to St. Ann in Morganfield for six years. While at Morganfield he also taught Math and Religion at St. Vincent's Academy in Uniontown. While at St. Vincent's he started a basketball team and coached the team, and even drove the bus. When talking to the boys about forming a team, one of the boys asked him what kind of hat did basketball players wear?

After being a priest for seven months, Father Phil became "old enough" to hear confessions, but at first it could only be the school kid's confessions.

When Father Phil was leaving Morganfield to go to Rosary Chapel in Paducah and St. Mary's at La Center, the parishioners gifted Father with a new 1955 Chevy. This was his first car! Then Assistant Pastors only made \$33 a month and he had to pay off his seminary education and had no money for his own car. The

people of St. Ann loved him too. Wow! How much have the times changed.

While at Rosary Chapel and St. Mary's at La Center, Father Phil's amazing legacy of building the Church of Western Kentucky began. He built two new church buildings at Rosary Chapel and St. Mary's during his seven years here; Literally building churches.

The next seven years he was at Saint Francis De Sales as pastor. Father Phil built no new buildings while here. However, he helped build the Church that Jesus built. As St. Paul reminded us, the Church Jesus started was the people of God. It was while Father Phil was at St. Francis De Sales that the Vatican II Council occurred and set the Church on its ear, so to speak. The altar was turned to face the people; Latin was replaced with the language of the common people like it was when in the Church for the first 1500 hundred years. So Father Phil was again building "the" Church, not "a" church. This was the time in the Church's history to empower the laity that Father Phil embraced. Father Phil shared with me how he crammed Advanced Latin in only two years and he really hated Latin even though he couldn't tell Bishop Cotton or Bishop Soenneker. I'm with Father Phil, I really prefer the English Mass to the Latin.

After leaving Paducah, he came to St. Mary's in Whitesville. Our "old" church was built in 1883 with the homemade bricks for the foundation and for the façade of the church building, and they were failing and something had to be done. Father again called on the laity. After three meetings talked of our options, Father Phil left it up to us. The overwhelming vote was to tear down the old church and build a new building. So for a year and a half we attended Mass in the school gym and auditorium while the new building was built. In September of 1978 the newest St. Mary of the Woods Church was finished. My wife Peggy and I had the first wedding Mass celebrated at St. Mary's. We loved how the church was arranged with people on three sides of the altar. The cross behind the altar was empty, we all know Jesus IS risen and this is the basis of our faith. The crucifix was small and off to the side of the sanctuary. The beautiful sunrise of Easter was behind the altar to remind us.

While at St. Mary's, Father Phil welcomed our first two children into the church. A tradition he asked of us continues to today. When the Baptism celebration of our daughters Jenny and Emily began, Father Phil asked the parents and Godparents to trace a sign of the cross on their foreheads. He also challenged us to continue this sign of the cross. Until today, we always greet and say goodbye to each other with this sign of the cross to remind us how much Jesus loves us. This tradition continues on with our children and grand children and has expanded to siblings and their families. We've even had people ask about the practice when they see us do this in public and they say they do it now as well. Another example of how much this man has touched so many people.

After leaving Whitesville, Father Phil went to Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson. Here he again was able to influence another part of the Church of Western Kentucky for six years and physically built on to the Church by expanding the school at Holy Name. So often we hear of Catholic schools closing, and Father Phil was adding space.

For the next nine years, Father Phil was pastor at Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro. While here the church was completed reconstructed and added onto to be the beautiful church it is today with no pews more than fifty feet from the altar. Father Phil said churches shaped like Blessed Mother and St. Mary's are designed to implement participation by the parishioners. While here, Father Phil celebrated his fiftieth anniversary as a priest at the young age of seventy-three. He retired as pastor here but continued to serve as needed in the diocese until he got sick in 2013. While he can no longer do what he used to do as a priest, he is still a priest according to the order of Melchizedek and is still a great influence to me and a great friend.

I brought Father Phil to the picnics at St. Mary's in May and September, 2014. While here he could only go a few feet without being halted to hug and welcome him home. I've known for forty-four years that C. Phil Riney is a true man of God. Now I can say God's not finished with you yet, Father Phil. And yes, Father Phil, I've started writing that book!

I hope to give you the second copy.

Owensboro Catholic High School recognized and affirmed 52 members of the Class of 2015, 37 members of the Class of 2016, and 30 members of the Class of 2017 on Nov. 9, 2014 at an Academic Letters celebration of Mass and giving Academic Letters in the school's small gym.

Father Tony Shonis, an OCHS faculty member from the 1970s, was invited to preside at Mass for the ceremony. The Mass readings on this Sunday from the liturgy focused on water coming from the temple making fresh everything it touches, Jesus' reference to His body as a temple, the church as the temple of God, our bodies as God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in us. Images of God making the earth fresh, new and young abounded in the readings.

Father Shonis' homily concentrated upon these themes in a different way, true to his teaching method of bringing a fresh point of view into a subject which only a teacher who is passionate about his sub-



Above left, Father Tony Shonis delivering his homily for the OCHS Academic Letters Mass. At right, members of the OCHS Class of 2017 lined up in front of the audience after receiving their Academic Letters. Mel Howard photos

ject can do.

He spoke about three books he has read in the past year, and reviewed each, inviting the assembly to read them. Their

titles are Tattoos on The Heart by Father Greg Pierce, The Fault In Our Stars by John Green, and The Sunflower by Simon Wiesenthal. After briefly describing each novel, Father Shonis concluded, "If you

want to stay young at heart, never stop reading!"

Following the Mass, the school hosted a reception for the awardees, their families and friends.

## In Your Kindness, Please Pray For The Repose of the Soul of Father Phil Riney



Fr. Phil Riney

The Rev. Philip Riney, 90, of Owensboro passed away Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. Born in Owensboro, a son of the late Len and Ermine Mulligan Riney, he attended St. Joseph Grade School and St. Francis High School. He entered sem-

inary at St. Mary's College in Kentucky from which he graduated, and was ordained a priest April 5, 1948, at St. Stephen Cathedral by the late Bishop Francis R. Cotton. Father Riney was then 23 years old, the youngest priest to be ordained in the Diocese of Owensboro. His first assignment was at St. Ann Catholic Church in Morganfield, followed by SS. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church in Owensboro, Rosary Chapel in Paducah, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Hawesville, St. Frances de Sales Catholic Church in Paducah, St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church in Whitesville, Holy Name Catholic Church in Henderson and Blessed Mother Catholic Church in Owensboro, from which he retired in 1998 following 50 years of devoted priesthood. Following his retirement, he continued to serve the diocese as a willing substitute.

He also was preceded in death by his brothers and sisters, Joseph Leon Riney, Richard Riney Sr., Sister Mary Leon Riney, OSU, Sister Ann Clare Riney, SCN, James E. Riney and Trudy Mudd.

Often affectionately referred to as the "Master Builder," Father Phil organized the construction of new churches at St. Mary of the Woods and Blessed Mother. A lover of nature and the outdoors, he lived for many years following his retirement at his home on Rough River, with the exception of January and February, which he spent in Sarasota, Florida.

Father Phil was devoted to his family, with whom he loved sharing his stories and his faith, that faith shining through in all his works. He always will be remembered for his giving nature, always sharing his home with family and friends. He loved people and all loved him. The people of the churches he served became his extended family and he treated them all as a father would treat his children.

He is survived by his sisters, Mary Lou Mudd and her husband, Joe, of Owensboro, Patricia Cheshire of Memphis, Virginia Riney Dorsten and her husband, Charles, of Dayton; his sister-in-law, Peggy Riney of Louisville; his brother, David Riney of California;



In November, 2014, parishes St. Columba of Lewisport and Immaculate Conception of Hawesville got together to host a party celebrating birthdays for Father Terry Devine and Father Phil Riney. Father Terry, who was celebrating his sixtieth, is the pastor of Hancock County Catholic Churches, and Father Phil Riney, who was celebrating his ninetieth, was pastor for the two churches back in the 1960's. Although Father Riney has not been pastor for the two churches for many years, he was a frequent visitor and was greeted by the many friends who have kept in touch with him. Father Terry and the Fallin brothers, Mike, Jim, and Bobby, got the party started, and soon a crowd had gathered with lots of food, drink, and song. Father Phil Riney had a special chair down front, but he was soon moving about, shaking hands and sharing memories. Laughter was breaking out all over. The twinkle in Father's eye showed how much he enjoyed the party. It was a big success for the two priests and for families of both parishes. Photo submitted by Ruth Madden

By Julie Murphy

When I called my editor Mel if I could interview Fr. Suneesh Mathew I was excited to say the least when he encouraged me to go for it. I knew that Fr. Suneesh was from India and I had so many questions that I wanted to ask because of our different cultures. I have always been fascinated with the history of our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Catholic faith in other countries. When you really reflect and ponder the earth that we live in, and in every nation we share a common denominator, and that is our beloved Universal Catholic Church globally.

I was excited to say the least to interview Fr. Suneesh. I did some research so I could ask the right questions that will be entertaining and inspiring for the readers of the WKC. I feel very blessed to have been able to do this interview and I thank you with the bottom of my heart, Fr. Suneesh, for agreeing to let me be a part of your story and journey.

I asked Father if we could do the interview in the church at St. Stephens Cathedral and he said that would be just fine. We met in the chapel where our blessed Lord is present in the Tabernacle. I knew Jesus could calm my nerves. I was greeted with a warm smile as we walked into the chapel and then I began my barrage of questions.

Fr. Suneesh was raised in Kerala, India. India is the second most populated country in the whole world. He shared with me that people from Kerala call their state as “Gods own country!” in India and there I saw a light in his eyes when he had revealed that to me, and I was glad to see the happiness it was bringing to him to reminisce about his home. There is also a historical fact that Catholicism in Kerala is traced back to the apostle St. Thomas at approximately 51 AD. St. Thomas is also widely known as the apostle of India. In Kerala alone the population is believed to be 31 million people; Hinduism, Muslim and a large percentage of Catholics. Fr. Suneesh has four siblings, three sisters, and one brother. Each live in a different country, but his brother still lives in India. He was raised in a strict devout Catholic family. His parents are Mathew and Mary; his sisters are Anila, Sunila, Shimila and his brother is Aneesh. His grandparents and great-grandparents are

## A Profile In Faith

generations of Catholics, about which I was surprised because of the high percentage of Hinduism and the Muslim faith. It was really nice to hear the facts and how strong a presence the Catholic faith was in his whole life. One of the talking points I wanted to ask was about the Catholic Churches in India, about their beauty and their histories. I didn't even have to ask the question because Father Suneesh beat me to the punch. They have churches in Kerala as old as 250 AD and 300 AD. Once again, I was seeing in his face the pride of his homeland and his family, so it made this interview quite easy for me.

Fr. Suneesh had told me a story about when he was a child that every day at 7:45 a.m. he had to be cleaned up and never be late for family prayer. If he was late, he didn't get to eat! His memory of that brought him back to his childhood, remembering how very long prayer time was, a whole 45 minutes before he could eat one bite. I could just imagine a small young boy squirming throughout the prayer time, because that is pretty tough for a child, male or female. Indeed, he told me it was really hard! I could only imagine because I have 5 brothers and my son Ben would literally have thought he was dying. Anyway, we both got a laugh from his vivid memory of family prayer before mealtime and the torture it felt like for a child. Again it was their custom as a family that I think the sacrifice has true merit.

As the interview was progressing, Fr. Suneesh shared that he came from a poor farming family. He had to help his father who was a rubber farmer by trade. Every day he had to help him in the early morning hours, and then he went to school.

I asked; “Did you have indoor plumbing?” Typical question coming from me, being a woman who loves her washer, dryer, electricity, hot water, clean water from a faucet. And the answer was no;



Father Suneesh Mathew with his parents, Mathew and Mary.

they did not have indoor plumbing and they bathed in a stream. His mother and sisters took their laundry to the stream once a week to clean. After talking to Father for quite some time and looking at him I just couldn't picture it in my head, the hardship and sacrifice. But that was what he knew, that was his life and one lives the life laid out for him or her by God. I also found very comforting that Fr. Suneesh shared with me that he had made a choice in his life. Of course there are many choices we make as we grow into adults, but he said that he chose to happy. “He chooses to be happy!”

We all have ups and downs but in the end we all have a choice, and he chooses to be happy. I find that very refreshing! He came from very humble beginnings and they were extreme compared to what my lifestyle was and he has chosen to be happy and I will choose to be happy as well. I know there will be more struggles in life but his wisdom resonated with me and I will freely choose it as my motto now.

Father Suneesh entered the Seminary when he was 14 years old. The name of his congregation is “Herald of Good News,” and their motto and goal is to train zealous and hardworking priests and send them wherever the needs are. That is why we we're fortunate to receive him in our diocese of Owensboro. I asked Fr. Suneesh if he could share some of the challenges he had to face coming here to the United States. He said that a challenge for him was in seminary as he learned the English language. But we had some laughs when he told me some of our slang

one can't learn in a class setting. For instance, hearing the first time someone says; “I sure do burn a lot of bridges!” And rightly so, father would ask, “Why do you burn bridges?” We both had a good laugh, and I will never forget that line from now on. Even “break a leg” doesn't sound very positive to a man from India.

It was really enjoyable seeing the humor of our sayings we use any day and don't think twice about them. Of course, I shared with him some of my mother-in-law's country-living sayings that even I find very entertaining. She would always say she hadn't seen someone in a coon's age and many more country sayings I was not familiar with.

Fr. Suneesh said that he is very appreciative of the help he has gotten from Fr. Jerry Riney and Fr. John Thomas with the pronunciation and slowing down process when he needed it. He was very grateful!

Father did share with me that in many places in India, Christians face hostility and persecutions. He shared one of his bad experiences of terror while he was serving on the border of India and China. The anti-Christians had burned his rectory to the ground. That was just one of the incidents he shared.

I have to be honest: I thought there would be many stories of conflict of faiths, because of the news media reports I've seen over the past thirteen years since 9/11/2001. I was happy he didn't have to endure that kind of evil which we see so prevalent in many Middle Eastern countries in our world now.

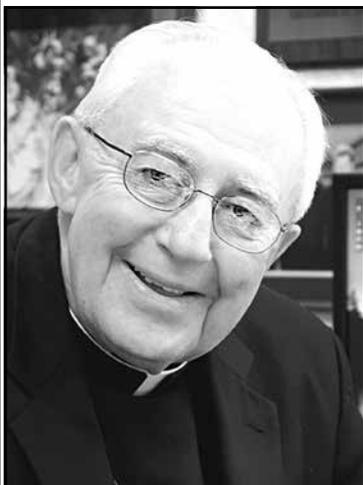
We thank you, Father Suneesh, for the interview and in sharing a piece of your history with us. Thank you for answering your call into the Holy Priesthood. Your ministry is our gain.

+JM+ Julie Murphy



## Nominations Now Being Accepted for the John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2015 John J. McRaith Providing Help Creating Hope Award.



Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith

Catholic Charities of the Owensboro Diocese established the John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award in 2014 to recognize individuals or groups in the Owensboro Diocese who abundantly show the virtue of charity in their work and deeds, aligned with the mission of Catholic Charities.

The criteria are broad and encompassing. Groups and persons who reside within the diocese are eligible, regardless of their religious preference or where their charitable assistance occurred. The award is named after Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith who retired as bishop of the Owensboro Diocese January 5, 2009.

The mission of Catholic Charities is--integrating and coordinating social and charitable works; providing spiritual, educational, financial, and emotional support to those in need; and engaging in works of charity.

**To nominate** a group or individual, please complete the form below. The deadline is March 1, 2015.

- Name of individual or group you are nominating: \_\_\_\_\_
- Address of nominee/s: \_\_\_\_\_
- Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_
- Parish of person or committee making nomination \_\_\_\_\_
- Who can we contact if further information is needed? \_\_\_\_\_
- Please provide contact information: Phone\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_
- Please describe charity performed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Please mail form to: Catholic Charities, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

4 P.M. - 5 P.M.

2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on **Jan. 11 and on the second Sunday of each month in 2015** from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the **Motherhouse Chapel**

(located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). We will conclude with evening prayer. During this special time of the Year of Consecrated Life, we ask you to join us in praying for a deeper awareness and openness in response to God's call to consecrated life.



**Ursuline Sisters**  
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4103  
www.ursulinesmsj.org  
info.ms@maplemount.org

## Parishioner Bequeaths Estate Items for Auction To Christ The King Church, Madisonville

January, 2015 11

On January 17, 2015 there will be an Estate Auction held at Christ the King Church, Madisonville, Kentucky. All proceeds will be going to CTK church. This is due to the generosity of Bernice Sisk, a longtime member. Mrs. Sisk was an energetic and joyful volunteer at St. Vincent DePaul for many years. At the time of her death, she was the oldest member of the Church.

Curran-Miller Auction of Evansville will be in charge of the auction [www.curranmiller.com]. There are items available for pre-bid at the website and a preview of other articles available the day of auction

Bernice grew up on a dairy farm in Canfield, Ohio, raised by parents who were Czechoslovakian Immigrants. She was married to John Sisk. June, 1946. John and Bernice met when he was sent to Wakeman Geneneral Hospital at Camp Atterbury, Indiana after he was wounded in Florence, Italy October of 1944 - for which he received a Purple Heart. Bernice was an Army nurse there.

After their time in service to the U.S. Army, they moved to John's hometown of Earlinton, Kentucky. John eventually retired from L&N-CSX Railroad as a Freight Agent. Mrs. Sisk remained devoted to him until his death in 2006. Bernice began working at Kentucky Rest Haven Rest Home and then went on to be the Director of Nursing at Clinic Convalescent Center.

Ms. Sisk was honored along with Dr. Loman Trover, as they were named "Outstanding Woman" and "Outstanding Man" of 1967 by the Madisonville Lions Club. During her presentation, it was said "In Mrs. Sisk, we have the perfect example of one who has achieved greatness by the life she has lived in doing for others."

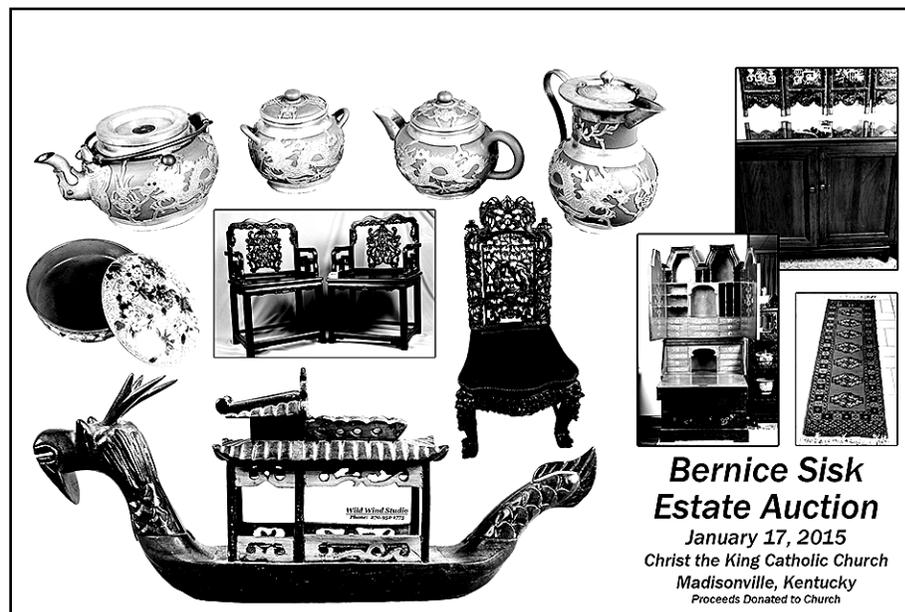
That theme of selflessness and dedication continued throughout her life, in every area, including her faith life. This poem was found in her desk after her death. It exemplifies her life.



2nd Lt. Helene Bernice Sofranko Sisk

### "I have done my best

*If I have planted hope in any human heart,  
If someone's load has lighter grown  
because I have done my part,  
If happily, I have caused a laugh to chase some tears away,  
Or, if tonight, my name is named where some knee knelt to pray,  
I claim my days have been well spent not lived in vain,  
and am content."*  
Author Unknown.



### Bernice Sisk Estate Auction

January 17, 2015  
Christ the King Catholic Church  
Madisonville, Kentucky  
Proceeds Donated to Church



**Saint William and Saint Lawrence parishes participated a Mass in St. William Church in celebration of Lydia Haycraft's life among the people of both parishes.**

**By Mel Howard**

KNOTTSVILLE, Ky. - Lydia Marie Haycraft, age 8, died Nov 1, 2014, and was laid to rest in St. Mary's Cemetery, Tell City, IN. Lydia is survived by her parents, P.J. Haycraft and Tiffany Sommers, Ashley Haycraft, her step-mother, and Drake, age 7, her brother.

