

# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



VOL. 26, NO. 6

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

October 2012

## Year Of Faith Begins— 50 Years Since Vatican II

Oct. 11, 2012-Nov. 24, 2013

### From the USCCB

In the Acts of the Apostles, we learn that God has opened the door of faith for the early Church. But did you know that God has opened the door of faith for each one of us and he invites us to step through the threshold into a deeper relationship with him?

renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the world” (Porta Fidei 6). In other words, the Year of Faith is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. The “door of faith” is opened at one’s baptism, but dur-

**“...They called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith...”(Acts 14:27).**

The upcoming Year of Faith is an opportunity for every Catholic to turn towards Jesus Christ, encounter him in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, and rediscover the Faith and Church.

With his Apostolic Letter of October 11, 2011, *Porta Fidei*, Pope Benedict XVI declared that a “Year of Faith” will begin on October 11, 2012, and conclude on November 24, 2013, the Feast of Christ the King. October 11, 2012, the first day of the Year of Faith, is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II), and also the 20th anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. During the Year of Faith, Catholics are asked to study and reflect on the documents of Vatican II and the catechism so that they may deepen their knowledge of the faith.

The upcoming Year of Faith is a “summons to an authentic and

ing this year, Catholics are called to open it again, walk through it and rediscover and renew their relationship with Christ and his Church.

On the USCCB Website pages, you will find videos and links to a variety of resources to help you renew your baptismal call by living out the everyday moments of your life with faith, hope, and love.

Please go to the USCCB Website at [www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/) for various resources to help you better understand what the Year of Faith is all about.

Also, you may go to the Vatican Website for further news and reflections on The Year of Faith. Official Vatican Website for the Year of Faith: [www.annusfidei.va/content/novaevangelizatio/en.html](http://www.annusfidei.va/content/novaevangelizatio/en.html)

## 2012 Presidential Elections



Republican presidential candidate Gov. Mitt Romney in a Jan. 2012 photo. (CNS photo/Shannon Stapleton, Reuters)



U.S. President Barack Obama accepts the 2012 U.S. Democratic presidential nomination. (CNS photo/Jim Young, Reuters)

### Presidential candidates on opposite sides of many life issues

By Nancy Frazier O’Brien  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — At the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., the differences on abortion between President Barack Obama and his Republican presidential opponent, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, were clear.

tion legal, and videos praised his stands on “reproductive choice” and “women’s rights.”

The speakers included Nancy Keenan, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America; Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America; and Sandra Fluke, a Georgetown Law School graduate who has spoken

mandate.

The Democratic Party’s platform, approved in Charlotte, says the party “strongly and unequivocally supports *Roe v. Wade* and a woman’s right to make decisions regarding her pregnancy, including a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay. We oppose any and all efforts to weaken

#### 1.2 Million US Abortions 2011

According to Centers for Disease Control and the Guttmacher Institute, abortions were estimated at 1.2 million in the United States in 2011.

#### 43 US Executions 2011

According to [deathpenaltyinfo.org](http://deathpenaltyinfo.org), there were 43 death penalty executions in the United States in 2011.

#### ABORTION

Speeches in prime time on successive nights touted the president’s support for keeping abor-

out against religious exemptions to the Department of Health and Human Services’ contraceptive

or undermine that right.”

See *Presidential candidates*, p. 13





## Bishop Fellhauer's Schedule

### October

- 8-11** Canon Law Society of America Convention, Chicago, Illinois
- 14** 9:00 a.m., Mass, Deacons' Retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center
- 17** 10:00 a.m., Priests' Study Day, Holy Family Church, Victoria  
4:00 p.m., Diocesan Building Board meeting, Chancery Office
- 18** 6:00 p.m., Mass, Serra Club Deacons' Dinner, Holy Family Church, Victoria
- 21** 9:30 a.m., Mass, 60th Anniversary celebration of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Paul, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, Shiner
- 23** Diocesan Clergy Day, Yoakum and Shiner
- 31** 10:00 a.m., Priest and Lay Pension Boards meeting, Chancery Office

### November

- 1** 10:20 a.m., Mass, St. Joseph High School, Victoria
- 3** 7:15 a.m., Mass (Spanish) ACTS retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center  
7:00 p.m., Mass and adult Confirmation, St. Agnes Church, Edna
- 4** 5:00 p.m., Mass, blessing of bell and columbarium, Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn
- 5** 5:00 p.m., Liturgical Commission meeting, Chancery Office
- 7** 10:00 a.m., Presbyteral Council Meeting, Chancery Office
- 11-15** United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, General Meeting, Baltimore, Md.

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(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)			
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		225	225
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<b>g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #2))</b>		<b>1,724</b>	<b>483</b>
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<b>i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)</b>		<b>98%</b>	<b>96%</b>

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*Cynthia Brewer* Editor Date: **October 1, 2012**

## Deacon Joe Duplan is succeeding SRC director

By Cynthia Brewer

The Diocese of Victoria has offered the position of director of the Spiritual Renewal Center to Deacon José (Joe) Duplan of League City, Texas. He has accepted and is already settling into the position. He replaces Ron Friedel who moved to the position of diocesan director of Catechetical Ministry.



Deacon Joe and his wife, Mary Lou, moved to Victoria, into The Friary at the Spiritual Renewal Center, and he began work at the center on August 27. He will be an onsite director.

For the past 12 years, Deacon Joe ministered as a deacon at the Shrine of the True Cross, a parish in Dickinson, where his main ministry was in serving the

Hispanic community and the ACTS movement in music ministry. Deacon Joe is fluent in English and Spanish.

Deacon Joe intends on using his ministry at the Renewal Center and eventually serve at a parish, but his primary job is to administer the Renewal Center.

"There is a lot of history at the Renewal Retreat Center and people who have come before me have invested their lives to this Holy place," he said in an interview with *The Catholic Lighthouse*. "I just want to be a part of the mission of the Holy Spirit in the best of my ability."

See Deacon Joe Duplan, p. 4

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

Effective October 1, 2012, the **Rev. James K. Adjei-Buor, C.S.Sp.**, a priest from Ghana, West Africa, is assigned to Holy Family Church, Wharton, and its mission, St. Joseph Church, Boling.



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DEADLINE IS THE FIFTEENTH (15) OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

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## DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

### 2012 DSA

Diocesan Goal:	\$1,623,907.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$703,586.02
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$650,809.53
Number of Parish Families Participating:	3,397

### Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign

Diocesan Goal:	\$9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$12,907,541.00
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$10,743,541.56
Number of Parish Families Participating:	6,769





## Seven priests honored with “Monsignor” title

### Monsignors to be invested Nov. 19

By Cynthia Brewer

Seven priests within the Diocese of Victoria will be invested with the title of Monsignor, Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, by the Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer, bishop of Victoria, on Monday, November 19, at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral. A reception will follow the Mass.

The following priests have been conferred with the title of Monsignor: Rev. Celestino Say, Rev. John C. Bily, Rev. Casimir Jarzombek, Rev. Lawrence J. Matula, Rev. Joseph M. Hybner, Rev. Gerard G. Cernoch, and Rev. John C. Peters.

A Catholic priest is given the title of Monsignor by the pope in recognition of outstanding service to the Catholic Church. A monsignor is still a priest but also has this great honor added to his name.

#### Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say



Father Celestino Say celebrated his 50th anniversary to the priesthood March 30, 2008, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, where he has been the pastor since 1995. Father Say was born in Manila, Philippines, March 28, 1928, and was ordained a Benedictine priest on March 21, 1958. As a Benedictine Father of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, Father Say served as head librarian of the Benedictine College in Manila from 1959 to 1962, and subsequently obtained a MS in library science from The Catholic University of America in 1964. Father Say was appointed prior-administrator of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat in 1968. He held this position, which carried all the responsibilities of an abbot until 1973. In 1972, Martial Law was imposed in the Philippine Islands. The Benedictine monks and their homilies, which were continuously monitored, came under criticism by the government. While at the Congress of Abbots in Rome in September of 1973, Father Say tendered his resignation and requested reassignment. He was subsequently assigned to the Archdiocese of San Antonio and welcomed by Archbishop Francis J. Furey. He worked as a Benedictine Religious from 1973–80, at which time he earned his American citizenship and was incardinated into the Archdiocese of San Antonio. Father Say was assigned parochial vicar of Our Lady of Sorrows in San Antonio from 1973-75.

He moved to Hallettsville and became parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish from 1975-82. From 1982-94 he served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. In 1995 he became the pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Victoria, where he continues to serve.

#### Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily



Father John C. Bily, pastor of St. Michael Parish and Elementary School in Weimar, since 1988, has been honored with the title of Monsignor during the 54th year of his priesthood. Rev. Msgr. Bily was born June 2, 1933. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of San Antonio in his hometown parish, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in Praha, on May 24, 1958. During the Mass of his 50th anniversary to the priesthood, Bishop David Fellhauer noted in his homily that “Father Bily rode the fast track as associate pastor of eight parishes under 10 pastors in 10 years. All the parishes were in San Antonio except St. Michael’s in Weimar from 1962 – 66.” After that busy period, his pastoral life settled down to spending the next 40 years in three parishes as the pastor: eight years at St. Philip of Jesus in San Antonio; 12 years at Assumption in Ganado, and the past 24 years at St. Michael’s. Msgr. (Father) Bily celebrated his 79th birthday this past June 2. He continues as pastor of St. Michael Parish, school, and its mission church, Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Dubina, without the assistance of a parochial vicar or deacon. He keeps healthy and youthful by staying active in his leisure time, mowing the church and school lawns and maintaining the parish.

#### Job Opening

There is a job opening at the Spiritual Renewal Center for a full time maintenance person. The job requires one to work Monday through Thursday, 10 hours a day. This is a full-time position with benefits. Pay commensurate with experience.

Qualifications: Prefer someone with general carpentry, plumbing and electrical skills. Also prefer that the applicant have A/C experience and/or sewer plant maintenance experience. Apply to [jduplan@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:jduplan@victoriadiocese.org) or call (361) 572-0836.

#### Rev. Msgr. Casimir Jarzombek



In the 52nd year of his priesthood, Father Casey Jarzombek learned he was honored with the title Monsignor. Father Casey was born in Falls City on the Feast of the Assumption in 1933, ordained in Corpus Christi in 1960 as a Benedictine priest, and joined the Archdiocese of San Antonio in 1974. He taught at Corpus Christi Academy High School from 1961 – 66, and became campus minister at Texas A&I University in Kingsville in 1966, while also parochial vicar at St. Martin in Kingsville. In June 1974, he was assigned parochial vicar at St. Mary in Victoria. Upon the establishment of the Diocese of Victoria in 1982, Father Casey became the administrator of St. Mary’s until October, when he was assigned to Holy Cross in Yorktown and its two mission churches, San Luis, and St. Ann in Nordheim. From 1988-89 he was chaplain

and instructor at Blessed Sacrament High School in San Antonio and also assisted at San Felipe de Jesus Parish in San Antonio on weekends. In June 1989, Father Casey was transferred to St. Anthony in Palacios where he served as pastor for nine years. He was assigned to Holy Cross in Bay City from 1998 to 2011. In Bay City he has been instrumental in the implementation and formation of ACTS, Perpetual Adoration, Life Teen, Edge, Gabriel Project and That Man is You. Father Casey has also been an avid leader in World Wide Marriage Encounter. Although Msgr. (Father) Casey retired from ministry in 2011, he continues to live at Holy Cross Parish and remains quite active in ministry.

See *Seven priests honored*, p. 5

**The Chancery Office  
will be closed  
November 1 for  
All Saints Day  
(Holy Day of Obligation)  
Will re-open  
November 2 at 8:30 a.m.**

## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH BAZAAR

**Sun., Oct. 21, 2012**  
Join in the fun at the  
**Holy Family Life Center**  
2009 Briar Lane

**WHARTON**

**MASSES:  
SATURDAY: 5:30 P.M.  
SUNDAY: 10:00 A.M.**

#### DINNER MENU

**BAR-B-QUE 1/2 CHICKEN & SAUSAGE**  
\*Potatoes  
\*Green Beans \$8.00  
\*Sauer Kraut PER PLATE  
\*Ice Tea  
Serving starts 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Seating available or plates to go  
Drive thru for plates to go (11:00 to 1:00 p.m.)

