

# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



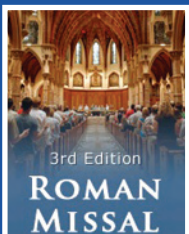
VOL. 25, NO. 4

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

August 2011

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**NEWLY ORDAINED**—Father Timothy Tran, CMC, son of Deacon Luan Van and Thao Tran, blesses those celebrating birthdays at his Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Bay City, July 9, 2011. Father Tran has one cousin serving as a priest in the U.S. and 10 relatives serving as priests in Viet Nam. See story, p. 4.



Clara Heintschel from St. John Parish in Hungerford, center, is presented the keys to her new car by Bishop David Fellhauer. George Wenzel, left, was chairperson of the fundraiser.

## And the winner of the car is...

The winner of the Serra Club Car Give Away, a 2010 Toyota Corolla Sport, is Clara Heintschel of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hungerford.

The months' long fundraiser, sponsored by both the Victoria Serra Club and Victoria Northwest Club, ended with the drawing for the prize at the Knights of St. Gregory Bishop's Annual Charity Banquet, which was held July 14 at the Victoria Country Club.

“Thanks to all the good folks in the diocese who helped with the raffle of the Toyota,” said George Wenzel, chairperson of the fundraiser. “Everyone was a winner in this raffle, as the money went

toward the education of the diocese's 12 seminarians.”

“All parishes, large and small, working together on this project made it a great success,” he said.

Clara said she was so excited; she just couldn't believe she was the winner. When George called to tell her she was the winner she thought it was a scam.

The Serra Club sold right at 19,000 tickets for a total of \$76,138 in sales.

The most recent addition to the group of seminarians studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Victoria is James Dvorak, the son of Gail and Victor Dvorak Jr., from Sts. Peter & Paul in Frelsburg. James has



Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters celebrating their jubilee this year are, seated l-r, Sister Ronaldta Peltier, Sister John Hayden, Sister Mary Grace Korenek; second row l-r, Sister Adriana Cernoch, Sister M. Paschaline Kutac, Sister Carmelita Casso, Sister Rosemary Leopold; back row l-r, Sister Gregoria Berger, Sister Colette Kouba, Sister Charlene Machala, Sister Lois Marie Etzler, Sister Andrea Hubnik, Sister Clementine Henke, Sister Marietta Hajdik and Sister Anna Marie Popp.

## IWBS congregation jubilant of 15 sisters jubilees

On Sunday, July 10, 2011, the Most Reverend David Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, officiated at the 2:00 p.m. Mass honoring eight Sisters who celebrated the anniversaries of their religious professions. Also in attendance and celebrating at the Mass were Bishop Bernard Popp, Bishop Charles Grahmann, Rev. Phi Nguyen, chaplain; Rev. Bob Knippenberg, Rev. Clint Ressler, Rev. Joe Hybner and Rev. Michael Lyons. Rev. Phi Nguyen served as Master of Ceremonies.

The honorees were: 75 years - Sister M. John Hayden; 70 years - Sister Mary Grace Korenek and Sister M. Carmelita Casso; 60 years - Sister M. Adriana Cernoch, Sister Marietta Hajdik, Sister Rosemary Leopold, Sister Anna Marie Popp and Sister M. Ronaldta Peltier. Together these Sisters have contributed a total of 515 years of service to the Church in ministries of education, administration, health care and pastoral services.

See IWBS congregation, p. 6

## Editorial

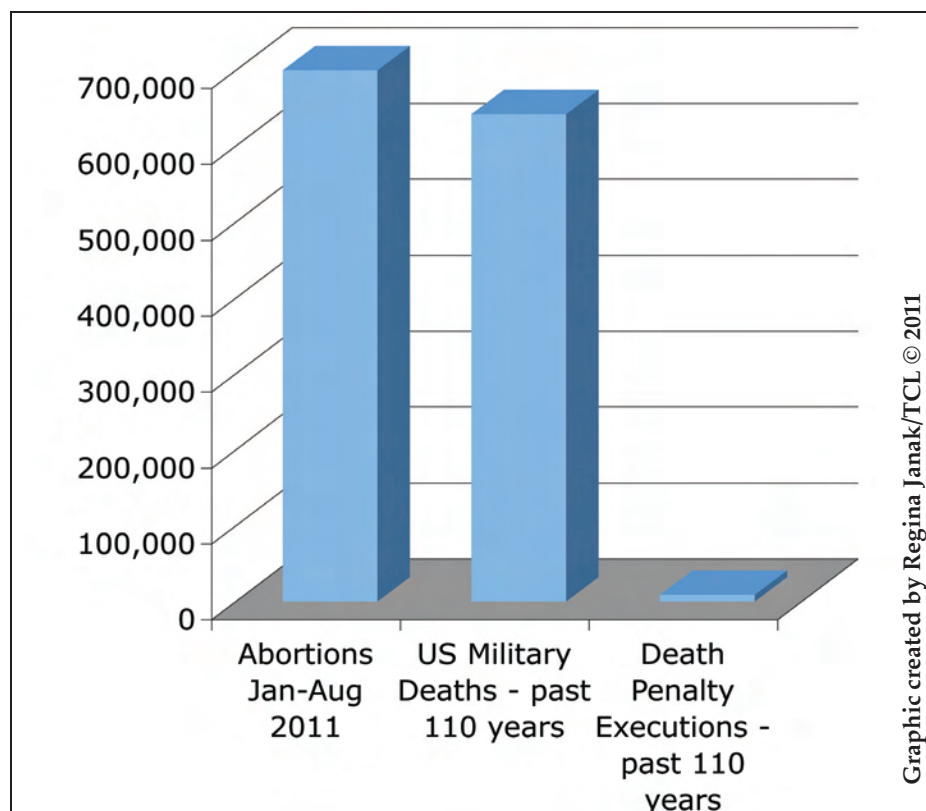
### Americans and War

By Cynthia Brewer

In the past century, over 640,000 Americans lost their lives in military combat. The wars that took the lives of so many military men and women were, of course, WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam,

but also included dozens of deployments, such as the Occupation of Haiti, 1915-34; American Expeditionary Force - Siberia, 1918-20; USSR Cold War 1947-91; Bay of Pigs Invasion, 1961; Beirut Deployment

See *Americans and War*, p. 16



Graphic created by Regina Janak/TCL © 2011





## Bishop Fellhauer's Schedule

July	
30	5:00 p.m., installation of Fr. Kirby Hlavaty as Pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, Shiner
August	
2	9:00 a.m., Mass for new Catholic School teachers, Our Lady of Victory Cathedral
3	9:30 a.m., Mass, Twin Pines Nursing Home, Victoria
7	8:00 a.m., Mass, installation of Fr. David Berger as Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Cuero
	10:00 a.m., Mass, installation of Fr. David Berger as Pastor of St. Michael Church, Cuero
8	5:00 p.m., Liturgical Commission meeting, Chancery Office
9	6:00 p.m., Mass, Serra Club Seminarian Cookout, St. Mary Church and Hall, St. Mary (Hallettsville)
12	8:30 a.m., Catholic Schools Seminar, Knights of Columbus Hall, Hallettsville
15	10:00 a.m., Mass, St. Mary Church, Praha
27	5:00 p.m., Mass, installation of Fr. Dan Kahlich as Pastor of Holy Rosary Church Hostyn, and Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Plum
28	10:00 a.m., Mass, installation of Fr. Augustin Asante as Pastor of St. Anthony Church, Columbus
30	10:00 a.m. Catechetical workshop, Chancery Office
31	9:00 a.m., Pastor-Principal meeting, Chancery Office
Sept.	
3	Sacred Heart School golf tournament, Hallettsville
5	1:00 p.m., St. Joseph School golf tournament, Yoakum
6	10:00 a.m., Texas Bishops' meeting, Oblate Renewal Center, San Antonio
7	10:00 a.m., Diocesan Presbyteral Council meeting, Chancery Office

**2011 BISHOP'S CHARITIES BANQUET**—Under the auspices of the Victoria Diocese Knights of St. Gregory the Great, the annual Bishop's Charities Banquet was held July 14, 2011, at the Victoria Country Club. The evening began with a social and then went into a buffet dinner with a full house. Father Tommy Chen, parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville, led the invocation (3). Father Don Ruppert, pastor of Holy Cross in East Bernard, was the master of ceremonies (4). He introduced the Hon. George Wenzel, president of the KSG, who presented a \$14,000 donation to Bishop David E. Fellhauer for his charities (1). Bishop Fellhauer gave an update on some of the activities of the diocesan offices for the past 12 months, noting that the construction of the new building at the Spiritual Renewal Center that will sleep 48 people with a central gathering place had begun; and that there was an increase of three young men to the seminary this fall, which will bring the total number of diocesan seminarians to 12. Bishop Fellhauer drew the winning ticket of the 2010 Toyota and George announced that Clara Heintschel from St. John Parish in Hungerford as the winner (2). The evening concluded with entertainment by Tommy Schlein (5) and benediction by Father Bob Knippenberg, pastor of Holy Family in Victoria.



### Official Appointments By Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer

Effective July 1, 2011, the **Rev. Paul Nadamkuzhy, SJ**, is appointed parochial vicar at Our Lady of the Gulf Church, Port Lavaca, and its missions: St. Ann Church, Point Comfort, St. Joseph Church, Port O'Connor and St. Patrick Church, Seadrift.

Effective August 23, 2011, **Rev. Daniel Kahlich** is relieved of his duties at St. Anthony Church, Columbus, and appointed pastor of Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn, and Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Plum.

Effective August 23, 2011, **Rev. Augustine Asante** is relieved of his duties at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff, and appointed pastor of St. Anthony Church, Columbus.

Effective August 23, 2011, **Rev. David Berger** is appointed parochial administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff. He remains pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and St. Michael Church, Cuero.

Effective August 23, 2011, **Rev. Joseph Kariuki** is relieved of his duties at Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn, and Sts. Peter and Paul, Plum, and assigned as sacramental minister at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Meyersville, and its mission, St. Aloysius Church, Westhoff, under the direction of Rev. David Berger. Father Kariuki is also appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and St. Michael Church, Cuero.

### ~New E-mail Address~

To send local stories, photos or festival announcements, please use *The Catholic Lighthouse's* new e-mail address: [Lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:Lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org). Thank you!

### Vox Clara works on liturgical translations not included in new missal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As English-speaking parishes around the world await delivery of the new translation of the Roman Missal, the Vatican's Vox Clara Committee already is at work on additional texts. The committee, which advises the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on English translations, met in Rome July 24-26. A committee statement released July 27 said members spent most of their time on a new translation of the prayers bishops use for the chrisem Mass, the Holy Week liturgy where the oils used in the sacraments throughout the year are blessed. In the United States and Canada, the bishops' prayers for blessing the oils were included in the old missal, which will go out of use on the first Sunday of Advent 2011. To avoid a situation in which bishops would need to pull the old missal off the shelf for the solemn Mass in 2012, the congregation commissioned its own draft

See *Vox Clara works*, p. 3

## DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

### 2011 DSA

Diocesan Goal:	\$ 1,471,384.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$ 598,384.17
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$ 528,215.67
Number of Parish Families Participating:	3,351

### Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign

Diocesan Goal:	\$ 9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$ 12,949,391.78
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$ 9,389,908.94
Number of Parish Families Participating:	6,766

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**DEADLINE IS THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.**





## Changes to the peoples' part of the Mass

### Mystery of Faith (formerly the Memorial Acclamation)

The use of the new Roman Missal begins the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27, 2011. Below are the changes in the parts of the people in the Order of the Mass. Text that will change is marked with italics and bold printing. From <http://www.usccb.org/roman-missal/samples-people.shtml>

Present Text:	Mystery of Faith	New Text:
Priest: <b>Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:</b>		Priest: <b>The mystery of faith.</b>
People: A – Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.		People: A – <b>We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.</b>
or B – <b>Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.</b>		or B – When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, <b>O Lord, until you come again.</b>
or C – When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, <b>Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.</b>		or C – <b>Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.</b>
or D – <b>Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World.</b>		

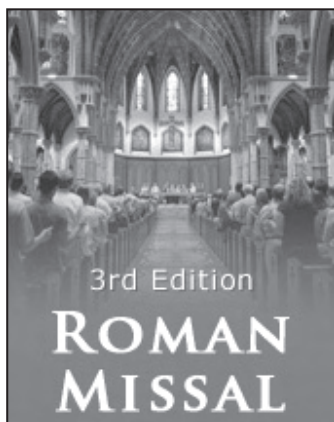
### Mystery of Faith Commentary

As part of the new Mass translation, after the consecration, rather than saying, "Let us proclaim the mystery of faith," the Priest will simply announce, "The mystery of faith" (*"Mysterium fidei"*). It will be a declarative statement about the Eucharist now present. Blessed John Paul II reflected on these words in his encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, writing that the very thought of the mysterious gift of the Holy Eucharist should fill us with "profound amazement and gratitude" (no. 5).

In response, the people shall make one of three revised acclamations. All three are rooted in Scripture. Option A, and especially option B, are derived from 1 Corinthians 11:26 – "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes." And Christ's title in option C is found in John 4:42, when the woman who met Jesus at the well is told by her fellow Samaritans, "we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

The three acclamations all incorporate familiar elements, although some of the phrases have been rearranged when compared to our present text. One acclamation that we use now – "Dying you destroyed our death..." – has been substantially amended to shift the emphasis more upon Christ's own death and Resurrection.

What is conspicuously absent is the popular current acclamation, "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." This line, although powerful, is not found in the Latin. In addition, unlike the other acclamations, it does not directly address Christ made present in the Blessed Sacrament, nor does it speak of our relationship with Him.



Sign of Peace	
Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.	Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: <b>And also with you.</b>	People: <b>And with your spirit.</b>

### Music for the Roman Missal

Music for the Roman Missal is available on the following site. However, it is important to note that it is for study rather than immediate liturgical use as determining definitive versions is the responsibility of the Bishops' Conferences. Music is included for: The Proper of Time, The Order of Mass, Chants for the Eucharistic Prayer, Appendix to the Order of Mass, Proper of Saints, Commons, Ritual Masses, Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, Votive Masses, Appendix I: Various Chants for the Order of Mass and Other Chants for Holy Week and the Triduum. Please view at: <http://www.icelweb.org/musicfolder/openmusic.php>. For further information, one may call Cynthia Goerig, director of the Liturgical Commission at (979) 541-3353 (cell) or e-mail: [cagl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cagl@sbcglobal.net).

### Bay City ACTS Golf Tournament

The first annual Bay City ACTS Golf Tournament was held June 4, 2011, and was a great success. The money collected will be used for scholarships for future ACTS Retreats. The Bay City ACTS Core Team and all the ACTS community wish to express their most sincere appreciation to all the sponsors, participants and volunteers who made this event happen. Next year ACTS intends to hold the event earlier in the year, hopefully during cooler weather.



### St. Mary's Altar Society to host retreat

St. Mary's Altar Society in Victoria will sponsor a half-day retreat on Monday, October 3, at the St. Mary's Activity Center. Registration is from 8:45 to 9:15 a.m. at the center. Rev. Dan Morales, pastor of St. Mary's Parish will be the retreat master. Men and women are welcome.

Lunch will be served after the 12:05 p.m. Mass, which will be held in the Activity Center. The retreat will conclude after the Mass.

There will be no charge for the lunch and retreat. They ask that you make your reservation before September 30 to Geraldine Jurica at (361) 573-3949 or Janell Kruppa at (361) 575-8166.

**EL CAMPO KC 2490 ELECTS OFFICERS**—Installation of officers of the Archbishop Drossaerts KC Council 2490 of El Campo took place June 28, 2011. Pictured are new officers, from left, front row: Trustee AJ Hlavaty; Grand Knight Greg Witcher; Father Gary Janak, chaplain, pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Parish; Deputy Grand Knight James Kocurek; Inside Guard Robert Lormand Jr.; Recorder Daniel E. Marek; second row: Trustee Roy Smaistrila; Trustee John Tumlinson; Lecturer AJ Priesmeyer; District Deputy Kenneth Trochta; Chancellor Greg Eggemeyer; Outside Guard Terry Supak; and Diocesan Deputy Alvin Kulcak, Not Pictured are Father Albert Yankey, asst. chaplain; Treasurer Stephen Deiss; Financial Secretary John Hrciric; Advocate Jason Ryan; and Warden Wayne Bard.



**KC COUNCIL 1329 ELECTS NEW OFFICERS**—Victoria's KC Council 1329 installed officers June 21, 2011, for the coming year. The installation was held with a Mass, social, and meal at the Knights of Columbus Hall on June 21, 2011. The following officers were installed by District Deputy Tom Aikens: Grand Knight B. J. Berger; Deputy Grand Knight Loren Hackbarth; Chancellor Mike Vanelli; Recorder Donnie Shellenbarger; Financial Secretary Gary Rangnow; Treasurer Charles Kutchka Sr.; Advocate Jeremy DeDear; Warden Henry Jonathan Petrash; Inside Guard Henry A. Petrash; Outside Guard Charles Kutchka, Jr.; 3 Year Trustee Pete Moya; 2 Year Trustee Richard Knebel; 1 Year Trustee Ed Nevlud; and Lecturer Wayne Conoway. The officers are shown l. to r., front row: Tom Aiken, B.J. Berger, Mike Vanelli, Loren Hackbarth, Richard Knebel, Ed Nevlud and Pete Moya; back row: Charles Kutchka Jr., Henry A. Petrash, Charles Kutchka Sr., Donnie Shellenbarger, Wayne Conoway and Jeremy DeDear.

### Vox Clara works on liturgical translations not included in new missal

*Continued from p. 2*

translation of the prayers. The translation was reviewed by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy – which normally drafts the translations – and was revised in consultation with Vox Clara, the statement said. The new text "should be available in the first months of 2012," it said, and bishops' conferences can decide whether to adopt the new text for use in their countries, a Vatican official said. Also at their July meeting, members of Vox Clara "approved plans for several future

publications on behalf of the congregation, most notably an interim edition of the 'Roman Pontifical,'" which contains prayers and rites usually reserved to bishops. In most countries, the chrism Mass blessing of oils is included in the book, rather than in the missal.

Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious!



## 138th Annual Parish Picnic

# St. Joseph Church, Inez

## Sunday, September 11

### Inez Community Center



Raffle Prize  
Not exact bike

## Fried Chicken, Brisket, Sausage Dinner

Plates-to-go starts at 10:30 a.m./ Dine-in starts at 11:00 a.m. @ \$8 p/p

### Auction at 1:00 p.m.

## Kids Games • Country Store • Cakewalk Silent Auction • And More!

~ Raffle ~ Half Call ~ Flat Screen TV ~ Rod & Reel ~ Gift Cards

**Come Out And Join The Fun!!!!!!**





## Father Timothy (Myviet) Tran celebrates first Mass in hometown

By Cynthia Brewer

BAY CITY — In a Mass celebrated in his hometown parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City, newly ordained Father Timothy Thang Viet Tran, CMC, son of Deacon Luan Van Tran and Thao Tran, thanked the parishioners for their guidance and support. The Mass was held on the evening of July 9, 2011. He also held a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Vietnamese Apostolate in Assumption Chapel in Palacios on July 10.