Saint William and Saint Lawrence Catholic parishes shared a Memorial Mass in celebration of Lydia's life on Nov. 8, 2014. Lydia was in the third grade of the Parish Religious Education program at Saint William. The St. William Church was filled this Saturday evening with parishioners and Lydia's family. Tina Howard said, "Lydia has been a big part of this Catholic community in Eastern Daviess County." Lydia's step-uncle Fr. Brandon Williams concelebrated with Fr. John Okoro

In his homily for the Mass, pastor Father John Okoro eulogized and witnessed Lydia's effect on the community. Here is some of Father John's homily:

"We gather here tonight to thank God for Lydia because we believe, because we are a people of Hope.

"Lydia went Home on All Saints' Day this year. Every young person, no matter how young, has already borne some fruit (for God's Kingdom by their lives). Lydia's death is a change, but is not an end of my relationship with her. We believe that Lydia prays for us all today. We believe that our prayer is who we are to God. We gather here because we are a people of prayer and because we remember.

"God does not allow his little ones to suffer alone. He surrounds them with family and friends. And now God has gathered Lydia to Himself, to relieve her of whatever burden she had in this life. God protects his little ones as a mother hen protects her chicks. Lydia is in His protection in the same way, and this should be our hope."

At the beginning of the Mass, P.J., Ashley, and Drake Haycraft brought up to the altar a picture of Lydia, a sailing ship, and a small statue of a sea horse. At the Offertory of the Mass, they brought up the gifts of bread and wine, and two of Lydia's cousins brought up to place before the altar.

Several of Lydia's aunts served as music ministers for the Memorial Mass as shown in the top right photo.

At the end of Mass, Father John said for the community to "Go in Peace." The Catholic community inside St. William Church this night testified their belief that this is what God wants for us all and especially that Lydia wants God's Peace for her family and friends, and so all responded, "Thanks Be To God."



**P.J. Haycraft and Ashley Haycraft, her step-mother, followed Lydia's brother Drake, age 7, as the family placed memorials at the altar- a ship, a sea horse, and a picture of Lydia.**



**The liturgical ministers for the Mass: above the choir, left to right: Laura Payne, Shana McBride, Gera Jarboe(aunt), Karen Young(aunt), Anne Coomes(aunt), Theresa Jackson(aunt), Shirley Mills(aunt), Gabby Winstead(cousin), Maura Millay(aunt). Also, Mary Ann Haycraft(grandmother) was lector; Wayne and Mary Haycraft (uncle/aunt) were Eucharistic ministers; cousins were altar servers and offertory gift bearers.**



**Lydia's Daddy, P.J. Haycraft placed a large picture of Lydia at the foot of the altar before Mass.**



**Lydia's cousins Emma Winstead and Natalie Haycraft came bearing gifts at the Offertory. Mel Howard Photos**



By participating in the Owensboro Christmas Parade in November, 2014, Sts. Joseph & Paul Church presented a Christmas Float which won first place in their category, for the 3rd year in a row. On the float are Wisemen, Denver Dickens, Caleb Ward, and Lance Dickens; Joseph & Mary were portrayed by Mason Mattingly & Abigail Burden Photo submitted by Lavidia Mischel



**Men's Retreat** 25 men from the Diocese of Owensboro made the 2014 White House annual October Retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House in St Louis. The gathering represents men from throughout the diocese but especially Paducah, Henderson, Mayfield, Fancy Farm, Beaver Dam and Owensboro. In the photo above are: bottom row - Doug Thomas, Rudy Elliott, Richard Coomes, Michael Coomes, Ernie Taliaferro; second row - Leo Thomas, Larry Denton, Marvin Hancock, Dennis Wilson, Wayne Wilson; third row - Bill Elliott, Dr. Ron Kupper, Noel Wise, Leon Higdon; fourth row - Richard Grief, John C. Howard, Don Hayden, John Tidwell; back row - Christopher Denton, Mike Clark, Pat McNulty, Matt Valerius, Jimmy Wathen, Ernie Mitchell, Leo Pendel. Submitted Photo

## Rediscover Catholicism

Thursday, Jan. 8 • Feb. 12

Time:

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Presenter:

Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

Cost:

\$10 fee includes lunch

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



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270-229-4103  
www.ursulinesmsj.org  
info.ms@ursulinesmsj.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

This is a study based on the bestselling book, "Rediscover Catholicism" by Matthew Kelly, which is quickly becoming the most read Catholic book of our time. He reveals the essence of authentic Catholic spirituality while addressing some of the most important questions we face today as individuals and as a Church.



*This year-long program meets the second Thursday of each month (except July) in 2015.*

Upcoming dates: Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 14 and June 11.

## Tribunal Services at No Expense

The Extraordinary General Assemblée of the Synod of Bishops held in October of this year offered numerous items for reflection and refinement. This gathering produced a "Relatio Synodi" – a 62 paragraph document entitled "The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization."

Among the proposals was a challenge to tribunals in paragraph 48 which reads, "a great number of synod fathers emphasized the need to make the procedure in cases of nullity more accessible... and, if possible, at no expense." Taking this challenge to heart, Bishop Medley, in consultation with the Owensboro Tribunal, announces that effective January 1, 2015 stipends will no longer be accepted for services rendered.

## St. Mary Schools, Paducah, Finding Ways To Welcome Latino Culture, Students

### Special To The Western Kentucky Catholic

“Catholic schools provide ‘lasting faith formation, vocations to the religious life and priesthood, high educational attainments, and communities of the New Evangelization,’ and should reach out to Latino communities and other underserved populations as part of the Church’s mission to preach the Gospel” (Archbishop George Lucas, Bishop Daniel Flores, USCCB presentation, 11/10/14). Archbishop Lucas noted that “99% of students who attend Catholic high school graduate, that 87% go on to attend a four-year college and that Latino and African American students attending a Catholic school are more likely to graduate from high school and college.”

The Diocese of Owensboro Stewardship Office and the Catholic Schools Office wrote a grant application to Catholic Extension to fund a multi-day workshop held at Notre Dame in June of 2014 entitled Latino Enrollment Initiative. Lisa Clark, Principal of St. Mary Elementary School in Paducah, supplied information for the grant. The grant was awarded and as a result Mrs. Clark and two of her faculty members, Felicia LaBarge and Kelli King, attended the workshop provided by Notre Dame’s ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) Program.

Catholic Extension in partnership with Notre Dame ACE program states that “the most important outcome of this project is to learn effective practices and strategies for recruitment and retention of Latino students, become aware of the cultural nuances of working with this community, and understand the common barriers that Latino students face with Catholic schools.”

The keynote speaker and the driving force behind the development of this workshop is Fr. Joe Corpora, CSC, an alumnus of **Notre Dame** and a priest in the Congregation of Holy Cross. Fr. Joe is the director of university-school partnerships in ACE. Some of the topics of his presentations were the Notre Dame Madrina’s Program and Catholic Identity.

Mrs. Clark’s first product as a result of this wonderful opportunity was to share a presentation of what she had learned with the Catholic school principals in our Diocese at our annual Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference in November. Yvonne Schwab, Principal



Mrs. Clark shared that St. Mary Elementary School is moving forward slowly with incorporating all that they learned at the Latino Enrollment Initiative. She takes hope in what Pope Francis has stated in the past, “Do not be discouraged by the ‘messiness’ of the situations we encounter...Let God lead.” Therefore, we ask for prayers, not only for St. Mary Elementary School as they learn to welcome our Latino brothers and sisters but also as each of us open our hearts, homes, parishes and schools to all God’s children.

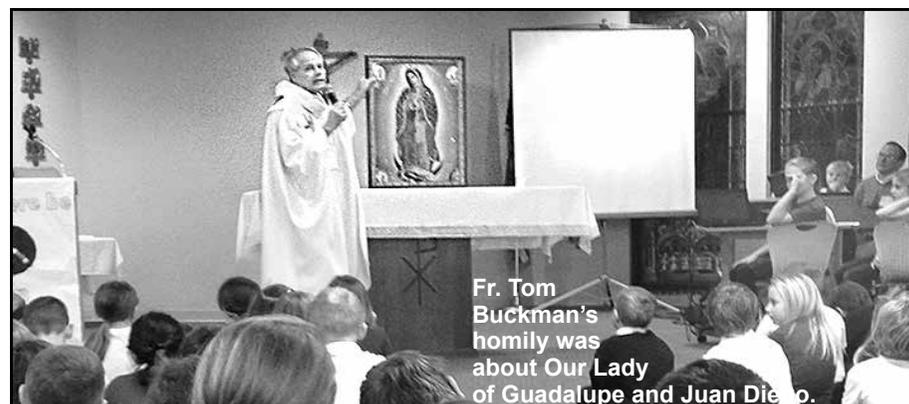
**At left, the SMHS Spanish Club performed a play that brought to life the story of Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe for the elementary students.**

of St. James the Lesser, Columbus, Ohio, was assigned as Mrs. Clark’s mentor principal. She spent a day in November at St. Mary School System and then met with Mrs. Clark, Ms. LaBarge, Ms. King and Eleanor Spry, Director, to share her observations and help develop a plan to achieve an increase in Latino enrollment for SMSS. Ms. Schwab will continue to coach Mrs. Clark for a full year.

Shawnda Pacheco, St. Mary School System Spanish teacher, worked with the elementary school to plan a Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe that would intertwine the American and Mexican cultures. Fr. Tom Buckman, along with the SMHS Spanish class members, planned a Mass that incorporated Spanish in the reading, Eucharistic Prayer, responses and songs. Fr. Tom’s homily was about Our Lady of Guadalupe and Juan Diego.

The SMES Student Council distributed Our Lady of Guadalupe medals that Fr. Tom blessed after the Mass to each of the students. The SMHS Spanish Club followed with a play that brought to life the story of Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe for the elementary students. This beautiful event achieved another goal for Mrs. Clark and her team as a result of their education.

The next step for Mrs. Clark will be to meet with all of the other principals that participated in the initiative developed by the Notre Dame ACE program in Scottsdale, AZ, in February. The purpose of this meeting according to ACE is to “monitor, motivate, and further educate.”



**Fr. Tom Buckman's homily was about Our Lady of Guadalupe and Juan Diego.**



**After a job well done, the St. Mary High School Spanish Club, which is moderated by Spanish teacher Shawnda Pacheco posed for this keepsake picture: John MacCauley, Austin Shaw, Davis Sims, Hayden Dickens, Tanner Sanders, Bekah Courtney, Catherine O'Rourke, Allie Shields, Josh Nelson, Emily Meredith, Nathan Hodges, Daniel Howard and Antonio Barraza. Submitted Photos**

# St. Mary Elementary Celebrates The Feast Of Our Lady Of Guadalupe With Spanish Mass And Apparition Play

January, 2015 15

By J. Patrick Kerr

PADUCAH, KY – When Antonio Barraza, a parishioner at St. Thomas More and a junior at St. Mary High School, woke up for school on Friday, December 12, he did something out of the ordinary. Instead of donning his St. Mary High School uniform, he put on white linen pants with an intricate design around the hem, and slipped a white tunic over his head. Then, even more out of the ordinary, he headed to St. Mary Elementary School instead of the High School.

Antonio joined several other members of St. Mary High School's Spanish Club at the elementary school for what will surely become a new tradition on December 12 – the Celebration of Mass on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Spanish.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe holds a special place in the hearts of the Hispanic community and each year Latinos, notably Latinos of Mexican decent, celebrate the day much like a second Christmas. Special Masses are said and the sense of a community rooted in culture, history and faith is prevalent.

Building on that feeling, Lisa Clark, St. Mary Elementary School Principal, got together with a few teachers, school system leaders and Diocesan leaders, as well as priests from the area, and planned the special Spanish Mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Rev. Thomas J. Buckman, Jr., Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in Paducah, worked with the school and celebrated the Mass mostly in Spanish. Joining Fr. Tom, the Spanish Club, read scripture in the Spanish language. Elementary school teachers worked with their students prior to Mass to teach them many of the standard responses in Spanish.

Antonio played a dual role. In addition to reading scripture in Spanish, he also portrayed Juan Diego in a short play following Mass. The play told the story of Juan Diego and his encounter with the Most Holy Virgin Mary on a hill on the outskirts of what is now known as Mexico City.

The play detailed the desire for the Mother of Jesus to have Juan Diego ask the Bishop of the region to build a church upon the hill. The Bishop, not believing



Antonio Barraza and Emily Meredith portray Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe while other St. Mary High School Spanish Club members narrate the story of the vision.

Juan Diego, asked for a sign. In turn, Juan asked Mary for a sign to give the Bishop. Mary obliged and gave Juan Diego a bouquet of roses that would not normally be found in the region. And, after Juan Diego carried them to the Bishop in his tunic, the image of the Virgin was imprinted upon it, thus convincing the Bishop that Juan Diego spoke the truth. Of course, the Bishop did indeed have a church built and the tunic hangs in the church to this day, just as clear and colorful as it was over 500 years ago.

When asked about the play and his role in it, Antonio said, "It was so great to give young kids an opportunity to really experience and visualize what Juan Diego had seen. You can tell a story, but to show someone a story is so much more effective."

Antonio continued, "The story of Our Lady of Guadalupe is not just a story. It is, first and foremost, a miracle. But it also is a study of history, a study of the Hispanic and Ancient Aztec cultures and a story of faith."

"It is so rare that something so simple can be about so many different things," he said. "This is probably one of the oldest of 'modern-day' miracles. Af-

ter all, 500 years is not that long ago. The



Rev. Thomas J. Buckman, Jr. pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church retells the story of Juan Diego during his Homily at a Spanish Mass said for St. Mary Elementary School students on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Fr. Tom celebrated Mass at school in Spanish. Photos by J. Patrick Kerr

story is not that old and for me that makes it even easier to relate to it."

"It was really an honor to be asked to participate," Antonio said.

Antonio serves as the chaplain of the Spanish Club at St. Mary High School. Each time the club meets, Antonio opens the meeting with prayer and gives the club updates on spiritual initiatives, such as the play they put together for the elementary school children.

After Mass, Felecia La Barge's St. Mary Kindergarten Class was asked what they had learned. Kayleigh Ballard from St. John the Evangelist Parish was first to speak up. She said, "I remember we heard all about Mary and a lot of it was in Spanish. I didn't even know that Mary knew Spanish!"

Olivia Vaughn from St. Thomas More Parish, said, "Mary must really like roses to give so many to San Diego! Especially to make them grow on a mountain in the cold!"

And, finally Cadence Todd, also from St. Thomas More, impressed her kindergarten classmates by reciting the Sign of the Cross completely in Spanish.

## Making The Grade: Educators Extol Programs At Kyndle

*Editor's note: On November 13, Jim Mattingly, Catholic Schools Superintendent, was invited to speak at a breakfast meeting sponsored by Kyndle, an economic development organization in Henderson. Mattingly's speech focused on the role of Catholic Schools in general, and Holy Name School in particular. The Henderson Gleaner gave reprint permission for this article and accompanying photo to appear in the January, 2015 Western Kentucky Catholic*



**On November 13, Jim Mattingly, Catholic Schools Superintendent, was invited to speak at a breakfast meeting sponsored by Kyndle, an economic development organization in Henderson. Mattingly's speech focused on the role of Catholic Schools in general, and Holy Name School in particular.**

**By Beth Smith**

**bsmith@thegleaner.com 270-831-8334**

Whether it's in public or private education, being a teacher requires a great deal of ingenuity — and even more heart, an Owensboro educator said.

Longtime educator Jim Mattingly, superintendent of the Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Schools, told an audience at Kyndle's Education Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday that teachers need certain personality traits.

"Educators in this day and time have very challenging and difficult jobs," he said. "There's tremendous pressure to perform well as a school and to meet the individual needs of the student. When I meet with teachers, I tell them that this job is not for everybody.

"To be successful, teachers must

have high levels of energy, talent, dedication, teamwork, tenacity and genuine caring for all students, no matter the student's level of learning, no matter their background and no matter how much or how little their parents value the process of education."

Mattingly, who has experience both in the public and parochial school settings, said in addition to the challenges

facing teachers, there are also great rewards.

"Educators are blessed with affirmation in ways that are unique to their profession," he said.

"After a lot of effort by a struggling student and a dedicated teacher, when the light comes on, so to speak, for that student, both student and teacher are affirmed in a manner they will never forget.

"I tell my new teachers to measure their career as if they are using an old-fashioned weighing scale. That imaginary scale has frustration on one side and affirmation on the other. As long as the affirmation side outweighs the frustration side, you'll be fine. You'll have a long, happy fulfilling career — a career that merits the quote 'If you find a job you love, you'll never have to work a day in your life.' But if the frustration outweighs the affirmation, which can easily happen, you may not be a good fit for the job."

Mattingly also spoke about the type of education offered in Catholic schools.

"Catholic schools exist due to the shared sacrifice and hard work of thousands of people, including pastors, parishioners, parents, administrators, faculties, staff ... and the list goes on. Parents of Catholic school students pay for education twice. Like all citizens, they pay their taxes that support public schools, but in addition, parents and other Catholics practice another level of stewardship

by giving of their time, talent and treasure to pay their tuition and otherwise support their schools.

"Catholic schools emphasize three important concepts that combine to set students up for success in schools, in life and in the next life. Those three concepts are faith formation, academic excellence and servant leadership," he said.

"These three concepts ... are certainly the foundation of one of our most successful schools and one of which we are very proud: Holy Name School," Mattingly said.

"Holy Name has a positive culture and climate ... a family atmosphere ... a great place for students to learn and a great place for adults to work," he said. "A tremendous amount of work and shared sacrifice is what allows HNS not only to exist, but to thrive. Much of that hard work is carried out by employees not paid as much as others in their profession and by volunteers who don't get paid at all.

"This is brought into perspective by one statement made by a former president of Notre Dame: 'When you give of yourself to a cause that serves God and His people, blessings will be returned to you a thousandfold and more.' 'There are countless supporters of Holy Name who continue to be blessed a thousandfold and more for everything you're doing to advance this jewel of a school.'"

## Lourdes Employees Lend Support to Foundation

(Paducah, KY) November 25, 2014 — Nearly 500 Lourdes employees pledged to support Lourdes Foundation's annual employee giving drive to benefit patients, co-workers, programs and patient care projects at Lourdes. The fund drive, dubbed the Harvest of Healing Campaign, raised \$102,680 through donations of payroll deductions, cash gifts and unused vacation time.

Funds raised during the Harvest of Healing Campaign are used to meet critical needs for hundreds of indigent patients who cannot afford medication, a cab ride home, or other needed medical equipment. This year alone, over 429 patients have received help with these basic needs. Many other programs like women's services, heart and vascular care and Lourdes Hospice are also supported through this effort.

"Our employees recognize the value



**Harvest of Healing Check presented to Lourdes. Photo: Lourdes**

of Lourdes' healthcare ministry to this community," said Tara Miller, President of Lourdes Foundation. "We appreciate our associates who make Lourdes Foundation their charity of choice to support the important needs of our most vulnerable patients and to enhance the high quality care Lourdes provides for everyone in the region."



## What Does God Want Me To Do For Him In My Life?

**Fr. Jason McClure visited the sixth grade students at the Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus in November. The students asked many questions and were intrigued by the discussion. Submitted by Tracy Conkwright**



Visiting in the 5th grade's classroom are Jazz Page with Bishop Medley; front, Logan Walz, Lily Tabor beside Jazz, Isaac Seeger, Justin Brown, Gabe Carwile.

## Special To The Western Kentucky Catholic

How many of us that attended Catholic schools were graced with regular school visits from our diocesan Bishops? Most of us came into contact with our Bishop once when the Sacrament of Confirmation was conferred upon us sometime in our early to late adolescence. This Sacrament, of course, happened in our parish church as a part of a Mass. This is no surprise as the Shepherd of a diocese must meet the many needs of his sheep and every Bishop has been given different gifts and talents to share with his diocese by God.

Our Diocese of Owensboro Catholic school children today are blessed to see Bishop Medley at least once every year when he makes a visit to each of our Catholic schools. His visits to schools are a continuation of Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith's support to schools, their students, faculty and staff.

Bishop Medley celebrates Mass with the entire school community before he spends the morning after the Mass visiting classes. He will visit as many classrooms as he can until students head to lunch. His gifts of teaching the tenets of our faith and storytelling at any educational level are being shared with all of our students. Having been in our diocese for five years, each of our students that were Kindergarten year or older his first year here have



Bishop Medley visited in this third grade classroom: row 1 - Brian Barton, Makayla Ball, row 2 - Lily Sturgeon, Dallas Kennedy, teacher, Linda Mitcham.

already had the opportunity to encounter and interact with the Bishop five times.

