

# The Catholic Lighthouse

The Cradle of Texas Immigration



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS

September 2012

*Goliad Funeral Home Director Adrian Fulton leads pallbearers and the body of Juana Tiniguar-Aguilar from Immaculate Conception Church.*



Seven of the first class to be ordained permanent deacons for the Diocese of Victoria, and their wives, attend their 25th anniversary of ordination.



## First Class of Permanent Deacons Celebrate 25 Years of Ordination

### Goliad Catholic community “adopts” last immigrant to be identified

By Cynthia Brewer

The authorities thought she was between eight and 10 years old, she was so petite. She was one of the 15 undocumented immigrants who had been killed in the July 22 one-vehicle wreck near Goliad.

Although Adrian Fulton of the Victoria Mortuary and Cremation Service and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) had received hundreds of calls and e-mails from throughout the U.S. by those looking for missing family members, no one had claimed the little girl.

So Mr. Fulton, who also

owns the Goliad Funeral Home, spoke with Rev. Raphael Baidoo, O.Ss.T., pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, and with the community decided to “adopt” the small, unknown girl and hold her funeral and have her buried in their community.

It was all planned: the date was set for August 22, the feast of the Queenship of Mary; pallbearers were chosen; In Memory of ... cards had been printed; flowers were ordered; and then just days before the funeral was to take place, they received word

*See Goliad Catholic, p. 11*

By Cynthia Brewer, editor; archives reproduced by Regina Matus-Janak

The first class of permanent deacons of the Diocese of Victoria celebrated the 25th anniversary of their ordination on August 12, 2012, on Rev. John Peters’ parents’ farm in Weimar, Texas, a place they held many picnics during their years of study before being ordained. Father John was the first director of the newly formed Victoria Diocese Diaconate Program.

Nine men were ordained on August 15, 1987. Those ordained were Fred F. Soto (Patty) of Bloomington, Paul Patek Sr. (Doris) of Shiner, Roberto Ri-

cardo Ruiz (Mary Lou) currently in San Antonio, Michael Carl Vieira (Bonny) of Palacios, Luan Van Tran (Thao) of Bay City, Joseph (Joey) Targac (Mary) of Hallettsville, Edward (Ed) Walter Wendel (Agnes) of El Campo, Arthur (Dick) Wearden (Theresa) of Victoria) and Manuel Hernandez (Beatrice) of Edna. Both Deacon Wearden and Deacon Hernandez are deceased.

Below, we review the beginnings of the Diaconate Program in the diocese from stories written in the August 21, 1987, issue of *The Catholic Lighthouse*.

Deacon Linard Harper, currently at Sacred Heart Parish in Hallettsville, wrote a couple

of articles about the diaconate program in that issue, including *The Restoration of the Permanent Diaconate*.

Deacon Harper had been ordained a deacon May 22, 1977, by Bishop Thomas Drury of the Diocese of Corpus Christi, before the formation of the Victoria Diocese and had taught and worked in the diaconate program in the San Antonio Archdiocese; therefore, when Bishop Charles V. Grahmann set up the beginnings of the permanent Diaconate Program in the Victoria Diocese in 1983, he appointed Deacon Harper as the associate director in the adminis-

*See First Class, p. 4*

### Agencies look at new development to stem migration from Central America

By David Agren  
Catholic News Service

CIUDAD IXTEPEC, Mexico (CNS) — Church officials and nongovernmental organizations long have battled for the better treatment of Central American migrants as they transit Mexico and pursue economic opportunities in the United States. But

developing public policies and economic development programs in the migrants’ countries of origin in an attempt to reduce the incentive to leave has been difficult — and often an afterthought.

“We believe in the right of people to migrate in order to sustain their families if they can’t do it any other way,” said Erica Dahl-

Bredine, country representative for CRS in El Salvador.

“The piece ... that has been neglected for quite some time is the flip side of the coin ... that people have the right not to have to migrate, to make a dignified living in their countries of origin,” she said.

CRS and the Washington

Office on Latin America sponsored a conference July 24 -25 in San Salvador on migration and “strengthening the development alternative.”

Proven development alternatives that would keep people home are still scant, Dahl-Bredine acknowledged. “That’s not what we’ve put enough attention on

and probably because we don’t really know how to do that,” she said of the conference focus.

Providing reasons for migrants not to leave has been difficult in a region with a history of armed conflicts, poverty and natural disasters, and more re-

*See Agencies look at new, p. 13*





## Bishop Fellhauer's Schedule

### September

- 5 10:00 a.m., Presbyteral Council meeting, Chancery Office
- 9 4:00 p.m., Mass, Centennial celebration of St. Anthony Church, Palacios
- 11 6:30 p.m., Gabriel Project membership drive dinner, Holy Family Activity Center, Victoria
- 12 2:30 p.m., Diocesan Finance Board meeting, Chancery Office  
4:00 p.m., Diocesan Building Board meeting, Chancery Office
- 14 6:00 p.m., Mass, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, St. Mary Church, Victoria, dinner at Victoria Country Club
- 15 6:00 p.m., Mass, St. Joseph Church, Inez
- 16 9:00 a.m., Mass, St. Joseph Church, Inez
- 18 Texas Bishops' meeting, Austin
- 19 10:00 a.m., Texas Catholic Conference General Assembly and Bishops' meeting, Austin
- 22 6:00 p.m., Mass, St. Andrew Church, Hillje
- 23 8:00 a.m., Mass, St. Procopius Church, Louise  
10:00 a.m., Mass, St. Andrew Church, Hillje
- 29 9:00 a.m., Registration, Conference for Catechesis and Ministry, Holy Family Activity Center, Victoria  
4:15 p.m., Mass, Holy Family Church, Victoria
- 30 10:00 a.m., Mass, 75th Anniversary celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Bay City  
7:00 p.m., Mass, St. Ann Church and blessing of the restored tower, Hochheim

### October

- 8-11 Canon Law Society of America Convention, Chicago, Illinois
- 14 9:00 a.m., Mass, Deacons' retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center

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

On August 6, 2012, the Holy Father conferred the title of Monsignor, Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, upon the following priests of the Diocese of Victoria: **Rev. Celestino Say, Rev. Casimir Jarzombek, Rev. John C. Bily, Rev. Lawrence J. Matula, Rev. Gerard G. Cernoch, Rev. Joseph M. Hybner and Rev. John C. Peters.**



Pictured above are the newly appointed Monsignors, l-r, Rev. Lawrence J. Matula, pastor, St. Robert in El Campo; Rev. Celestino Say, pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes in Victoria; Rev. Gerard G. Cernoch, pastor, Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City; Rev. Casimir Jarzombek, pastor emeritus, Holy Cross in Bay City; Bishop David E. Fellhauer; Rev. Joseph M. Hybner, retired; Rev. John C. Bily, pastor, St. Michael in Weimar; and Rev. John C. Peters, Vicar General and pastor, Sacred Heart and missions in the Hallettsville area.

## In Memory of Father Samuel Appiasi's Mother

Cecilia Ofori, the mother of Father Samuel Appiasi, pastor of St. Patrick's Parish in Bloomington, died June 23, 2012, in Accra, Ghana. She was born June 16, 1932, to Mr. Robert Ofori, a Presbyterian catechist, and Ma-



dame Elizabeth Tanoa, both deceased. She was raised by her uncle, Mr. William Appiagyei, a Catholic Catechist, due to the early death of her father.

She married Daniel Appiasi (deceased), who was a policeman. They had eight children, four boys and four girls. Father Samuel is the second of the eight children.

Her funeral will be held at a later date. May she rest in peace.



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

## DSA & Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign Updates

### 2012 DSA

Diocesan Goal:	\$ 1,623,907.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$ 652,097.84
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$ 586,223.18
Number of Parish Families Participating:	3,344

### Reflection of Faith Capital Campaign

Diocesan Goal:	\$ 9,000,000.00
Parish Pledge Totals:	\$ 12,909,164.90
Parish Contribution Totals:	\$ 10,668,642.12
Number of Parish Families Participating:	6,769





## In Memory of ...

### Seminarian's father dies unexpectedly

Jack Landman, father of seminarian Max Landman, died unexpectedly on Friday, August 17, 2012.

Max is beginning his first year in theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH.



He was about an eight-hour drive from the seminary when he received notification of his father's death. Upon receiving the news he pulled off the road praying to find a church. He happened upon Our Lady

of Perpetual Help Church and School in Chattanooga, Tenn. The pastor and parish staff there helped Max make arrangements to rejoin his family.

The funeral was held on Wednesday on the memorial feast of the Queenship of Mary in Fort Worth, Texas. Max returned to Chattanooga on Saturday to complete the drive to the seminary to begin classes on Monday, August 27.

We pray for Max, his sister, Camille, and mother, Liza, and the entire Landman family. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him.

### Victoria youth accepted as a NET missionary

Dominic Schaefer, a parishioner at St. Mary's in Victoria, has been accepted as a NET (National Evangelization Teams) missionary for the 2012-2013 school year. He prayerfully decided to put all other things aside in order to devote this year completely to God's designs.



In August, 127 young Catholics aged 18-28 left behind their jobs, school, family, and friends to serve with NET. Divided into 11 teams, they travel across the U.S. for nine months to share the Gospel.

Dominic first learned of NET from his parents, Matthew and Lupe, who are also NET Alumni, having served with the ministry back in the late 80's/early '90's.

In 1981, the first year-long team was sent out across the U.S. and the name, "NET" (National Evangelization Teams) was officially adopted, having been inspired by the scriptures: "Come after Me and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:17); and "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch"

(Luke 5:4).

Today, young adults from nearly every continent have served with NET. Currently NET serves in Canada, Australia and Ireland and has ministered in Guam, Honduras, Mexico, Germany, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nicaragua and Uganda.

"I love ministering to young people, and I'm excited about experiencing the many wonderful things God has in store for me!" he said. "In the coming year, NET Ministries will share the Gospel with 60,000 young people. My team alone will offer 100 to 125 retreats and pray with over 8,000 youth! Please keep us all in your prayers as we do this work of Christ."

Dominic needs to raise \$4,500 to cover the costs of training, healthcare, and a small monthly stipend. For more information on how one may assist Dominic's ministry, please call his parents at (361) 484-1632 (Matthew) or 484-1631 (Lupe).

In 1989, NET was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit charitable organization under the ecclesial vigilance of the Archbishop of the Saint Paul/ Minneapolis Diocese.

### Regina (Matus) Janak celebrates 25 years with chancery "Everybody knows this face."

On September 2, Regina Janak celebrates 25 years of employment with the Diocese of Victoria. When she was hired, she was the youngest person on staff, and during her 25 years working in the chancery building she has held many jobs, has met many people, and seen a lot of changes. Even now, she continues to "wear many hats" at the chancery offices – the one thing that hasn't changed for her.

Regina's (Gina) first day of employment with the diocese was Sept. 2, 1987, at 22 years of age, although she had volunteered for some time prior to this date. She began as a "floating" secretary between *The Catholic Lighthouse*, Business Office, and the Reflection Process Office. She worked with Editor Bill Schmidt and Lea Villareal in *The Catholic Lighthouse* office and with Sister Leocadia (now Mariam) Sturm, IWBS, in the Reflection Process Office. Eventually she became full-time in the *Lighthouse* office.

Over the years, Regina has helped in almost every office within the chancery, even volunteering to prepare for the opening of the Spiritual Renewal Center. Although she is still considered full-time with *The Catholic Lighthouse* office as photographer, assistant to the editor, and paper layout designer, she continues to hold many other jobs within the chancery building. She works the front desk during the lunch hour, runs the mail twice daily, is called upon to "fix" the copiers when they have problems, registers couples for the Engaged Encounter program, provides Spanish/English translation to Spanish-speaking clients, for the unfamiliar with the city she assists with driving directions, and provides tours of the chancery building for groups.

Working for *The Catholic Lighthouse* has provided her many travel opportunities as well. "I couldn't even begin to count how many events I have gone to - to take pictures," she states. The

first big event included covering Pope John Paul II's visit to San Antonio just days after she began working with the diocese. She was again able to see Pope John Paul II for World Youth Day 1993 in Denver, Colorado. That was an opportunity she says she would have never had if she was not working for the Diocese of Victoria. Regina has traveled to Catholic Press Association and Texas Catholic Press meetings, as well as traveled all over the diocese covering local events. As her daughter, Taylor, says of her mother, "Everybody knows this face."

"I have met a lot of people through my years

at the diocese," she said. "I have worked with six different editors and two bishops, and I have seen a lot of faces come and go who have worked here." One of her favorite memories is learning to cook under the direction of business office manager June Ohrt.

See Regina (Matus) Janak, p. 6



Regina (Matus) Janak at her desk working on the September issue of *The Catholic Lighthouse*.

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**PICNIC**

**Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012**  
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## 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 August 24, 2012

	TOTALS
<b>— General Seminary Burse</b>	
Previously reported	\$101,089.00
In honor of Deacon Paul Patek's 25th ordination anniversary to the diaconate by Edmund and Lucille Zissa	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$101,114.00</b>
<b>— Knights of Columbus Victoria Council #1329, Burse #3</b>	
Previously reported	\$11,882.50
In memory of James L. Frazier by K of C Victoria Council #1329	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,982.50</b>
<b>— Knights of Columbus 4th Degree St. Michael's Assembly #1527, Weimar</b>	
Previously reported	\$2,720.00
In memory of Sir Knight Henry J. Migl by K of C 4th Degree #1527	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,920.00</b>
<b>— Knights of Columbus Holy Family Victoria Council #9088</b>	
Previously reported	\$2,090.00
In memory of James M. Havel by K of C Council #9088	100.00
In memory of Jean W. Stelpflug by K of C Council #9088	100.00
In memory of Edward J. Patek by K of C Council #9088	100.00
In memory of Sammy B. Cattan by K of C Council #9088	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,490.00</b>

**— Rev. Msgr. Edward Bartsch**  
Previously reported \$6,833.00  
In memory of Joseph Kokes by Stazy Hajek and Georgia Cerny 15.00  
**Total** \$6,848.00

**— Rev. John C. Bily**  
Previously reported \$10,089.00  
In memory of Georgie Rehak by James and Barbara Janak 50.00  
**Total** \$10,139.00

**— Sr. M. Barbara Konvicka**  
Previously reported \$165.00  
In memory of Frank Konvicka by Martha Janota 25.00  
**Total** \$190.00

**— Rev. John C. Peters Burse #5**  
Previously reported \$5,254.00  
In honor of Rev. John C Peters in appreciation for his faithful support of the ordained ministry of the diaconate by Paul and Doris Patek 100.00  
In honor of Deacon Joey Targac's 25th ordination anniversary by a friend 25.00  
In honor of Deacon Joey and Mary Targac's 40th wedding anniversary and Deacon Joey's 25th ordination anniversary to the diaconate by M/M Richard W. Rouse, Sr. 40.00  
Donation by Edward and Agnes Wendel 100.00  
**Total** \$5,519.00

**— Josephat R. Janak Burse #2**  
Previously reported \$2,353.77  
In memory of Victoria Klimitchek by Victor and Doris Janak 25.00  
**Total** \$2,378.77

**— Rev. Celestino Say**  
Previously reported \$5,540.00  
In memory of C. J. Strnadell, IV by Jeff and Denise Dickinson 100.00  
**Total** \$5,640.00

**— St. John the Baptist Church, St. John in Memory of Rev. Brian Crookes Burse #2**  
Previously reported \$5,261.00  
In memory of Elsie Steffek by Elsie Farek 15.00  
**Total** \$5,276.00

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

## First Class of Permanent Deacons Celebrate 25 Years of Ordination

*Continued from p. 1*

tration of the program.