Father Timothy was ordained June 4, 2011, into the Congregation of the Mother Coredeptrix, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Shrine in Carthage, Mo.

The Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe was concelebrated by Father Gerry Cernoch, pastor, and Father Cyrus Gallagher, who was visiting on behalf of the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. Deacons Luan Van Tran (Father Timothy's dad), Bill Key and Joe Ramos, all of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Deacon Nhat Tran of Houston, assisted at the Mass in Bay City.

Father Gerry welcomed Father Timothy back to the parish and then told the congregation, "When we were walking in, I told the other priests, Father Gallagher and Father Tim, 'We're outnumbered; there are four deacons ahead of us.' So something for you all to think about ..." Father Timothy also spoke about vocations during his homily.

During the homily, he said, "It's good to be back, and it's good to be back finally as a priest. It's been a long time."

He came back to thank God for choosing him as a priest.

"It's not something I deserve," he said, "but it's something God has chosen for me."

He then thanked Father Gerry, all the priests, deacons and all the parishioners at Our Lady of Guadalupe, for supporting him and for praying for him during all the years of his formation.

"You see, we are influenced and shaped by things that we do, that we hear and that we see in our past. In today's Gospel we hear the parable of the sower and the seed and the different types of surfaces that the seeds landed on.

"Most of the time we place Jesus in the role as the sower and ourselves as the different types of soil. But we often forget that we too are sowers," he said. "The parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe has sown a lot of seeds; and more than 20 years ago, some of those seeds landed on me."

"I am most thankful for this parish for, not only sowing those seeds in me but, creating an environment where those seeds of faith, hope and love can grow and become fruitful. You helped me become who I am

Father Timothy Tran, CMC, (c.) celebrates a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City. He is assisted by his father, Deacon Luan Tran (2nd from l.). Father Gerry Cernoch, pastor, (r.) and visiting priest, Father Cyrus Gallagher (l.) concelebrate the Mass with him.

today. I ask you to continue to plant those seeds in what you do and in what you say. ... You never know where those good seeds will fall. There could be a future missionary or future priest or deacon or nun, sitting right here in this church and just waiting for those seeds to be planted, to germinate and to grow."

Special guests attending the Saturday evening Mass of Thanksgiving included young Myviet's 6th grade school teacher, Sister Mary Jean Bludau, IWBS, as well as many Missionary Catechists (MCSH).

About his calling to the priesthood, Father Timothy said in an interview with *The Catholic Lighthouse*, "I give a lot of credit to my parents. They always encouraged us as children to be priests or nuns. Yet, as a child, priests or nuns were always 'other' people."

"It wasn't until my junior-high years that the reality of a religious calling hit close to home. First it was my dad getting ordained a permanent deacon. Then shortly after that, I had three cousins join a religious order, two to pursue the priesthood and one as a religious sister."

Myviet noticed that when his cousins were home for summer vacation, they seemed different from before. "They had a certain joy and peace that was contagious," he said. "When I was about to enter my 10th grade year, my parents asked me if I wanted to join the religious order with my two cousins in Missouri. Truthfully, I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life at that time. But since religious vocations were always seen as something special in our family, I felt I couldn't go wrong by saying yes. I told them I wouldn't mind going up there to see what it was like." So, Myviet left home to join the CMC's high school program. He was with 30 other high school guys who went to a Catholic high school during the day and returned to the order afterwards for prayer and meals. He said it was a very simple, not very demanding schedule, so they could have a taste of religious life.

"It wasn't until I went home that Christmas that I really felt God's call," he said. "It was my first trip back to my family since leaving in late August. I had only been away from them for a few months, but I felt almost like a stranger with my family that first day I came back. I realize that God was telling me that I didn't belong to this family anymore, but to another, the religious order.

"That was the beginning of my discernment to the religious life and the call grew stronger as the years went by."

Next year Father Timothy will be studying the Italian language and Canon Law in Rome.

## Seminary Burses

Seminary burses are a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is \$15,000. The interest from this amount is applied yearly to the education of seminarians. The burses are in memory of or in honor of an individual priest or lay persons, living or deceased. Publication of the burses will appear periodically when new contributions are received.

As of July 29, 2011

	TOTALS
<b>— Knights Of Columbus #1329, Victoria</b>	
Previously Reported	\$10,632.50
In Memory of Jack McAtee by K of C Council #1329	100.00
In Memory of Bernard F. Johnson by K of C Council #1329	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,832.50</b>

<b>— Knights Of Columbus #9088 Holy Family, Victoria</b>	
Previously Reported	\$1,990.00
In Memory of Leon J. Folsley by K of C Council #9088	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,090.00</b>

<b>— Reverend John C. Peters Burse #5</b>	
Previously Reported	\$1,194.00
In Memory of Fr. Henry Rolf and Msgr. Anthony Drozd by Fr. John C. Peters	<u>20.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,214.00</b>

<b>— St. John Church For Rev. Brian Crookes Burse #2</b>	
Previously Reported	\$4,901.00
In Memory of Alvin & Alma Jurena by Larry and Patricia Berger	10.00
In Memory of Julia Jurica by Dorothy Olsovsky	<u>10.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,921.00</b>

### Existing Burses

- CDA St. Ann #369 Burse #2
- Rev. Msgr. Julius Petru Burse #2
- Rev. Joe Levya
- Rev. Marcus Valenta
- Rev. Godfrey F. Kuratko
- Rev. Msgr. John Hanacek
- Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas KJZT Burse #5
- Sophie Schmidt
- Rev. Sean Donohue Burse #2
- Rev. Msgr. Robert Schmidt
- Rev. Msgr. Vaclav Bily
- St. Mary's Church – Praha
- St. Mary's Church – High Hill
- Rev. Jerome J. Stryk
- Sr. Perpetua Hawes
- Sr. M. Barbara Konvicka
- Bill Schmidt
- Rev. Jerry Caponi

Those wishing to begin a burse or to contribute to an existing seminary burse may do so by sending their contributions with the appropriate burse designation to:

**SEMINARY BURSES**  
DIOCESE OF VICTORIA  
P. O. BOX 4070  
VICTORIA, TX 77903

### Happy Birthday!

Jacob Koether will be a Theology II student at St. Mary Seminary in Houston. His home parish is Holy Cross, Bay City, and his birthday is September 14. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Jacob Koether, St. Mary Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024-3407.



### Officials waive traffic rules so villagers can get to Mass by tractor

BUON MA THUOT, Vietnam (CNS) — Government officials in Dak Lak province, a rural part of central Vietnam, have waived their normal traffic rules so that Catholics can get to Sunday Mass by tractor. "We're happy they've allowed us to do this for the villagers, as many of them are elderly people, women and children," said Peter Inuk, one of the tractor owners who provide transportation for Massgoers. "We use 10 tractors altogether, pulling handmade wagons to transport 200 people to Thuan Phuc church, which is 10 kilometers (six miles) from their village," he said. "On weekdays, we would be fined if we were caught, as farm vehicles are banned from running on national roads," he added. "We used to be fined 30,000 to 50,000 dong (\$1.50 to \$2.50) per tractor and we had to pay those fines many times a year." The transport police relaxed the rules after 300 local Catholics, most of them from the Anak Ede ethnic group in the Krong Buk district of Dak Lak, submitted a petition to the district authority. The petition asked for the villagers' religious freedom to be respected by allowing them to travel to church by tractor because there is no chapel in the village. Previously, people had to walk to the church and often arrived when Mass was nearly over. Often, they missed Mass altogether.

***"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."***

*Romans 12:11*

### Sick Vietnamese priest returned to prison for anti-government writings

BANGKOK (CNS) — An ailing priest who is one of Vietnam's most well-known democracy activists has been returned to prison, more than a year after he was sent home to seek treatment for a brain tumor, a prison official said. Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, 64, was escorted by police July 25 from his home at a church in central Hue city to Ba Sao prison outside the northern capital of Hanoi, said the official, who asked for anonymity, citing policy, several news agencies reported. The priest's eight-year prison sentence for subversion had been suspended in March 2010 to allow him to seek treatment for his illness. The Asian church news agency UCA News reported that Father Ly's condition was unknown when he was taken away. However, the official said the priest, who uses crutches to help him walk, was in "normal health condition" after making the 300-mile trip from Hue to the prison. "His health is better than the time when he was released, but for a man who had suffered strokes, it's hard to recover fully," the official said. The government accused Father Ly of distributing anti-government writings. An official told the Associated Press that the priest's one-year medical parole expired March 15 and that he defied a court order to return him to jail. The official said authorities forcefully removed the priest from his residence within the compound where Hue Archbishop Etienne Nguyen Nhu The resides. Father Ly was released from prison in March 2010 to seek treatment for a brain tumor and three strokes he suffered during his three years in prison.





## Pope Benedict's WYD: Space made for silence, solemnity

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has put his own stamp on the church's celebration of World Youth Day, and it's especially clear in the gathering's moments of prayer.

In Cologne, Germany, six years ago — Pope Benedict's first WYD as pope — he surprised the youths at the Saturday night vigil by urging them to quiet down.

The Cologne event was where he started a major new WYD tradition: Instead of ending the vigil with a boisterous musical finale, he ended it with eucharistic adoration — with tens of thousands of young people kneeling silently in a field. The scene was repeated in Australia in 2008.

During World Youth Day 2011, scheduled for Aug. 16-21 in Madrid, eucharistic adoration again will cap the pope's participation at the vigil. Adoration and prayer also will continue throughout the night on the edges of the military airport where many of the young people are expected to camp overnight.

In fact, organizers are planning to have 17 tents set up as chapels for all-night adoration.

The visual focal point when the pope leads the adoration and Benediction will be a monstrance set into a towering 16th-century gothic structure of silver and gold usually housed in the Toledo cathedral.

The traditional, solemn sense communicated by the Toledo monstrance will be echoed in the papal liturgies throughout the trip, organizers said.

"The point is to highlight that the central person of World Youth Day is Jesus Christ, and the pope is coming to proclaim him," said Father Javier Cremades, Madrid coordinator of the liturgies.

However, not all of Father Cremades' plans emphasize the formal.

"We'll wake the young people with mariachi music" the morning of Aug. 21, hours before the pope arrives to celebrate the final Mass at the Cuatro Vientos military

airport, he said.

"Young people will come to World Youth Day to celebrate with the Holy Father," he said. "If they did not want to attend a liturgy in the pope's style, they wouldn't be coming."

Young women and men will proclaim the Scripture readings at the Mass and read the prayers of the faithful; seminarians will fulfill the role of altar servers. Up to 6,000 singers 25 years old and younger — members of choirs from around the world — will sing the hymns at the Mass.

Blessed John Paul was the pope with the reputation for rallying and energizing thousands of young Catholics and particularly for drawing energy from them.

But in a passage that sounds like he was surprised about the impact that the celebration had on him, Pope Benedict told an interviewer, "these youth days have actually turned out to be a genuine gift for me."

In the book "Light of the World," he told Peter Seewald that he was struck by the "intense joy" and "the spirit of recollection that, amazingly, pervades the actual World Youth Days themselves."

Talking about the experience in Sydney at WYD 2008, he said, "It was quite simply the common joy of faith that carried us through and that made it possible for hundreds of thousands of people to remain in silence before the sacrament and so to become one."

Pope Benedict has insisted that real, even prolonged moments of silence be added to every Liturgy he celebrates.

Visiting Sulmona, Italy, in 2010, he said, "We live today in a society in which every space, every moment must be 'filled' with initiatives, activities and sound," so that there is no time for listening and dialogue.

"Dear brothers and sisters, don't be afraid of silence outside and inside ourselves, if we want to hear not only the voice of God but also of those who are close to us, the voices of others," he said.

## U.S. Bishops to Hold Vocations Fair at World Youth Day

WASHINGTON—The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will host its first-ever Vocation Fair at a World Youth Day (WYD) on Wednesday, August 17. The Vocations Fair will be held at St. Francis Borgia Parish (*Parroquia San Francisco de Borja*) located just across the street from the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. The fair is co-sponsored by the USCCB Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (CCLV) and the Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth. "This is a tremendous opportunity to invite our youth to open their hearts to Christ and respond to his

call to the priesthood and the consecrated life," said Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis, Missouri, chairman of the CCLV Committee. Recent surveys of the newly ordained and those making their final religious profession indicate that at least 20 percent of them participated in a World Youth Day at one time or another. The fair will open with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer, led by Cardinal Seán O'Malley of Boston, and will continue in the auditorium with featured speakers, opportunities for the youth to interact with bishops and other activities.



**VICTORIA YOUNG ADULTS TO ATTEND 2011 WYD**—A group of 30 young adults will be traveling to Madrid, Spain, Aug. 10 – 23 to be "Rooted and Built Up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith" (cf. Col 2:7) with Pope Benedict XVI and 450,000 youth from around the world. Each pilgrim raised \$3,000 for travel expenses through fundraisers and generous benefactors. The young adults will travel with Fathers David Berger, Bryan Heyer and Michael Rother, along with other adult leaders, including Associate Youth Ministry Director Wendy Eggert, Mrs. Toni Scharr, Susan and Dr. Fries, Robbie Lauger and Mrs. Trobl. Please pray for the diocesan youth and all who will be joining the pope on this pilgrimage.

## No Apologies! Young Adults Meet

Have you ever had a coworker ask a "faith and morals" question about Catholicism and you didn't know the "right" answer? Or did you wonder why you do something that's always just been part of being Catholic? The Catholic Young Adults of the Diocese of Victoria had similar questions. With the help of Fathers David Berger, Bob Knippenberg and Tommy Chen, they will explore the answers in a fall seminar series called "No Apologies, Just Apologetics."

Apologetics is the defense of the faith. This series seeks to give Catholics tools to defend their faith and to answer questions about why Catholics do certain things. The series will be held on five Thursdays during the fall and will substitute for the annual "Theology at the Well" series co-sponsored by the Young Adults group and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

The group's membership consists of single and married young adults, 20ish-40ish, and they are always seeking new members. But the series is open to all and they invite everyone who is interested in Apologetics to come and join them.

The series will be held at the Holy Family Catholic Church Parish Activity Center in Victoria, beginning at 7 p.m. on the following Thursdays: 9/15; 10/6;

10/20; 11/3; and 11/17. Fathers David, Bob and Tommy will take turns leading the discussions on different dates. Although all the sessions will have the same general theme of apologetics, each evening will be "complete." While we certainly hope that everyone can attend all the evenings, if you miss a session you won't be behind or missing information critical for the following evening.

As a guide for discussion, we will use the book "Beginning Apologetics I" and as an optional resource we will use the "Catholic Verse Finder." Both materials can be purchased through San Juan Catholic Seminars. The book is \$5.95 and the verse finder is \$1.99. The Young Adults will be placing a "bulk" order to take advantage of free shipping. If you have questions about the series or would like to be included in the bulk order, please submit a request before August 24 to Jim Wearden at [the-inn@tisd.net](mailto:the-inn@tisd.net) or call him at (361) 649-9157 or to Debbie Vanelli at [dvanelli@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:dvanelli@victoriadiocese.org) or call her at (361) 573-0828, ext. 2232.

We encourage you to purchase resources in advance since we are not guaranteeing extras at the door. We hope that you'll join us as we embrace the challenge to stop apologizing and begin defending our Catholic faith!

## Physics faculty and students to discuss 'Evolving Universe' at conference in Brazil

Professors and students from The Catholic University of America will join colleagues from other Catholic universities and the Vatican Observatory at a conference this month in Brazil to discuss their research on the universe.

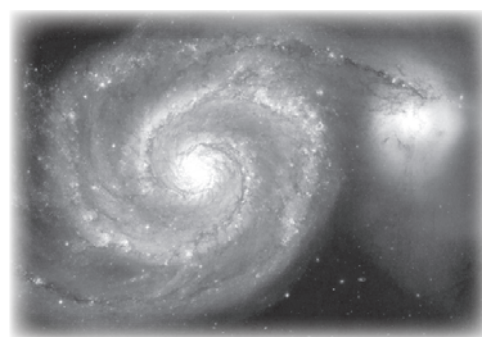
Catholic University physics faculty members Duilia de Mello, associate professor and research associate with CUA's Institute for Astrophysics and Computational Sciences (IACS), and Steve Kraemer, associate professor and assistant director of IACS, will present lectures at the event. The conference, "Exploring the Nature of the Evolving Universe," will be held at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro Aug. 15 to 19. De Mello and Kraemer are among about 50 teaching, research, and adjunct faculty members who comprise IACS, which is run out of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. The conference in Brazil celebrates the collaboration of the International Network of

Catholic Astronomical Institutions with the Vatican Observatory. Catholic University is a member of the network along with the University of Notre Dame, the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, and the Pontifical Catholic University

of Santiago, Chile. De Mello, Kraemer, and speakers from the other universities will discuss the latest research on a variety of topics related to the universe, including stellar evolution, galaxy evolution, and chemical evolution.

The Catholic University of America is a founding member of the International Network

of Catholic Astronomical Institutions, which was established in summer 2008 for the promotion of education and research opportunities for faculty, staff and students in astronomy and space sciences. The partnership has enabled CUA graduate students to conduct research at the Vatican Observatory. For more information about the conference, which is co-sponsored by CUA, contact de Mello at [demello@cua.edu](mailto:demello@cua.edu).



The Whirlpool galaxy and the Companion galaxy are seen in this image taken by the Hubble Space Telescope. The Vatican Observatory held an international conference Oct. 2007 in Rome on the formation and evolution of disk galaxies. (CNS photo/NASA)

**HARVEST FEAST**  
Sunday, August 14  
Veteran's Memorial Park - Weimar, Texas  
Fried Chicken & Stew Dinner  
at 11:00 a.m. - ADULTS \$8.00 - CHILDREN \$4.00 (12 & Under)  
DRIVE-THRU PLATES & ALL PLATES TO GO - \$8.00

**DRIVE-THRU TAKE HOME PLATES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ST. MICHAEL FAMILY CENTER ONLY**

**Raffle Drawing 9:00 p.m.**

**FREE Dance**

**Czechaholics 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**The Red Ravens 3 - 7 p.m.**  
**Southbound 955 7 - 11 p.m.**  
**Softball Tournament Saturday & Sunday**

**HAMBURGERS**  
**COLD DRINKS**

**Entertainment For All!**

- ★ Train Ride
- ★ Putt-Putt Golf
- ★ Cake Walk
- ★ Treasure Chest Booth
- ★ Country Store
- ★ Ring Toss
- ★ Fish Pond

**AUCTION 1:00 p.m.**

**BINGO 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. In AC Hall License 1-74-111001-1**

ST. MICHAEL WEIMAR, TEXAS





## IWBS congregation jubilant of 15 sisters jubilees

Continued from p. 1

• **Sister M. John Hayden**, daughter of the late Robert Joseph and Emma Nocker Hayden, was born in San Antonio, Texas. She attended St. Leo School and graduated from Blessed Sacrament Academy. Sister John entered the postulancy at Blessed Sacrament Convent on June 18, 1934, received the habit on February 22, 1935, and pronounced first vows on February 23, 1936. She received a BA degree from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio with a major in English and a minor in Spanish.