Our Catholic schools work hard to honor Bishop Medley's visit. Classes and their teachers spend extra time preparing for the Bishop's Mass. Students take all of the ministries of the Mass and practice well for: lecturing, reading petitions, serving, bringing up the gifts and being Eucharistic Ministers (at the high schools). School choirs, usually one particular grade, choose songs that are tied to the readings and to reflect Bishop Medley's motto, "God who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is God's name" (Luke 1:49). The choirs do their best to 'raise the roof' showering a joyful noise on all those ears present for the Mass. To show further respect for a Bishop's Mass, groups of students prepare and practice a Communion Meditation presented with great joy and reverence.

Bishop Medley's visits to classrooms begin with a question/answer period. Some of the questions asked by students are: "Why do you wear that pink hat during Mass?" "Why do you wear that big crucifix?" "What do Bishops do all day?" "What is your favorite prayer?" "What is your favorite intention?" "Why do you make the sign of the cross three times when you are blessing us?" "What is the difference between a Bishop and a priest?" "What did you do in the Holy Land on your Pilgrimage of Peace?" Bishop Medley answers all questions with patience no matter how many times the same question gets asked from classroom to classroom. He uses his answers



Bishop Medley visiting in 2nd grade with teacher Carol Smith, taking a picture at left, and Aide-Debbie Horsley. Submitted Photos

to teach the beliefs of our Catholic faith and incorporates storytelling to share the Church history behind decisions the Catholic Church has made.

Bishop Medley always finds a way to include the importance of hearing God's call for each one of us. He speaks about all of the vocations but especially the call to religious life or the priesthood. Bishop Medley ends his visits with asking the class to stand and pray with him. He closes the classroom visit by blessing the students.

We, the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Owensboro, are deeply grateful for the sacrifices of time Bishop Medley makes to travel long distances in our large geographic area in the diocese to celebrate Mass and visit with our schools. We are so blessed to have a Shepherd that supports, protects, prays for and with us, and takes the time to come to us to develop a deeper relationship with the young Church. As Pope Francis has requested, he certainly has the 'smell of the sheep' on him after each visit. And what a sweet smell that is!



From left, 7th grade teacher-Shannon Loughran, Hunter Elder, Ben Dowell, Lily Hendrick, Samuel Flood, Dalton Taylor, Christine Mattingly, Aubrey Tabor, Tessa Jo Allen, Bishop William Medley, Ashley Hinton, Abby Morton, Tyler Rudolph, Father Brian Johnson, Caeleb Masterson, Ethan O'Donoghue.

## A Jesuit Reflects on a Jesuit Pope

By Mel Howard

OWENSBRO, Ky. - On Monday, Nov. 17, Fr. John R. Donahue, S.J. spoke at the Fr. John Vaughan Community Center (formerly St. Stephen Cathedral Undercroft).

His topic was "A Jesuit Reflects on a Jesuit Pope." Fr. Donahue holds a Ph.D. in New Testament from the University of Chicago.

Fr. Donahue outlined some surprising events about a Jesuit named Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis. Born, Dec. 17, 1935, Bergoglio entered the Jesuits March 11, 1958 and was ordained, Dec. 13, 1969. On July 31, 1973, Fr. Bergoglio was appointed Jesuit Provincial for six years. From 1980-86, he served as Rector of the Jesuit Theologate; from 1986-87, he did research in Germany, followed by teaching again in Buenos Aires. From 1990-92, he was in "exile" in Cordoba; on May 20, 1992, he was ordained as auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires. In 1998, after the death of Cardinal Quarracino, Bishop Bergoglio became the Archbishop primate of Argentina. On Feb 21, 2001 Pope John Paul II selected him to be a Cardinal. In 2005, Cardinal Bergoglio participated in the conclave that elected Benedict XVI. On March 13, 2013, Cardinal Bergoglio was elected pope and took the name of Francis.

Fr Donahue recounted many stories about Pope Francis as a Jesuit priest, then bishop, then Cardinal. For example, Pope Francis was asked, "Are you a Jesuit?" At an impromptu news conference while returning from World Youth Day in Brazil. Pope Francis said: "I feel a Jesuit in my spirituality; in the spirituality of the Exercises, the spirituality deep in my heart. I feel this so deeply that in three days I will go to celebrate with the Jesuits the feast of Saint Ignatius. I will say the morning Mass. I have not changed my spirituality, no... I feel a Jesuit and I think as a Jesuit. I don't mean that hypocritically, but I think as a Jesuit. Thank you." [July 28, 2013]

In a handout for the audience of about 50 people in the Fr. John Vaughan Community Center at St. Stephen Cathedral, Fr Donahue recounted the influence of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius on Pope Francis, and also giving quotes from the many books about Pope Francis. "There seems to be a book,



**Father John Donahue, S.J. addressed diocesan Parish Religious Educators in the Fr. John Vaughan Community Center at The Cathedral on Nov 17 with the topic, "A Jesuit Reflects on a Jesuit Pope."**



**Debie Hopkins bowed her head for a few minutes of silent prayer for Pope Francis at the end of Fr Donahue's presentation.**



**Parish Religious Educators were invited by Fr. Anthony Shonis to hear Fr. John Donahue, S.J. speak on "A Jesuit Reflects on a Jesuit Pope" on Nov. 17. The next day, Fr. Donahue addressed the Diocesan Presbyterate, speaking about the Gospel of Mark. Mel Howard photos**

"Fr Donahue noted, "on Pope Francis published every week!" Topics in Fr. Donahue's discourse included, "Mysticism of Action," and "Finding God in All Things;" Pope Francis is a "Mystic with his feet on the ground," (Elisabetta Pique.)

When asked by Fr Antonio Spadaro, S.J., "What does it mean for a Jesuit to be elected pope? What element of Ignatian spirituality helps you live your ministry?" Pope Francis replied, "Discernment. Discernment is one of the things that worked inside St. Ignatius. For him it is an instrument of struggle in order to know the Lord and follow him more closely."

Fr. Donahue continued Pope Francis' statement, "Discernment is always done in the presence of the Lord, look-

ing at the signs, listening to the things that happen, the feeling of the people, especially the poor. My choices, including those related to the day-to-day aspects of life, like the use of a modest car, are related to a spiritual discernment that responds to a need that arises from looking at things, at people and from reading the signs of the times. Discernment in the Lord guides me in my way of governing.... The wisdom of discernment redeems the necessary ambiguity of life and helps us find the most appropriate means, which do not always coincide with what looks great and strong."

The first thing that Pope Francis did as Pope, Fr. Donahue said, was to ask the people to pray for him. He recounted a story about a time which the Pope spent with inmates, saying that "things

from the heart need no explanation."

Pope Francis called a Synod on the Family in 2015; gathering information and statements about the synod's topic has been in progress during 2014 and caught the attention of the world's media who are wondering just how far this Pope will go in changing the culture of the church's bureaucracy. Even some Bishops and Cardinals, Fr. Donahue said, seem to be confused with statements this Pope makes. Fr. Donahue said that the next topic for a Synod which Pope Francis wishes to convene will be on the ecology of the planet. A part of Jesuit spirituality, Father Donahue noted, is to not avoid confusion or conflict, but to work through it using the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius. "Our God is rich in Mercy. Mercy is Compassion in action," he said, "the ability to enter into the chaos of another person's life."

Fr. Donahue said that as a Jesuit, Pope Francis works to "bring God to the world, to find God's presence already there in unusual places. Pope Francis liked the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins; Fr. Donahue quoted a line from one of his poems (As Kingfishers Catch Fire): 'Christ plays in ten thousand places.'"

Fr. Donahue described several actions within The Spiritual Exercises. In the process of discernment, he said, is the searching of one's life and experiences leading to a time of decision to discover God's will in your life; through prayer, through reflection to come to know what God wants you to do with your life. He said the Jesuit asks of an experience, a time, "Is God there? If one has to feel there is desolation from the experience, God is not there. If consolation comes from it, God is there. Consolation is always done in the presence of the Lord."

Fr. Donahue said that Pope Francis is the master of the unsaid: "I live in thanking the Lord that people are happy," Pope Francis says. Maybe two or three years of this and then to the House of the Father."

Interestingly, mirroring Pope Francis' first action as Pope in asking the people to pray for him, the last word Fr. Donahue spoke for this presentation was to ask the Parish Religious Educators to offer some silent prayer for Pope Francis. All bowed their heads in a few minutes of silence.

## Meeting of Families—Philadelphia 2015

WASHINGTON—The visit of Pope Francis to Philadelphia in September 2015 for the World Meeting of Families will be a “joyful moment,” said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Pope Francis made his intention to travel to the United States public, November 17, in an address to the Colloquium on the Complementarity of Man and Woman at the Vatican.

“The presence of Pope Francis at the World Meeting of Families in our country will be a joyful moment for millions of Catholics and people of good will. Our great hope has been that the Holy Father would visit us next year to inspire our families in their mission of love. It is a blessing to hear the pope himself announce the much anticipated news,” said Archbishop Kurtz.

The World Meeting of Families, sponsored by the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for the Family, is the world’s largest Catholic gathering of families and is held every three years. World Meeting of Families 2015 will be September 22-25, 2015, hosted by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and will focus on the theme “Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive,” emphasizing the impact of the love and life of families on society.

Individual registrants and families can register via [Worldmeeting2015.org/Plan-your-visit/Register](http://Worldmeeting2015.org/Plan-your-visit/Register) for the four day

Congress at the Pennsylvania Convention Center and also book hotel rooms for Congress days through the web site.

Multiple registration and pricing options are available, allowing delegates to select a package that best suits their needs. There is also an option available for registrants to seek out local host families through Homestay.com via <http://www.worldmeeting2015.org/plan-your-visit/places-stay/>.

The World Meeting of Families—Philadelphia 2015 will offer an Adult Congress and a Youth Congress for ages 6-17. There will also be a licensed daycare for children under the age of six. The Adult Congress, for ages 18 and older, will consist of keynote presentations and breakout sessions that address the many ways in which families can strengthen their bonds, especially in the face of the significant challenges facing the family globally in the 21st century. The Youth Congress will provide interactive programs designed for young people to play, listen, serve, build, and embrace the mission of love in a family.

“The World Meeting of Families will deal with a wide range of family issues where our faith is both needed and tested,” said Archbishop Chaput at the 2014 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Fall General Assembly.

“These are matters that affect families not only here in the United States but on a global scale. So we want to focus next year not just on the neuralgic sexual issues that seem to dominate the American media, but on things like the family and poverty, the family and addiction, the family and children with disabilities, the loss of a spouse, the effect of divorce and co-parenting, health and wellness as building blocks to preserving the family, creating real intimacy between husband and wife, the challenges of raising children, the role of grandparents, the parish as a support community for families, and similar themes. And we want to involve the whole community in this celebration, which is why we’ve included Jewish, Mormon, Muslim and Protestant presenters on issues that we all share—regardless of confessional divides.”

More information about the meeting, including open registration, is available online: [www.worldmeeting2015.org/](http://www.worldmeeting2015.org/)



### Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic Middle School Duke TIP Qualifiers

The students from Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic Middle School in Whitesville, Ky. who qualified for the 2014 Duke TIP talent search are from left above, Jamison Mills, Erin Beatty, Taylor Pedley, Bailey Wright, Nicholas Goetz, Cole Hall, and Cece Miller. From Grade 4 are Nicholas Goetz, son of Roxi & Jeff Goetz, Cecelia (Cece) Miller, daughter of Christie & Frank Miller; from Grade 5 are Taylor Pedley, daughter of Jenny & Brad Pedley, and Bailey Wright, son of Davida & Jeff Wright, and Cole Hall, son of Kim & Corey Hall; from Grade 6 is Erin Beatty, daughter of Robin & Joey Beatty; and Jamison Mills, son of Carrie & Derek Mills. Photo submitted by Kim Rydecki

### Lourdes Daycare Celebration of Parents



Lourdes Daycare puts together a feast each year for their parents and grandparents. Enjoying the feast for the first time were Stephanie Carrico (a teacher at OCS K-3 Campus) with her son Jake. Ashlyn Aud is also enjoying the feast with her friends. In background is Kelli Veizaj and her son John going to the dessert table.”



A buffet style meal with turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings was waiting for everyone to help themselves. Linda Sapp (2 year old caregiver) along with her husband David were busy filling up their plates (front foreground), while others were following.” Photos submitted by Fabyan Bridgmon, Our Lady of Lourdes Daycare Director.

## St. Ann School 4-6 Grade And 7 Grade Duke Tip Recipients



St. Ann 4-6 grade students in the photo above, left: Elijah-David Price, Raelle Beaven, Weston Farmer, Quinn Harmon, Cameron Greenwell, Thomas Dong, Ainsley Beaven, Caleb Tripp, Trayce Eckman, Morgan Beaven, Madison Steelman, Kelsey Hite, Shelby Peak, Katelyn Riggs, Madison Morris, Gretchen Greenwell, Anna Greenwell,

Garren Duckworth, Kaleb Nelson, and Gabe Vincent.

St. Ann 7 grade students pictured in photo at right: Weston Clements, Maddie Clements, Madison Morris, Shelby Rudd, Gray Greenwell, Heather Crowdus, Hunter Robinson, Drew Davis, Benson Greenwell, Brayden McGraw, and Jaeden Rossio.



Duke TIP is a nonprofit organization devoted to meeting the academic and social needs of gifted students. Students and parents are able to take advantage of benefits for years to come. Students have the opportunity to participate in Duke TIP educational programs, take the ACT Explore or ACT, receive discounts

on independent learning products, and much, much more. More than 2.5 million academically gifted students have participated in Duke TIP talent searches since 1980. Students have the opportunity to realize their full potential as a scholar. *Photos submitted by Beth Hendrickson*

## 2011 graduate of St. Mary High School Named Marshall Scholarship Finalist

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA - Senior politics major Sarah Hendley has been selected as a finalist for the Marshall Scholarship, which enables young Americans to study at the graduate level at a United Kingdom institution in any field of study.

Each year the Marshall Scholarship awards up to 40 scholarships, with eight of these scholarships for one-year programs, for which Hendley is applying. Scholarships are awarded to students who have the potential to excel as scholars, leaders, and contributors to improved United Kingdom-United States understanding.

Hendley interviewed with the Marshall Scholarship D.C. regional committee on Nov. 14. She plans to attend the University of Manchester to study information and communication technology for development. She has already been accepted to the program.

Hendley, who is from Paducah, Ky., has been a



**Sarah Hendley**

delegate of SAGA, the Student Association General Assembly, since her freshman year. In spring 2014, she set a precedent by taking on the leadership role of the body as a sophomore, acting as speaker. She has served as the academic chairwoman for past two years and holds liaison positions with both the Office of the Provost and School of Arts and Sciences.

She is also a President's Society member, the admin-

istrative chair of the College Republicans, a Habitat for Humanity volunteer, member of the University Honors Program, and a part-time employee in the School of Architecture and Planning's library. In summer 2013, she studied in London, completing an internship with a member of the British Parliament, and, in fall 2013, attended the Leuven Institute in Belgium, taking a full course load while working for a member of the European Union.

While at CUA, Hendley has taken advantage of Washington's internship opportunities. She has completed internships with the United States House of Representatives, Senate, and Council on Foreign Relations. She currently serves as a policy and advocacy intern at Mercy Corps International.

Last year, Hendley was named a finalist for

the Truman Scholarship, a national academic award of up to \$30,000 toward graduate studies. She has also applied for a Fulbright Scholarship that would fund her study at the University of Manchester.

"We are enormously proud of Sarah," said Jennifer Paxton, clinical assistant professor of history, and assistant director, University Honors Program. "She has made the most of every opportunity CUA has to offer — including campus leadership, internships, service, and study abroad — all while maintaining a stellar academic record. She has a wonderful future ahead of her."

Upon completing her education, Hendley hopes to work in the international development field, specifically focusing on harnessing the power of mobile phones for development in sub-Saharan Africa.

"By utilizing a technology that already has considerable adoption, I hope to create and implement ICT4D (information and communication technologies for development) programs focused on micro-financing that promote sustainable, local markets and empower women," she explains.

"Sarah's academic achievements while an undergraduate have been significant," said Julie Yarwood, coordinator of distinguished grants and fellowships, University Honors Program.

"She has demonstrated a longstand-

ing commitment to international government and economic issues, and she has amassed an impressive range of experience for someone her age. Beyond this, Sarah has consistently exhibited a genuine desire, willingness and ability to advocate for change in her local community, on her university campus, and in the global community.

"The Marshall Scholarship application requires a great amount of dedication. It has been my pleasure to watch Sarah develop clarity about her own future plans as she worked through various stages of the process. It is a great honor to have her represent CUA as a finalist in this prestigious national competition."

Founded by a 1953 Act of Parliament, and named in honor of former Secretary of State George C. Marshall, the scholarships commemorate the humane ideals of the Marshall Plan and express the continuing gratitude of the British people to their American counterparts. Marshall Scholarships are mainly funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom and are overseen by the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission.

Source: <http://publicaffairs.cua.edu/releases/2014/marshall-scholar.cfm>

## Agriculture from Kentucky to Ethiopia

January, 2014 21

In April of 2014, St. Patrick Catholic Church parishioner, Louisville, Ky., Glen Murphy spent three weeks of his time volunteering in Abaya District in Ethiopia. He was there as part of the Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) program, a joint effort with Catholic Relief Services and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The USAID started in November 1961 and works to end extreme poverty in developing, and distressed agricultural areas around the world.

Glen was part of a group of individuals with agricultural expertise working with farmers training and sharing technical assistance to help their farms be more productive. His assignment involved providing planting demonstrations showing ways to improve production of maize and



other crops as haricot beans and legumes.

As one of the most populated regions in Africa, the average land holding of farmers in the Abaya District is only .625 to 1.25 acres per household. The average household consists of two parents and five children. The only export crop grown in the region is coffee. Maize, haricot and “false banana” (an indigenous tree with edible bark) provides subsistence crops for the people in the region.

## 7th Grade TIP Qualifiers from Holy Name School

HENDERSON, Ky. - Thirty-two Holy Name School seventh graders have qualified for Duke University’s Talent Identification Program (TIP) by scoring at or above the 95th National Percentile on specific subtests of their ITBS tests. Through the TIP program, these students are offered the opportunity to take the SAT or the ACT as seventh graders. In addition, they receive educational journals, academic camp guides, and recognition for their outstanding performance.

Photo: Front row, l to r: Zachary Hagan,



Glen Murphy, a parishioner of Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Louisville, spent three weeks in Ethiopia teaching farmers ideas about planting and grain crop production. The photo at left shows sacks of maize and other crops as haricot beans and legumes.

Glen’s strong social teachings of his faith, interest in international cultures, appreciation of US efforts addressing the demands of global food production and poverty, and his 19 years as an industry agronomist led to his desire to work with this program. He says, “My professional roles have required heavy emphasis on in-

formation transfer across a broad range of experience and education which really enhances one’s ability to cut through language barriers.” During the three-week program, he encountered three non-English languages.

Glen feels we get bogged down with political debates on issues in the US and spending time in Ethiopia really changed his perspective. “In the US we take so much for granted with respect to human rights, healthcare, food, and even clean water! I also found it interesting how we

(Monsanto TAs) often use the analogy of “teaching a person to fish vs. giving a person a fish” in our strategy sessions. Never has a concept had more merit than through the fruits of the CRS/USAID F2F program.

“It is truly changing lives and I was very blessed to be a part of the program.” *Leaf Design® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company. ©2014 Monsanto Company.*

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“Whoever made up the old saying that ‘those who cannot do, teach’ probably never met a farmer. That’s because if there is one thing that almost all farmers do, its share

and hand down the skills they have learned from others and from hands-on experience.

“Donating time and expertise to community efforts can bring a lot of satisfaction, as anyone who has done it can tell you. In my own case, those efforts have provided me with some of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. Many of those experiences have not been in my own community at all, or even in the Carolinas—but rather on the other side of the world. In places like Kenya, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and Angola.

- Bruce Williams, volunteer with the USAID Farmer-to-Farmer program.



