

## New president/principal for Tolton Catholic H.S.

Dr. Daniel Everett, selected to lead the diocese's Catholic high school in Columbia, is excited about helping implement the bishop's vision.

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# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

April 17, 2020 • Vol. 63 No. 21

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## Bishop: Easter is a time of mercy, restoration



Candles and the Easter fire help illuminate the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City, as Deacon Tyler McClay proclaims the Gospel reading during the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. — Photo by Father Joshua Duncan

By Jay Nies

Having had their past sins nailed to the cross with Him, Jesus's disciples are obliged to put the mercy they have received into practice.

This time of pandemic only magnifies the opportunities to do that.

"Tonight, we are delivered from slavery to sin and the shadow of death, in order that we might walk in the light of mercy with our brothers and sisters," said Bishop W. Shawn McKnight at this year's Easter Vigil.

Celebrated after dusk on Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil is the culmination of Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, casting out the shadows of Jesus's passion and death with the light of His resurrection.

Priests and bishops throughout the world joined Pope Francis in blessing the fire outside their churches and using it to light the Easter candle and the other candles that would pierce the darkness.

They heard and preached on Old Testament readings in which prophets and kings foretold and prefigured God's promise of eternal salvation.

They joined the hosts of angels in praising God for fulfilling that promise in the incarnation, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This year, through much of the world, the Easter Vigil and all of the Holy Week liturgies had to be celebrated in line with strict protocols for slowing the spread of the dangerous coronavirus.

Only eight people joined Bishop McKnight and Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos in the Cathedral of St. Joseph for the Easter Vigil.

Hundreds of others participated

See EASTER MERCY, page 15

## Church's response to COVID-19 must reflect timeless gesture of love at Last Supper

By Jay Nies

From the beginning, the Eucharist has been intrinsically tied to love-filled service.

So, too, have been these weeks leading up to Easter.

"The humblest tasks are noble because they are acts of love — love for one another," said Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos on Holy Thursday, the day the Church celebrates Christ's instituting of the Eucharist and the ministerial Priesthood.

Bishop Gaydos concelebrated the Mass of the Lord's Supper with Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and preached the homily.

It was one of the most unusual Holy Thursday Masses in recent memory, with only a few people able to attend, due to a statewide stay-at-home order to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

"Our hunger for the Eucharist must also become more and more connected to our hunger to follow Jesus in loving service," said Bishop Gaydos.

He asserted that the pandemic and its effects are helping Christ's servants and followers see more clearly who they're called to be.

"In fact, it's going to be through imitating Jesus on the night before He died that we're going to find a way out of this worldwide tragedy," he said.

"The certain and inevitable way out is for all of us to get down on our knees, to serve others, whether we like them or not!" he said.

"That is what will heal our broken world."

See FOOT WASHING, page 14

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04/17/20

## Pandemic banishes 'delusion of omnipotence'

Catholic News Service  
Vatican City

The coronavirus is not some form of divine punishment but a tragic event that, like all suffering in one's life, is used by God to awaken humanity, said the preacher of the papal household.

"The coronavirus pandemic has abruptly roused us from the greatest danger individuals and humanity have always been susceptible to: the delusion of omnipotence," Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa

said during an April 10 service commemorating Christ's death on the cross.

"It took merely the smallest and most formless element of nature, a virus, to remind us that we are mortal, that military power and technology are not sufficient to save us," he said.

Pope Francis presided over the Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica, which was nearly empty and completely silent.

## Pray for deceased priests

Apr. 17 — **Fr. Raymond W. Rau**, St. Anthony, Rosati (1978)

Apr. 22 — **Fr. William P. Kottenstette**, Chaplain, Kirksville Newman Center (2015)

Apr. 25 — **Fr. Jerome F. Bestgen**, St. Anthony, Rosati (1986); **Fr. John J. Vandenberghe**, service outside the diocese (1986)

Apr. 27 — **Fr. Richard C. Hunkins**, director of pilgrimages; Columbia Nursing Home Ministry (2000)

Apr. 28 — **Fr. Richard C. Reichling**, Holy Guardian Angels, Brinktown (1970)

## PRINCIPAL POSITION

Immaculate Conception School in Montgomery City, Mo. is seeking applications for the 2020-2021 school year for a Principal. For information, contact Fr. Austin Okoli at 573-564-2375 or [imm-con@sbcglobal.net](mailto:imm-con@sbcglobal.net).

## PRINCIPAL POSITION - WESTPHALIA

St. Joseph parish in Westphalia, Mo., is looking for a faith-filled teaching Principal with proven leadership skills for the 2020-2021 school year. St. Joseph School is an accredited elementary school, K-8th grade, with 188 students. Qualified candidates must be a practicing Catholic with an Administrative certification, or the ability to become certified. Candidates must have a minimum of 5 years teaching experience; Catholic school experience preferred.

St. Joseph School has a vibrant tradition with strong parent involvement. It is located in historic Westphalia, which is approximately 20 minutes southeast of Jefferson City.

Applicants should file an application with the Diocese of Jefferson City at [www.diojeffcity.org](http://www.diojeffcity.org) and send a letter of interest to Fr. Anthony Viviano at [pastor@stjosephwestphalia.org](mailto:pastor@stjosephwestphalia.org).

**Stay up to date on the latest developments.  
Access an array of helpful resources.  
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Visit [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org) and [cathmo.com](http://cathmo.com).**

## Bishop: Rejoice in the Resurrection; your sacrifices are not in vain

Easter 2020

He is risen, Alleluia! Just as He said, Alleluia!

As we begin this new season of Easter, our spirits are lifted and renewed with Jesus's promise to bring us back together again.

His death and resurrection changed the world forever, making all things new.

During the passion of Jesus, His band of disciples were scandalized by His suffering. They were afraid and they scattered.

Therefore, when Jesus rose from the dead, His first concern was to gather His disciples together once again in Galilee.

That is what is so significant in the message He had Mary Magdalen and the other Mary relay to the other disciples: "Do not be afraid. Go tell My brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."

The presence of the risen Jesus brought the band of disciples back together again.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had to become more isolated from one another:

Some of us are grieving the death of loved ones without the full benefit of our funeral rites and without the consolation that comes from the presence of our dear family and friends in our time of mourning.

Others are struggling to regain their health in hospitals and nursing homes, and again, are without the presence of family and friends to comfort them.

And we all suffer from the social distancing and isolation that come with the "shelter in place" order as our new normal.