During her years as a professed member of the congregation, Sister John taught at Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio and ministered as a teacher and principal at Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville and Immaculate Conception School in Sealy. When she retired from full-time active teaching, she assisted in the IWC Gift Shop and helped with household chores. Sister John now resides in the IWC Infirmary where she ministers in the Apostolate of Prayer and Suffering and spends time with her beloved sister, Sister Jeanne de Matel.

• **Sister Mary Grace Korenek**, daughter of the late William and Albina Samohyl Korenek, was born in Plum, Texas. She attended St. Jerome Grade School, public high schools and graduated from St. Ludmila Academy. She entered the postulancy at St. Ludmila Convent in Shiner, Texas, on June 25, 1939, received the habit at Nazareth Convent in Victoria on June 10, 1940, and pronounced first vows on June 11, 1941. She received a BA degree with a major in English and a minor in Latin from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

During her years of ministry as a professed Sister, she taught at Nazareth Academy in Victoria, St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner, St. Edward School in Dubina, and St. Mary School in Nada. She also did library work in Shiner and taught religion classes in Moulton, Flatonia and Praha. When stationed in Ganado, Sister visited the home-bound, assisted with the RCIA, and coordinated the Prayer Groups. Sister Mary Grace now resides in the IWC Infirmary, ministering in the Apostolate of Prayer and Suffering.

• **Sister M. Carmelita Casso**, daughter of the late Jesse and Luisa Diaz Casso, was born in San Antonio, Texas. After Sister graduated from Blessed Sacrament Academy, she entered the postulancy at Blessed Sacrament Convent in San Antonio on September 9, 1939, received the habit at Nazareth Convent in Victoria on June 10, 1940, and pronounced her first vows on June 11, 1941. She received a BA degree with a major in English and a minor in Spanish from Incarnate Word College and a MA degree in Spanish from the University of Houston. Sister then attended St. Mary's University in San Antonio from which she earned a MA in theology.

During the early years of her ministry, Sister Carmelita taught at the grade school level in Shiner, Loire, San Marcos, Weimar, Selma, Cuero and Nazareth Academy, Victoria. She taught High School classes at Blessed Sacrament Academy and then was appointed Secretary General of the Congregation for six years. From 1982 until 2010, Sister lived in Rome, Italy, and Lyons, France, while translating the French Writings of our Foundress, Mother Jeanne Chezard de Matel, into English, and working on the Cause toward the Canonization of our Mother Foundress. Presently, Sister resides at IWC and is translating, from Spanish into English, studies on the Matelian Spirituality included at the Pontifical University of Mexico.

• **Sister M. Adriana Cernoch**, daughter of the late Vladimir and Annie Mazoch

Cernoch, was born in Holman, Texas. Sister attended Pecan Public Grade School and graduated from Nazareth Academy. She entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on November 27, 1949, received the habit on September 3, 1950, and pronounced her first vows on September 4, 1951. She received a BA degree with a major in English and a minor in Latin from Incarnate Word College.

During her years of ministry, Sister was a teacher and/or principal at Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Assumption School in Ganado, St. Leo and Blessed Sacrament Academy in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Mary School in Nada, Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria, Sacred Heart School in La Grange and St. Patrick School in Dallas. At present Sister Adriana lives at IWC and assists in answering the phone and various household duties. Her hobbies include crocheting, reading and playing cards.

• **Sister Marietta Hajdik**, daughter of the late Louis and Emily Orsak Hajdik, was born in Sealy, Texas. She is one of seven children and her sister, Sister Carola, followed her into the IWBS Congregation. Sister Marietta attended public schools and Immaculate Conception School in Sealy and graduated from Nazareth Academy. She entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on November 27, 1949, received the habit on September 3, 1950, and pronounced her first vows on September 4, 1951. She received a BS degree in home economics from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio and a M Ed. degree in educational administration from Southwest Texas State University.

Sister Marietta's years of ministry included being a teacher and/or principal at St. Michael School in Weimar, Sacred Heart School in La Grange, St. Agnes School and Blessed Sacrament School in San Antonio, St. Ludmila Academy and St. Paul High School in Shiner, Our Lady of Victory School and Nazareth Academy in Victoria, and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville. Sister assisted in parish ministry at St. Leo's Church in San Antonio and served as director of religious education and the RCIA program at Assumption of the BVM Church in Ganado for eighteen years. Presently, Sister lives at IWC and is director of the Sisters in the Annual Vows program.

• **Sister Rosemary Leopold**, daughter of the late Leo and Otilia Gerbermann Leopold, was born in Nada, Texas. Sister attended St. Mary School in Nada, Garwood Public School and graduated from Nazareth Academy. Sister Rosemary followed Sister Alfreda, her sister who is now deceased, when she entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on November 27, 1949, received the habit on September 3, 1950, and made first profession of vows on September 4, 1951. Sister earned a BA degree with a major in English and a minor in Spanish and a MA degree with a major in education and a minor in English from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

Sister Rosemary ministered as teacher and/or principal in Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma, St. Leo School in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in La Grange, Holy Cross School and St. Patrick School in Dallas, Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville, Sacred Heart School in Crosby and St. Michael School in Cuero.

• **Sister Anna Marie Popp**, daughter of the late Ferdinand and Anna Staff Popp, was born in Nada, Texas. Sister attended school in Nada before entering the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on November 27, 1949. She received the habit on September 3, 1950 and pronounced her first vows on

September 4, 1951. Sister was awarded a BA degree with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio and a MS degree with a major in math from the University of Notre Dame.

Sister Anna Marie ministered as teacher and/or principal at Immaculate Conception School in Sealy, St. Michael School in Weimar, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Falls City Public School, Sacred Heart School in Floresville and St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner. She has served as assistant in the treasurer's office of the congregation for the last 25 years.

Sister Anna Marie's brother, Bishop Bernard Popp of San Antonio, and her sister, Sister Adelaide at IWC, joined other family members in celebrating the occasion.

• **Sister M. RONALDA PELTIER**, daughter of the late Ronald and Blondina Imhauser Peltier, was born in Danbury, Texas. She attended Danbury Public School and graduated from Nazareth Academy in Victoria. Sister entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on November 27, 1949, received the habit on September 3, 1950, and pronounced her first vows on September 4, 1951. Sister RONALDA was awarded a BS degree in nursing from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, Texas. She received her certification as a RN shortly after that.

In her early years of ministry after profession, Sister RONALDA taught at Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Holy Cross School in East Bernard, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Cuero and Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma. After eight years of teaching, Sister entered the Nursing Program at Incarnate Word College. Sister RONALDA ministered at Huth Memorial Hospital in Yoakum and Mercy Hospital in Jourdan; as administrator in Cuero Community Hospital and then in Huth Memorial Hospital in Yoakum. She was Health Care director at IWC for two years before returning to Jourdan where she became the director and instructor of the LVN School. She later served as director and instructor of the Victoria College LVN Program in Gonzales at Warm Springs Hospital.

From 1989 – 2006 Sister served on the General Council of the Congregation and assisted in various duties at IWC. In recent years she has assisted in the Health Care and now resides there, still using her gifts in nursing as a consultant.

On Saturday, July 9, 2011, the Most Reverend David Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, officiated at the 2:00 p.m. Mass honoring seven Sisters who celebrated the 50th anniversaries of their religious profession. Also in attendance were Bishop Bernard Popp, Bishop Charles Grahmann, Rev. Gary Janak, Rev. Phi Nguyen, chaplain; Rev. Jose DeLa Rosa, Rev. John Peters and Rev. Ted Haag. Rev. Gary Janak was homilist for the occasion and Rev. Phi Nguyen served as Master of Ceremonies.

These honorees were: Sister M. Colette Kouba, Sister M. Charlene Machala, Sister M. Gregoria Berger, Sister M. Clementine Henke, Sister Lois Marie Etzler, Sister M. Paschaline Kutac and Sister M. Andrea Hubnik. Together these Sisters have contributed a total of 350 years of service to the Church in ministries of education, administration, health care and pastoral services.

• **Sister M. Colette Kouba**, daughter of the late Benjamin and Bessie Matula Kouba, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Thompson Public School and

Sacred Heart Grade School in Hallettsville and Nazareth Academy in Victoria from which she graduated. Sister Colette entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister received a BA degree in elementary education and also received certification in library science from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, Texas.

During her years as a professed Sister of the Congregation, Sister Colette ministered as an elementary teacher in Sacred Heart School in Crosby, St. Agnes School and St. Leo School in San Antonio, Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria and Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma. After receiving certification in library science, Sister became a part-time librarian when she was stationed at St. Ludmila School in Shiner. Presently, Sister ministers at Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville where she is the elementary librarian and is involved in the Title I Reading Program.

• **Sister M. Charlene Machala**, daughter of Stanley and Clara Gregory Machala, was born in Baytown, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart School in Crosby and received her high school education at Nazareth Academy in Victoria. Sister entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister Charlene received a BA degree with a major in history and a minor in English from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio. She then attended St. Thomas University in Houston and was awarded a MRE degree (Master of Religious Education).

During her years as a professed member of the Congregation, Sister Charlene ministered at St. Agnes School and St. Leo School in San Antonio, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, Our Lady of Victory School and Nazareth Academy in Victoria, Holy Cross School in Bay City, Falls City Public School, Mary Immaculate School in Dallas, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Selma and St. Michael School in Weimar. For the past two years, Sister Charlene has been assigned to Incarnate Word Convent where she ministers as chauffeur for those in the health care and others, and assists in the IWC Gift Shop. She enjoys planning outings for the Sisters, especially during vacation times.

• **Sister M. Gregoria Berger**, daughter of the late Alfred and Helen Popp Berger, was born in Garwood, Texas. She received her grade school education at St. Mary School in Nada and then attended Nazareth Academy in Victoria from which she received her high school diploma. Sister entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and made first profession of vows on August 6, 1961. Sister received a BA degree with a major in math and a minor in biology from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio. She also took courses to become a certified librarian.

Continued on p. 7







## IWBS congregation jubilant of 15 sisters jubilees

Continued from p. 6

During her 50 years of profession, Sister Gregoria ministered at St. Michael School in Weimar, St. Leo School in San Antonio, Nazareth Academy and Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria, and St. Michael School in Cuero. In 1985, Sister was appointed treasurer for Nazareth Academy and Convent, a position she held until 2004. After taking a semester sabbatical, Sister took on the management of the IWC Gift Shop. Some of Sister Gregoria's favorite pass time activities are sewing and arts and crafts.

• **Sister M. Clementine Henke**, daughter of the late Leo and Viola Klekar Henke, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart Grade School in Hallettsville and then studied at Nazareth Academy in Victoria from which she received her high school diploma. She entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and made her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister attended Incarnate Word College in San Antonio where she earned a BA degree with a major in history and a minor in English. Sister later attended St. Thomas University in Houston where she received a MRE degree (Master Degree in Religious Education).

During her 50 years of religious profession, Sister Clementine taught at Holy Cross School in Bay City, Our Lady of Victory School in Victoria, Sacred Heart School in Crosby, Sacred Heart School in Floresville, St. Michael School in Weimar and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Selma where she presently is teaching second grade.

• **Sister Lois Marie Etzler**, daughter of the late Joseph and Helen Henke Etzler, was born in Hallettsville, Texas. She attended Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville for all twelve grades. Sister entered the postu-

lancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister earned a BA degree with a major in history and a minor in English from Sacred Heart Dominican College in Houston, Texas. She earned additional college credits at Southwest Texas State University and Oblate School of Theology.

During her years of ministry in the classroom, Sister was a teacher and/or principal at Sacred Heart School in La Grange, St. Ludmila Academy in Shiner, St. Mary School in Nada, St. John School in San Antonio, Holy Cross School in Bay City, Sacred Heart School in Crosby, St. Michael School in Cuero and Sacred Heart School in Hallettsville. She also was director of Religious Education at St. Agnes Church in Edna for two years and served as superior of Incarnate Word Convent for seven and a half years. Sister is presently ministering at Nazareth Academy as office manager.

• **Sister M. Paschaline Kutac**, daughter of the late Louis and Annie Marie Honc Kutac, was born in Shiner, Texas. She went to Beasley Public School and Shiner Public School before transferring to St. Ludmila Academy for the 8th grade and high school. After doing clerical work at Burns Hospital in Cuero for a year, Sister entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959. She received the habit on August 5, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6, 1961. Sister earned a BS degree in nursing from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio.

During her years of ministry, Sister served at the Community Hospital in Cuero as surgical and medical nurse and director of nurses. Sister was assigned to Huth Memorial Hospital in Yoakum where she continued nursing and was director of nurses for three years. Then she was appointed director and instructor of the LVN Program

affiliated with The Victoria College. Sister Paschaline has been director of the Health Care Center of Incarnate Word Convent for the past fifteen years. When she finds the time, Sister loves to work with the flowers that she grows to enhance the altars in the Health Care.

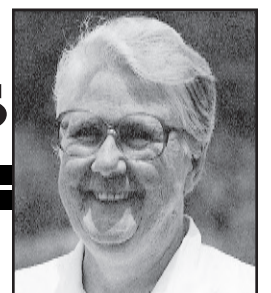
• **Sister M. Andrea Hubnik**, daughter of the late August and Mary Sevcik Hubnik, was born in Buckholts, Texas. Sister attended the Marak Public School and St. Mary Catholic School in Marak. She completed the 8th grade at Ada Henderson School and earned her high school diploma from C.H. Yoe High School in Cameron, Texas. She entered the postulancy at Nazareth Convent on September 8, 1959, received the habit on August 4, 1960, and pronounced her first vows on August 6,

1961. Sister received her BA degree in business education from Sacred Heart Dominican College in Houston and her master of business administration from the University of Houston at Victoria.

Sister Andrea ministered in the elementary grades at Holy Cross School in East Bernard and Holy Cross School in Bay City. She then taught business courses on the high school level at Sacred Heart High School in Hallettsville, Nazareth Academy in Victoria, and Falls City High School in Falls City. Sister assisted the treasurer of the congregation for three years and served as directress of formation for two years before being appointed secretary general for 18 years. She has served in the business office of the congregation as treasurer general for the past 11 years.

## SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



### Now Is the Time to Let our Light Shine

Last month we saw that together, as we allow God to shine through us, we are all contributing to the manifestation of God's presence among us. However, many of us are coming to a greater awareness of the difficulty of keeping our light shining in the midst of today's challenges of living. We see science and industry making stupendous strides in discoveries, efficiency and increased production – much of which can be of benefit to humankind. However, when we assess the unfortunate consequences or side effects of this progress, we are faced with issues that did not exist for our spiritual ancestors.

***“Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith.” ~ USCCB***

Today there is concern about what is happening to the quality of the air, to the water that we drink, to the food that we eat, and to the earth itself. There is concern about how many of the earth's resources are being destroyed or polluted by industry, often apparently without due consideration for the consequences. What can we do? What are our responsibilities as lights illuminating our stewardship of God's creation?

First of all we can call attention to God's initial instruction to humans: "... fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth" (Gen 1:28). I think that the term "have dominion" means "to take care of" or "to shepherd." Likewise, the Church has always promoted respect for God's creation – the earth and all living things. Every time we say the Creed, we pray to God the Father as "Creator of Heaven and earth." And we all appreciate the example that St. Francis has given us of joyful gratitude for the wonders of God's gifts of nature.

However, unfortunately, respect for God's creation has often been overshadowed by a quest for profit, power and human comfort today. As a consequence, there is a rapidly accelerating urgency for us to illuminate humanity's role as stewards of the earth. We are receiving numerous calls from the Church, along with calls from concerned voices in society, to let our lights shine upon efforts to show care for creation. For example, Blessed John Paul II told us:

"To care for creation is a moral duty for all [human beings] as the will of the Creator is that [human beings may] be worthy of [their] vocation governing nature as a responsible administrator and not as a merciless exploiter." So, let us be "responsible administrators" by practicing conservation and recycling and by educating ourselves about practices (often made in the quest of profit, power or "progress") that are injurious to our environment and the people who share our earth. Furthermore, we must let our lights shine as a voice for the voiceless earth and the many people who suffer as a consequence of earth

abuse. Then we can join our U.S. bishops who proclaim: "We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored."

Therefore, let us allow God to shine through us, as we promote the wellbeing of God's creation – a manifestation of God's presence among us.

## Praised be the Incarnate Word!



**ST. ANTHONY'S MEDAL IN MAY**—Cristina Kearbey sits among her favorite things – books! She was awarded a medal in her 5th-grade year at St. Anthony School in Columbus for becoming the highest point earner in the history of the school's Accelerated Reading Program, earning 555.5 points with no less than 95 percent accuracy on all tests. Congratulations for a successful 2010 - 2011 school year. St. Anthony has all its grades, 1 – 8, participate in the Accelerated Reader Program.

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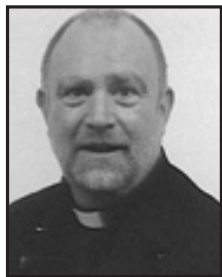




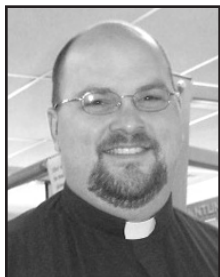
## Local Lineup of Presenters at the XXIV Annual Conference for Catechesis and Ministry

On Saturday, September 24, 2011 a fabulous lineup of clergy, religious and lay persons from the Diocese of Victoria will be at Holy Family Church in Victoria offering a large variety of workshops on pertinent Catholic topics. The Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, bishop of the Diocese of Portland, Maine, will offer the keynote address "Do This in Memory of Me." The day will be filled with 37 English and Spanish workshops. Catholic publishers will exhibit religious articles and resource materials for religious education programs. Otto Bleier and the Knights of Columbus Council 9088 will be cooking up a great breakfast and lunch for conference attendees at affordable prices.

Early registration for this year's conference will be **August 15 - 31, 2011**. For a complete listing of all the workshops and biographical information of the presenters go to [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org). Call 361-573-0828 for a conference announcement or to register.



Rev. Bob Knippenberg  
"Forgiveness"



Rev. Michael Rother  
"Apologetics"



Rev. Eddie Winkler  
"Liturgical Ministry"



Rev. Ty Bazar  
"Roman Missal"



Rev. Tommy Chen  
"The Mass"



Sister Emilie Eilers  
"Prayer"



Brother Patrick Wildgen  
"The Rapture"



Mr. Ron Friedel  
"Our Jewish Roots"



Mr. Matthew Shaefer  
"A Taste of Heaven"



Mr. Mark Zepeda  
"Praise & Worship"



Sister Miriam Perez  
"Priest, Prophet, King"

## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



### Non-church wedding, salvation outside of the church

*Q. I've been a Catholic for 87 years and love my religion. I have a granddaughter getting married soon – and not in a church or by a priest. (In fact, my grandson is going to do the honors; he got some kind of paper on the computer that makes him a "preacher man.")*

*My grandchildren are Catholic, and all of them attended Catholic colleges. My granddaughter knows that I don't approve of how she's doing things, but I plan to be at the wedding because I don't want to cause a rift in the family.*

*My local priest agrees with me, but my daughter spoke to a different priest who says it would be wrong for us to attend.*

*Please tell me, Father, what I should do. (I would sure hate to mess up my good record with God at this late date.)* (Drexel Hill, Pa.)

