THE WESTERN KENTUCKY



Catholic

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The gift of Catholic schools

Bishop Medley speaks to more than 3,000 students, faculty, staff, parents and others attending this year's Rainbow Mass for Catholic Schools, named as such for the multicolored pattern of uniforms that fill the Owensboro Sportscenter. Page 25



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Front page photo: Riley Greif | WKC

Correction: In the September 2022 issue, The Western Kentucky Catholic incorrectly stated that Fr. Corey D. Bruns took the photos of Sr. Margaret Ann Aull's retirement party on page 19. The correct photographer was Steve Rocco. The WKC apologizes for this error.

Submissions

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. The Western Kentucky Catholic will take reader-submitted content into consideration but no submissions are guaranteed placement, due to space restrictions.

Article guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider submitted articles pertaining to issues and events within our diocese. Please contact the editor in advance for a word limit, as space varies by month.

Photo guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider your high-resolution digital photos showing special moments and memories from within our diocese. Photos must be a JPEG format (ending in ".jpg") and sent via email. A photo description, date, and name of photographer must be included. Please email your articles or photos to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. Visit westernkycatholic.com/ submissions for more information.



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Please politely indicate any factual errors in this publication by emailing wkc.editor@pastoral.org.

To report suspected abuse, call the Kentucky Child Protection Hot Line: 1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597- 2331 (Toll Free) or contact your local Commonwealth Attorney. To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church, call Scott Ingram, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) at 270-852-8380, or Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish) at 270-880-8360. You may also visit the Office of Safe Environment (owensborodiocese.org/safe) for more information. To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 1-800-276-1562.

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Please vote 'Yes' for life on November 8

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On June 24, 2022 the prayers of those who support the dignity and worth of all human life were answered when the United States Supreme Court struck down the Roe v. Wade decision of 1973. That decision had asserted that the right to an abortion was guaranteed by the U.S. constitution and thus was guaranteed in all 50 states. The recent Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization reversed this.

Many of us in the pro-life movement celebrated this development and perhaps are inclined to rest on this monumental accomplishment. But we should

be clear that the Dobbs decision

does not outlaw abortion, but rather sends the matter back to each of the 50 states for state legislatures to resolve.

The pro-life cause is not complete
- even in

Kentucky. On election day, November 8, 2022, we have an opportunity to vote on an amendment to our state constitution

stating

clearly

that the Kentucky constitution does NOT guarantee a right to abortion in the Commonwealth. This can preclude any judge now or in the future from asserting that this right may be interpreted in our present constitution or requiring public funding for abortion.

To be clear: this amendment does not in itself outlaw abortion, but rather leaves that question to the state legislature.

The question on the ballot regarding Amendment #2 will ask: Are you in favor of amending the constitution of Kentucky by creating a new Section of the constitution to be numbered Section 26A to state as follows: "To protect human life, nothing in this constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion."

A "Yes" vote supports amending the Kentucky Constitution to state that nothing in the state constitution creates a right to abortion or requires government funding for abortion.

Even many pro-life supporters have been uneasy about some state laws across the country that do not permit any exceptions even when the mother's life is endangered. Still others may wish an amendment could be even more restrictive. This amendment does not require any particular restrictions or prohibit any exceptions. The state legislature would have the ability to determine abortion policy and law.

In the political climate we find ourselves in today I believe that this is a good amendment and I urge you to prayerfully consider this matter and vote "Yes" for Amendment #2 on November 8, 2022. ■

BISHOP MEDLEY'S OCTOBER 2022 CALENDAR

- OCT. 1 6 p.m. | Confirmation St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Guthrie
 - **8 a.m. | School Mass –** St. Mary of the Woods School, Whitesville
- OCT. 4 p.m. | Visit with the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph – Maple Mount
- OCT. 16 10:30 a.m. | 75th Anniversary Mass Rosary Chapel, Paducah
 - 10 a.m. | Priest Personnel Meeting
 MCC
- OCT. 17
 1:30 p.m. | Priests' Council Meeting
 MCC
 - 9 a.m. | Bilingual Mass for Evangelization Day - Owensboro
- OCT. 22 Convention Center, Owensboro
 11 a.m. | Jubilee for Religious St.
 Martin Parish, Rome
- OCT. 25 9:30 a.m. | School Mass St. Mary Elementary School, Paducah
- OCT. 27 Owensboro Catholic High School,
 Owensboro
- OCT. 29 9 a.m. | Pro-Life Mass St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Sincerely in Christ,

+ William . Medley

Most Reverend William F. Medley Diocese of Owensboro

Why choose natural family planning?

An interview with two natural family planning teachers in our diocese

Note: The Western Kentucky Catholic recently interviewed Megan Bell and Martha Winn, two of several women in our diocese who teach Natural Family Planning, or NFP. While NFP is known as a way to morally space out pregnancies without the use of artificial contraception, these two instructors delve into more reasons why a woman might consider learning more about these methods of fertility awareness.



COURTESY OF MEGAN BELL Megan Bell with her husband, Adam Bell.

Megan Bell

Murray, Ky.

What method do you teach and how long have you taught it?

I teach the Billings Ovulation Method and have taught for two years.

Tell me about your journey of using NFP, and why you decided to help others learn it too.

I love teaching NFP because as a couple you are not only following God's beautiful design for the human body, but also as a married couple my husband and I are committing ourselves wholly to one another and respecting one another for the person that God made each one of us to be.

NFP faces criticism from some that either it's too difficult or doesn't work. What are your responses to debunk these myths?

NFP does require a certain stage of learning and certainly requires attention and following rules. Again, God created us perfectly and NFP supports His plan for the human body. Once a couple becomes comfortable with the rules of the NFP method, the beauty of why the Church supports NFP and the bonds that are strengthened between a husband and wife make the NFP method easy. Not only easy, but you may begin to question why you would ever try anything different!

What community support is available for couples who use NFP?

Couples who wish to learn more about the Billings Ovulation Method can visit the website www.boma-usa.org. There are also many social media groups that support couples who have questions or for couples who would like to join a community of NFP users. Of course, couples may also contact me with any questions or concerns!

Megan Bell can be reached at megan@stleoky.org.

Martha Winn

Bowling Green, Ky.

What method do you teach and how long have you taught it?

I have been teaching the Billings Ovulation Method since 2003. My responsibilities with BOMA-USA include supervising Teacher Trainees, conducting certification trainings and serving as the chair of the education committee. I am also an Associate Director for WOOMB Int.



COURTESY OF MARTHA WINN Martha Winn has taught the Billings Ovulation Method of natural family planning since 2003.

Tell me about your journey of using NFP, and why you decided to help others learn it too.

My journey began in nursing school when I realized the medical advantages of NFP. My husband Earl and I heard about it in marriage preparation. We

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NFP teachers continued from page 4

were married in 1981, and the Theology of the Body Wednesday audience talks of St. John Paul II were happening between 1979 and 1984. Without the internet, the information was not widely circulated. In the years to follow, not only the principles of Theology of the Body, but many other beautiful Church documents, were pivotal in our faith journey. Though we used NFP from the beginning of our marriage, we grew in the understanding of the "why NFP." Eventually, I had some friends who were not Catholic inquire about NFP. I felt this was a prompting of the Holy Spirit to become certified, which I did. I have taught those in my faith community, other faith communities, and those with no faith at all. I love to communicate the "what" and the "why" of NFP. Understanding patterns of fertility/infertility enables couples to conceive pregnancy, space pregnancy, or to monitor reproductive health.

How might NFP help a woman monitor her health and fertility beyond trying to avoid/achieve a pregnancy?

A growing field of restorative reproductive medicine with a focus on treating the root cause of cycle disturbances has increased the demand for fertility awareness educators. Certified NFP teachers make referrals to providers with specialized education. The accurate chart can help diagnose and treat many conditions such as PCOS (polycystic ovarian syndrome), endometriosis, and causes of infertility. Certification requests from medical practices have increased at an exponential rate in response to patient demand. The growing network of healthcare providers is encouraging.

Martha Winn can be reached at martha. nfpeducation@yahoo.com. ■

Fertility awareness

- For information about opportunities to learn Billings Ovulation Method within the Diocese of Owensboro, visit owensborodiocese.org/ billings-ovulation-method.
- For information about opportunities to learn the Creighton FertilityCare and Marquette Methods, which are offered through a partnership with The Holy Family Center for Life in Newburgh, Ind., visit owensborodiocese.org/creightonmethod and owensborodiocese. org/marquette-method

A twofold celebration: Passionists break ground for expansion; celebrate mother superior's 25th anniversary

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Standing before a crowd of friends, family and supporters outside St. Joseph Monastery on Sept. 10, Mother John Mary Read, CP, attempted to hold back tears of joy in expressing her gratitude for reaching this point in her community's Cherish the Flame renovation campaign.

"I thank you for helping us to cherish our roots and build this future," said Mother John Mary, the mother superior of the cloistered Passionist nuns who live at the monastery in Whitesville, Ky.

Following a 2018 assessment that indicated a need to improve the living spaces and overall sustainability for the growing community, the nuns had determined that a renovation was in order. Cherish the Flame kicked off in early 2020 with a goal of \$3,975,000. To date, \$3,498,841 has been pledged and \$3,123,914 received.

That afternoon of Sept. 10, as blue skies broke through the clouds, the nuns celebrated the official groundbreaking for the expansion project, which will add a new wing with a new community room, an exercise room, a storage room and a Chapter Room – the sacred, confidential space where nuns gather to discern and discuss important decisions.

The project will also add covered cloister walkways and improvements to the retreat house section; namely, a shaded outdoor patio, a spiritual direction room and an entrance door awning.

"We have truly been encouraged by all of you, our friends and benefactors," said Mother John Mary. "You have a special share in our life of prayer and sacrifice as we bring Jesus to the world. We are blessed to live out our lives of consecration on your behalf."

Those present at the groundbreaking included Bishop William F. Medley

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FEATURES

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ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Mother John Mary Read, CP, speaks at the groundbreaking and blessing of St. Joseph Monastery's new renovations on Sept. 10, following her silver jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving for 25 years of Passionist consecration. Dcn. Chris Kight, a seminarian for the Diocese of Owensboro, looks on.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC Postulant Hannah Bland, center, sings with the nuns during the groundbreaking of the monastery's new expansion. Bland officially entered the monastery in May.

the renovation.

The bishop commented that though the nuns might not be seen by the public on a regular basis, "their presence in this diocese is important and Read of the Diocese of Evansville, Ind. immeasurable. We thank God for them."

Bivins, the founder and president of JMJ Construction, said that when they formed the construction company 28 years ago, his two eldest children suggested "JMJ" for "Jesus, Mary, Joseph."

For years, "I wondered what those three (as in Jesus, Mary and Joseph) had in mind for JMJ," said Bivins, a Catholic. Now, standing at St. Joseph Monastery and about to embark on this renovation, "I think I know."

The groundbreaking was far from the only

and Rick Bivins of JMJ Construction, who is leading celebration that day. Earlier, the monastery had celebrated the 25th anniversary of Mother John Mary's solemn profession as a Passionist nun with a special Mass presided over by her brother, Fr. Jeff

> The homilist, Fr. Corey D. Bruns, stated that "our world needs cloistered nuns."

> "Even though your life may be hidden away from normal day-to-day... your witness is needed," said Fr. Bruns, speaking of cloistered nuns' quiet life of prayer interceding for the whole world. "Your answer to your baptismal call is needed."