Garrett Coughlin, David Gonzalez, Austin Knittel, Claire Hauke, Grace Hauke, Kennedy Warren; Second row, l to r: Addy Waller, Alli Knight, Lauren Hazelwood, Georgia Farina, Amelia Davis, Jada Townsend, Peyton Gray; Third row, l to r: Ally Groves, Sophia Krampe, Lilly Krampe, Kaylee Morris, Kara Morris, Ashlyn Farina; Fourth row, l to r: Bryce Dhom, Ben Heppner, Hunter Book, Preston Hazelwood, Lucas Butler, Jordan Toribio; Back row, l to r: Nolan Durham, Jackson Staples, Jack Bach, Sam Hodge, Will White, Jacob Bailey. Submitted by Connie McFarland, HNS Guidance Counselor



# Many Helping Hands at ODYC Help Make 13,400 Meals

January, 2015 23

About 350 young people worked at the Helping Hands project in the Owensboro Convention Center as a part of the Owensboro Diocesan Youth Conference on November 12, 2014.

What were some of their comments while they worked? They were overheard to say: "This packet feeds 6 people!" "Where is Burkina Faso?" "What a neat operation to bring food to the hungry!"

How many meals made up in what time period? About 13,400 meals in 1.5 hours

Who were they made for? At least two groups of poor, and homeless people: young women who feared marriages to men they were promised too; and to older women sent away from their village falsely accused of bringing misfortune to their village. The meals were to be shipped to Burkina Faso in West Central Africa. The country used to be called Upper Volta in the colonial days. The new government renamed it. It means roughly: "The People of the Land of Integrity"

What agency received them or gave directions for their make-up? Catholic Relief Services works with "Stop Hunger Now" to bring the processing of the meals to different locations and then CRS distributes the meals.

Richard Murphy, Director of the Diocesan Office of Social Concerns and a student in the Diocesan Permanent Deacon Program, said, "Catholic Relief Services described this operation, 'Helping Hands' at a Southeast Regional gathering of CRS Directors and this was shared with the Office of Youth Ministry. I think it was received well by the youth. I think they appreciated what they could do collectively to feed a hungry world. It was advertised as part of ODYC."



*Richard Murphy contributed to this article.*

Top left center, on 11-21-14 Devin Walker, Marketing Director from Stop Hunger Now, Indianapolis Division, a Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Affiliate for the Helping Hands Program and Dillon Schueler from Right to Life of Owensboro prepare to set up for the Owensboro Diocesan Youth Conference's effort to prepare over 13,000 meals for the hungry poor of Burkina Faso, in Africa.

At left, center, The Boy Scout Troop from Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro as they assist in set up for the ODYC Helping Hands event.

Lower left picture: the initial run of meals conducted by the Scout troop as prepared at ODYC and to be sent by Catholic Relief Services to Burkina Faso.



Photos by Michelle Lin, mostly

24 January, 2015

## Immaculate Parish Hosts Class About The Psalms

On November 24th, forty-one individuals from 7 different parishes completed the Psalms class hosted by Immaculate Parish. The class lasting eleven weeks centered not so much on individual psalms as certain categories of psalms. The group learned about praying with the psalms (Lectio Divina), responsorial psalms, royal & Messianic psalms, psalms of pilgrimage and ascents, psalms of suffering and lament, penitential

psalms and psalms of praise and thanksgiving. Participant Ann Roth commented, "I always wanted more info on the Psalms and I was truly enlightened." Margaret Frey noted "The class has made me more aware of the Psalms we sing at Mass. There is such beauty, such passion in the words of the Psalms." Gloria Zinobile commented that she did not realize how much history was incorporated in the Psalms.

## Camp Elf

St. Nicholas made a surprise visit at The Immaculate Parish's Camp Elf on Saturday, December 6th. He left goodies in the shoes of the 54 campers ages PS-5th who attended the camp. The children enjoyed the four hours of craft activities, games and lunch provided by Immaculate. The 25 elf helpers (6th grade-adults) seemed to enjoy themselves too.

*Story and pictures submitted by Diane Willis*



Alex Swift and Annie Helwig work on snowman popsicle stick ornaments



Katie St. Clair works on her gumdrop star



Mikayla Waninger and Gracie Dukate making edible Christmas trees.



Jude Pickrell shows his Christmas tree creation

At left, Aiden Johnston, Andrew Powell & Mayme Powell put finishing touches on their cupcake liner trees

Those completing the class included: Janis Blandford, Susanne Caudill, Jeannie Clark (facilitator), Pam Collignon, Maureen Duvall, Sarah Edge, Margaret Frey, Sue Gough, Ann Harris, Sharon Hart, Mary Hartz, Patsy Hartz, Karen Head, Susie Imel, Ann Jones, Agnes Mayberry, Michael McLevaine, Arlene Minalga, Jane Pfeifer, Ann Roth, Mary Shacklett, Kathi Skidd, Debbie Stiff, Kathy Stiff, Sue Weaver, Fred Zinobile, and Glo-

ria Zinobile. Evening participants were Cathy Bowlds, Harvey Bowlds, Lillian Chapman, Isa Ebelhar, Sarah Ford, Helen Meister, Karen Mischel, Carol Morris, Philip Morris, Joan Perry, Mona Riggs, Joan Sanford (facilitator), Shirley Taliaferro and Diane Willis.

The next study – JAMES, Pearls for Wise Living will be offered January 5th through March 16th. Classes are offered from 10am-noon or 6:30pm-8:30pm. If you are interested in the study, please call Director of Faith Formation, Diane Willis to reserve a book.

## Immaculate Parish Prepares Way With Advent Service Taize' Style

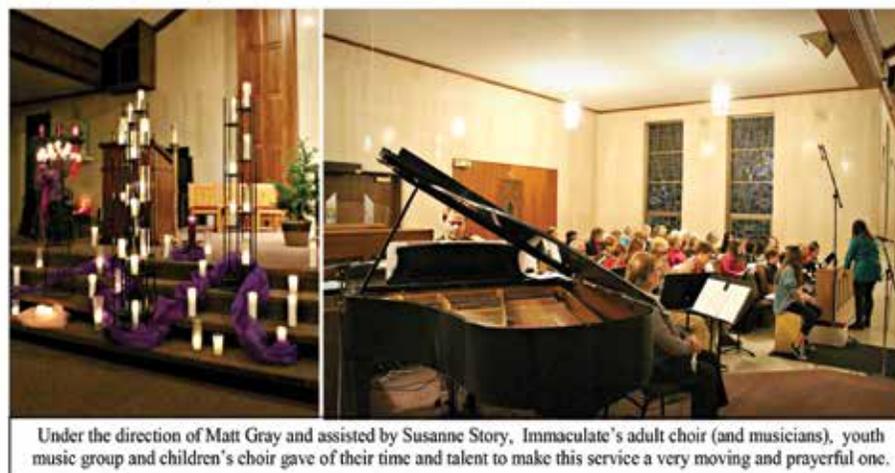


<<<  
Immaculate  
Children's Choir  
Practicing prior  
to the Advent  
Taize' service

>>>  
Immaculate Church  
transforms for the  
Taize' service

Olivia Story using her talent and  
singing during meditation

*\*The Immaculate Youth and Adult Choir (and Musicians) have been preparing for weeks for the Advent Taize' service. Advent is a time for waiting and hope and Taize' is a way to reflect through a moving prayer experience that penetrates the heart and whole being. On Sunday December 14th the faithful came to experience a time of deep prayer in the presence of the Holy Eucharist; with music that warmed the heart of those in attendance. A traditional "holiday themed" reception followed in the parish family center. It was a wonderful way to get in the spirit of Christmas! -submitted by Nicole Gray*



Under the direction of Matt Gray and assisted by Susanne Story, Immaculate's adult choir (and musicians), youth music group and children's choir gave of their time and talent to make this service a very moving and prayerful one.

## Join our Spinning Retreat!

**Weekend of Feb. 20-22**

Whether you are an experienced yarn spinner, weaver, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount weekend retreat at Mount Saint Joseph. Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill. The group plans to "spin, knit and talk until we're done!" For information on room rates, costs, etc., or to register, contact Kathy McCarty: **270-229-0206**  
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
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www.ursulinecsj.org

**Future Spinning Days:**

Saturday, May 9, 2015

Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015

Dec. 4-6, 2015 Weekend



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



### A Family's Night To Give Thanks

On the evening of Nov. 22, 2014, Ethan, Rachel, Emma, Tyler, Chuck and Anne Hagan, parishioners at Saint Mary of the Woods Church, Whitesville, had Thanksgiving dinner with some of the residents at the Wendell Foster Center.

Anne said, "We were honored that they wanted to include us in their celebration. It was hectic, noisy and crowded much like every other family gathering I've ever been to. After patiently waiting, one of the guys asked to say a prayer before we ate, then the usual round robin, 'What are you thankful for?' I was humbled and amazed at the responses and the sheer joy with which these people shared. Thankful for people and abilities most of us take for granted. And laughter. So much of it. I'm truly at a loss for words. So blessed to be a part of this 'family' tonight." Photo by Emma Hagan

St. Vincent de Paul—Diocesan Council of Owensboro

*Cordially invites you to attend the*

**1st Annual  
Awards Banquet**

Friday, January 16, 2015

Celebrating Vincentian Service to Our Neighbors in Need

St. Stephen Cathedral

600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY

CELEBRATION OF MASS AT 5:00 PM

**Celebrant**

Most Rev. William F. Medley (Diocese of Owensboro)

**Concelebrant**

Rev. Jerry R. Riney (Pastor, St. Stephen Cathedral Parish)

**Awards Ceremony and Dinner following Mass**

**RSVP:**

Mr. Richard B. Remp-Morris, Executive Director  
270-315-5747

**18th Annual**

# **YOUTH 2000**

**A Eucharistic-Centered Retreat**  
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**March 13 - 15**  
**2015**

**"Let God surprise you with His love and care for you!"**  
-Bishop William F. Medley

**Ages 13-30**  
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**marianshrineky.org**

This monstrance is the vocations monstrance blessed by Blessed John Paul II and is located throughout the year at the Carmel Home in Owensboro, KY.

## St. Edward, Fulton, Ky. Confirmation Retreat A Time To Prepare and Reflect



Father Robert Drury urging confirmation candidates at St. Edward's confirmation retreat in Fulton Kentucky on Dec. 5, 2014 to, "Take a risk...Tell me why is the Holy Spirit present in the present and the future?" Photo by Susie Fenwick



"What do we have naturally from God that each of us has that not everyone else has?" one of the probing questions offered by Father Robert Drury, December 7th, to aid confirmation candidates at St. Edward's Church in Fulton to prepare and reflect for confirmation. Photo by Susie Fenwick



Nine youth confirmed December 7, 2014 at St. Edward in Fulton, KY. They now must "prepare the way of the Lord." From left, Sam Gibbs, Kyle Ward, Ivan Ochoa, Brian Jimenez, Bishop, Martha Ochoa, Juan Palacios, Elise Jez, Katherine Ward and Abby Hightower. Photo by Gregory Cox - St. Edward Parish.

## Aleja Grant Signs Letter of Intent With WKU Cross Country/Track & Field

PADUCAH, Ky. - Rosary Chapel Catholic Church senior Aleja Grant signed a letter of intent with Western Kentucky University Cross Country/Track & Field at a signing ceremony held at Paducah Tilghman High School on November 18, 2014.

Aleja Grant won four regional cross country championships, beginning her freshman year 2011. She finished in 3rd (2012), runner-up (2013), and 4th in the state class 2A cross country meet. In track and field, Grant was state champion in the 2 mile in 2012 and has had numerous runner up finishes in the 800m, 1 mile and 2 mile in the state Class 2A track meet. She has won regional championships in the 800m, the mile, and the 2 mile for the past three years.

Tilghman Coach Heather Hamilton, who ran track for the Hilltoppers, said "Aleja has



On Nov. 18, 2014 Aleja Grant signed a letter of intent to run track and cross country for Western Ky University with her mother, LaCosta Townsley and father, Joey Grant, beside her. Paducah Public Schools Photo

a good attitude and a great work ethic. She works hard even when nobody's looking."

Grant said, she feels that Western is the right place for her because their goal for her is a good education, which is her ultimate goal.

"I'll miss having my family come and my mom being at every meet," Grant said, "but WKU has that family feel. I feel like I will fit in."

## Passionist Nuns Renew Vows In Dedication To Be Brides of Christ

**By The Passionist Nuns**

SAINT JOSEPH MONASTERY, WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Pro Orantibus Day (November 21st – a day set aside to remember and pray “for those who pray”) is also the feast of the Presentation of our Lady in the Temple.

We have just finished our annual 4 day retreat (Nov. 17-20) in preparation to renew our vows, a devotional practice that dates back to the days of our Holy Founder, St. Paul of the Cross. All Passionist Nuns throughout the world (about 36 monasteries) have devotional renewal of vows on this feast.

St. Paul of the Cross was very devoted to our Lady and greatly loved this feast day. It was on this feast that Paul was first clothed in the habit (though without the Passion sign at first), and the first Passionist retreat was named for the Presentation. (Retreat is what Paul called his monasteries for the Passionist men.)



These photos were taken during Mass as we renewed our vows. Our two postulants, Elizabeth (whom you see at the far right of the photo below) and Nora, as well as our aspirant Christie Anna (whom you can see in the photo at left) also got to join us in the retreat as they continue to discern with us if Passionist life is how God is calling them to serve Him.



During our retreat, Fr Simon-Felix, OP gave us a daily conference on each of our 5 vows. As you can see here from one of the props he used during his conferences, he has a very “Passionist” heart. He also tied in our vows with the Liturgy, using lots of Scripture. Father is a chaplain at Indiana University in Bloomington.

During our retreat, we also enjoyed our first snowfall of the year. Nov 17 is very early for us to get snow, and for it to stick around past noon! In fact, it stuck for a few days.

Source: <http://passionistnunsblog.com/2014/11/23/renewed-in-our-dedication-to-be-brides-of-christ/>



## Making Christmas Keepsake Food Baskets

January, 2015 27



At St. Romuald Preschool, Deacon Tony Anthony posed with Mrs. Gera's Pre-K class who made Christmas Keepsake Blankets and sold them to raise money to help Knights of Columbus feed a Thanksgiving meal to those less fortunate. The class raised enough money to feed 91/2 families turkey, dressing, and the works! Photo submitted by Erin Waddell



A Ministry of the Catholic Bishops of Kentucky

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January 10-11, 2015



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**January Wedding Anniversaries**  
**10, 25, 40, 50 and**  
**Over 50 Years of Marriage**

**Blessed Mother, Owensboro**

Richard &amp; Michele Howard, 10

Mark &amp; Teresa Wilmes, 25

Robert &amp; Dena Montgomery, 60

**Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**

James &amp; Sharon Drury, 53

Guy &amp; Frances Hogan, 53

Jerry &amp; Charlotte Hopf, 56

Terry &amp; Maria Phillips, 25

James &amp; Elizabeth Thomas, 62

**Holy Spirit, Bowling Green**

Don &amp; Rachel Schmidt, 40

Kyle &amp; Lillian Davis, 40

Harry &amp; Constance Largen, 55

George &amp; Barbara Powers, 55

Joann &amp; Basil Jones, 54

Wm. &amp; Sharon McKay, 50

**Immaculate Conception, Earlington**

Theresa &amp; Bobby May, 61

**Immaculate Conception, Hawesville**

John R. &amp; Betty Brown, 53

**Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**

Thomas &amp; Laura Veach, 10

Ken &amp; Charlene Ackerman, 56

William &amp; Suzanne Blandford, 52

James P. &amp; Connie Hayden, 56

Anthony &amp; Mae Kamalich, 61

Joseph R. &amp; Frances Millay, 54

**Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro**

John &amp; Summer Bell, 10

George &amp; Marsha Ballard, 50

Jack &amp; Wanda Hufnagel, 66

Gary &amp; Mary Carol Jackson, 51

John W. &amp; Barbara Montgomery, 51

Eleanor &amp; Hal Renshaw, 58

Phillip &amp; June Bell, 54

Melvin &amp; Lois Connor, 58

Charles &amp; Mary Bonnie Gray, 58

**Precious Blood, Owensboro**

Charles &amp; Ann Connor, 57

James &amp; Shirley Ellis, 57

Doug &amp; Betty Howard, 60

James &amp; Evelyn Mattingly, 62

Mike &amp; Cloa Thompson, 55

**Sacred Heart, Waverly**

William T. &amp; Cecilia Buckman, 52

**St. Agnes, Uniontown**

Hamel &amp; Rose Floyd, 62

**St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph**

David &amp; Sharon Thompson, 50

**St. Ambrose, Henshaw**

Joseph &amp; Joan Sheffer, 53

**St. Ann, Morganfield**

Donald G. &amp; Peggy French, 64

**St. Anthony, Browns Valley**

Norbert &amp; Helen Rose Smith, 57

**St. Benedict, Wax**

Billie &amp; Juanita Meredith, 55

**St. Elizabeth, Curdsville**

Fred &amp; Betty Lattus, 51

**St. Francis de Sales, Paducah**

Zachariah &amp; Anne Ault, 10

Patrick &amp; Allyson Humphrey, 25

Francis M. &amp; Judith Taylor, 51

Keith &amp; Judy Walker, 55

Michael J. &amp; Esther Shoulta, 55

W. J. &amp; Norma Word, 64

**St. John the Evangelist, Paducah**

Michael &amp; Shirley Poat, 50

Albert &amp; Joyce Wurth, 55

**St. Jerome, Fancy Farm**

Norman &amp; Ginny Elliott, 60

Joseph &amp; Pearl Stahr, 58

Charles &amp; Shirley Rowe, 57

Conrad &amp; Rozella Spalding, 59

**St. Leo, Murray**

Paul &amp; Roberta Herman, 52

Solomon &amp; Chitra Antony, 25

**St. Martin, Rome**

Donald &amp; Vivian Fischer, 62

**St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho**

Joseph &amp; Margie Merimee, 60

**St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady**

Harold &amp; Jan Clements, 57

**St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville**

Bill &amp; Katie Christian, 50

Joseph &amp; Jackie Head, 58

Dan &amp; Sue Howard, 56

Elmer &amp; Marcella Schepers, 59

**St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove**

Normand &amp; Elizabeth Vandal, 58

**St. Peter, Waverly**

George &amp; Rita Gayle Nelson, 56

**St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley**

Kenneth &amp; Martha Pendleton, 54

James L. &amp; Patty Settles, 55

William J. &amp; Lillian Young, 61

James &amp; Mary Keller, 58

**St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro**

Leon &amp; Cecilia Aud, 52

Francis &amp; Betty Haynes, 52

**St. Romuald, Hardinsburg**

Mack &amp; Dolores Mattingly, 56

Jimmy &amp; Mary Rita Whitworth, 56

Logan &amp; Judy Tivitt, 50

**St. Rose, Cloverport**

William &amp; Bonnie Hawkins, 51

**St. Stephen, Cadiz**

William &amp; Maxine Hobbs, 54

**St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro**

Donald &amp; Norma Axley, 51

James &amp; Mary Ann Clouse, 55

**St. Thomas More, Paducah**

Jerod &amp; Cassie Belford, 10

Mike &amp; Tina Elliott, 25

Terry &amp; Velma Carlton, 25

Rick &amp; Gail Otte, 40

Bernie &amp; Connie Herrmann, 62

**St. William, Knottsville**

Darrell &amp; Ann Cecil, 40

James A. &amp; Linda Hamilton, 57

**Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro**

Charles C. &amp; Bonnie Gray, 58

**Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville**

Levi &amp; Margaret Peterson, 56

Don &amp; Maxine Hobbs, 54

## Union County Residents Lifelong Friends

This group has a unique story to tell. The guys have been friends through grade school, high school, and still are good friends. They lived the majority of their lives in Union County. One of the girls was from Covington, KY and the rest were from Indiana. Four of the couples have been married over 50 years and the 5th couple will reach that milestone this coming July. Four of the couples are members of St. Ann Church and the fifth couple goes to St. Agnes. Pictured from left: Martin & Mary Rose Thomas, Jerry & Kathleen Thompson, Harold & Kathy Thomas, Gerald & Marilyn Greenwell, Gilbert & Pat Rudd. Photo submitted by Pat Rudd



The Diocesan Committee for Total Catholic Education (CTCE) is one of the longest-running collaborative advisory committees of priests, Sisters, and laity in the diocese. The opening narrative in the CTCE Constitution states: "The essential mission of the Church is the mission of Jesus. It is a call to all Catholics to deepen and share the faith that is given to them; a call to renewal of baptismal commitments and to a maturing in relationship with God. It is a ministry of communicating the message of salvation to others and it includes both education and formation for people of all ages from the cradle to the grave.