In the above-mentioned article Deacon Harper wrote of how in June of 1967 Pope Paul VI began the restoration of the permanent diaconate, which had been approved by the Second Vatican Council and explained in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

He writes, "In this document the Council

fit, it will be possible to confer this diaconal order even upon married, provided they be of more mature age, and also on suitable young men, for whom, however, the law of celibacy must remain in force."

Deacon Harper explained that the bishops of the United States decided to seek permission to restore the diaconate in the



Shown with Bishop Charles V. Grahmann, front row, l-r, Deacons Ed Wendel, Dick Wearden, Bishop Grahmann, Father John Peters, Director of Permanent Diaconate Program, and Deacon Linard Harper, associate director; second row, Deacons Manuel Hernandez, Luan Van Tran, Michael Vieira and Paul Patek; back row, Deacon Roberto Ruiz, David Ruiz, deacon candidate in training; Deacons Joseph Targac and Fred Soto.

briefly described the nature and functions of the diaconate as follows: 'At a lower level of the hierarchy are to be found deacons, who receive the imposition of hands 'not unto the priesthood, but unto the ministry'. For, strengthened by sacramental grace, they are dedicated to the People of God in conjunction with the bishop and his body of priests in the service of the liturgy, of the Gospel, and of works of charity.

"It pertains to the office of a deacon, in so far as it may be assigned to him by the competent authority, to administer Baptism solemnly, to be custodian and distributor of the Eucharist in the name of the Church, to assist at and bless marriages, to bring Viaticum to the dying, to read the sacred Scriptures to the faithful, to instruct and exhort the people, to preside over the worship and the prayer of the faithful, to administer sacramentals, and to officiate at funeral and burial services.

"... it will be possible in the future to restore the diaconate as a proper and permanent rank of the hierarchy. But it pertains to the competent local episcopal conferences, of one kind or another, with the approval of the Supreme Pontiff, to decide whether and where it is opportune that such deacons be appointed. Should the Roman Pontiff think

United States in the spring of 1968. In the fall of that same year, Pope Paul VI had accepted their request.

In an article written by J.L. Hart, *The Beginnings of the Diaconate Program in the Victoria Diocese*, it states, "In the preliminary stages of development Deacon Harper wrote to thirty-six Diaconate Programs in the United States and received 18 responses. He conducted a study of these in an effort to form a program that would be suitable for a rural diocese such as Victoria.

"By July of 1983, the curriculum had been set and the staff chosen for recruiting and training diaconate candidates for the Victoria Diocese. The course was to take three years plus six months of internship.

"The staff, all members of the Victoria Diocese, was made up as follows: Rev. Joseph Hybner, and Rev. Al Joist, OFM, Theology and Spirituality; Rev. Lawrence Matula, Systematic Theology; Rev. David Colella, OSST, Moral Theology; Rev. Msgr. Thomas McLaughlin, Documents of Vatican II, Sacramental Theology, and Canon Law; Rev. Donald Ruppert, Church History; Rev. Barnabus Diekemper, OFM, Church History; Rev. Michael Harrold,

*See First Class, p. 5*

**Missed out on this year's vacation? Make plans for 2013**

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## “PRAY FOR PRIESTS”

### Wristbands help seminarians

The Diocese of Victoria has a new fundraiser to help fund the seminarian education fund. It's a very small project, but since the project is based on “prayer” it is hoped that many more blessings will flow for our seminarians and priests.

The project entails the black “PRAY FOR PRIESTS” wristbands that feature a small Roman Collar. For a donation of \$3.00, one may own a wristband and contribute to the seminarian education fund, as well as remind people to pray for our priests.

Father Tommy Chen, parochial pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Hallettsville, requested Blahuta Advertising in Hallettsville to create the wristbands.

Father Dan Morales, diocesan vocation director, has also asked Father Tommy to order a thicker version of these bands that will read “Fishers of Men”. The boys at the vocation camp told Father Dan that the thicker (1-inch

width) bands are more “in style” now.

Stop by the chancery office to get your “PRAY FOR PRIESTS” wristband for a donation of \$3.00 each, or sets of 10 will be mailed for a donation of \$32.00. To have bands mailed, please mail a request with a check made out to the Diocese of Victoria in the amount of \$32 to P. O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903. Please call the office at (361) 573-0828 for odd-sized orders.

Please write in the memo area: Seminary Education Fund.



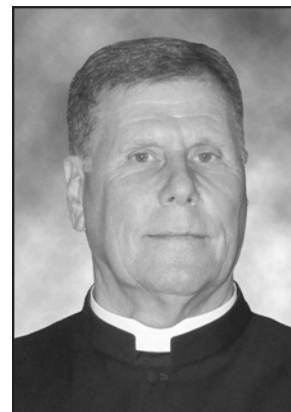
## Is God Calling You?

By Jasper Liggio  
3rd-year Theology  
Holy Apostles Seminary, Connecticut

When I was about seven years of age I felt God was calling me to be a priest. Years passed and at the age of 30 I felt God was again calling me. I went to my pastor in Dickinson, Texas, and we talked at length. He surmised that I had fulfilled my vocation helping others and giving of myself to the community and to the Church. This was what I wanted to hear. So I got even busier and God's call soon faded away.

I had left God on hold. I had buried myself in work. Owning my own business, serving on the city council, and volunteering with the fire department for many years, were just a few of the things I did in the community. My next love was helping the Church; I served many years on parish council and finance council. I worked with arts and environment and was an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and an acolyte.

Being of Italian descent, my family was the most important of all. Helping



to care for my aging parents was my first priority. After their passing, God started calling on a more frequent basis. When my parish started Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, I found myself spending more and more time at church where I was most happy. All my other interests had soon taken a backseat to the Church. My pastor was supportive and we talked on a regular basis.

While I was discerning my call to the Permanent Diaconate, I was told that I would never be happy being a deacon since I really wanted to be a priest. My age was now a factor and I had given up hope.

In my parish, we were blessed with a newly ordained priest who himself was a late vocation. I told him that I was a man who had everything a man could possibly want, but I was miserable and the only time I found true happiness was with the Church. He said, “I can tell you exactly what's wrong with you. God is calling you to be a priest.” “That's great, but at my age nobody wants me,” I said.

I began my quest to find a diocese that would accept me. God led me to the Diocese of Victoria, and it was a perfect fit.

Well the rest is history, I will begin my third year at Holy Apostles Seminary in Connecticut this fall, and I have never been happier now that I have answered the call of God. So here I am, Lord, I've come to do your will.

Since I've been in the Diocese of Victoria, I have found nothing but joy. The people of the diocese not only practice, but also live, their faith.

## Happy Birthday!

**Jacob Koether** will be in his Pastoral Year at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Cuero; his birthday is Sept. 14. He is from Holy Cross Parish in Bay City. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Jacob Koether, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 705 W. Boadway St., Cuero, TX 77954.



**Scott Hill** will be in his Pastoral Year at St. Anthony Parish in Palacios; his birthday is Sept. 29. He is from St. Roch Parish in Mentz. Please show your support for this seminarian by writing to: Scott Hill, St. Anthony of Padua Church, P.O. Box 900, Palacios, TX 77465.



## First Class of Permanent Deacons Celebrate 25 Years of Ordination

*Continued from p. 4*

Listening/Communication Skills, Public Speaking and Homiletics; and Rev. Sean Donohue, Role of Deacon in Liturgy.

“Also included on the staff were: Sister Angela Erevia, MCDP, Catechetics; Sister M. Perpetua Hawes, IWBS, Scripture; Sister M. Lucilla Donnelly, IWBS, Prayer Life. Deacon Linard Harper, OFS, Ministry; and Mrs. Linard (Dot) Harper, OFS, Support (Wives).

“The classes were held once a month on Saturdays and Sundays rotating in the home parishes of the candidates for nine months out of the year. The rotating of the

classes gave the opportunity for the parish to become involved with the candidates and the candidates the opportunity to get acquainted in the diocese. Each year, also, a retreat for the men and for the couples was held. In addition a family picnic was held annually, and is to be continued to cement relationships and preserve community.”

The diocese was blessed that these nine men, supported by their wives and families, made it to completion of the nearly four years of study and internship. Thanks be to God for them and the many others who have followed in their footsteps.

## Prayer for Vocations

Loving Father, you call each of us by name and ask us to follow you. Bless your church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as priests, sisters, brothers and permanent deacons. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.



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## What's Happening in Your Parish?

### Check out your parish website for its very own Webstore

Several parishes have a new parish bookstore on their website. Find quality Catholic products and support your parish at the Parish Webstore. Just go to your parish website and you will see the link. This is a new and exciting way to make purchases to decorate your home, buy books, increase your Catholic knowledge, and assist the parish at the same time. The parish will receive 12 percent for all purchases made from the Webstore.

A few of the stores include:

- Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Shiner at [www.sscmshiner.org](http://www.sscmshiner.org)
- St. Mary in Victoria at [www.stmvictoria.org](http://www.stmvictoria.org)

## Regina (Matus) Janak celebrates 25 years with chancery

*Continued from p. 3*

"I had never had to cook a meal before," Regina says. "Once a month I had to fix a meal for occasions at the chancery. June loved to cook and got recipes out of *Southern Living Magazine* and would help me get started."

Besides the change of jobs and tasks within the different offices, Regina has experienced major technological changes in the layout process of the newspaper. When she began, she had to literally "cut and paste" stories and photos onto boards prior to taking these boards to the printers. Now it's all computerized. She is also grateful for digital cameras, "It is a good thing we have digital cameras, we can store photos on the computer now instead of in boxes and drawers – it's so much easier to find the photos when we need them."

Regina has no plans to retire soon; she looks forward to seeing what the next 25 years will bring.

## 54th Biennial National Convention

### "With God, All Things Are Possible"

Submitted by Terrie Vacek, Texas State Public Relations Chair

OMAHA, Neb.—The 54th Biennial National Convention of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) was held July 2012 at the Omaha Hilton and the Century Link Convention Center in Omaha, Neb.

Ninety-eight Texas delegates and clergy showed their Texas pride by singing "The Eyes of Texas" just before congratulating Olga Samaniego of El Paso as the newly elected 2012-2014 Second Vice National Regent!

Twenty-three state or court chaplains participated in Convention liturgies. Delegates participated in workshops and business sessions where by-law amendments and resolutions were voted upon. Remarks were shared with the assembly

The charity Walk for Love totaled donations of \$10,400.00 for national projects and charities. Past Texas State Regent Sheila Martinka, Deer Park, and Barbara Molloy, Austin, crossed the finish line side by side sharing first place.

The Texas State Newsletter won 1st place in the newsletter contest. The following local court newsletters also won

lations Chair Terrie Vacek, Willis, also received a Certificate of Appreciation.

Texas courts donated \$80,851.04 of the \$343,534.72 grand total 2010-2012 National Projects and Charities donations received from all local courts. The 1st Place award for the Most New Courts was presented to Texas! The State Court of Texas was acknowledged for their donation

and membership with the 1903 Society, which was established to preserve the historical National Headquarters building in New York.

Circle of Love awards went to several Texas courts, including Our Lady Queen of Peace Court #1374 in El Campo and Saint Paul Court #1604 in Shiner.

The Father Leonard Bachman Graduate Scholarship of \$3,000 was awarded to Deborah Greene, Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange, and youths Tori Chapa and Alexandra Corpus of St. Ann Court #369, Victoria, won education awards.

The 2014 National Convention will be held in Billings, Montana. The essay themes for the 2013 Education Contest are 'Jesus is reflected in me' or 'My life is a reflection of good'.

For a detailed day-by-day report of the convention please view the Texas CDA State website at [www.texasda.org](http://www.texasda.org).



Texas State CDA officers at the national convention in Omaha, l-r, front row, were State Regent Carolyn Malik, State Clergy Consultant Reverend Donald Ruppert, First Vice State Regent Peggy Rosales; back row, Second Vice State Regent Eve Trevino, Immediate Past State Regent Sheila Martinka, State Treasurer Melodie Brunt, and State Secretary Rosie Stockwell.



Delegates representing El Campo were, l-r, Mary Ortiz, Terri Beltran, vice regent, Court San Roberto Bellarmine #2275; Cindy Witcher, vice regent, Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374; La Dell Janda, secretary, Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374.

awards; Rev. Herbert Scholler #2085 in New Braunfels; Holy Rosary #1476 in Rosenberg; and St. Paul #1604 in Shiner. Texas State Public Re-

by past national regents, including Libby Ramirez of Victoria.

The keynote speaker was Reverend James Sichko of Richmond, KY; guest speaker was Patrick Fagan, MARRI (Marriage and Religion Research Institute); and Woman of the Year was Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM, Misericordia - Heart of Mercy.

The elected 2012-2014 National Officers are National Regent Anne Nelson, National Regent Elect Shirley Seyfried, First Vice National Regent Helene Shepard, Second Vice National Regent Olga Samaniego of El Paso, and Secretary/Treasurer Sherry Nilles. Eve Trevino of Corpus Christi was elected to the nominating committee.

The Texas State Court was acknowledged for building two of their five Habitat for Humanity homes in the 2010-2012 term.