**Auction Begins 12:00 noon**

**Handmade Quilts  
Other Valuable Items**  
**Various Children's Games**



**COUNTRY STORE**  
**HOMEMADE BREAD, NOODLES, COOKIES**  
**CRAFT ITEMS, CAKE WALK**





## 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 September 17, 2012

	TOTALS
<b>— General Seminary Burse</b>	
Previously reported	\$ 101,114.00
In honor of Rev. Msgr. Joseph M. Hybner's appointment as Monsignor by Theresa and James Wearden	25.00
In honor of Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters' appointment as Monsignor and Vicar General by Theresa and James Wearden	25.00
In honor of Rev. Msgr. Celestino Say's appointment as Monsignor by Theresa and James Wearden	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$101,189.00</b>

<b>— Rev. Jerome Caponi</b>	
Previously reported	\$11,500.00
In memory of Lillian Marek by John J. Marek	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,500.00</b>

<b>— Catholic Daughters Court of St. Ann #369, Victoria Burse #2</b>	
Previously reported	\$9,398.99
In memory of Jimmy Frazier by CDA Court St Ann #369	20.00
In memory of Margaret Purdy by CDA Court St Ann #369	20.00
In memory of Deia Blanchett by CDA Court St Ann #369	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,458.99</b>

<b>— John and Josephine Meisner NEW and Complete</b>	
Gift from John E. Meisner Estate	\$15,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>

<b>— Our Lady of Victory Altar Society</b>	
Previously reported	\$400.00
In memory of Ann Pesek by OLV Altar Society	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$425.00</b>

<b>— Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Burse #5</b>	
Previously reported	\$5,519.00
Donation in memory of Frank Peters by Eugene & Henrietta Veselka	25.00
In memory of Jack Landman by Don and Frances Spring	30.00
In memory of Agnes Hemmi by Frank and Elrose Migl	30.00
In memory of Elsie Steffek by B. J. Appelt	10.00
In memory of Elizabeth Fuller by Michael and Janice Jares	20.00
In memory of Frank Peters by Michael and Janice Jares	20.00
In honor of Deacon Joey Targac's 25th Ordination Anniversary by Michael and Janice Jares	20.00
In memory of Elsie Steffek by Wilma and Richard Schaefer	15.00

In memory of Frank Peters by Wilma and Richard Schaefer	20.00
In honor of Dorothy Bujnoch's 80th Birthday by Frank and Rita Zaruba	25.00
In honor of Arthur Spies' 80th Birthday by Frank and Rita Zaruba	25.00
In honor of Fritz and Cathy Leopold's 40th Wedding Anniversary by Frank and Rita Zaruba	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,784.00</b>

<b>— Rev. Michael Rother</b>	
Previously reported	\$4,410.00
In memory of Elaine Ruddick by Bernard and Madeline Rother	25.00
In memory of Frances Rodriguez by Bernard and Madeline Rother	25.00
In memory of Elaine Ruddick by John Rother	25.00
In memory of Frances Ruddick by John Rother	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,510.00</b>

<b>— Rev. Msgr. Benton A. Thurmond</b>	
Previously reported	\$2,125.00
In memory of Rev. Msgr. Benton Thurmond by CDA Court St. Joseph Proctor of Mary #2475, Inez	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,325.00</b>

### Additional Burses for donations:

- Rev. Jerome J. Stryk
- 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
- Rev. Msgr. John C. Bily
- St. Mary's Church – Praha
- St. Mary's Church – High Hill
- Holy Rosary Church – Hostyn Burse #2
- Rev. Charles Kram
- William L. Schmidt
- Sr. M. Perpetua Hawes, IWBS

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

## A seminarian shares his Guatemalan experience

**By Stephan Vacek, Seminarian Theology I Holy Cross Parish in East Bernard**

This summer I enjoyed my trip to Antigua, Guatemala. Initially, I was concerned because of my limited Spanish vocabulary, but I had faith. I was amazed to find over 40 American seminarians studying Spanish at different schools within Antigua. My first two weeks, I studied the whole day. The last six weeks, I studied in the mornings. Every other day, after class, I helped at Las Obras Sociales Orphanage.

During my second week, I moved into the Franciscan Friary. I felt very privileged. The Friary Chapel was next door and I had the opportunity to pray the Divine Office in Spanish with the Friars. A week later, the only English speaking friar, Father José, departed for his brother's funeral. From that time on, I lived in a 24-hour, 7-days-a-week Spanish environment. This presented

challenges, but helped me to grow in my Spanish and many other areas of life. My favorite part of the trip was visiting all of the residents and hospital patients [at Las Obras Sociales] at the end of the day. I will always remember the parents taking care of their children in the hospital. The gratitude and relief on their faces when Father José came in the room amazed me. I am grateful for being able to spend time in Guatemala.

## Deacon Joe Duplan is succeeding SRC director

*Continued from p. 2*

He is thankful for the chancery staff making them feel welcomed in Victoria, stating, "In short, we have become infatuated with this big, little town. We also love the Spiritual Renewal Center. Bishop Fellhauer and Mr. Mike Brown have seen to it that we feel a part of this diocese and Ron Friedel has been tremendously helpful in making a smooth transition."

Prior to the 12 years Deacon Joe and his family were parishioners at Shrine of the True Cross, they were members of St. Mary of the Miraculous Medal in Texas City, where he and his wife were married, his four children were baptized, and he entered the diaconate. He was ordained for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston on May 26, 1990. Besides their four children, Deacon Joe and Mary Lou have eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

### Date set for diaconal ordination of two seminarians

Mark your calendars. Saturday, May 11, 2013, is the scheduled date for the ordination to the transitional diaconate of Philip Brune and Jasper Liggio. It will be held at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral at 10 a.m. Congratulations to our seminarians.

**ST. ANTHONY CHURCH - COLUMBUS**  
SUNDAY MASS AT ST. ANTHONY, 1602 BOWIE, 8:00 & 10:00 A.M.

Country Store

**BBQ BEEF & SAUSAGE**

**FALL FESTIVAL**

**SUNDAY, OCT. 14, 2012**

**BIG COUNTRY AUCTION**  
1:00 P.M.

• Silent Auction 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. •

• KC HALL 1-10 W EXIT 693 (at Glidden Exit) •

• MEAT TO GO AT PIT • DRIVE THRU LINE FOR YOU •

ADULT TAKE-HOME PLATES - DRIVE THRU - 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**DINE IN SERVING 11:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.**

In Air-Conditioned KC Hall  
KOLACHE BREAKFAST - HOMEMADE MEXICAN FOOD - HAMBURGERS (AFTERNOON)

• Cake Walk • Grocery Walk • Plant Walk • Cookie Monster • Ring Toss





## Seven priests honored with “Monsignor” title

Continued from p. 3

### Rev. Msgr. Joseph Hybner



Upon his retirement in the 49th year of his priesthood, Father Joe Hybner was bestowed the honor of being named a Monsignor. Father Joe, as he has been known throughout his priestly ministry, was ordained in his hometown church of Sts. Cyril and Methodius on May 25, 1963, by auxiliary Bishop Stephen A. Leven of the Archdiocese of San Antonio. He served in four parishes as parochial vicar before becoming pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Floresville, 1973-1977; St. Agnes Parish in Edna, 1977 to 1985; St. Mary Parish in Victoria, 1985 to 1997; Assumption of the Blessed Mother in Ganado, 1998 to 2004; and Sacred Heart Parish in Flatonia and Sts. Cyril & Methodius in Cistern from 2004 to his retirement May 27, 2012. Because of Father Joe's love for the Eucharist, adoration chapels were dedicated at St. Mary and St. Agnes parishes while he was pastor. Prior to his assignment to Assumption Parish in Ganado, he went on a three-month sabbatical in Rome at the North American College and then spent a month in the Czech Republic, visiting family and friends. He has since returned to the Czech Republic and hopes to continue traveling in his retirement. Since 1993 he has been the state chaplain of the Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas (KJZT)

and has celebrated Czech Heritage Days in eight parishes and every year in Victoria for the past 25 years. Msgr. (Father) Joe Hybner has retired to his family's homestead outside of Shiner.

### Rev. Msgr. Gerard Cernoch



Father Gerry Cernoch, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City, has been honored with the title of Monsignor during the 48th year of his priesthood. Father Gerry began his schooling at St. Mary School in Praha before his parents and he moved to Weimar; he then entered St. Michael School in the second grade. He was ordained to the priesthood May 28, 1964, at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio by the late Archbishop Robert E. Lucey. Father Gerry celebrated his first Mass at St. Michael Church in Weimar. He served at six parishes as parochial vicar before becoming pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine, El Campo; Our Lady Queen of Peace, Kenedy; St. Patrick, Bloomington; St. Anthony, Palacios; Holy Cross, East Bernard; Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Shiner; and currently at Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Gerry took Spanish in seminary, but says he became fluent on-the-job, having been pastor of many parishes with Spanish-speaking

parishioners. He considers his version of fluency “Czech-Mex.” Father Gerry has also had the wonderful experience of helping Holy Cross Father Fred C. Schmidt in his missionary work in Ahuacatlan, S. L. P., Mexico, for 15 years. About every six to eight weeks he would travel to Mexico and minister for about a week, celebrating the Mass and sacraments in the various chapels in the parish of Ahuacatlan. At the request of Bishop Charles C. Grahmann, the first bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Father Gerry had the great opportunity of setting up a sister relationship with Villa Abasolo Parish in the Diocese of Ciudad Victoria, Tamps. He ministered with them for about seven years. Msgr. (Father) Gerry will celebrate his Golden Jubilee in 17 months on May 28, 2014.

### Rev. Msgr. John Peters



Father John Peters, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish and School in Hallettsville, was recently appointed vicar general of the Diocese of Victoria and has now been honored with the title of Monsignor. Like Father Gerry Cernoch, Father John was an eighth-grade graduate of St. Michael School in Weimar. Upon graduation from St. John's Seminary in San Antonio, he attended Assumption Seminary in San Antonio; graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology at St. Mary's University; and completed theological studies at St. Mary's University and Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio. He was ordained by Archbishop Francis J. Furey April 26, 1974, at St. Michael Church in Weimar. Father John has been a parochial vicar at three parishes and served three years as chaplain in the Texas Army National Guard, San Antonio, before becoming

pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes in Victoria from 1985 to 1990. From 1990 to 1994 he was on the formation faculty at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston. He became pastor of Sacred Heart in Hallettsville and St. Mary in St. Mary, in 1994. Since 2001 he has also become pastor of St. John the Baptist in St. John and Ascension of Our Lord in Moravia. Besides taking care of four church communities, Msgr. Peters also broadcasts the Sunday 8 a.m. Mass on the local radio station and begins the radio programming every morning with a reflection and prayer. He also began the Serra Club Victoria Northwest and started the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas in his parishes. He will celebrate his 40th anniversary to the priesthood April 26, 2014.

## In Memory of ...

### Agnes Johanna Koenig, mother of Deacon Jim Koenig

CUERO - Agnes Johanna Koenig, 97, of Cuero passed away Saturday, September 8, 2012. She was born on June 7, 1915, in Weser, Texas, to Gottlieb and Sophie Jacob. She married Mertes Koenig. She worked at J.C. Penney as a sales clerk for 18 years and was also a member of the Altar Society and Ladies Auxillary VFW.

She is survived by sons, Jim Koenig and wife, Laurie, Michael Koenig and wife, Sandy; and her grandchildren, Nick Koenig and wife, Kim; Kyle Koenig, Jeff Koenig, Lisa Cortinas and husband, Jamie, and Andrew Koenig; and great-grandchildren, Nathan, Kaden and Kaitlyn.

She was preceded in death by parents,

husband, Mertes Koenig; brothers, Alfonso, Erwin, and Edgar Jacob; sisters, Lorene Fabish, Theresa Kornfuehrer, and Elenora Stauss.

Visitation was held Monday, September 10, 2012, with a rosary at Freund Funeral Home. Services were held Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at St. Michael Church with Father David Berger officiating. Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery.

Pallbearers included Kyle Koenig, Nick Koenig, Jeff Koenig, Lisa Cortinas, Jamie Cortinas and Darwin Jacob.

You may sign the guest book or send condolences at [www.freundfuneral-home.com](http://www.freundfuneral-home.com).

## ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Open House**  
**November 15, 2012**

**6:30 pm**

**StJ Gymnasium**

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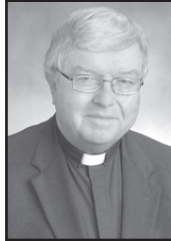
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## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



### On dress code at Mass; receiving the Precious Blood for homebound?

*Q. I attend a small parish in a small town. I moved here recently and am surprised at the low-cut tops, short shorts and short skirts worn by women at Mass. Isn't there some kind of dress code? (Iowa)*

**A.** On the topic of proper dress for Mass, there are probably as many different opinions as there are readers of this column. I am not aware of any universal church rule as to what constitutes appropriate dress. The closest reference I can find is in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 1387, which says, in reference to the reception of the Eucharist, "Bodily demeanor (gestures, clothing) ought to convey the respect, solemnity and joy of this moment when Christ becomes our guest." Later on, in discussing the virtue of purity, the catechism notes in No. 2522 that "modesty is decency. It inspires one's choice of clothing."

Opinions on the issue can be divided, basically, into two camps. First, there are those who note that going to Mass is different from going to the mall. If we were invited to meet the president at a dinner at the White House, says this opinion, we would certainly wear our nicest clothes and so we should "dress up" in the same way when we go to meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

In the other camp are those who are reluctant to do anything that might discourage people from coming to church and who feel that clothing for Mass can be casual and comfortable, as long as it is decent.

I lean toward the second view and feel, for example, that in the summer, men who come to Mass in collared golf shirts and Bermuda shorts are presentable (although I would certainly ask more formality from those serving as lectors or extraordinary minister of holy Communion).

Judgments on acceptable attire are probably best left to parishes, because standards vary from culture to culture and from place to place. Often parishes mention some general guidelines in their bulletins or on their websites.

One website I've seen, in what is perhaps an overabundance of detail, lists among the types of dress that are "never acceptable" for women in church: "any clothing that bares midriffs or cleavage," "tight clothing meant to accentuate – to

draw attention to – various body parts that God considers, and that we ought to consider, sacred" and "short shorts – above the knee – or miniskirts."

That same parish cautions men against wearing "shorts (yes, even in summer months)" and tank tops. The Vatican insists that tourists visiting St. Peter's Basilica in Rome adhere to a certain dress code, which is explained at the entrances by pictorial signs, and men or women with shorts or bare shoulders (e.g., wearing tank tops) are routinely turned away.

*Q. I am aware of a dying man in a city not far from me. A devout Catholic, he is on his deathbed and wishes to receive holy Communion under both species. The priest in his parish has apparently determined that Communion may not be brought to him in the form of wine, and the priest notes that the host alone suffices in order to receive Christ completely. I know that this is theologically true, but I'm not sure that the dying man is able to understand it and he dearly wants to receive the Eucharist under both forms. Isn't there a way to consecrate wine at Mass and have a priest or lay minister bring it to the man? (Eldon, Mo.)*

**A.** Ordinarily, only the host is given in Communion to the sick and the homebound because of the danger of spilling the precious blood. However, church guidelines do allow an exception in a case where, as sometimes happens near death, the person is unable to consume even a small piece of the host.

The situation that you present, where the dying person is unable to understand that the host alone suffices, would seem to me to warrant a similar exception. (It might be helpful, here and elsewhere, to ask oneself, "What would Jesus do?")

Here is what I would do. Like many priests, I have a compact Mass kit that I use when traveling. In that kit are two small glass vials, with secure caps, for transporting the water and the wine. I would put an ounce or two of wine into that vial and consecrate it at Mass at the same time I was consecrating the wine in the chalice. Later I would bring that vial along with the host (or have an extraordinary minister of holy Communion do so) so that the dying man could receive under both species.