> Speaking directly to Mother John Mary, Fr. Bruns added that "you, dear Mother, have shown us that you would 'rather one day in his courts than a thousand elsewhere." ■



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC Fr. Jeff Read, brother of Mother John Mary Read, CP, receives the gifts during the offertory at the Sept. 10 Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul offers 'House in a Box' for western Ky. tornado survivors

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Nancy Harris, the president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Western Kentucky, likes to say, "it's a 'House in a Box' – but there's no box!"

"House in a Box," which is a program out of the national Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Disaster Service Corporation, would not even fit in a box. It's actually an initiative to provide survivors of natural disasters with basic furniture and furnishings as they transition to their new homes.

Founded in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the program is "kind of a house starter kit," according to Richard Remp-Morris, the executive director/CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Western Kentucky.

Remp-Morris and his fellow Vincentians have recently started offering House in a Box services for the survivors of the December 2021 tornadoes that struck western Kentucky.

They were thrilled upon receiving a \$1.7 million grant from American Red Cross, and have projected that they should be able to serve 500 families.

"The vetting process will be a combination of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro and long-term recovery groups" as well as other faith-based organizations serving the region, said Remp-Morris.

Catholic Charities and these other groups will then refer clients to SVDP, who will "organize and get things together for each family," said Remp-Morris.

All of the items are being stored in a warehouse in Owensboro. Remp-Morris said they would have preferred to use a location closer to where the tornadoes struck, but storage facilities are still limited in those regions – plus, the landlord leased them the warehouse at a fraction of the lease cost.

The warehouse manager, Patrick Clary, has a mockup display of the House in a Box "kit" at the entrance of the warehouse, so that visitors can see the variety of items provided.

The units are automatically set up for a family of four, but can be adjusted according to how many members there are of each family. Items include basic dining room sets, beds, kitchen wares, and appliances – "obviously things that people need," said Remp-Morris.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC On Aug. 30, Richard Remp-Morris, the executive director/CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Western Kentucky, looks at boxes of items for the survivors of the December 2021 tornadoes. These will be included in the "House in a Box" kits.



COURTESY OF RICHARD REMP-MORRIS Volunteers load a mattress onto a truck for tornado survivors in Muhlenberg County, Ky., on Sept. 12, 2022, outside the warehouse being used for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Western Kentucky's "House in a Box" initiative.

He said they would still have provided House in a Box even without the Red Cross grant – "because of our partners, donors and other grants" – but this way they can serve more people than they ever imagined possible.

The Red Cross grant will permit them to offer House in a Box for about 16 months, but it could possibly last longer if more donors were to step up.

Remp-Morris said that when SVDP initially started working on tornado recovery efforts, "I had a lady call me, crying, right after the tornado. She said, 'I'm on a fixed income and I can only send \$5."

Remp-Morris told her, "'Ma'am, there are no small gifts." ■

How to help

To learn how to get involved with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, visit https://svdpwesternky.org/, call (270) 315-5747 or email svdp. owensboro@att.net. To help with their Western KY Tornado Relief fund, visit https://svdpwesternky.org/give.

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'Now it's our turn'

Catholics of western Ky. respond to flooding disaster on other side of state



COURTESY OF KATINA HAYDEN Severe damage to Fleming-Neon Public Library in Fleming-Neon, Ky., on Aug. 23, 2022.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Back in December 2021, when western Kentucky was devastated by historic tornadoes, Catholics from dioceses around the Bluegrass State responded by sending more than \$2 million to help the Diocese of Owensboro respond to survivors' needs.

At the end of July 2022, torrential rains and deadly flooding struck eastern Kentucky, which includes the Diocese of Lexington. According to Governor Andy Beshear, at least 14 counties and three cities declared local states of emergency.

Bishop William F. Medley released a letter on Aug. 1 to the faithful of the Diocese of Owensboro calling to mind the generosity of their eastern Kentucky neighbors in the aftermath of the tornadoes.



COURTESY OF KATINA HAYDEN Some of the destruction left by the floodwaters is seen in Letcher County, Ky., on Aug. 23, 2022.

"Now it's our turn to repay their kindness," the bishop wrote. He asked all 78 parishes to take up a special collection and to be "as generous as possible" in responding to the floods.

Bishop Medley added that his diocese was "overwhelmed" by the "outpouring of love, support and generosity" of Catholics from the dioceses of Louisville, Covington and Lexington, and that "it is a blessing that we now have the opportunity to respond in the same way to our brothers and sisters on the other side of the state."

The governor's office reported that as of Sept. 13, there had been 40 deaths from the floods and two individuals were still missing. More than 78,000 tons of debris have since been removed from land and another 37,000 tons were removed from water.

As of Sept. 19, the Diocese of Owensboro had received approximately \$228,000 to send to flood recovery in eastern Kentucky. Of that total, \$190,000 was received from its diocesan parishes and the remaining \$38,000 came from individuals, foundations, and others.

While still in the midst of western Kentucky tornado recovery efforts, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro has been working to assist flood survivors as well.

Katina Hayden, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro's director of case management, traveled with several fellow staff members in mid-August to transport a trailer of donated supplies to eastern Kentucky.

Hayden told The Western Kentucky Catholic that the resilience she witnessed among the flood survivors "was amazing."

She said when she began gathering information about the families' needs, she was moved by how "they were very open to talking with us. When we gave them gift cards to assist the families they hugged us in gratitude."

As she and staff walked through the hard-hit City of Fleming-Neon, Hayden said families "were cleaning and mucking out their businesses and homes but stopped to say hello or wave as if we had always been in their community."

The needs of flood survivors, and the ongoing needs of tornado survivors, are specific to each family. At this time, monetary donations are most appreciated so that survivors can purchase what they need. To send a donation, please visit https://owensborodiocese.org/give/.

Fr. Maury Riney, 71, was 'a good, gifted person' and 'many people loved him'

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. Maury Riney, a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, passed away on Sept. 16, 2022 at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital, following 45 years of dedicated priestly service. He was 71.

Born in Owensboro on March 18, 1951, Fr. Riney studied for the priesthood at St. Mary Seminary in St. Mary, Ky., and at Saint Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, Ind. He was ordained by Bishop Henry J. Soenneker at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro on May 7, 1977.

Fr. Riney served in many parishes across the diocese, including St. Stephen Cathedral, Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, St. Michael Parish in Sebree, St. Paul Parish in Grayson County, St. Elizabeth Parish in Clarkson, St. Rose Parish in Cloverport, St. Sebastian Parish in Calhoun, St. Charles Parish in Livermore, St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville, St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro, St. Martin Parish in Rome and Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, where he resided until he moved to the Carmel Home in Owensboro.

Fr. Riney had a deep compassion for the sick and suffering. He served for a period of time as a chaplain at the Carmel Home and in pastoral care ministry at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital.

"Fr. Maury didn't know a stranger," said Shannon Long, the parish nurse at Holy Name. She said that as Fr. Riney's own health declined, and she accompanied him to doctor's appointments, he never failed to greet everyone he encountered – many of them being people he knew.

"He would always ask how they were doing and how were their families," she said. "No matter how badly he was feeling, he would ask about others. He was always loving, always caring."

Fr. Riney often celebrated Mass at parishes around western Kentucky when a pastor was unavailable. He "took pride" in being a regular substitute across the diocese, which is how he came to know so many people, said Long.

In the 1980s, Fr. Riney worked in the diocese's communications department with now-retired Western Kentucky Catholic editor, Mel Howard, and contributed to writing and photography.

Howard said Fr. Riney loved good food and spending time with people, especially at lunchtime.

"He introduced me to Little T's Diner down on Second Street," said Howard.

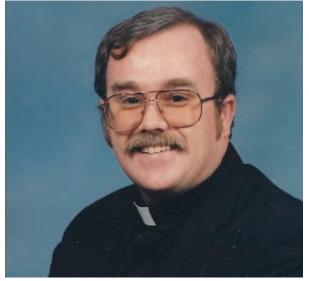
Donna Biggs, the switchboard operator at the McRaith Catholic Center – the diocese's pastoral center – said she grew in friendship with Fr. Riney over a shared love of animals.

"His dog Sparky was a special dog in his life, and his cat, Anastasia," said Biggs, who ultimately became Anastasia's caretaker.

Biggs said she and her husband, John, became close with Fr. Riney over the years.

"He was just a very faith-filled, lovable person," she said. "He made me happy to be around him, and I never once heard him say something derogatory about anyone."

Biggs said Fr. Riney was "a good, gifted person,



COURTESY OF ARCHIVES Fr. Maury Riney is seen in this undated photograph.

and many people loved him."

"I will miss him - I do miss him," she said.

Fr. Riney was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Marnell Riney and Mary Edna Russell. He is survived by his sisters, Ann Petrie (Gerald) of Indianapolis, Ind., and Cynthia Rumage (Michael) of Florence, Ky.; two nieces; two nephews; and many dear friends.

The funeral Mass took place Sept. 20 at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson. Fr. Riney was laid to rest at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery in Owensboro.

Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Name Catholic Church, 511 2nd St., Henderson, KY 42420 or the Carmel Home, 2501 Old Hartford Rd., Owensboro, KY 42303.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

A man holds a photo of Pope John Paul I prior to Pope Francis' celebration of the beatification of Pope John Paul I in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Sept. 4, 2022.

Blessed John Paul I, 'the smiling pope,' showed God's goodness, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Beatifying Blessed John Paul I, Pope Francis praised the late pope for showing the world God's goodness and for living the Gospel without compromise. "Our new blessed lived that way: in the joy of the Gospel, without compromises, loving to the very end," the pope said. "He embodied the poverty of the disciple, which is not only detachment from material goods, but also victory over the temptation to put oneself at the center, to seek one's own glory" as he followed the example of Jesus and was "a meek and humble pastor," he said. The pope spoke during a homily in St. Peter's Square at a Sept. 4 Mass attended by an estimated 25,000 people under dark skies and rain, with an occasional roll of thunder and clap of lightning. "With a smile, Pope John Paul managed to communicate the goodness of the

IN BRIEF

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Lord. How beautiful is a church with a happy, serene and smiling face, a church that never closes doors, never hardens hearts, never complains or harbors resentment, does not grow angry or impatient, does not look dour or suffer nostalgia for the past," the pope said. "Let us pray to him, our father and our brother, and ask him to obtain for us 'the smile of the soul'" that is "transparent, that does not deceive," Pope Francis said. "Let us pray, in his own words, 'Lord take me as I am, with my defects, with my shortcomings, but make me become what you want me to be.'"

Ukrainians 'feel the power of your prayer,' says major archbishop

LVIV, Ukraine (CNS) — Catholics in Ukraine feel the prayers of Christians around the world, said Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kyiv-Halych, major archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. "We do not just believe, but feel the power of your prayer, which stops the war and is the source of our optimism (and) hope that together we will defeat evil, and peace will bless our homeland," the archbishop said Sept. 14, a special day designated by European bishops as a day of prayer for Ukraine. Noting that Latin-rite Catholics marked the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross that day, Archbishop Shevchuk said: "It's in the crucified Savior that Europe and the believing world see today crucified (in) Ukraine. His Holiness Pope Francis, whom we accompany to Kazakhstan in prayer, invites Christian believers on this day to see the wounds of the crucified Savior in the wounds of Ukraine." He thanked Lithuanian Archbishop Gintaras Grusas of Vilnius, president of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences, for planning the day of

prayer, in which people were encouraged to kneel before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for peace in Ukraine. European bishops repeatedly have joined Pope Francis in calling for weapons to be silenced, war to be ended, and for efforts to promote peace.