A. The guidelines of the church are clear: Catholics are required to be married either in a ceremony in a Catholic church performed by a Catholic priest (or deacon), or, if not, in a ceremony done with prior church approval. (See the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 1621 to 1637.)

Unfortunately, in recent years, many young Catholics (and even some older ones) have disregarded this and married in a ceremony of their own crafting: on a tropical beach, perhaps, or before a civil official or a non-Catholic cleric. When this happens, faithful Catholics are presented with the dilemma you mention: Should they attend, and what would their presence say to the couple being married and to others who are there?

The answer depends on several factors.

In your case, I think you would do well to attend.

Your granddaughter knows clearly that your own strong preference would be for a Catholic ceremony; probably the other members of your family know this, too, so you are not being indifferent to the religious values at stake.

If you don't attend, you run the risk of alienating your granddaughter and losing any influence over her forever.

Perhaps down the road, as she matures and reflects on your own strong fidelity to the church and to the peace that this brings to you, she may even decide later to have her marriage blessed in a Catholic ceremony. Better, I think, to keep the door open to that.

*Q. For years now, I have been unable to get a straight answer to this question from anyone in authority: Is there salvation outside the Catholic faith?*

*When I read official church documents on this – the teachings from church councils, encyclicals, etc. – I get more and more confused.*

*Please answer my question in plain language.* (Newport News, Va.)

A. The teaching of the Catholic Church is this: You don't have to be a Catholic to get to heaven. That is the plainest way of expressing the most important part of this answer. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 847, which references the Second Vatican Council decree "Lumen Gentium," No. 16), says it more formally, but still succinctly: "Those, who through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel

of Christ or his church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience -- those too may achieve eternal salvation."

The confusion of the questioner, though, is understandable, since the Fathers of the Church and popes throughout the ages have often expressed the axiom stated by Pope Boniface VIII (1294-1303): "Outside the church, no salvation."

This expression, understood correctly, does not mean that formal membership in the Catholic Church is necessary to be

saved; it means instead that all salvation comes to the world because of the merits of Jesus, and that it is through the instrumentality of the church that God accomplishes his saving work by linking people most directly to Christ.

Some 60 years ago, the well-known Jesuit Father Leonard Feeney, a chaplain at Harvard, taught that formal membership in the Catholic Church was necessary to be saved. The Vatican's Holy Office in 1949 explicitly rejected that restrictive view.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, NY 12208.)

### Part of California tuition aid bill for undocumented students now law

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Marking what community leaders labeled as a milestone and a historic moment, California Gov. Jerry Brown July 25 signed a portion of the state's DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act and urged Californians to "invest in the people" and to "engage in the debate. It is crucial to make an investment in every child that lives and is born in California," he said during a noon town hall meeting at Los Angeles City College, packed with community and business leaders, state and school officials, students and consuls from different Latin American countries. "Signing the DREAM Act is another piece of investment in people," he continued, "because people are what drive the culture of the economy in our country." The California Dream Network reaches more than 20,000 undocumented students on 42 campuses and will make them eligible, on or after Jan. 1, 2012, to receive scholarships from private funds donated to schools. Currently, this segment of the student population is not eligible for any kind of financial aid.

### Reporting Abuse

*If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a member of the clergy or other church personnel, you can register a complaint.*

- Call the Chancery at (361) 573-0828 and ask to speak with the bishop or the chancellor;
- Call Rev. Gary Janak (979) 543-3770 or Sr. Emilie Eilers (361) 575-7111, Coordinators of Pastoral Care and Outreach;
- Write to: Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer  
Diocese of Victoria  
P.O. Box 4070  
Victoria, TX 77903  
Mark your letter "Personal and Confidential"

We will also help you bring your concerns to Church officials outside the diocese if the abuse occurred elsewhere and you now reside in the Diocese of Victoria.

If you are unsure about bringing a complaint or would like further information, please contact: Rev. Gary Janak at (979) 543-3770.





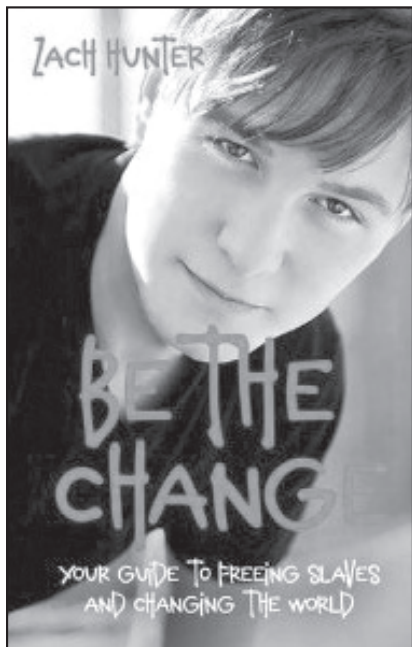
## Teen phenomenon encourages readers to stand up and fight for a cause

When the dynamic Zach Hunter first burst onto the antislavery scene at just 12 years of age, he captured the attention of a nation with his sincere passion to help those less fortunate. After learning that there were 27 million cases of slavery in the world, many of them children ages 5-17, Hunter embarked on an international campaign to do something about it.

Recruiting such famous faces as Jon Foreman of the band *Switchfoot* and Leeland Mooring of the band *Leeland*, Hunter formed the "Loose Change to Loosen Chains" campaign, which inspired his book *Be the Change* in 2007.

This fall, Hunter, now 18, returns with an expanded and updated version of his cornerstone book *Be the Change, Revised and Expanded Edition: Your Guide to Freeing Slaves and Changing the World* (Zondervan; September 2011; \$9.99).

Drawing from his personal experience



and from those who have inspired him, Hunter shares stories from such icons as Mother Teresa and Winston Churchill to further illustrate to readers how they too can make a difference in the world. Hunter also highlights key Bible passages to inspire readers, including the following verse from 1 Timothy 4:12: "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

Featuring new and updated stories about emerging abolitionists and those who stepped out of their comfort zones to make a difference in the world, this new edition provides practical advice to help readers and budding abolitionists make revolutionary changes in the world.

Tips include:

- Find a cause you're passionate about and

think of something practical you can do to support it (e.g., donating a portion of your

allowance or salary to a local shelter).

- Get involved. Volunteer your time at a service organization in your area (soup kitchen, hospital, etc).

- Read about some of the courageous leaders who came before you (e.g., Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks) and learn how to have the courage to push through any fear.

- Become a leader. Don't see any initiatives targeting your specific cause? Start one on your own. You'll be amazed to see how many people will follow suit.

- Have compassion for others and stand up for those whose voices aren't often heard. Only then will you be able to give your cause the proper support it deserves.

While in the 7th grade, he launched the "Loose Change to Loosen Chains" campaign, for which his school and youth group students raised awareness and funds to help end modern-day slavery. Today, students around the world are participating in the LC2LC campaign. Each year Zach speaks to hundreds of thousands of people about God's heart for the hurting and oppressed in the world and his own dream that his generation would be motivated to care for neighbors around the world. Zach lives with his parents and little brother outside of Atlanta, Ga. [www.zachhunter.me](http://www.zachhunter.me)

Watch a video about Human trafficking and Abolitionists including Zach Hunter at:

<http://edition.cnn.com/video/data/2.0/video/world/2011/05/17/cfp.human.traffic.roundtable.cnn.html>

The book will be released in September 2011. It may be pre-ordered at \$8.99 from [Zondervan.com](http://Zondervan.com) or \$9.99 from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).

## Letter to the Editor

### Exchange Student to share culture in Victoria

Dear Editor:

This September, a family in Victoria will enjoy a special experience by welcoming into their home a high school exchange student from Czech Republic. This volunteer host family is participating in the SHARE! Student Exchange Program for the 2011-2012 school year. This international exchange student is eager to learn about how Americans live.

I am prompted to write an expression of enormous gratitude to the host family, the high school and community. As the regional director for this program, I have helped local coordinators find the host families and helped them select a student who best fits their family. Local coordinators and our regional office staff will supervise and monitor our families and exchange students throughout their stay.

There are still several outstanding candidates awaiting host families. If anyone has thought about hosting, now is an excellent time to start. Please contact me as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity to SHARE! your heart and home with the rest of the world.

My thanks to the host family, their teachers and high school, and the members of the community for extending such a warm welcome to this exchange student who has chosen to travel thousands of miles away from family and friends to learn about our unique American culture. The student will always remember the welcome that they received from the people in Victoria.

Sincerely,  
Yvette Coffman

## JCDA hold Parents Appreciation Banquet

SHINER—The Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, Texas, held their 13th Annual Awards Program and Parents Appreciation Banquet on Tuesday, June 28, 2011, in the Shiner Catholic Parish Hall.

Special guests in attendance were Immediate Past National CDA Regent Libby Ramirez, current State CDA Regent Carolyn Malik, local officers, CDA Vice Regent Patsy Pesek, CDA Treasurer Mary Rose Barta and parents and juniors.

Court Chairman Diane Hermann opened the program with a prayer and welcomed all in attendance. State Regent Carolyn Malik then conducted the installation of officers for the coming year of 2011-2012: President Mary Adamek; First Vice-President Kristin Schacherl; Second Vice-President Bethany Pokluda; Secretary Alexa Schaefer; Reporter Samantha Siegel.

New JCDA members, Seryna and Trinity Garza, Rebecca Wagner, and Halle and Grace Pilat, who joined in the past year, were recognized. Charms and pins were awarded to the following juniors in attendance: Anna Adamek, Mary Adamek, Ally Chumchal, Meagan Chumchal, Seryna Garza, Trinity Garza, Macy Grabarkievtz, Mallory Grabarkievtz, Sydney Grabarkievtz, Emma Herman, Sydney Jon Hermann, Abby Irvin, Grace Irvin, Kayla Kubenka, Lauryn Kubenka, Jessi Pesek, Kaci Pesek, Bethany Pokluda, Emily Pokluda, Mallory Pokluda, Kristin Schacherl, Angelette Siegel, Juliette Siegel, and Nicolette Siegel and Samantha Siegel.

After all charms and pins were awarded, the Outstanding JCDA of the Year was awarded. To be qualified for the award, the girl must be 14 years of age or older, be active in the church, school and community and submit an application along

with an essay.

The 2010-11 Outstanding JCDA was Kaci Pesek, and she stated in her essay that the JCDA program has nurtured her faith by providing programs that helped her intermingle with other Catholic girls who are going through the same challenges in life.

Special recognition was given to the following adults who assisted with the JCDA program during the past year: Gayle Schaefer for calling and arranging refreshments at the monthly meetings, Amy Adamek for serving as JCDA treasurer, to those parents that assisted

with the morning liturgy assignments, to those that assisted with the banquet, to the Senior CDA Court #1604 members for the sewing of the sashes, to state regent, Carolyn Malik, for her continued moral support of the program as a counselor and as the spiritual advisor to the group, and to the parents for allowing their daughters to be a part of the JCDA.

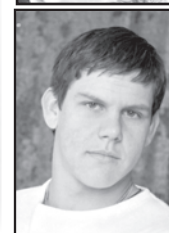
The evening concluded with a prayer for rain and for all those who are serving in the military.



Kaci Pesek receives a certificate in recognition as Outstanding JCDA 2010-11 from JCDA Chairman Diane Hermann.



SHINER CDA'S STATE WINNERS—Four students from Shiner placed in the 2011 State CDA Education Contest. They are listed in the grade they were in when the award was achieved. Pictured l. to r. are St. Paul High 12th grader Devin Pesek, 2nd Place, Div II, Poetry; Shiner Elementary 8th grader Sarah Stluka, 3rd Place, Div II, Poetry; St. Ludmila 5th grader Andrew Wagner, 3rd Place, Div I, Essay; St. Paul High 10th grader Justin Siegel, 3rd Place, Div III, Essay. Right, receiving scholarships of \$800 each, awarded by the Texas State CDA Court, were Laurie Morkovsky (top), a graduate of Shiner High School, and Blue Hybner (bottom), a graduate of St. Paul High School.



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**DIOCESAN PRIEST BECOMES MOST RECENT US CITIZEN**—The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services welcomed more than 100 newly sworn-in American citizens, including Father Gabriel Bentil, July 4, 2011, during a special naturalization ceremony aboard the Lexington Museum on the Bay in Corpus Christi. Father Gabriel, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Inez, is the most recent Ghanaian priest to become a U. S. citizen. Of the 15 priests from Ghana serving in the Diocese of Victoria, at least four are American citizens. Congratulations, Father Gabriel!



**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH IN INEZ CONTINUES TO GROW**—Renovations to double the seating capacity at St. Joseph Church in Inez began in the fall of 2010 and should be completed by late October of 2011. Newly sworn-in American citizen Father Gabriel Bentil is the pastor of the parish. The blessing by Bishop David Fellhauer is scheduled for Sunday, December 4, at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. An appreciation celebration will follow at the Inez Community Center. Thank you to all who have made donations toward St. Joseph's Building Our Faith Campaign. The exterior of St. Joseph Church, shown above, is considerably larger than the original structure. Right, is the interior of the church, above and behind the altar.



## Busy and hot describes this summer's Youth Ministry

By Debbie Vanelli, director of the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Busy, Busy, Hot and Busy. Those adjectives come to mind when I think of the summer of 2011.

Camp David started on June 10 as the staff gathered at the Spiritual Renewal Center and began the thousands of last minute details that comprise Camp David. The first tasks at hand were assembling the challenge course and the water activities, although the temperature reached 98 degrees every day the entire duration of camp, the staff enthusiastically worked as they anxiously anticipated the 180 young people they would be ministering to and sharing their love of Christ with throughout the upcoming week. Their hard work was not in vain, as the first group of 60 junior-high young people arrived Sunday afternoon to experience songs, prayer, fun and fellowship! After three days and two nights of non-stop activities, Session One of Camp David came to an end. The staff quickly had to regroup for the arrival of 60 elementary young people scheduled to arrive in only a

Discipleship Week (D Week) at the Spiritual Renewal Center. This is the 13th year to be selected to host D Week – and is one of only five sites in the nation to do so. It was so popular this year that in addition to filling up every available sleeping area – we housed twenty people on air mattresses on the floor in one of the halls. It was literally wall-to-wall teens! But what a magnificent sight it was to have so many young people attend who were committed to learning more about their faith and building a deeper

four days to regroup and prepare for Quo Vadis? – the Boys Vocation Camp. This is the fifth year to hold the boys vocation camp. Four priests: Fathers Bryan Heyer, Tommy Chen, David Berger and Dan Morales, juggled their extremely busy schedules to spend the week at the camp, in addition to the seven seminarians who also facilitated the camp. This is such a special camp, which allows the participants to ask questions, experience the spiritual life of the priesthood and look at the holiness that all of us are called to as baptized Catholics regardless of what vocation God is calling us to. We were very blessed to have 30 retreatants at this vocation camp.

While it was an extremely busy summer, it is always so rewarding to work with such gifted and willing servants of



Left, Camp David Elementary; above, Camp David Skit; right and below, Rocky Mountain High Retreat



God, as well as the amazing participants of these retreats. We begin now to start looking at the 2011-2012 school year and all the great things God has in store for us.

few short hours. The Elementary Day Camp is always a highlight of the week for the staff as for just a few hours they get to relive their childhood again. Three short, short hours after the elementary camp, Session Two of Camp David began. Another 60 nervous and shy junior-high young people arrived at camp, but within minutes everyone was singing, dancing and participating in the many, many activities. I think one of our camper's evaluations summed it up best when he wrote, "It was awesome, it always is!"

This year, the youth office had the assistance of three seminarians, Jacob Mendoza, Max Landman and Kris Fuchs, for the entire summer. They have truly received a LARGE dose of what comprehensive youth ministry is all about. They had an amazing rapport with the staffers and the youth in attendance and they even managed, for the most part, to "hang in there" for the 17-plus-hour days. All agreed that the hiring of a good youth minister would be a top priority when they become a pastor.

relationship with Jesus Christ.

One day, actually 32-hours later to be exact, we boarded a charter bus for the 24-hour ride to the 26th annual Rocky Mountain High Retreat in Pagosa Springs, Co. We experienced a welcome reprieve from the hot, hot, hot Texas sun as we woke to 45-degree mornings at the camp. But I have to say it was a shortlived reprieve as the temperatures were unseasonably warm in Colorado this year. The young people were truly one of the most delightful groups that we have ever had. Of course the staff for this retreat is second to none, and that certainly sets the tone for the way the retreat flows.

After this retreat, the youth office took



Quo Vadis? – the Boys' Vocation Camp – participants flanked by seven diocesan seminarians (l.) and four diocesan priests (r.)





## Safari offers opportunity to help orphans

Reprinted with permission from the Midlothian Mirror Rebecca Hertz, staff writer

A safari can be defined as a journey or expedition, for hunting, exploration, or investigation. This concept can be true in both a hunt and a friendship.

Greg Goerig, born and raised in El Campo, Texas, graduated St. Philip the Apostle School and El Campo High School, was destined to help others in more ways than one. As MISD's (Midlothian Independent School District – southwest of Dallas) head athletic trainer, he coordinates and supervises all components of the district's athletic training program for student athletes. Greg also enjoys volunteering at the Sunshine Kids Organization as well as playing golf, camping, and spending time with his family. His wife, Brittany, is a Longbranch Elementary teacher and they have three children: Kaylee (14), Landen (11) and Maycee (3).

But Greg says his childhood friend, Chad Waligura, also from El Campo, Texas, St. Philip the Apostle and El Campo High School, is the person who inspired him to become an athletic trainer. Chad is an American outdoor writer, magazine editor, and professional disabled hunter. He suffered a paralyzing injury after diving into a swimming pool in 1986.

Chad says, "When your life is changed by a tragic event, as soon as you find some meaning in that journey, it ceases to be a tragedy."

Over the years, their friendship has remained strong through trials and tribulations. Chad recently received the Pathfinder Award, which included a 10-day, all expense paid trip for two to go on an African Safari Hunt in Namibia (southwestern part of Africa). Greg was humbled when he was invited to accompany Chad on this

journey.

The Midlothian High School athletes and the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America class saw a humanitarian opportunity and decided to collect school supplies, clothing, and games to send to the kids in Africa. Studies indicate that over half of the Namibia population makes less than \$1.50 per day.

Greg and Chad look forward to seeing the African wildlife. They also can't wait to deliver the donated goods and spend quality time together. Greg is the son of Bill and Cynthia Goerig of El Campo, and Chad is

the son of Randy and Judy Waligura of El Campo. They left Saturday afternoon on this adventure, June 4, 2011.

To experience their African Safari, go to

their blog, which will be linked on the Disabled Hunter Magazine Web site: <http://d huntmag.com/namibia-day-6/>



Above, Greg Goerig hands out balls to orphans in Namibia in Africa. Above right, Greg and Chad spend time with the orphans they met in Namibia.



Instead of going empty handed, Greg Goerig and Chad Waligura, both graduates of St. Philip School in El Campo, collect school supplies, clothes and toys to give to orphans they will meet while on an African Safari Hunt that Chad won by receiving the Pathfinder Award; he's a journalist and professional disabled hunter.