### 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.





## Legion of Mary seeks new members

The Legion of Mary is a world-wide organization of Catholics, men and women, who offer their services to their pastor to aid him in performing spiritual works in the parish. This is done by placing themselves under the banner of Mary so that with her help they may develop greater holiness in their own lives as well as spread a deeper devotion to her among others.



The Legion of Mary organization is inviting men and women to become a part of this spiritual work in parishes throughout the Diocese of Victoria.

First meeting of the Legion of Mary was held in Dublin, Ireland, on September 7, 1921. It has spread to every country in the world. The first praesidium (parish unit) was formed in the United States on November 27, 1931, at Raton, New Mexico. It was composed entirely of men. There are three main objectives of the Legion of Mary: first is the personal sanctification of its members, who taking Mary as their model, endeavor to imitate her virtues, especially her faith, charity and humility; second, is to spread devotion to Mary, primarily by encouraging the recitation of the rosary (Mary's request at Fatima); third is the performance of apostolic work under the direction of the spiritual director of the parish unit of the Legion.

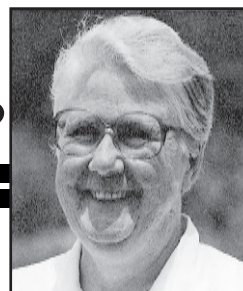
There are active members and auxiliary (praying) members of the Legion of Mary. Active membership is open to all Catholic men and women. The only obligation being, a willingness to fulfill each and every duty which membership in the Legion involves. The duties include: 1) attendance at a weekly meeting of the Praesidium; 2) daily recitation of the Catena (Legion Prayer); 3) The performance of a substantial assigned apostolic work weekly; and 4) an obligation to keep confidential the identity of those who receive our help.

Examples of apostolic work include: 1) visiting the sick or elderly at home or in hospitals; 2) distributing Catholic literature; 3) phone calls to shut-ins; 4) assistance at services in the nursing homes; 5) pro-life work; 6) jail visitation; and 7) teaching or working with CCD students.

Auxiliary membership in the Legion of Mary consists of those who are unable or unwilling to assume the duties of active

## SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS



### Rejoicing Followed by Mourning

(Historical series, cont. since March 2012)

As the year 1898 approached, preparations were being made for an outstanding show of appreciation at the Golden Jubilee celebration of the American foundress of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Mother St. Claire Valentine.

Mother St. Claire had been professed only four years in her native France when she was commissioned to come to bring the Incarnate Word to the wilds of Texas. She was only 23 when she was asked to be the Superior of the small band of Sisters who had volunteered to face the unknown challenges of establishing the order in the New World.

The actual celebration began on the evening of February 14, 1898, with the chanting of psalms and prayers, followed by a procession of the Nazareth Convent Sisters and many visiting Sisters to the



dining hall for a sumptuous meal. Next morning the Masses began at 4:00 a.m. because the bishop and the 20 priest guests all wanted to celebrate a Mass for the joyful occasion (concelebration of Mass was not an option at the time). After the 10:00 a.m. Pontifical Mass, celebrated by Bishop John Anthony Forest, the Blessed Sacrament was carried to the Sisters' chapel where Mother St. Claire renewed her vows. In the evening, more than 300 alumnae, boarders, and friends enjoyed a banquet, which was followed by a concert, which lasted four hours. Even a Mariachi band from Mexico was part of this special occasion. The joy-filled celebration ended at 12:30 the next morning. Mother St. Claire had been showered with congratulatory telegrams and numerous gifts from far and near. Some of these gifts can be seen in the Hall of Memories

membership, but who undertake to give the Legion the assistance of their prayers. Priests, religious and laity may be praying members. The obligations of this membership consist in the daily recitation of the prayers in the Legion Tessera and praying the rosary.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Legion of Mary in the Diocese of Victoria, please contact Connie Strauss at (361) 578-5954. In Victoria, the Legion of Mary meets at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral rectory on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. The meeting lasts about one hour, and includes time spent praying the rosary and Legion prayers. If your priest or parish is interested in starting a Legion of Mary Praesidium, information and help will be provided. Other Praesidia in the diocese include two groups in Bay City, and one in Palacios. If you have a devotion to the Blessed Mother, what better way to honor her than to become part of the Legion of Mary. New members are needed and welcomed.

at Incarnate Word Convent. The Victoria Advocate described the celebration: "The City of Roses, and we may add, the State of Texas, never witnessed such an ovation given to a nun. It was a triumph, the victory of a valiant woman. 'Who shall find a valiant woman?' asks Solomon, 'far, and from the uttermost coasts is the price of her.'" Victoria, you possessed that jewel."

Alas, all was not well with the recipient of all this honor. One of the Sisters wrote back to France saying, "Our Rev. Mother will write in a few days. She is suffering a little. Every evening she gets a little fever, and she also has a terrible flu." Although Mother St. Claire tried to minimize her illness, soon her difficult breathing caused by heart failure was obvious to all. The heat in Victoria, before the days of indoor air-conditioning, was so oppressive that she was advised to go to Corpus Christi for rest and relaxation with her sister, Mother Angelique. She did not get any better; in fact she got worse and attained her heavenly reward on October 9, 1898. Fortunately her heritage continues through the lives of the many Sisters who continue to proclaim the Incarnate Word!

For more about the early days of the Sisters 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*.

Resource: *Extending the Incarnation into the Third Millennium, 1998*, by Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Victoria, Texas



## HOLY CROSS PARISH BAZAAR

**Riverside Hall, East Bernard  
Sunday, October 14, 2012**

**Meals Served Starting at 11:00 A.M.**  
**BAR-B-QUE BEEF \* CHICKEN \* SAUSAGE**  
**WITH "HOMEMADE DRESSING" & ALL THE TRIMMINGS**  
**Hamburgers Served Starting at 3:00 P.M.**

**Plenty of Czech Pastries, Refreshments and Country Store Items**

**Grand AUCTION starting at 12:30 P.M.**

**Music & Entertainment from Noon til?**  
**Dujka Brothers (noon to 3:30 P.M.)**  
**Red Ravens (3:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.)**  
**No Limit (Country/Rock 6:00 P.M. til?)**

**Mass Schedule - Holy Cross Church**  
**Sunday - 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M.**

**EVERYONE INVITED!**

*\*\*Pony Rides & Moonwalk\*\**  
*\*\*Velcro Wall\*\**

*Games from Noon - 5:00 P.M.*

*Raffle Drawing at 8:00 P.M.*





## The XXV Annual Conference Line Up

The twenty-fifth annual Conference for Catechesis and Ministry will be held at Holy Family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus Church in Victoria on Saturday, September 29, 2012. The day will begin with prayer and keynote presentations by Fanny Pedraza and Deacon Gerald DuPont. Conference goers will also be able to shop various Catholic exhibitors throughout the day.

This year's conference workshops include several on the Second Vatican Council documents, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Scripture, prayer, sacraments, and so much more.

Call (361) 573-0828, e-mail: [calvarez@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:calvarez@victoriadiocese.org) or visit [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org) for registration information.

### Round A Workshops 10:45 – 12:00 noon

- A-1 Key to New Evangelization –  
Teachers or Witnesses  
*Deacon Gerald DuPont*
- A-2 Dei Verbum (Word of God) Revisited  
*Maria Smith*
- A-3 A Walk Through the Constitution on  
Sacred Liturgy  
*Rev. Tommy Chen*
- A-4 The Eucharist at the Center of Our  
Lives  
*Sr. Miriam Perez, MCSH*
- A-5 Theology of the Body  
*Rev. Dan Morales*
- A-6 The Call of Mission to Parishes  
*Richard Horstman/  
Sponsored by Maryknoll*
- A-7 Developing and Deepening a Love  
Relationship with God  
*Sr. Digna Vela, IWBS*
- A-8 Leyendo la Música – Music Literacy  
Matters  
*Pablo Ocañas/OCP*
- A-9 The Old Testament in a SNAP!  
*Ron Friedel*
- A-10 Faithful Citizenship  
*Sr. Elizabeth Riebschlaeger, CCVI*
- AS-11 Los Laicos Despues de Vaticano II  
*Fanny Pedraza*

### Round B Workshops 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

- B-12 Vatican Council II: Dogmatic  
Constitution on the Church  
*Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer*
- B-13 Working with Parents *Kathy Kelley*
- B-14 People of Prayer – Saints of Hope  
*Laurie Bautista*
- B-15 Discovering Disciples...  
*Joann Gawlik/  
Sponsored by Sadlier, Inc.*
- B-16 The Call of Parishes to Mission  
*Richard Horstman/  
Sponsored by Maryknoll*
- B-17 First Penance, First Communion:  
What's It all About  
*Brother Patrick Wildgen, O.S.S.T*
- B-18 You Want Me to Teach Students With  
Disabilities Too? *Charleen Katra*
- B-19 The ABCs of the CCC  
*Sr. Clare Underbrink, IWBS*
- B-20 Music for Advent  
*Pablo Ocañas/OCP*
- B-21 Joy & Hope, Grief & Anguish: The  
Church in the Modern World  
*Rev. Bob Knippenberg*
- B-22 A Walk Through the Constitution on  
Sacred Liturgy  
*Rev. Tommy Chen*
- BS-23 Entendiendo Dei Verbum  
Nuevamente *Maria Smith*

### Round C Workshops 2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

- C-24 Getting to Know the Bible  
*Ron Friedel*
- C-25 Agents of Evangelization  
*Bill Smith/  
Sponsored by Loyola Press*
- C-26 Sacraments for All...Parents Too!  
*Kathy Kelley & Charleen Katra*
- C-27 Stewards of the Earth  
*Sr. Elizabeth Riebschlaeger, CCVI*
- C-28 People of Prayer – Saints of Hope  
*Laurie Bautista*
- C-29 Discovering Disciples...  
*Joann Gawlik/  
Sponsored by Sadlier, Inc.*
- C-30 Vatican Council II: 50 Years of  
Renewal in the Church  
*Brother Patrick Wildgen, O.S.S.T*
- C-31 Prayer in a Busy World  
*Sr. Digna Vela, IWBS*
- C-32 The Gift of Life in the Spirit: A Look  
at the Sacrament of Confirmation  
*Jennifer Vincent*
- C-33 Service with a Smile  
*Hostyn/Plum Young Neighbors Team*
- CS-34 Viviendo Mí Fe con Entusiasmo  
*Sr. Miriam Perez, MCSH*

## God's Embrace First Year Program Calendar for the Diocese

God's Embrace First Year Program Classes "Understanding God in Our Lives" will be held in Blessing, Frelsburg, Schulenburg, and Victoria. The program classes will meet once a month on a designated evening for two and one-half hours at each location through May 2013. There is still room for more participants, so please encourage all of your friends and family members to join!

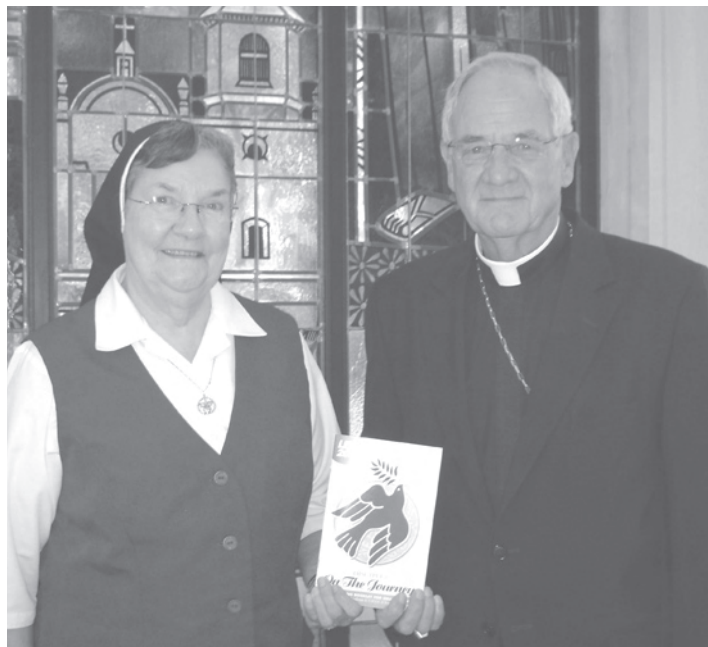
Sept. schedule: Victoria, Sunday, Sept. 9, 6-8:30 p.m. in Holy Family Activity Center; Blessing, Monday, Sept. 10, 6:30 - 9 p.m.; Frelsburg, Tuesday, Sept. 11, 6:30-9 p.m.; Schulenburg, Thursday, Sept. 13, 6:30-9 p.m.

Oct. schedule: Blessing, Monday, Oct. 8, 6:30 - 9 p.m.; Frelsburg, Tuesday, Oct 9, 6:30-9 p.m.; Schulenburg, Thursday, Oct. 11, 6:30-9 p.m.; Victoria, Sunday, Oct. 14, 6-8:30 p.m.

God's Embrace also offers four Weekend Retreats throughout the year for all participants and non-participants. There will be a Sept. 14 – 16 Weekend Retreat in Palacios at The Texas Baptist Encampment. Please register before Monday, September 10, so we can accommodate everyone's needs.

For more information or to register please contact Sandy Reese at (979) 541-6881 or [sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com](mailto:sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com).

Bishop Fellhauer turns over the *Disciples on the Journey* faith-sharing program to Sister Stephana Marbach, IWBS, the newly elected superior of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters.



## Diocese of Victoria Entrusts *Disciples on the Journey* to Incarnate Word Sisters

Since 2004, the Diocesan Office of Catechetical Ministry has edited and printed *Disciples on the Journey (DJ)*, a popular Lenten lectionary book for faith sharing in small groups. Each year, over 15,000 books in English and Spanish are sold to parishes in the Victoria Diocese and throughout the United States.

Bishop David Fellhauer has turned over the task of writing and editing this book to the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Victoria, who will produce *Disciples on the Journey, Lent 2013* in collaboration with the Diocese of Victoria. The Sisters hope to be able to take over the entire production and distribution of this book for Lent 2014.

Like previous years, *Disciples on the Journey, Lent 2013* will have an Opening Prayer, Commentary on the Sunday readings, Memory Verse, Faith-Sharing Questions, Living as Disciples and a Closing Prayer and Ritual. In commemoration of the "Year of Faith" declared by Pope Benedict XVI, a new feature in *DJ 2013* will be excerpts taken from the Apostolic Letter of Benedict XVI for the Proclamation of the Year of Faith, which will replace the "Saint of the Week" section.