British Catholics, Pope Francis pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) — Catholics in the U.K. paid tribute to Queen Elizabeth II following her death Sept. 8 and the end of a reign that lasted more than 70 years. Pope Francis sent a telegram addressed "To His Majesty the King, Charles III," her son who immediately ascended to the throne. "I willingly join all who mourn her loss in praying for the late queen's eternal rest and in paying tribute to her life of unstinting service to the good of the nation and the Commonwealth, her example of devotion to duty, her steadfast witness of faith in Jesus Christ and her firm hope in his promises," Pope Francis said. The British sovereign died "peacefully" at Balmoral, the royal residence in Scotland, surrounded by members of her family. She was 96. Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster, president of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, paid tribute using many of the queen's own words. "On 21 April 1947, on her 21st birthday, Princess Elizabeth said, 'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service,'" Cardinal Nichols said. "Now, 75 years later, we are heartbroken in our loss at her death and so full of admiration for the unfailing way in which she fulfilled that declaration." "Even in my sorrow, shared with so many around the world, I am filled with an immense sense of gratitude for the gift to the world that has been the life of Queen Elizabeth II. At this time, we pray for the repose of the soul of Her Majesty. We do so with confidence, because the Christian faith marked every day of her life and activity."

'Young at Heart'

St. Leo's dedicated ministry to older adults thrives as a spiritual, social opportunity



COURTESY OF KAREN BALZAR

The 2022-2023 season of St. Leo Parish's "Young at Heart" ministry began on Tuesday, Sept. 13 with a chicken dinner kick-off. Pictured are the reunited members of "Young at Heart" who are happy to be together now that COVID restrictions are lessening.

BY YOUNG AT HEART ORGANIZERS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

More than 10 years ago, Andy and Karen Balzer, parishioners at St. Leo Parish in Murray, Ky., were very involved with hospitality ministry at Saturday and Sunday Masses. Through their ministry, the Balzers did more than open the door for those entering the church; they made a special effort to get to know all who entered and would have conversations with them – young and old, families and individuals. However, they paid extra attention to older adults, as many of them had moved to Murray upon retiring. The families of many of the older parishioners do not live in Murray. After a couple years, it became evident to Andy and Karen that there was a need for spiritual and social interaction for this population.

Andy and Karen Balzer met with Fr. Jason McClure, pastor at the time, and Emily Danchisin, pastoral associate at the time, to discuss the possibility of organizing a group to provide anyone who is "young at heart," an "empty nester," or just in need of fellowship to join the monthly festivities and a potluck meal at the parish center. Fr. Jason and Emily agreed with the Balzers that there was a need to serve this population of the parish. Hence, Andy and Karen reached out to the parish community and organized "Young at Heart."

The initial gathering was scheduled on a Saturday at noon as a potluck with St. Leo providing the main course and beverages. It was requested of longtime parishioners to bring photographs of the early days of St. Leo to share with everyone in attendance. Andy and Karen also asked everyone what would they enjoy or be interested in. Taking suggestions to heart, each month the Balzers structured potluck meals around a theme. In October, Oktoberfest is celebrated with brats and sauerkraut. Of course, December is a Christmas celebration with a "Dirty Santa" gift exchange and March features St. Patrick's Day with corned beef and cabbage. Those who attend are asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert. The parish, with the financial assistance of the Knights of Columbus, provides the meat (or main dish) and beverages for the meal.

In the past, guest speakers from Baptist Health Home Care and nursing students from Murray State University shared important and "entertaining" information on physical therapy, home health services, and breast cancer awareness. Newman House students and MSU music students have provided musical entertainment. Everyone's favorite session is "Ask the Priest" in which our pastor entertains questions pertaining to the parish or the Catholic Church. Another favorite are Trivial Pursuit competitions.

The majority of the "Young at Heart" attendees are retired. The group now meets once per month, following a weekday noon Mass, September through May. Prior to the pandemic, attendance had reached almost 40 each month. When "Young at Heart" could finally resume in November 2021, everyone's faces lit up with huge smiles and tears upon entering the parish center. Slowly but surely, the group is picking up steam as folks are feeling more comfortable as COVID restrictions are being lifted. The 2022-2023 season began on Tuesday, Sept. 13 with a chicken dinner kick-off. Fr. Josh McCarty entertained the group with a photo presentation depicting his trip to the Holy Land in June 2022. "Young At Heart" has become like a family by sharing stories, jokes, memories, prayers, and compassion, while sharing a meal. They have become the matriarchs and patriarchs of St. Leo Parish.

Should other parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro be interested in forming this ministry, please contact Andy and Karen Balzer at kbalzer@murray-ky.net or (270) 767-0579.

October 2022 11

New signage on campus of St. Stephen Cathedral increases welcome for visitors

BY ST. STEPHEN CATHEDRAL PARISH STAFF, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The next time that you are in Owensboro visiting St. Stephen Cathedral or the diocesan offices next door, you may notice the new signage that has been put in place! Both of these locations are often a



COURTESY OF EDDY MCFARLAND Some of the new signage is seen outside St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

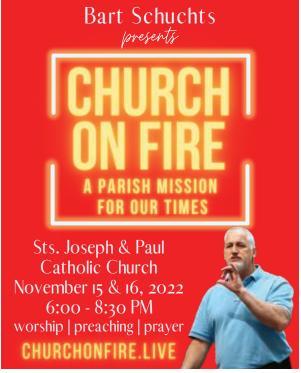
destination for visitors from across western Kentucky and beyond. You may find that when you enter the address into the GPS, sometimes it is difficult to find exactly where to go.

Many diocesan liturgies are held at the cathedral, such as ordinations of priests and deacons, liturgies for the Sophia Awards and marriage celebrations, and other special events. In addition to many parish activities, the cathedral is the location for weddings, funerals, and the Arts at the Cathedral Concert Series, which are often attended by non-parishioners. The parish office building is the home to a very active St. Vincent de Paul Society along with a food pantry, which serves those in need in the area. Next door, the McRaith Catholic Center is home to the diocesan offices and Cathedral Preschool with 100 3, 4, and 5-year-old children. All of this is in the 600 block of Locust Street, with many locations and doors to choose from.

In an effort to provide a more welcoming and hospitable environment, campus signage has been installed around the campus. It is intended to help visitors find available parking and give directions to the various offices and locations. The next time you join us at St. Stephen Cathedral or the McRaith Catholic Center, we hope you will feel more welcome and are able to navigate your way around!

St. Stephen Cathedral is the mother church of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky. Learn more at ststephencathedral.org.





September sees first Hispanic women's Cursillo in the Diocese of Owensboro

BY DR. VICKY BARNES, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

De Colores! What a great blessing to have witnessed the First Hispanic Women's Catholic Cursillo in Kentucky! The presence of these Hispanic women is a testimony of faith for everyone!

I lived my Cursillo a little bit after my husband, Dcn. Tim Barnes, in the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., in March 2019. Cursillo is an apostolic movement in the Catholic Church. It focuses on showing Christian laypeople how to become effective Christians, sharing the good news by the best way of friendship. "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ," is the Cursillo motto.

The first Cursillo in the United States was held in Texas in 1957. Cursillo has been in the Diocese of Owensboro for decades, but history was made recently as the first Hispanic Women's Cursillo occurred on Sept. 8-11 at the Gaspar River Retreat Center.

The Lord granted that the first Hispanic women's Cursillo be held in our diocese on the day we celebrate the birth of our Virgin Mary, Sept. 8. This weekend was made possible by the hard work and prayers of many priests, deacons and Cursillitas from both the Diocese of Owensboro and the Diocese of Nashville, Tenn. Fr. Basilio Az Cuz of St. Thomas More and I (of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville) were the points of contact. This Cursillo had women from Guatemala, Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Peru, and the United States.

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez and Fr. Lustein Blanco were

the spiritual directors and gave several religious talks for the weekend. The team from Nashville and from Sts. Peter and Paul, under the amazing leadership of Elba Avila from Nashville, co-hosted the Cursillo. The team included Karina Padilla, Betsy Ibanez, Carolina Herrera, Andrea Ramirez, Irma Guzman, Maria Herrera, Ana Regina Andrade, Maria Eugenia Hernandez, Mary Ortiz, Vicki Kinnard, Elodia Mariscal, Maria Sanchez, Susana Flores, Felicia Elliot and myself. Special thanks to Martin Schroeder for driving the candidates from Hopkinsville.

The new Cursillitas who lived the weekend were Yolanda Perry, Ellis Salas, Bertha Rico, Maria Rosas, Maria Macario and Neria Bernal. These women left Gasper River on fire and filled with the Holy Spirit. Some of the phrases heard were, "I am eager to learn more about my Lord," "Now, I know that Jesus loves me too," "I am not alone," "The Lord has blessed us abundantly," "I have never received so much love and generosity," and "With the Lord everything is possible."

The closing ceremony of the weekend was very emotional and included many Cursillistas from Owensboro and Nashville who came from far and near to show their support for the new Cursillistas who chose to say "Yes" to the Lord. As the weekend came to a close and new and old Cursillistas got in their cars to go home, a torrential rain had begun, but there was no fear of the weather, they fully trusted that God had everything under control.

Dr. Vicky Barnes belongs to Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville.



COURTESY OF DR. VICKY BARNES Pictured are Cursillistas from the Sept. 8-11 Hispanic Women's Cursillo with Fr. Carmelo Jimenez.

St. Francis Borgia Parish celebrates Sophia recipient

For embracing and living a life of stewardship – giving of her time, talent and treasure, Lisa Jones, a parishioner of St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis, received the parish's 2022 Sophia Award.



COURTESY OF HOLLI JO CORLEY Fr. John Okoro, pastor of St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis, presents the 2022 Sophia Award to parishioner Lisa Jones.

October 2022

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Sophia Award recipients honored at September Mass

BY WKC STAFF

Below is a list of the 2020, 2021 and 2022 Sophia Awards recipients in the Diocese of Owensboro. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sophia Awards Mass was only able to take place again this year, following two years (2020 and 2021) of being unable to safely gather. Questions may be addressed to the Office of Stewardship and Development at valeria.vessels@pastoral.org. Congratulations to all recipients!

Blessed Mother, Owensboro Gerald & Judy Coomes

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro Rita Moorman

Christ the King, Madisonville Bettie Stone

Christ the King, Scottsville Pauline Anderson

Holy Cross, Providence Susan Gentry

Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington Wanda Fey

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson Mary Anne Williams

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam Douglas Smith

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green Marcia Cassady

Holy Trinity, Morgantown Richard Seiler

Immaculate, Owensboro Ernie & Shirley Taliaferro

Immaculate Conception, Earlington Elizabeth Wix

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

John & Lynn Powers

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Herb & Bernice Bertke (Posthumously)

Precious Blood, Owensboro Gary & Betty Murphy

Resurrection, Dawson Springs Ella Smith

Rosary Chapel, Paducah Lonnie & Yvonne Crowdus

Sacred Heart, Hickman L.T. & Sandy Busby

St. Agnes, Uniontown Robert Buckman

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph Carol Rumage

St. Ambrose, HenshawJoe Carroll Moore (Posthumously)

St. Ann, Morganfield Sally Beaven

St. Anthony, AxtelMike & Janet Alexander

St. Anthony, Browns Valley Gary & Elaine Strain

St. Anthony, PeoniaJames (Posthumously) & Garnetta
VanMeter

St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers

Mike & Linda Drury

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs Brenda & John Semar

St. Augustine, Reed Connie Williams

St. Benedict, WaxBilly & Diana Thompson

St. Charles, Bardwell Walter & Ethel O'Neill

St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore



TINA KASEY | WKC Pictured is Bishop William F. Medley with some of this year's Sophia Awards recipients.