It is as though we have been scattered from one another. And yet, the suffering and sacrifices of

so many people during this pandemic is not in vain.

The women and men in Easter Sunday's Gospel reading have an urgency — they are running to find the Lord. We, too, must have a sense of urgency in finding God's salvation by how we respond to the pandemic.

I am inspired by the acts of charity and mercy of so many people: the farmers, grocery store workers and restaurant personnel; truck drivers and delivery people; teachers; healthcare professionals; public officials; volunteers who are young and old — the list goes on and on.

Together, each of us has an important role to play to stop the spread of the coronavirus and to encourage the spread of God's mercy.

And with our tenacious Easter faith, we look forward to the day when we can all go to Church together again. What a great day that will be!

We need everyone to participate in a renewal of faith as we come out on the other side of this crisis. I pray we can discern together, from our response to the pandemic, on how we can be stewards of God's generosity, make our homes even more holy, and make our parishes truly centers of charity and mercy.

We are witnesses of all God has done, and we must proclaim, in our words and in our deeds, that He has made all things new again!

I wish you and your families a happy Easter Season, a season of life and love, a season of the Holy Spirit.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



*Shawn McKnight*

Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Jefferson City

**The Catholic Missourian**  
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— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.S., July 7, 1957

**Bishop W. Shawn McKnight**  
Publisher

**Helen Osman**, Dir. of Diocesan Communications  
[hosman@diojeffcity.org](mailto:hosman@diojeffcity.org)

**Jay Nies**, Editor  
[editor@diojeffcity.org](mailto:editor@diojeffcity.org)

**Kelly Martin**, Advertising  
[advertize@diojeffcity.org](mailto:advertize@diojeffcity.org)

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## SPRING CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

**Monday, April 27**  
**Resurrection & St. Peter Cemeteries**  
**Jefferson City**

All floral arrangements and decorations must be removed before this date, and should be done by a person designated by the family. Unauthorized persons found removing flowers and decorations from graves will be prosecuted.

NOTE: Items in permanent vases that are part of the monument will not be removed. Cemetery reserves the right to remove any damaged items or faded flower arrangements.

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# Orange County, California, Catholic educator tapped to lead Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic H.S. in Columbia

**Dr. Daniel Everett, who holds a wide breadth of experience in Catholic education, appointed president/principal**

Columbia Knight announced April 15 Bishop W. Shawn Mc- the appointment of Dr. Dan-

iel Everett as president/principal of Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School, effective July 1.

Dr. Everett holds a doctorate in organizational leadership from Pepperdine University and a master's degree in philosophy from Loyola Marymount University.

He has served in a wide variety of roles in Catholic schools, most recently as interim head of school for St. Anne School in Laguna Niguel, California.

He has also been the vice principal of curriculum and innovation and the director of service at JSerra Catholic High School in San Juan Capistrano, California; and he has taught English, math, philosophy and theology in Catholic schools in southern California.

He and his family currently live in Orange County, California, which comprises the Diocese of Orange.

"Dr. Everett's wide-ranging experience will enable him to assist Tolton Catholic High School in continuing its trajectory of growth and improved



**Dr. Daniel Everett**

excellence," Bishop McKnight said.

"Among other expertise," Bishop McKnight noted, "he has experience in curriculum development, moving a school into a digital-centric mode, strengthening Catholic identity and overseeing a Catholic school serving a diverse and rapidly evolving community.

"I am delighted we are able to place an individual of his caliber as president/principal of Fr. Tolton Regional Catho-

lic High School," the bishop stated.

Dr. Everett said he is inspired by Bishop McKnight's vision for Catholic education.

"I am looking forward to this coming school year and to serving the students, families, faculty and staff of Tolton Catholic," said Dr. Everett. "Everyone that I have met so far has been very welcoming, and I am happy to have a community like Tolton to soon call home."

Partners in Mission, a search firm, worked with a committee comprised of Father Christopher Cordes, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Columbia; Kenya Fuemmeler, interim diocesan superintendent of Catholic schools; Jill McIntosh, interim president of Tolton Catholic; Chuck Register, faculty representative; and Jay Birchfield, advisory board president in the selection process.

Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School, which opened in 2011, currently has 252 students in grades nine through 12.

## Bishop McKnight's April prayer intention for our Local Church

For a stronger sense of the mission of the Church, especially among our youth and young adults, in this time of pandemic and in our discernment of a new pastoral plan.



## Intención del mes de abril del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Para un sentido más fuerte de la misión de la Iglesia, especialmente entre nuestros jóvenes y adultos jóvenes, en este tiempo de pandemia y en nuestro discernimiento de un nuevo plan pastoral.

*Please be so kind as to make this a part of your group and private prayer.*



## Bishop McKnight's Calendar

### APRIL

- Apr. 21** Catholic Rural Life Board of Directors conference call, 2 pm, Jefferson City
- Apr. 27-28** Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate Board teleconference, 8 am, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

### MAY

*The following appointments are tentative, depending on the pandemic:*

- May 1** Diocesan Finance Council meeting, 11 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- May 3** Confirmation Mass for the parishes of St. George, Linn, Immaculate Conception, Macon, and the Mission of the Sacred Heart, Bevier, 12:30 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City; Mass of 25th Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination of Father William D. Debo, 3 pm, Holy Family Church, Freeburg
- May 5** Meeting of Deans of Diocese of Jefferson City, 11 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City; Presbyteral Council meeting, 1 pm, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- May 6** Confirmation Mass for the parishes of St. Patrick, Rolla, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Robert, St. Jude, Richland, St. Theresa, Dixon and St. Cornelius, Crocker, 6:30 pm, at St. Patrick Church, Rolla
- May 7** Confirmation Mass, 6:30 pm, St. Peter Parish, Jefferson City
- May 8** Dedication and blessing of new school addition, 1:30 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School, Columbia
- May 9** Confirmation Mass for the Columbia parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Thomas More Newman Center and Sacred Heart, 10 am, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Columbia

## Venerable Fr. Tolton's lesson for today, based on another terrible sickness

By Jay Nies

Nothing remotely resembled social distancing aboard the disease-filled ships that carried slaves from the African coast to the Western Hemisphere.

What's amazing is how many of the men and women — including Venerable Father Augustus Tolton's ancestors — survived those weeks-long journeys of despair.

They arrived at a place where another insidious and even more deadly contagion had taken hold.

"Plagues and sicknesses come in many phases," stated Bishop Joseph N. Perry, auxiliary bishop of Chicago and co-postulator of Venerable Fr. Tolton's sainthood cause.