"The Church of this Diocese, through the leadership of the Bishop, is fully dedicated to this educational mission. The Committee for Total Catholic Education is one of the structures by which the Catholic community shares in the Church's educational mission of



The Diocesan Committee for Total Catholic Education met in the Parish Center at Christ The King, Madisonville, October 20. From left center clockwise, Mr. Jim Mattingly - Superintendent of Diocesan Catholic Schools, Committee chair John Broxon, Mark Desmond - Paducah Deanery, Melinda Prunty - Youth Ministry Office Director, Nancy Smith - Owensboro West Deanery, Sister Suzanne Sims, OSU - Council of Religious Representatives, Fr. John Vaughan - pastor of Christ The King Parish, Madisonville, and Priest representative, Pat Cairney, Elaine Robertson - Faith Formation Office Director, Stephanie Frey - Owensboro East Deanery, Kelly Wiseman - Bowling Green Deanery, Ben Warrell, Director of Gasper Youth Camp and Retreat Center, and Deacon Bill. Photo by Mel Howard

spreading the Good News of Jesus. The original Constitution was approved by Bishop McRaith on December 20, 1989.



Mark Desmond, representative from Paducah Deanery, with hands folded, spoke this prayer with the whole committee at the end of the Oct. 20 meeting:

**"Prayer for Catholic Education**

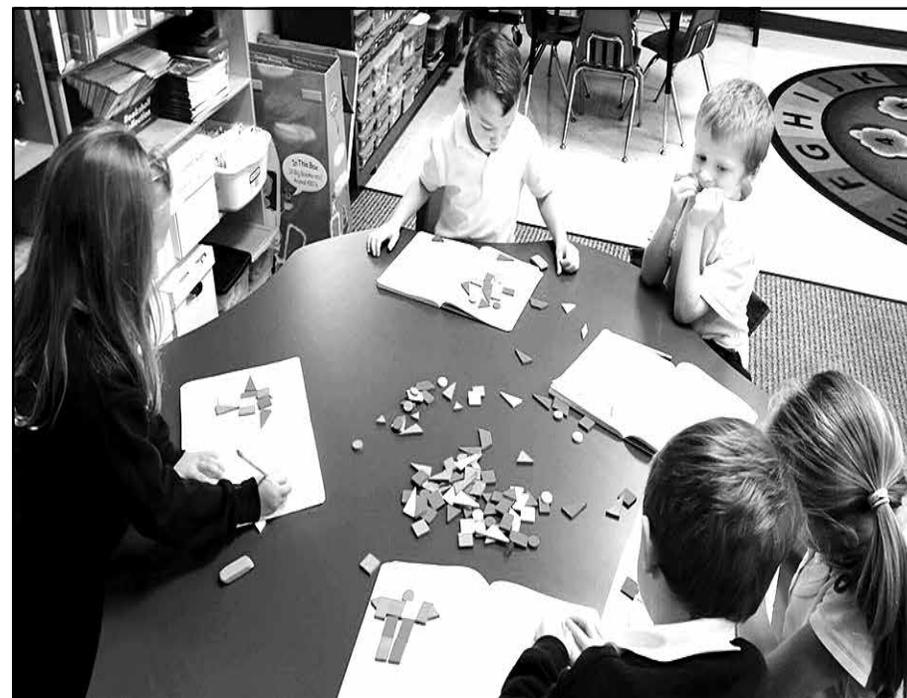
"O, Holy Spirit, source of truth and grace for those entrusted with the Christian development of children, enlighten our minds, strengthen our will, fill our hearts with generosity so that our homes, our parishes and our schools may co-operate effectively with You, and with one another in the mission of Catholic Education.

"We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen"

Source: Toronto Catholic School Board, [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org)

## Couple Celebrating 60 Years of Married Life

Father Dave Johnson blesses Donald and Ellen Buckman during their 60th year wedding anniversary celebration during Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Waverly, Ky. The Buckmans were married October 28, 1954 with Father Phil Riney officiating. Donald and Ellen have seven children, Jennifer Nally, Theresa Alexander, Kathy Hancock, Steve Buckman, Kenny Buckman, Greg Buckman, and Julie Padgett. They have 24 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. "We give God the glory for this beautiful family and thank Him for our many years together." Submitted Photo



**Learning Mechanical Engineering** Conceptual Design Methods: In Mrs. Ebelhar's Kindergarten class Nov. 6, students are making robots out of shapes and writing about them in their math journals.

Photo by Lori Whitehouse

## “Senior Moments”

Thursday, Jan. 15

Retreat Hours:

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Retreat Facilitator:

Sister Ann McGrew

Cost:

\$20 fee includes lunch

This is a year-long program. The next session will be on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015.

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



“Senior Moments” is for anyone interested in joining with others to enrich their later years. The program will include prayer, input on various topics, discussion, reflection and time to enjoy conversation with one another.

*The sessions will take place on the third Thursday of each month (except July) through October 2015.*



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4103  
www.ursulinesmsj.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## Trip to new Orleans ... May 3 to 9, 2015

On May 3, 2015 we are headed to historic New Orleans! Enjoy 7 days, 6 nights for \$570 per person (double occupancy) which includes a guided tour of a Louisiana Plantation, a relaxing riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River, a visit to the National World War II Museum and the French Quarter. \$100 deposit due by February 1, 2015. Depart from St. Jerome Church parking lot in Fancy Farm, KY. For more information or to sign up, contact Judy Thomas at 270-623-8462 or Barbara Sue Wilson at 270-623-6990.

## In Your Kindness, Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Sister Audrey Mary Gold, A.D.



Sister Audrey Mary Gold, 67, of Owensboro went to be with the Lord on Friday, Nov. 28, 2014. Sister Audrey was born Feb. 21, 1947, in Buffalo, New York, to the late Howard and Catherine Croty Gold. She graduated from Dominican College in Blauvelt, New York, in 1970 and became a member of the Sisters of the Lamb of God in 1971. Sister Audrey also was a teacher and a bookkeeper. She held positions in teaching at Corpus Christi School in Rochester, Holy Family kindergarten in Owensboro and Mary Carrico School in Knottsville, and was the bookkeeper at the Bishop Soenneker Home in Philpot. Sister Audrey was instrumental in starting the Owensboro area's Christian Appalachian Project. She orchestrated the collection of donated items from Owensboro and then helped transport them to the Appalachian area for dispersal.

Survivors include her sister, Karen (Ed) Harrington of Lakeville, New York; a brother, Ronnie (Judy) Harris of Delevan, New York; and a nephew, Brian Harrington of Rochester, New York.

The funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 2, 2014 at Immaculate Catholic Church. Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to Christian Appalachian Project or Sisters of the Lamb of God.

The Sisters of the Lamb of God were founded by Father René de la Chevasserie, S.J., in 1945, open to women who had been unable to enter religious life due to poor health or age. When the founder sought a mission in America, the Most Rev. Francis Cotton, bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., asked that a community be established in his diocese. The Sisters of the Lamb of God came to Owensboro in 1958 and have had a presence in western Kentucky ever since.

## Mandeville Container Start And Finish



On Nov. 5, 2014 are crew members for the initial loading of our Diocese's container to go to Mandeville Jamaica.

Pictured below, is the loading crew at the end of the loading of the Mandeville container. Approximately 600 items were sent that included medical supplies, educational supplies and furniture. Submitted by Richard Murphy



## Committee Confers First Sister Audrey Gold Award



Sr. Audrey Gold, seated at right above, received the first "Sr. Audrey Gold Award" on October 20, 14 for outstanding service and caring for persons with disabilities. Pictured on the back row is Sr. Audrey's sister, Karen. Pictured on the front row are Judy Kapelsohn, Chair for Disabilities Awareness Committee and Sr. Debra Ann Bailey, Secretary for the Committee. Sister Audrey Gold died on November 28, 2014. Photo submitted by Richard Murphy

## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

#### JANUARY

- 6 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Learning to See as the Mystics See
- 8 Rediscover Catholicism
- 15 Senior Moments
- 17-23 St. Meinrad Retreat Week
- 23-25 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 26-30 Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 6)
- 30-1 Retrouvaille Weekend

Center-sponsored programs are in **BOLD type**. Please call to register.

To register or schedule an event, call Kathy McCarty

**270-229-0206**

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

www.ursulinesmsj.org



Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Discover your place in God's plan...

WAKE UP THE WORLD!  
—2015 Year of Consecrated Life—

#### FEBRUARY

- 3 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: The Art of Simplicity
- 7-8 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 12 Rediscover Catholicism
- 19 Diocese of Evansville Board
- 19 Senior Moments
- 20-22 Yarn Spinners Weekend
- 21 St. Michael's Sebree Parish Council
- 22-25 MSJ Quilter Friends
- 27-28 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

#### MARCH

- 3 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: A Great Treasure
- 4 Lenten Day of Prayer
- 6-8 Ignatian Silent Retreat
- 12 Rediscover Catholicism
- 19 Senior Moments
- 20-22 Women's Retreat with Sister Cheryl Clemons
- 27-29 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 28 St. Joseph & Paul RCIA

## Variety of Cultures Pray, Enjoy Meal Together

January, 2015 31



On November 15, 2014, Deacon Michael Charles, left, cooked a dinner for young adults in the Owensboro area. Hosted by Father Suneesh Mathew, at right, at the St. Stephen Rectory, guests enjoyed a Kenyan meal (Kenyan beef, Indian rice, Indian bread, and American chili) cooked by Deacon Michael Charles. To celebrate the variety of cultures present, Father Suneesh, Deacon Michael Charles, and Susy Solorza led the meal prayer by reciting the Our Father in their native languages before all said it in English. The picture was taken by Father Joseph Cox, OSB, who was visiting for the weekend. Submitted Photo



## Join us for a Women's Retreat

**March 20-22, 2015**

### Holiness in Family Life: Lessons from Saint Monica and Elisabeth Leseur

The fourth-century Saint Monica and the 19th-century Elisabeth Leseur experienced family struggles firsthand.

Saint Monica, famous for her faithful praying for the conversion of her son, Saint Augustine, lived with a violent and unfaithful husband. Neither her husband nor her son shared her faith for most of their time together.

Elizabeth was married to an atheist, but her spiritual journals, left for him to read after her death, so moved him that he became a Christian.

Participants will learn about these two remarkably different women who were united in constant prayer that their loved ones would someday share their faith in Christ and love for the Church.

Presenter:

**Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU**

Time:

**Begins 7 p.m. Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday**

Cost:

**Residents \$180, Commuters \$130**

Contact Kathy McCarty to register  
**270-229-0206**

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



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www.ursulinesmsj.org

**Get a 10% discount if paid in full by Feb. 20, 2015**

A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Sister Ann McGrew: 270-229-0200



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## Lenten Day of Prayer

**Wednesday, March 4**

Time:

**9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Presenter:

**Monsignor Bernard Powers**

Cost:

**\$20 fee includes lunch**

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
**270-229-0206**

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



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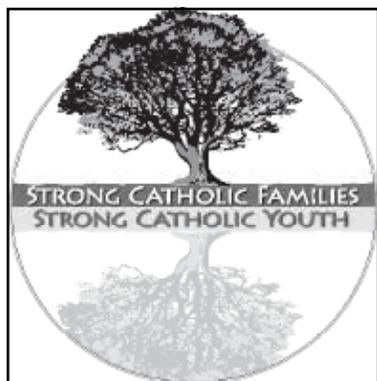


The Lenten Day of Prayer includes a program of reflection, Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a noon meal. Please join us.



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## With The Synod On The Family In Mind, A Prayer For Families



In light of the anticipated 2014 Synod of the Family, a Missionary of Africa priest (White Fathers), Fr. Baptiste Regina Mapunda, based in Ghana, has re-issued the family healing prayer that he first wrote in 2011. Fr. Mapunda's prayer is modeled along the Catholic Prayer, Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace, widely attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.

Fr. Mapunda says many families in Africa and elsewhere are facing unprecedented challenges. He says God can heal the many different wounds in families. He therefore proposes this prayer which families and Small Christian Communities (SCC) can use when they come together for prayer. Below is Fr. Mapunda's prayer.

### *The Family Healing Prayer*

God of Love and Peace make us instruments of your peace in our families:

Where there is a family divided by hatred, let us bring Love,  
 Where there is a family wounded by conflict, let us bring Peace,  
 Where there is a family lacking in forgiveness, let us bring Forgiveness,  
 Where there is a family suffering, let us bring Healing,  
 Where there is doubt in the family, let us bring Faith,  
 Where there is falsehood in family relationships, let us bring Truth,  
 Where there is sorrow in the family, let us bring Joy,  
 Where there is a family living in darkness, let us bring Light,  
 Where there is oppression in the family, let us bring Justice,  
 Where there is an ill-informed family, let us bring Education,  
 Where there is selfishness in the family, let us bring sharing,  
 Where there is corruption in the family, let us bring Love,  
 Where there is discrimination in the family, let us bring Equity.  
 Where there is tribalism, let us bring Unity,  
 Where there is self-exaltation, let us bring Humility,  
 Where there is alcoholism in the family, let us bring Sobriety,  
 Where there is drug addiction in the family, let us bring Treatment.  
 Where sickness in a family is, let us bring Healing,  
 Where there is death and mourning, let us bring Life  
 Where there is sadness in the family, let us bring Consolation,  
 Where there is lack of trust in a family, let us bring Hope,  
 Where there is gossip in the family, let us bring Truth,  
 Where there is a lack of Faith, let us bring the Good News,  
 Where there is slavery in a family, let us bring Freedom,  
 Where there is a family afflicted by witchcraft, let us bring Jesus Christ,  
 Where there is enmity, let us bring Friendship,

O Lord make our families resemble the Holy Family of Nazareth, we make our prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord Amen!

Mary Mother of God pray for us, Saint Joseph Patron of all the families Pray for us. All the Saints and all the angels...Pray for us. Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

Source: [http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2014/08/15/with\\_the\\_synod\\_on\\_the\\_family\\_in\\_mind\\_a\\_prayer\\_for\\_families/1104621](http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2014/08/15/with_the_synod_on_the_family_in_mind_a_prayer_for_families/1104621)

## Strong Catholic Families

### *Positive Steps to Take in a Stepfamily Situation*

The primary relationship in a marriage should be that of the couple. Create an on-going pattern of communication with each other.

- Provide couple unity in family issues for the benefit of the children.
- Be aware of the different lifestyles and value systems, which are being combined into your stepfamily situation.
- Show the same respect for your stepchildren as you expect from them.
- Consider the combined children as ours, not yours or mine.
- Remember that your biological children know you better than your new spouse. Be aware of your over protectiveness as a biological parent.
- Consider the children living apart from the new stepfamily as being as much a part of the stepfamily as those living within.
  - Keep communication open, whenever possible, with ex-spouses for the sake of the children.
  - Appreciate the individuality of each child in the stepfamily.
  - Provide a reasonable territorial space for each family member.
  - Address financial issues before the marriage to a mutually acceptable term. Continue to negotiate monetary adjustments with each other.
  - Be flexible in resolving issues and be willing to try various alternatives. Everyone makes mistakes. If you find yourselves unable to come to a solution, seek professional guidance and counseling.
  - Keep a sense of humor.
  - Raise the consciousness of your family, friends, teachers, and clergy about the uniqueness of a stepfamily.



Source: [https://www.familyministries.org/resources/index.asp?c\\_id=78&t\\_id=6](https://www.familyministries.org/resources/index.asp?c_id=78&t_id=6)

## Your Unwanted Items Can Bring Hope To Struggling Families

When you donate your gently used clothing, furniture and household items to St Vincent de Paul, you are helping families right in your local community. Proceeds from our Stores-Donation Centers help local families in need. See below to find a store near you:

- Beaver Dam - 213 Midtown Plaza 270-274-5118
- Bowling Green - 655 US 31 W Bypass 270-904-1832
- Bowling Green - 1901 Russellville Road 270-783-7533
- Fordsville - 327 East Main St. 270-276-5102
- Henderson - 116 North Alvasia St. 270-827-4138
- Hopkinsville - 902 East 9th St. 270-885-8522
- Lewisport - 8185 US 60 West 270-295-3494
- Madisonville - 101 East Arch St. 502-821-2159
- Morganfield - 218 Jim Veatch Road 270-389-4281
- Oak Grove - 15088 Ft. Campbell Road 270-640-6241
- Owensboro - 200 East 18th St. 270-683-1747 (new location)
- Paducah - 2025 Cairo Road 270-442-9351
- Whitesville - 10534 Walnut St. 270-233-5118

As always, volunteers are needed and welcome to help at any of the stores. Please call the store location for information on how you can volunteer."



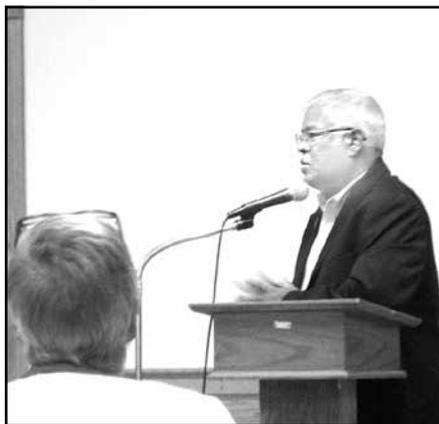
## Holy Name Church Learning To “Enjoy The Diversity”

January, 2015 33

By Kelly Davis

HENDERSON, Ky. - On November 25, over 60 parishioners gathered at Holy Name Church in Henderson to hear a presentation by Iftakhar Choudhury, a lay Muslim. Mr. Choudhury was accompanied by his wife, Stephanie, who is Catholic. I had the pleasure of dining with the couple before the presentation, and found the story of how Mr. Choudhury came to America, how they met, and how they came to live in Paducah fascinating. Mr. Choudhury was originally from Bangladesh. Following the civil war there, he passed up the chance to go to what was then the USSR to attend school for free, because he very much wanted to come to America to attend university. After a two year struggle to obtain a sponsor, he finally came to the US and attended the University of Alabama studying engineering. He remains a huge University of Alabama football fan still today and is very proud of having met Bear Bryant. After graduation, he moved to South Carolina for work, where he met his wife Stephanie. They eventually moved to Paducah with their two children, where he continues to work as an engineer, and his children attend school.

Mr. Choudhury has spoken to over



**Holy Name Church in Henderson hosted a presentation by Iftakhar Choudhury, a lay Muslim, to dispel some of the myths sensationalized by the mainstream media and to give a truer picture of what average Muslims, which is what followers of Islam are called, believe and how they live their lives. Photo by Kelly Davis**

30 different churches and organizations. His goal is to dispel some of the myths sensationalized by the mainstream media and to give a truer picture of what average Muslims, which is what followers of Islam are called, believe and how they live their lives. First, he explained the

beliefs Christianity, Jadaism, and Islam have in common. Muslims believe in pretty much the same as what's stated in the Old Testament and many of the same stories are found in the Quran. They believe in the 10 commandments. Their prophets include Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad (prophet of Islam who received divine revelation through the angel Gabriel). Moses, Mary, and Jesus are mentioned often in the Quran. They believe in the virgin birth of Jesus, and in his resurrection, but not that he is the son of God. They further believe in heaven and hell and that Christians and Jews are “people of the book”, and therefore can also go to heaven. The fundamentals of Islam can be easier understood if we understand the 5 pillars of their faith: There is one unique, incomparable God (Allah in Arabic); pray 5 times a day; fast in the month of Ramadan; pay a poor tax called Zakat (similar to tithing for Christians); Haaj – pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime if financially and physically capable.

He went on to explain that many hot button issues associated with the Islamic religion are actually cultural rather than religious in nature. Some of those cultural issues are associated with Arab

Muslims which only comprise 20% of Muslims in the world today. There are 3 major organizations that represent the opinions of most North American Muslims. They are ISNA (Islamic Society of North America), ICNA (Islamic Circle of North America), and CAIR (council of American-Islamic Relations). You won't see these groups in most mainstream media, not because they don't have a lot to say, but because what they have to say is not “sensational” enough. However, they all have websites that you can visit if you wish to learn more about what Muslims in North America feel about what is going on in the world today.

Mr. Choudhury wanted us to know first and foremost that Muslims are just like us and aspire to the same things in life. Parents want their children to be healthy, happy, well educated, and good citizens. He wants us to know that Muslims come from all areas of the world, and therefore we shouldn't confuse cultural differences with religious differences. And finally, but most importantly, you should treat Muslims as you would like them to treat you, and we should all just “relax and enjoy the diversity”.