Patricia Martinez

St. Columba, Lewisport Larry & JoAnn Roby

St. Denis, Fancy Farm Carol Wiley

St. Elizabeth, Clarkson Charles & Brenda Stinson

St. Elizabeth, Curdsville Judith Peters

St. Edward, Fulton Gary Jez

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah Paul & Linda Cissell

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis Lisa Jones

St. Henry, Aurora Michael Penrose

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm Joseph & Joyce Toon

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville Jim & Dorothy Roberts

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah Earl & Ruth Kaufman **St. John the Evangelist, Sunfish** Bill & Cathy Canty

St. Joseph, Bowling Green Mike & Mary Dale Reynolds

St. Joseph, Central City Wayne Vincent

St. Joseph, LeitchfieldBetty Stone (Posthumously)

St. Joseph, MayfieldDorothy Youngblood

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro Donna Goetz

St. Lawrence, Philpot Jim & Pam Higdon

St. Leo, Murray Kathleen Elkins

St. Mark, EddyvilleFlorian (Posthumously) & Karen
Murdzek

St. Martin, RomeJohn & Eloise Chandler
(Posthumously)

St. Mary, Franklin

Continues on page 15

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Sophia Awards continued from page 14

Helen Berry

St. Mary, LaCenter Marie Funk

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho J. David & Rose Marie Cecil

St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Mike & Brenda Moorman

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Jamie & Peggy Clark

St. Michael the Archangel,

Oak Grove
Kathlene & Thomas
Armbruster, Sr.

St. Paul, Princeton Ken & Theresa Negray

St. Paul, St. Paul (Leitchfield)

Joseph Dale & Anna Jean Clark

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Jack & Vicki Stogsdill

St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly Carolyn Mackey

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville Anghela Phillips

St. Pius X, Calvert City Joe & Barbara Cirrito (Posthumously)

St. Pius X, Owensboro Mary Edgell

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg James & Sheila Sills

St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport

Mary Jo Carter

St. Sebastian, Calhoun Ralph & Judy Ward

St. Stephen, Cadiz Maria Bruzewski

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Ken Heichelbech

St. Thomas More, Paducah Dr. Bill Murphy & Dr. Marie Petrites-Murphy

St. William, Knottsville Robert Stallings, Sr.

St. William of Vercelli,

Richard & Peggy Rozwalka (Posthumously)

Disciples Response Fund helps cathedral feed hungry neighbors

BY WKC STAFF

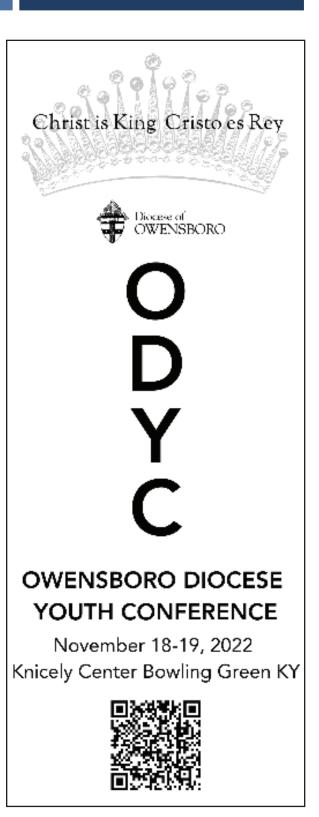
St. Stephen Cathedral recently utilized a \$3,000 grant from the Disciples Response Fund to fund their Cathedral Food Pantry. The active food pantry is utilized on a daily basis and staff has seen the need increasing.

In the first two months of the cathedral's fiscal year, more than \$15,000 was spent on purchasing non-perishable food items.

Up until recently, they had not kept track of exactly how many were served through the food pantry. But in the month of August, cathedral staff began asking everyone who requested food for their first name. The purpose of obtaining first names was so that the staff could pray for each person by name during weekly staff meetings. Just during the week of Aug. 15, they served 142 people in need of food. The following week, they served more than 186 individuals.

Currently the food pantry functions with the assistance of parishioners who make financial contributions; a volunteer who makes grocery store trips several times a week to keep the food pantry stocked; volunteers who bag groceries in the office several times a week, ensuring that the bags of food are ready to be handed out the door upon request; and volunteers and staff who distribute the food to those in need.

The Disciples Response Fund is the annual appeal of the Diocese of Owensboro and provides grants for parish, Catholic school, Catholic organizations and others seeking to further the Gospel of Jesus by helping those in spiritual or physical need. Learn more at https://owensborodiocese.org/givedisciples-response-fund/.



October 2022

Brescia University announces three new ways to pursue theology studies

BY DEACON TIM NUGENT, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Brescia University is pleased to announce the addition of three new pathways for students to advance their academic engagement in the Theology field of study. In addition to a B.A. Degree with a Major in Theology and a B.A. Degree with a Major in Theology with an Emphasis in Pastoral Studies already offered, Brescia now offers a Pre-Baccalaureate Certificate in Theology, and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Theology.

These new Brescia initiatives ensure that individuals can enter a Theology program with any educational background and advance their academic training. The purpose of these programs is to prepare students who wish to serve the Church in catechetical and/or lay ministerial roles in the Church, to provide continuing education for students who may already be serving the Church, and to cultivate the personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral, and professional qualities needed for effective Christian ministry in an ever-evolving world.

These endeavors embrace Brescia's mission: "Brescia University is a Catholic, liberal arts institution founded in the Ursuline tradition of personal and social transformation through education. Directed to academic and moral excellence in a student-centered environment, Brescia offers undergraduate and graduate programs that serve students who seek success through rewarding careers and service to others." The



COURTESY OF AP IMAGERY
Brescia University's new C.E. Field Center for Professional Studies.

Theology Program at Brescia University is grounded in the Roman Catholic faith tradition and reflects the Second Vatican Council's commitments to ecumenism, religious liberty, a deeper study of the wellsprings of the sources of the Catholic tradition, and a reaffirmation of traditional religious vocations. It supports the Council's emphasis on lay ecclesial ministry. Finally, the programs embody Brescia's commitment to students: "empowering YOU today to make a difference tomorrow."

Fr. Larry Hostetter, President of Brescia University, expresses excitement with the pathways for students to study Theology, "These new initiatives make our classes and programming, along with our experienced faculty, more accessible to those who wish to further their understanding

whether for their own spiritual growth or with the intended outcome being to better serve their church community. This opportunity makes sense because we are the only Catholic institution in Western Kentucky and sharing our mission and serving others is what Christ calls us to do."

The Pre-Baccalaureate Certificate is a 15-credit program that can be completed in less than two academic years. The courses provide foundational studies in the Old Testament, the New Testament, Theology, Catechetical and Youth Ministry, and Spirituality and Vocations. Online classes will promote flexibility and access to students across the diocese.

To learn more about these and other programs, visit www.brescia.edu/apply. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE EUCHARIST CONTINUES



THE INCARNATION

Insights from the Saints

Advent Retreat Day
Saturday, December 3
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mount Saint Joseph Auditorium
Optional First Sunday of Advent Mass
immediately following the retreat

The three-year national focus on Reviving Catholic Eucharistic Devotion has begun. Prepare for Christmas by taking "time apart" to reflect on how the Eucharist – the sacramental presence of Jesus with us – continues the mystery of the Incarnation. Each preparation for Mass and Communion is a kind of "mini-Advent" for welcoming God-among-us.

Various saints in Catholic history been particularly devoted to the Eucharist. Retreatants will be offered insights from some of these saints and can share their own experiences of spiritual preparation both for Christmas and Communion if they wish.

The \$45 fee includes lunch. To register, call 270-229-2006, email cheryl.clemons@maplemount. org or go online: ursulinesmsj.org/the-eucharist-continues-the-incarnation/

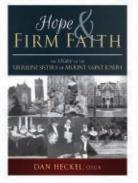


RETREAT LEADER: Ursuline Sister Cheryl Clemons, Ph.D., has been offering retreats, parish missions, and RCIA programs for over 25 years. With extensive training in theology, Scripture, spirituality, and spiritual direction, she

brings to her retreats a deep love for and study of prayer and spirituality.



A new book: "Hope and Firm Faith" tells the unique story of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph



In a new book that is now for sale, the ministries and adventures of the Ursuline community are chronicled through the eyes of the Ursuline Sisters who lived them, using their own words from letters they sent. You will learn about many amazing women who managed to forge their own identity while devoting their lives in service to God and the Church.

If you would like to host an event with the author, please contact Dan Heckel at 270-229-2007 or dan.heckel@maplemount.org

Dan can tailor his talk to include your area if it is mentioned in the book.

To order your copy of "Hope and Firm Faith:"

Order online at ursulinesmsj.org/hope-and-firm-faith-book. Or to order by mail, send us your name, address, phone number and email. Indicate if you would like your book signed by the author.

The cost is \$37.10 (includes sales tax) plus \$10 for shipping. Make check payable to "Ursuline Sisters" and mail your check and information to:

Book Order, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356



THE 32ND DIOCESAN MARIAN CONGRESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022 12:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

"MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"

Keynote Address by Fr. Corey D. Bruns Adoration, Marian Procession, and Confessions 4 pm Vigil mass offered at Parish

To be held on the campus of Saint Joseph Catholic Church 434 Church Ave. Bowling Green, KY 42101

OCTOBER 2022 BULLETIN BOARD

Mass and confession times in the Diocese of Owensboro

Did you know you can view Mass times on the diocese's website? Visit https://owensborodiocese.org/find-a-parish/ for a list of parishes, Mass times and more. As confession times are subject to change, visitors are encouraged to contact the parishes directly for their most up-to-date confession schedule.

Monte Cassino pilgrimages to be held in October

Saint Meinrad Archabbey's pilgrimages to honor the Blessed Mother at the Monte Cassino Shrine have been scheduled for the Sundays in October. The pilgrimages begin with an opening hymn and a short sermon, followed by a rosary procession. The service ends with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and a hymn. Speakers and topics for the pilgrimages are:

October 2 – Fr. Jeremy King, OSB, on "Mary, Model of Perseverance"

October 9 – Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB, on "Who are My Mother and Brothers and Sisters?"

October 16 – Br. Maurus Zoeller, OSB, on "Marian Shrines and Pilgrimages"

October 23 – Fr. Bede Cisco, OSB, on "Mary Among the Disciples"

October 30 – Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, on "Be it Done Unto Me: On the 'Virginal Emptiness' of Mary."

Services begin at 2 p.m. Central Time. The public is welcome. The Monte Cassino Shrine is located one mile east of the Archabbey on State Road 62 in St. Meinrad, IN. For more information, call Mary Jeanne Schumacher during business hours at 812-357-6501. For updates on the day of the event, call 812-357-6611.

Join Ursuline Sisters for Eucharistic Adoration Oct. 9

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite the public to join them for Eucharistic Adoration on the second Sunday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the Motherhouse Chapel in Maple Mount, Ky. (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). This adoration focuses on praying for vocations and concludes with evening prayer. Upcoming dates in 2022 are Oct. 9, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11. The Ursuline Sisters also have Adoration that is open to the public on Fridays from 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Women's Retreat Oct. 15 at St. Francis de Sales, Paducah "Jesus Comes to the Women in Ordinary Life" will be the topic of a women's retreat on Saturday, Oct. 15 at

St. Francis de Sales Parish, 116 South 6th St., Paducah. The retreat is open to all Catholic women ages 16 and older. Join in a day of prayer, reflection and sharing, and discover the way Jesus speaks and supports women in scripture and in the ordinary moments of their everyday lives. Registration starts at 9 a.m., breakfast at 9:30, then speakers/reflection/sharing, lunch at noon, followed by the retreat, then Mass at 5 p.m. followed by supper. The retreat director is Sister Martha Keller, who serves as assistant congregational leader for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, Maple Mount, Ky. Prior to that, she was a pastoral associate at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm for 10 years and helped lead the tornado recovery efforts in nearby Mayfield. The retreat day is sponsored by the Daughters of Isabella Circle #258. The cost is \$25 which includes three meals. To register, go to https://bit. ly/Oct15Retreat. The information about how to mail a check is at this link.