"Our country's ambivalence



**Crosses and spring daffodils mark the section of St. Peter Cemetery in Brush Creek, Missouri, where slaves were laid to rest between about 1840 and 1865 — as part of what Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago has referred to as "a great sickness" in this country. Venerable Father Augustus Tolton, the Roman Catholic Church's first recognizably black priest in the United States, was born into a family of slaves and baptized in 1854 in the old St. Peter Church. The current church dates from about 1860.**

about the morality and feasibility of slavery was a plague if not a sickness that gripped our nation for over 400 years," he

noted in an April 6 email to *The Catholic Missourian*.

See FR. TOLTON, page 19



# Taos parishioner seeks to share hope in New York hospital

**Makenzie Abbott serving as a physician assistant in NYC for 21 days during pandemic**

By Jay Nies

The days are long but manageable.

Her coworkers are kind, committed and focused.

Most of all, her patients need her.

That's why Makenzie Abbott PA-C, a member of St. Francis Xavier parish in Taos, is working as a physician assistant in a hospital near the Bronx in New York.

She signed up to work for 21 days in the city with the largest concentration in the United States of patients who are infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19).

"I saw the opportunity and thought about it for a while and realized that this is something I was being called to do," said Mrs. Abbott, wife of Ryan and a daughter of Joe and Shelley Smith.

"Having a great family support system really helps you cope with what's going on here," she said.

Mrs. Abbott graduated in December with a master's degree in physician assistant studies from Missouri State University in Springfield. She obtained her license and credentials in February.

"I was applying for permanent jobs when the pandemic hit, so everything got put on pause," she said.

She signed up with Krucial Staffing Agency, which recruits temporary personnel for large-scale response to disasters.

Having never visited New York, she's now part of a healthcare team comprised of people from all over the country, especially the Northeast.

"I love hearing the different accents," she said.

There was no preparing her for the sheer number of patients being admitted to hospitals in the nation's most populous city.

"You just don't expect to see sickness on this big of a scale," she said. "You hear on the news about how many cases there are in New York, but you don't know what that looks like until you see how overwhelmed the hospital is, how scarce the supplies are.

"There are people sitting multiple days in the Emergency Room because there are no more beds available," she said. "People are stressed to the max, trying to help more and more patients, putting our skills to the test."

All the patients in the unit staffed by her team have COVID-19. Most are sedated and



**Makenzie Abbott PA-C, a member of St. Francis Xavier parish in Taos, is properly outfitted while working as a physician assistant in a hospital in New York. She is signed up to work for 21 days in the city with the largest concentration in the United States of patients who are infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19).**

are breathing with the help of a ventilator.

"If you get to see a patient come off of a ventilator, you know they're making great progress," she said.

Her team recently discharged its first patient who had COVID-19.

"That always lifts your spirits and gives you hope," she said.

### "God is listening"

Mrs. Abbott had experienced the loss of several loved ones in her life, but she never had to witness death as a medical professional.

Until now.

"It's overwhelming at times because you see quite a few patients a day, even in your particular unit of the hospital, who unfortunately pass away," she said.

Her instructors in school offered good advice on handling death and hard-to-treat illnesses, "but seeing it firsthand is quite a different experience," she said.

"You do get attached to your patients and you obviously want them to get better," she said. "It's hard when despite whatever you're doing, they

just don't make it."

Having a good relationship with God helps tremendously.

"It's comforting to know that God is there and is listening to your prayers," she said. "It helps you realize that this will eventually pass and that He will guide you through it and help these people through it and move us all forward."

Each morning, she reads a meditation on the daily readings in the *Living Faith* devotional and asks God to continue strengthening her and her coworkers to help His people.

Each evening, she thanks God for allowing her to serve in New York. She asks Him to look after her patients and the other staff members at the hospital and her family and friends back home.

She asks Him to help her stay healthy and safe "so that I can continue to assist others and hopefully help them heal."

### "A right fit"

Mrs. Abbott has always enjoyed science and always loved helping people — something her parents helped her appreciate.

"My mom got me into that when I was younger," she said. "We did the giving tree at Christmas at church for 10 or 11 years."

She watched several relatives battle cancer and other serious illnesses, which brought her into close contact with the medical field.

"It seemed like a right fit for me," she said.

She hadn't decided which facet of the health sciences to pursue, and she was looking forward to having some flexibility with starting her home life.

"So I chose being a physician assistant over being a physician," she said.

Being part of a healthcare team especially appealed to her.

"We work with a provider or group of providers," she said. "It facilitates the kind of collaborative medicine that I believe is beneficial to the patients."

### "Keep fighting"

COVID-19 commands healthy respect among everyone in the hospital.

"It definitely makes me cautious," said Mrs. Abbott. "I take all the necessary precautions. I wear gloves, I wear my facemask in public, I wear the appropriate protective equipment in the hospital, and constantly wash my hands."

He coworkers are attentive and protective of one another's health and safety.

"If you don't have the right equipment or need to put something else on, they will help you remember," she said. "Like, 'You'll want to put on an extra gown when you go in that room.'"

They also take time to discuss how they're handling the stress.

"Little conversations like that help remind you that you're all in the same boat and have the same feelings," she said.

Whenever she can, she tries to lighten people's day with a smile, an upbeat thought and a thank you.

"Just being positive and trying to keep people upbeat, that's what I'm trying to do," she said. "Talking about things outside the hospital, their personal life, their family, really helps."

She believes that her patients, although sedated, can hear her when she speaks to them.

"I go in and talk to them and tell them we're here for them," she said. "I tell them, 'Hold on, stay strong and keep fighting.'"

See NEW YORK, page 23




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# Distance learning a new reality in diocese's Catholic schools

**Focus remains on ensuring healthy formation of students' body mind and soul, helping them encounter Christ with their families**

By Jay Nies

School buildings are mostly empty and quiet.

But with God's inspiration and the dedication and flexibility of parents and educators throughout the Jefferson City diocese, learning and faith-formation continues unabated.

"It's been a great learning process for all of us," said Tony Arnold, principal of St. Patrick School in Rolla. "We have incredible parents and our teachers are so devoted and they're making it work."

All 37 Catholic grade schools and three Catholic high schools in the diocese will remain in distance-learning mode through the end of the current school year.

Bishop W. Shawn Mc-Knight made the decision April 9, in light of Missouri Gov. Michael

Parson's statewide stay-at-home order to slow the spread of the dangerous COVID-19.