## Daughters of Isabella Host A Christmas Tea

The annual Daughters of Isabella Christmas Tea was hosted by Theresa and Shannon Wilkins the first weekend in December. Special guests were the Sisters of Service, which is an auxiliary of the Daughters of Isabella. The Daughters of Isabella Circle 258 has collected nonperishable food for food boxes for two families for St. Francis de Sales, St. Johns, Rosary Chapel, St. Mary, and St. Thomas More. Sharing food, fellowship, and our faith is a wonderful way to celebrate the birth of our Savior. In the photo Back row: Katy Crouch, Clare Crouch, Karina Romero, Marianna Romero, Theresa Wilkins, Shannon Wilkins, Sherri Speis, Grace Babbs, Sheri Babbs; Front Row: Kimberly Bosh, Jennifer Bosh, Emily Hodges, Jennifer Hodges, Amy Sullivan, Ashley Sullivan, Jordan Bufford, Tracey Courtney, Bekah Courtney, Hannah Speis, and Isabelle Speis. Submitted by Sheri Babbs



In the picture above, with a basket ready to go are Ashley Sullivan, Bekah Courtney, Karina Romero.

By Ben Warrell

Every year Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp needs help!!! Each summer we hire 12 to 16 young adults, one year removed from high school, to work out at camp from mid May until the last camp is over in early August. Working on the summer staff is a life changing experience! The following was written by one of our former campers and current summer staffer.

*Monday, July 28th, 2014:* I can't believe this is the last week I'll be at Gasper River. Where has the time gone? The memories? What if they fade? What if I forget the things I've learned? The people, the adventures, the Spirit-Filled moments, the periods of trial, the periods of grace, the times of anger and hatred, jealousy and forgiveness... I could go on, but I won't right now. This place changes hearts – there is no way to leave as the same person who came. THAT is power. And I pray that will always be the good kind of power.

*What I'll Take With Me*

1. Love – I feel so much love from all these people. I don't ever want to forget that...
2. A deeper devotion to Mary – I intend to wear my scapular everyday and pray a rosary at least once a week, the goal being everyday.
3. The importance of communication – miscommunication is the source of a lot of unneeded drama. I'd like to fine-tune my skills in that department.
4. PRAYER – let everything I do and say be a prayer. I'm sure I'll stumble and fall, but my goal is to get to the place where I can pray like this more often.
5. A deeper love for the Eucharist – the source and summit of our faith.

Hi. My name is Annie Segebarth. I'm a Sophomore in college right now, studying to become a Nurse at Aquinas College in Nashville, TN. I worked at Gasper River this summer on Staff. But before that, I was a camper, coming to camps since 2010 when I converted to Catholicism. In all honesty, Gasper River saved my life. 2010 was a rough year for me. I had just started public school (after being homeschooled up to that point), we stopped going to the small non-denominational church I grew up



*"Be a pencil in the hand of God."* Mother Theresa

Are you looking for an amazing way to spend your summer? Do you seek adventure, faith, excitement, and friendships that will last a life time? If you do, please prayerfully consider working at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp this summer. All you have to do is go to our website, [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org) and click on the Job Postings Link to read the job description and find the applications. Fill it out, send it in and we'll be in touch. We need your help, use your gifts and talents to make a difference in the life of young person. If you cannot give an entire summer, please prayerfully consider being a volunteer counselor for a week! In seven summers of camp, all of our summer staff have said this was the best summer of their lives! Please feel free to contact us at 270.781.2466 if you have any other questions. We can't wait to see you this summer!

in, my grandfather died, I had lost most of my childhood friendships due to the conversion, and both of my older brothers permanently moved out of the house. Oh, and I got braces... I called it my "year of change."

Change is hard. It doesn't matter if it brings something good or not, adjusting takes time. Sometimes, though, amid the adjustments, you lose sight of who you are. Or you realize you never knew who you truly were made to be. The thing about Gasper River is that it's a place where anyone can come, and be exactly who God created them to be. I remember the first time I drove onto the property. I was terrified. My parents were about to leave me at this place I had never been to, with people I had never even seen in my life. I didn't know a single soul there. A lady at Church had suggested it to my mom, cause she knew that I was struggling making friends in the youth group. I literally told my parents to turn the car around and take me home before we even got to the end of the driveway! Praise the Lord they wouldn't listen!

That first week... It changed me. It changed me drastically! But that only lasted for a few short weeks after I got home, and then it was back to insecure, quiet Annie, who wanted so badly to be in a different body with a different personality. But it had planted a seed, and that seed had already begun to take

root! So I went back at Christmas-time that year, for the first-ever Christmas and New Year's Camp. And I changed again! I realized that I actually LIKED the person I became when I was at camp. I felt happier, more comfortable in my own skin. To this day, as soon as I turn into the driveway at camp, where all those years ago I begged my parents to take me away, I sit a little taller, smile a little wider, and feel so much more confident. What you see above, is the last journal entry I wrote during the camp season 2014. It was the last first-day-of-camp, and I was feeling pretty sentimental. But I realized, there isn't a much better way to describe my experience at Gasper. My heart was changed there. In the best way possible! I know that without that influence in my life, without Ben and Jessy, and all the Staff that have worked there, I would not be the person I am today. Goodness knows where I would be. Probably not in the Catholic Church, probably not receiving the amazing education I'm getting right now, and most definitely not as head over heels in love with the Lord as I am currently. Gasper River, the place, is pretty amazing. It has a true peacefulness that washes over you when you're there. But the PEOPLE of Gasper River? THEY are what make it so powerful. They set the example. They show us (the young people of Western Kentucky) how to live a Christian life – a Catholic life – and how to live it well.

Thank you, Annie, for sharing that with us! Please pray about working out at camp this summer! If you can't give an entire summer, please pray about being a volunteer counselor for a week. We always need counselors and it's a great way to grow in faith while having a huge impact on the lives of young people! Just go to our website and go to the Job Postings link. There you will find additional information and applications to fill out. Registration for summer camp begins after the first of the year and with the new lodge and dining hall, this looks to be the biggest summer we've ever had! Be a part of it, allow God to work in your life and heart like He did for Annie and so many others over the years! We hope to see you this summer! Please call our office at 270-781-2466 for additional information.

PADUCAH, KY – After learning of a need for financial donations so the St. Vincent de Paul Energy Assistance Program could continue to provide assistance to families with their energy bills, the St. Mary High School freshman class took action.

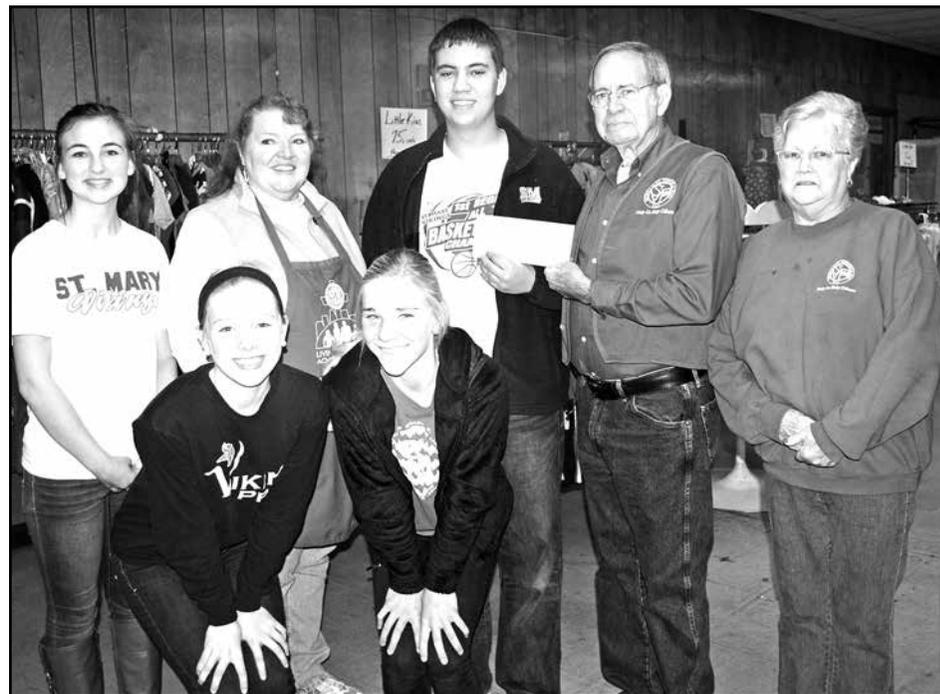
Spearheaded by the SMHS freshmen, St. Mary Middle and High School conducted a “Logo Day” day on Friday, December 5, to raise funds for the St. Vincent de Paul Energy Assistance Program. Students were allowed to be out of uniform if wearing a St. Mary logo on their clothing for a minimum of a \$2 donation to St. Vincent de Paul. As part of a planned class day of service volunteering at the budget store, the class presented a check for \$560 to St. Vincent de Paul to assist families with heating bills.

“We are so grateful for the St. Mary students, especially the freshman class, for seeing a need in their community and working to help find a solution,” St. Vincent de Paul manager Kathy Keeney said. “These kids are making a difference in our community, and they’ll keep making a difference for the rest of their lives as they see all that they can accomplish.”

In addition to raising funds, the Class of 2018 spent a portion of their retreat sorting, pricing and displaying items at the St. Vincent de Paul Budget Store, located at 2025 Cairo Road in Paducah.

## *Class Presents Check To Charity’s Energy Assistance Program*

**Representatives from the St. Mary High School Class of 2018 present a check for \$560 to St. Vincent de Paul’s Energy Assistance Program. Back Row: Caroline Veatch, St. Vincent de Paul Manager Kathy Keeney, Zach Jenkins, St. Vincent de Paul Conference President Frank Burch and St. Vincent de Paul volunteer Linda Hayden. Front Row: Kelly Black and Hanna Lurtz. Photo by Heather DeHart**



## St. Mary High School’s Rachel Denkins Signs With Campbellsville

PADUCAH, KY – St. Mary senior pitcher and utility player Rachel Denkins signed her National Letter of Intent on Friday to further her academic and athletic careers at Campbellsville University.

Through her junior season at St. Mary, Denkins has notched a 1.81 ERA with 390 strikeouts in more than 500 innings pitched for the Lady Vikings. At the plate, she carries a .395 career batting average and a slugging percentage of .545. She has been an All-District team selection from 2012-14 and a member of the “All A” Regional team each of the last two seasons.

A member of the Team Worth Greer travel softball team from Brentwood, TN, Denkins has been under the instruction of the Club K organization in Nashville, TN, with Sherri Dickens as her pitching coach for the last six years. She also added Michael Connell of Smyrna, TN, to her resume of pitching coaches this past summer.

In the photo at left, Denkins, the daughter of Peggy and Kip Denkins of Paducah, will join former local players Neely Quint and Jacqueline Roof on Coach Shannon Wathen’s team at Campbellsville.

## In Your Kindness, Please Pray For The Repose of the Soul of Sister Annalita Lancaster, OSU



Maple Mount — Sister Annalita Lancaster, 91, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Dec. 9, 2014, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 71st year of

religious life. She was a native of Vine Grove.

Sister Annalita was a tireless and cheerful leader in whatever she attempted, always keeping the spirit of Saint Angela Merici and the history of Mount Saint Joseph close to her heart. She mixed knowledge and strength with kindness and service wherever she ministered.

She was director of education at Maple Mount (1971-72), then served eight years as major superior of the Ursuline community (1972-80). She was the director of admissions at Brescia College (1980-84), associate director of

the Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center (1984-88), and the community’s first director of Mission Effectiveness (1995-2005). She served on the community leadership Council (1997-2000), as assistant local community coordinator (2000-01) and as assistant to community archivist (2005-14). She was pastoral associate at St. Jude Parish in Clinton (1988-95), and also ministered in the Archdiocese of Louisville and in Nebraska.

Survivors include her sister, Emma Florence Itschner of Owensboro; her

brother Patrick Joshua Lancaster of Louisville; nieces and nephews and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was Dec. 12 at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial gifts for Sister Annalita may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.



## A Consecrated Life.

### Ursuline Associates Offer Advent Prayer In Spirit of Angela: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

The Owensboro Associates of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph held their second annual Advent Prayer Service at 6 p.m. on Dec. 2, 2014 in the Brescia University Chapel. About 35 Ursuline Sisters and Ursuline Associates gathered to pray and sing for the start of the Advent season. Sister Pam Mueller, director of campus ministry at Brescia, welcomed everyone and served as the prayer leader. This year's event was extra special because it also included a commitment ceremony for Father Larry Hostetter, the president of Brescia since 2007. Sister Sharon served as Academic Dean and vice president of Academic Affairs at Brescia before becoming congregational leader of the Ursuline community in 2010.



Sister Sharon Sullivan, O.S.U., places her hand on Father Larry Hostetter's shoulder as he reads aloud his commitment as an Ursuline Associate. Father Larry has been president of Brescia since 2007. Sister Sharon served as Academic Dean and vice president of Academic Affairs at Brescia before becoming congregational leader of the Ursuline community in 2010.



Standing for the opening prayer are, left to right: Sister Elaine Burke, Associate Joan Perry, Sister Betsy Moyer, Associate Carol Morris and Sister Helena Fischer. Behind them on the right are Associates John and Martha Little.



Everyone stands as Sister Marietta Wethington reads the intercessions, which included, "in the spirit of Angela, we pray for a peace to come to our world that will enable us to care for and love one another."

Associate Joan Perry, left, shares a laugh with Sister Marietta Wethington, standing, and Sister Mary Diane Taylor, seated, as they gather in the Brescia Chapel for the Advent Prayer Service. Joan was the psalmist for the service.

### Retreat Allows Attendees To Open Their Hearts, Enjoy A Unique Camaraderie

"Walking with the Poor" was the theme of a retreat day on Nov. 22, 2014 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. The retreat revolved around the lives and teachings of Archbishop Oscar Romero and Pope Francis. It took place in the Madonna Room at the Center. Attendees included, left to right, Sister Mary Matthias Ward, Joe Wisniewski of Henderson, Sister Luisa Bickett, Sister Eva Boone and Joyce Kormelink of Owensboro. The facilitators were Father Anthony Shonis and Sister Mary Matthias. Father Shonis is the associate pastor of Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson. Sister Mary Matthias is director of Local Community Life for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph.



**Community Service.** 17 youth from St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, Owensboro, and several parents went to four different nursing homes in Owensboro for caroling. They went to the Davco nursing home, The Twin Rivers, Fern Terrace, and Hermitage. The youth also gave away over 100 Christmas cards which they had made and over 100 bags of food packets were presented to residents of these nursing homes. Photo submitted by Fr. Suneesh

## Trinity High School Student Volunteers for Pancakes with Santa

January, 2015 37



At Trinity High School, Whitesville, Ky. Pancakes with Santa was a program put on by the Owensboro Autism Network on November 8th, 2014. Several Trinity High School students volunteered their time and talents at this event to give back to those in need. In the photo above, Trinity students are as follows: From left to right: Lauren Beyke, Mrs. Claus, Blake Booker, Santa Claus, Shawna Aud, Morgan Porter, and Ariel Aud. Photo by Kim Rydecki

## An Ignatian Retreat

March 6-8, 2015

A silent retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius Loyola will allow participants to take time to dwell in the unchanging reality that we are loved just as we are, to listen to the call of God and God's hopes for us and to respond more deeply from our hearts.

Retreatants will develop deeper pathways to prayer, keener discernment, the ability to see God actively involved in the world and intimately involved with us in every moment and place.

Saint Ignatius Loyola founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in the 16th century, in whose footsteps our beloved Jesuit Pope Francis follows.

Retreat director Monica Armstrong founded Mission of the Spirit in Knoxville, Tenn., to bring Ignatian spirituality to the region.



Presenter:

**Monica Armstrong, MS**

Time:

Begins 7 p.m. Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday

Cost:

\$180 (program, meals and accommodations)

Contact Kathy McCarty to register  
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4103  
www.ursulinesmsj.org



Get a 10% discount if paid in full by Feb. 6, 2015

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## Learning to See as the Mystics See: A Primer

Tuesday, Jan. 6

"Evening with an Ursuline"

Time:

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Presenter:

**Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan**

Cost:

\$15 fee includes meal

Contact Kathy McCarty to register  
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



This program initiates an exploration into living in the "Sacrament of the Present Moment."



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The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August 2015. Coming up on Feb. 3:

"Art of Simplicity: Living a Simple Life" with Sister Amelia Stenger



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## Calvert City KCs Host Advent Breakfast



On Dec. 14, 2014, St Pius X, Calvert City celebrated the Advent Season with a Parish Breakfast. St Pius X provided the fixings and the Knights of Columbus cooked, prepared and provided breakfast to many parishioners.

**Photo at top: The preparation crew, members of Knights Council #10988, pause from cooking, cleaning and preparing delicious items for the Parish Breakfast: (left to right:) Derwood Doyle, David Spencer (Friend), Joel Rivera, Kurt Schmidt, John Brooks, Kyle Hanrahan, Russell Tomlinson, RJ Witowski.**



**Photo at left: Knights and Parishioners gather for food, fun and fellowship: Back Row, Knights L to R: James Poat, Russell Tomlinson, Joel Rivera. Front Row, L to R: Knight Chuck Fischer, Diane Fischer.**

**Photo below: Parishioners and Friends of St Pius X, Calvert City, say "Hello," to western Kentucky Catholics during the December, 2014, Parish Breakfast. Submitted by R.J. Witowski**




# WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

## 2015 Philadelphia

September 22-27, 2015

7 days/ 6 nights Pilgrimage



Come join Bishop Medley in Philadelphia for the 2015 World Meeting of Families.

The World Meeting of Families is a weeklong celebration of families with a concluding festival and Mass with our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

Prices start at \$841 person based on quad occupancy.

Price includes motorcoach and hotel accommodations with breakfast daily.

Price does not include conference fees for the WMOF which range from \$125–\$325 for adults and some meals.

More detailed itinerary to come. Watch Facebook, [rcdok.org](http://rcdok.org) and listen to Catholic Radio for more details or contact Joe Bland in the Family Life Office at the McRaith Catholic Center at 270-852-8377



## OWENSBORO CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

### Free Tuition Raffle

Tickets Are Limited... Only 250 To Be Sold

So Act Right Away

Tickets Are \$40 Each

Purchase Your Ticket

At The K-3 Or 4-6 Campus

Deadline For Purchase: Tuesday, February 17Th

Drawing Will Be Held At The OCES Dinner & Auction

On Saturday, February 21, 2015

For more information contact: Jonathan Estes @ 270-313-2111

## St. Romuald Preschool Raises \$1,672 For St. Jude Children's Hospital



**Having fun for a great cause.** Mrs. Rhonda's and Mrs. Gera's class-ready, set, go! on Bikes and three-wheelers, they got into kicking off their St. Jude Trike-A-thon. Photos by Lori Carwile

**By Lori Carwile, Preschool Director**  
HARDINBURG, Ky. - - Through the St. Jude Trike-A-Thon, St. Romuald Preschool raised \$1672.00 to support the research and treatment of childhood cancer and other deadly diseases while teaching trike and riding-toy safety tips. The annual fundraiser is a week-long program where kids learn riding safety skills while raising funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, one of the world's premier pediatric cancer research centers. On, Oct. 1,

kids brought their tricycles, bikes, and riding toys to school where they practiced their safety rules they learned throughout the week. "We are very excited to host the program every year because it is a fun activity we can easily incorporate into our existing enrichment programs. Not only did we teach our children valuable safety lessons, we taught them how they could help kids like them who are battling cancer and other deadly diseases."

## The Art of Simplicity: Living a Simple Life

**Tuesday, Feb. 3**

**"Evening with an Ursuline"**

**Time:**

**5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Presenter:**

**Sister Amelia Stenger**

**Cost:**

**\$15 fee includes meal**

**Contact Kathy McCarty to register**  
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August. Coming up on **March 3: "A Great Treasure" with Sister Vivian Bowles**



Jesus lived a life of simplicity. In Matthew's Gospel we see: "Do not store up for yourselves treasure on earth. Store up treasure in heaven." What is my treasure? Can I live simply in a world that is so complex and based on materialism? How much is enough? Can a person find joy in simplicity?



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Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



**The Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky**

Saturday 7 February 2015



*Join us for a day of worship and fellowship as we listen to nationally renowned Catholic evangelists and celebrate Mass with Bishop Medley*

*New Venue*

The 2015 Catholic Men's Conference will be held at your Cathedral.

The Men's Conference will not be at Brescia University this year.