Open house for Graduate Theology planned

Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology is hosting an open house for its Graduate Theology Program on the weekend of Oct. 15-16, on campus. An online open house will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 6:30 p.m. Central Time. Prospective students will get a chance to visit the campus, talk to current students, get questions answered, and stay in free accommodations. Register to attend by Oct. 7. Registration and detailed information are at www. saintmeinrad.edu/graduate-theology/open-house/. Saint Meinrad's Graduate Theology Program offers a master's degree in theology, as well as specialization certificates in Church history, ethics and moral theology, liturgical and sacramental theology, pastoral studies, scripture, systematic theology, and general theological studies. Graduate certificate programs are available in spiritual direction and in reflective practices. Courses are open to lay men and women and to permanent deacons. For more information, visit www.saintmeinrad.edu/graduatetheology/.

St. Henry Christmas Bazaar Nov. 12

St. Henry Parish, 16097 US Hwy. 68 E in Aurora, Ky., will be having a Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. There will be a large variety of vendors and arts & crafts, as well as a silent auction and delicious homemade baked goods. All are welcome to begin their Christmas shopping! Please contact the parish at (270) 474-8058 for directions or further information.

Rachel's Vineyard retreat for healing the wounds of abortion

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat will be offered the weekend of Nov. 11-13, 2022 in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. Participation in this retreat is open to any woman or man who has been involved, or touched by, abortion. If you have lost a child or grandchild, or a sibling, a nephew or niece, to abortion, or if you have at any time in your life been involved in an abortion, then the Lord Jesus would like to offer you both healing and peace! Both Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to participate, and our retreat is conducted with absolute confidentiality. For more information, visit our website: HopeAfterAbortionKY. com, email us at retreats@hopeafterabortionky.com, or call Rita on our confidential line: (270) 474-4707.

How to Stay in Touch with the Ursuline Sisters

There are several ways you can stay in touch with the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph (Maple Mount, Ky.) The Sisters have a website: ursulinesmsj.org. They publish a magazine three times a year. To sign up to receive "Ursulines Alive," visit the website and click Contact Us. You can read past issues online by clicking About Us and Publications. You can also find past issues of the "Update" newsletter for Ursuline Associates and the "New Mount" featuring Mount Saint Joseph Academy alumnae (the direct link is https://issuu.com/ursulinesmsj.) You can ask to receive our Quilt Club, raffle, and annual appeal letters. If you would like to get our monthly Pilgrimage emails, visit our website and click on Subscribe. You can sign up in the same place to receive prayer requests. To submit a prayer request, click on Prayer Requests. Every day there is a new Facebook post, so be sure to like the Ursuline Sisters (facebook.com/ursulinesmsi). The Sisters also post occasionally on Twitter (ursulinesmsj), Instagram (ursulinesistersofmsj) and YouTube (UrsulineSistersMSJ). You can reach the Sisters by phone (270-229-4103), email (info.msj@maplemount.org) or their mailing address is 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356. The Ursulines look forward to hearing from you!

A Scout is Reverent

As we begin a new school year, it is time to begin working toward Scout religious emblems. They include for Cub Scouts: Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei and for Boy Scouts: Ad altare Dei and Pope Pius XII and Light is Life (Eastern Catholic) and for Girl Scouts and others: God is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary the First Disciple, The Spirit Alive, and Missio. For more information on these, please visit owensborodiocese.org/scouting/.

Support groups for victims/survivors of clergy abuse

The Diocese of Owensboro would like to share some support group opportunities made available through the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. These groups are open to all victims/survivors in the United States. Learn more at https://owensborodiocese.org/support-group/ and https://owensborodiocese.org/safe/.

Together, let's ensure that Kentucky's unborn are protected for years to come



COURTESY OF CCK Jason D. Hall is the executive director of Catholic Conference of Kentucky.

BY JASON D.
HALL, SPECIAL
TO THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY
CATHOLIC

On November 8, 2022, Kentucky voters have a unique opportunity to take a stand for the sanctity of life.

On June 24, the United States Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision

that established access to abortion as a constitutional right. For almost 50 years, the courts have set the parameters of the abortion debate. In many ways, Roe created the abortion debate as we have known it these past five decades. Now that it's gone, the debate has moved to the states.

Kentucky has a long history of enacting pro-life legislation. The General Assembly has enacted a strong informed consent statute, restrictions on abortion after 20 weeks, and more recently 15 weeks.

Most significant, however, is HB 148 from the 2019 session. In HB 148, legislators enacted what is known as a "trigger law." It is called that because it was written to take effect (or "trigger") when the Supreme Court overturned Roe. That law immediately took effect and prohibited all abortions that are not necessary to save the life or health of the

mother.

Kentucky's two abortion providers filed suit in Kentucky courts, arguing for a right to abortion under the Kentucky Constitution. On July 22, Jefferson Circuit Judge Mitch Perry agreed and prevented the trigger law from being enforced for a time, temporarily allowing abortions to continue. The Court of Appeals vacated that injunction and the law is currently in effect, but ultimately this will be decided by the Kentucky Supreme Court.

If the abortion providers prevail, it would result in a state-level Roe v. Wade decision, striking down most or all of the pro-life laws listed above.

Kentucky is not the first state to see this problem arise. In recent years, Iowa and Kansas have seen their state courts declare that their constitutions protect a right to abortion, striking down the pro-life laws passed by their state legislatures.

We can prevent this from happening here. This November, voters will be asked to approve a constitutional amendment that will prevent our state courts from ever issuing a decision like Roe v. Wade. The amendment is very simple and straightforward. It says:

"To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion."

On the ballot, this will be Amendment #2, presented to the voters as a yes/no question. This is a unique opportunity to express a clear pro-life vote.

Remember to vote. Remember to go to the

end of the ballot to vote YES on Amendment #2. Remind friends and family to vote YES. Consider volunteering to speak at your parish or other events during this October's Respect Life month, in the weeks leading up to the election.

This is an exciting time for the cause of life. If we can educate and turn out the vote, we can ensure that the Kentucky's unborn are protected for many years to come.

Jason D. Hall is the executive director of Catholic Conference of Kentucky. Learn more at ccky.org.

Vote YES for life!

Election day is November 8, 2022.

Remember to vote YES on Amendment #2 – Kentucky's Pro-Life Constitutional Amendment.

This is what you will see on the ballot:

"Are you in favor of amending the Constitution of Kentucky by creating a new Section of the Constitution to be numbered Section 26A to state as follows: To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion?"

Official website: yesforlifeky.com - Sign up to receive more information or make a donation to support the campaign!

October Wedding Anniversaries 5, 10, 25, 40, 50 and More Than 50 Years of Marriage

Please send any anniversary updates or corrections to Sara Lewis, Office of Marriage & Family Life, at sara.lewis@pastoral.org.

Blessed Mother, Owensboro Charles & Terri LaHugh, 40 John & Riley Hess, 52 John & Sylvia Morton, 56 Ron & Cindi Wilkerson, 25 Ryan & Kristen Bumm, 10 Steve & Gloria Baker, 52

Christ the King, Madisonville Jud & Karen Caldwell, 55

Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington Jay & Janet Stith, 53

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
Aaron & Brooke Willett, 10
BJ & Linda Anderson, 40
David & Traci Steele, 10
Dean & Mary Ann Jorgensen, 57
Dwight & Diana Emerson, 58
James & Betsy Darche, 50
Larry & Phyllis Bumpus, 55
Mark & Jenny Cody, 10
Nick & Jessica Sights, 5
Ronald & Dretha Weddell, 55
Soap & Sandy Wilson, 53

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam
Patrick & Cynthia Ziller, 54
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
Charles & Mary Ann Wolfram, 53
David & Jennifer Ferrell, 25
Fred & Karen Bolek, 51
Kevin & Ashley Terry, 10
Kevin & Theresa Ansted, 40
Leon & Sherry Volkert, 54
Oo Reh & Su Meh, 5
Ryan & Brittany Dukes, 10
Stephen & MaryJo Ryan, 51
Stuart & Jo Ann Foster, 40
Taylor & Crystal Hagen, 5
Virgil & Joyce Villanueva, 50

Holy Trinity, Morgantown Melvin & Mary Anne Bowles, 54 Immaculate Conception, Earlington Joe & Martha Clark, 40 Roger & Kathy Ordal, 51

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville James & Gwan Bickett, 53 Norman & Sharon Newman, 10

Immaculate, Owensboro
George & Louise Weldon, 66
Hack & Leslie Dukate, 25
James & Erin Conkright, 10
James & Sharon Reid, 52
JC & Millie Higdon, 68
Jim & Kathy Likens, 51
Joe & Ann Roth, 58
Jordan & Chelsea Coomes, 5
Kenny & Sheila Cecil, 50
Lester & Helen Schaick, 73
Mark & Joan Bemboom, 25

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro Charlie & Linda Kamuf, 54 Clinton & Marsha Terry, 52 Collin & Elizabeth Trover, 10 Jerry & Virginia Harper, 56 Joseph & Mary Jane Clark, 60

Precious Blood, Owensboro Gerald & Lucy Goetz, 54 Larry & Patricia Murphy, 58

Sacred Heart, Russellville
Dennis & Diane Nieuwsma, 51
Kerry & Sharlet Beauregard, 59
Ryan & Sharon Fuller, 54

Sacred Heart, Waverly
Donald & Ellen Buckman, 68
John & Cheryl Buckman, 51

St. Agnes, Uniontown Pat & Tammy Eckman, 25

St. Alphonsus, St. JosephBob & Janette Warren, 66
Cody & Sarah Badertscher, 5

St. Ann, Morganfield

Bobby & Mary Jane Watson, 54 Mike & Rebecca Greenwell, 54

St. Anthony, Axtel
Charles & Pat Bissinger, 57
Francis & Sue Henning, 61

St. Anthony, Browns Valley
Randall & Deborah Goatee, 53

St. Anthony, Peonia
Ervin & Coreen Moore, 58
Milburn & Bernetta Higdon, 52
Randolph & Judy White, 58

St. Augustine, Reed Steve & Rita Haire, 52

St. Benedict, Wax Joseph & Cathy Ballard, 25

St. Columba, Lewisport Clyde & Anita Cambron, 54 Layman & Mary Hawkins, 57

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah
Dan & Karen Kelley, 50
James & Mary Scott, 57
Kenneth & Rita Turner, 53
Paul & Catherine Floyd, 61
Paul & Theresa Newman, 52
Raymond & Rose Marie Smith, 58
Tyler & Annie Swoope, 25

St. Francis of Assisi Bob & Barbara Arms, 52 Ellis & Gail Settle, 52

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Cad & Meredith Crider, 5
Clay & Karen Willett, 57
Evan & Raegan Shelton, 5
Gary & Marilyn King, 51
Jack & Mary Ann Purcell, 64
James & Betty O'Guinn, 51
John & Judy Willett, 52
Terry & Hettie Wilson, 59
Tommy & Carolyn Willett, 25
St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville Joe & Eileen Fulkerson, 64 Junior & Mary Roby, 56

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah Albert & Dolores O'Nan, 10 Charles & Margaret Ballard, 62 Mike & Judy Kaufman, 55 Paul & Alice Roof, 51

St. John the Evangelist, Sunfish James & Lou Wilson, 55

St. Joseph, Bowling Green Brian & Patricia Bour, 56

St. Joseph, Central City Keldon & Anne Smelley, 25

St. Joseph, Mayfield
David & Barbara Koonce, 56
David & Janie Carrico, 10
Juan & Godeleva Montes, 10
Richard & Patricia Blackman, 50

St. Lawrence, Philpot
Bernard & Kathleen Wright, 65
Eddie & Marcella Wethington, 57
Leonard & Eva Howard, 53
Terry & Dona Johnson, 40

St. Leo, Murray Alfred & Pat Koehler, 65 Dan & Jane Blankenship, 51 John & Marie Clark, 61 Michael & Kaye Kelly, 52

St. Mark, Eddyville
David & Ann Harkins, 57
Joseph & Patricia Merimee, 57
Michael & Lynn Jamieson, 51

St. Martin, Rome Rick & Tammi Thomas, 40

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho Chad & Jennifer Latham, 25 David & Sandi Boswell, 54 Jerry & Linda Ebelhar, 50 Larry & Ruth Oller, 54 Rob & Laura Gillim, 25

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville Dan & Geri Kramer, 40

Continues on page 21

Walk for Life 2022 takes place in Owensboro



COURTESY OF JESSICA ROBINSON Youth carry the banner for Right to Life of Owensboro during the Sept. 10 Walk for Life along Frederica Street in Owensboro.