Parishes in the Victoria Diocese will again have a choice of having the books shipped to the parish or of picking them up at the chancery thereby saving postage costs.





Father Greg Korenek, pastor of Holy Cross Church in Bay City, and youth from the parish attended Steubenville South in Alexandria, La. This was the 10th year the Life Teen group attended the conference.

## Holy Cross Life Teen celebrates 10 years Wins Steubenville South video contest!

This was a very special year for our teens at the 2012 Steubenville South High School Youth Conference!! This was our 10th year to travel to Alexandria, La., to attend the conference. We filled up a charter bus and headed out on Friday, June 22, with teens, chaperones, and volunteers, excited about this great weekend.

The weekend was hosted by Ennie Hickman and filled with great talks from Ennie and other awesome speakers. Chris Padgett, Mary Bielski and Pople were among the speakers. Josh Blakesley and his Band led the weekend in prayer and praise and worship.

The theme of the weekend was The Eighth Day, CCC 349. "But for us a new day has dawned: the day of Christ's Resurrection. The seventh day completes the first creation. The eighth day begins the new creation. Thus, the work of creation culminates in the greater work of redemption. The first creation finds its meaning and its summit in the new creation in Christ, the splendor of which surpasses that of the first creation." We were challenged by the talks to live our lives in the eighth day knowing we are a new creation in Christ. We were also challenged to have a deeper understanding of the great love our Father has for each of us.

There are so many different aspects of the Steubenville South weekend that make it such a powerful weekend. The talks, the prayer, small groups, adoration, Mass, reconciliation, and just the amazing witness of gathering over 2,000 teens and adults in the coliseum praising God, make this weekend a life changing event for teens

as well as adults.

Steubenville South offered a video contest this year to help promote the conference. Youth groups were asked to submit a one-minute video explaining "What is Love". Holy Cross teens were excited to answer this challenge and with the help of the great editing skills of Jessica Koether, we were able to submit our entry just before the deadline. The winner of the contest was announced on Saturday, and you can only imagine the surprise and excitement when our group saw their video on the big screen!! You can see the video by going to <http://www.holycrossbaycity.org/>.

The timing of winning this contest could not be more perfect as we will be celebrating 10 years of Life Teen at our parish this year, and Josh Blakesley and his Band will come help us celebrate!! The date is set for Saturday, January 5, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bay City Convention Center. It will be a night of great music, talks, and adoration!! Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this great night!!

Steubenville South will be making some changes for this coming year. After 18 years, they will be moving to a new location in Alexandria. The "New South, Same Spirit, Different Location" will be June 21-23, 2013. If you have never had the opportunity to go to a Steubenville Conference, save this date for an incredible weekend. In the words of teens that have made this trip in the past, "awesome, barely begins to describe it!!" Hope to see you on January 5 in Bay City, with Josh Blakesley and his Band, and also at the New South next summer!!

## Youth Calendar of Events

- Saturday, Sept. 22 – Foundations Renewing the Vision and Advocacy (Morning)
- Saturday, Sept. 22 – Foundations Pastoral Care (Afternoon)
- Sunday, Sept. 23 – YLT – Chancery - Victoria
- Monday, Oct. 1 – Last day to sign up for YLT
- Sunday, Oct. 7 – YLT – Chancery - 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), 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)

*Learn as much as you can while you are young, since life becomes too busy later. ~Dana Stewart Scott*



**Sunday,  
October 7,  
2012**

### Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Hostyn Festival

936 FM 2436  
La Grange, TX 78945  
6 miles South of La Grange off Hwy 77  
[hostynch@cvctx.com](mailto:hostynch@cvctx.com)

**Auction at 1 PM**

- Country Store
- Cake and Plant Wheels
- Silent Auction
- Games
- Raffle
- Balloon Artist
- Magic Show at 3 PM
- Hamburgers
- Shaved Ice

**Music All Day!**  
11:00 AM—3:00 PM  
**Donnie Wavra  
& His Orchestra**  
3:30 PM— 7:30 PM  
**Dujka Brothers**

10% of the Profit of this Festival  
will be donated to:  
Fayette County Habitat for Humanity  
and Combined Community Action



Czech Hymns  
9:30 AM

Polka  
Mass  
10 AM

**Hostyn Style Dinner**  
11 AM to ?  
**Fried Chicken, Sausage  
& All the Trimmings**  
Adults \$8.00  
Children \$4.00  
**Drive Thru Serving Line for  
Plates to Go \$8.00**





## Building in Faith: For the Present ... For the Future

EL CAMPO—After a successful five-year capital campaign, St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Parish and School in El Campo recently blessed and dedicated its new construction projects. The Activity Center includes a new, much-needed gymnasium, fitness center, music center, a fellowship hall, and a stage, while the R.H. and Irene Hancock Early Childhood Center features six classrooms for the school's Pre-K and Kindergarten students.

The Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, celebrated Mass Sunday, August 12, 2012, and led parishioners in a ribbon cutting ceremony and blessing of the new complex. A reception was

held in the new Mikeska Fellowship Center for all parishioners after the dedication



Above, front entrance to the new fellowship center.



Left, Bishop David Fellhauer cuts the ribbon in a ceremony dedicating the new activity center at St. Philip Catholic Church in El Campo. He is assisted by Deacon Jerome Grahmann, Father Gary Janak, pastor of St. Philip, and Father Albert Yankey, parochial vicar at St. Philip.

ceremony.

Father Gary Janak, pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church, stated, "With added meeting and fellowship space, additional classrooms and a much needed gymnasium, we move forward in seeking God's blessings in fulfilling our parish mission statement: 'We, the people of God of Saint Philip the Apostle, in the loving and evangelizing spirit of St. Philip, form a family community that challenges each of us to proclaim and live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in the world through worship, evangelization, Christian formation and service.'"

He continued to express his gratitude to all who provided prayers, encouragement, committee work and financial support to the five-year campaign titled: Building Together in Faith: For the Present ... For the Future.

Also present for the ceremony were John Quary, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Victoria, and Gwen Edwards, principal of St. Philip Catholic School, whom Father Janak acknowledged and thanked for her diligent and faithful service to the completion of the projects.

## OCL holds first meeting for catechetical year

By Cynthia Brewer

The Organization of Catechetical Leadership held its first meeting for the catechetical year of 2012-2013 on Tuesday, August 14, with the topic, "Catechists and Teachers as Agents of the New Evangelization".

The day began with a welcome from the Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer, prayer, and the OCL business meeting. The meeting also served as an opportunity for Mr. Ron Friedel, the newly hired director of the diocesan catechetical office to get to know the catechetical leaders with whom he will begin working and leading.

Mr. Friedel presented a talk based on a paper titled *What is 'New' About the New Evangelization?* by Father James A. Wehner, STD, rector and president of the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

After explaining that the term "new evangelization" was first used by Latin American bishops in their document *The Church in*

*the Present Day, Transformation of Latin America in the Light of the Council* at their Second General Conference in 1968, Mr. Friedel further explained how the phrase be-



Bishop Fellhauer opens the fall OCL meeting, which was held August 14 at the chancery building. Above, Mr. Ron Friedel, the newly hired catechetical director, presents on catechists and teachers as Agents of the New Evangelization.

came most popular through the teachings of Blessed John Paul II. Pope John Paul II expressed the *new evangelization* cannot be restricted to only the revitalization of the faith of believers, but it must proclaim Christ wherever he is not known.

Mr. Friedel went on to explain Father Wehner's description of *two methods* of the new evangelization: *Inculturation* and *Catechesis*. Because people cannot live without culture, the Church and its faithful must be able to "answer the ever recurring questions which people ask about the meaning of this present life ..." (*Gaudium et Spes*). The Church must evangelize both people and culture, since culture can shape, and be shaped by people, as Pope John Paul II said in *Fides et Ratio* no. 7: "human beings are both child and parent of the culture" and thus are responsible for what they receive from culture and how they shape it." And culture that is not shaped by faith leads to chaos and disorder, Father Wehner continued.

In Father Wehner's second method of new evangelization, *Catechesis*, he states that if Catholics cannot understand, articulate, explain and defend their faith, then evangelization cannot occur. If the Gospel

of Jesus Christ is to truly penetrate culture, "believers need to live their faith in every aspect of their lives." One must know their faith in order to live it; therefore, Father Wehner views catechesis as life-long.

"The disconnect between what the believer knows about this faith and how to live this faith threatens the credibility of the Church's convictions on moral issues related to human sexuality, medical ethics, and marriage" states Father Wehner as he concluded the *two methods* section of his paper.

In conclusion of the presentation by Mr. Friedel, he quoted Pope Benedict XVI who asked the Church to "consider the phenomenon of Christian cultures losing their identity to the sweeping waves of secular humanism." He has created a new pontifical council and is calling for a Synod of Bishops in Oct. 2012 in response to these situations.

Comments from OCL participants included, "I enjoyed the history from Ron Friedel. It helped me to have a better understanding of where we are today," and "Learned that we are all striving to catechize youth and parents. I gained much information from these discussions."





## Spend a night steeped in history

By Cynthia Brewer

GOLIAD—Treat your special history buff to an unparalleled historical experience by renting The Quarters at the Presidio La Bahia in Goliad for the evening.

The Quarters is part of what used to be the officer's quarters along the west wall of the presidio. After the restoration of Presidio La Bahia in the mid-1960's, the area now known as The Quarters was used by priests as housing. Today, The Quarters is available for use by the general public for a nightly stay.



The Quarters Living/Dining Room

One may go by one's self or take the whole family as The Quarters is a two-bedroom apartment with central air and heat. It includes a living and dining area with fireplace, master bedroom with a queen bed, second bedroom with two single beds, a bathroom with shower, and a complete kitchen with four-burner stove and oven, a full-size refrigerator/freezer, kitchen sink, coffee pot, dishes, and utensils.

There are two entrances to The Quarters, one that allows access to the interior grounds of the presidio into the quadrangle courtyard (across from the chapel) and

an exterior door from the parking area. Although guests do not have access to the chapel or museum in the evening, the door that leads to the interior grounds allows guests privacy to sit and relax under the trees or walk to the bastions and look beyond the fort's walls or up at the night sky.

The exterior entrance provides overnight guests the opportunity to come and go at their leisure, allowing them to visit other areas in and around Goliad during their visit.

Newton Warzecha, the director

of The Presidio Fort, which is owned by the Diocese of Victoria, said visitors have shared in The Quarters' guestbook, saying they're blown away with the opportunity to stay at a historical place.

"We have a lot of parents and grandparents who bring their children to stay (overnight)," he said.

To ease future guests' minds regarding the recent incident of partiers trespassing onto the fort property (see August 5, 2012, Victoria Advocate), Mr. Warzecha noted that one group of trespassers have been caught by authorities and charges have been filed against them, the other teen groups

have been identified, and officials have installed security cameras.

"We rent it (The Quarters) about 90 nights a year," he said, "so it's very critical to our operation."

To make reservations, please call the Presidio at (361) 645-3752. The Quarters rent for \$200 a night. To view more pictures, please go to <http://presidiolabahia.org/quarters.htm>.



Presidio La Bahia /  
Our Lady of Loreto Chapel

## Goliad Catholic community "adopts" last immigrant to be identified

*Continued from p. 1*

that the parents of Miss "Known Only to God" had been found.

The authorities learned that she wasn't a little girl, but a young woman. She was 17-year-old Juana Tiniguar-Aguilar, of Guatemala.

"We didn't know her; she didn't know us, but in all circumstances we thank God," Father Ralph said in the funeral Mass homily.

"She was very young. Most of us can identify with Juana because at that age we're on fire with enthusiasm, but we become victims of someone's greed, as happened here," he said.

"At that age, one says, 'Oh, I want to go to America ...,'" he said, "but her dream to come here for a better life wouldn't come true."

"Her death reminded me of Moses,"

Father Ralph said. "After going through all the pain, the thick and the thin, he died before seeing the Promised Land."

"This is every parents' worst nightmare — their child is involved in an accident and dies ... but luckily their daughter's body is not going to be buried in a strange place," Father Ralph said, "but will go back to her parents."

"Her death and the death of her companions was very sad; nevertheless, it's a chance for us to reevaluate our own sense of humility and gratitude, then she didn't die in vain. And, it doesn't hurt to be grateful for the blessing of this country. Juana and her companions, thank you for reminding us."

That evening the parish also held a memorial service for Juana's companions.

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## God's Embrace Program Finally Arrives in Victoria!!

By Christy Uresti

How very exciting that Michael Fonseca is finally available for us once a month in Victoria at Holy Family Catholic Church! His program, God's Embrace, has been offered for the past couple of years in some of the surrounding communities in our diocese. I began attending his classes in Hallettsville last year and found both my faith and knowledge to be growing by leaps and bounds.

Last year, my friends, Larry and Tammy Lahodny, invited me to attend a retreat hosted by Michael Fonseca. They knew I yearned for a stronger relationship with Christ and desired further knowledge about Catholic teachings and apologetics. Michael bases this program on the Trinity by combining teachings of the Old Testament with the New Testament. I have learned much more about our Jewish roots and how they influenced our Catholic traditions. Michael has a beautiful gift of teaching and includes the writings of such saints as Teresa of Avila, Ignatius of Loyola, and Mother Theresa.

A one-day retreat was held on Saturday, August 11, 2012, at St. Mary's Church Hall. We opened with prayer, reciting the Liturgy of the Hours. Michael introduced Session I with the topic of God creating man in his image and his fulfillment through Jesus. His people are bound as a covenant family; we no longer exist alone. During Session 2, he explained the relationship we have with our Blessed Mother, acknowledging how and

why she is precious to us in the Church. He went further to explain why Jesus chose Peter and transformed him. The afternoon sessions included the topics of the Good Shepherd and his sheep, the difference between Judas and Peter's denial of Christ, and Jesus' ability to attract the poor and sinners. Michael skillfully wove the traditions of the covenants, various Jewish rites, and sacred Scripture into an impressive pattern. At times, we were amused when looking at the faces of everyone. We were all mesmerized, hardly moving; none of us wanted to miss a single thing he was teaching.

The following Sunday evening was our first introduction for Year One of God's Embrace. Michael began with the very basics, which is great for people entering into the Catholic Church and anyone lacking a solid foundation in the teachings of the Church. However, make no mistake, those well versed in their deep Catholic roots will also find Michael just as captivating! I am truly looking forward to the September 9th meeting from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church. It is not too late to attend his next session. Everyone is welcome to attend, and I highly encourage all who wish to enhance their spiritual journey to come to the next lesson. Year One programs have also begun in Blessing, Frelsburg and Schulenburg. Please see pg. 8 for meeting date and times.