Kathy Grahmann (l.) and Charlene Pennington (r.), two friends of differing Christian religious backgrounds, learn about the books of the *Gospel according to John* and the *Book of Revelation* from the Pastoral Institute at the chancery office in Victoria.

### Pastoral Institute Going Strong in Fall 2012

By Cynthia Brewer

Although Sister Digna Vela, IWBS, has retired as director of the Catechetical Ministry Office, she continues to teach some Pastoral Institute classes including "The Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation", which held its last class Oct. 2.

This class brought in two newcomers; one drives in from the Beaumont Diocese and another is a Baptist.

Mary Alice Stuart of Beaumont drives to Victoria each week to attend the class on Revelation with her sister, Jennie Alexander. She says the class has definitely been worth the drive.

Kathy Grahmann, a Baptist, joined her Catholic friend, Charlene Pennington, to learn more about the Book of Revelation.

She and Charlene spend a lot of time together sharing their faith, they said.

Beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 9, Ron Friedel, the new Catechetical Ministry director, will be teaching *The Pauline Writings* and *The New Testament Letter*. Like the past PI classes, this one will also use distance-learning communications to St. Ann's in Point Comfort and Holy Cross Parish in East Bernard. Classes will be offered in the morning from 9:15 – 11:30 a.m. and again in the evening from 7:00 – 9:15 p.m.

The fee is \$20 for the six-week course. Call (361) 573-0828 ext 2223, e-mail [mgutierrez@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:mgutierrez@victoriadiocese.org) or, go online to [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org).

### 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;
- or
- Call Rev. Gary Janak (979) 543-3770 or Sr. Emilie Eilers (361) 575-7111, Coordinators of Pastoral Care and Outreach;
- or
- 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.





## New SRC building welcomes guests

The diocesan Spiritual Renewal Center's latest new building is complete and was tried and tested over the summer by hundreds of youth attending various summer camps.

The new, more energy-efficient building has increased sleeping capacity to 48 persons, compared to space for only 24 in the wood-rotted Galilee Dorm, which it replaced. The building also has three beds per room (no more bunk beds), each room has its own heating and cooling and its own bathroom, and four rooms are handicap accessible.

The architectural feature of the new meeting room is a curved fireplace finished out of the same stone used on the exterior of the existing buildings. The room has video equipment, public address system, and a small kitchen and serving area. Additionally, the building is wired for wireless Internet access.

The building was designed by Cutright

and Allen from LaGrange, architects; Krueger Construction was the general contractor. The cost of the building, including furnishings, was approximately \$1,600,000. The building was paid for using available unencumbered funds. The funds will be replenished over 16 to 18 years with a special assessment built into the Diocesan Services Appeal.

As of today, the building is not named. For a contribution of \$200,000, the build-



ing may be named by the donor, subject to Bishop Fellhauer's approval. In addition to naming the building, each of the 16 sleeping rooms may be named in honor of, or in memory of, someone for a donation of \$10,000 per room. The meeting/conference room may be named for a donation of \$40,000.

**THANK YOU TO GENE'S MACHINE SHOP**—On Tuesday, September 11, 2012, members of the Holy Family KC Council 9088 cooked BBQ ribs for the employees of Gene's Machine Shop as a means of thanking the Pratka family (owners of the shop) for their generous contributions to the diocese and area parishes. In-kind contributions from the Pratka family to the ACTS retreats, KC Council 9088, and local Victoria area parishes included: altar rails, wooden and metal crosses, candle sticks and holders, altar facade, and equipment for the handicapped. Pictured from left



are Father Dan Morales, Wesley Pratka, Father David Berger, Bishop David Fellhauer, Gail Pratka, Father Bob Knippenberg, Gene Pratka, Dwaine Pratka, Deacon Steve Borowicz and Francis Nguyen, a seminary applicant.

## OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHEDRAL ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL



### Sunday, October 14

at the Victoria Community Center

Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.

Buffet Style Barbecue-Beef and Sausage Dinner  
Adults • \$8; Children under 12 years • \$4.50  
Plates-to-go • \$8

**Auction begins at 12:30 p.m.**

Booths and Games for the entire family

**Come Join Us!**

## Immaculate Conception Fall Festival

Goliad

### October 21

Church Grounds  
238 N. Commercial

Mass • 10 a.m.

Cakewalk • 11:30 a.m.

Ballet Folklorico  
12 p.m.

Grocery Bingo  
1 p.m.

11:00 a.m. Barbecue Beef (Buffet Style) Dinner  
at \$8 per plate

Rusty Steins starting at 11:00 a.m.

1 p.m.: Auction

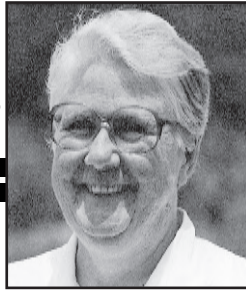
Entertainment For All To Enjoy!

Lots of kids games





## SISTERLY THOUGHTS



By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS

### Entering a New Century *(Historical series, cont. since March 2012)*

At the end of the 19th century, the ever-growing Nazareth Academy continued to prosper in spite of the deaths of Father Gardet and Mother Claire Valentine. Its growth mirrored that of the bustling city of Victoria, which itself had reached a population of nearly 5,000 inhabitants and was profiting from bountiful herds of cattle and agricultural products made possible by the fertile soil and temperate climate.

Consequently, the city contained churches of various denominations, numerous business enterprises, cultural opportunities, and several banks. Its location as the “Cross Roads of South Texas” guaranteed its role as a center of commercial activity.

However, with an ever-growing school population, an old worry resurfaced; there was not enough room for all the students, so a painful decision had to be made.

The two-story brick edifice constructed in 1872 would have to be demolished in order to provide room for a new modern building facing Church Street. At the time, St. Mary’s Church was located on the North-West corner of the property (Bridge and Church Street). It, too, would be demolished. The property on which the Church stood would be swapped for the North-East corner (Church and Main Streets) of the block where the current St. Mary’s Church stands.

see them through and He did.

With donations from the people of Victoria, the Sister’s carefully saved money from the days of public school salaries, and a legacy of \$12,000.00 from Father Gardet, the financial challenge was met. The building, which would house the Sisters, the boarding students, and the classrooms was dedicated on January 3, 1905. This building would provide adequate classroom space for nearly a quarter of a century. (to be continued)



The back of the new IWBS convent, built in 1904, is shown with the Incarnate Word Sisters and their students.

Another worry loomed before them; where would they get the tremendous sum of \$58,082.91 that the building was estimated to cost? However, in great faith, the Sisters went forward with the project. They knew that the Incarnate Word would

For more about the building of Nazareth Convent in Victoria – please come by the Gift Shop at Incarnate Word Convent and purchase Sister Alberta Novosad’s new book: *TEXAS FOOTPRINTS in the Sands of Time*.

**PARISH OF THE NATIVITY**

545 S. Austin Rd - Eagle Lake, TX  
Pavilion Across from the Hospital

**Annual Fall Festival**

**Sunday, October 21, 2012**

**Eucharist**

310 N Stevenson St.

Spanish 8:00 am      English 10:00 am

**\* Barbecue Beef & Sausage  
with all the trimmings \***

**\$8 per plate**

Serving from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm

**CURB SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE**

**Live Auction 1:00 pm**

**Booths & Games**

Food Booths, Cake & Plant Walk, Country Store, Kids Games  
Soccer Tournament, Horseshoe Tournament

**Come Enjoy the Day!**

**Something for Everyone!**

**LIVE MUSIC WITH DJ**



**VICTORIA COURT HONORS NATIONAL EDUCATION CONTEST WINNERS**—Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Ann #369 in Victoria honored Tori Chapa of Nazareth Academy, Division 1, 3rd place, art, 4th-5th grades; and Alexandria Corpuz of Our Lady of Victory, Division 2, 3rd place, art, 6th-8th grades in the 2012 National Education Contest. In the photo, from left, are Sister Mary Jean Bludau of Nazareth Academy, Tori Chapa, Regent Kathy Ormsby, Sister Laura Toman, principal of Our Lady of Victory, and Alexandria Corpuz. The students art was displayed at the Catholic Daughters National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.





Nazareth school students pray at the tabernacle in their newly refurbished chapel on the third floor of the PreK-3 through Grade 8 school. Items for the updated chapel were donated by the 2012 8th-grade graduating class.

## Nazareth Academy Celebrates the Old and the New

Nazareth Academy, a PreK-3 through Grade 8 Catholic School, owned and operated by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, has been in existence for 145 years. As the current principal, Sister Evelyn Korenek, has discovered, some things have changed while

others have remained the same (she had been the principal at Nazareth in the past and was also in other schools and ministries for the past 20 years).

The values and traditions have remained the same, with some updating. The greatest change and challenge to Sister Evelyn is in the field of technology. With interactive Smart Boards in almost every classroom, teachers and students no longer use just the textbook. RenWeb, a web-based school management program, is used by the faculty and parents to input and access grades for the students and communicate with one another, as well as a variety of other tasks. Further, a media class is taught to the upper-grade students.

Thanks to Sister Mary Jean Bludau, religion coordinator, the school chapel has been made new again with upgrades of new curtains, new carpet, new chairs and tinted windows. The 2012 8th grade graduating class donated items for the third-floor chapel. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the chapel, a strong source of consolation and strength for students and faculty alike.

In addition to the “new – old” principal and “new – old” chapel, there are also seven new faculty members this school year, blending the enthusiasm and excitement of teachers new to NA with the seasoned teachers who share their wisdom and experience with these newcomers. And finally, one of the greatest blends of old and new that the school is experiencing is the fact that former students now send their children to Nazareth. Thank you to all who support Nazareth Elementary.



**LOCAL GRADUATE RECEIVES FULL RIDE AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**—Joshua Ervin from Holy Cross Parish in Bay City is attending the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kansas. He received an academic and football scholarship. Joshua is majoring in math, while playing quarterback for the Spires. Upon graduation he plans to return to Texas and pursue a career in secondary education and coach football. Congratulations, Joshua, his family, Holy Cross Parish, and the community of Bay City!

## Youth Calendar of Events

**Sunday, Oct. 7** – YLT – Holy Family - Victoria

**Sunday, Oct. 14** – Confirmation Retreat for Candidates and Sponsors at St. Patrick’s in Bloomington

**Saturday, Nov. 3** – Foundations – Leadership Development – Planning and Programming (Morning)

**Saturday, Nov. 3** – Foundations – Prayer and Worship (Afternoon)

**Sunday, Nov. 4** – YLT – Chancery - Victoria

**Sunday, Dec. 9** – YLT – Chancery - Victoria

**Saturday/Sunday, Jan. 12/13** – YLT Retreat - Location TBA



Find us now on Facebook! At Diocese of Victoria – Youth Ministry

*For more information contact:*

Wendy Eggert at the Office of Youth Ministry at (361) 573-0828 ext. 2232,

e-mail at [weggert@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:weggert@victoriadiocese.org),

Cassandra Hybner, Administrative Assistant, ext. 2250

e-mail at [chybner@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:chybner@victoriadiocese.org)

new youth office e-mail [ym@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:ym@victoriadiocese.org) or

visit our website at [www.victoriadiocese.org/youthoffice](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/youthoffice)

## Administrative Assistant hired for youth office

Cassandra (Sims) Hybner has joined the staff at the chancery office of the Diocese of Victoria as the administrative assistant of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Prior to coming to the chancery office, she was employed as a first-grade teacher at Guadalupe Elementary School outside of Victoria. She was also a 5th-grade CCD teacher at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral for the past three years.

In the first couple of weeks of employment, Cassandra has gotten involved in

helping put together a confirmation retreat and assisting at a Youth Leadership Training. Cassandra says of her experience working at the chancery, “I love it!”

This is the second, great adventure Cassandra has embarked on in the past couple of months, as she and Daniel Hybner, of Victoria, were just recently married.



Cassandra Hybner

## Local student graduates from high school seminary

Bryan Nguyen of St. Anthony Parish in Palacios has graduated from St. Lawrence Seminary High in Mt. Calvary, Wis., a college-prep with spiritual depth school. He will be attending Hallmark College of Aeronautics/Airframe and Power in San Antonio. Congratulations, Bryan.

**Hope You Can Come & Join Us!**

**St. Theresa Annual Parish Picnic**  
in La Salle at the Parish Hall  
County Road 325 & Hwy 616  
**Sunday, October 21**

**Turkey Dressing Dinner**  
(Catered by Robert Werner of Shiner, Texas)  
Serving: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. • \$8 • Dine-in or Plates-to-go


**Auction at 12:30 p.m.**

*Drawing*



*Country Store*

*Games*



*Cakewalk*





**STJ STUDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION**—St. Joseph High School Student Marlena Gutierrez '13 of Victoria has been recognized by the College Board for the National Hispanic Recognition Program. The National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) identifies academically outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students. Each year, the NHRP honors nearly 5,000 of the highest-scoring students from the approximately 235,000 Hispanic/Latino juniors who take the PSAT/NMSQT. NHRP started in 1983 to identify outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students and to share information about students with interested colleges and universities. In order to be eligible, a student must be at least one-quarter Hispanic/Latino as defined by the NHRP, meet the minimum PSAT/NMSQT cutoff score for the state, and achieve a minimum GPA requirement. Marlena is pictured above with her mother, Jill Heard.

## Emergency or blessing?

*Continued from p. 14*

sunset, "but that's absolute silence."

He committed the scenes to heart and lens and later hashed them out on keyboard. "That far north, fall days make you feel you can touch the sky," Tony wrote.

The guys found time for ample father-son discussion: reminiscing about the past, anticipating the future and delighting in their present fortune. But they also absorbed the silence, letting it wash over them and rewire their city circuits.

One of the perils of modern life is the way we've built noise into every process, and 20-somethings run the risk of forgetting how things used to be, back when we jogged without an iPod and drove without a talking GPS.