**St. Stephen Cathedral**

**610 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301**

Registration begins at 8:00 am in the undercroft

Coffee & Donuts will be served



**Catholic Men's Conference**  
of Western Kentucky  
2159 Sheffield Court,  
Owensboro, KY 42301

## National Catholic Schools Week 2015

Sunday, January 25, 2015 to Saturday, January 31, 2015



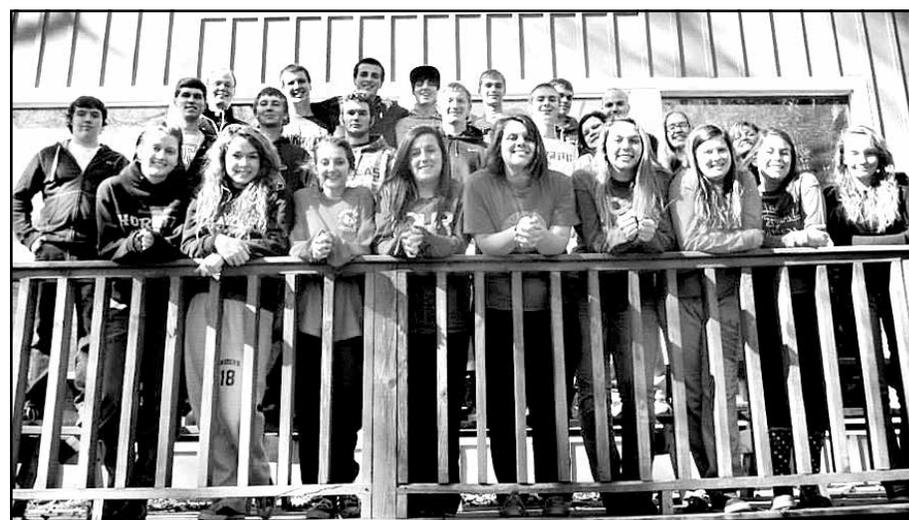
National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2015 is January 25 - 31. Schools typically observe National Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open house and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.



## OCHS Thespians Produce George Orwells' Play, 1984

George Orwell wrote the play 1984 in 1949 in response to the dangers of a totalitarian society, when TVs were becoming fixtures in the home and the nuclear age was beginning. The play illustrates the effects of political brainwashing, how media and government officials only tell us what they want us to hear, and how easily a person outs another to save self. Orwell predicted that by 1984, the world would be a dictatorship in which every individual would be monitored by a telescreen.

Catholic High's student drama company, Emerald Productions, presented their production of Orwell's play in December, 2014. The cast and crew are pictured here. Back row (left to right): Audrey Fulkerson, Becca Devons, Nikki Edelen, Iona Palmer, Allie Kuntz, Katelyn Westerfeld, Griffin Wassmer, Adney Rakotoniaina, Evan Christodoulou, Will Wright, Benjamin Conkright, Sammy Herdegen. Front Row (left to right): Hannah Hutchinson, Clare Bivins, Madeleine Edge, Alex Wink, Georgia McMaster, Rachel McBride, Tricia Thompson, Molly Payne, Jack Padgett. Not Pictured: Becca Ballard. Photo submitted by Katie Pagan.

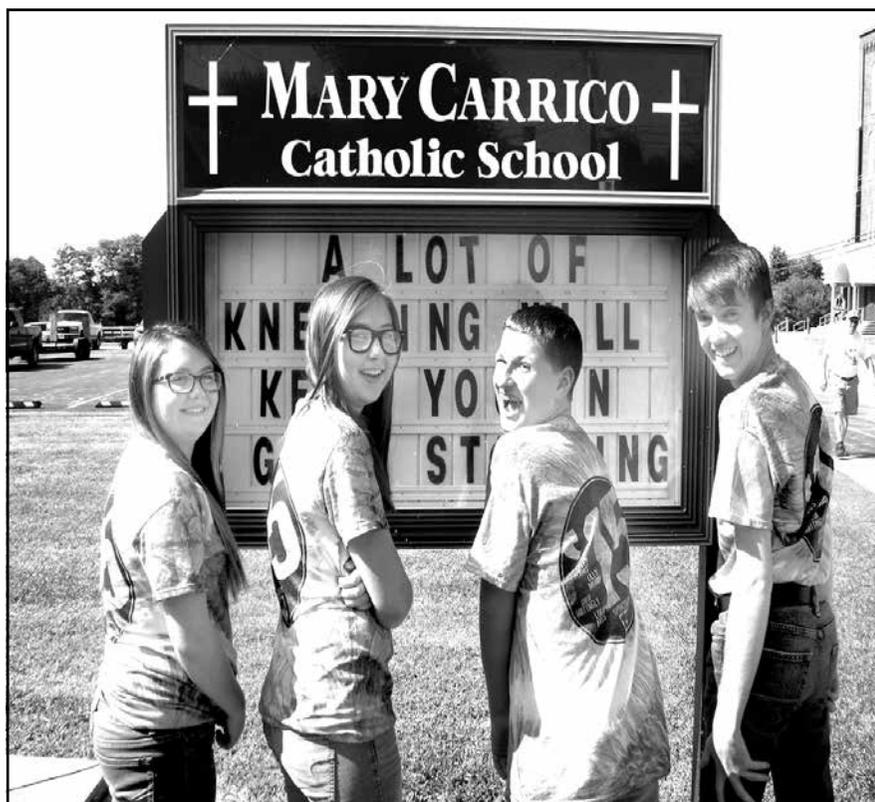


## Trinity High School's Senior Retreat

took place from Wednesday, Nov. 5-7. Seniors at Trinity High School had the opportunity to attend a spiritual Senior Retreat at Gasper River Youth Camp and Retreat Center. Students had the opportunity to grow in their faith while also growing in their relationships and understanding of each other. Trinity Seniors in picture are as follows: Front row: Shawna Aud, Jessica Henson, Hannah Armes, Jessica Payne, Hannah Bland, Tai Landolt, Dallas Tomblinson, Alex Hamilton, and Jennifer Haynes; Second row: Robert Reynolds, Blake Ward, Dakota Edge, Logan Goetz, Skyler Dickens, Matthew Johnson, Lori Ann Redmon (Senior Sponsor and Teacher at THS), Emmie Roberts, and Sue Koett (Senior Sponsor and Teacher at THS); Back row: Fr. John Broussard, Devon Howard, Eric Hagan, Joey Payne, Jonah Roberts, Corey Johnson, Ben Morris (Teacher at THS). Photo by Kim Rydecki

## Thinking about Separation or Divorce?

– Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on Jan 30 - Feb1, 2015, call (270)683-1545 ext. 346 or email: satkv59@gmail.com or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)



## Spirit With Class

Pictured are eighth graders from Mary Carrico Catholic School showing off their new 2015 Class Spirit Shirts. The students L to R: Chloe Mattingly, Lilly Mudd, Logan Mills and Tyler Hawes. Photo by Chuck Green,

## Our First Reconciliation

On Sunday, November 23rd, 26 second-graders received their First Reconciliation. Fr. Brian Johnson listened to all 26 confessions. Row 1 L to R:

Sophia Bertschman,  
Emily Galloway,  
Hadley Priest &  
Bradley Brown;

Row 2 L to R: Carly  
Carwile, Braxton Taul,  
Lilly Perks, Ben Carr,  
Logan Pile, Makayla  
Whitfill, Lucia Flood &  
Emma Henderson

Back Row L to R:

Brianna Laslie,  
Amber Whitfill, Bailey  
Brown, Kaylee Board,  
Kayleigh Coleman,  
Ava Macy, McKenzie  
Richards, Will Lewis,  
Wilson Hart, Callen  
Whitfill, Sydney

Mattingly, Benjamin Anthony, Kathryn Roberts & Tori Barton.



On Thursday, November 20th, the St. Romuald Altar Society held their annual Turkey dinner. It was a wonderful night of delicious food & good fellowship. The Altar Society turkey dinner wouldn't be possible without all our wonderful volunteers - Donna Hinton & Donna Aubrey! AT right, Our St. Romuald youth did a great job helping at the Turkey dinner. Thank you Molly Dowell, Mariah Critchelow & Shelbi Pollock for your help bagging the rolls. Submitted by Kim Brumfield CRE K-6th St. Romuald Church



## Birthday Party for Jesus

The St. Romuald K-6th Religious Education students & their Catechists celebrated Christmas together on Sunday, December 14th with a "Happy Birthday Jesus" party in Hardinsburg. They enjoyed listening to Fr. Brian Johnson tell the Nativity story. The students created their own Christmas ornament, received M & M Christmas treats & ate a delicious cinnamon roll cake made by Jennifer Roberts. Photos Submitted by Kim Brumfield, CRE K-6th



## St. Mary High School's Davis Sims Signs With Murray State

PADUCAH, KY – St. Mary senior infielder Davis Sims has signed his National Letter of Intent on Wednesday to further his academic and athletic careers at Murray State University.

A five-year varsity starter on the Viking infield, Sims was named to the All-District Team in 2013 and has earned the team's Outstanding Defense Award, as well as Kentucky High School Athletic Association First-Team Academic All-State honors. A career .331 hitter with a .437 on-base percentage, Sims is currently ranked as the No. 2 third baseman and No. 10 position player in the Commonwealth by Prep Baseball Report.

During summer league play, Sims was selected as one of the top 16 players in the state to represent Kentucky in the Midwest futures Games at Indiana University. He was voted MVP of the 2012 American Legion (Junior) Kentucky State Tournament and played on teams

ranked No. 1 in the nation in 2007 and 2009.

Baseball is in his blood, as Sims comes from a long line of professional baseball players. His grandfather, Phil Roof, a graduate of the Paducah Catholic school system from St. John in 1959, played in the Major Leagues as a catcher for 13 seasons and later served six years as a MLB coach and more than 20 years as a manager in the minor leagues. His great-uncle, Gene Roof '76, also played at the major league level and currently serves as a coach in the Detroit Tigers organization, while three cousins are playing or coaching at various levels in the minor leagues.

Sims is the son of Darla '88 and Mike Sims '86 of Paducah. He is the grandson of former MLB catcher and coach Phil and Linda Roof and the late Marie Roof, and Helen Sims '63, all of Paducah, and Alan Sims of Owensboro, KY.



## New Research: Marriage Rate Declines with Porn Use

*Porn makes marriage unappealing*

Washington, DC – An alarming new study has found that pornography use “has an especially strong impact” on the decline in the desire for marriage. Researchers Michael Malcolm and George Naufal concluded Internet use is a substitution for marriage, “especially to the extent that use of pornography can provide low-cost sexual gratification.” The paper, “Are Pornography and Marriage Substitutes for Young Men?” was published by the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA).

“Pornography is a marriage killer and thus it has monumental negative ramifications for society’s future,” said Patrick A. Trueman, President of Morality in Media. “Research has shown for some time that porn use in marriage destroys the marital bond, but now we can see that porn use destroys even the desire to get married,” he said.

The researchers were interested in studying the impact of pornography consumption on men due to the potential socio-economic impacts of declining marriage rates. They cited data establishing that “stable marriages create substantial welfare improvements for society, especially to the degree that marital stability produces high-quality children.” These

benefits to society are at risk as the marriage rate decreases, significantly impacted by porn use.

The cause of the decline, as found by the researchers, is that anything that makes “extramarital sexual opportunities easier to access necessarily reduces the marriage rate.” Porn’s affordability, accessibility and anonymity facilitates these social affects, according to the study. The researchers interpreted data from 1,512 surveys completed by American men aged 18-35 between 2000-2004. The General Social Survey, which has monitored and explained trends in attitudes and behaviors in American society since 1972, conducted the surveys.

Morality in Media maintains an extensive online database of peer-reviewed research on the harms pornography, available at [PornHarmsResearch.com](http://PornHarmsResearch.com). This collection of reliable research is accessed and used by people around the world.

Founded in 1962, Morality in Media, Inc. is the leading national non-profit organization dedicated to opposing pornography through education about its harms by highlighting the links to sex trafficking, violence against women, child abuse and obsessive use of porn.

## Scouts Announce Religious Awards And Upcoming Awards Mass

By Ken Keller, Youth Awards Chair, Owensboro Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting

We are committed to building and nurturing our Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing Crew members in morale character through the teaching of the Catholic faith. We further deepen this faith through recognition of those Scouts and Adult Leaders who have completed additional religious study and provided selfless service to others. We ask at this joyous time of the year that Scouts in our Diocese complete their award applications for: Light of Christ (6-7 yrs old), Parvuli Dei (8-10 yrs old), Ad Altare Dei (13-14 yrs old), and Pope Pius XII (15 yrs old to Venturing). We request that you please send your completed applications and evaluation forms by January 25, 2015 (do not send the workbooks at this time) via US Mail to: Ken Keller, 1422 Kent Place, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301.

For those Scouts who are completing their Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII awards, a board of review will be held on February 14, 2015 at the following locations: *(Please make sure to bring your completed workbook completely filled out and signed by appropriate individuals and clergy to the board of review as support of your service offered.)*

- Owensboro Area: **Blessed Mother Catholic Church, 601 E. 23rd St., Owensboro, KY 42303**
- Bowling Green Area: **St. Joseph Catholic Church, 434 Church St, Bowling Green, KY 42104**
- Paducah - **St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 5645 Blandville Rd, Paducah, KY 42001**

In addition, if you know of an adult Scout Leader that you feel is deserving of the Bronze Pelican Award or the coveted St. George Award, please complete a nomination form and submit it via US Mail by January 18, 2015 to: Dave Ashley, 350 A.G. Daniel Road, Hartford, Kentucky 42347. The Bronze Pelican nomination form can be downloaded through our page on the Diocesan website, [www.rcdok.org](http://www.rcdok.org) and the St. George nomination form can be downloaded from the National Catholic Committee on Scouting website, [www.nccs-bsa.org](http://www.nccs-bsa.org).

The recognition of our Scouts and Adult Leaders will culminate at the Bishop’s Awards Mass. More information will be provided on this event in the near future.



Mrs. Donna Jo Bugg and Mrs. Dusti Benson took their students for a ride on the Polar Express at Holy Name School on December 10. Later that day, those same lucky four-year-olds met Mrs. Claus and got a chance to send a message to Santa. Many students wanted to Mrs. Claus to tell Mr. Claus “thank you” for the presents, and one

## Riding On The Polar Express

student asked her to please tell him to “take toys to all of the boys and girls who don’t have any.” ‘Tis the season of giving!

At left, pictured L to R: Dusti Benson, Julie Bell, Mrs. Claus, and Donna Jo Bugg. Photos by Kamille Stich

## USCCB Chairman Decries Opening of Family Detention Center in Dilley, Texas

*Families are traumatized from journey  
Detention not a tool for deterrence  
More humane alternatives exist*

December 16, 2014 - WASHINGTON—Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, auxiliary bishop of Seattle, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, decried the opening of a 2,400-bed detention center in Dilley, Texas, constructed to house, among others, families fleeing persecution in Central America.

The detention center, operated by a private, for-profit group, was inaugurated December 15.

"It is inhumane to house young mothers with children in restrictive detention facilities, as if they are criminals," said Bishop Elizondo December 16. "Already traumatized from their journey, these families are very vulnerable and need care and support, not further emotional and psychological harm." Studies have shown that detention has a harmful psychological impact on children.

Bishop Elizondo added that the Obama administration's pursuit of a deterrence policy— including detention and interdiction— against children and families fleeing violence undermines basic human rights.

"Many of these families are fleeing persecution and should be afforded the full benefit of domestic and international law," Bishop Elizondo said. "As we saw in the case of Artesia, detention denies mothers and children with valid legal claims meaningful access to due process, including legal representation." A temporary detention facility in Artesia, New Mexico, housing families was recently closed down, in part, because of strong opposition to due process violations and conditions there, especially for children. The average age of children detained in Artesia was six and a half years old.

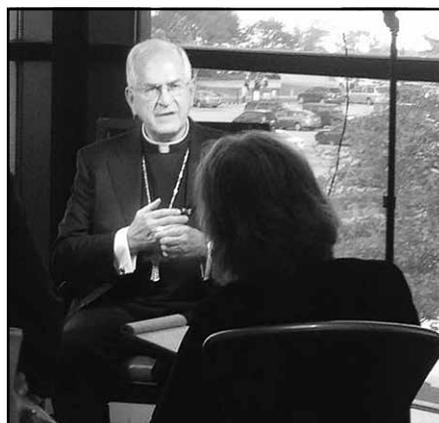
Bishop Elizondo added that humane alternatives to detention exist, particularly community-based alternatives based on a case management model.

"Past community-based programs have shown that vulnerable groups such as families can be placed in a community setting and still appear at their immigration hearings, provided they are given the proper support," Bishop Elizondo said. "The government should explore this humane alternative and not cause further harm to these families, particularly children."

## Western Kentucky Catholics Can Help Educate People On Immigration Issues

On May 10, 2005, the U.S. Catholic Bishops launched the Justice for Immigrants (JFI) Campaign in an effort to educate Catholics, including Catholic public officials, and other people of good will, about Catholic social teaching concerning immigrants. The goals of the Campaign are to raise the awareness about the positive contributions of immigrants to our society and to advocate for changes in immigration law. Congress should provide an orderly and safe pathway for undocumented people to integrate into our society. Catholic social teaching with respect to immigrants can change hearts and minds by spreading what the Church teaches:

- No person is a criminal in the eyes of God merely for being undocumented. No good Samaritan should ever be considered a criminal for providing humanitarian assistance to another person in need.



**Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, archbishop of Louisville, Kentucky, and president of the USCCB said, on Nov. 20, 2014, "There is an urgent pastoral need for a more humane view of immigrants and a legal process that respects each person's dignity, protects human rights, and upholds the rule of law. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, said so eloquently: 'Every human being is a child of God! He or she bears the image of Christ! We ourselves need to see, and then to enable others to see, that migrants and refugees do not only represent a problem to be solved, but are brothers and sisters to be welcomed, respected, and loved.'" #immigrationAction**



## Receiving the Gift of Gifts.

Ursuline Sister Mary Matthias Ward brought her unique perspective on "Receiving the Gift of Gifts" to the Dec. 2, 2014 "Evening with an Ursuline" presentation at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Sister Mary Matthias quoted Meister Eckhart as saying, "No one ever wanted as much as God wants to make the soul aware of Him." One activity which Sister Mary Matthias suggested for those gathered was to ask a trusted friend, "Would you tell me what my gifts are?"

The evening included gathering for the presentation in Conference Room B of the Retreat Center, after a delicious meal in the Center dining room. Six Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were joined by six lay people and an Ursuline Sister of Louisville. MSJ Photo

their families due to poverty or other circumstances, then they have a right to migrate to support their family. If our economy needs these workers to fill jobs that Americans will not take, a fair and just law would allow them to enter legally.

- People do not want to migrate illegally. People would migrate legally if they could.

- Catholics make up 23 percent of the U.S. population. We are an immigrant nation and an immigrant church. Immigrants are a positive force for our country.

The JFI Campaign needs your help to raise the awareness among Catholics. They must see the human face of undocumented immigration and recognize the positive contributions that immigrants, including undocumented immigrants, make to our country.

More information can be found online at [www.justiceforimmigrants.org/](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/), and at [www.cliniclegal.org/Legalization/parishes.html](http://www.cliniclegal.org/Legalization/parishes.html).

## Holy Name School Participates at KYA

HENDERSON, Ky. - Over 60 7th and 8th graders from Holy Name School (pictured at the state capitol) attended the Kentucky Youth Assembly on December 11-13. Students participated in the three-day learning conference which simulates the democratic process. Holy Name's first honor came in the form of being ranked the #1 school in the Commonwealth (of both middle and high schools who participate in the CoEd Y Club program) in the number of service projects and the number of hours served so far this year. CoEd Y Club advisor, Phyllis Brown, put our students in the lead by scheduling opportunities for them to ring Salvation Army bells, serve meals prepared by the Men's Club, and by fundraising for numerous charitable causes. Our mission of modeling service to others in imitation of Christ is alive and well. Thank you, Mrs. Brown, the parents, and the students. Keep up the good work!

Holy Name School's KYA advisor is teacher, Christina Shires, and we thank her for the weeks of preparation that led up to the trip. Our hallways were filled with tri-fold boards, scissors, tape, and busy students who were authoring bills, preparing displays, practicing speeches,



**Standing at the podium with the gavel is Katie Ivie, the new KYA Speaker of the House for the 2015 session.**

and working to defend their statements. We are very proud of the results of their hard work as follows:

- Katie Ivie was named the Outstanding Speaker and was also elected Speaker of the House for the 2015 conference.
- All bills proposed passed both the House and Senate.
- Both 8th grade bills were then signed into law by the KYA governor.
- One of the 7th grade bills was named the Outstanding Premier Bill.



**Above is a group picture of the Holy Name School KYA delegation in front of the State Capitol.**

- Jonathan Hauke was named the Outstanding Delegate for Holy Name School for the second year in a row.
- The 8th grade bill authors were Ashley Fulkerson, Will Gibson, Jonathan Hauke, Davis Howell, Lucas Humel, Jyotirmayi Jadhav, Luke Johnson, and Hayden Krampe.
- The 7th grade bill authors were Clara

Bach, Hunter Book, Nolan Durham, Ashlyn Farina, Ally Groves, Claire Hauke, and Grace Hauke.