The bishop directed the diocese's Catholic elementary and high schools to continue providing lessons remotely until May 15.

All parishes and schools are abiding by Bishop Mc-Knight's March 31 decree, which restricts the type of public gatherings in the 95 parishes of the diocese through April 30.

When the learn-from-home mandate first went into effect, Kenya Fuemmler, interim diocesan superintendent of Catholic schools, emphasized that the duty remains for every Catholic school "to ensure the healthy formation — body, mind and soul — of all students."



**An Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School first-grader takes part in an online Zoom session with her teacher and classmates from her home in Columbia.**

responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**"Live your faith"**

Michael Aulbur, principal of St. Pius X School in Moberly, said distance learning has gone remarkably smoothly at the school, which has 135 students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The teachers started by sending packets of papers home on the students' last day of in-school instruction back

in March.

Since then, all of the teachers have switched over to some degree of online instruction.

Students in the upper grades receive regular instruction over their computer screens through Google Classroom.

Younger students are using what's called Zoom calls, allowing time for face-to-face online instruction for the students as they continue working through the learning material in their packet.

Deacon John Hill, who assists the pastor of the Moberly parish, oversees the production of a three-day-a-week, 30-minute online wake-up video for students.

The focus is on faith and religion.

"We film it here at school or in the church," said Mr. Aul-

bur. "We have singing. We have special guests."

The school allowed students who don't have access to a computer at home to borrow a Google Chrome-book.

Some families have internet access but have struggled with the bandwidth.

"But we sent packets home, so that offers them some flexibility," said Mr. Aulbur. "And I think that during this time, we've all got to be flexible."

He said one of the biggest challenges is how often and quickly circumstances change during the COVID-19 crisis.

But he believes necessity is giving birth to things that will make the school better down the road.

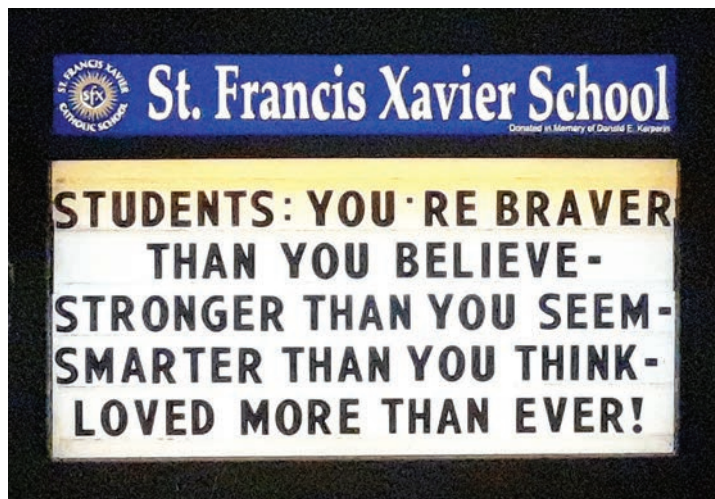
"We now have some new avenues for learning and new ideas for instruction in the future," he said. "So if, heaven forbid, we have something like this happen again, we'll have been here already."

This experience will also open up more learning opportunities for students who are home with extended illness.

"I think it's going to enhance learning as we move forward," he said.

He asked for prayers, first and foremost, for the people

See LEARNING, page 11



**This message adorns the marquee sign outside St. Francis Xavier School in Taos.**

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# Bishop at Chrism Mass: The Eucharist is the source of all unity

**Livestreamed Mass  
seen by hundreds**

**Priests unite online  
in renewing their promises**

**Bishop insists  
Mass must continue  
to be celebrated in parishes,  
temporarily without  
congregants**

By Jay Nies

Late-afternoon sunlight usually radiates through the Cathedral of St. Joseph's western windows while the Chrism Mass is being celebrated.

A capacity congregation typically fills the crown-shaped edifice with every hymn and response.

Dozens of concelebrating priests praying the Eucharistic Prayer create a resonant rumble from all sides of the altar.

This time was different.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight offered the Chrism Mass on the appointed day, but at mid-morning and with only nine other people physically present.

Three priests joined him in person while he blessed and consecrated the oils that will be

used for sacramental ministry throughout the diocese in the upcoming year.

The rest of the priests of the diocese participated through a livestream, putting on their ministerial stoles when it came time to renew their priestly promises with the bishop.

The coronavirus pandemic had dispatched God's people from the Upper Room to their own acres of His vineyard.

Yet, through the continued offering of the Mass and authentic, concrete acts of charity, the communion among the priests, the faithful and the God they serve, remained impeccably intact.

"Wherever you are, dear priests, deacons, religious and faithful, there is the Church, and there is God working among us!" Bishop McKnight proclaimed from the pulpit.

## One God, one mission

Offered each year in anticipation of Holy Thursday, the Chrism Mass highlights and solidifies the bonds between the bishop, priests, the sacraments and all the faithful who receive them.



**Bishop W. Shawn McKnight preaches about the Eucharist, the ministerial Priesthood, and the unity of the whole Church, during this year's Chrism Mass in the Cathedral of St. Joseph. Only 10 people were allowed in the cathedral due to health directives regarding COVID-19, but hundreds, including priests, participated online. — Photo by Ashley Wiskirchen**

The bishop blesses the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Catechumens and consecrates the Holy Chrism.

The Oil of Catechumens is used for infants during the baptismal ceremony, and for the anointing of catechumens during the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) as they prepare to be baptized. It designates all members of the Church as learners and gives them a protecting strength against evil.

The Oil of the Sick is used for healing in the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Sacred Chrism, named for Christ, is used in Baptism, as well as Confirmation, the ordination of priests and bishops and the dedication of churches and altars.

"Jesus Christ was anointed with the Spirit to repair our broken relationship with God and to heal our fractured humanity," Bishop McKnight stated. "And so we, as the Body of Christ on earth, bless the oils to be used this year in the sanctification of the people of God."

He emphasized that the source of all unity is the Eucharist, "the lasting legacy of our Lord Jesus Christ."

"Without that, there is no Church, there is no 'us,'" the bishop stated. "For this reason, it is essential during this

time of pandemic, for the celebration of the Eucharist to continue in every parish, even daily — though without a congregation physically present."

He said that while looking out upon a nearly empty cathedral, he kept in mind all who were participating in the Mass from home —

"some who are sick right now ... some who are busily carrying-out the demands of charity in their homes, their neighborhoods and local communities ... some who are providing healthcare and ministry to the sick, especially those in our hospitals, as well as the first-responders, and all of their families who help shoulder the burden of their important work to save lives."