Last week I overheard an 86-year-old Sister of St. Joseph tell a 21-year-old communicators major about the silent retreats she'd made. The college student was positively stumped, fumbling over earnest questions. "What was the purpose of the silence? Did you find it beneficial?"

"Oh, yeah," the Sister said, sharing wisdom that seemed wrapped in both her age and her religious vocation. "We don't have enough silence in our lives now. There's a lot to being quiet."

A lot to it and a lot standing in its way. Silence isn't just the absence of noise, it's the absence of idle activity. It's being unoccupied, empty, attuned to the "still, small voice" of God that Elijah sought in the wind, the earthquake and the fire and heard, finally, in the silence that followed.

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

## Life and Liberty Prayer Campaign

WASHINGTON—A Mass and Pilgrimage for Life and Liberty with Bishop William E. Lori will be televised on EWTN from Washington, DC, Sunday, Oct. 14, at 12 p.m. EDT, to kick off a nine-day combination USCCB prayer campaign: the annual Respect Life prayer campaign and religious liberty prayer campaign. The 2 ½ hour program will be aired at 11 a.m. CDT with an encore at 11 p.m. CDT. Prayer resources can be found at: [www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom). Also the 20th International Week of Prayer and Fasting will be held from Saturday, Oct. 20, to Tuesday, Nov. 6. For more information, please go to <http://www.iwopf.org/>.

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- ✓ Hospital coverage
- ✓ Dental, vision & hearing care
- ✓ Prescription drugs
- ✓ Immunizations
- ✓ And much more

For more than 100 years, CHRISTUS Spohn has been distinguished by its high caliber staff and affiliated physicians, its comprehensive and innovative services, and its long history of responding to the needs of the community it serves. Now CHRISTUS Health Plan will help us give you this great care.



TXC-12-08-01

For more information on the CHRISTUS Health Plan,  
please call 800-964-2777 for Medicaid or 877-543-7669 for CHIP.





**DUKE T.I.P. QUALIFIERS**—Twelve St. Rose of Lima School, Schulenburg, seventh-grade students have qualified for Duke University's Talent Identification Program. This program aims to identify bright students and encourage them to develop their academic talents. Students are provided information about their abilities and different educational options which may benefit them as they further their education. Learn more at <http://www.tip.duke.edu/>. The following seventh grade students have met the standards for participation in the program this year: seated l-r, Miles Marburger, Kristin Osina, Seth Patten; standing, Blair Guentert, Haley Olsovsky, Lauren Mazoch, Sydney Thompson, Sarah Vecera, Tyler Allan, April Brossmann, Bryn Stryk, and Kate James. Congratulations to these students for their accomplishments!



**FIVE ASSOCIATES JOIN INCARNATE WORD CONVENT**—On Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012, Msgr. John Peters celebrated Mass at Incarnate Word Convent and presided at the consecration of Associates of the Incarnate Word. Left to right, front row, are Mary Ellen Sanchez and her sister Mary Ester DeLa Cruz, who made Perpetual Commitment, Carol Wisdom and Mary Sue Cotton of Victoria who made First Consecration. Standing in the middle: Gerry Reyna of Goliad, who also made First Consecration. Back row: Superior General Sister Stephana Marbach; Director of the Associates Sister Emiliana Grafe; and Msgr. John Peters. About 75 Associates were present, many renewing their commitment. Sisters, Associates, and guests then enjoyed a reception.

In the consecrated life, Christ's faithful, moved by the Holy Spirit, propose to follow Christ more nearly, to give themselves to God who is loved above all and, pursuing the perfection of charity in the service of the Kingdom, to signify and proclaim in the Church the glory of the world to come. Cf. CIC, can. 573 (Catechism of the Catholic Church #916)

**Priesthood Sunday • October 28**



## Substitute Adorers Needed

The Adoration Chapel at St. Mary's Church in Victoria is in need of adorers to spend time with our Lord in eucharistic adoration. Please consider committing an hour per week at the chapel. Hours in need of adorers: Mon., 8-9 a.m.; Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.; Thurs., 3-4 p.m.; and Fridays, 2-3 p.m. Please call St. Mary's at (361) 573-4328 or Mrs. Cleo Boldt at (361) 573-6161.

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## Orange, Fort Worth dioceses have 'similar dynamic,' says Bishop Vann

ORANGE, Calif. (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI named Bishop Kevin W. Vann of Fort Worth, Texas, 61, to be the fourth bishop of Orange, and accepted the resignation of Bishop Tod Brown, age 75. The changes were announced in Washington by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Introducing his successor to chancery staff, media, and guests invited to the news conference, Bishop Brown highlighted Bishop Vann's accomplishments and experiences that make him well-suited for his new assignment. Like the Diocese of Orange, Fort Worth has a significant Hispanic community — about half the population. Orange County is home to the biggest Vietnamese population outside Vietnam, while under Bishop Vann, the Diocese of Fort Worth built the largest Vietnamese Catholic church in the United States. (Bishop Vann speaks Spanish and is learning Vietnamese.) Fort Worth is also home to Tongan and Korean



Bishop Kevin W. Vann (CNS 2011 photo) Nancy Phelan Wiechec

communities, as is the Diocese of Orange. Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez said he welcomed Bishop Vann's appointment to Orange, saying he "possesses the pastoral sensitivity and leadership skills to serve the faithful of the diocese ... well into the future."

## New study shows restrictions on religious practice up in US, worldwide

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The increase of restrictions on religion are up worldwide — and, for the first time, those restrictions increased markedly in the United States, according to a new Pew report. For the United States, it was the first time in the study's four-year history that both government restrictions and social hostility were up by at least one point on a scale of 0 to 10, according to the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, which issued the study Sept. 20. The United States was one of 16 countries with such large measurable increases in both criteria. The increases pushed the United States from a ranking of "low" to "moderate" in terms of restrictions on religion, according to the study, "Rising Tide of Restrictions on Religion." The period studied was mid-2009 to mid-2010. On the 10-point scale, social hostilities in the United States climbed from 2.0 to 3.4, while government restrictions jumped from 1.6 to 2.7. The government restrictions score

in each of the past three years had been 1.6, while the social hostilities number fell between 1.8 and 2.0. In terms of government restrictions, the Pew study found 51 cases of governments applying zoning laws or regulations to prevent religious groups from building houses of worship, schools or other facilities. Of those 51 instances, 31 involved Christian denominations.

## Pope names record number of women to synod on evangelization

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Choosing men and women from every part of the world and from a wide variety of professions, Pope Benedict XVI nominated 45 experts and 49 observers for the upcoming world assembly of bishops. The Oct. 7-28 gathering will include the largest bloc of women — 10 experts and 19 observers — ever to participate in a world Synod of Bishops. Europe accounts for the overwhelming majority of the appointees, followed by North America, with 10 people from the United States, two from Mexico and one from Canada. A number of the appointees are also advisers to the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization and other Vatican offices. The list of papal appointments to the synod was published Sept. 22 by the Vatican. Experts and observers, who include laypeople, are not voting members of the synod. They will serve

as resources for the more than 200 synod members as they discuss the theme, "New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith."

## Third volume of pope's 'Jesus of Nazareth' expected by Christmas

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The third volume of Pope Benedict XVI's book on Jesus of Nazareth should be published before Christmas, the Vatican said. The volume, focusing on the Gospel accounts of Jesus' infancy and childhood, will be the third and final volume in the series of books the pope has written "to make known the figure and message of Jesus," the Vatican said in a statement Sept. 21. The Vatican's plan is to release the book simultaneously in the world's major languages, including English, in time for Christmas. The first volume of "Jesus of Nazareth," covering the period from Jesus' baptism to his Transfiguration, was published in 2007. The second volume, looking at his passion and death, came out in 2011.

## A Tribute: Sam Valdivia By Paul Tasin

The crowd was going one way  
And you were going the other  
We thank you for trying to save  
Our sister and our brother  
They cursed at you  
And hated you... and your sign  
You blessed them  
And magnificently stood the line  
We miss you and all that you did  
But know that in heaven you will  
soar  
And God will use you  
To save even more.

*Editor's note: I truly believe Sam Valdivia was a "Modern-day Prophet". May he rest in peace.*

## ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2012

St. Michael's Parish Hall, 104 McLeod Street, Cuero, Texas 77954  
Mass at St. Michael's Church at 10:00 a.m.

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11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

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Cake Walk

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Children's Game Booths  
11:30 — 2:30 p.m.

Children's Costume  
Parade at 3:00 p.m.

Children's Movie  
4:00 p.m.



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## Presidential candidates on opposite sides of many life issues

*Continued from p. 1*

At the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., there were few speeches that touched on abortion, but candidate Romney pledged in his acceptance speech to “protect the sanctity of life” and the GOP platform states that “the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed.”

“We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to unborn children,” the platform adds. “We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion or fund organizations which perform or advocate it and will not fund or subsidize health care which includes abortion coverage.”

In recent years, there has been much debate about whether Catholics can legitimately support a candidate who does not oppose abortion, if the candidate’s positions on other issues are in line with church teaching.

In a document prepared for the 2012 elections, the Catholic bishops of Kansas answered that question with a decisive no.

“The Catholic faith requires Catholics to oppose abortion, embryonic stem-cell research, euthanasia, assisted suicide and the redefinition of marriage,” said Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City and Bishops Michael O. Jackels of Wichita; John B. Brungardt of Dodge City; and Edward J. Weisenburger of Salina.

“These matters are not negotiable, for they contradict the natural law, available to everyone through human reasoning, and they violate unchanging and unchangeable Catholic moral principles,” they added.

As a matter of fact, the Kansas bishops said, those issues should not be seen, strictly speaking, as political issues.

“Instead, they are fundamentally moral questions involving core Catholic teachings on what is right and what is wrong,” they said. “Catholics who depart from church teaching on these issues separate themselves from full communion with the church.”

### ASSISTED SUICIDE

On the issue of assisted suicide, neither candidate has taken a clear stand, although the Republican platform states: “We oppose the nonconsensual withholding or withdrawal of care or treatment, including food and water, from people with disabilities, including newborns, as well as the elderly and infirm, just as we oppose active and passive euthanasia and assisted suicide.”

The Democratic Party’s platform makes

no mention of the issue.

In response to a question about assisted suicide in 2008, Obama said he was “mindful of the legitimate interests of states to prevent a slide from palliative treatments into euthanasia” but thought that “the people of Oregon did a service for the country in recognizing that as the population gets older we’ve got to think about issues of end-of-life care.” Assisted suicide has been legal in Oregon since voters approved it in 1994. It also is legal in Washington state and in Montana.

### EMBRYONIC STEM-CELLS

As president, Obama revoked President George W. Bush’s policy on embryonic stem-cell research, which limited such research to cell lines derived from embryos before August 2001. He allowed the National Institutes of Health to expand the acceptable lines to any embryos created for in vitro fertilization purposes and later discarded, if the couple agreed to such research.

Romney’s campaign site calls stem-cell research “a great scientific frontier,” but says it “must be pursued with respect and care. When confronted with the issue of stem-cell research as governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney chose to support life by vetoing a bill that would have allowed the cloning of human embryos,” it added. “Quite simply, America cannot condone

or participate in the creation of human life when the sole purpose of its creation is its sure destruction.”

The campaign site expresses support for adult stem-cell research and “alternative methods to derive pluripotent stem cells, such as altered nuclear transfer and direct reprogramming” and says Romney as president “will focus his energy on laws and policies that promote this kind of research to unlock the medical breakthroughs that our loved ones so desperately need.”

### DEATH PENALTY

On the issue of the death penalty, the Democratic platform says it “must not be arbitrary.”

The Republican Party’s platform says, “Courts should have the option of imposing the death penalty in capital murder cases.”

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,” say “our nation’s continued reliance on the death penalty cannot be justified.” They support efforts to end the use of the death penalty “and, in the meantime, to restrain its use through broader use of DNA evidence, access to effective counsel, and efforts to address unfairness and injustice related to application of the death penalty.”

## Religious freedom at home and abroad an election-year issue for many

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Over the past several months, the U.S. Catholic bishops and other religious leaders have urged Americans to defend religious liberty in the United States in the face of what they see as threats to that freedom.

And the issue continues to gain momentum as the November election draws near.

It has been at the forefront for the Catholic bishops since the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced in January that it would require most religious employers to provide free contraceptive coverage against their moral objections. The bishops have repeatedly described the mandate, which violates church teaching, as a restriction on religious liberty.

At both of the national political conventions this summer, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, mentioned

religious liberty in his closing prayers.

In April, the U.S. bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Freedom issued a 12-page statement on a number of federal and state threats to religious liberty besides the HHS mandate.

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” — which outlines church teaching on contemporary issues for Catholic voters — speaks broadly on the issue of religious freedom by stating: “U.S. policy should promote religious liberty and other basic human rights.”

The broader implications of religious freedom were addressed by Pope Benedict XVI in his mid-September visit to Lebanon, where he called religious freedom a basic human right and a prerequisite for social harmony.

Please see threats to liberty on pg. 21 of the EXTRA edition of the Oct. Issue of *The Catholic Lighthouse* webpage.

### MARRIAGE

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, the Republican candidate, and President Barack Obama, the Democratic candidate, hold opposite views on legalizing same-sex marriage, as do the platforms of their respective political parties. Romney has stressed the need to preserve traditional marriage between one man and one woman. The GOP platform calls the institution of marriage the “foundation of civil society. Even as we believe that marriage, the union of one man and one woman must be upheld as the national standard, a goal to stand for ... we embrace the principle that all Americans should be treated with respect and dignity.” In May, Obama announced his support for same-sex marriage as a matter of civil rights. The Democratic Party platform stressed the need for “churches and religious entities to decide how to administer marriage as a religious sacrament without government interference.”

*Editor’s note: To me, this last statement sounds like government interference (an ultimatum) similar to the HHS mandate. See pg. 15 for pope’s comments on marriage.*

Former U.S. Ambassadors to the Holy See: Thomas Melady, Ray Flynn, James Nicholson, Francis Rooney and Mary Ann Glendon, have endorsed Romney.