**HARLINGEN, TEXAS PARISHIONER IS CROWNED MISS TEEN USA 2011**—Danielle Doty is crowned Miss Teen USA 2011 by her predecessor, Kamie Crawford, at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas July 16. Doty is a parishioner at St. Anthony Church in Harlingen, Texas, in the Brownsville Diocese. (CNS photo/Darren Decker, courtesy Miss Teen USA)

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## August Puzzle Contest prize announced

There is always some part of the world where human rights are trampled and oppression quashes the human spirit. In the 1980s, it was the Soviet Union.

In *Swimming in the Daylight*, Lisa Paul, a Catholic-American student living in Moscow in the early 80s, explains how she grew to understand the perverse reality of the pre-Gorbachev Soviet regime as her friendship with her Russian-language tutor, Inna Kitrosskaya Meiman, blossomed.

Inna, a Soviet-Jewish dissident and refusenik, was repeatedly denied a visa to receive life-saving cancer treatment abroad. The refusal was an apparent punishment imposed on both her and her Jewish husband, Naum, for his participation in the Moscow Helsinki Watch Group—the lone group fighting for human rights in the USSR.

When Lisa returned to the United States, she vowed to do all she could to get Inna out of Moscow. But she was one person, what could she possibly do that would make a difference?

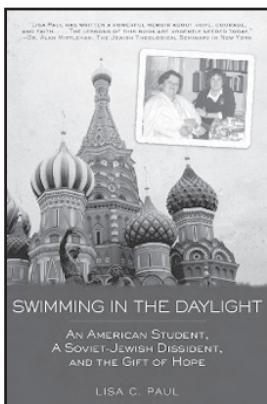
Inspired by her faith and rights as an American, she staged a hunger strike, held press conferences, and galvanized American politicians to demand Inna's immediate release. All of these efforts eventually

persuaded Mikhail Gorbachev to issue Inna a visa, and in January 1987, Inna arrived in Washington, D.C. diminished by illness but triumphant in spirit.

The lessons that Lisa relates in *Swimming in the Daylight* of Inna's heroic struggle are as relevant today as they were during the final years of the Soviet regime: that the human spirit can soar above oppression, that hope can burn through the darkest despair and that one person can make a difference.

*Swimming in the Daylight ~ An American Student, A Soviet-Jewish Dissident, and the Gift of Hope* by Lisa C. Paul and published by Skyhorse Publishing is available in hardcover for \$24.95. Find it on **Amazon.com** and other Web sites or send in completed August Family Puzzle Contest to *The Catholic Lighthouse* by August 25 for a chance to win a copy.

About the Author: Lisa C. Paul lived and worked in Moscow from 1983 to 1985. She worked for a landmark conference on U.S.–Soviet relations in Washington, D.C., and later took a job at the American Committee on U.S.–Soviet Relations until 1990. She is currently an attorney and lives with her husband and two daughters in Shorewood, Wisconsin.



Charline Stehle, SFO vice-minister, and Johana Kurtz, SFO minister-prefect, receive a monetary gift from KJZT #37 President Ruby Wigginton (front row, from left), which will help defray shipping costs of care packages sent to U.S. military. KJZT members in the back row are Rose Mary Havlik, Lilian Foytik, Diane Cowey, Anita Drozd, Doris Koliba, Tommy Wenzel, Roberta Wenzel, and Bessy Immenhauser. Not pictured, but present, is Donald Wigginton.

## Franciscans and KJZT unite for US troop care packages

Members of the St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in Victoria graciously accepted a \$100 monetary gift from the St. Ann KJZT Society #37 of Yoakum. The order will utilize the funds to defray the cost of sending "Care Packages" to Catholic troops overseas. The SFO began this Apostolate five years ago.

## Catholic Host Families Needed For 53 Catholic Exchange Students

Catholic host families - with or without children - are needed to host Catholic international exchange students for upcoming school year. Host families are volunteers and are asked to provide a bed and meals, as well as friendship, understanding and a genuine desire to share the American Catholic way of life with a Catholic youngster from overseas.

The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance and have spending money for their personal expenses. For more information, please contact Yvette Coffman at SHARE! at 800-941-3738 or [info@share-southwest.org](mailto:info@share-southwest.org).

Anyone wanting to donate items such as reading material, religious cards, prayer cards, religious articles, personal care items, etc., may contact Johana Kurtz, SFO, at (361) 741-5308 (Yoakum) or Corrine Dum at (361) 573-3576 (Victoria). Items will be collected during August and the first part of September and will be shipped in mid September.

The Secular Franciscan Order meets once a month on the second Sunday of the month at Our Lady of Lourdes CCD building from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The order was established in the Victoria Diocese in 1995.




**Barbara A. McCain**  
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[www.Woolson.com](http://www.Woolson.com)

## ORDINARY TIME

[www.wordgamesforcatholics.com](http://www.wordgamesforcatholics.com)



ALL SAINTS DAY	LITURGICAL	TEACHINGS
CHRIST THE KING	MIRACLES	TRANSFIGURATION
EVENTS	PARABLES	TRINITY SUNDAY
GREEN	PHASES	TWO
LIFE	SEASON	YEAR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parish: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age if 18 or under: \_\_\_\_\_



## July Puzzle Contest Winners go to the fellows

The winner of the July contest and the book, *Son of a Kulák: How a Hungarian Farm Boy Survived World War II and Escaped Stalinist Oppression for a New Life in America*, is Anthony Petru of Sacred Heart Parish in Hallettsville.

The winner of the children's contest is Matthew C. Heath (11) of Our Lady of Victory Parish in Victoria. He will receive a gift from the Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to the "guys" for playing the Puzzle contest.

The winner of the August Puzzle Contest will win this month's featured book, *Swimming in the Daylight ~ An American Student, A Soviet-Jewish Dissident, and the Gift of Hope* by Lisa C. Paul. See review on this page.

Please mail all completed August puzzle forms to arrive in *The Catholic Lighthouse* office, P. O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 by August 25.

Those wishing to purchase *Son of a Kulák*, may purchase it from booksellers on Web sites from \$22.98 to \$29.95.

## Account of national shrine's beginnings

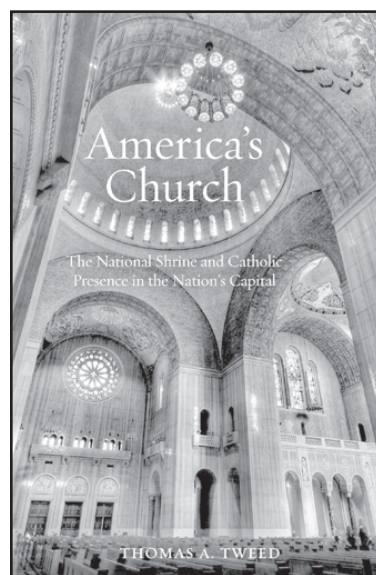
*America's Church: The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and Catholic Presence in the Nation's Capital* by Thomas A. Tweed. Oxford University Press (New York, 2011). 365 pp., \$35. Reviewed by Hugh J. McNichol Catholic News Service

In "America's Church," Thomas A. Tweed, a professor of religious studies at the University of Texas in Austin, gives us a long overdue historical overview of the crucial components of American Catholicism that led to the establishment of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Over the years, the basilica has come to represent many things to various groups within the American Catholic Church, and a historical overview of the political and social intrigues that were part of its construction and completion are part of that rich tapestry.

luminates the multiple groups, clergy and laity alike, that advocated the initiation of a national Catholic cathedral, the author

provides a clear portrait of the intense dynamics at play between the concept of the separation of church and state, the internal intrigues between members of the U.S. Catholic hierarchy and the devotional needs of multiple segments of various Catholic ethnic groups that desired a symbol of their Catholic identity in the nation's capital.

In a detailed and remarkable manner, the author narrates the individuals, groups and events that successfully overcame obstacles of internal Catholic Church politics, governmental and bureaucratic red tape, the shortages of the Second World War and many other unforeseen problems to finally provide a home for American Catholicism that incorporated the multicultural notions and ideals of a growing American Catholic Church.







## Women of Grace participants learn of women's powerful vocation

By Gina Pilkington

For 15 ladies from the Diocese of Victoria, Saturday, May 7, 2011, was a very special day. It was the culmination of the first Women of Grace Foundational Study for the Victoria area. The journey started on the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe at an informational meeting at St. Mary's in Victoria where the ladies were introduced to this study that was developed by Johnnette Benkovic, host of the Abundant Life and Women of Grace on EWTN. The participants committed to weekly meetings and at home lessons from January until May under the patronage of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

At this initial meeting, the closing address to women from Vatican II was discussed. Here is a portion of the letter; please remember that this was given to all women on December 8, 1965...

"And now it is to you that we address ourselves, women of all states — girls, wives, mothers and widows, to you also, consecrated virgins and women living

alone — you constitute half of the immense human family. As you know, the Church is proud to have glorified and liberated woman, and in the course of the centuries, in diversity of characters, to have brought into relief her basic equality with man. But the hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of woman is being achieved in its fullness, the hour in which woman acquires in the world an influence, an effect and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why, at this moment when the human race is under-going so deep a transformation, women impregnated with the spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid mankind in not falling....

Women, you do know how to make truth sweet, tender and accessible, make it your task to bring the spirit of this council into institutions, schools, homes and daily life. Women of the entire universe, whether Christian or non-believing, you to whom life is entrusted at this grave moment in history, it is for you to save the peace of the world."

Those are powerful words that many of the ladies had never heard before. Mother Church is asking all women to bring peace in the world and to aid mankind in not falling. Through this study, the ladies delved into prayer, Sacred Scripture, the Catechism, the lives of amazing women saints, especially the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and papal encyclicals to understand and accept God's urgent call to "aid humanity in not falling." The ladies learned to embrace their gift of authentic femininity and their dignity as a daughter of God. In addition to weekly meetings, there were monthly Masses for the intentions of the Women of Grace members, and the ladies began keeping a holy hour in the Adoration chapel of St. Mary's.

This fall, St. Mary's will be hosting another Women of Grace study for the Victoria area. The study will begin in September and go through December. This is a life-changing study that will feed you spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. Here are a few comments from the ladies who completed the study....

"John Paul II made me aware of the role of woman in God's plan for the salvation of others. Never again will I think of myself as that 60's woman just "doing my own thing."

"Johnnette's wonderful book and study guide is filled with so many beautiful insights from Scripture, the catechism, the lives of the saints, and her and the other contributors' personal experiences. So many resources, besides the Sacraments, are given to feed my soul and prepare myself to nurture others in the Catholic faith. No more excuses not to evangelize."

"My son gave me a Catechism years ago; through this study I opened it for the first time and realized what a treasure it is, and how easy it is to read and understand."

"As a cradle Catholic I still don't know a lot of traditions, celebrations/feasts, saints, etc... This program was a great way to be introduced and learn more about these. What contributes to the success is the fact that this program is well rooted in the Catholic Church's teachings and traditions."

If you are interested in participating in this fall study, please e-mail Gina at wogvictortiatx@gmail.com or call the St. Mary's office at (361) 573-4328, and leave your contact information.

## Sunday Readings from Aug. 7 to Sept. 11

August 7 —  
Nineteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:19a, 11-13a  
Psalms 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:22-23

August 14 —  
Twentieth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7  
Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8  
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32  
Matthew 15:21-28

August 21 —  
Twenty-First Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23  
Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20

August 28 —  
Twenty-Second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27

September 4 —  
Twenty-Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7-9  
Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9  
Romans 13:8-10  
Matthew 18:15-20

September 11 —  
Twenty Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30 — 28:7  
Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12  
Romans 14:7-9  
Matthew 18:21-35

All daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, are available in text or audio at:

[www.usccb.org/nab/](http://www.usccb.org/nab/)

*Brought to you by the Catholic Communications Campaign — please be generous.*

## Choose Life license plates become reality in Texas in September!

Reprinted from <http://www.txchoose-life.org/> with slight editing to update story

The 12-year effort to pass a bill to create a Choose Life license plate in Texas has finally met with success! On May 4, 2011, the Texas House of Representatives gave final approval to Senate Bill 257 to authorize the Department of Motor Vehicles to create a Choose Life license plate. The state Senate had passed the same bill on March 16. Pro-life Gov. Rick Perry signed it into law on May 17.

The Choose Life plate will be available after September. The cost will be \$30, of which \$22 will go to eligible nonprofit organizations to promote infant adoption and to assist pregnant mothers considering adoption.

The Choose Life plates promote infant adoption as a compassionate alternative to abortion. The "Choose Life" message will gently but persuasively increase awareness, and the sales of the plate will raise funds for nonprofit organizations to provide services to pregnant women considering the loving option of adoption.

### The Texas Legislature

The Texas Legislature convened on January 11, 2011. The Legislature considered two identical bills to create the Choose Life specialty plate, Senate Bill 257 by Sen. John Carona (R-Dallas) and House Bill 238 by Rep. Larry Phillips (R-Sherman). Rep. Phillips secured the endorsement of 98 (of 150) members of the House.

On March 16, the Senate passed SB 257 on a 21-9 vote. The

House gave preliminary approval (2nd reading) to SB 257 on a 95-29 vote on May 3 after fending off six hostile amendments. Then the House gave final approval the next day on a 110-26 vote.

### Infant Adoption in Texas: Too Little Awareness, Too Few Adoptions

Only 1 percent of infants born into non-marital circumstances are placed for adoption. That's fewer than 1,400 infants across the entire state per year.

For every infant placed for adoption, 64 unborn children are terminated by abortion.

### Specialty License Plates

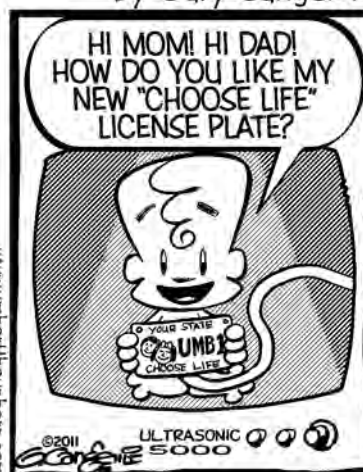
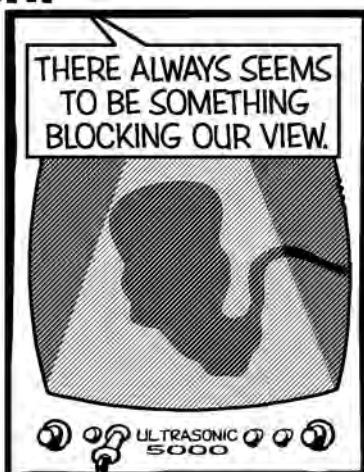
Twenty-six states already have approved the Choose Life license plates. Sales of the plates have raised nearly \$14 million to promote infant adoption.

Texas has more than 130 specialty license plates to raise funds for a variety of causes.

This Web site is sponsored by Texas Alliance for Life (TAL), the official state contact of Choose Life, Inc.



## Umbert the Unborn



by Gary Cangemi

See *Unborn Hero*, p. 16





## Archbishop Sambi, apostolic nuncio to U.S., dies from medical complications

WASHINGTON—Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, died at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore July 27, apparently from complications of lung surgery performed approximately three weeks earlier. He was 73. Staff at the nunciature, his residence in Washington, on July 22 asked for prayers of the Catholic community for him.

On July 29 and 30, his body lay in state at the Apostolic Nunciature in Washington and was then transported to Italy for funeral services.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated September 14 for the late archbishop at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington; it will coincide with the fall meeting of the USCCB Administrative Committee. Bishops from around the country will concelebrate the Mass, which will also serve as an opportunity for the diplomatic corps to pay its respects to Archbishop Sambi. As the Vatican ambassador to the United States, Archbishop Sambi was a member of the corps.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said Archbishop Sambi was a friend of the United States.

“As the personal representative of the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI, Archbishop Sambi enjoyed the highest respect and deepest affection of the bishops of the United States and of our Catholic people,” Archbishop Dolan said in a July 28 statement.

Archbishop Sambi was appointed U.S. nuncio, or ambassador, in December 2005 by Pope Benedict XVI. Prior to the U.S. appointment, Pope John Paul II had named him nuncio to Israel and Cyprus and apostolic delegate in Jerusalem and Palestine in 1998. The appointment made him only the second Vatican ambassador to Israel, after the Vatican and Israel established diplomatic relations in 1994.

Archbishop Sambi was a native of central Italy and was ordained a priest in 1964. He was named an archbishop and nuncio to Burundi in 1985, a position he held for six years until being named nuncio to Indonesia.

During Pope Benedict’s April 2008 visit to the United States, Archbishop Sambi accompanied the pope and hosted him at the nunciature, where the pope held a historic private meeting with five victims of clergy sexual abuse.

Before the pope’s arrival, the archbishop said Pope Benedict was coming to “strengthen the faith, the hope and love of the Catholic Church in the United States,” adding that he hoped the pope’s visit would “bring a new wind of Pentecost ... a new springtime” to the U.S. church.

Archbishop Sambi recognized the global role of the United States and the U.S. church and told the bishops in 2006 an anecdote from his time as Vatican representative to Indonesia. He recalled a Christmas he spent in a remote village in

Indonesia where in street shops, he said, “I found Coca-Cola and Marlboros.”

“I think the United States and the church of the United States has something more to bring to the world than Marlboros and Coca-Cola,” he told the bishops.

Shortly after being named U.S. nuncio, Archbishop Sambi told Catholic News Service, the official news service of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, of the reach of the church in the United States.

“I travel a lot throughout the world. It is difficult to find a part of the world where the charity of U.S. Catholics did not reach the poor or sick people,” he said.

Archbishop Sambi received many honors, including an honorary doctorate in public and ecclesial service, May 8, from Regis University in Denver. In 2009, he received the Living Stones Solidarity Award, which honors those who have

made “a sustained and extraordinary effort to love, support and stand in solidarity with the Christians in the Holy Land.” It is bestowed by the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation ([www.hcef.org](http://www.hcef.org)).

Last September he was the principal celebrant of a Mass marking the 13th anniversary of the death of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, which coincided with the U.S. Postal Service’s issuance of a stamp bearing her likeness.

“This stamp looks almost like a holy card. I pray it may serve in some small way as a reminder of Mother Teresa,” Archbishop Sambi said. “May Jesus stamp upon our hearts the same spirit as Mother’s to love God, the church and the poorest of the poor more than ourselves.”

At a 10th anniversary observance in 2009 of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification signed by Catholics and Lutherans, Archbishop Sambi told a Washington audience that today’s disciples of Jesus, like the first disciples, should be recognized by how they love each other and, guided by Jesus, they should walk together in a spirit of unity, mutual respect and brotherhood.

“Each act of unity is a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus,” said the archbishop.

At the 2007 convention of the National Catholic Educational Association, he called teachers “the greatest artists of the world ... because you sculpt the best of what you are, not in a piece of marble but in human beings who are the glory of God.”

“Each of us has forgotten a lot of what we were told in school,” he added, “but a lot of what’s inside is from the example of teachers.”