He noted that the whole Church — including all of the angels and saints — participate in every Mass, "offering spiritual worship through our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to God, our Father."

He emphasized that the Chrism Mass foreshadows, interprets and gives context

to the entire Paschal Mystery that is highlighted in the celebrations of Holy Week and throughout the Easter Season.

**The livestream broadcast of the Chrism Mass and the Masses for Holy Week and Easter in the Cathedral of St. Joseph are archived online at [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org). Click on the "Livestream Mass Links" button.**

"This Mass of the Holy Chrism and the renewal of priestly promises recapitulates all at once the death, resurrection and ascension

of Jesus, the Gift of the Spirit at Pentecost and the birth of the Church," he said.

The enduring mission of the Church is to teach and to heal.

"All of us who have been anointed with the Spirit of the Lord by our Baptism and Confirmation, and those of us who received a special consecration in the Spirit through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, share in this very same mission of Jesus Christ," said Bishop McKnight.

## "Union of prayer"

Joining the bishop at the altar were Father Louis Nelen, pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph parish; and Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. George

See CHRISM MASS, page xx

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# When families pray together, Jesus is there

By Judith Sudilovsky  
Catholic News Service

## Jerusalem

Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, apostolic administrator of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, said being unable to attend Mass in a community has made people realize how much they miss “celebrating the love that conquers every death.”

Celebrating the Easter morning Mass in the co-cathedral of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the archbishop emphasized the importance of praying together as a family during the COVID-19 pandemic. The last time the Church of the Holy Sepulcher — which was closed to the public because of the coronavirus beginning March 25 — was locked and closed to prayer for an extended period was in 1349, during the bubonic plague epidemic, known as the Black Death.

“Many centuries ago (the Churches were closed), so the Christians sang and prayed in the family. Now ... we are in a similar situation, with the Churches closed, but I hope and want that at least now we can pray in the family as before,” said Archbishop Pizzaballa. “Jesus said: ‘Where two or three people are united in My name I am there.’ We (normally) go to Church to meet Jesus, but if in families we pray, Jesus is there.”

The archbishop celebrated

Mass April 12 in Arabic for the local Christian population. The Mass was broadcast and livestreamed to the community on Palestinian television and various social media platforms and websites, and only a handful of other clergy were allowed in the co-cathedral because of emergency COVID-19 precautions.

Before starting the celebration, Archbishop Pizzaballa greeted those few present and those watching. He said that, despite the inability to celebrate together, the joy of Easter should be pronounced.

He shared with them his sadness of praying alone earlier in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, where he normally would have been accompanied by the many local faithful and pilgrims who come to celebrate Easter at the Church traditionally believed to be located on the spot where Jesus was crucified, laid out for burial, buried and rose from the dead.

“It was a little bit sad because (the Church) was empty. But I brought in my heart all the demands and hopes of the people, and when I got to Calvary, in my heart were all the people of our parishes, and when I got to the empty tomb (of Jesus) yesterday, I brought all the hopes and demands of our people,” he said, as in the background Church



**Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, apostolic administrator of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, holds a protective mask as he enters the Church of the Holy Sepulcher April 9, 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic in Jerusalem's Old City. On Easter, the archbishop said being unable to attend Mass in a community has made people realize how much they miss “celebrating the love that conquers every death.” — CNS photo/Ammar Awad, Reuters**

bells pealed. “I brought the demands of Jordanians, of the Israelis and especially of the Palestinians who are suffering, and of all Christian people who belong to our Church here.”

In his homily, Archbishop Pizzaballa noted the inability to celebrate the Triduum, in the current context of fear and uncertainty, has made people even more aware of their fragility and limitations.

“We have found that our human ingenuity, however acute and developed, does not guarantee salvation,” he said. “The big questions about life and death, about who we are, arose again in our hearts. We

understood that the word salvation is not only linked to the ability of science to solve the great problems of the moment (something we are all eager and grateful for anyway), but it is connected first of all with the mystery that dwells in human nature, and that we cannot manage to possess completely. That's why the impossibility to celebrate the mysteries of salvation during this week seemed still more difficult.”

Signs of Jesus' presence can

be found everywhere, if one searches for them, he said.

In their Easter message, the patriarchs and heads of Churches of the Holy Land noted that in the midst of the death and suffering, the celebration of the resurrection is an assurance of God's presence and Jesus' victory over death.

“The Resurrection calls upon our human family toward a time of renewal and a way forward into the future, away from oppression, discrimination, hunger and injustice,” they said in the April 10 message. “Our present responsibility as people of faith and goodwill is to offer consolation for those who grieve, restoration and healing to those who are sick, and assistance to those who are in need. ... Our mission as Christians and as human beings is to support each other and to continue to pray for all people during this pandemic.”



## Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for Protection from the Coronavirus

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, we entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

Patroness of the Diocese of Jefferson City, you know what we need.

We are certain of the power of your intercession, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who taught us to “love one another, as I have loved you” took our sufferings upon Himself and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Bring under your mantel of protection all who provide care for the sick and minister to their needs, as your Son implores us to do for one another.

V. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

R. Do not despise our pleas and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



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## QUESTION CORNER

## Church's stance on organ donation? Reconciling Gospel accounts

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



**Q. What is the Catholic Church's position on donating body parts for medical science? (Northampton, Pennsylvania)**

A. Let's divide the answer into two parts: post-mortem transplants and those from living donors. Gifts from a donor who has clearly died — either to a living recipient or to scientific research — is the easier part.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says: "Organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity" (No. 2296). The Church does teach that the remains, after organ donation or medical research, should be treated with reverence and should be entombed or buried.

As to gifts from living donors — bone marrow, say, or a lung — this is morally permissible so long as it is not life-threatening to the donor and does not deprive the donor of an essential bodily function and provided that the anticipated benefit to the recipient is proportionate to the harm done to the donor.

In his 1995 encyclical "The Gospel of Life," St. John Paul II called organ donation an example of "everyday heroism," and in 2014, Pope Francis told the Transplantation Committee for the Council of Europe that organ donation is "a testimony of love for our neighbor."

**Q. In the Gospel for the feast of the Epiphany, Matthew indicates that the Magi visited with King Herod in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' birth and that apparently very soon after their visit, the Holy Family fled to Egypt to avoid the wrath of Herod and stayed there until Herod had died. But on Feb. 2, we heard Luke's account of the Christ Child's presentation in the Temple in Jerusalem just a few weeks after His birth, and Luke indicates that the Holy Family returned then to Nazareth in Galilee. How are we to reconcile these different accounts? (Circleville, Ohio)**

A. Some Scripture scholars have pointed out what you see as a conflict between the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. (The late renowned New Testament expert Father Raymond Brown once declared that the two accounts "are contrary to each other.")