**ROSARY DEVOTION**—October is the month the church dedicates to the rosary. The church synod on the new evangelization begins Oct. 7, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. October is also Respect Life month. Our Nation is combining many prayer campaigns utilizing the rosary for life and freedom issues. See pgs. 10, 19. (CNS photo/Juan Medina, Reuters)





## Twenty Something

By Christina Capecchi  
E-mail: [Christina@ReadChristina.com](mailto:Christina@ReadChristina.com)



### Emergency or blessing? The power of silence

My dad and brother just returned from a fly-in fishing adventure in the Canadian wilderness – fly in, that is, because their outpost camp could only be accessed by floatplane, the sole cabin on a remote lake teeming with walleye.

It was a week of primitive living – no electricity, no indoor toilets, no cell coverage, no television and solar panels that could power six bulbs. They expected to find a short-range radio to use in case of emergency but learned, in its absence, an alert method closer to a smoke signal: Set a big wooden block in the shape of an E on the end of the dock. One side is green for minor emergencies; flip to the other side, which is orange, for serious issues. Then wait for a pilot to take note. Sometimes he'd fly by daily, but it could be a couple of days before he'd make the rounds and swoop to your aid.

Vacationers have pulled out the Big E for a number of reasons, revealing varying definitions of emergency. One man had a

heart attack. One lost a finger in a hunting accident. One ran out of hot sauce.

But the most fascinating reason to set out the Big E and end a trip early?

The outpost camp was too quiet, they couldn't stand the silence. No highways, no neighbors and, being so far north, little wildlife, not even a chorus of birds.

One family from Chicago was spooked by the lack of noise. They couldn't sleep without the hum of a nearby train.

Another group, two buddies who'd gone to grade school through college together, found the hush an impossible chasm to bridge. "We have nothing in common!" they told the pilot, confessing their plan to play the radio the entire drive home. Somehow they'd never before subjected their long friendship to silence.

My brother, meanwhile, relished the quiet, wanted to bottle it up. "I'm not sure you can hear that," Tony said while recording a video and panning over a lakeside

*See Emergency, p. 10*

### October book to help with making choices

"Our lives are the sum of the choices we make," says W. Granville Brown, a professional Certified Life Coach and best-selling author of the novel "Choices".

Granville now has a new book, "5 Steps to Choosing Your Path", which offers five simple steps to making wise choices in life and business. "Making a choice is a mental process," he says and points out how the innumerable choices we make throughout our lives directly impact the path those lives will take.

Concise (only 44 pages) yet wise, the book emphasizes the importance of considering many different angles before making a choice and having the courage to live "a life of conviction and perseverance." Using real-life stories to illustrate each point, Brown offers a clear and simple guide to help people take control and improve

their lives.

When faced with a choice, the five steps he suggests throughout the book include:



Think it out: Is this the right thing for me to do? How will this affect me, my family, etc.? Why am I doing this?

Be aware of the consequences and accept ownership: Giving up is never an option.

Be willing to accept responsibility: Blaming others for our lack of judgment is childish; don't run from responsibility, embrace it.

Be accountable: Don't run from life. Being accountable takes courage, but your life is worth it.

Be honest: It's never too early – or too late – to do better, be better, or get better. Not being honest with yourself in your daily choices only delays the inevitable

## BIBLICAL PLACES

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### September Puzzle Contest Winners Chosen

The winner of the September puzzle contest and the book "The Catholic Briefcase – Tools for Integrating Faith and Work", by author Randy Hain and published by Liguori, is Elizabeth Janak of Queen of Peace in Sweet Home. The winner of the children's contest is Cathy Wenske, (8) of St. Joseph Parish in Moulton. She will receive a gift from Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

The winner of the October Puzzle Contest will win "5 Simple Steps in Choosing Your Path" by W. Granville Brown. See review on this page. Please mail all completed October puzzle forms to arrive in *The Catholic Lighthouse* office, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903, by October 25, 2012, for a chance to win the book.

and can make matters worse.

"Success in any form is merely a by-product of the work, energy, and focus individuals put into something they do with passion and conviction," adds Granville. "Don't allow obstacles or fear to stop you from living the life you truly want. Instead, make the choice to go for it!"

Learn about the author and his book at:

[www.wgranvillebrown.com](http://www.wgranvillebrown.com); blog: [www.wgranville.blogspot.com](http://www.wgranville.blogspot.com); Interview on Busted Halo with Father Dave Dwyer: <http://wgranvillebrown.com/media/>. His book is available in paperback and e-book at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).





## Sunday Readings from Oct. 14 to Nov. 11

Oct. 14 — Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wisdom 7:7-11 Psalms 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 Hebrews 4:12-13 Mark 10:17-30
Oct. 21 — Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Isaiah 53:10-11 Psalms 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 Hebrews 4:14-16 Mark 10:35-45
Oct. 28 — Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jeremiah 31:7-9 Psalms 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 Hebrews 5:1-6 Mark 10:46-52
Nov. 1 — Solemnity of All Saints	Revelations 7:2-4, 9-14 Psalms 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 1 John 33:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12a
Nov. 4 — Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time	Deuteronomy 6:2-6 Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 12:28b-34
Nov. 11 — Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Kings 17:10-16 Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44

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

[www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings)

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## Rosary Rally to be held throughout diocese

HALLETTSVILLE— “The Sacred Heart Catholic Community, pastored by Msgr. John Peters VG, invites all Christian people, especially those of the Catholic faith to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 13, in various parishes.

As the world situation becomes increasingly threatening, the idea of holding a Rosary in a public place has become more popular. As human efforts fail to solve our growing economic, social, moral, and spiritual troubles, more people are turning to supernatural solutions: The Fatima message of prayer and penance and the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Public Square Rosary Crusade has grown ever since 2007, when there were 2,107 rallies, growing to 7,515 Public Square Rosary Rallies in 2011 held across the United States, as well as in 22 other countries across the globe.

This year, the rallies have a great sense of urgency, as people increasingly feel pressured by the economic crisis, by the swift advance of many moral evils

such as the legalization of homosexual “marriage” and by new socialist and anti-life legislation. Every aspect of our lives seems threatened and unstable. A cloud of deep uncertainty hangs over our nation.

The uncertainty highlighted the urgent need to ask Our Lady for the conversion of America, for the end of sins that offend public morality, and for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary promised at Fatima.

Also, the crusade is a public witness of the Fatima message, which is so contrary to the secular view that religion is a private personal matter for the weak and old-fashioned that must be kept behind church doors.

This Public Square Rosary, sponsored by America Needs Fatima, will be one of over 8,000 rallies that will take place all across the United States on that day. Please join us in offering reparation for the sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to fervently pray for the conversion of the United States.

• Lavaca Courthouse Square in Hallettsville on this very important day – at 12:00 p.m. or by live radio broadcast on 99.9 FM and 92.5 FM.

• At the gazebo at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 512 Tegner St, in El Campo at 12:00 p.m.

• Our Lady of Victory Cathedral in Victoria at 12:00 p.m.

Check with your local parish to find other Rosary Rallies.

### Defending traditional marriage is prophetic, not reactionary, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Defending traditional marriage is not an expression of backward thinking, said Pope Benedict XVI, but of values essential to the future of humanity. “Marriage and the family are institutions that must be promoted and defended from every possible misrepresentation of their true nature, since whatever is injurious to them is injurious to society itself,” he said. The pope made his remarks Sept. 21 in a talk to French bishops visiting Rome to report on the status of their dioceses and meet with Vatican officials. Both France’s incoming president, Francois Hollande, and Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault have promised to promote the legalization of same-sex marriage and of adoption by same-sex couples. If the measure passes, France would become the ninth European nation to recognize same-sex marriage. France legalized same-sex civil unions in 1999. The family, which is the foundation of society, “is threatened in many places by a faulty conception of human nature,” the pope told the group of 32 bishops. How an individual is raised and the well-being of society are interdependent, he said. “Defending life and the family in society isn’t retrograde, rather it’s prophetic,” he said, because it helps “promote those values that permit the full development of the human person.”

## HERITAGE

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## THE POPE SPEAKS

*Pope  
Benedict XVI*



CNS photo from Reuters

## Christian politicians must protect marriage, common good, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS)—Christian politicians have a duty to protect human life, traditional marriage and the common good, Pope Benedict XVI said.

All Christians are called upon to defend and promote human dignity, and “this responsibility particularly concerns those called to political office,” he told representatives of Christian Democratic parties from around the world.

The Old Testament warning that “judgment is stern” for those in high places is “highly beneficial,” the pope said, because it is “a warning given not to frighten but to spur and encourage those in government, at all levels, to achieve all the good of which they are capable, in keeping with the mission the Lord entrusts to each one.”

The pope’s remarks came during an

audience with political leaders taking part in the Christian/Centrist Democrat International’s executive committee meeting Sept. 21 in Rome.

The group’s president, Pier Ferdinando Casini, told the pope that the separation of church and state “cannot suppress the human person’s innate need for religiosity; there is no healthy secularity without God and religion.”

The pope said that to promote the common good and protect human dignity, Christian politicians must discern the truth of the primacy of the person through a “constant attention to the Word of God and the Magisterium of the church.”

This is especially urgent in a world where “the cursory, superficial and short-term responses to the most fundamental and profound human needs are numerous and strident,” and people tend to “wander away to myths” that “suit their own desires” rather than put up with sound doctrine, he said.

Bringing about authentic human justice demands a respect for life at all of its stages and the “rejection of procured abortion, euthanasia and any form of eugenics.”

Respect for the indissolubility of marriage between a man and a woman is also part of contributing to the authentic progress of human society, he said.

All nations and international bodies should adopt such policies “in order to reverse the tendency towards the growing isolation of the person, which is a source of suffering and atrophy for both individuals and society,” he added.

The current global economic crisis also needs to be addressed, he said, with “new rules” based on solid ethical foundations and not “limited to responding to the requirements of market logic.”

All Christians are called to respond to the world’s challenges “with confidence, not resignation,” and to shoulder their responsibilities with realism, determination, enthusiasm and hope, he said.

## Catholic By Grace

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



## Year of Faith: Let it Happen!

In the early 1990s, my sister lived in New Zealand and worked for a traveling science roadshow. We talked on the phone rarely. It was too expensive, and the voice delay on oversea phone calls was really frustrating. My sister began sending postcards to keep us current on her exciting adventure. One postcard stands out in my memory from that era. On the front of the postcard, there was a stereogram, a hidden 3-D picture wrapped in a blue-green 2-D design. The instructions on the postcard said to hold the image right up to your nose and slowly pull the picture away from your face. The reader was told to stare through the picture rather than try to focus on the 2-D pattern. “Let your eyes go beyond the obvious image, and you will begin to see the hidden image,” the footnote read.

I raised the card to my nose and tried it about ten times. My children figured it out almost immediately.

“I give up. I can’t see a thing!” I tossed the card on the table and my son picked it up, imploring me to give it another try.

“You have to let it happen, Mom. Don’t look at it. Kind of let your eyes go out of focus. And fight it when your eyes want to look at the design. You’ll never see it that way. The picture is deeper. Not here.” He rubbed the palm of his hand across the postcard. “It’s there.” He took his right index finger and pointed down to the postcard in his left hand. When his finger touched the picture, he slid it around the side of the picture, and kept on pointing to an imaginary place beyond.

He handed the card to me, and I took it reluctantly. I wasn’t sure what I was doing, but I thought about what my son had said and gave it one last serious effort.

And suddenly, I saw it. Three dolphins. Three 3-D dolphins in a row. It was SO cool.

There are times when the indelible mark of God on the lives of those around us can seem as elusive as the 3-D picture hidden in a stereogram. We don’t see Christ in our neighbor. We don’t see Christ in the poor. We don’t see Christ in the priest.

We just see a rude neighbor. A guy on the side of the road with a sign. A man with foibles like everyone else who sometimes wears a stole.

God tells us to look closer. No, not at

the surface. Don’t fixate on the outward patterns. You’ll never see what lies beneath that way. Jesus is there, and you can see him if you let yourself get past the surface image.

He’s there, in the eyes of your neighbor.

He’s there, in the eyes of the poor, the sick, the imprisoned, the immigrant.

He’s there in the ordained one. A priest forever. Marked with God’s indelible imprint.

Sometimes, the pattern on the surface throws us off. We become frustrated by what we see. God tells us to look a little deeper. Give it another try. True identity is sometimes hidden. Cloaked in external trappings.

And if we can begin to see Jesus Christ hidden in the faces around us, maybe we can begin to see Our Lord hidden under the appearance of bread and wine.

Fight it when your eyes want to look at the design. You’ll never see Him that way. Christ is deeper. He’s there.

No longer bread.

No longer wine.

Jesus.

Soon, we enter the “Year of Faith.” It’s time to put on the eyes of faith and see Jesus Christ.

## The Sign of Peace

Whatever the gesture, the rite of peace can be seen as connecting the Our Father with the reception of Holy Communion about to take place. On one hand, it serves as a beautiful ritual enactment of the Lord’s Prayer, which, as we have seen, expresses the unity of all God’s children. We call on God not individualistically separated from each other, but together as brothers and sisters in God’s covenant family saying “Our Father who art in heaven... .” Now the sign of peace expresses the unity in ritual. On the other hand the sign of peace symbolically anticipates the profound unity the people will share with each other when they receive Holy Communion.

Often the significance of this gesture is not fully understood. Cardinal Arinze noted, “It is thought that it is an occasion to give a high-five to friends. Rather, it is a way of saying to the person beside you that the peace of Christ is really present on the altar, also with all men.”

*From a local church bulletin.*

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## Vatican synod to examine when divided Christians can preach together

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The potential power, but also the limits, of an ecumenical proclamation of the Gospel and defense of Gospel values is likely to be a key topic during October's world Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization. The ecumenical focus will be particularly sharp Oct. 10 when — at the personal invitation of Pope Benedict XVI — Anglican Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury will deliver a major address to synod

members. While popes have long invited other Christians to be "fraternal delegates" and make brief speeches at the synods, Pope Benedict has begun a tradition of inviting important religious leaders to deliver a major address. A rabbi and two Muslim leaders gave speeches at the 2010 special synod on the Middle East. Bishop Brian Farrell, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, said the invitations demonstrate the pope's recognition that the "challenges facing religious belief itself and church life are common — no church, no religion is an island — and we need one another and can learn from one another."