Archbishop Sambi had not yet been appointed to the U.S. until when Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005, but a year after the storm, he took what locals call a “misery tour” of New Orleans. It was only then, he said, he realized the extent of the damage. “You cannot measure the extent of it until you come on the spot,” he said.



Italian Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., is pictured in a 2006 photo. Archbishop Sambi, a veteran Vatican diplomat, died July 27 in Baltimore following complications after lung surgery. He was 73. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

## THE POPE SPEAKS

Pope Benedict XVI



CNS photo from Reuters

## Pope emphasizes importance of rightly formed conscience

By Catholic News Service

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the proper formation of conscience requires the ability to listen to “the voice of truth,” which is particularly important for people in positions of governing.

The pope, meeting with pilgrims at his summer residence outside Rome July 24, spoke about the biblical figure of King Solomon, who prayed to God at the beginning of his reign for “an understanding heart.” The king’s prayer was motivated by the responsibility of guiding a nation, but is valid for everyone, the pope said.

Essentially, Solomon was praying for “a conscience that knows how to listen, that is sensitive to the voice of truth and

for this reason is capable of discerning good from evil,” he said.

Formation of a moral conscience requires this openness to the truth and the willingness to conform one’s action to the truth, he said.

“The people called to the task of governing naturally have an additional responsibility and therefore -- as Solomon teaches -- have even more need of God’s help. But each person has a part to play, in various concrete situations,” he said.

The pope said that praying to God for preferential treatment or conditions reflected a “mistaken mentality.” Instead, he said, people should ask above all for the capacity to recognize good and evil and to act on that awareness in their lives.

## Catholic By Grace

By Denise E. Bossert  
[www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com](http://www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com)



## “Offer it up” is not the same thing as “get over it”

I used to place a high premium on getting a good night’s sleep. On nights when I battled insomnia, I considered throwing the alarm clock at the bedroom wall. I tried every nesting routine that had been successful in the past, stopping short of walking in circles on the bed like a dog. When I didn’t get a solid night’s sleep, everyone knew it the next day.

I used to love eating in restaurants. Someone else made the meal. Someone else cleaned the messy dishes. When we had to rein in the spending, our eat-out budget got chopped. After about two weeks, I would simply have to go to Denny’s and get the Grand Slam.

I still hope for a good night’s sleep, and I still enjoy eating out. But something is changing. I’m craving a spiritual diet and rejuvenation time with God more than a meal out and blissful sleep.

I’ve learned to turn insomnia into prayer time. I’m learning to be okay with what is in the food pantry at home. I’m learning to offer these things up to the Cross.

The saints tell us that we can do little things for God. If we let God transform us in little ways, He will begin to transform us in all ways.

Every little sacrifice, every little suffering can become part of God’s redemption story.

Catholics have a phrase for this little act of faith. It’s called offering it up. I mention it to my family now and then. I’m careful about when and where I say it. It should never be said in place of a snippy get over it.

Offer it up is not the same thing as get over it. The first phrase is an encouragement; it is filled with hope. It has the potential to transform the smallest thing into something good and holy and lovely.

The second phrase is a chastisement; it seeks to control and silence another person. It has the potential to destroy whatever is

good and holy and lovely in these little moments of sacrifice.

So, I remind my family to offer it up when I really do hope and pray that they might do it.

My youngest daughter gets it, like she gets all these Catholic things. She gets it because she has no memory of a time before we became Catholic. She was only five when I converted.

Not John. Like me, my husband didn’t grow up in the Catholic Church. And he has never been the kind of guy to accept something that’s more fluff than substance. So, the first time I suggested that he offer it up, he chuckled and said, “I have no idea what that means.”

I quoted Colossians 1:24 and he said he still didn’t get it, but he added a quick “But that’s okay; I don’t have to get everything to know the Church has it right,” he said. Catholic theology went from one perspective (among many) to truth for him in 2008. Sometimes, though, he just likes to see if I’m up to the challenge of defending our new faith.

These are some of my favorite moments with John. He knows how much I like talks

See “Offer it up,” p. 15

## Pope Benedict XVI’s Intentions August 2011

**General Intention:** That the World Youth Day taking place in Madrid may encourage all the young people of the world to root and found their lives in Christ.

**Missionary Intention:** That Christians of the West, docile to the action of the Holy Spirit, may re-encounter the freshness and enthusiasm of their faith.

## Taizé Prayer Experience – Aug. 30

Amor Meus Spirituality Center invites you to A Taizé Prayer Experience on August 30, 2011, from 7-8 p.m. in the Convent Auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, (1101 N.E. Water Street, Victoria). Taizé prayer service held in a candle-light atmosphere consists of music, song, chant, scriptural reading, meditation and prayers of intercession. For information call 361-575-7111.

Mark your calendar for an Amor Meus Retreat on Saturday, September 17.





## Confession: It puts you straight with everyone

**Blog by Sister Mary Ann Walsh, spokeswoman for the USCCB**

Penance, aka confession, is the sacrament of the forgiveness of sin. You can't beat it for convenience. It's available practically whenever. Tell a priest you want to go to confession and you'll get his attention. One bishop I know was cornered on an airplane. Another passenger figured out what was going on and asked if he could confess too. It must have been an interesting game of musical seats. An interesting question for priests might be: Where was the strangest place you ever administered the sacrament of penance? The answers I've gathered include "in a sports bar, at a graduation party" and "on the golf course, walking up the fairway."



Sometimes you need to talk in absolute confidence. Even under subpoena, a priest can't tell anyone what's said to him in confession. He can't even hint at it. Now that's confidentiality.

2. Housekeeping for the soul. It feels good to be able to start a clean life all over again. Like going into a sparkling living room in your home, it's nice when clutter is removed – even if it's your own.

3. A balm for the desire for revenge. When you have been forgiven you can forgive others. If the perfect Jesus forgives me, who am I to want to avenge the slights in my life. Think: "Why did they promote him over me?" or "Mom played favorites!"

4. Low cost therapy. It's free, which makes it cheaper than a psychiatrist for dealing with guilt.

5. Forced time to think. Socrates said

that the unexamined life is not worth living. To examine our lives and acknowledge failings marks the first step of making things right with God, others and ourselves. Life can be more worth living when you ponder the meaning of your own life.

6. Contribution toward world peace. Gaudium et Spes, the Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, said that the imbalances in the world that lead to war and tensions "are linked with that more basic imbalance which is rooted in the heart of man." Peace of soul leads to peace of heart leads to peace beyond oneself.

7. A better neighborhood. Confession leaves you feeling good about yourself, thereby cutting back the inclination to road rage and aggressive shopping cart driving. With the grace of the sacrament you're energized to, as Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery, "go and sin no more."

8. Realistic self-perception. Confession helps overcome arrogance when you have to admit you're as much of a sinner as anyone else. It helps build tolerance for others' perceived shortcomings.

9. One more benefit of being Catholic. There are lots of benefits, including a sense of community, liturgical rites to help us encounter God in prayer, and the wonderful sense of humanity exemplified in the saints, from Mary, the loving Mother of God, to Augustine, the exasperating son of Monica. The sacrament that leads us to inner peace is among the greatest boons.

10. Closeness to God. Confession helps you realize that you have a close connection to God and receive his grace through the sacraments. What can be better than knowing God's on your team, or, to be less arrogant about it, that you are on God's.

<http://usccbmedia.blogspot.com/2011/07/confession-it-puts-you-straight-with.html>

## "Offer it up"

*Continued from p. 14*

like this. But sometimes, it's frustrating because mysteries can't be contained in 800 word articles – or two minute conversations between husbands and wives.

"Just try it. You don't have to get it to give it a try." Sometimes, that's all I can say. Sometimes, there are no words or great analogies.

"Sort of like fake it until you make it," he says.

"No. More like 'I believe, Lord, help my unbelief,'" I tell him.

John says, "Okay." I smile then, knowing he'll keep asking me for explanations when this comes up. Not because he thinks it is nonsense. It has simply become one of those little dialogs we have. It's almost scripted. It's the dance we do. And it is awesome.

A dialog between two lovers that somehow reminds us that we like being together and talking about stuff like this.

Kind of like offering it up, which is also a dialog between lovers. This time, it's between the Beloved and the human soul. An offering of everything from insomnia to simple meals at home. Little things offered with great love. Moments we repeat again and again, like a divinely scripted dialog. Go ahead, offer it up.

Read more from Denise Bossert at [www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com](http://www.catholicbygrace.blogspot.com)

## Young people want more than what pop culture offers

NEW YORK (CNS) – Young people have been "beaten down" by a message from media and pop culture that anything goes in their personal and public life, but what they really want is to "make a difference in the world," a former fashion model, Leah Darrow, told a New York audience. Darrow made the remarks July 25 at the Church of the Holy Family during an event sponsored by the Holy See's permanent observer mission to the United Nations; it coincided with the U.N. General Assembly's high-level meeting on youths July 25-26.

## Guest Commentary

### The truth with charity

Responding to editors' requests for a regular sampling of current commentary from around the Catholic press, here is an unsigned editorial titled "The truth with charity," which appeared in the July 16 issue of The Tablet, newspaper of the Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y.

At the Sunday Angelus July 10, Pope Benedict XVI, reflecting on the Gospel about the sower, addressed his outdoor audience on Christ's use of parables. God, the Holy Father remarked, does not force us to believe in him, for he always respects our freedom. Yet his thirst for our souls invites him to draw us in by awakening our curiosity. The persuasive power of the parables is at once their engaging simplicity and their call for further explanation. What an interesting – and compelling – model for a teaching church: to propose the saving message through example!

Responding to his disciples' questioning why he speaks plainly to them but to others in parables, Jesus says parables are not necessary for those to whom "knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven" have been granted. Those not so endowed, however, may first need a gentle appeal to their intellectual curiosity. In a way, the pope said, Jesus is the ultimate "parable" for he both reveals yet conceals the mystery of God. Indeed, Jesus lived – and died – the truth he taught. Can the same be said of his followers?

Church teaching is and must remain clear, to be sure. Clarity, of definition, however, does not always inspire an acclamation of faith, let alone a conversion of the heart.

Jesus himself delivered sharp, bold statements at times that, confounding earthly habits and expectations, were swiftly rejected. Recall his commands about eating his body and drinking his blood and being born again in water and in spirit so as to have life and enter the kingdom of heaven. Yet he did not limit himself to such pronouncements. He also used engaging, creative examples – sometimes even miraculous signs, though never for their own sake and only to reveal deeper mysteries. Recall how He engaged the woman at the well and the rich young man, but with different results. The one accepted His invitation, becoming herself an evangelizer. The other walked away, unable to let go of his possessions and trust Jesus as his true treasure.

As the Church finds itself engaged in the public arena, addressing a society so confused and conflicted about the value of human life, the meaning of human sexuality, the rights of the unborn, immigrants, the poor and many others who are marginalized, it is helpful to recall the many ways of proposing the saving message. On moral issues, the ability to make reasonable arguments about, for example, the true meaning of marriage, the slippery slope of euthanasia, the tenuous logic of the death penalty offers the Church a more tenable starting point for participation in public debate.

Those who say the Church has no business "imposing" sectarian beliefs on society seem unaware of the very nature of our constitutional guarantees, that not only protect the freedom to express one's beliefs but presuppose an atmosphere in which many beliefs and ideas will be professed and debated in public. Without the presumption of public debate, there would be no need for the First Amendment.

More to the point, however, to propose a principle is not to impose it on anyone. Offering grounds for its reasonability can even be an act of charity in the service of truth, which deprives no one of freedom but, on the contrary, respects, if not enhances it.

Recent responses of some outspoken American bishops – such as Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone (Oakland, Calif.) – to attempts to legitimize same-sex unions are right on the money, pointing out the injustice of comparing two fundamentally different kinds of relationships or calling a "civil right" what by no means is a clear subject of constitutional protections. What is guaranteed under the Constitution is the right of such religious leaders to make their case.

That said, the most convincing way to promote a fundamental conviction is to live it. The earliest Christians took a pagan world by storm through the incomparable charity and self-sacrifice revealed by their care for the sick, widows and alienated in unheard of ways.

Throughout the AIDS saga, the Catholic Church has distinguished itself as the largest single care provider for those afflicted, without regard to the human failings contributing to its proliferation.

So, too, can we all love and care for those with whom we disagree, without compromising our commitment to do the truth with charity.

## Guest Commentary

### The truth with charity

Responding to editors' requests for a regular sampling of current commentary from around the Catholic press, here is an unsigned editorial titled "The truth with charity," which appeared in the July 16 issue of The Tablet, newspaper of the Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y.

At the Sunday Angelus July 10, Pope Benedict XVI, reflecting on the Gospel about the sower, addressed his outdoor audience on Christ's use of parables. God, the Holy Father remarked, does not force us to believe in him, for he always respects our freedom. Yet his thirst for our souls invites him to draw us in by awakening our curiosity. The persuasive power of the parables is at once their engaging simplicity and their call for further explanation. What an interesting – and compelling – model for a teaching church: to propose the saving message through example!

Responding to his disciples' questioning why he speaks plainly to them but to others in parables, Jesus says parables are not necessary for those to whom "knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven" have been granted. Those not so endowed, however, may first need a gentle appeal to their intellectual curiosity. In a way, the pope said, Jesus is the ultimate "parable" for he both reveals yet conceals the mystery of God. Indeed, Jesus lived – and died – the truth he taught. Can the same be said of his followers?

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So, too, can we all love and care for those with whom we disagree, without compromising our commitment to do the truth with charity.

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**Sunday, September 4, 2011**

Flag Raising Ceremony at 9:30 a.m. • Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m. • Cakewalk 11:00 a.m.  
 Polka Lovers Klub of America Dance Performance 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.  
 Toy Walk • Country Store • Duck Pond • Ring Toss • Horseshoe Tournament at 1:00 p.m.  
 Ball Throw • Train Ride • Nachos • Hamburger Stand • High Hill Homemade Sausage  
 Souvenir Booth • Bingo (Lic.#3-00-0620320) 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
 Sweepstakes (Over 50 Prizes) Drawing at 9:00 p.m.

**Music During the Day by**

**Texas Sound Czech and Mark Halata/Texavia**

**Free Dance at Night by Texas Dream**

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**Chicken & Stew Dinner**

11:00 a.m. to ?

(German Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Green Beans, Peaches & Tea)

Adults - \$8 /Children \$4 (Dine-in) • (Drive-thru plates-to-go \$8)

**Auction 1:00 p.m.**





## Unborn Hero Celebrates 10th Year in the Womb

Continued from p. 13

next couple of years to carve a niche for Umbert in mainstream newspapers and other media. The rights of the unborn deserve a place in our public discourse, even if confined to the editorial page. Wherever it is possible for such a discussion to take place, Umbert will be there," stated Cangemi.

Pro-life commentary is actually only a portion of the strip's focus. Because the strip appears largely in faith-based publications, Umbert also touches on spiritual matters with the help of his Guardian Angel and his Unborn Edition of the Holy Bible. Of course, Cangemi can't resist a little pre-natal humor as well, as Umbert orders "womb-service," reads Gestation for Dummies, and treats his ultrasounds as reality television.

Since 2001 the comic strip's population has grown, featuring such new characters as Elwood, the pre-natal genius, Vita, the child of a single mom who's struggling with the idea of pregnancy, Cara, a child with Down Syndrome, Umbert's cousin Eb the Embryo from Texas, Fredo, a frozen embryo living on a secluded ice floe, and Doby and Toby, a pair of fraternal twins whose antics are reminiscent of Laurel and Hardy. There are also some villains and rogues who occasionally visit Umbert to tempt or otherwise distract him from his pro-life message such as B.L. Zeebub or "Bub," the little devil, Dr. Dubious, the mad doctor of science run amok, Mr. Reaper, complete with black robe and scythe, the P.C. Police, and Joyce for Choice, a female unborn baby who ran against Umbert for President of the Unborn States of America.

How do all these characters interact? It's simple, at least in the mind of Gary Cangemi. They have pre-natal computers from which they access the "interwomb" and the "womb-wide web." They even have their own social networking site called Fetusbook. Likewise, they can talk to each other on their stem-cell phones, being careful to avoid those which use embryonic stem cells.

"My critics say that my strip is too bizarre and fanciful; the very idea of a conscious unborn human child who thinks and talks," says Cangemi, "I have to laugh, I don't hear them complaining about the talking dogs and cats that populate the funny pages. It's all about using the imagination to simplify serious issues, in this case, matters of life and death."

Other critics have complained about using humor to deal with such a sensitive subject as abortion. Early on, a woman wrote the editor of a diocesan paper that doing a comic strip about abortion was

as unthinkable as doing one about the Holocaust.

"That really surprised me," Cangemi remarked, "my strip doesn't make fun of abortion. It exposes the absurdity of the human logic that makes abortion



Gary Cangemi  
Umbert Creator

permissible. I'm always very careful not to offend, I would much rather illuminate and invite people to rethink their position by tugging at their heartstrings or their funny bones."

Is there a birthday in the works for a baby who has spent ten years in the womb? Cangemi has no plans to end Umbert's unborn saga anytime soon, referring to a promise he made to a young boy from Kentucky who asked the same question.

"I told him that Umbert would be born when every child's right to be born was acknowledged and protected by law. It's a promise I still hope to keep in my lifetime."

To that end, Gary Cangemi is actively involved as vice-chairman of the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life, working closely with the chapter's president, Helen Gohsler, whose request for a teaching vehicle for pro-life issues for children inspired him to create Umbert. Cangemi also travels to other cities to speak and present his cartoons to pro-life audiences. He is also a regular workshop presenter at the National Right to Life Conference and will be speaking at next year's conference in Washington, D.C.

Umbert can be seen every day on his "womb-site" at [www.umberttheunborn.com](http://www.umberttheunborn.com), in the National Catholic Register, Faith & Family Magazine, and a host of diocesan newspapers around the country.

**Pray for the end  
to the Genocide  
of Abortion!**

## Number of U. S. Deaths in Pro-life Categories: death penalty, war, abortion



## Americans and War

Continued from p. 1

1982-84; Invasion of Panama, 1989; and the current War on Terror.

However, even more Americans have been killed by a hidden, and often times, secret enemy. Just since the beginning of 2011, this quiet enemy has surpassed the bloodshed caused by our very vocal enemies of state over the past 110 years.

Who or what is this enemy that has killed over 700,000 Americans in the past seven months, 60,000 more than in U. S. wars or skirmishes over the past century? Some readers may have already guessed; others will be shocked. That enemy is the abortion industry, as well as millions of apathetic Christians.

The last official American serviceman killed in Vietnam, based on the official end of the Vietnam War being Jan. 27, 1973, was Lieutenant Colonel William B. Nolde. Since then, another 7,490 U. S. Service personnel have died in military combat, but during that same time period, with the decision of Roe vs. Wade on Jan. 22, 1973, over 53-million Americans have been killed by abortion.

A colleague questioned me about these statistics, asking, "Or, could you mean there's been 53,000,000 abortions throughout the world since 1973?" I had to steady her for the fact I was about to lay out for her and said, "No, nearly that same amount, 50-million, is killed throughout the world by abortion each and every year."

It's odd that the protests of the "Make love, not war" generation helped influence the end to the Viet Nam War because they had seen enough death, but their "free love" attitude brought about a new, silent war against humanity, deaths that for the

most part are hidden from society.