Other biblical authorities, however, have no problem with reconciling the two narratives. The key, they explain, is to understand that the four Gospel authors wrote for different audiences, and thus each of them did not feel compelled to detail every aspect of the life of Jesus.

Luke, for example, says nothing about the flight into Egypt while Matthew doesn't mention the Temple observance of the presentation. In addition, the Gospel writers sometimes used the word "then" to introduce a particular passage as though the events happened in quick succession, while that may not have been true.

Luke does not say that the Holy Family returned to Nazareth "immediately" after the presentation in the Temple; he simply indicates that Mary and Joseph settled afterward in Nazareth, without specifying how much time had elapsed. So it is quite possible that Luke's narrative allows for a period of time for a flight into Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod, followed by an eventual return to Nazareth.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.

## Papal Audience

April 15, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on the Beatitudes, we now turn to the seventh Beatitude: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9). One kind of peace can be seen in the biblical term "Shalom," which signifies an abundant, flourishing life. A second idea is the modern notion of interior serenity. Yet this second type of peace is incomplete since spiritual growth often occurs precisely when our tranquillity has somehow been disturbed. In this Easter season we see Jesus bringing the gift of His own peace, a fruit of His death and resurrection. The Lord bestows His gift not as the world does — where "peace" is often purchased at the expense of others — but by destroying hostility in His own person (cf. Ephesians 2:14). A peacemaker, then, is someone who, by God's grace, imitates Jesus in bringing reconciliation to others by giving of themselves, always and everywhere! Those who do so are true children of God and show us the way of true happiness. Once again, I wish you all a happy Easter, in the peace of Christ!

I greet the English-speaking faithful joining us through the media. In the joy of the Risen Christ, I invoke upon you and your families the loving mercy of God our Father. May the Lord bless you!



## Msgr. Kurwicky leads a prayer at governor's COVID-19 briefing

Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky, vicar general for the Jefferson City diocese, pastor of St. Michael parish in Russellville and chaplain of the Missouri House of Representatives, leads a prayer during Gov. Michael L. Parson's COVID-19 press briefing on Good Friday, April 10. The Governor invited him and Pastor Jon Nelson of Soma Community Church in Jefferson City to offer prayers and words of encouragement. "In times of crisis,



Missouri's diverse faith community always answers the call and steps up to help wherever they can. The COVID-19 crisis is no different," the Governor stated. Msgr. Kurwicky said Christians are people of hope. "This is a time of serious pain and hurt, but it is also a time of faith. ... We know that the crown of thorns became a halo of light, we know that that cross led to that empty tomb. And when those things occurred, those 11 Apostles and Mary, who were filled with fear, were now renewed with faith. ... Easter gives us hope, joy, resurrection and new life." He prayed a variation of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' "COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity," which includes the petition, "Father, during this time, may Your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen." — Photo from Gov. Parson's Flickr page



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# From disaster, an Easter people rise

By Carolyn Woo  
Catholic News Service



I start this column with a heavy heart. A classmate's brother with the COVID-19 virus is fighting for his life on a ventilator in an intensive care unit. A classmate's daughter Lizzie, an oncology nurse in New York City, stands ready to be reassigned to the care of pandemic patients. Our son Ryan, a geriatrician, has been exposed to infected colleagues and patients while staying on the front line.

Despite the chaos, deaths, job loss, economic hardships and massive suffering inflicted on an unprepared and hapless global community, the prism of COVID-19 casts shards of light that illumine certain truths about our personal, communal and spiritual lives: who we are, who we are to one another and who God is to us.

This plague has opened our hearts

## The coronavirus and us

By Richard Doerflinger  
Catholic News Service



I could write about something other than the coronavirus pandemic, but right now it almost seems there isn't anything else.

The rapid spread of the virus, its death toll, its prospect of overwhelming our healthcare system, its economic consequences burdening so many people's lives, the need to practice "social distancing" and self-isolation, the uncertainty as to how long it will disrupt our life together — these are valid reasons for worry and anxiety.

Like most crises, this one has called forth what is most noble in the human spirit.

Priests who are obeying Pope Francis' call to have courage and continue to visit the sick. The volunteers at my local food bank, who worked out how to keep getting food to the needy while taking all precautions against contagion. The dedicated healthcare personnel who have exhausted themselves and incurred great risk caring for the sick.

May God bless these people and inspire us with their example.

The outbreak also teaches us that a great many Catholics are hungry for the Mass, and for receiving Holy Communion. Given opinion polls suggesting that many Catholics lack a sound belief in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the

and minds to questions that we should have been asking all along: What is most important to us? Do we love well? What can we count on? What is our purpose here and now, and how do these relate to what God promises awaits us: eternal life?

It is ironic that the pandemic has come upon us during Lent: the designated time to give form to these thoughts through an examination of our self-centeredness, the gifts of ourselves we can make to others, and time carved out to talk to God. For many people, COVID-19 has made these practices instinctive, pervasive and integral to the way many of us now think and respond.

Being homebound, we discover new ways of being in our homes: not just shelter in place, but circles of belonging, love, affirmation and commitment. With so many more waking hours together, we make it through our cranky and exhausted moments countered by the gratitude that we are safe in one another's company.

We talk, share fears, laugh, rediscov-

Eucharist, this is strangely reassuring.

It is difficult, and should be difficult, to give up even temporarily what our faith recognizes as the source and summit of the Christian life.

In response, FORMED and Magnificat have opened their online resources to everyone for free, to help Catholics receive spiritual nourishment while Masses and public gatherings are suspended.

My local consortium of five parishes has a new Facebook page, providing Sunday Masses on video and other resources, and Auxiliary Bishop Robert E. Barron of Los Angeles is offering a daily Mass online through "Word on Fire" with a prayer for spiritual communion with Jesus.

The Church's response has also inspired second-guessing among some Catholics.

When state authorities suspended public gatherings in the three counties immediately around Seattle, I confess that I wondered why the archbishop of Seattle suspended Masses in the larger area of the archdiocese.

Then I realized that otherwise, Catholics in those three counties would flock to our other churches and make them more crowded (and dangerous) than before, which happened elsewhere when one diocese closed churches and the neighboring one did not.