## Teachings on baptism, Trinity make Mormons different from Protestants

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- With Mitt Romney at the top of Republican Party presidential ticket and Rep. Paul Ryan as his running mate, the Republicans for the first time do not have a Protestant on the ticket. Ryan, the vice presidential candidate, is Catholic. GOP presidential hopeful Romney is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and as the Catholic News Service Stylebook on Religion notes, "It is not a Protestant church." The word "Protestant" is the proper term for the new churches of Western

Christianity formed during the Reformation, for the branches of those churches and for their members. The main branches of Protestantism include Baptist, Congregational, Lutheran, Methodist, Quaker, Presbyterian and Reformed denominations. Some significant differences in belief and practice between Mormonism and Protestantism come into play. "Well, it probably would refer mainly to the teachings on baptism," said Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, which is home to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, often referred

to as "LDS." The bishop said: "In 2001, the Vatican conclusively determined that we do not accept LDS baptisms, and the LDS Church does not accept Catholic baptisms, so there's no surprise in that." In explaining its decision, the Vatican said that even though the Mormon baptismal rite refers to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the church's beliefs about the identity of the three persons are so different from Catholic and mainline Christian belief that the rite cannot be regarded as a Christian baptism. Catholics and other Christians believe that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are three persons of a triune God, while Latter-day Saints believe them to be separate and distinct persons. Another point that distinguishes them from Catholics and Protestants is their church's Book of Mormon, four books that are appended to their religion's Bible. The books are considered "extracanonical" by Christians and are not included in Catholic or Protestant Bibles.

## Middle Eastern speakers in Rome denounce Western interference, neglect

ROME (CNS) — Western nations need to respect the people of the Middle East and trust them to solve their own problems, said an Iraqi diplomat, an Iraqi archbishop and a Syrian-born representative of the Melkite Catholic Church. The two religious leaders also called for an end to foreign military intervention and other interference in the region that they said only foment strife and hinder their citizens' desire for peace. Their comments came during an event sponsored by the Iraqi Embassy to the Vatican Sept. 24. Ali Nashmi, a Muslim professor and historian spoke on the contribution by Iraqi Christians throughout history to the preservation of both eastern and western cultures. In his opening remarks, Iraq's ambassador to the Vatican, Hameed Mohammed Hadi Ali Sadr, urged Arab nations to support Christians within their own borders and abroad, noting the contributions of Christians to national cultures and to providing social services, including schools and medical facilities. "It's also up to the Christian west to change its mistaken beliefs about Islam," and recognize that "real Islamic values do not clash with other religious values," he said, arguing that acts of violence

committed in the name of Islam are the work of unrepresentative "degenerate groups." The ambassador called on western nations to "treat important Arab and Islamic issues objectively and with balance," steering away from double standards and focusing on shared interests.

## Christian-Muslim summit seeks security for all religions in Middle East

BEIRUT (CNS) — Christian and Muslim leaders in Lebanon called for the formation of a legal committee to protect all religions. In a statement following a Muslim-Christian summit Sept. 25 at Bkerke, the seat of the Maronite Catholic church, north

of Beirut, religious leaders also condemned the "Innocence of Muslims" film and denounced "violent reactions that led to innocent casualties and harm to Christians and places of worship in a number of countries." Speaking to reporters before the summit over which he presided, Maronite Patriarch Bechara Rai said the "Innocence of Muslims" is offensive to Christians as well as to every religion. A resolution must be adopted at the international level to prevent the insult to religions." The leaders said in the statement that "an attack against any religion is an attack against all religions." The leaders called for the United Nations and Arab League to take necessary measures to prevent the abuse of religions and their symbols, The

leaders also praised Pope Benedict XVI's Sept. 14-16 "historical visit to Lebanon that came at the right time," saying that the pope's message to the Lebanese served as a reminder that their country represented a space for "interaction and dialogue, and not an arena for conflict."




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## Special Collections World Mission Sunday - October 21

### Ongoing Events

**That Man Is You**—The fall session is titled “The Mystery of the Rosary” and will run for eleven (11) weeks starting at 5:45-7:15 a.m. at Holy Cross, Bay City. For more information contact Mike Allison at (979) 479-1370. Check with Holy Family in Victoria and Assumption in Ganado, for times of their programs.

**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. Before attending, please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572.

**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 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 (361) 655-3008 for more information. Holy Family Church in Wharton (2011 Briar Lane) holds meetings the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call (979) 532-3593 M-F, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Catholic Family Services**—For a listing of e-mail addresses and websites 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 website at [www.lostrescompaneros-sfo.org](http://www.lostrescompaneros-sfo.org). For meeting dates, please call Mary Ann LeBlanc at (361) 575-1858.

**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 website 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 2012 dates are: Nov. 16-18. For more info., call (361) 573-0828 ext. 2230. All registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form.

**Natural Family Planning**—The diocesan Natural Family Planning fall class schedule has had a change. The Oct. 14 class has been rescheduled to Sunday, Oct. 21. It is the only Church-approved form of family planning. For information about the Sympto-Thermal Method in the Victoria area and the NFP class schedules, please contact David and Annie Coffey at [victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com](mailto:victorianfpteachers@yahoo.com). Classes are going on now.

**Retrouvaille**—A marriage-healing ministry in the Diocese of Victoria; the word Retrouvaille means ‘rediscovery.’ Retrouvaille is a program that offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and the loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Go to [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org) for more information or contact John and Jennifer Vincent at [jbvjov@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbvjov@sbcglobal.net) or (361) 580-2770. Other contacts are at (800) 470-2230 and [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).

**Marriage Encounter**—The Marriage Encounter Weekend is no longer offered in the Diocese of Victoria. Retrouvaille, meaning rediscovery, is the only program offered in the diocese at this time to married couples who would like marriage help. For more information, please see the Retrouvaille notice, contact [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org), or go to [www.wvme.org](http://www.wvme.org) for Marriage Encounter Weekends offered outside the Diocese of Victoria.

**Courage**—Are you or a loved one experiencing homosexual attraction and looking for answers? Courage, an apostolate of the Catholic Church, ministers to persons with same-sex attraction and their loved ones. It has been endorsed by the Pontifical Council for the Family, and our beloved Blessed John Paul II said of this ministry, “COURAGE is doing the work of God!” There is also an outreach called **EnCourage** which ministers to relatives, spouses, and friends of persons with same-sex attraction. From their website you will learn about same sex attraction and chastity. By developing an interior life of chastity, which is the universal call to all Christians, one can move beyond the confines of the homosexual identity to a more complete one in Christ. Also, find Chapter Meetings, Conferences, Days of Recollection, and Retreats. Go to <http://couragec.net/>

**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 website: [www.beginningexperience.org](http://www.beginningexperience.org); e-mail: [sanantoniobe@yahoo.com](mailto:sanantoniobe@yahoo.com); phone: (210) 734-2146.

**Presidio La Bahia Museum and Visitor Center**—a National Historic Landmark in Goliad — 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 advanced reservations. The fort is handicapped accessible. For more information call (361) 645-3752 or see the website at [www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org).

### Picnics, Activities, etc. October

**Bay City**—Holy Cross Fall Festival Oct. 7 at the KC Hall, 63 CR 216 (Nicholas Rd.). A turkey and dressing dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at \$8 p/p with dine-in or drive thru plates available.

**Hostyn**—Queen of the Holy Rosary Festival Oct. 7 with a Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m. followed by a fried-chicken and sausage dinner starting at 11:00 a.m. at \$8 p/p.

**Hungerford**—St. John Church Bazaar Oct. 7 at the community center. A barbecue dinner with sauerkraut will be served starting at 10:30 a.m.

**Mentz**—St. Roch 158th Annual Picnic Oct. 7 will serve a barbecue-beef, pork and sausage dinner from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at \$9 p/p.

**Vanderbilt**—Due to tornado damage, St. John Bosco Parish Picnic Oct. 7, will be at the Inez Community Center. Barbecue-brisket and sausage plates (catered by Werner’s of Shiner) will be served from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at \$8 p/p with plates-to-go available drive thru.

**Victoria**—Nazareth Academy Festival Oct. 7 at the community center; doors open at 10:00 a.m. A traditional turkey and dressing dinner will be served at \$8 p/p with dine-in or curbside service available.

**East Bernard**—Holy Cross Parish Bazaar will be held at Riverside Hall Oct. 14. Dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. The menu will include barbecue beef, chicken, and sausage with “homemade dressing” and all the trimmings. Hamburgers will be served starting at 3:00 p.m. The auction will begin at 12:30 p.m. All kinds of games will be available from noon -5:00 p.m. There will be live music starting at noon.

**Columbus**—St. Anthony Picnic Oct. 14 at the KC Hall. A barbecue beef and sausage dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. at \$8 p/p. There will be Mexican food, hamburgers, auction, booths and more. See page 4 for ad.

**El Campo**—St. Robert Bellarmine Parish Festival Oct. 14 at the KC Hall with a live auction, raffle, games, food stands,

rides, and live music. For questions contact parish office (979) 543-4298.

**Victoria**—Our Lady of Victory Festival Oct. 14 at the community center; doors open at 11:00 a.m. A buffet-style, barbecue-beef and sausage dinner will be served at \$8 p/p with dine-in or curbside service available. There will be booths and games for the entire family to enjoy. See ad on page 7.

**Victoria**—CWV Auxiliary Annual Fundraiser Oct. 14 at the CWV Hall – 1007 S. Main. A turkey and dressing dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at \$7 p/p. Proceeds to benefit community projects

**Victoria**—“Art on the Hoof!”, the upcoming exhibit at the Nave Museum, is a look at the historic ranching families along Texas’ coastal bend and the cultured facets of their lives. Alongside majestic portraits and paintings of livestock, the exhibit also includes household and ranching objects such as historic branding irons, and elaborate spurs and bits, which are prized collectors’ items today. The exhibit runs through Oct. 14. The Nave Museum is located at 306 W. Commercial Street. It is open Tuesday through Sunday, 12 – 4 p.m. and Thursday 12 – 7 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults, or \$1 for children, students, seniors and military. Memberships begin at \$60. For more information, please go to <http://www.victoriaregionalmuseum.com/>

**Bay City**—Our Lady of Guadalupe Annual Jamaica/Bazaar Oct. 21 held on church grounds (Avenue D & 12th Street) from 11:00 a.m. to dark. Fun for all ages: live music, children’s games and rides, children’s ferris wheel, cakewalk and more; food booths (some open at 9:00 a.m.), Mexican food, and more. Bring your chair and enjoy the day!!!!

**Eagle Lake**—Parish of the Nativity Festival Oct. 21 at the pavilion across from the hospital (545 S. Austin Rd.). A barbecue-beef and sausage dinner will be served at \$8 p/p from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. with curbside service available. Live auction at 1:00 p.m. There will be booths and games, music and more. See ad on page 8.

**Goliad**—Immaculate Conception Fall Festival Oct. 21 will be held on the church grounds starting with Mass at 10:00 a.m. followed by a barbecue-beef, buffet-style dinner at \$8 p/p. There will be a cakewalk, games, country store, ballet folklorico, music, auction (1:00 p.m.) and much more. See ad on page 7.

**LaSalle**—St. Theresa Picnic Oct. 21 at the parish hall. A turkey and dressing dinner will be served catered by Robert Werner of Shiner at \$8 p/p. Dine-in or drive-thru plates available. The auction starts at 12:30 p.m. There will be a cakewalk, country store, games for the children and more. For more information call (361) 284-3275. See ad on page 9.

**Wharton**—Holy Family Fall Festival Oct. 21, held at the Life Center, will be serving a barbecue-chicken and sausage dinner. There will be an auction, games and more. See ad on page 3.

**Victoria**—Catholic Daughters Court St. Ann #369 will have their Fall Games Party Oct. 23 at the KC Hall from 6:00-9:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 p/p and includes refreshments, meal and door prizes. Call Dianne at (361) 575-7042 or Patti at (361) 578-2603 to make your reservation.

**Hallettsville**—Sacred Heart High School volunteers are having their annual Apple Strudel Bake Saturday, Oct. 27. The strudels come ready to eat or unbaked for a fresh treat at a later date. Baked are \$16 and unbaked (frozen) strudels will be \$14 each, and will be available for pickup at the Sacred Heart Family Center on the day of the event. To order, call Charlene at (361) 798-3224; Annette at (361) 798-5374; Sharon at (361) 576-2060 or e-mail [charlenebradbury@hotmail.com](mailto:charlenebradbury@hotmail.com). (Advance orders are required to guarantee order fulfillment.) Victoria orders will be available for local pickup in Victoria.

**Blessing**—St. Peter Parish will have a barbecue-turkey and dressing dinner Oct. 28 at the parish hall at \$8 p/p with dine-in or drive-thru available. Serving begins at 11:00 a.m. The auction starts at 12:30 p.m. There will also be a raffle and country store. See ad on page 17.

**Cuero**—St. Michael Fall Festival Oct. 28. A chicken-fried steak





# EVENTS

The Catholic Lighthouse  
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dinner will be served from 11:00-1:00 p.m. at \$8 p/p, music by Clay Crockett. Live auction begins at 12:30 p.m. For more information, see ad on page 12.

**Seadrift**—St. Patrick will be holding its annual turkey dinner on Oct. 28, at the new parish hall on 310 W. Cleveland St. The turkey and homemade cornbread dressing dinner will be served starting at 11:00 with the plates at \$8 p/p. Eggrolls, fried rice, and baked goods will be sold. A white elephant sale will begin on Saturday, Oct. 27, at 10:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. and continue on Sunday to 1:00 p.m. Raffle tickets will be sold and the drawing will be held on Sunday. Several wonderful silent auction prizes will be available to bid on as well. All are welcomed to come and enjoy good food and socializing.