On Sept. 10, 2022, Right to Life of Owensboro hosted the annual 3-mile Walk for Life along Frederica Street in Owensboro. The event raises awareness for the pro-life movement in the local community with signs, banners, cheers and prayers. The walk began and ended at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro. This year, the event added food trucks, inflatables, bull riding and face painting. To learn more, visit rtlo.org.



COURTESY OF JESSICA ROBINSON
Representatives of Brescia University's Students for Life carry a sign during the Sept.
10 Walk for Life along Frederica Street in Owensboro.

Anniversaries continued from page 20

David & Martha Jennings, 60 David & Monica Mattingly, 25 David & Rose Hamilton, 55 Donnie & Paula Ward, 54 Jeffrey & Sarah Simmons, 5 Martin & Gwen Howard, 52 Ronald & Jana Ling, 40 Shelby & Kay Howard, 56 Terry & Andrea Conder, 25 Val & Bernadine Payne, 61

St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove Aboubakar & Oyemi Kpelafiya, 5 George & Jeanie O'Connor, 40 James & Patricia Brink, 55 Tom & Chong Torson, 40

St. Paul, LeitchfieldFrank & Catherine Gawarecki, 63
Jerry & Kathleen Crawford, 51

Rance & Amber Whobrey, 5 St. Paul, Princeton Tommy & Martha Stewart, 58 St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley Ken & Edie McKay, 55 Robert & Mary Ann Alvey, 52 St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly Jeff & Patricia Salvers, 25 St. Pius X, Owensboro Frank & Phyllis Shown, 40 John & Darlene Hutton, 55 Shane & Leesa Aud, 10 Tom & Libby Johnson, 57 St. Romuald, Hardinsburg Chris & Sarah Rebar, 5 Frank & Abbie Whitfill, 10

Jason & Audrey Smith, 5

Murrell & Ann Sims, 57

Joe & Marie Haycraft, 56 St. Sebastian, Calhoun Charles & Faye May, 56 St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro Alex & Breanna Reid, 5 Mike & Maryann Joyce, 40 St. Stephen, Cadiz Bob & Helen Vidmar, 59 St. Thomas More, Paducah Bill & Marge Wurth, 59 Brian & Ann Morrow, 25 Dillon & Lauren Lynn, 10 Jeff & Lisa Seav, 25 Kelly & Barbara Robinson, 64 Lucas & Mollie Bremer, 10 Michael & Lindsey Mangino, 10 Mike & Lynda Hatton, 57

St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport

Scott & Keshia Hitchings, 10 St. William, Knottsville Brad & Jennifer Carrico, 5 Brad & Tonya Smith, 25 Charles & Patricia Lanham, 50 Claudie & Erma Millay, 70 Frankie & Priscilla Haynes, 55 Joey & Brittney Higdon, 5 Martin & Clara Johnson, 52 Marvin & Josephine Boling, 58 Samuel & Jessica Henderson, 10 Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro Robert & Mary Helen Ward, 62 Scott & Rose Lashlee, 40 Tommy & Angela Maxwell, 55 Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville Bob & Laura Waldron, 53 Brandon & Nicole Peck, 10

A simple way to evangelize

BY DR. JEFF ANDRINI, OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

I recently watched a webinar by one of my favorite business mentors, Patrick Lencioni. He consults for Fortune 500 companies like Boeing, Chick-fil-A and Southwest Airlines, and has authored more than a dozen bestselling business books over the past 25 years. Turns out, he's Catholic! Ten years ago, he co-founded The Amazing Parish, a training and consulting ministry for Catholic parishes. Check it out at amazingparish.org!

The webinar was titled "The Simple Discipline of Evangelization." It was indeed simple, but it might make some Catholics a little uncomfortable. Why? Evangelization seems like a Protestant practice and Catholics don't do this, right? Additionally, telling someone about Jesus can seem a little intrusive as we often keep our faith to ourselves and try to live our faith and not necessarily talk about it, for various reasons. But this webinar offered one practice that all Catholics can do each day. It will transform how Catholics share their faith and will plant seeds of faith all over our communities.

Adults often overcomplicate evangelization. Kids look at situations and see simple, straightforward solutions, and adults often overthink things and may end up not acting. When it comes to evangelization, we build a committee or host a program – and this can be good – but there is no silver bullet. Instead, we need to model and practice living our faith in Jesus each day.

This simple practice will transform your home, workplace, and parish. It will help you to grow as a missionary disciple by being open to the Holy Spirt

and trusting that God will put you in places to communicate God's love and care. Are you ready? It is super simple and a little uncomfortable. The natural fear might be that one will get rejected or feel insecure, but when one pushes through these initial 10 seconds, God will surprise you in how these conversations will go. Practice at home, try it with friends and challenge your Catholic friends to try it too.

Okay, here it is. Ask this question to your spouse, to a coworker, to a friend, and even to strangers:

"What is going on in your life and how can I pray for you?"

And then, if the situation allows, ask if you could say a prayer with them right now.

We have been practicing this at the McRaith

Catholic Center, the pastoral center of the Diocese of Owensboro. We pray with one another almost every day. We talk about things in our lives and families that need prayer, and we pray for, support, and follow-up with one another to ensure that we know each other cares, and that we keep putting our needs before God and trusting that God will provide.

This practice is so simple, and the conversations will surprise you. Your faith will grow, and others will know that you, and God, care for them.

Want more? Listen to the webinar at: https://vimeo.com/742811795/1df224fe4c, and start evangelizing today!

Peace in Christ,

Jeff ■

Dr. Jeff Andrini is the director of the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship. Please send comments and questions to jeff.andrini@pastoral.org.



Love doesn't throw stones

BY DEACON JAY W. VANHOOSIER, OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

As we approach another election (I hear a lot of "ughs!" out there), the amount of name-calling, heated (not respectful) debate, and judgmental dispersions are on the rise. This is not new. In fact, over the course of the last 30 years, the level of disrespectful discourse has greatly increased – exponentially so over the last decade.

Why? If most of the citizens of this country are Christians, then what we witness in the public arena is a mystery! It should not be happening. It is apparent that we are awfully quick to judge, aren't we? But our faith tells us that we should not be doing this – by Jesus himself. Just keep in mind the story from the eighth chapter from the Gospel of John.

A woman caught in adultery by – wait, we are not told who caught the woman, are we? – is brought to Jesus by the elders for judgement. We are told that they were trying to trap Jesus by hoping that he would make some pronouncement that would go against "the law of Moses." This is obvious without Jesus having to say one word. In reality, the pious elders would have already dispensed their justice and the woman would have already been stoned. But they do not. They are here in this scene – at the Temple, the most holy symbol of the "Law of Moses" – trying to get rid of this man who speaks about love all the time. And that is precisely the point: Jesus did speak about love… all the time.

To the religious leaders of the day, Jesus, in speaking about love in the way that he did, seemed to be rejecting the law of Moses. What they saw when Jesus healed on the Sabbath, ate with Gentiles, spoke to

Samaritans, associated with tax-collectors, touched lepers, was a man who seemed to flout the very thing that they felt made them a unique people - the law. The sad thing? If they would have really listened to what Jesus was saying, they would have understood that the very foundation of the law that made them a unique people was... love. The love that God has for all of his creation. That is the meaning of Jesus' reply to the scholar of the law's question, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" in Matthew 22:36: "[Jesus] said to him, 'You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it just as important]: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments'" (emphasis added).

Then what are supposed to do? Ignore the sin? No. That is not what Jesus was trying to say to his contemporaries, nor is what he is trying to say to us today. What he is trying to say, then as now, is that we are to always recognize the sin in ourselves! That is what he was saying in Matthew 7:1-5. Stop judging so you will not be judged. The measure with which you measure will measured out to you. Do not be hypocrites. Splinter in your brother's eye – wooden beam in yours. Wow.

Keep in mind: Jesus did not ignore the sin in the adulterous woman. Recall his words: "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." However, the words preceding these are the key to this whole passage: "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you." The only person in the

history of humanity qualified to throw a stone, did not throw a stone. He showed compassion. He threw love. And that is precisely what we are supposed to do – throw love. Rather than stand in judgment of others, love them. Do not preach at them or berate them for their faults, bring them to God by the way you live your life – a life of loving God and others as yourself. Perhaps St. Teresa of Calcutta said it best: "If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

Dcn. Jay W. VanHoosier is the Director of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Owensboro. For more information visit owensborodiocese.org/faith-formation, email jay.vanhoosier@pastoral.org or call (270) 852-8324.



October 2022 23

The rosaries of our late bishops



COURTESY OF ARCHIVES

Pictured are the late Owensboro bishops' rosaries (left to right) black crucifix, a rosary from Jerusalem (Bishop Cotton); gold crucifix, a rosary ordination gift (Bishop Cotton); silver crucifix, a gift from Pope Pius XII (Bishop Cotton); white crucifix, a gift from India (Bishop Cotton); and gold crucifix with blue beads in case, a gift from Brescia University's Society of the Arch (Bishop McRaith).

BY EDWARD WILSON, ARCHIVES

October is devoted to the Most Holy Rosary. Few devotions have received the amount of powerful praise from popes and saints alike. Last October, I wrote an article on the collection of rosaries from deceased sisters at Mount Saint Joseph. This recently caused me to wonder about our previous bishops' rosaries and the stories behind them. Surprisingly, we have quite a few and as with all items, each has a story to tell.

The archives contain many rosaries that were given as presents to our late

bishops. There is a purple one that has changed color with age that is recorded to have been given as an ordination gift to Bishop Francis R. Cotton. One was sent to him as a gift from India. The most attractive of all the rosaries was given to Bishop John J. McRaith from the Society of the Arch at Brescia University. Handmade with links made of 12k gold, beads made from light blue Austrian cut crystal and a custom 12k gold Brescia University pendant that links it together, this rosary is truly eye catching. But what about Bishop Henry J. Soenneker?

We have no rosaries in the archive for Bishop Soenneker. This is not surprising as he is the bishop we have the least archival holdings on. His love for the rosary is displayed, however, in his correspondence with the prolific priest Ven. Patrick Peyton, "The Rosary Priest." In October 1971 the bishop invited Fr. Peyton to a rosary rally. Through their correspondence Fr. Peyton declared "Your invitation is another sign that the pendulum is swinging back in (sic) behalf of our Blessed Mother and the holy Rosary." He even wrote to the bishop the next year continuing to praise "the efficacious intervention of Our Lord and the all-powerful intercession of Our Lady."