By ensuring that we do not spread the virus to others who are vulnerable, we are indeed showing our love for the Body of Christ to which we belong.

er beloved games under dusty covers, travel on internet highways to aunts, uncles, grandparents, long-lost roommates, and somehow know, as Julian of Norwich did, that all will be well.

We pay attention to our loved ones, the little green buds on the trees that open a little more each day, crocuses and first daffodils in neighbors' yards, cardinals, nuthatches, finches, juncos who take their turns at the bird feeders, and robins who poke their heads in the spring earth looking for worms.

Somehow the beauty and holiness of the earth shows what we do have: God whose creation shouts out to us how loved we are. We may not have a map of where we are headed, but we have the compass that points toward compassion and consideration as the way out.

Fear cannot hush us as we bang our pots, pans, walking sticks and fire poker against metal railings, or sway and jive to joyful rhythms across balconies and apartment windows.

Against the threat of physical harm,

first responders, health professionals, essential services providers, drivers, stockers, cashiers, et al., show up to do their part as we say "thank you" and desperately want it heard.

Nobody seeks the risks, but our sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, siblings, friends and people whose names we will never know do it because they can, and because our well-being is worth it to them. In our vulnerability, we claim each other, sacrifice for each other and know that we can only make it out together.

Another friend's grandson Keane chalk-painted on his driveway, "Christ is here." Indeed He is; He is risen and so are we. Our life here is not from life to death as we age, but from death to life as we grow in love and connectedness.

*Woo is distinguished president's fellow for global development at Purdue University and served as the CEO and president of Catholic Relief Services from 2012 to 2016.*

## REFLECTION

### Separation anxiety

By Mark Saucier

It's hard. Children are off school, but playgrounds are taped off like crime scenes.

In the fear of sickness and death, so many of the frightened are not allowed the comfort of a touch.

One in 10 workers has lost a job and is now confined to a home they may not be able to afford to keep.

We have been blessed in the past with freedom, movement, security and hope. But suddenly they seem distant memories, stolen by an invisible thief.

We have waves of sadness, depression, loneliness and sometimes anger.

What do we make of all this distance and isolation? Is there any message or meaning in it all?

I've been thinking a lot about Jesus and His encounters with people in need. I thought about stories like when He met the bier carrying the lifeless son of the widow in Nain. And the paralytic He told to take up his mat and go home.

I find a resonant chord echoing in so many of these. Whether banishing demons, healing lepers or giving sight to the blind, He was ministering to people who were living in isolation. Men and women socially distanced by fear, ostracized by cultural norms, physically dependent but virtually alone.

There's the woman who grabbed the hem of Jesus's garment. She had been bleeding for 12 years, and all that time in ritual exile from her neighbors.

Or the cure of the boy plagued by seizures, falling "into the fire or into the water." Bet he didn't have many playmates.

And there was the man with dropsy, abnormal swelling of the body. Jesus cured him on the Sabbath. But for this man, the Sabbath was no different than any other day — he was always painfully alone, a freak and a spectacle.

A word often used in these is "restored." Jesus restored their hearing, their health, even a withered hand. But I think the restoration was much deeper than that.

By just seeing them, responding to them, caring for them, He ushered them into life. He removed the distance of their condition and brought them back into relation with others.

Compared to theirs, our confinement is not that bad. But still, we've had a taste of it.

Perhaps, when the orders are lifted and the doors opened, we will reach across neighborhoods, social boundaries and physical differences to touch others for whom no government decree can ever bridge their separation from the rest of us.



# New artwork outside Linn church aimed at refreshing souls

**Pastor: "Inside, we have the image of Jesus on the cross. Outside, we have Jesus the Good Shepherd. We need to have an understanding of both."**

By Jay Nies

It's something all Christians can relate to.

Jesus spoke of Himself as the shepherd, the sacrificial lamb and the gate through which the sheep may safely enter.

People traveling through Linn on U.S. 50 will be reminded of Him, thanks to a new statue and plaza outside St. George Church.

"Inside, we have the image of Jesus on the cross. Outside, we have Jesus the Good Shepherd. We need to have an understanding of both," said Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. George parish and of Our Lady Help of Christians parish in Frankenstein.

A local family donated a large portion of the cost of the 2,200-pound, 6-foot-6-inch-tall statue, which is rendered in Hunan marble.

Other donations of money and labor provided the pedestal and new circular drive.

Fr. Merz noted that the Good Shepherd is one of the most recognizable images of Christ throughout all of Christianity.

"I think it's nice for all the Catholics and non-Catholics who drive by to recognize an

image of Christ — to recognize that this Catholic church is dedicated in honor of St. George, but like the saint, we are wholly centered on Jesus Christ," he said.

## Along right paths

Parishioners Ron, Carl and Chase Hoffman and Craig Leivian donated the labor to build the 3-foot-tall pedestal.

"We spent a lot of time on figuring it all out," said Ron Hoffman. "For something like that, you can't get in a hurry."

He and Carl are bricklayers by trade. Their father did much of the brickwork when the current St. George Church was built in 1975.

Ron said the key to this project was preparation.

Taking into account the size and weight of the statue, he built plywood mock-ups of the pedestal and created computer simulations of different kinds of rock work.

"We even had a guy stand on a barrel and act like the statue when we put the lights up," he said.

Fr. Merz and parishioner John Olivares went to pick up the statue with a truck.

Building the pedestal was a communal effort. Ron said many people "had their helping hands in this."

His son Chase worked as the brick-tender, his wife Veronica mixed mortar. Craig Leivian assisted with every phase.

Electrician Mike Jacquin assembled all of the electrical work.



**This new marble image of Christ, the Good Shepherd, now adorns the newly created plaza outside St. George Church in Linn. Mounted to the front of the church are newly created metal shields depicting St. George battling evil in the form of a dragon. The images, located along a busy stretch of U.S. 50, are illuminated at night.**

Photo by Father Daniel Merz

"And my grandson Charlie helped — he's my sidekick," said Ron. "He held chalk lines and went and got tools."

"You really put your heart and soul into something like this," Ron stated. "And I'm one of 1,000 people in this diocese who do this same kind of thing. It's God's work."

## Fear no evil

Another addition for the plaza are newly created shields affixed to the columns of the portico outside the church, depicting St. George battling the dragon.

St. George parishioner Kenny Niekamp, who works at State Technical College of Missouri in Linn, used a computer controlled router to create the shields out of scraps of stainless steel.