Contact Sandy Reese for more information at (979) 541-6881 or at her e-mail: [sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com](mailto:sandyreesefoaj@yahoo.com).

## Young Victorian becomes missionary on Baylor Campus

By Cynthia Brewer

Madelynn Perez, a 2007 Memorial High graduate and the daughter of Our Lady of Sorrows parishioners, Richard and Gloria Perez, has become one of the most recent missionaries for the college campus ministry FOCUS, Fellowship Of Catholic University Students, and will be ministering to students at Baylor University in Waco. Catholics are the second-largest denomination at Baylor after non-denominational students.

Madelynn discovered FOCUS and rediscovered her faith at Texas State University, where FOCUS had four missionaries and 38 student leaders who held 38 Bible studies a week on campus.

While in her junior year at Texas State University in San Marcos in the campus library, a young lady asked her how she was. Madelynn just expected her to give her some flyers about a campus event, but instead she spoke with her for a while and then invited her to lunch and a Bible study that was being held at the student union center.

"It surprised me, she could have just handed me a flyer with information as to when and where a Bible study was being held, but she personally invited me to come with her," she said.

"I knew of Christ, but after attending the Bible study, I realized how relevant Christ was in my life. It was amazing," Madelynn said. "That was the beginning. It changed my whole life. I saw how much it helped to keep my frame of mind on something that

was constant. Jesus never lets us down."

She graduated from TSU with a degree in Speech Therapy in 2011 and then worked as a Speech Therapy assistant for a year; she had a scheduled plan – graduate, grad school – living up to what the world determines as a successful life, but just felt called to become one of those campus missionaries who had such an impact on her life.

"I love my job, but this is the most effective period of my life to be a missionary on a college campus," she said. She applied to become a missionary and was accepted and then received 400 hours of training in five weeks at the University of Illinois in Champlain, Ill.

Leaders of our country now are from the 1960s and 70s generation that attacked the Church so strongly with the sexual revolution. It began on a college campus; it has to end on a college campus," Madelynn concluded.

To learn more about FOCUS and how 384 religious vocations have been fostered since its foundation, with 50 men and women making such a commitment in 2012 alone, go to [www.focus.org](http://www.focus.org).

FOCUS missionaries are full-time missionaries; they don't hold jobs and they go on a "one-year dating fast" to be wholly committed to their ministry. They must be fully funded in order to minister on campus; therefore, if you'd like to assist Madelynn with her ministry, please contact her at (361) 648-1123 or [madelynn.perez@focus.org](mailto:madelynn.perez@focus.org).



Madelynn Perez

### Victoria County's 27th Annual

Sunday, Sept. 23 • 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Victoria Community Center

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Helen (Dornak) Janak,  
Sister Stephana, Kath-  
erine Kahanek and  
Helen Janak.





## Residences of Melkite, Maronite archbishops in Syria ransacked

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Fighting in Aleppo, Syria, has not spared the residences of the local Melkite and Maronite Catholic archbishops, according to the Vatican's Fides news agency. The residence of Melkite Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart was ransacked during clashes Aug. 23. The archbishop and several priests who live in the building had fled a few hours earlier to a Franciscan residence in a safer neighborhood, Fides reported Aug. 27. Franciscan Father George Abu Khazen,

who cares for the city's Latin-rite Catholics and offered shelter to the Melkites, told Fides that Archbishop Jeanbart was very worried and shaken. "He kept repeating one word: 'Why?'" The archbishop has gone to Lebanon, but one of his assistants was able to return to the house once the Syrian military regained control of the area. He said the house had been broken into and a variety of objects, including computers and a projector, were missing, Father Khazen said. The Maronite archbishop's residence and a museum of Byzantine Christian art in the same neighborhood were both ransacked as well, Fides said. Father Khazen said it still seems like there is no solution to the Syrian conflict in sight because no

one, nationally or internationally, seems able to pressure either side into beginning a real dialogue. The tensions began in March 2011 as part of the pro-democracy Arab Spring movement that swept across North Africa and the Middle East.

## Statement of the LCWR follows meeting with Archbishop Sartain

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — On August 11, Archbishop J. Peter Sartain met for the first time with the national board of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. The LCWR board members believe they were able to express both their concerns and their feelings about the CDF report with great openness and honesty, and that Archbishop Sartain listened carefully. The archbishop asked for assistance from LCWR to learn more about the conference and about the members' experience and understandings of religious life. LCWR will provide Archbishop Sartain with resources they believe will be helpful, and its officers plan to meet with him again later in the fall. The LCWR assembly, which closed the day before the board met with Archbishop Sartain, had charged the board to conduct their conversation with the archbishop from a stance of mutual respect, careful listening and open dialogue. The expectation of the LCWR members is that open and honest dialogue may lead not only to increasing understanding between the church leadership and women religious, but also to creating more possibilities for the laity and, particularly for women, to have a voice in the church. Furthermore, the

assembly instructed the board to articulate its belief that religious life as it is lived by the women religious who comprise LCWR, is an authentic expression of this life that must not be compromised.

## Challenges to marriage, religious liberty among Knights' top concerns

ANAHEIM, Calif. (CNS) — Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson called the number of attendees at the Knights of Columbus 130th supreme convention in Anaheim "a testament to the growth and development" of the international fraternal organization. More than 2,000 Knights from around the world — many of them with their wives and children — along with 12 cardinals and more than 70 bishops attended the Aug. 6-8 convention. The assembly joined in the national anthems of countries in which the Knights are represented. The celebratory tone carried through the keynote speech of Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York — a member of the Knights of Columbus for more than 30 years. He went on to say he wanted to turn his audience's attention away from "the crimson tide" of bishops and cardinals seated before them and focus instead on the Knights and their wives, and the sacrament of marriage. "For an increase in vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life and the sacrament of marriage" should perhaps become the new phrasing for a prayer of the faithful at every Mass," Cardinal Dolan went on, referring not to high divorce rates — but to low sacramental marriage rates. Other speakers focused on the issue of religious liberty — a hot topic at a convention with "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land" as its theme.

## Agencies look at new development to stem migration from Central America

*Continued from p. 1*

cently by an increase of gang conflicts in El Salvador and drug cartel activities and political instability in Honduras.

Some in the private sector are taking an approach to development. Dahl-Bredine cited the example of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, which strives to ensure food security in the communities where it sources raw materials.

Governments have promoted development, too. But policies to pursue more economic growth have often targeted big foreign investments and infrastructure projects instead of working with communities to create more sources of sustainable income, said Nelson Cuellar of the Salvadoran Program of Development and Environmental Research.

Remittances (money sent back home from immigrants in the U.S.) are another potential tool for development, along with a way of engaging the diaspora. Most remittances sent back to Central America, though, are used for "consumption" and perhaps housing, said Vinicio Sandoval, coordinator of the Independent Monitoring Group of El Salvador.

"Proper public policies so a country can develop on its own are the answer" and not remittances, said Sandoval, whose organization monitors labor rights in Central America.

In Mexico, where remittances reached more than \$20 billion annually before dropping off in 2008, a program known as "Three for One" was started to encourage the development of public works projects. Through the program, the federal, state and municipal governments match each dollar directed toward public projects by migrant groups outside of the country.

Rodolfo Zamora Garcia, a researcher at

the Autonomous University of Zacatecas, has found flaws with the program even though many migrants are interested in helping their hometowns.

"Migrants are financing 25 percent of investments (through Three for One) that should be the obligation of the government: installing waterworks, lights and drainage," he said.

Insecurity in Mexico has made investing back in hometowns less attractive, too.

"When migrants make investments in agriculture, ranching or commerce, cartel toughs show up ... kidnap the migrant, kidnap the parents, kidnap family members and ask for a ransom that finishes off the (migrants') capital," Zamora said.

## Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bay City

### Celebrating 75th Anniversary of the First Chapel "El Vagoncito"

September 30

**10:30 a.m. - Procession & reflection at the original site (13th & Ave L) [Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church replaced "El Vagoncito" in 1945] to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church (1412 12th Street)**

**11:00 a.m. - Mass celebrated by Bishop David Fellhauer  
Homilist: Bishop Ricardo Ramirez, C.S.B.**

**After Mass the celebration continues with a meal, music and entertainment in the Family Education Building and Church Hall. Dine-in baked chicken dinner will be served.**

RSVP by Sept. 16: call: the church office (979) 245-2010 / e-mail: [olg2003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olg2003@sbcglobal.net)

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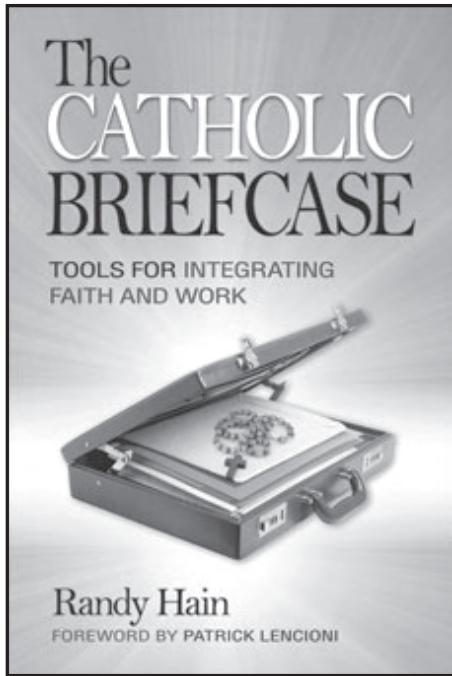
## September puzzle prize to help Catholics in their workplaces

When you go to work, do you leave your faith at the door?

In *The Catholic Briefcase – Tools for Integrating Faith and Work*, author Randy Hain calls on us to examine our priorities, evaluate our lives, assess our values, and – ultimately – answer the question: “Am I faithfully living the call to be a good Christian and a light for Christ?”

Our common struggles, lack of life balance, and the stress of daily living keep us from embracing the very faith that will enable us to consistently radiate the Christ-inspired joy we long for.

With practical tips, heartfelt stories, actionable ideas, and a road map to guide us, Randy equips us to adopt practices that embrace a new way of thinking. Discover how to recognize what defines your life, open your heart to be more courageous, and discover how making Christ the center of your life will improve your faith, your time with your family, and your life at work.



About the Author: Randy Hain is a devoted family man, business leader, active steward in his community, writer and a passionate advocate for our Faith. He converted to the Catholic Church along with his wife in 2006. Randy is involved in a number of ministries and groups whose mission is to promote a unity of life, centered in Christ, that will help Catholic men and women integrate faith, family, and work. He is the Business Manager and Senior Editor for the fast-growing *Integrated Catholic Life eMagazine*, which he co-founded with Deacon Mike

Bickerstaff in 2010. List price for *The Catholic Briefcase* is \$16.99, but may be ordered on the Internet for lower prices. For a chance to win this book, please send in completed September puzzle and form to *The Catholic Lighthouse*, P. O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 by September 25, 2012.

## VATICAN CITY I



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## August Puzzle Contest Winners Chosen

The winner of the August puzzle contest and the book “I Just Can’t Take It Anymore! ~ Encouragement When Life Gets You Down” by Anthony DeStefano and published by Harvest House is Fidel Garcia of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Victoria. The winner of the children’s contest is William Bernsen (6) of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Plum. He will receive a gift from Incarnate Word Gift Shop.

The winner of the September Puzzle Contest will win “The Catholic Briefcase”. See review on this page. Please mail all completed September puzzle forms to arrive in *The Catholic Lighthouse* office, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903, by September 25, 2012, for a chance to win the book.

### Tornado damages Vanderbilt parish hall

Due to tornado damage to St. John Bosco Parish Hall on June 13, 2012, their parish picnic will be held at the Inez Community Center. See Ad to the left.

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## Sunday Readings from Sept. 9 to Oct. 14

Sept. 9 — Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 James 2:1-5 Mark 7:31-37
Sept. 16 — Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Isaiah 50:5-9a Psalms 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 James 2:14-18 Mark 8:27-35
Sept. 23 — Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Psalms 54:3-4, 5, 6, 8 James 3:16-4:3 Mark 9:30-37
Sept. 30 — Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Numbers 11:25-29 Psalms 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 James 5:1-6 Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
Oct. 7 — Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Genesis 2:18-24 Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16
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

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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## New Veterans' Center opens in Beaumont

BEAUMONT — Veterans in the northern parts of the Diocese of Victoria have a new Veterans' Center available to them. Jefferson County's Vet Center in Beaumont, Texas, recently held its grand opening celebration August 17, 2012. This premier facility is designed to provide quality readjustment services to Veterans who have served in combat theaters.

The services available to Veterans in the new center include individual, group, and family counseling, as well as treatment for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), bereavement, and victims of military sexual trauma. Vet  
*See New Veterans' Center, p. 16*

## Military Services Dean appointed for European Vicariate

WASHINGTON, D.C. — His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., archbishop for the Military Services, has appointed the Very Reverend Redmond Raux, Ch, LtCol, USAF, as Dean for the European Vicariate. In the new position, Fa-

ther Raux will be able to respond to certain pastoral and canonical needs of Catholics in the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) who live and work in Europe.

Primarily, Father Raux will serve as a point of reference for

the chaplains in the area and foster a spirit of collaboration with them. He is currently assigned to Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

The appointment responds to a desire expressed by Bishop F. Richard Spencer, the Archbishop's Vicar for Europe and Asia, whose responsibilities require that he travel much of the year. Father Raux's more stable location at Ramstein will offer a source of information and ecclesial communion for priests and faithful in Europe.

The AMS was created as an independent archdiocese by Pope John Paul II in 1985 as the only Catholic jurisdiction responsible for endorsing and granting faculties for priests to serve as chaplains in the U.S. military and VA Medical Centers.

AMS-endorsed chaplains serve at more than 220 U.S. military installations in 29 countries, making the AMS the nation's only global archdiocese. AMS-endorsed chaplains also serve at 153 VA Medical Centers throughout the U.S.

*See Military Services, p. 16*

## Memorial Mass celebrated for Vietnam War Hero

A Memorial Mass for Father Vincent R. Capodanno, MM, a U.S. Military Chaplain, U.S. Navy Lieutenant, and Vietnam War hero, was celebrated Sept. 4, the 45th anniversary of his death on a battlefield in Vietnam in 1967.