In 1953, Bishop Cotton took a trip to Rome. This is where the most special rosary in the bishops' collection was acquired. There is nothing remarkable in appearance about this rosary. It is small and bone white. It is not made up of precious stones. It contains no silver or gold. However, the hand that gifted it to Bishop Cotton was the same hand that blessed it. On Oct. 16, 1953, this rosary was gifted to Bishop Cotton by Pope Pius XII and blessed upon presentation. This event truly affected the bishop and he took great pride in the gift. He was sure to record the transaction and its date. He later wrote to the archbishop of Laodicea, Archbishop Gaetano Cicognani, that the trip made him feel "much closer to the Sovereign Pontiff and the Holy See."

We as Catholics need to embrace the rosary. We need not find a devotion to it intimidating. It is a gift of love from Our Lady. Bishop, nun, cardinal, pope or layperson, the Blessed Mother has time for us all. It should be a great consolation that when we are lowered into the ground, the rosary will be the last thing our earthly hands grip, until our heavenly hands grip the hands of Our Savior.

Edward Wilson is the director of the Diocese of Owensboro's Archives and the Archives of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Comments and questions may be sent to edward.wilson@pastoral.org.

A 'beautiful sight,' Catholic schools reunite for Rainbow Mass 2022

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Coming together as a community of 17 Catholic schools for the first time since before the COVID-19 pandemic began, the multicolored uniforms of the several thousand students formed the liturgy's namesake: Rainbow Mass.

"What a blessing for our Catholic school communities to finally again be in one place," said David Kessler, superintendent of the Catholic Schools Office, prior to the Sept. 14, 2022 Mass held in the Owensboro Sportscenter.

"How grateful we are that we can come together and pray," said Kessler, addressing the well over 3,000 students, faculty and staff of schools from across western Kentucky. "We are celebrating this great gift that is our Catholic schools."

Founded in 1985 under the late Bishop John J. McRaith, the Diocese of Owensboro's Rainbow Mass continues a legacy founded by superintendent at the time, Sr. Amelia Stenger, OSU, to bring together the students of the diocese's schools. The concept was inspired by the Catholic Student Mission Crusade Masses that Sr. Stenger had experienced as a high school student at Mount Saint Joseph Academy.

The Mass is normally celebrated every other year. The last time it took place was 2019, but the Mass was skipped in 2021 due to COVID-19 surges and pandemic restrictions at the time.

This year, student representatives once again processed into the Sportscenter at the opening of the liturgy while carrying banners with the names of

their respective schools. Besides the 3,000 from the schools themselves, multiple parents, grandparents, younger siblings and other visitors attended – not to mention the clergy and religious who participated as well.

The bilingual liturgy included Mass parts and songs in English and Spanish, and student lectors proclaimed the Word in both languages.

"What a beautiful sight," said Bishop William F. Medley in his homily, gazing out at the crowded bleachers. "We have survived a pandemic, we have survived tornadoes, we have survived floods."

The bishop reminded the faithful that the rainbow was created as a sign of God's promise to humanity, and that this promise continues even into the 21st century in Kentucky.

With the Mass taking place on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Bishop Medley spoke to the ancient usage of crosses – that they were used for criminals' executions as "an embarrassment."

But to the first Christians, "Jesus Christ had changed the meaning of the cross. It did not represent criminals, but followers of Jesus Christ," he said.

The bishop said that he and his fellow bishops wear "that big cross" – their pectoral cross – in order to keep Jesus close to their hearts.

Bishop Medley encouraged the students keep Jesus close to their own hearts, and to regularly pray, "Jesus, I love you. Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for me. Jesus help me to always honor your cross."



RILEY GREIF | WKC
Student representatives of the Diocese of Owensboro's
17 Catholic schools carry banners with the names of

17 Catholic schools carry banners with the names of their respective schools during Rainbow Mass on Sept. 14, 2022.

Laura Cecil, who took on the role of principal of Mary Carrico Catholic School this fall, said attending her first Rainbow Mass as the Knottsville school's principal "brought me memories and joy."

"Attending Rainbow Mass as a student at St. Mary of the Woods and Trinity High School, it brought back memories of the awe in seeing so many kids in one place to worship," said Cecil. "Being there as an adult with Mary Carrico filled my heart with joy. Hearing all the children sing with excitement and love for God was amazing."

October 2022 **25**

Back to school backpack blessings







BY HOLLI JO CORLEY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. John Okoro gave out "Backpack Blessings" at all the Tri-Parish Masses at St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis, St. Ambrose Parish in Henshaw, and St. William of Vercelli in Marion on August 27 and 28 for all our schoolaged children.

We all pray a hedge of protection around each of our students to have a safe, fun and successful school year!

Holli Jo Corley serves as parish administrative assistant for St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis.

COURTESY OF HOLLI JO CORLEY

Fr. John Okoro gives "backpack blessings" to the children at the tri-parishes where he pastors during the weekend of August 27 and 28. From left to right: St. Ambrose Parish in Henshaw, St. William of Vercelli Parish in Marion, and St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis.

Jason Evert brings message of chastity to youth, parents in western Kentucky



COURTESY OF BRETT DOWNING Catholic school students in grades 7-12 fill the Horn Community Center on the campus of St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville for a talk by chastity speaker Jason Evert on Sept. 8.



COURTESY OF BRETT DOWNING Students of Owensboro Catholic High School browse books from the Chastity Project after the talk by chastity speaker Jason Evert on Sept. 8.

BY WKC STAFF

Chastity speaker Jason Evert, cofounder of Chastity Project, visited western Kentucky on Sept. 7 and 8. Hosted by St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville, he gave a talk for parents at 6 p.m. on Sept. 7, which was followed by a talk for all youth in grades 7-12 at 7:30 p.m. The next day, Evert gave a 9:30 a.m. talk which was open to all students of the Diocese of Owensboro's Catholic schools. To learn more about the mission of Chastity Project, visit https://chastity.com/.

Whitesville's Angels inspired, encouraged by cross country wins

BY ANNA MCDANIEL, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Saturday, August 27, St. Mary of the Woods School's middle school boys' cross country team placed second out of nine teams at the Madisonville Classic.

Two weeks later, on Saturday, Sept. 10, the team placed fourth out of 19 teams at Hardin County's Fairground Frenzy.

The boys shared that when they began running, some of them thought it was just "basketball conditioning." Now they are starting to see they can win.

"We spent all last season tracking personal goals," explained the Angels' coach Kristen Mikulcik. "We knew the team was improving, but there hadn't been a lot of recognition."

This is Mikulcik's second year coaching cross country with Nick Howard at St. Mary of the Woods and Trinity High School in Whitesville.

"It felt good," the middle school boys explained when asked about their team's second-place victory at the Madisonville Classic. "We had no idea we were going to win."

The boys were nearly as surprised two weeks later when St. Mary of the Woods placed at Hardin County's Fairground Frenzy.

"Building muscles takes time," said Mikulcik.
"The team has been working hard and we are finally seeing the results."

Grant Howard, who has been leading the team from the start, says he now has his eyes set on

coming in first. Individually, Grant placed second at the Madisonville Classic, coming in only 7 seconds behind Daviess County's lead runner. At the Fairgrounds Frenzy, he placed sixth out of 169 runners.

"Grant is a true leader," said Mikulcik. "Not only is he a talented runner. He models good practice, and his teammates follow."

Thomas Payne has also made a significant contribution to the team, placing 10th at Madisonville and 16th in Hardin County. Thomas said, "I'm so glad to see the team improve."

Thomas's attitude is shared by his teammates who make a genuine effort to encourage one another.

The elementary, middle and high school runners from St. Mary of the Woods, Mary Carrico Catholic School in Knottsville, and Trinity High School consider themselves to be three parts of one team.

"It's great to see the middle school perform so well," said Mikulcik, "but next year, they will move on to the high school and we will need elementary runners to take their place. It generally takes at least a couple years of training to be competitive in cross country."

The elementary runners follow an abbreviated practice schedule, competing mostly in local 1K races, plus, they have the opportunity to attend 2-3 larger meets. ■

Anna McDaniel serves as director of advancement and admissions for St. Mary of the Woods School and Trinity High School in Whitesville.



COURTESY OF ANNA MCDANIEL Cross country student athletes of St. Mary of the Woods School in Whitesville.



COURTESY OF ANNA MCDANIEL
The male cross country athletes of St. Mary of the
Woods School show off their trophy after a recent win.

Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley

Por favor voten 'Sí' por la vida el 8 de noviembre

Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

El 24 de junio de 2022, las oraciones de quienes apoyan la dignidad y el valor de toda vida humana fueron respondidas cuando la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos anuló la decisión de Roe v. Wade de 1973. Esa decisión había afirmado que el derecho al aborto estaba garantizado por la constitución de los Estados Unidos y, por lo tanto, estaba garantizado en los 50 estados. La decisión reciente de Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization revirtió esto.

Muchos de nosotros en el movimiento provida celebramos este desarrollo y tal vez nos inclinemos a

> descansar sobre este logro monumental. Pero debemos tener claro que la decisión de Dobbs no prohíbe el aborto, sino que remite el asunto

> > a cada uno de los 50 estados para que lo resuelvan las legislaturas estatales.

La causa provida no está terminada, ni siquiera en Kentucky. El día de las elecciones, el 8 de noviembre de 2022, tenemos la oportunidad de votar sobre una enmienda a la constitución de nuestro estado que establece claramente que la constitución de Kentucky NO garantiza el derecho al aborto en este estado. Esto puede impedir que cualquier juez, ahora o en el futuro, afirme que este derecho puede interpretarse en nuestra constitución actual o que requiera financiación pública para el aborto.

Para ser claros: esta enmienda en sí misma no prohíbe el aborto, sino que deja esa cuestión a la legislatura estatal.

La pregunta en la boleta con respecto a la Enmienda #2 preguntará: ¿Está usted a favor de enmendar la constitución de Kentucky mediante la creación de una nueva Sección de la constitución que se numerará Sección 26A para establecer lo siguiente: "Para proteger la vida humana, nada en esta Constitución se interpretará para asegurar o proteger el derecho al aborto o exigir la financiación del aborto"?

Un voto de "Sí" apoya la enmienda de la Constitución de Kentucky para establecer que nada en la constitución del estado crea un derecho al aborto o requiere financiamiento del gobierno para el aborto.

Incluso muchos defensores de la vida se han sentido incómodos con algunas leyes estatales a través del país que no permiten ninguna excepción, incluso cuando la vida de la madre está en peligro. Algunos pueden desear que una enmienda sea aún más restrictiva. Esta enmienda no requiere

CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY OCTUBRE DE 2022

1 DE OCTUBRE	6 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Francisco de Asís, Guthrie
4 DE OCTUBRE	8 a.m. Misa escolar – Escuela Santa María del Bosque, Whitesville 4 p.m. Visita con las Hermanas Ursulinas del Monte San José – Maple Mount
16 DE OCTUBRE	10:30 a.m. Misa del 75 Aniversario – Capilla del Rosario, Paducah
17 DE OCTUBRE	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith (MCC), Owensboro 1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal – MCC
22 DE OCTUBRE	9 a.m. Misa bilingüe por el día de la evangelización – Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro, Owensboro 11 a.m. Jubileo de los Religiosos – Parroquia de San Martín, Roma
25 DE OCTUBRE	9:30 a.m. Misa escolar – Escuela Primaria Santa María, Paducah
27 DE OCTUBRE	10:30 a.m. Misa escolar – Escuela Preparatoria Católica de Owensboro, Owensboro
29 DE OCTUBRE	9 a.m. Misa Provida – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro

ninguna restricción particular ni prohíbe ninguna excepción. La legislatura estatal tendría la capacidad de determinar la política y la ley sobre el aborto.