We also thank faculty members Kevin Steele, Tom Tweddell, Donna Jo Bugg, and Holly Farina for attending the conference as advisors and chaperones. Great job to everyone involved!

**Photo Credits: Holly Farina.**



### Breakfast With Santa

The Mary Carrico Catholic School PTO sponsored a "Pancake Breakfast with Santa" on December 6th. The event was a huge success and took in more than \$600.00 in donations. Pictured with Santa are the Mary Carrico "Elves" from L to R: Taylor Lanham, Mallory Lanham, Molly Brown, Shelby Horn, Hunter Smith and Gavin Howard. Submitted by Chuck Green



### The Joy of the Gospel

Ursuline Sister Ann McGrew, right, director of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, leads the second session in a two-part discussion on "The Joy of the Gospel." A dozen people came to the Center on Dec. 11, 2014 to hear more about this 2013 apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis. MSJ Photo

## Celebrando a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en San Miguel:

El último día de la Novena Guadalupeña empezó el 11 de diciembre a las 8pm con un procesión en las calles de Sebree, el rezo del rosario en la Iglesia y una vigilia de testimonios de LEVANTATE, oración, convivio, cantos y adoración. Al medianoche una banda de integrantes mixtecos de Xochapa, Guerrero tocó mañanitas seguido del coro de la Iglesia cantando mañanitas a la Virgen. Después el Padre Carmelo Jiménez, junto con el Padre Al Bremer y el Padre Antonio Dávalos y una comunidad entusiasta, celebró la Santa Misa seguida con más comida y convivio en el salón parroquial. Presentado por Patti Gutiérrez

## Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe in St. Michael's:

The last day of the Guadalupe Novena started on December 11th at 8pm with a procession on the streets of Sebree, a rosary at church and a vigil with testimonies from ARISE in Spanish, prayer, refreshments, songs and adoration. At midnight a group of Mixteco indigenous from Xochapa, Guerrero played traditional Marian hymns followed by the parish choir who sang those *mañanitas*. Afterwards, Fr. Carmelo Jimenez, together with Fr. Al Bremer, Fr. Antonio Dávalos and an enthusiastic community, celebrated the Holy Mass followed by more food and fellowship in the parish hall. Submitted by Patti Gutiérrez



## con Misa en Español y una Representación de las Apariciones

Por J. Patrick Kerr

PADUCAH, KY – Cuando Antonio Barraza, un parroquiano de Santo Tomás Moro y un estudiante del 11° grado en la Escuela Preparatoria de Santa María, se despertó para ir a la escuela el día viernes, 12 de diciembre, hizo algo fuera del ordinario. En vez de ponerse su uniforme de la escuela Santa María, se puso unos pantalones blancos de lino con diseño intrincado y una túnica blanca. Después, aún más fuera de lo normal, se encaminó hacia la Escuela Primaria de Santa María en vez de la Escuela Preparatoria.

Antonio se juntó con varios compañeros del Club de Español de la Escuela Preparatoria de Santa María en la escuela primera para lo que seguramente se va a convertir en una nueva tradición el 12 de diciembre – la Celebración de una Misa en español en la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es algo muy especial en los corazones de la comunidad hispana y cada año los Latinos, especialmente los Latinos de descendencia mexicana, celebran el día como si fuera una segunda Navidad. Se celebran Misas Especiales y surge un sentido de comunidad enraizada en cultura, historia y fe.

Basada en este sentido, Lisa Clark, Directora de la Escuela Primaria de Santa María, congregó algunos maestros, líderes del sistema escolar y diocesanos, y algunos sacerdotes del área y planearon la Misa especial en español en honor a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

El Padre Thomas J. Buckman, Jr., Párroco de la Iglesia de San Juan el Evangelista en Paducah, colaboró con la escuela y celebró la misa mayormente en español. Junto con el Padre Tom, el Club de Español leyó las lecturas en español. Los maestros de la Escuela Primaria trabajaron con sus estudiantes antes de la misa para enseñarles muchas de las respuestas comunes en español.

Antonio tenía dos papeles. Aparte de leer la escritura en español, también hizo el papel de Juan Diego en una representación corta después de la misa. La representación contó la historia de Juan Diego y su encuentro con la Santísima Virgen María en un cerro en las afueras de lo que hoy se conoce como la Ciudad de México.



**Antonio Barraza y Emily Meredith hicieron los papeles de Juan Diego y de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe mientras otros miembros del Club de Español de la Escuela Preparatoria de Santa María narraron la historia de la visión. Antonio Barraza, de 11° año en la Escuela Preparatoria de Santa María lee la escritura durante la Misa para los Estudiantes de la Escuela Primaria de Santa María en el Día Festivo de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.**

La representación detalló el deseo de la Madre de Jesús que Juan Diego pidiera al Obispo de aquella región construirle una iglesia en aquel cerro. El Obispo, no creía a Juan Diego y le pidió una señal. En turno, Juan Diego le pidió a María una señal para dar al Obispo. María le complació y le dio a Juan Diego rosas que normalmente no se encuentran en esta región. Y, después de llevar las rosas al Obispo en su túnica, la imagen de la Virgen fue impregnada en ella, así se convenció el Obispo que Juan Diego decía la verdad. Y claro, el Obispo sí mandó construir una iglesia y aquella túnica todavía está colgada en la iglesia hasta hoy día, igual de clara y llena de colores como fue hace casi 500 años atrás.

Cuando le preguntaron sobre la representación y su papel, Antonio dijo: “Fue muy bueno darles a los niños una oportunidad de realmente experimentar y visualizar lo que Juan Diego vio. Puedes contar una historia, pero mostrarle a alguien una historia es mucho más efectivo.”

Antonio continuó, “La historia de

“Es muy raro que algo tan sencillo puede contener tantas cosas,” dijo. “Este es probablemente uno de los milagros ‘modernos’ más antiguos. Por cierto, 500 años no es hace tanto tiempo. La historia no es tan antigua y para mí es aún más fácil identificarme con ella.”

“Realmente fue un honor que me pidieron participar,” dijo Antonio.

Antonio sirve como el capellán del Club de Español de la Escuela Preparatoria de Santa María. Cada vez que se reúne el club, Antonio empieza la reunión con una oración y les da noticias sobre iniciativas espirituales, como la representación que hicieron para los niños de la escuela primaria.

Después de la Misa, se preguntó a la clase de Kindergarten de Felicia La Barge en Santa María lo que habían aprendido. Kayleigh Ballard de la Parroquia de San Juan el Evangelista fue la primera en hablar. Dijo, “Yo recuerdo que escuchamos mucho sobre María y que mucho fue en español. ¡Yo ni sabía que María sabía el español!”

Olivia Vaughn de la Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro dijo, “¡A María le ha de gustar mucho las rosas porque le dio tantas a San Diego! ¡Especialmente al hacerlas crecer en una montaña en el frío!”

Y, al final, Cadence Todd, también de Santo Tomás Moro, impresionó sus compañeros de clase con recitar la señal de la cruz completamente en español.



**El Padre Tomás Buckman, Jr., de la Parroquia de San Juan el Evangelista, bendice a medallas de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe para los estudiantes de la Escuela Primaria de Santa María. El Padre Tom celebró la misa en español en la escuela. El Padre Tomás Buckman, Jr., párroco de la Iglesia San Juan el Evangelista, cuenta la historia de Juan Diego durante su homilía en la Misa de Español celebrada para los estudiantes de la Escuela Primaria de Santa María en la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.**

# Los Religiosos Consagrados Leen los Signos de los Tiempos para Saber Cómo y Dónde Proclamar el Evangelio



Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

El Papa Francisco ha anunciado un Año de la Vida Consagrada para celebrar a los hombres y mujeres de la Iglesia viviendo sus vidas como religiosos con votos. Él cita a San

Juan Pablo II en la Carta Apostólica anunciando esta observancia extendida: *"Vosotros no solamente tenéis una historia gloriosa para recordar y contar, sino una gran historia que construir. Poned los ojos en el futuro, hacia el que el Espíritu os impulsa para seguir haciendo con vosotros grandes cosas."*

El Año de la Vida Consagrada empezó el primer domingo de Adviento, 30 de noviembre del 2014

y continuará hasta la Fiesta de la Presentación de Jesús en el Templo el 2 de febrero del 2016.

El Papa Francisco identificó tres objetivos de esta observancia extraordinaria: **mirar al pasado con gratitud, vivir el presente con pasión, y abrazar el futuro con esperanza.**

Comunidades religiosas de hombres y mujeres utilizarán este año para reflexionar sobre sus distintos carismas, celebrar sus historias, y comprometerse de nuevo a su misión, la cual siempre tiene que tener sus raíces en el Evangelio de Jesucristo. Hay miles de comunidades religiosas a través del mundo. De vez en cuando alguien me pregunta porque hay tantos. La respuesta se encuentra en la historia de cada una de las comunidades. Los fundadores

de gran carisma tal vez vieron una necesidad única que justificaba establecer una comunidad distinta en un lugar y tiempo particular.

Una de las distintivas frases venidas de Papa Juan XXIII y el Concilio Vaticano II fue el llamado de la Iglesia a siempre responder a los *"signos de los tiempos,"* preguntando dónde y cómo proclamar el Evangelio en un lugar y tiempo particular. La historia de la mayoría de las comunidades religiosas podría sumarse como la respuesta a esta pregunta esencial y de todo tiempo.

En todo su conjunto es propio que el Año de la Vida Consagrada se dé dentro de una celebración más grande como la es el 50 aniversario del Concilio Vaticano II que se extendió de 1962 a 1965. La más evidente manifestación del Vaticano II se hizo presente en las diócesis y parroquias en los cambios de la liturgia, cuando la Misa y los sacramentos comenzaron a celebrarse en lenguas vernáculas en vez de latín. Pero las enseñanzas significativas del Concilio vinieron en los líderes particularmente religiosos

consagrados, dándole alas al llamado enfático del Concilio a todo hombre y mujer al llamado universal a la santidad. Esto ha ocasionado crecimiento en ministerio y servicio de todas las gentes quienes han abrazado un significado más completo de su llamado bautismal.

Fueron los religiosos, particularmente mujeres religiosas, quienes estudiaron los documentos del Concilio y reconocieron el aliento del "nuevo Pentecostés" de la visión que el Papa Juan XXIII tenía para la Iglesia. Han estado en las líneas frontales de la Iglesia en el mundo moderno.

Les debemos a los hombres y mujeres de vida consagrada una profunda deuda y oro para que en este año se nos presenten muchas maneras de reconocer y celebrar sus historias y sus futuros.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos!

+ Mons. William F. Medley,  
Obispo de Owensboro

## Calendario del Obispo Medley de Enero 2015:

Enero 3-4	Conferencia de FOCUS, Nashville, TN
Enero 4-8	Retiro de Obispos de la Región V, Nueva Orleans, LA
Enero 10	9:30 a.m. Encuentro Regional de Católicos en el Capitolio, Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, Owensboro
Enero 11	10:30 a.m. Confirmación, San Jerónimo, Fancy Farm
Enero 12 - 15	Convocación Sacerdotal, San Meinrad, IN
Enero 16	4:00 p.m. Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul de la Diócesis de Owensboro Misa Vicente, Catedral de San Esteban
Enero 17	9:30 a.m. Encuentro Regional de Católicos en el Capitolio San Pedro y San Pablo, Hopkinsville
	4:00 p.m. Retiro Diocesano de Confirmación y Misa Catedral de San Esteban
Enero 18	10:00 a.m. Confirmación, Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro
Enero 19	9:45 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal, CPC
	1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal, CPC
Enero 20	9:00 a.m. Misa y Reunión del Personal del CPC
Enero 22	12:05 p.m. Misa para la Vida, Catedral de San Esteban
	6:00 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas, CPC
Enero 26	9:00 a.m. Misa de la Semana de Escuelas Católicas, Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
Enero 27	9:30 a.m. Misa de la Semana de Escuelas Católicas, Sistema Escolar de Santa María, Paducah
	12-3:00 p.m. Horas de Oficina en Paducah
Enero 28	6:00 p.m. Confirmación, St. Romualdo, Hardinsburg
Enero 30	8:00 a.m. Misa de la Semana de Escuelas Católicas, Cristo Rey, Madisonville
Enero 31	5:00 p.m. Confirmación, San José, Mayfield

## Sus Artículos No Deseados Puedes Traer Esperanza a las Familias Que Luchan

Cuando usted dona su ropa, muebles y artículos para el hogar con poco uso a San Vicente de Paul, usted está ayudando a las familias allí mismo en su comunidad local. Los ingresos de nuestras tiendas y Centros de Donaciones ayudan a las familias locales necesitadas. Véase más abajo para encontrar una tienda cerca de usted:

- Beaver Dam - 213 Midtown Plaza 270-274-5118
- Bowling Green - 655 US 31 W Bypass 270-904-1832
- Bowling Green - 1901 Russellville Road 270-783-7533
- Fordsville - 327 East Main St. 270-276-5102
- Henderson - 116 North Alvasia St. 270-827-4138
- Hopkinsville - 902 East 9th St. 270-885-8522
- Lewisport - 8185 US 60 West 270-295-3494
- Madisonville - 101 East Arch St. 502-821-2159
- Morganfield - 218 Jim Veatch Road 270-389-4281
- Oak Grove - 15088 Ft. Campbell Road 270-640-6241
- Owensboro - 200 East 18th St. 270-683-1747 (Nuevo sitio)
- Paducah - 2025 Cairo Road 270-442-9351
- Whitesville - 10534 Walnut St. 270-233- 5118

Como siempre, se necesitan voluntarios y la ayuda de todos está bienvenida en cualquiera de las tiendas. Por favor, llame a la ubicación de la tienda para obtener información sobre cómo puede ser voluntario.



## USCCB Lanza Lecturas Diarias De La Misa En Español En Línea

WASHINGTON—La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB) ha puesto a disponibilidad del público las lecturas diarias de la Misa en español en su sitio en línea.

“Poder proveer las lecturas diarias en español en la internet ha sido una larga jornada. Estamos felices de ver este trabajo realizado”, dijo el Obispo John C. Wester de Salt Lake City, presidente del Comité sobre Comunicaciones de USCCB. “Esto es parte de nuestros esfuerzos continuos de responder a las necesidades pastorales de los hispanos y de los católicos de habla hispana y proveerles recursos e información de maneras que les exhorten a acrecentar su fe”.

Las lecturas diarias en español provienen del Leccionario publicado en México y está aprobado por los obispos estadounidenses para su uso en los Estados Unidos.

Los hispanos representan el 16 por ciento de la población total en Estados Unidos y cerca del 40 por ciento de los católicos estadounidenses; 64 por ciento de los católicos hispanos asisten a la iglesia regularmente.

Las lecturas diarias en inglés están entre los recursos más populares del sitio web de USCCB con un promedio mensual de 3.3 millones de visitantes en línea. Cerca de 49,000 personas reciben las lecturas diarias en inglés por correo electrónico, una opción que pronto también estará disponible para las lecturas en español.

Las lecturas diarias en español pueden encontrarse en [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) y elegir: “Bible,” “Today’s Readings,” y “En Español.”

USCCB también provee actualizaciones en español sobre noticias y recursos que ayudan a fomentar la fe en Facebook en [www.facebook.com/USCCBEspanol](http://www.facebook.com/USCCBEspanol) y en Twitter en <https://twitter.com/USCCBEspanol>.

Recursos bilingües para diócesis, parroquias y grupos de ministerios también están disponibles en [www.myusccb.org](http://www.myusccb.org).

## A Todos ¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

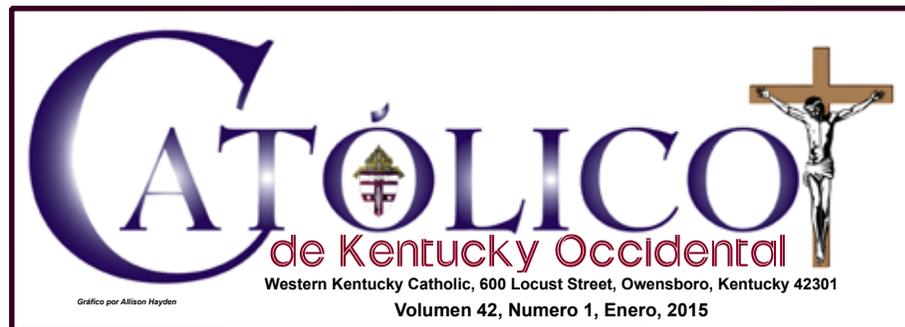
Dios nos regala el inicio de un nuevo año 2015 y por ello estamos infinitamente agradecidos. Cuantas experiencias bonitas pero también retadoras, cuanto actividad, cuantos acontecimientos han quedado atrás en el 2014. Todo lo vivido en el año pasado seguramente nos hará crecer y madurar como cristianos y personas de bien. Quisiera felicitar a todas las parroquias por su entrega y la tanta creatividad mostrada durante todo el año 2014; pero en especial durante diciembre al celebrar a Guadalupe nuestra Madre, Las Posadas, Navidad y Año Nuevo. Gracias también a los Ministros Hispanos en las parroquias por su entrega ardua, desvelos y liderazgo.

El 2015 que ahora iniciamos es también un año que se nos presenta lleno de esperanza, de trabajo y de oportunidad de crecimiento. Un año en el que el Papa Francisco y la Iglesia Universal nos invitan a prestar especial atención al tema de La Familia. Poco a poco nos adentraremos y reflexionaremos en el misterio y la célula esencial de la sociedad como es la familia. Creo que no es secreto el que desafortunadamente sepamos que la unidad familiar está en crisis y en peligro desde variados aspectos. La desunión, la falta de respeto entre los miembros, la violencia doméstica, la falta de valoración del Matrimonio Cristiano, pérdida de valores morales, la falta de apreciación de la sexualidad desde una óptica sana y cristiana etc... Aspectos como estos entre muchos otros nos retan a pensar, a orar y a prestar especial atención y los hispanos no somos la excepción.

Les deseo de todo corazón un feliz inicio de año. Los invito a no quitar la mirada de Cristo en todo lo que hagamos, organicemos y de cualquier actividad o evento del que formemos parte en nuestras parroquias y como diócesis. Si mantenemos nuestra mirada en Cristo no desfalleceremos y no nos desanimaremos frente a las ráfagas de la desolación, los retos, los problemas que se nos presenten. Y que María Santísima bajo la advocación de Guadalupe también nos acompañe y cubra con su manto.

¡Gracias!

**Cristóbal Gutierrez, Director del Ministerio Hispano**



### National Migration Week 2015: January 4 - 10

#### We are One Family Under God

National Migration Week 2015 will take place January 4 – 10 with the theme, "We are One Family Under God," which brings to mind the importance of family in our daily lives. This reminder is particularly important when dealing with the migration phenomenon, as family members are too often separated from one another. Look online at <http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/index.cfm> an assortment of resources that can help with your celebration of National Migration Week 2015:

### Semana Nacional de Migración 2015: 1 04 al 10 Somos una familia bajo Dios

Semana Nacional de Migración 2015 se llevará a cabo en 4-10 con el lema "Somos una familia bajo Dios", que trae a la mente la importancia de la familia en nuestra vida cotidiana. Este recordatorio es particularmente importante cuando se trata con el fenómeno de la migración, como miembros de la familia están muy a menudo separados unos de otros. Busque en línea en <http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/index.cfm> una variedad de recursos que pueden ayudarle con su celebración de la Semana Nacional de Migración 2015 :



#### Programación en Español entre semana 9-10 pm por WIMM Radio

La Radio Católica de Owensboro quisiera extender una bienvenida cordial a todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo de habla hispana!

En reconocimiento de las necesidades espirituales de los muchos inmigrantes y visitantes que hablan español y que han integrado recientemente en la comunidad de Owensboro, WIMM comenzará a emitir un programa diario en español.

Mas Que Noticias saldrá al aire de lunes a viernes de 9-10 pm.

El contenido de Mas Que Noticias incluye una mezcla de noticias y la apologética.

Gracias por escuchar la Radio Católica de Owensboro, WIMM LP Owensboro.

#### Spanish Programming Weeknights 9-10PM

Owensboro Catholic Radio would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our Spanish Speaking brothers and sisters in Christ!

In recognition of the spiritual needs of the many Spanish speaking immigrants and visitors that have recently joined the Owensboro community, WIMM will begin airing a daily Spanish program.

*Mas Que Noticias* will air Monday through Friday from 9-10PM.

The content of *Mas Que Noticias* includes a mix of news and apologetics.

Thanks for listening to Owensboro Catholic Radio, WIMM LP Owensboro.