This Mass is celebrated annually in memory of Father Capodanno who was killed while he gave physical and spiritual assistance to wounded and dying Marines of the 1st Marine Division during a battle with the North Vietnamese Army.

His Excellency, the Most

Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., archbishop for the Military Services, celebrated the Mass in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



*Father Vincent R. Capodanno, MM, U.S. Navy Lieutenant*

Father Capodanno posthumously received the Medal of Honor, and in May 2006 the Catholic Church officially proclaimed him a Servant of God, formally initiating his Cause for Saint-hood.

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## Nazareth Academy Fall Festival 2012

*Sunday, October 7th, 10:00 a.m.*

Victoria Community Center  
Traditional Turkey Dinner and Sides Served  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Plates To-Go begin at 10:30 a.m.

- Roast Turkey and Gravy
- Homemade Dressing
- Yams and Mashed Potatoes
- Seasoned Green Beans
- Chilled Cranberry Sauce
- Rolls and Iced Tea

\$8.00 PER PLATE, \$5.00 CHILDREN (UP TO 12 YEARS, INSIDE DINING ONLY)

Games & Booths open from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Raffle Tickets \$5 each or five for \$20  
Silent Auction 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Live Auction: preview items at 11:00 a.m.  
Bidding begins at 1:00 p.m.





## THE POPE SPEAKS

*Pope  
Benedict XVI*



CNS photo from Reuters

## Mary, queen of heaven, watches over her children, pope says at audience

By Catholic News Service

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) —Honoring Mary as queen, Catholics see her exercising the same kind of regality that Jesus did: one of humility, service and love, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Marking the feast of the Queenship of Mary Aug. 22 at his weekly general audience, the pope said just as Jesus' kingship had nothing to do with earthly power -- in fact, Christians recognize him as king when he's on the cross -- so Mary's queenship is exercised through obedience to God and helping those who turn to her.

Holding his audience in the courtyard of the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo, the pope told the crowd that the feast of

Mary's queenship was added to the liturgical calendar only in 1954, but it was the result of centuries of devotion to Mary as queen of heaven and of the universe.

Mary's queenship is a "consequence of her being united with her son, her being in heaven, in communion with God," the pope said.

From heaven, she participates in God's love for the world, the pope said. She "watches over us, her children; children who turn to her in prayer to thank her or to ask for her maternal protection and her heavenly assistance, perhaps after losing the way, oppressed by suffering or anguish," the pope said.

"Devotion to Mary is an important ele-

ment of the spiritual life," the pope said. "Gazing upon her, let us imitate her faith, her full openness to God's plan of love, her generous welcoming of Jesus. Let us learn to live from Mary."

During the audience, the pope offered special greetings to a dozen members of the Chaldean Sisters, Daughters of Mary Immaculate. He told the estimated 2,500 people at the audience that the sisters work

### Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions September 2012

*General Intention:* That politicians may always act with honesty, integrity, and love for the truth.

*Missionary Intention:* Help for the Poorest Churches. That Christian communities may have a growing willingness to send missionaries, priests, and lay people, along with concrete resources, to the poorest Churches.

### New Veterans' Center opens in Beaumont

*Continued from p. 15*

centers also conduct community outreach activities.

The new vet center is located at 990 IH 10 N Ste. 180, Beaumont, TX 77702. The vet center has a well-trained core staff, (many Veterans or combat Veterans themselves) comprised of social workers, counselors, office manager, and an administrator.

The center is open Monday- Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Evening and weekend hours are available for those unable to schedule services during the weekday. To contact them, please phone (409) 981-8576.

"serving the people of Iraq."

He also had special greetings for the 25 boys and young men from Malta who were continuing the long tradition of Maltese youths who spend part of their summer assisting dozens of priests each day as altar servers in St. Peter's Basilica.

*Editor's Note:* The text of the pope's audience remarks in Spanish is posted online at [www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/audiences/2012/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_aud\\_20120822\\_sp.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/audiences/2012/documents/hf_ben-xvi_aud_20120822_sp.html).

### POPE'S "TWEET"

*"Without truth, without trust and love for what is truthful, there is no conscience or social responsibility."*

*Tweet from Pope Benedict XIV, May 14, 2012*

### Military Services Dean appointed for European Vicariate

*Continued from p. 15*

The AMS service population also includes American Catholic civilians working for the federal government in 134 countries, but currently, due to limited resources, the AMS cannot adequately serve this population.

Worldwide, an estimated 1.8 million Catholics depend on the AMS to meet their spiritual and sacramental needs.

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, MM.

### Proper Dress for Mass

Clothes say something about what we think, what we value. They also influence how we behave and feel. That our culture has become so casual about everything says something about us ... it seems to say, nothing is really all that important. But that is not true going to God's house IS important. Casual attire in these circumstances is simply inappropriate if we really think about what we are doing, where we are going and who it is we will meet. Sunday is special, God's house is special. Some things really ARE important and our clothing and demeanor ought to reflect this truth.

Here are some guidelines for proper dress for Mass: Men should never wear shorts. They should wear clean, neat looking pants, with a shirt that has a collar. (T-shirts, especially with logo, would be inappropriate.) Wearing a tie and/or suit would really be nice but not necessary.

Women should never wear shorts. Pants need to be dressy and not tight fitting. Dresses are preferable, not short or tight fitting. Women should never wear tank tops, strapless or spaghetti straps or bare midriffs.

Remember you are coming to meet our Lord, your king. Would you dress casually or indecently for any earthly king?

*From a local diocesan church bulletin. Next month "The Sign of Peace."*

## 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!**





## Your Vote is Your Voice! Make it Count!

By Jeffery Patterson,  
Executive Director,  
Texas Catholic Conference

It is your turn.

Over the past year, the Church and our bishops have been tirelessly occupied in defending our rights to religious liberty and freedom of speech. Now is the chance for YOU to make good on what that fight has been about; it is time for you to step up and lend your voice to the public debate. What you do – or DO NOT do – this November 6 can have important consequences for the future.

If you – or your friends and family – are not already registered to vote for the Election on November 6, please do so now. **THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS OCTOBER 9, 2012.**

Registering to vote is simple. The Texas Secretary of State's Office has provided an easy-to-access website that you can use to register online at <http://www.votetexas.gov/>.

You can also pick up a self-addressed postage paid voter registration application at your library, any government office, or even just download one from the Texas Secretary of State's website at: [webservices.sos.state.tx.us/vrapp/index.asp](http://webservices.sos.state.tx.us/vrapp/index.asp). Mail the completed form to your county's voter registrar (you can find yours at [www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/votregduties.shtm](http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/votregduties.shtm)). Upon acceptance, your voter registration will be effective 30 days from registration.

You'll be mailed a voter registration certificate or card with your name, address, and the number of the precinct in which you'll vote. Check your local newspaper, or call the county voter registrar's office before the election for the address of the polling place for your precinct and, on election day, arrive there between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. to cast your ballot. Show your voter registration card or a valid I.D. to the election official, get your ballot, and vote. Depending on the voting options available to you, you'll be able to vote by paper ballot or, for an electronic voting machine, a number or ballot activator card that enables you to

vote on the machine.

The Secretary of State also has iPhone and Android apps which provide information on registration status, dates, statewide races, where to vote, and more.

***"I cringe every time I hear someone say that one person's vote does not count. Obviously they cannot do math. In the 2000 presidential race, the election was so close that it came down to the results of ONE state, Florida – and even then it was decided by the difference of 537 votes of the 6 million that had been cast nationwide."***

Register to vote, confirm that you are registered, and download the iPhone and Android apps online at the Secretary of State website: <http://votetexas.org/>.

I cringe every time I hear someone say that one person's vote does not count. Obviously they cannot do math. In the 2000 presidential race, the election was so close that it came down to the results of ONE state, Florida – and even then it was decided by the difference of 537 votes of the 6 million that had been

cast nationwide. In most of the contested races for down-ballot races, the margins can be remarkably narrow, and are most often decided by as few as a quarter of all eligible voters.

We take such great pride in our nation, serving as a beacon of democracy and freedom, and in the sacrifices the men and women of our armed forces make to defend and protect those principles at home and abroad. It is a great tragedy then, that the majority of Americans are ambivalent to this foundation of our democracy – the right to vote – and fail to make the short trip to exercise this right at their polling places.

Once you have registered, take the time to reflect upon the

issues facing our country and pray for God's guidance when evaluating the policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises. The Gospels and the moral and social teaching of the Church make a wonderful prism through which you may measure the options and opportunities for building a better world.

In the coming weeks we will be using the Lone Star Blog at [www.TXcatholic.org](http://www.TXcatholic.org) as a means to address some of the essential issues of faithful citizenship formation and introspective questions that help Catholics in shaping their political and policy decisions in an increasingly complicated world. Informed Catholics are the best voters, as their political engagement is shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences that focus on human dignity, the common good, and the protection of the weak and the vulnerable.

In the meantime, join the Texas Bishops' Texas Catholic Network at [www.TXcatholic.org](http://www.TXcatholic.org). As a member of the Texas Catholic Network, you will receive a monthly e-newsletter, the Texas Catholic Voice, to stay informed and active on public affairs relevant to our faith, receive News Updates on policy issues affecting the Church, and get Action Alerts to add your voice to communicate your ideas and concerns to our political leaders.

It is your turn to take a stand and speak out for your faith. Don't let the opportunity slip away.

## New POVERTY USA Website

WASHINGTON—Catholics can learn about the state of poverty in the United States and concrete ways they can make a difference at a new website from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The site, [www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org), was launched August 15 and offers tools and resources to spread the word about poverty in America. Resources include an interactive poverty map with state and county level poverty statistics, a Poverty Tour video which gives viewers a sense of what it is like to live at the federal poverty line, videos and links to PovertyUSA's social media sites, including [www.facebook.com/povertyusa](http://www.facebook.com/povertyusa). The website, which is an initiative of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) and USCCB's Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, will feature selected news stories related to the state of poverty in the United States. Also, on the county-level view of poverty statistics, visitors will be able to find examples of local organizations working to alleviate poverty in their communities. CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty program of the USCCB and works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD grants to groups in a local community require the explicit approval of the bishop of that diocese.

**158th ANNUAL MENTZ PICNIC**

St. Roch Catholic Church – Mentz, Texas  
Join us for the **Sacrifice of the Mass** at 10:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**BBQ BEEF, PORK & SAUSAGE** *Served Buffet Style*  
Adults \$9.00 ❖ Kids Under Twelve \$4.00 ❖ Serving 11am - 2pm

**FASTER DRIVE-THRU LINE**      **HAMBURGERS**  
BBQ & SAUSAGE SOLD AT PIT BY THE POUND      GET A HAMBURGER BEGINNING AT 3:00 P.M.

<b>AUCTION</b> 1:00 p.m. <b>RAFFLE</b>	<b>MUSIC</b> Throughout The Day By: <b>THE ODESSA BAND</b>	<b>BINGO</b> 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. <small>Tax ID 74-138-5241</small>
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## Special Collections World Mission Sunday - October 21

### Ongoing Events

**That Man Is You**—Will begin a brand new series on Friday, Sept. 7 at 5:45-7:15 a.m. at Holy Cross, Bay City. The fall session is titled “The Mystery of the Rosary” and will run for eleven (11) weeks covering The Joyful and Luminous Mysteries. For those who have never been, now is the time! The program will be different than in the past, and does not refer back to previous semesters. Through the Rosary, Mary will help contemplate the major events in the life of Christ answering the mandate of Pope John Paul II “to contemplate the face of Christ, and to contemplate it with Mary” (Ecclesia de Eucharist, 6). It is open to people of all faith. Admission is free and breakfast will be served. For more information contact Mike Allison at (979) 479-1370. Check with Holy Family in Victoria and Assumption in Ganado, for times on 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’s Catholic Church, at 6:30 p.m. An Angel Workshop is held at the same location the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call Barbara at (361) 649-1612 or Linda at (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**—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. September

**Inez** — St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 9 at the community center. A fried-chicken, brisket and sausage dinner will be served. The auction starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be kids’ games, country store, cakewalk, silent auction and more.

**Yorktown** — Holy Cross Church at Community Hall across from church. Sept. 9, with Mass celebrated at the church at 9:30 a.m. A beef shoulder-clod barbecue and sausage dinner begins at 11:00 a.m. at \$10 p/p for adults and \$5 for children under 12. There will be a live auction beginning at 12:30 p.m., country store, cakewalk and more.

**Victoria**—The Gabriel Project Kick Start Steak Dinner, Sept. 11, starts at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church in St. Peter’s Hall. Special guest speakers will be Bishop David Fellhauer and Father Bob Knippenberg. Come and learn more about the Gabriel Project ministry. All are welcome to come at no charge. Please RSVP to: Regina at (361) 655-9981 or by e-mail: [regina@watermarkgraphics.com](mailto:regina@watermarkgraphics.com).

**Holman**—St. Wenceslaus Parish (FM 155 between Weimar and La Grange) Picnic Sept. 16. A fried-chicken and sausage dinner will be served in a/c hall or drive-thru line available at \$8 p/p starting at 11:00 a.m. The auction starts at 1:30 p.m. There will be amusements and refreshments throughout the day. Free dance under pavilion after auction, with music by Janak and Shimek Polka Band. Hamburgers available after 4:00 p.m.

**Moulton**—St. Joseph Parish Picnic Sept. 16 on the KC grounds. An open-air Mass at the city park will be at 10:00 a.m. Starting at 10:30 a.m. a kettle-fried chicken and beef stew dinner will be served in the a/c hall with drive-thru plates-to-go available at \$8 p/p. The auction (outside) starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be games, cakewalk, country store, train ride, food, plant walk

and more. Music by Texas Legacy Czech Band and classic top hits by Vic and Beaver.

**Port Lavaca**—Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Festival Sept. 15 at the Bauer Community Center. A seafood platter dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at \$8 p/p with dine-in or carry-out available. There will be many activities throughout the day: auction (12:30), games, food, country store and more. See pg. 19 for more information.

**Victoria**—Victoria County Annual Czech Heritage Festival Sept. 23 at the community center. More information to come; go to [www.victoriaczechs.org](http://www.victoriaczechs.org) or see the ad on pg 12.

**Bay City**—Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sept. 30 will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the first chapel established in Bay City by the Hispanic people. If you plan to attend please RSVP by Sept. 16 by calling the church office at (979) 245-2010 or e-mail [olg2003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olg2003@sbcglobal.net). More information in the next *Catholic Lighthouse*.