Yes, in recent years, the daily abortion rate in the United States has actually gone down by about one-quarter, but when you compare the number to combat deaths, the decrease is hardly noticeable.

Some may argue that the life of a fetus can't be compared to the life of a soldier, but what determines human life? Having a heartbeat? Having fingerprints? If so, an unborn human being has a heartbeat 21-days after its conception and has fingerprints another three-weeks later – days or even weeks before its mother is even aware of being pregnant.

And, like in all wars, the survivors and the loved ones of the expired suffer greatly from the affects of the murderous tactics of the enemy – from Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder, depression, and a lack of stability and income – possibly leading to homelessness, prostitution and drug sales and use.

In the war that took the most U. S. servicemen's lives, WWII, Adolf Hitler lured his followers into thinking that Jews were not humans, but rather "sub-human." And the concentration camps, in which he used to exterminate the Jews, were hidden away in rural lands or behind tall walls. Abortion, with its similarities to the hidden atrocities of war, reminds us that "Out of sight, out of mind."

We U.S. Christians should, more zealously than ever before, be at the battlefield, protesting in the war against humanity; otherwise we may get caught using the same excuse as many German citizens after WWII – that they just "didn't know" about the holocaust taking place in their own backyards.

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**"For every infant placed for adoption, 64 unborn children are terminated by abortion"**

Texas Alliance for Life. See Choose Life plates, p. 13

**St. Mary's Parish**

**Festival & Homecoming**

**Nada Community Center • Sept. 4**

**Barbecue Beef & Sausage Dinner • \$8 p/p 11-1:30**

Enjoy Polka Music while you dine in the air-cooled hall  
Plates-To-Go available with a drive-thru line open 11-1

*Antique Tractor & Equipment*  
*exhibition from 10-4~Parade of Tractors*  
*Ladies' Bazaar • Waterslide • Karaoke*  
*Train Ride • Bingo • Variety Walk • Kid's Games*  
*Special Appearance by Rainbow the Clown*

Free Dance with music by DJ Vestal Odom from 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
Come When You Can - Leave When You Want - Plenty of Free Parking





Israeli and Palestinians take part in a demonstration calling for Palestinian independence outside Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem's Old City July 15. Thousands of Israeli and Palestinian peace activists marched from outside Jaffa Gate to the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The Palestinian government will ask the U.N. to recognize their state in September since peace talks with Israel have been stalled since 2008. (CNS photo/Amir Cohen, Reuters)



A woman holds a malnourished child at Banadir Hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia, July 17. Pope Benedict XVI urged the international community to deliver urgent humanitarian aid to drought-stricken eastern Africa, especially Somalia, where tens of thousands have fled drought and famine. On July 16, the Vatican sent an initial aid contribution of 50,000 euros (\$70,000) for the victims of the crisis in Somalia. The funds were sent in the pope's name from the Pontifical Council Cor Unum to Bishop Giorgio Bertin of Djibouti, who also serves as apostolic administrator of Mogadishu, Somalia. (CNS photo/Feisal Omar, Reuters)

## Drought Endangers Millions in East Africa

Hunger and the threat of malnutrition are becoming the daily reality for millions of people in East Africa. A lack of rainfall and rising food prices are increasingly straining their food supply, CRS staff members in the region are reporting.

"Rains last fall failed completely," says CRS Africa Team Leader Brian Gleeson. "And spring rains earlier this year were erratic and weak. As a result, farmers have experienced horrible harvests and pastoralists are seeing their livestock dying off."

This drought—it's been one of the driest years in the region since 1950-1951—has combined with increased food costs to put 10 million people across the Horn of Africa in need of humanitarian assistance. Most live in Kenya and Ethiopia, countries where CRS has worked for decades.

CRS has been active in Kenya for decades with many programs that address agricultural and water needs and have helped mitigate the effect of the drought. But the severity of the drought, coupled with rising food prices, is overwhelming the ability of millions of people in East Africa to cope, CRS staff members in the region are reporting.

But now Kenya is being burdened further by an influx of tens of thousands of refugees from Somalia; most are striking out in search of food because dangers in Somalia limit humanitarian outreach.

A Catholic Relief Services team is on the ground in the Eastern Kenyan town of Dadaab, home to a sprawling refugee camp that sees some 1,300 people arrive each day from drought-stricken Somalia, only one of the countries in East Africa where hunger and the threat of malnutri-

tion are the daily reality for 11 million people.

The United Nations officially declared a famine in parts of Somalia, the first such declaration in two decades, meaning it's been determined that many are dying from a lack of food. These areas are plagued by a lack of security, which severely limits humanitarian assistance.

Working with church partners through the region's bishop, CRS has been able to get some aid into the stricken areas of Somalia. For families unable to access aid in Somalia, survival means walking across a harsh desert to camps like the one in Dadaab, in a region of Kenya that is also suffering under drought conditions.

In Ethiopia, the CRS-led Joint Emergency Operational Plan is ramping up. Now feeding 400,000 people, it should reach 1 million beginning this month.

**Stocks | Bonds | CDs  
Mutual Funds | IRAs**

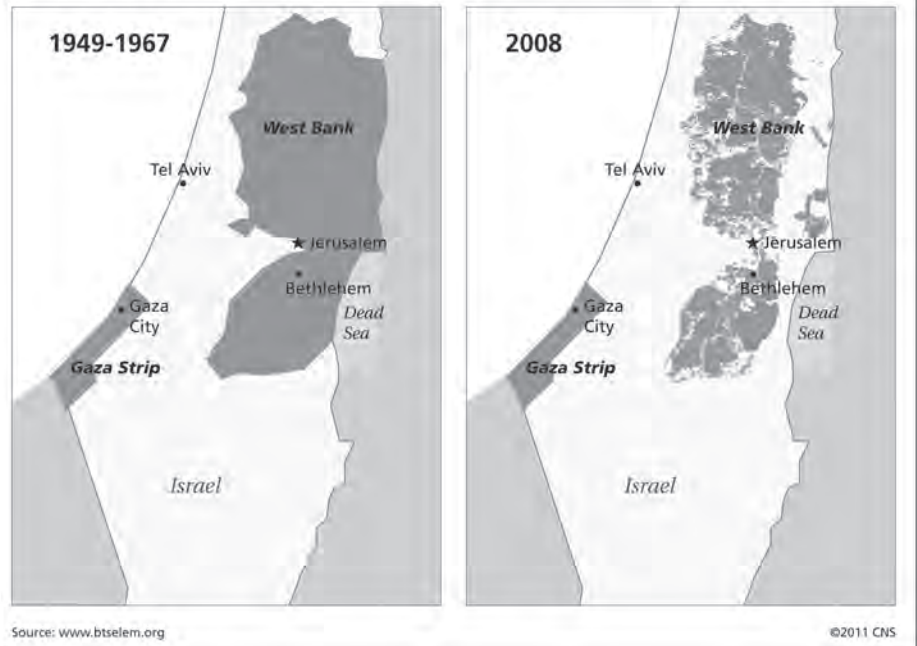


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**PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES:** Since the end of the 1967 Mideast war, Israel has increased the territory it occupies.



Source: www.btselem.org

©2011 CNS

## Pope meets Palestinian leader

**By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas held talks with Pope Benedict as well as with Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, the Vatican's foreign minister in early June 2011.

The Vatican said the talks were "cordial" and focused on "the troubled situation in the Holy Land," according to a written Vatican statement released after the meeting.

Particular emphasis was put "on the urgent need to find a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one capable of ensuring respect for the rights of all and, therefore, the attainment of the Palestinian people's legitimate aspirations for an independent state," the Vatican statement said.

Soon both Israel and the Palestinian nation will have to "live in security, at peace with their neighbors and within internationally recognized borders," it said.

Peace will come to the region with the help of the world community and by upholding "a spirit of cooperation and

openness to reconciliation," it said.

The talks also focused on the situation of Christians in the Palestinian territories and the Middle East, saying Christians make an "irreplaceable contribution" to society.

The two leaders also said they hoped that recently resumed talks between the Vatican and the Palestinian Liberation Organization would "proceed fruitfully toward the elaboration of a comprehensive agreement" between the two parties.

The diplomatic talks, which resumed at the end of 2010, aim to elaborate ways to implement the "Basic Agreement" between the Vatican and the PLO. The agreement was signed in 2000 spelling out principles for guaranteeing church rights and religious freedom in territories administered by the Palestinian Authority.

## Pray for Peace on Earth, Rain, for the Homeless and Starving!

### SACRED HEART PARISH FALL PICNIC

129 Years

**Sunday, September 4, 2011**  
at the K.C. Hall in Hallettsville, Texas

Dinner: Serving from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Drive thru Plates-to-Go: 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Country Fried Chicken, Stew, Homemade Cornbread Dressing  
with all the trimmings!

Adults \$7.50 Children \$4.00

**AUCTION on the Main Pavilion at 1:00 p.m.**

Inside the air-conditioned KC Hall,  
Bingo (Noon to 6:00 p.m.),  
Cake Walk, Country Store &  
Religious Articles Booth.

Kiddie Rides & Games  
all afternoon!!!

Parrot Plop!!

Sponsored by Sacred Heart Youth

Washer Pitching Tournament  
begins at 5:00 p.m.

**Music on the Main Pavilion**

Kovanda Czech Band  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Free Dance on the  
Polka Pavilion/Biergarten  
Dujka Brothers &  
The Red Ravens  
1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Delicious hamburgers,  
french fries, nachos,  
popcorn, funnel cakes, sno-  
cones, lemonade &  
sodawater all afternoon!!

Join us for a great time at the Sacred  
Heart Picnic!  
Fun & entertainment for all ages!!





## Catholic doctors say proposed contraceptive mandate not good medicine

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A recommendation that all health plans be required to cover contraceptives without a patient co-payment “fails the tests of logic and sound science” and “does not constitute good clinical medicine,” according to the Catholic Medical Association. In a July 20 statement, the Bala Cynwyd, Pa.-based association criticized the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Preventive Services for Women for recommending that the Department of Health and Human Services include “the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and patient education and counseling” as mandated services for all health plans under the new health reform law. Such a mandate “threatens substantial harm to the health of women and to the civil rights of millions of Americans,” the association said. The statement was released the day after Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston said the panel’s recommendation showed that “there is an ideology at work ... that goes beyond any objective assessment of the health needs of women and children.” If HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius accepts that recommendation, “these controversial practices will be mandated for all insurance plans -- public and private -- without co-pay from anyone receiving them,” said Cardinal DiNardo, who chairs the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities. Sebelius, who was expected to act on the recommendations by Aug. 1, called the panel’s report “historic” and said, “Before today, guidelines regarding women’s health and preventive care did not exist. These recommendations are based on science and existing literature.” Asked about the proposed mandate, the president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association told Catholic News Service that “the Catholic health ministry will expect the same con-

science protection that allows us to carry out our mission in this pluralistic environment respecting our religious beliefs.”

## As debt-ceiling debate continues, faith leaders protest on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As U.S. lawmakers continued to wrangle over a decision on the nation’s debt ceiling and proposed budget cuts, representatives of faith groups held a protest on Capitol Hill and Catholic leaders urged lawmakers to remember the nation’s poor and vulnerable people. During the protest, about a dozen people prayed publicly to ask the Obama administration and Congress “not to balance the budget on the backs of the poor,” according to a statement from the coalition that planned the action. After they ignored warnings by U.S. Capitol Police to stop praying, they were arrested for demonstrating in the Capitol. Late in the day, the group was still being held, but a spokeswoman for the group expected them to be released within hours. Each person was expected to be fined \$50. Those arrested included the executive director of Faith in Public Life, the general secretary of the United Methodist Church and a past president of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Daily prayer vigils led by a different religious organization each week have been taking place on the grounds of the United Methodist Building near the Capitol. Meanwhile, the chairmen of two U.S. bishops’ committees reiterated their message to Congress, telling members of the U.S. House July 26 that they cannot ignore “the moral and human dimensions” of the ongoing debate. “A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor persons,” wrote Bishop Stephen E. Blaize of Stockton, Calif., and Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y. “It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues,

*Continued from last month:*

## Poisoned by the Pill: Truths about Chemical Contraception

By Mary Anne Moresco, reprinted with permission from Catholic Exchange January 17th, 2011

### Poisons are Profitable

Hormonal contraception is a carcinogenic and potent drug. High doses of these drugs are needed to mimic pregnancy in the body and thus prevent pregnancy. It’s not normal for the body to function with such high levels of these hormones, especially over a prolonged period of time spanning many years.[10]

Webster’s defines poison as: “Any agent which, when introduced into the animal organism, is capable of producing a morbid, noxious, or deadly effect upon it.” The pill is poisoning many women. Hormonal contraception poisons women in one of two ways. They:

- **Cause Growth** in breast tissue which in turn causes cellular mutations and ultimately cancer.

- **Act as a Direct Carcinogen** directly causing cancerous cells to form.[11]

Each year, thousands of cases of cancer can be attributed to hormonal contraception.[12] Any other drug (or heaven forbid natural supplement) which had been linked to so much cancer would have been yanked from the market long ago. But evil can grow strong roots once an industry falls in love with profit.

Now that this has happened, yanking (or even more carefully prescribing these carcinogenic drugs) might seem impossible. Birth control pills carry an economic incentive that has blurred society’s desire to do right. The billion dollar pharmaceutical business is booming.

Many breast cancer victims almost intuitively know the pill may have caused their cancer. A sampling of this intuition among breast cancer victims can be found

at: <http://community.breastcancer.org/forum/78/topic/740486>. Here are some of the threads you will find there:

**Janet:** ...I took birth control pills from age 19 – about 40. I have no bc [breast cancer] history in my family. Something I noticed that I found interesting as I read through your postings is that statistically we would be considered “young” for breast cancer, as the average age to get a breast cancer diagnosis is 61. Combine that with the fact that we are probably the first generation to use birth control pills for any length of time, I definitely feel there may be a connection. Even if it’s just a suspicion at this time, I think I’ll tell my 19-year-old daughter to look into another means of controlling her mild acne.

**Curlylocks:** The first question my surgeon asked me is if I had taken the birth control pill. So yes I believe there is a link. I never had a concern about getting bc [breast cancer], actually never thought of reading the package insert when I was 19!

One of those things that makes you go hmmmm....

Hmmmmmm indeed! Nurses at the conference have observed a peculiar pattern in young breast cancer patients. Many of us may have seen this pattern in someone we know. The pattern goes something like this:

A young girl goes on the pill. She marries and goes off the pill. She has a child. She goes back on the pill. She has another child. She goes back on the pill. She gets breast cancer.

This article will continue in the next three issues of *The Catholic Lighthouse* or it may be read in full, as well as its footnotes, at: <http://catholicexchange.com/2011/01/17/146008/>

**SHINER CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**FALL PICNIC, SUNDAY, SEPT. 4, 2011**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PARK (formerly LEGION PARK), SHINER, TX**

90<sup>th</sup>  
*Annual*

**MASSES**  
Saturday – 5:00 pm (Polka Mass)  
Sunday – 7:30 & 9:30 am

**MUSIC & DANCING**  
Inside AIR CONDITIONED Hall  
*Free Admission*

.....

11 am – 1 pm  
**Accordion Music**  
By Local Accordion Players  
1 - 3 pm  
**Shiner Hobo Band**  
3 – 7 pm  
**Jodie Mikula Orchestra & Donnie Wavra Orchestra**  
.....

**OUTSIDE BIERGARTEN MUSIC**  
4:30 - 7:30 pm – Jack Motley  
**OUTSIDE BINGO PAVILION**  
7:30 - 11 pm – Los Kolaches

--- **DINNER** ---  
**10:30 am – 2:00 pm**  
Dine in Air Conditioned Dining Room

Plate Includes **THREE MEATS** –  
♦ Shiner Picnic Stew ♦ Fried Chicken ♦  
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**\$8.00/Plate**  
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Drive thru “Plates to Go” from  
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**COUNTRY STORE**  
Canned and Baked Goods  
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eliminating unnecessary military and other spending, and addressing the long-term costs of health insurance and retirement programs fairly.”

## In aftermath of Irish report on abuse, Vatican recalls nuncio

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In an exceptional move, the Vatican recalled its nuncio to Ireland so that he could participate in meetings aimed at drafting the Vatican’s formal response to an Irish government report on clerical sex abuse. Following the publication July 13 of the so-called Cloyne Report “and, particularly, after the reactions that followed, the secretary of state has recalled the apostolic nuncio in Ireland, Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza, for consultations,” the Vatican said in a statement July 25. Passionist Father Ciro Benedettini, vice director of the Vatican press office, said recalling the nuncio “denotes the seriousness of the situation, the desire of the Holy See to face it with objectivity and determination, as well as a certain note of surprise and disappointment over some excessive reactions” to the report and its accusations against the Vatican. The Cloyne Report, which examined how the Diocese of Cloyne handled accusations of clerical sexual abuse, said the bishop paid “little or no attention” to child safeguarding as recently as 2008 and that he falsely told the government his diocese was reporting all allegations of abuse to the civil authorities. The report also accused the Vatican of being “entirely unhelpful” to Irish bishops

who wanted to implement stronger norms for dealing with accusations and protecting children. Addressing parliament July 20, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said the Cloyne Report “exposes an attempt by the Holy See to frustrate an inquiry in a sovereign, democratic republic as little as three years ago.”

## Pope decries terror attacks in Norway, calls for end to violence, evil

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the wake of two terror attacks in Norway that left 76 people dead, Pope Benedict XVI called for an end to hatred and ideologies that promote evil. “We are all deeply saddened by the serious terrorist acts,” the pope said after praying the Angelus with pilgrims at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo July 24. The pope launched an appeal “to abandon once and for all the path of violence and avoid principles of evil.” As a further expression of his condolences and prayers for those affected by the attacks, the pope sent a message to Norway’s King Harald V. Written on behalf of the pope by Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, the pope said he was praying for all those affected by “the acts of senseless violence perpetrated in Oslo and Utoya.” The pope asked that the country “be spiritually united in a determined resolve to reject the ways of hatred and conflict and to work together fearlessly in shaping a future of mutual respect, solidarity and freedom for coming generations.”





## Special Collection Retired and Needy Priests of the Diocese — September 4 Ongoing Events

**Grief Group** — Have you experienced the death of a loved one? Join us in this on-going grief group on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room at Holy Family Church in Victoria. Please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572 before attending.

**Gabriel Project** — a ministry providing help to pregnant women in a crisis pregnancy — an alternative to abortion — holds monthly meetings open to everyone interested. Meetings, including a light supper, are held in Victoria the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 101 W. Convent, behind St. Mary's Catholic Church, at 6:30 p.m. An Angel Workshop is held at the same location the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call Barbara at (361) 649-1612 or Linda at 655-3008 for more information. Meetings are held in Wharton the 4th Tuesday of each month at Holy Family Church in Wharton (2011 Briar Lane) at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call (979) 532-3593 M-F, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Catholic Family Services** — For a listing of e-mail addresses and Web sites of Catholic organizations that focus on the family from marriage preparation to marriage enrichment, fatherhood, parenting, healing, bereavement, separated or divorced, and widowed, please go to the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at <http://www.nacflm.org/>

**St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity/Secular Franciscans** — For more information, please go to their Web site at [www.lostrescompaneros-sfo.org](http://www.lostrescompaneros-sfo.org). For meeting dates, please call Mary Ann LeBlanc at (361) 575-1858.