## Upcoming Events

**Hungerford**—KTJ Society #79 and KJZT Society #57 will be hosting their annual turkey and dressing dinner Nov. 11 at the community center. Serving begins at 10:30 a.m. and the public is invited.

**Victoria**—Our Lady of Lourdes Fall Festival Nov. 11 at the community center. A turkey and dressing dinner will be served.

**New Taiton**—St. John Scholarship Games Party Dec. 2 at 6:00 p.m. at Taiton Community Center. There will be door prizes, drawings, auctions and refreshments. Fun for the whole family. Proceeds benefit the youth of St. John Parish.

**Schulenburg**—St. Rose of Lima School Fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, at Swiss Alp Hall featuring The Original Triumphs. There will be a silent auction of romantic getaways and a live auction that includes an autographed Bruce Springsteen electric guitar. Please contact Laura Fogle at [L.fogle@strosecardinals.org](mailto:L.fogle@strosecardinals.org) for tickets or to reserve a table. Come out and Rock-n-Roll with the Red and White!

## Masses • Retreats • Conferences

**El Campo**—St. Robert Bellarmine Church will host an America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally, Oct. 13, at 12:00 p.m. (noon) at the church Gazebo. The public is invited to come and pray the Rosary; please bring a Rose for our Lady of Fatima - 95 years since the miracle of the sun at Fatima, Portugal.

**Hallettsville**—The Sacred Heart Catholic Community, pastored by Msgr. John Peters, VG, is hosting a "Public Square Rosary" at the Lavaca Court House Square on Oct. 13, at 12:00 p.m. (noon). See page 15 for more information.

**Victoria**—Our Lady of Victory Cathedral will host a "Public Square Rosary Crusade" on Oct. 13 at 12:00 p.m. (noon).

**San Antonio**—Come and See Weekend: The Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate are providing an inside view of life in a convent setting during a "Come and See" weekend, on Oct. 19-21 at their motherhouse, 300 Yucca. The weekend will give women, between the ages of 18-45, an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on religious life and vocation discernment, to look at their gifts and talents, and to decide if God is calling them to be of service to the Church and to his people. Registration is available online at [www.shsp.org](http://www.shsp.org) or by contacting Sister Gabriel Hession SHSp, at (210) 533-5149; cell: (817)360-9316; or [sghession@hotmail.com](mailto:sghession@hotmail.com).

**Victoria**—Holy Family Church, is hosting a presentation on the topic of "Spousal Love and Spirituality for Married Life" by Chris Stravitsch, founder of Rejoice Family Apostolate and faculty of Assumption Seminary in San Antonio on Oct. 30. Mr. Stravitsch will offer insights on the spirituality of spousal love as he examines Christ's crucifixion and Mary's fiat. Single adults, engaged, and married couples will be edified as they see new beauty in the vocation of marriage. The event is free of charge and will be held at the church in St. Peter Parish Hall (Bldg A) at 704 Mallette Drive from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free childcare will be provided.

**Victoria**—Single Catholic women (18 through 50 years of age, who are discerning God's call) are invited to attend a "Come and See" weekend at Incarnate Word Convent on Nov. 10-11.

Please check us out at [www.iwbsvictoria.org](http://www.iwbsvictoria.org) or call (361) 575-7111 or e-mail [iwbsvoc@yahoo.com](mailto:iwbsvoc@yahoo.com) for more details or to make a reservation. We'll be waiting for your response.

**El Campo**—Life in the Spirit Seminar at St. Philip Parish on Dec. 7-8, presided by Father Joseph Lam Nguyen, C.S.Sp. More information to come. Contact: Gwen Edwards at [dennis1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dennis1@sbcglobal.net) or (979) 543-8865; Jan Dornak at [jan.hair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jan.hair@sbcglobal.net) or (979) 543-6785.

**Victoria**—Holy Family Church is sponsoring a women's ACTS retreat at the Spiritual Renewal Center from Jan. 24-27, 2013. For an unforgettable experience, please contact Retreat Director Janet Charbula (361) 550-2327, Assistant Director Margie Ramirez (361) 571-0026, Assistant Director Janet Huse (361) 550-4764, or Spiritual Adviser Mary Jeansonne (361) 935-0122.

**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).

**Victoria**—AMOR MEUS Spirituality Center Schedule through December 2012 at Incarnate Word Convent — 1101 N.E. Water Street — Victoria, TX 77901 — 361-575-7111 — e-mail: [amormeus@yahoo.com](mailto:amormeus@yahoo.com) **Quiet Day of Retreat and Prayer:** Nov. 3 — A quiet day of prayer listening to the voice of God speaking in the stillness of your heart. Women and men are welcomed. A love offering is accepted for the day. You may purchase a box lunch for \$5 or bring your own lunch. Call for reservations. **Taizé Prayer:** Oct. 18 and Dec. 6 — 7:00-8:00 p.m. — Amor Meus Prayer Room — A Taizé Prayer Service consists of music, song, chant, scriptural readings, meditation, and prayers of praise and intercession. **Advent Vespers:** Sundays in December — 5:00-5:45 p.m.

**Shiner**—Latin Masses will be celebrated by Father Bob Knippenberg at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

**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.

**Tivoli**—First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 501B William Street, Mass follows at 7:00 p.m., with Rev. Paulson Panakal. Mark your calendars for November 2, the first Friday of November. Call for more information: (361) 237-3634

**ACTS Retreats**—For information on ACTS retreats, please go to ACTS Web site at [www.actsmissions.org](http://www.actsmissions.org).

## Pilgrimages, Tours, etc.

For more information call Betty Urbanovsky at (979) 332-3044 or [burbanovsky@sbcglobal.net](mailto:burbanovsky@sbcglobal.net).

## All Souls Day – Friday, November 2

An All Souls Day Mass will be held at 12 p.m. Friday, November 2, at Resurrection Cemetery Mausoleum on the corner of Laurent St. and Mockingbird Lane in Victoria. Bishop David Fellhauer will celebrate the Mass, and a fellowship with light refreshments will follow.

Our Catholic cemeteries give a powerful and enduring witness that our community of faith transcends our earthly existence and that the bonds we share are unbroken by time or earthly death. All Souls Day is a day set aside to pray for the deceased and to visit the graves of loved ones and friends in a show of respect to those who have gone before us and who now dwell with God in Heaven.

Outside of Victoria, please check with local parishes for locations and times of All Souls Day Masses.

## AMOR MEUS Spirituality Center Schedule October-December 2012

### Quiet Day of Retreat and Prayer November 3

A quiet day of prayer listening to the *voice of God* speaking in the stillness of your heart. Women and men are welcomed. A love offering is accepted for the day. You may purchase a box lunch for \$5.00 or bring your own lunch. Call for reservations.

### Taizé Prayer — October 18, December 6 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Amor Meus Prayer Room — A Taizé Prayer Service consists of music, song, chant, scriptural readings, meditation, and prayers of praise and intercession.

### Advent Vespers — December 2, 9, 16, 23 5:00 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

Incarnate Word Chapel. Evening Prayer finds its base in the prayers of the Psalms. This Prayer calls us to give praise and thanksgiving to our loving God.

Incarnate Word Convent — 1101 N.E. Water Street — Victoria, TX 77901 — (361) 575-7111 — [amormeus@yahoo.com](mailto:amormeus@yahoo.com)

## El Campo, Hallettsville & Victoria Life Chain Sunday – Oct. 7th

Come stand up for life: prayerfully witness on behalf of the unborn - signs will be provided - ALL are welcome!


• In Victoria, the Life Chain will be held on Navarro St. from Magruder Dr. / Sam Houston Dr. to Loop 463, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

• In El Campo, it will be held at Jackson St. at Mechanic St., from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

• In Hallettsville, it will be held from 1:00-2:30 p.m. along Hwy 77 South in front of the KC Hall.



Don't Forget  
To Change  
Your Clocks  
Back One Hour  
**November 4 @  
2:00 a.m.**



## HEAVENLY HELPERS

**Christian Store**  
(979) 543-2850

† Bibles † Gifts † Books † Jewelry † Music  
† Religious Articles † Videos † Christian Supplies

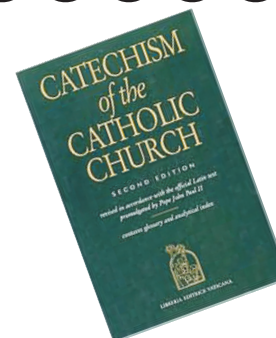
1406-B N. Mechanic  
EL CAMPO, TEXAS 77437

Jeanie Janak, owner  
M-F: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. • Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.





**POPE JOHN XXIII CARRIED ON CHAIR DURING OPENING SESSION OF SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL**—Pope John XXIII leads the opening session of the Second Vatican Council in St. Peter's Basilica Oct. 11, 1962. The council's four sessions and its 16 landmark documents modernized the liturgy, renewed the priesthood and religious life, enhanced the role of lay Catholics, opened dialogue with other churches and non-Christians, and identified the church as the "people of God" attuned to the problems and hopes of the world. The 50th anniversary of the opening of the council will be marked by Pope Benedict XVI when he kicks off the Year of Faith with an Oct. 11 Mass in St. Peter's Square. (CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano)



## 20th Anniversary of Catechism of Catholic Church

The Year of Faith begins Oct. 11 and coincides with the 50th anniversary of the opening day of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the day the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) was promulgated. Pope Benedict XVI has asked Catholics to spend this year studying, professing and demonstrating their faith. The CCC, a best selling book now in its second edition, can be purchased at stores or online in paperback or e-book form at very low prices.

**'Holiness business' is what Catholic Church is all about, speaker says**

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Catholic Church is suffering from too much busyness and is lacking an emphasis on praise and worship, a theologian at The Catholic University of America said Sept. 28. "The result has been a church of Marthas worrying about many things rather than a church of Marys mindful of the most important thing," said Christopher Ruddy, an associate professor of historical and systematic theology at the university. "The church is in the holiness business," Ruddy said in a talk on the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church at Catholic University's conference on "Reform and Renewal: Vatican II After 50 Years. Everything the church does is oriented toward leading us human creatures and human communities to a sharing in God's own Trinitarian life, that is, holiness," he said. The church has failed to receive the riches of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, also known as "Lumen Gentium," Ruddy said, quoting the Jesuit historian Father John O'Malley, who has remarked that no other church council emphasized the church's role in promoting holiness more than Vatican II. Ruddy called holiness "the inner reason of the church. It is decisively important to grasp this primacy of holiness." All of the church's institutions, activities and its hierarchy exist to serve the final goal of holiness, he said. "The church evangelizes, not as an end in itself, but to arouse, awaken and sustain the conversion that leads to true, eternal life with God." A greater emphasis on holiness, he said, can challenge "an American culture where an economic treadmill of ever-greater productivity and consumption fractures persons, families and communities."

## Vatican II: Season of Renewal

**1958**



**Oct. 28**  
John XXIII becomes pope.

**1959**

**Jan. 25**  
He announces plans to convoke the council, citing a need to update the church and promote Christian unity.

**1960**

**June 6**  
He issues a Motu Proprio establishing 11 commissions and two secretariats for the council.

**1961**

Administrative and preparatory work continues.

**1962**

**Oct. 11-Dec. 8**  
**SESSION 1**  
36 general meetings take place. Key discussions: liturgy, mass communication, the Eastern Catholic churches, and the nature of revelation.

**1963**



**June 21**  
Paul VI becomes pope.

**Sept. 29-Dec. 4**  
**SESSION 2**  
43 general meetings end with documents on liturgy and social communications.

**1964**

**Sept. 14-Nov. 21**  
**SESSION 3**  
48 general meetings end with the publication of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church and separate decrees on ecumenism and Eastern Catholic churches.

**1965**

**Sept. 14-Dec. 8**  
**SESSION 4**  
41 general meetings end with decrees on the office of bishops, priestly formation, religious life, priestly ministry, missionary activity and the role of laity. Also issued were declarations

on Christian education, on religious freedom and on relations with non-Christian religions; the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World and the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation.







## Religious freedom at home and abroad an election-year issue for many

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Over the past several months, the U.S. Catholic bishops and other religious leaders have urged Americans to defend religious liberty in the United States in the face of what they see as threats to that freedom.

And the issue continues to gain momentum as the November election draws near.

It has been at the forefront for the Catholic bishops since the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced in January that it would require most religious employers to provide free contraceptive coverage against their moral objections. The bishops have repeatedly described the mandate, which violates church teaching, as a restriction on religious liberty.

Theologians and Catholic leaders discussed the issue of religious freedom at recent seminars at The Catholic University of America and Georgetown University in Washington and a forum at St. John's University in New York.

At both of the national political conventions this summer, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, mentioned religious liberty in his closing prayers.

At the close of the Republican National Convention Aug. 30 in Tampa, Fla., he gave thanks for the “singular gift of liberty” and prayed for a renewed “respect for religious freedom” and a “new sense of responsibility for freedom’s cause.”

During a closing benediction Sept. 6 at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., the cardinal prayed that God would “renew in all our people a profound respect for religious liberty: the first, most cherished freedom bequeathed upon us at our founding.”

In April, the U.S. bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Freedom issued a 12-page statement on threats to religious liberty, including the HHS mandate but highlighting other examples:

– Immigration laws in Alabama and other states that “forbid what the government deems ‘harboring’ of undocumented immigrants.”

– Government actions in Boston, San Francisco, the District of Columbia and the state of Illinois that have “driven local Catholic Charities out of the business of providing adoption or foster care services” because the agencies would not

place children with same-sex or unmarried heterosexual couples.

– Changes in federal contracts for human trafficking grants that require the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services to refer clients “for contraceptive and abortion services in violation of Catholic teaching.”

On the state level, ballot measures dealing with religious freedom protections have emerged in North Dakota, Missouri and Florida.

In North Dakota's June primary election, voters ultimately rejected a ballot measure to broaden state constitutional religious freedom provisions. Meanwhile, Missouri voters in their August primary approved a similar measure that guaranteed people could pray and worship in all private and public areas including schools as long as the activities are voluntary and subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to all other types of speech.