**Bloomington**—St. Patrick’s Parish Picnic Sept. 30 on the parish grounds. Turkey and dressing dinner begins at 11:00 a.m. at \$8 p/p. There will be games, auction (at 11:30 a.m.), country/religious store, cakewalk and more.

**Sweet Home**—Queen of Peace will hold its picnic Sept. 30 at the Sweet Home Community Center (Hwy. 531) starting at 11:00 a.m. A beef-stew and sausage dinner will be served. The auction starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be games, country store, cakewalk, various booths and more. Hamburgers and cold drinks all afternoon. Fun for all.

**El Campo**—St. Philip the Apostle Parish Picnic Sept. 30 at the KC Hall (Armory Rd.) from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. A barbecue-beef and sausage dinner will be served with dine-in or plates-to-go available at \$8 p/p. The auction starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be games, cakewalk, rides, country store, bingo, food and more throughout the afternoon. Music from 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. with Dujka Brothers and Al Sulak.

**Meyserville**—Sts. Peter and Paul Festival Sept. 30 on the church grounds (11220 FM 237). A barbecue-beef dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., all plates will be \$8 p/p with dine-in or plates-to-go available. Bingo begins at 1:00 p.m. The live auction starts at 1:00 p.m. (credit cards accepted). There will be a country store, silent auction, raffle, cakewalk, games and much more.

### Upcoming Events

**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. There will be a live auction starting at 12:00 p.m. A country store, children’s games, snack bar, music by Rusty Steins and more throughout the day.

**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. Games, bingo, country store, music and more. See ad on page 9.

**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. There will be an auction at 12:00 p.m. During the day there will be games, country store, cakewalk and much more. Everyone is welcome – fun for all!

**Mentz**—St. Roch 158th Annual Picnic Oct. 7 with a barbecue-beef, pork and sausage dinner from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at \$9 p/p. Music by Odessa, games, auction and more. See ad on page 17.

**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. The auction begins at 1:00 p.m. There will be games for kids, cakewalk, country store, live music, bingo starting at 5:30 p.m., with much more throughout the day.

**Victoria**—Nazareth Academy Festival Oct. 7 at the community





# EVENTS

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. Games, country store, auction and more, see ad on page 15 for more information.

**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.

**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 16

**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/>

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Wharton**—Holy Family Fall Festival Oct. 21, serving barbecue-chicken and sausage dinner, will be held at Life Center. There will be an auction, games and more. More information to come in the October issue.

**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).

## Charity Golf Tournaments

**Weimar**—KJT State Golf Tournament Saturday, Oct. 6—contact the KJT Home Office at (800) 245-8182 to reserve a spot for a four-person team.

## Masses • Retreats • Conferences

**Victoria**—Holy Family Church is sponsoring a Men’s ACTS retreat Sept. 13–16 at the diocese’s Spiritual Renewal Center. For an unforgettable experience, call Gerald Bryant at (361) 578-0926.

**San Antonio**—SPA FOR A WOMAN’S SOUL – The 11th Annual Catholic Women’s Conference will be held Sept. 21–22 at Norris Conference Center at Wonderland Mall, 4522

Fredericksburg Rd., San Antonio. Registration is now open. Visit <http://CWCSanAntonio.com> or call (210) 521-3377. Sign up for exclusive Catholic Women’s Conference Insider e-mails on the website at <http://www.pilgrimcenterofhope.org/cwc/>! Includes special messages from speakers, notice of discounts, tips, inspiration, and more! “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy-burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

**Victoria**—St. Mary’s Altar Society will sponsor a half-day retreat on Monday, Sept. 24, in St. Mary’s Activity Center. The Rev. Patrick Knippenberg will be the retreat master. Men and women are welcome. Registration is from 8:45-9:15 a.m. Lunch will be served after the 12:05 p.m. Mass. Retreat concludes after 1:00 p.m. There will be no charge, but please make reservations to Janell Kruppa at (361) 575-8166 or Lorraine Hebert at (361) 578-6589.

**Burleson**—The Catholic Divorce Ministry International Conference is open to all who have experienced divorce or loss of a relationship and those who minister to them. Learn to laugh with friends and peers as you journey toward wholeness, healing, growth, wisdom and peace! With a focus on spirituality, the conference offers knowledgeable speakers and variety of topics plus a rich array of activities, workshops, and people who understand that God never abandons us. The conference will be held at St. Ann Church on Oct. 4-6. The theme this year is *Harvest of Hope, Peace, and Joy*, and the keynote speaker will be Bishop Kevin W. Vann, JCD, DD (Diocese of Fort Worth), who has served as the US Conference of Catholic Bishop Episcopal Liaison to Catholic Divorce Ministry since May 2010. For more information go to [www.nacsd.org](http://www.nacsd.org).

**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 Days of Retreat and Prayer:** Sept. 15 and 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**—Our Lady of Guadalupe Church invites you to a Healing Mass and Prayer Service every First Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now for next month. Mass is followed by praise and worship/adoration, healing prayers, praying over, etc. Counseling available. Please come; bring your family and friends; and experience the healing touch of the Lord! For more information, please contact Rev. Gabriel P. Coelho at (361) 286-3349.

**ACTS Retreats**—For information on ACTS retreats, please go to ACTS Web site at [www.actsmiissions.org](http://www.actsmiissions.org). For more information about the ACTS community in the El Campo Deanery, to download an upcoming ACTS retreat application, or to submit/view the prayer requests across the El Campo Deanery, please visit their site at <http://ecdeaneryacts.org/>.

## Gabriel Project features dinner with the bishop Sept. 11

The Gabriel Project will hold a Kick-Start Dinner Tuesday evening, Sept. 11, 2012, at Holy Family Parish in Victoria to help inform the faithful and encourage volunteers to help with this pro-life ministry. All interested, and particularly clergy, are invited to attend.

Special guest speakers will be Bishop David E. Fellhauer and Rev. Bob Knippenberg. They will speak about the importance of knowing about The Gabriel Project – a crisis pregnancy counseling and abortion alternative, which provides support for women dealing with an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy.

The evening will begin in St. Peter’s Hall at Holy Family Church at 704 Mallette Dr. at 6:30 p.m. with a steak dinner, including salad, potato and dessert, being served at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome, and there is no charge.

Reservations may be made up to the last minute with Regina Koenig at [regina@watermarkgraphics.com](mailto:regina@watermarkgraphics.com) or (361) 655-9981.

If you’re interested, but unable to attend, please contact Barbara McCain at [barbaramccain85@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaramccain85@yahoo.com) or (361) 649-1612 for more information on ways you can assist this ministry.

Help end the abortion of 4,000 American babies on a daily basis.

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church  
Annual Parish Festival  
September 16, 2012  
Bauer Community Center  
Port Lavaca, Texas

**Auction** Beginning at 12:30 p.m. All major credit cards accepted. **Raffle**

**Seafood Platter Dinner**  
Includes Fried Shrimp, Fried Fish, Coleslaw, German Potatoes, Hushpuppies & Tea  
\$8.00 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Dine in or Carry Out

Country Store    Bingo    Egg Rolls  
Desserts    Arts & Crafts    Nachos  
Tamales    Wii    Children's Games!  
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Bring your family & friends and join us for a day of fun, food, crafts & games.  
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## IWBS receives two religious sisters, one makes her perpetual vows

By Cynthia Brewer, editor

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament welcomed two religious sisters into their community during a Mass celebrated by Bishop David E. Fellhauer and concelebrated by visiting clergy on Sunday afternoon, August 19, 2012.

Sister Louise Marie Jones and Sister Patricia Marie Lohre were called forth to religious profession by the Directresses of Initial Formation of the Sisters of the

and Blessed Sacrament.

Sister Stephana, with the assistance of Sister Kathleen, presented the signs of religious profession to Sister Patricia Marie – a crucifix and the black veil, replacing the white veil she received as a novice in September 2010.

All were then invited to give their approval by applause and those in the sanctuary were invited by Bishop Fellhauer to share a sign of peace with Sister Patricia Marie.

After nearly seven years of making annual, temporary vows to the religious life, Sister Louise Marie made her request to consecrate herself to God through the perpetual profession of vows of religious obedience, consecrated chastity, and evangelical poverty for life.

The Rite of Perpetual Professional Vows began with Bishop Fellhauer questioning Sister Louise Marie on her readiness to live for God and God's Church. The assembly was then invited to pray for Sister Louise Marie through the singing of the Litany of the Saints while she lay prostrate before the altar.

the ring, the insignia of profession, Sister Stephana presented it to Sister Louise Marie as a sign of her consecration. Sister Stephana then made a statement to mark the fact that the newly professed had been admitted as a life-long member of the religious community.

The rite concluded with applause to signify the assent of those assembled, and those in the sanctuary were invited by the

sister Mary Butler lives in Wylie, Texas. Because of her parents' age, they were unable to attend the ceremony; therefore, the family held a reception for Sister Patricia



*Sister Louise Marie Jones lies prostrate before the altar during the ceremony of her final profession of vows.*



*Sister Patricia Marie Lohre responds to Bishop Fellhauer as he questions her readiness.*

Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Sisters Kathleen Goike and Marietta Hajdik, and presented to Superior General Sister Stephana Marbach.

Following the Liturgy of the Word, at which both sisters participated as lectors, and the presentation of the homily by Bishop Fellhauer, the Rite of First Profession was celebrated with Bishop Fellhauer questioning Sister Patricia Marie on her readiness to dedicate herself to God. He then prayed for God's grace to come upon her.

Sister Patricia Marie then consecrated herself to God through vows of religious obedience, consecrated chastity, and evangelical poverty for one year, as she became a postulant Sister of the Incarnate Word



*Bishop Fellhauer gives Sister Louise Marie a solemn blessing.*

Sister Louise Marie then consecrated herself to God by making her perpetual vows of obedience, chastity and poverty for life.

Both Sister Louise Marie and Sister Patricia Marie joined together with the choir to sing Psalm 116, a song expressing the spirit of self-giving and joy. Bishop Fellhauer then prayed a solemn blessing on both of them.

After Bishop Fellhauer blessed



*Sister Louise Marie's family attends her profession; from left: Sister Louise Marie, parents: Ivan and Fredaline Najvar, and children: Michael Jones and Traci Hernandez.*

bishop to share in the sign of peace.

Sister Patricia Marie, her parents, James and Linda Lohre, and brother, Robert, are from just outside of Dallas in Garland. Her sister Cathy Ueckert and her family live in Lewisville, Texas, and her

widow and has two children – her son, Michael Jones, and her daughter, Traci Hernandez. Michael is married to Laura and has four children; Traci is married to Rudy Hernandez and has one child.

Sister Louise Marie is assistant vocation director for the IWBS community; it is her responsibility to find venues at which to speak on vocations. She contacts Catholic schools, colleges, CCD programs, and other Catholic organizations in order to speak about the different lifestyles or vocations within the Catholic Church. She also does all the advertising and bookwork for the Amor Meus Spirituality Center and accompanies Father Phi Nguyen in his healing ministry. Soon she will also be working in the IWBS business office.

*Editor's note: Please go to The Catholic Lighthouse webpage to learn more about the vocational calling of Sister Louise Marie Jones and Sister Patricia Marie Lohre.*



*Sister Patricia Marie requests first profession of vows of Superior General Sister Stephana Marbach.*





## Sister Louise Marie Jones' Religious Vocation Story

Sister Louise Marie Jones was born in Victoria, Texas, to Ivan and Fredaline Najvar, the youngest of three children. She grew up as Vyra Najvar. She tells her story here:

I believe that most Catholics at one time or another will admit that they questioned themselves if God was calling them to be a priest or sister. I experienced those thoughts many times growing up.

In 1963 I heard about an open house at a convent in Victoria. I wanted so much to see what it was all about that I begged to go. I will never forget how I felt when I walked into the chapel doors and saw the huge crucifix on the wall. It was as if I were home.

Returning home I talked a lot about the sisters and how I would like to be one, one day. However, as I grew older, and became very involved in school and work, I soon put the thought of religious vocation, as you would say on the back burner. I guess I became so busy that I couldn't see or maybe didn't want to see that God could still be calling me.

I attended public school in Palacios and became involved in band, drama, basketball, volleyball and soon put the thought behind me. I graduated and attended Wharton County Jr. College and met Bill Jones and we soon married. God blessed us with two children, Michael and Traci, and life couldn't have been better.

In 1994 tragedy struck our family when Billy was accidentally electrocuted on our shrimp boat. I found myself raising two teenagers alone and I couldn't understand why this had to happen to us. In 1998 a very good friend knew the struggle I was having and invited me to attend a Cursillo weekend where it was as if God healed a part of me, and I began to live again.

I felt God calling me again to religious life, so I went to talk with Sister Emiliana Grafe. She suggested that I might be interested in joining the Associates of the Incarnate Word, and I made my consecration in September of 2000.

At this time I also had a change of jobs and began working at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Victoria as secretary and had the privilege of working with Father Celestino Say. We had many conversations about religious life.



As I came to know the sisters better by attending meetings and retreats, I found myself wanting to be with them more and more. I couldn't get that thought about becoming a sister, out of my head.

In 2001, I attended an ACTS retreat and after a powerful, spiritual experience, I announced I was going to join the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. So I began the process first as an affiliate, then as a postulant, and in September of 2005, I said goodbye to my job, my car, my house on which I had just made the final payment, my time with family and friends as I was used to, and entered the canonical year of the novitiate.

I received the habit of the Sisters and a new name, Sister Louise Marie, after Saint Louise de Marillac. This was a time of prayer, study, and working among the sisters. I was allowed once a month visits with my family, which had now grown to a daughter-in-law, Laura, and three grandchildren. It was a very challenging year but also a great blessing.

The canonical year of the novitiate is an intense time of prayer, studying the religious life, church history, our foundress Jeanne Chazard de Matel, and the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

The second year is the apostolic year where I was missioned to Hallettsville and Weimer in order to live in a smaller community, learning how to balance my life of prayer, ministry, and recreation.

Our Charism as Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament is to be women of the church, who, in our communal living, seek to focus on the person of the Incarnate Word through adoration, witness, and the extension of the Eucharist by service to others in a spirit of charity and simplicity.

Our Mission as Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament is to extend the Incarnation in today's world by living the Gospel of Love, proclaiming the Good News, and building the Kingdom of God.

In 2007 I made my first annual vows, which are renewed annually until final profession.