**Marriage Encounter** — The Marriage Encounter Weekend is open to married couples, Catholic and non-Catholic. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is designed to make good marriages even better. For more information, see [www.wvme.org](http://www.wvme.org); or for upcoming weekends, please contact Milton and Diane Rejcek at (979) 245-0323 or at: [register@mevictoria.org](mailto:register@mevictoria.org).

**Retrouvaille** — A weekend will be held Aug. 19. The word Retrouvaille means 'rediscovery.' Retrouvaille is a program that offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Go to <http://www.retrouvaille.org> for more information, or to register for the Aug. 19 Victoria Retrouvaille weekend, please go to: <http://www.retrouvaille.org/dates.php> or contact Gerd and Linda Conner at [lbconner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lbconner@sbcglobal.net), (979) 543-3493. Other contacts are at (800) 470-2230 and [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org)

**The Beginning Experience** — The Beginning Experience is an international ministry that helps divorced, separated and widowed individuals resolve their grief surrounding the loss of a marriage partner. It is a ministry of the San Antonio Archdiocese Family Life Office. For more information, go to their Web site: [www.beginningexperience.org](http://www.beginningexperience.org); e-mail: [sanantoniobe@yahoo.com](mailto:sanantoniobe@yahoo.com); phone: (210) 734-2146.

**Natural Family Planning** — For information about the Sympto-Thermal Method in the Victoria area, contact David and Annie Coffey at [victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com](mailto:victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com).

**Goliad** — Presidio La Bahia Museum and Visitor Center — a National Historic Landmark — is the only Spanish fort in the possession of the Catholic Church in North America. A tour program is available to groups. The Presidio is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is closed on major holidays. Admission is \$4 (ages 12-59); \$3.50 for 60 and older and military personnel and \$1 (ages 6-11), with children five and younger admitted free. Group rates are available with advance reservations. A re-enactment will be available for school groups with advance reservations. The fort is handicapped accessible. For more information call (361) 645-3752 or see the Web site at [www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org).

**Engaged Encounter** — Register as soon as you have contacted your pastor due to limited space. *It is strongly recommended that you attend an encounter weekend four to six months prior to your wedding date.* For a registration form, contact your pastor, visit the Web site at [www.victoriadiocese.org/family/ee.htm](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/family/ee.htm), or write to: Engaged Encounter, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, Texas 77903. The weekend is held at the Spiritual Renewal Center. The dates for 2011 are: Sept. 9-11 and Nov. 11-13. For more info., call (361) 573-0828 ext. 2230. All registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form.

### Picnics, Activities, etc. August

**Frelsburg** — Sts. Peter and Paul Annual Festival Aug. 7. Mass at 8:45 a.m. followed by coffee and kolaches served after Mass. A fried-fish dinner starting at 11:00 a.m. at \$9 for lg. plate; \$6 for sm. plate; and plates-to-go at \$9 p/p. Hamburgers, nachos and snacks available after 3:00 p.m. Auction begins at 1:00 p.m., games, music and free dance inside the hall.

**Yoakum** — St. Joseph Parish Picnic Aug. 7 at the community center starting at 10:30 a.m. serving picnic stew and sausage dinner with dine-in or plates-to-go available at \$7 p/p. The auction begins at 12:30 p.m. There will be a horseshoe tournament.

**Palacios** — St. Anthony Shrimporee Aug. 7. Mass is at 8:30 a.m. at the amphitheater (corner of 6th & Main Streets). Shrimporee at Palacios Recreation Center, 2401 Perryman. Choice of three plates: barbecue brisket or chicken or fried fish and boiled shrimp at \$8 p/p, serving begins at 10:30 a.m., drive-thru available, auction 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., boat and trailer raffle at 4:30 p.m. Entertainment: Texas Sound Check and DJ Rudy C., games, rides and food booths (with Vietnamese food).

**Weimar** — St. Michael Harvest Feast Aug. 14 at Veteran's Memorial Park. A fried-chicken and stew dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. at \$8 p/p; children (12 and under) at \$4 p/p; and all plates-to-go available only at St. Michael Family Center for \$8 p/p. Entertainment throughout the day with games, cakewalk, auction at 1:00 p.m., music and more. For

more information see ad on page 5.

**Victoria** — Catholic Daughters Court St. Ann is hosting a games party Aug. 14 at the KC Hall (3610 N. Ben Wilson) from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 p/p with refreshments, door prizes, bake sale and more. For reservations call Joan at (361) 485-2387 or Delores at (361) 575-6111.

**Praha** — St. Mary Parish Picnic Aug. 15 on the parish grounds. The day will start with Mass at 10:00 a.m. celebrated by Bishop Fellhauer and visiting priests followed by dinner featuring Praha stew and fried-chicken at \$8 p/p with dine-in or plate-to-go available from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. There will be a country store, bingo (1:00-5:00 p.m. and 6:00-10:00 p.m.), cakewalk, children's games, homemade ice cream and much more. The auction begins at 1:00 p.m. Music throughout the day with Jodie Mikula (11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 3:00-5:00 p.m.); Ennis Czech Boys (1:00-3:00 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m.); Incredible Music Makers (7:00-10:00 p.m.). Hamburgers will be available after 4:00 p.m. For more information contact Charlie Bartos, chairman, at (361) 865-2167 or go to [www.stmarys-praha.com](http://www.stmarys-praha.com).

**El Campo** — St. Philip Catholic School will have a 4-Man Scramble Golf Tournament on Saturday, Aug. 20, at the El Campo Country Club. Please contact Greg Witcher at (979) 543-1884 for more information.

**Hillje** — St. Andrew Summer Festival Aug. 21 at the parish hall. A prime-beef barbecue, homemade sausage dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. with serve yourself in the hall or drive-thru plates-to-go available at \$7.50 p/p. There will be an auction at 12:30 p.m. Also during the day will be a country store, bake sale, cakewalk, games, music and much more.

**Cistern** — Sts. Cyril & Methodius will have their Annual Homecoming Picnic Aug. 28. The day starts with an old-fashioned trail ride; for more information contact David Urban at (361) 865-2301. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. followed by a fried-chicken, V&V sausage dinner from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. with dine-in or drive-thru available. There will be an auction, games, music and more. Something for everyone!

### Upcoming Events

**High Hill** — St. Mary Picnic Sept. 4 beginning with a flag raising ceremony at 9:30 a.m. followed by a Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m. There will be a chicken and stew dinner served starting at 11:00 a.m. at \$8 p/p with dine-in or drive-thru plates available. The auction begins at 1:00 p.m. There will be a cakewalk, games for the children, horseshoe tournament at 1:00 p.m., bingo, music by Texas Sound Czech and Mark Halata/Texavia during the day with Texas Dream at night. A spectacular fireworks show at 10:00 p.m. See page 15 for ad.

**Cuero** — Our Lady of Guadalupe Jamaica Sept. 4 from 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. at the parish hall grounds (207 Graham). There will be many activities, food and refreshments and music throughout the day with the auction beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

**Shiner** — Sts. Cyril and Methodius Picnic Sept. 4 Knights of Columbus (formally American Legion) Park begins at 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with dinner consisting of three meats - stew, fried-chicken and sausage at \$7.50 p/p. Drive-thru plates available at KC Hall. There will be many activities throughout the day along with music day and night. See page 18 for complete listing of music and happenings.

**Hallettsville** — Sacred Heart Festival Sept. 4 at the KC Hall with a country fried-chicken, stew, homemade cornbread dressing dinner from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for dine-in (10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. for plates-to-go) at \$7.50 p/p. There will be inside a/c hall bingo (noon-6:00 p.m.), cakewalk, country store and religious articles booth. Auction begins at 1:00 p.m. Music starts at 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. There will also be games, food, washer pitching tournament and more. See page 17 for ad.

**Nada** — St. Mary Parish Festival and Homecoming Sept. 4 at the community center. A barbecue-beef and sausage dinner served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for dine-in or drive-thru plates-to-go available at \$8 p/p. The auction begins at 1:00 p.m. There will be entertainment including Rainbow the Clown throughout the day. See page 16 for more information.

**Vanderbilt** — St. John Bosco Parish Picnic Sept. 4 at the Trinity Family Center (FM 616). A barbecue brisket and sausage plates will be served from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at \$8 p/p with plates-to-go available drive thru. The auction begins at 1:00 p.m. There will be games for kids, cakewalk, country store, bingo starting at 5:30 p.m. with much more throughout the day.

**Inez** — St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 11 at the community center. A fried-chicken, brisket and sausage dinner will be served. The auction starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be kids games, country store, cakewalk, silent auction and more. See page 3 for ad.

**Yorktown** — Holy Cross Festival Sept. 11 at the community hall across from the church, beginning after the 9:30 a.m. Mass at the church, located at 1214 Zorn Rd. Homemade sausage, barbecue plates at \$10 p/p for adults and \$5 for children; games, cakewalk, country store, live auction and music by DJ Val.

**Bay City** — Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Festival Barbecue Meal and Auction Sept. 18 at the parish hall (12th Street and Ave. D). The barbecue-brisket dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at \$6 p/p with dine-in, pick-up or drive-thru available. Auction begins at 11:30 p.m.

**Moulton** — St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 18 on the KC grounds. An open-air Mass at the city park will be at 10:00 a.m. Starting at 10:30 a.m. a kettle-fried chicken and beef stew dinner will be served in the a/c hall with drive-thru plate-to-go available. DJ. the DJ will provide music outdoors, auction (outside) and a free dance inside with The Texas Legacy Czech Band at 1:00 p.m. There will be games, cakewalk, country store and more.

**Bloomington** — St. Patrick Fall Turkey Dinner Sept. 25 on the parish grounds. Serving begins at 11:00 a.m. Games, auction and more see ad on page 9 for more information.

**El Campo** — St. Philip Catholic Church annual Parish Picnic will be held on Sept. 25 at KC Hall starting at 10:30 a.m. Food, music, dancing, games, cakewalk, silent and live auctions. Call 979-543-3770 for more information.

**Meyersville** — Sts. Peter and Paul Annual Festival Sept. 25 on the church grounds (11220 FM 237) beginning with Mass at 10:15 a.m. followed by a barbecue-beef dinner served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All plates will be \$8 p/p with dine-in or plates-to-go available. Bingo starts at 12:00 p.m. Live auction starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be a country store, raffle, games and much more.

**Victoria** — Our Lady of Lourdes Games Party, Sept. 26

**LaSalle** — St. Theresa Annual Parish Picnic Oct. 16 with a turkey and dressing dinner served from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. with dine-in or plates-to-go available. Auction at 12:30 p.m., games, cakewalk, country store and more.

**Boling** — St. Joseph Picnic, Saturday, Nov. 12 (NEW DATE)

### Masses • Retreats • Conferences

**Victoria** — KJZT #101 Living & Deceased Members Mass Aug. 14 at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral. Breakfast at cafeteria following Mass.

**Victoria** — Amor Meus Spirituality Center invites you to A Taizé Prayer Experience on Aug. 30 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Convent Auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, (1101 N.E. Water Street) Taizé prayer service held in a candle-light atmosphere consists of music, song, chant, scriptural reading, meditation and prayers of intercession. For information call (361) 575-7111. Also, mark your calendar for an Amor Meus Retreat on Sept. 17.

**Victoria** — Holy Family Church is sponsoring a Women's ACTS Retreat Sept. 29 - Oct. 2 at the diocesan retreat center. For more information, call Peggy Smith at (361) 578-6440 or Greta Sievers at (361) 574-1166 or Laura Morgan at (361) 578-9074.

**Victoria** — St. Mary's Altar Society will sponsor a half-day retreat on Monday, Oct. 3 at St. Mary's Activity Center. More information to come next month.

**Bay City** — Men's weekly group, "That Man is You!" will not meet in the summer. Watch for their September return date here in *The Catholic Lighthouse* or call Mike Allison at (979) 479-1370 or Allen Green at (979) 245-2598 for more information.


**Victoria** — Missing something in your life? Do you need an uplifting experience? Why not try some PRAISE and WORSHIP. Come join Incarnate Word Prayer Group on Monday nights from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at Incarnate Word Auditorium. For more information call Paula at (361) 575-7120 or Sister Louise Marie at (361) 575-7111.

**Victoria** — Healing Mass and Prayer at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 105 N. William St., on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. with Father Phi Nguyen, chaplain of IWBS Convent. Mark your calendars now for next month. For more information, please contact Sister Louise Marie Jones at [iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com](mailto:iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com).

## God's Embrace Renewal Center Program — Reminder

Michael Fonseca with God's Embrace Renewal Centers will be with the Victoria Diocese 10 days of each month starting August 20. Michael will provide a 3-year Spiritual Formation Program, Church Missions and Private Individual Spiritual Direction Consultations throughout the Victoria Diocese. Below is the schedule for August. For more information or to book a Church Mission for your parish, please contact Sandy Reese @ (979) 541-6881 or [sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com](mailto:sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com) for more information.


- August 20 — 2nd year Formation Program-Hallettsville, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- August 21 — Diaconate Program
- August 22 — Facilitator Program
- August 23 — Church Mission- Holy Cross Church - Bay City, 7 - 9 p.m.
- August 24 — Church Mission - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church — Ganado, 7 - 9 p.m.
- August 25 — Church Mission - Holy Family Church — Wharton, 7 - 9 p.m.
- August 26 — Open
- August 27 — Retreat Day -1st year Formation Program "Understanding God in Our Lives" - St. Robert Parish Hall-El Campo, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.



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## 24th Biennial JCDA State Convention

By CDA State Public Relations  
Chairman, Terrie Vacek,

Over 300 attended the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA) 24th Biennial State Convention in Austin, Texas, June 24-26, 2011. Look out Texas drought, these girls are on fire for God; the flames of the Holy Spirit ignite the most amazing acts of service positively changing lives. There are currently 70 JCDA Courts in Texas with 829 members.



Reverend Bill Wack, CSC,  
Pastor, St. Ignatius  
Martyr Parish of Austin

The "Stars of P.E.A.C.E." convention theme and the JCDA threefold program of 'Message, Service and Community' was

emphasized by guest speakers throughout the convention. The speakers included Sheila Martinka, 2009-2011 CDA State Regent, from Houston; Carolyn Malik, newly elected 2011-2013 State Regent and former JCDA State Chairman of Shiner; and Reverend Bill Wack, CSC, pastor, St. Ignatius Martyr Parish of Austin. Father Wack delivered an outstanding banquet keynote speech challenging the girls to take every opportunity to "make a difference" for Christ. In closing he said "Peace I leave you, just like in our Mass, I send you forth to go out and serve the Lord."

The 2009-2011 State Officers,

Maya Cuellar, JCDA President, Dallas; First Vice President Kimberly Kallies, Deer Park; Second Vice President Sarah Proske, LaGrange; Secretary Valerie Barrera, Lubbock; and Reporter Mary Adamek, Shiner, hosted a talent show for the opening welcome. The girls and court advisors presented various skits, sang and literally danced with Love and Peace right into a hula-hoop contest.

JCDA Talent judges were CDA State Officers, 'Minnie Pearl' State Regent Carolyn

Malik, Shiner; 'Rose Petal' First Vice State Regent Peggy Rosales, Austin; 'J Lo' Second Vice State Regent Eve Trevino,

Corpus Christi; 'Grace Slick' State Secretary Rosie Stockwell, Edinburg; and 'Moon Beam' Immediate Past State Regent Sheila



Above are the newly elected 2011 - 2013 JCDA state officers, flanked by Rev. John Peters, state JCDA chaplain, and Terrie Beltran, JCDA Youth State Chair. They are 1st Vice President Katelyn Martinez, Floresville; 2nd Vice President Jamie Ornelas, Baytown; Secretary Holly Soukup, West; and Reporter Allison Whitworth of Crosby. See JCDA state president at bottom of page.



## The Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Institute Extended Program



### Fall 2011 Schedule

#### Introduction to the Bible & the Pentateuch

Tuesdays, September 6 – October 11, 2011  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m. or 7:00 – 9:15 p.m.



#### The Historical & Prophetic Books in the Old Testament

Tuesdays, October 18 – November 29, 2011  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m. or 7:00 – 9:15 p.m.  
(No class on Nov. 1, 2011)

In the first six-week course **Introduction to the Bible and the Pentateuch**, Sr. Digna Vela, IWBS will introduce the Bible as the Word of God and cover the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. *Today, how can we read, understand, and apply the Scriptures to our lives, since the Bible was written thousands of years ago?*

In the second six-week course on **The Historical & Prophetic Books**, attendees will learn about the religious messages of the 18 prophetic books in the Old Testament. *What do the prophets of Israel have to say to 21<sup>st</sup> century American Catholics?*

#### Three Locations

**Chancery, Victoria**  
1505 E. Mesquite Lane



**St. Ann, Pt. Comfort**  
701 Lamar Street



**Holy Cross, East Bernard**  
839 Church Street



Cost for each six-week course is \$20.00. To register, complete and mail the form below to: Pastoral Institute, 1505 E. Mesquite Lane, Victoria, TX 77901, call 361-573-0828, or go to [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org).

**The Catholic Bible, Personal Study Edition** by Oxford University Press will be the text for these courses and all the Scripture courses that follow. Cost is \$35.00 per Bible. Make checks payable to: Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Institute.



#### Pastoral Institute Fall 2011 Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Introduction to the Bible and the Pentateuch**

\_\_\_\_\_ **The Historical & Prophetic Books**

I plan to attend the \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. classes in \_\_\_\_\_ Victoria \_\_\_\_\_ Pt. Comfort \_\_\_\_\_ E. Bernard

\$20 per six-week course \_\_\_\_\_ Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Bible/s (\$35 ea.)

Check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

I will pay when class begins: \_\_\_\_\_

Martinka, Houston.

Convention business included a slide presentation with the charitable events for each JCDA Court.

Reverend John Peters, State JCDA chaplain, Hallettsville, shared the highlights of the past two years. Terrie Beltran, JCDA Youth State Chair, El Campo, reported on JCDA's growth, noting that 23 new courts were installed in this term!

Newly Elected 2011 - 2013 JCDA State Officers are, State President - Mary Adamek, Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, 1st Vice President - Katelyn Martinez, Court Mary Queen of Peace #2497, Floresville, 2nd Vice President - Jamie Ornelas, Court Mary St. John #2197, Baytown, Secretary - Holly Soukup, Court Sacred Heart #829, West and Reporter - Allison Whitworth, Court Ancillae Mariae #1886, Crosby.

The full convention feature story with photos may be viewed on the Texas CDA State Web site.



**SHINER SHINES**—At the JCDA State Convention on June 26, Mary Adamek (right) was elected as State JCDA President (2011-13). Carolyn Malik, I., was elected State CDA Regent at the CDA State Convention. Carolyn and Mary are members of Shiner Court St. Paul #1604 and JCDA Court St. Paul #1604 respectively. Congratulations Shiner Ladies!