Missouri legislators voted to override the governor's veto of a religious liberty bill specifying that no one should be forced to pay for abortion drugs and similar items in their health insurance when it violates their religious beliefs.

The Missouri law addresses the federal contraception mandate that became effective Aug. 1. The Missouri Catholic Conference noted that federal law supersedes state law. However, several lawsuits challenging the HHS mandate as unconstitutional have been filed in various federal courts, and if the mandate is ultimately found to be unconstitutional, the new Missouri law will stand.

In November, Florida will vote on a constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination against individuals and institutions on the basis of religious beliefs and remove a long-standing ban on public funding “in aid of any church, sect, or religious denomination or in aid of any sectarian institution.”

Supporters of the amendment say it is necessary to ensure that social service organizations with religious affiliations can compete on an equal footing with other organizations providing similar services. Opponents have argued the amendment is an attempt to lay the groundwork for Catholic school vouchers when faith-based organizations already receive government funding for public services they provide.

Both political parties mention religious liberty in their platforms. The Democratic Party platform states the Affordable Care

Act “ensures that women have access to contraception in their health insurance plans,” adding that President Barack Obama “has respected the principle of religious liberty.”

The HHS mandate does have a religious exemption, but its critics say it is so narrow it would protect only those religious employers who seek to inculcate their religion and who primarily employ and serve people of their own faith.

The GOP platform uses the phrase “war on religion” to describe the Obama administration's “attempt to compel faith-related institutions, as well as believing individuals, to contravene their deeply held religious, moral, or ethical beliefs regarding health services, traditional marriage, or abortion.”

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” – which outlines church teaching on contemporary issues for Catholic voters – speaks broadly on the issue of religious freedom by stating:

“U.S. policy should promote religious liberty and other basic human rights.”

The broader implications of religious freedom were addressed by Pope Benedict XVI in his mid-September visit to Lebanon, where he called religious freedom a basic human right and a prerequisite for social harmony.

The pope said peace requires a pluralistic society based on “mutual respect, a desire to know the other and continuous dialogue.” He also said “religious freedom is the basic right on which many rights depend.”

At a Sept. 12 forum at Catholic University on what the Catholic Church can do to defend religious freedom abroad, Cardinal Dolan stressed the urgency of the issue.

“Many need to be respectful of other religious traditions at the same time that we unequivocally proclaim that violence – violence in the name of religion – is the ultimate oxymoron,” he said.



An ACTS gathering of 42 women visits Raphael's Refuge near Flatonia.

### ACTS Gathering at the Monument to the Innocents

FLATONIA — On Sept. 18, 2012, 42 women from area parishes came to Raphael's Refuge for a tour and a time of praise and worship. The event was organized by Sue Steinhauser. Emily Vasek led the singing and Mickie Glueck accompanied her on the keyboard. Midge Elam explained the purposes of the Refuge: to build a monument in memory of babies who have died and to provide counseling on related issues. She also told of future plans, which include building a visitor's center, two retreat cottages, a

home for a spiritual director, and a maintenance building. An entrance cross, 14 feet high and composed only of metal and glass blocks, is expected to be ready for installation within a month. Elam also told about the meaning of various aspects of the mural wall, especially the newly completed painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Visitors are welcome to visit the monument during the day, seven days a week. Group visits can be arranged by contacting Midge at (361) 865-3021 or at [RaphaelsRefuge@att.net](mailto:RaphaelsRefuge@att.net).





## Flying the friendly skies

*Former Hallettsville resident tended to UA flights for 40 years*

By Jimmy Appelt, Staff Writer  
tribunenewsroom@sbcglobal.net  
Reprinted from the *Hallettsville Tribune*

After graduating from high school, former Hallettsville resident Audrey Smolik never dreamed that one day she would be a retired flight attendant living in New York City.

"I never thought that I, a girl from Hallettsville, would end up living in New York," Audrey said.

It was from the opportunity of being employed as a stewardess/flight attendant that Audrey not only was able to settle in one of the most prestigious cities on the planet, but also got to visit many world-wide places as well.

Audrey, who is the daughter of the late John and Josephine Smolik and sister to Sacred Heart Catholic School principal David Smolik, graduated in 1948 and four years later found herself flying across the country as a stewardess/flight attendant with United Airlines, a job she held for 40 years before retiring.

After graduating from Hallettsville High School, Audrey attended Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State) in San Marcos for one year before going to work for the Texas Motor Vehicle Division in Austin.

A year later, Smolik moved to Houston to work as a secretary for the Texas Employees Association Insurance Company and that is where she began a life-long career, pardon the expression, that has taken her places.

"One day (while working for the insurance company) the girl sitting behind me told me that United Airlines was coming to Houston to interview for stewardesses," Audrey said in explaining how she got her start with UA.

Because United Airlines didn't fly to Texas in the 1950's, Audrey admits that she didn't know anything about the company, but decided to take her friend's suggestion and went to the interview.

"I went to the interview and the next day they called me asking me to come for a second interview," Audrey said. "I went for the interview and they hired me."

With UA's stewardess school located in Cheyenne, Wyo., Audrey and another UA stewardess, Norma Bridges, traveled by train to Denver, Col.

Smolik said the training included learning flight theory, the airport codes of

each city serviced by United Airlines as well as grooming and make-up.

"At that time, a stewardess was only a female occupation and I met women from all over the United States," Smolik said.

Graduating from stewardess school in May, 1952, Audrey was assigned to Idlewild Airport (now John F. Kennedy Airport) in New York City.

Audrey said that as a stewardess there were a number of regulations they had to follow that included wearing polished high-heeled shoes, hair cut to lay above the collar line and they could not wear eyeliner.

"Appearance was very important everytime we went to the airport," Audrey said.

In addition, Audrey said stewardesses were not allowed to marry and if they flew into Denver, Col. they could not ski for fear of injuring themselves.

After working out of New York flying cross country flights to the west coast, Audrey decided to transfer to Seattle, Wash., but got tired of the dreary weather and transferred to Boston, Mass.

"Boston was a great base," Audrey said. "I lived above a lobster shop, got to sail and met a lot of Irish and Italian people."

However, after hearing rumors that the Boston airport may close, Audrey decided to transfer back to New York City and has remained there ever since.

During those years as a stewardess/flight attendant, Audrey was able to meet a number of celebrities who flew on United.

Smolik said many celebrities flew American Airlines, but she was able to meet Carol Channing, Stevie Wonder, John F. Kennedy Jr., Patrick Duffy, Barbara Walters and Diane Sawyer.

"I got to see Elvis perform in Las Vegas," Audrey said.

As far as emergency incidents she experienced on flights she worked, Smolik said there was one bomb scare and one emergency that she remembers.

In explaining the emergency incident, Audrey said it took place in Las Vegas.

"We were taking off from Las Vegas and it was very hot," Audrey said. "As we taxied down the runway, we lost a lot of rubber on the tires. After we had taken off, the tower informed the pilot of the situation, but he decided it would be best to continue to our destination. We landed

fine, but I made the mistake of going down the jetway and when I saw the tires — they were so shredded."

Over the years, Audrey along with stewardess friend Rose Rerucha took advantage of the perks offered by the airline to fly free and decided to use the accrued hours and miles to visit different parts of the world during their vacations.

Audrey said they traveled to Europe visiting such renowned cities as Paris, London and Rome.

In addition to those cities, Audrey said they also traveled to the country of Uganda in Africa, saw the Himalayas as they flew to Nepal and visited the Taj Mahal in India.

"I wanted to travel to the furthest places, while I still could," Audrey said.

Of the many places Audrey experienced on her trips, she regrets getting to visit one area of the world, which was not allowed because of safety.

"I had read about the Hunza people, who lived in the mountains of Northern Pakistan close to Afghanistan and wanted to meet them," Audrey said. "They were people who lived to be 120 years old because of no pollution high in mountains and ate on an abundant supply of apricots."

However, Pakistan government officials felt it was not safe for Audrey and Rose to visit, so they were denied that

opportunity.

"We had a wonderful time on these adventures," Smolik said. "These are things you remember for ever and ever."

Audrey now resides in the "Big Apple" some 55 blocks from the site of the World Trade Center staying active by doing volunteer work as well as working out at the health spa on a regular basis.

Living in New York, where over 8.1 million people reside according to Audrey, is no big deal.

"You meet people and they become close to you," Audrey said.

A feeling of sadness crosses Audrey's face when she talked about Sept. 11, 2001.

"It was sad," Audrey said. "On that day all public transportation was shut down and people couldn't get home. Some even slept in the streets."

Smolik said the people slowly recovered and credits Mayor Rudy Giuliani and President George W. Bush for keeping people strong during this tragic time.

Although, she's resided in New York for most of her life, Audrey still enjoys coming back to her roots and the calmness a small town atmosphere offers.

"I always love coming back to Hallettsville. It's just great to look up and see the sky instead of buildings," Audrey quips. "It's a joy to come back home."



Audrey Smolik, a retired stewardess, has flown domestic flights for United Airlines for 40 years. Over those years, during her vacations, she has also had the opportunity to visit many intriguing places in the world. The sister of SHCS principal David Smolik, Audrey takes time to volunteer at the school's library during a recent visit back to Hallettsville. Photo by Jimmy Appelt



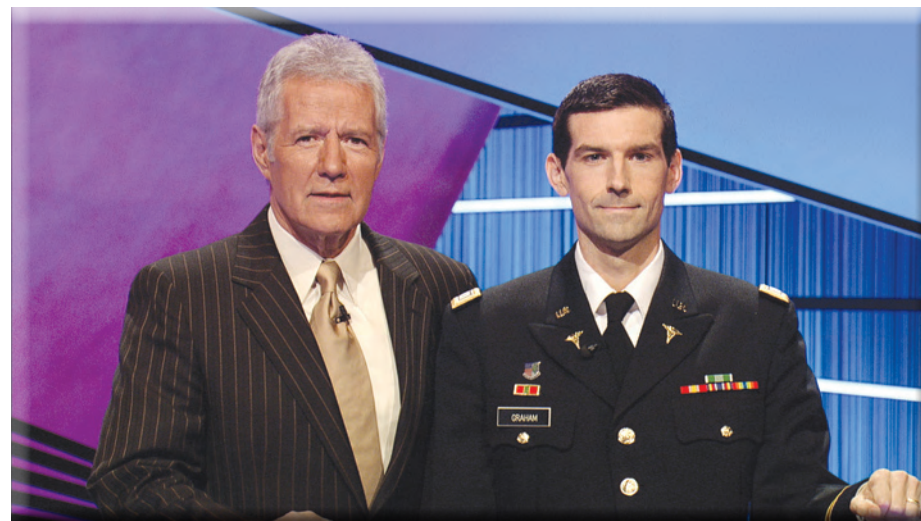


**BACK TO SCHOOL**—Our Lady of Victory School first graders (l to r): Emmett Lee, Mia Mabray, John Cantu and Thomas Copeland, enjoy Mrs. Norma Smolik's guidance in choosing library books. We welcome all students in the Diocese of Victoria back to school!



**BIBLES GIVEN TO INCOMING FRESHMAN**—Mr. Bill McArdle, president and principal of St. Joseph High School, passes out Bibles during the annual Freshman Bible Mass Ceremony. The current freshman enrollment is 91 students.

**ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES 2012-13 BAND OFFICERS**—The St. Joseph High School is proud to present Band Officers for the upcoming school year. From left, front row: Regina Woods, President/Drum Major; 2nd row: Katie Gray, Quartermaster; Travis Seger, Crew Chief; Josh Guerra, Woodwind Vice President; Ross Plasczyk, Percussion Vice President; Wyatt Fraga, Brass Vice President; Seth Hawes, Chaplain; and Jon-Anthony Cavazos, Librarian.



January, 2012: U.S. Army Capt. Brendan Graham with *Jeopardy* host Alex Trebek. Photo Courtesy: Jeopardy Productions, Inc.

## Jeopardy Winnings Donated to AMS

*U.S. Army doctor couple shares with archdiocese and two other military support charities*

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) this week became the unlikely recipient of \$5,000 in winnings from the television game show *Jeopardy* when a U.S. Army doctor donated part of the “take” from his three-game appearance in January.

Captain Brendan Graham and his wife, Captain Lindsey Graham, also in the Army and both physicians at San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC), decided to give half of their \$47,602 in winnings to the AMS and two other charities: the Wounded Warrior Project and the Fisher House Foundation. The AMS received \$5,000 after taxes and expenses.

Dr. Graham said, “I am grateful and blessed for what they do for our patients. My wife and I are simple people. Winning lots of money was not my priority on the show. I was more interested in beating other competitors and demonstrating to the world that we have very intelligent people in the military who can compete with very intelligent civilians in the world.”

As a pathologist at SAMMC, Capt. Graham works alongside AMS-endorsed military chaplains in tending to the needs of ill and wounded servicemen and women.

“From Father William Corby to Father Tim Vakoc, Catholic chaplains have ministered to all members of the U.S. armed forces and in a special way to Catholic Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines,” he said. “The Graham Family is proud to support the Archdiocese of Military Services, USA, as it fulfills the mission of The Holy Mother Church. Ad Majorem

Dei Gloriam. (‘For the greater glory of God’).”

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D. expressed appreciation for the unusual gift, “I am profoundly grateful for the generosity of our benefactors, and this particular donation came as a delightful surprise. In my years as the archbishop for the Military Services, this is the first time that the AMS has ever received a share of winnings from a television game show. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Grahams for sharing the fruits of their talent, knowledge and skill on *Jeopardy* with the AMS. I confess that I have always enjoyed the program. Now I will watch it with a new interest.”

The Wounded Warrior Project provides support for injured members of the U.S. armed forces, and the Fisher House Foundation provides lodgings for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers.

For more information on the Archdiocese for the Military Services, visit [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org), the only official Web site for Catholics in the military and for the Cause of Father Vincent Capodanno, M.M.