Sister Louise Marie has been living and sharing the charism and mission of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament since entering the convent. For many years she has worked as assistant vocation director for the community.

Congratulations to Sister Marie Jones, IWBS, upon making her final profession of vows August 19, 2012.

## Sister Patricia Marie Lohre's Vocation Story

By Cynthia Brewer

In an interview with *The Catholic Lighthouse*, Sister Patricia Marie said she had wanted to be a religious sister since high school, and felt God said "ok" but that she would have to wait and to stay near her family for a while.

Over the years she looked into different orders but nothing fit or worked out. "I had given up looking," she said, "and so just lived as a single person trying to follow God's will and live simply."

She acquired an Associate's Degree in LAN Administration and worked in the banking industry during this time, before becoming the Director of Worship at St. Patrick's Parish in Dallas.

From 2008 - 2010, Sister Laura Toman, IWBS, was assigned to St. Patrick's School in Dallas as an assistant principal, and this is how "Patti" discovered in what order she would live out her vocation. Sister Laura dropped the question, "Have you ever thought about being a sister?"

The exchanges between Sister Laura and Patti became more serious, and on Jan. 10, 2009, Patti entered the Incarnate Word Convent affiliate program and came to live with Sisters Adriana and Laura in the small convent in Dallas for about five months before moving to Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria to begin her studies there.



File photo  
2010

"Once I came to a 'Come and See' weekend, I knew this was where God wanted me to be," Sister Patricia said. "God spoke to me in the chapel and told me that I was home and that this was His gift to me.

Her journey continued, becoming a postulant Jan. 23, 2010, and moving into the convent in Victoria. On September 11, 2010, she became a novice and received the white habit and veil and took her baptismal name of Patricia.

"God is the most important person in my life. God has been there during the hard times, ever faithful, ever true. All I have to give back is myself, and so I have," she said.

Sister Patricia Marie, her parents, James and Linda Lohre, and brother, Robert, are from just outside of Dallas in Garland. Her sister Cathy Ueckert and her family live in Lewisville, Texas, and her sister Mary Butler lives in Wylie, Texas.

Sister Patricia Marie will attend Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio working toward a BA in Religious Studies.

Because of her parents' age, they were unable to attend the ceremony; therefore, the family held a reception for Sister Patricia Marie at St. Patrick Parish on August 25.

In closing, Sister Patricia Marie says, "The one theme that I have lived in all that I do is to be open to God. By taking time to listen to God and be open to what He sends my way has given me many blessings in my life, and I look forward to what is ahead. God is good at surprising me, and I love it!"



About 160 Serra Club members, seminarians, religious and clergy attended the Serra Clubs' Seminarian and Religious in Formation Cookout at Holy Family Parish in Victoria on August 9. Pictured above are the seminarians and the religious in formation; front row, l. to r.: Alonso Gonzales, Sister Louise Marie Jones, Veronica Munoz, Sister Patricia Marie Lohre, Jacob Mendoza, and Sister Kathleen Goike, directress of formation; middle row: Stephen Vacek, Jasper Liggio, Bishop David Fellhauer, Max Landman, and Philip Brune; top row: Kristopher Fuchs, Dustin Hahn, James Dvorak, and Father Dan Morales, director of vocations.





## St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church Five-Year Capital Campaign (2008-2012)

## Building in Faith: *For the Present, For the Future*



Left: Walls going up in old gym, future site of new Early Childhood Center



Above Right: Hallway and foyer in new Early Childhood Center

Right: Classroom in new Early Childhood Center, decorated and anxious for the new school year!



Above: Bricks being laid on new Fellowship Center

Below: Front entrance of New Fellowship Center



Right: Demolition of old gym dressing rooms

Below: Work being done on new gym



Left: New gym, complete with new stage, bleachers and ready for some volleyball action!



Above: Work on new Fellowship Hall



Above Right: Fellowship Hall Kitchen



Right: New Fellowship Hall with an abundance of tables and chairs

It is with great excitement, and with gratitude to God, that we have reached this point of dedication of the **St. Philip the Apostle Activity Center** and the **Early Childhood Center**.

With added meeting and fellowship space, additional classrooms and a much needed gymnasium, we move forward in seeking God's blessings in fulfilling our parish mission statement: *"We, the people of God of Saint Philip the Apostle, in the loving and evangelizing spirit of St. Philip, form a family community that challenges each of us to proclaim and live the gospel message of Jesus Christ in the world through worship, evangelization, Christian formation and service."*

As we dedicate these buildings, we are also challenged by the mission statement of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic School: *"Be it known to all that Christ is the reason for our school. He is the unseen, but ever present teacher in our classrooms. He is the model for our faculty and the inspiration of our students."*

Indeed, what we do and who we are is to bring honor and glory to our loving God.

I am most grateful for the diligent and faithful service rendered by the staff of the parish and school, the Parish Administrative Board, the various project committee members, other devoted parishioners and community members who offered their time, talent and insight, as we dreamed and witnessed the unfolding of those dreams.

There are too many individuals to name and, for fear of not recognizing someone, I reach out in gratitude and thanksgiving to all who have helped to bring these projects to fruition. I am also grateful to those who have offered financial assistance to these endeavors.

Today, we simply rejoice, for we offer to God what we set out to accomplish more than five years ago:

**To build in faith - for the present...for the future.**

In Christ,  
Father Gary



Left/Below: Music Center Room will benefit from increased storage



Music Center Office and Practice Room are ready to make beautiful music! Quite a change from the beginning of construction.



SMALL SAMPLING OF DONOR BRICKS WHICH ARE LAID ALONG THE SIDEWALK, LEADING UP TO THE SCHOOL FOYER

## Texas Catholic Historical Journal Wins Catholic Press Awards

AUSTIN, Texas – *Catholic Southwest: A Journal of History and Culture* was honored by the Catholic Press Association with three awards for its 2011 issue, including winning a second place award for General Excellence, at the annual Catholic Media Conference Press Award reception.

A publication of the Texas Catholic Historical Society, *Catholic Southwest* competed with other publications from across the country in the Scholarly Magazines General Excellence category, placing second behind the *National Catholic Bioethics Center*, a journal that focuses on Catholic bioethics and medical ethics.

A third place award in the Best Review Section division went to *Catholic Southwest's* book review editor, University of Dallas Professor Thomas Jodziewicz. The judges described the review section as a "well assembled collection" with "nice variety."

A first place award was earned in the Best Cover (4 Color – Small) in the Magazine/Newsletter category for a feature photo

of Saint Katharine Drexel, founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, in front of a Catholic school for African-American children in Port Arthur, Texas, during the 1920s. The Catholic Press Association praised the artwork, describing it as "a fun compelling image [that] takes us back in time. . . . It provokes a feeling of the past and urges the reader to ask, what is happening here! What a great lure to the inside pages."

The image illustrated the article *One Bread, One Body: The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in Southeast Texas*,

which recalled Saint Katharine and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, who funded and taught at schools in Beaumont and Port Arthur.

The journal's editor, Richard Fossey, was gracious upon hearing of the awards.

"*Catholic Southwest* is the premier regional journal on Catholicism in the United States," Fossey said. "Since its founding, we have been blessed by having the involvement of great scholars who are experts on Catholicism in the Southwest and we see the fruit of their

work in the journal's continued recognition from the Catholic Press Association."

The Catholic Press Association works to support Church communication efforts and confers awards annually to recognize the valuable work of Catholic publications throughout the year. This year's award entries were judged by the Schools of Journalism at Marquette University and Spring Hill College, and awards were announced at the Catholic Press Association's 2012 Catholic Media Conference on June 22, 2012 in Indianapolis.

The 2011 award-winning issue includes several book reviews and essays which illustrate the spirit of harmony and good will exemplified in the history of the Catholic Southwest, including articles on the Middle Rio Grande District of Coahuila, the Mexican Ethno-Catholicism and Inculturation of El Paso, and the Southwest's role in the making of Anglicanorum Coetibus.

The next edition of *Catholic Southwest*

See *Texas Catholic*, p. 23







## Catholic By Grace

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



### Work is Good Therapy

When my non-sacramental marriage ended, I moved in with my parents. My bedroom was in one corner of the basement family room. I wanted to go to sleep for about a decade and wake up with a different life.

Three days after I descended upon my parents' home, Dad turned to me while eating breakfast, and said, "Get dressed. We're going to Edwardsville."

"Okay. What's in Edwardsville?" I asked.

"I'm taking you to get your substitute teaching license."

"Oh, Dad." The groan came from the depths, from that awful place where the pain had settled, a pain I was sure would never leave. I did not want to substitute

in any classroom. I did not want to teach at all. I wanted to go back to sleep and stay in bed forever. And I didn't want a bed in the corner of their basement. I wanted my own master bedroom and the life I had expected to live.

"Work is good therapy, Denise." That one line would become one of those dad-isms that would stay with me forever.

I dragged myself away from the table, showered and dressed. I spent the last six weeks of that school year substituting in classrooms all over Collinsville, Illinois.

The calls came around five in the morning. The phone hung on the wall above my head. I hated that phone.

I had a notepad by the bed on which to write the directions when a call came. Through sleepy fog, I would scratch the names of streets, along with a series of rights and lefts. I would hang up the phone, doubtful that I could find the school. Confident I didn't want to find the school. Positive I needed to find the school because I was broke.

My husband and I were separated but not divorced. Having no legal obligation to contribute to our financial needs, my husband decided that \$40 a month would suffice. And so, I relied on substitute teaching to get us through each month.

I did not want to live like this. I did not want to do anything to support a life I didn't enjoy. I wanted to sleep. And never wake up.

I was supposed to be the happy mother of three children, living in suburbia, with a husband who was a United Methodist minister.

I was not supposed to be substituting in a kindergarten classroom when my degree was in secondary English education.

On the way to the school, the tears would come. I couldn't hold them back. Tears and more tears. I arrived at the schools each morning and waited for five minutes to pass so that my face would return to normal after the onslaught of an early morning meltdown.

I would check my face in the mirror. Get rid of the mascara under my eyes. Open the door and step out of the car. And I would head into the school.

It was my daily routine for six weeks.

Work is good therapy. Dad wasn't the only one who knew it was true. The Church knows it's true. We are all called to hold the unemployed and the underemployed in our hearts as we pray for work security.

There is a dignity in work. It can get us out of ourselves. It restores hope, gets us dreaming again. It makes us sleep better at night. It gives us a reason to get up. It helps us to pay the bills. It reminds us that we are still alive. It gets us through to another job, a better job. It helps us to pinpoint our strengths.

It can even become a prayer. I think it is also a kind of ritual. My ritual included submission and tears and agonized laments and acceptance.

And I got stronger. Miracle of miracles, I found my way back to living. Today, I get up early every morning. I choose to do it - early enough that I can go to daily Mass throughout the summer. And during the school year - early enough that I can drive to a little school out in the middle of rural Missouri and teach.

I love teaching. I love, love, love it

And I still pray as I drive each morning. There are no tears. But it is still a ritual. And I suppose it is still good therapy, though I don't really need it to be a kind of therapy anymore. Work is restorative. It really is.

Pray that all may have meaningful employment and that the miracle-of-employment will renew the hearts of so many who have forgotten how to embrace a morning sunrise.

### Vendors, sponsors wanted for Fall Expo event to support women's ministry

Restoration House Ministries is seeking vendors and sponsors for its 1,000 Women Strong Fall Expo market event and fundraiser scheduled for Oct. 20 at the Hiller Activities Center, 500 N. Main St.

"Restoration House is a place where women with problems like addictions, eating disorders or who may be facing an unplanned pregnancy can come and have all their physical needs met while we help restore them mentally and spiritually," said founder Theresa Klacman. "We don't charge our residents a dime, and we take no government funds. So twice a year we come to the generous members of our community for help so we can continue to restore the lives of young women."

The Expo gives vendors a chance to showcase their wares to an entirely new group of consumers and network with other local businesses and leaders. Past vendors have included boutiques, beauty salons, and restaurants, just to name a few.

"This time we want to really expand the kinds of things people can find at the expo, so we're inviting all local businesses," Klacman said. "We want to have

things ranging from outdoors shops to nail salons."

Vendor packages range from \$50 to \$65 for an eight-foot table and booth. Setup for the event will start at 10 a.m. All vendors also will be invited to a power mixer before the expo opens to the public from 11 a.m. to noon. The event will include community and business leaders.

The Expo, which is free to the public, will be open from noon to 6 p.m.

"The reason we call it the '1,000 Women Strong Expo' is because we are seeking 1,000 women who will give just \$10 a month in perpetuity to Restoration House Ministries," Klacman explained. "That will allow us to fully support the operations of the house."

One thousand women giving \$10 a month would include full support for the new wing recently completed to the house that is scheduled to open in the fall.

Restoration House is also seeking all levels of sponsors to help support the event and ministry. Current sponsors include the Victoria Advocate and Agama Advertising.

"When we heard about how Theresa

Klacman has turned her own home into a ministry to restore women in our community, we were moved by her generosity and initiative," said Bryant Price, president and CEO of Agama Advertising. "While there are many noble causes in our community, we're always very selective about the ones we support. We're proud to lend aid to Restoration House and the admirable work it does for this community and the lives of the women who live here."

The Expo will include a raffle and silent auction with prizes including dinners for two at great restaurants, jewelry and consumer electronics.

Restoration House Ministries was founded in 2009 and has touched the lives of almost 30 women with its six-month, Christ-centered residential program. Restoration House Ministries is entirely supported by donations, and accepts no money from the federal government.

For more information or to apply to Restoration House, call 361-676-3588 or visit

[www.RestorationHouseMinistry.org](http://www.RestorationHouseMinistry.org).

### Texas Catholic Historical Journal Wins Catholic Press Awards

*Continued from p. 22*

will be released this Fall. It includes articles on the Cathedral of San Agustin in Laredo, an essay on Our Lady of El Pueblito, and essays on Texas preparations for Vatican II.

Published annually by the Texas Catholic Historical Society, *Catholic Southwest* features essays on aspects of the Roman Catholic heritage in Texas and the Southwest as expressed through history, art, architecture, literature, music, and other related subjects. The journal is a core component of the Texas Catholic Historical Society's endeavors to discover, collect, preserve, and publish historical material relating to the Catholic community in Texas and the Southwest.

To subscribe to *Catholic Southwest* or learn more about the Texas Catholic Historical Society, call 512-339-9882 or visit <http://www.TxCatholicHistoricalSociety.org>.