En el clima político en el que nos encontramos hoy, creo que esta es una buena enmienda y los insto a que consideren este asunto en oración y voten "Sí" por la Enmienda #2 el 8 de noviembre de 2022.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

+ William). Medley

Obispo William F. Medley Diócesis de Owensboro

CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Padre Maury Riney, 1951-2022

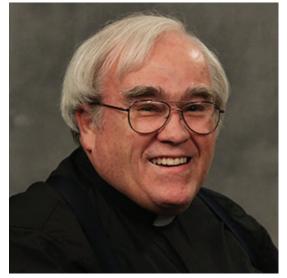


FOTO DE ARCHIVO

El Padre Maury Dean Riney, de 71 años, falleció el viernes 16 de septiembre de 2022 en el Hospital Regional de Owensboro Health. Nació en Owensboro el 18 de marzo de 1951, hijo de los difuntos Thomas Marnell Riney y Mary Edna Russell y fue ordenado sacerdote de la Diócesis de Owensboro el 7 de mayo de 1977. La misa fúnebre se celebró el 20 de septiembre de 2022 en la Parroquia Santo Nombre de Jesús en Henderson. El Padre Rinev fue sepultado en el cementerio católico Resurrection en Owensboro. Se pueden contribuciones conmemorativas a la Parroquia Santo Nombre de Jesús, 511 2nd St., Henderson, KY 42420 o al Carmel Home, 2501 Old Hartford Road, Owensboro, KY 42303.

Primer Cursillo Hispano de Mujeres en la Diócesis de Owensboro



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE VICKY BARNES En la foto, Cursillistas del Cursillo de Mujeres Hispanas del 8 al 11 de septiembre con el P. Carmelo Jiménez.

POR LA DRA. VICKY BARNES, ESPECIAL PARA EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

De Colores! ¡Qué gran bendición haber sido testigo del Primer Cursillo Católico Hispano de Mujeres en Kentucky! ¡La presencia de estas mujeres hispanas es un testimonio de fe para todos!

Yo viví mi Cursillo un poco después de mi esposo, el diácono Tim Barnes, en la Diócesis de Owensboro, Kentucky en marzo de 2019.

Cursillo es un movimiento apostólico en la Iglesia Católica. Se enfoca en mostrar a los laicos cristianos cómo convertirse en cristianos efectivos, compartiendo las buenas nuevas a través de la mejor manera, la amistad. Haz un amigo, Sé un amigo, Trae un amigo a Cristo, es el lema del Cursillo.

El primer Cursillo en los Estados Unidos se llevó a cabo en Texas en 1957. El Cursillo en la diócesis de Owensboro lleva décadas, pero recientemente se hizo historia cuando el primer Cursillo Hispano de Mujeres ocurrió del 8 al 11 de septiembre en el Centro de Retiro Gaspar River.

El Señor concedió que el primer Cursillo de Mujeres Hispanas se llevara a cabo el día en que celebramos el nacimiento de nuestra Virgen María, el 8 de septiembre. El Cursillo fue posible gracias al arduo trabajo y oraciones de muchos sacerdotes, diáconos y Cursillitas tanto de la diócesis de Owensboro como de la diócesis de Nashville, Tennessee. El padre Basilio Az Cuz, de Santo Tomás Moro y Vicky Barnes de San Pedro y San Pablo, fueron los puntos de contacto. Este Cursillo contó con mujeres de Guatemala, Honduras, México, Colombia, El Salvador, Panamá, República Dominicana, Puerto Rico, Perú y Estados Unidos.

Padre Carmelo Jiménez y el Padre Lustein Blanco

Continúa en la página 30

CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Continuado de la página 29

religiosas. El equipo de Nashville y de Kentucky, bajo el incredible liderazgo de Elba Avila de Nashville, dirigieron el Cursillo. El equipo estuvo integrado por Karina Padilla, Betsy Ibáñez, Carolina Herrera, Andrea Ramírez, Irma Guzmán, María Herrera, Ana Regina Andrade, María Eugenia Hernández, Mary Ortiz, Vicki Kinnard, Elodia Mariscal, María Sánchez, Susana Flores, Felicia Elliot y Vicky Barnes. Un agradecimiento especial a Martin Schroeder por transportar a las candidatas de Hopkinsville.

semana fueron Yolanda Perry, Ellis Salas, Bertha para ir a casa, había comenzado una lluvia torrencial, Rico, María Rosas, María Macario v Neria Bernal. Ellas salieron de Gasper River con la luz de Dios

fueron los directores espirituales y dieron las charlas y llenas del Espíritu Santo. Algunas de las frases que se escucharon fueron: "Tengo muchas ganas de conocer más a mi Señor", "Ahora sé que Jesús también me ama", "No estoy sola", "El Señor nos ha bendecido abundantemente", " Nunca había recibido tanto amor y generosidad" y "Con el Señor todo es posible".

La clausura del Cursillo fue muy emotiva. Muchos Cursillistas de Kentucky y Tennessee vinieron para mostrar su apoyo a las nuevas Cursillistas que eligieron decir "Si" al Señor. Cuando el Cursillo Las nuevas Cursillitas que vivieron el fin de llegó a su fin y los Cursillistas subieron a sus autos pero no había miedo, confiaban plenamente que Dios lo tenia todo bajo control. ■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE VICKY BARNES El grupo de la Parroquia San Pedro & San Pablo en Hopkinsville que asistió al Cursillo de Mujeres Hispanas del 8 al 11 de septiembre, incluyendo el conductor del autobús Martín Schroeder.

Ministros hispanos se reúnen para diálogo y celebración en Franklin



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL DIÁCONO CRISTÓBAL GUTIÉRREZ Los ministros hispanos se reúnen el 6 de septiembre en la Parroquia Santa María en Franklin.

El 6 de septiembre, los ministros hispanos de toda la Diócesis de Owensboro se reunieron en la Parroquia Santa María en Franklin para orar y tener una reunión. Además de una comida compartida, celebraron el cumpleaños de María Molina, la ministra hispana de la Parroquia Santa María.

También dieron la bienvenida a los invitados especiales, el Dcn. Ken Bennett, co-coordinador de la Oficina de Culto de la diócesis, y Danny May, director de la Oficina de Matrimonio y Vida Familiar de la diócesis. Esto brindó una oportunidad para que los directores se reunieran con los ministros hispanos para promover la integración eclesial en las parroquias.



Parroquias con ministerio hispano/latino

Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam 107 13th Street, Beaver Dam, KY 42320 Contacto: Padre Julio Barrera (270) 274-3414

Parroquia de San José, Bowling Green 434 Church Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101 Contacto: Sra. Gina Holmes o Padre Corey Bruns (270) 842-2525

Parroquia de Santa María, Franklin 403 North Main Street, Franklin, KY 42134 Contacto: Padre Tom Buckman o María Molina (270) 586-4515

Parroquia de San Francisco de Asis, Guthrie 7600 Russellville Road, P.O. Box 297, Guthrie, KY 42234 Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (270) 265-5263 o (302) 438-7335 Parroquia del Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson

511 2nd Street, Henderson, KY 42420 Contacto: Abraham Brown (270) 724-2172

Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville 902 East 9th Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240 Contacto: Sra. Mayra Tirado (270) 498-6456

Parroquia de Cristo Rey, Madisonville 1600 Kingsway Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431 Contacto: Padre Carl McCarthy (270) 821-5494 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas (270) 881-7737

Parroquia de San José, Mayfield 702 West Broadway, Mayfield, KY 42066 Contacto: Hermana María Lina Ramos (270) 247-2843

Parroquia de la Santísima Trinidad, Morgantown 766 Logansport Road, Morgantown, KY 42261 Contacto: Hermana Aida Badillo (706) 284-0996, o Padre Julio Barrera (270) 274-3414 Parroquia de San Leo, Murray 401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071 Contacto: Hermana María Angélica López Rodríguez (270) 753-3876

Parroquia Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro 609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42303 Contacto: Padre Juan Rene Kalombo (270) 903-8070

Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah 5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001 Contacto: Padre Basilio Az Cuc (270) 316-1421

Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Russellville

296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276 Contacto: Padre Ken Mikulcik (270) 726-6963 o Diacono Edwin Pacheco (913) 542-8948

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel, Sebree 57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455 Contacto: Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas (270) 881-7737

Terapeutas de habla hispana

Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro ofrece un programa único de asistencia de consejería llamado CAP (por sus siglas en inglés). A través del programa CAP, Caridades Católicas colabora con varios consejeros en todo el oeste de Kentucky que ofrecen sus servicios a una tarifa reducida para los feligreses de la Diócesis de Owensboro. Aprendan más en owensborodiocese.org/servicios-de-consejeria/.

Joy Navan, M.A., LPA

Amend Psychological Services, PSC 877-732-8683 o 859-269-6465 *Sólo disponible a través de teleterapia. Iris Gutiérrez, MSW, LCSW

Especialista en Salud Mental Disponible a través de teleterapia y terapia presencial. 859-469-0133 gutierreztherapy@gmail.com

Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

Para denunciar una sospecha de abuso, llame a la Línea Directa de Protección Infantil de Kentucky: 1-877-KYSAFE1 o 1-877-597-2331 (llamada gratuita) o comuníquese con su Fiscal Local del Commonwealth. Para reportar abuso, actual o pasado, a la diócesis por parte de cualquier persona que actúe en nombre de la Iglesia, llame a Scott Ingram, Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral (inglés) al 270-852-8380, o Miguel Quintanilla, Coordinadoras de Asistencia Pastoral (español) al 270-880-8360. También puede visitar la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro (owensborodiocese.org/ safe) para obtener más información. Para hacer un informe de abuso sexual de un menor de edad o conducta inapropiada relacionada por parte de algún obispo, visite https://reportbishopabuse. org/es.

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La Misa Arcoiris de 2022 reúne a estudiantes de las escuelas católicas



TINA KASEY | WKC

Los estudiantes llevan banderas que simbolizan cada una de sus escuelas católicas al comienzo de la Misa Arcoíris el 7 de septiembre de 2022 en el Centro Deportivo de Owensboro [Sportscenter].



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Susana Solorza, maestra de español en la Escuela Católica Santo Nombre de Jesús en Henderson, habla con dos estudiantes lectores de habla hispana antes de la Misa Arcoíris el 7 de septiembre de 2022 en el Centro Deportivo de Owensboro [Sportscenter].

El 7 de septiembre, la Oficina de Escuelas Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro organizó la Misa Arcoíris, que reúne a las 17 escuelas de la diócesis para una Misa con el Obispo William F. Medley en el Centro Deportivo de Owensboro [Sportscenter]. Se llama Misa Arcoíris porque la combinación de uniformes escolares que llenan las gradas se asemeja a un arcoíris. La liturgia incluyó himnos y partes de la Misa en inglés y en español, y los estudiantes lectores también proclamaron la Palabra en ambos idiomas.



vidas Eucarísticas

COMO DISCÍPULOS MISIONEROS

¡Los Esperamos!

Catequistas, líderes de grupos y movimientos, comités hispanos, líderes en la liturgia y otros muchos líderes hispanos con ganas de formarse

Sábado, 22 de Octubre Owensboro Convention Center

> 501 W. 2nd St, Owensboro KY 42301 8:30am-4:00pm