One of his relatives powder coated the images "to make them a little more durable for outdoors," said Fr. Merz.

Parishioner Ben Sallin handled the landscaping.

This summer, the parish hopes to have the concrete of the circular drive stained and

stamped to match its surroundings.

"That will give it sort of a paved stone look," said Fr. Merz. "To the right of the church is the red brick rectory, and to the left is the red brick Notre Dame Hall. This will tie all of that together in the middle."

## Beside restful waters

Several weeks ago, before public Masses in the Diocese of Jefferson City were suspended in order to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Fr. Merz asked parishioners to follow him outside at the end of the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass.

There, he blessed the new statue and dedicated the new outdoor plaza and circular drive in memory of the late Mark Voss — a lifelong parishioner, husband of Brenda, father of Logan, Seth and Sarah, and son of Ralph and Jerry Voss.

"Grant that all who in its presence pay devout homage to Your only-begotten Son, may by His merits obtain Your grace in this life and everlasting glory in the life to come, through Christ our Lord," Fr. Merz prayed.

## In verdant pastures

These outdoor embellishments are part of a nearly completed renovation of St. George Church, which was first blessed

in 1976.

Interior work included refurbishing and reinstalling two 1896 murals salvaged from the previous St. George Church; installing a new altar, crucifix and sanctuary fixtures; updating the lighting and ceiling; and creating a new color scheme that ties the murals and stained-glass windows together.

A granddaughter of the artist who created the original murals restored them and created new murals that were recently installed in the back of church.

The center mural over the main entrance depicts Christ in Glory, surrounded by saints in heaven — including the Blessed Mother and St. John the Baptist, and saints whose relics are in repose under the altar — St. Boniface, St. Hildegard and St. Gertrude.

"It also includes St. George, our patron saint; St. Cecilia, patron saint of music; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, patron saint of Catholic educators; and Saints Peter and Paul and St. Joseph.

"And St. Isidore, patron saint of farmers," Fr. Merz added. "And St. Hubert — patron saint of deer hunters!"

To the left of that mural — on the same side of the church that contains a statue of St. George defeating a dragon — is a mural depicting St. Michael the Archangel engaged in the very same battle with evil.

On the other side is a mural depicting guardian angels protecting two of the faithful in this life.

The exterior wall, where on the inside there is a newly installed elevator, exhibits the

See GOOD SHEPHERD, page 18



**Volunteers Carl Hoffman, Chase Hoffman, Craig Leivian and Ron Hoffman build the pedestal for the image of Christ, the Good Shepherd, in front of St. George Church in Linn.**

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# Easter at home felt strange for woman preparing to be Catholic

*The following is excerpted and slightly paraphrased from an article titled, "Easter isn't canceled: Christians celebrate Holy Week without being together," which was published April 13, 2020, in the Columbia Missourian. It is published here with permission:*

By Hannah Hoffmeister

Columbia

When Sarah Canoy's two kids woke up on Easter Sunday, they didn't get dressed to go to church.

Instead, they watched Mass at home on a livestream.

"It's such a strange feeling," Mrs. Canoy said. "Everything that you've done every year — it's no longer going to happen that way."

Deacon Christopher Baker, who assists the pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph parish in Jefferson City and teaches reli-

gion at Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School in Columbia, emphasized that "Easter isn't canceled. Holy Week isn't canceled."

"We couldn't cancel Easter if we tried," he said.

Mrs. Canoy has been preparing to receive sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil.

She is one of 31 people participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Columbia.

She and the others who are preparing to become Catholic will receive the Easter Sacraments as soon as Mass can be offered publicly again.

"Right when you're really bonding with these people and supporting each other, then you lose that sense of community that you were working so hard to obtain," she said.



**Catechumens and candidates seeking full communion in the Roman Catholic Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Columbia gather in the Cathedral of St. Joseph Undercroft after taking part in the Rite of Election on the First Sunday of Lent. Father Christopher Cordes, pastor of the parish, said he's looking forward to administering the sacraments of initiation when people can safely gather again for Mass.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

Mrs. Canoy, who started in the RCIA in September, said she felt "a sense of mourning" at the postponement, comparing it to finding out there's no

Christmas.

She said she's found hope and strength by connecting with other strong Christians and tapping into her faith.

"I think I'd fall apart without it at this point," she said.

Deacon Baker urges Mrs. Canoy and the others who are waiting to become Catholic to remain steady and steadfast.

"I can't begin to imagine the folks who have invested their time, their faith, their emotion in preparing to enter the Church at Easter, and to not have that happen," he said. "If folks take any comfort, God knows what is in your heart. ... The pause button's been hit but not for God."

*Ms. Hoffmeister is assistant city editor for the education beat for the Columbia Missourian. The original article can be found online at [columbiamissourian.com](http://columbiamissourian.com).*

## LEARNING

From page 5

on the front lines of fighting this pandemic, including first-responders and medical personnel.

He also requested prayers for teachers and parents of schoolchildren.

"They're doing things they never could have imagined they'd be expected to do," he said, "and they're doing it well."

He noted that St. Pius X School's motto is: "Be respectful, be responsible, be safe and live your faith."

"That's what we've been trying to do," he said. "Living your faith is something we continue to emphasize with our students during this time."

That means spending time with God each day, either through Deacon Hill's videos or participating in Mass with Father Phil Niekamp, the pastor, livestreaming on social media.

### "Being Christ to Others"

Mr. Arnold, principal at St. Patrick School in Rolla, said the school, which has 190 students in pre-school through eighth grade, started upgrading its technology about four years ago.

"We expanded our internet and also expanded our

Chromebook capacity," he said. "We've been adding Chromebooks each year as we go."

"So we had a really good head start when this thing hit," said Mr. Arnold.

He referred to the school's computer teacher and information technology coordinator as "magnificent," "fantastic" and "genius."

Right before the stay-at-home order kicked in, school staff did an assessment of what students would need in order to start learning at home right away.

"We checked out all of our Chromebooks and chargers to students who don't have a computer," he said.

The Google online platform means that anyone with a Chromebook and internet access can receive instruction "like they're sitting in the classroom with their teacher."

It allows students and teachers to have online video chats, and for students to turn in their work online and have their teacher grade it in real time.

It also allows teachers, parents and students to communicate over an internal email domain.

Teachers are making instructional videos, which students can watch as many times as they need to.

Even the pre-school and kindergarten teachers are reading books to their students online.

Religion instruction continues online.

The art and music teachers are working on a music video and photo collage, both with input from each student.

Protocols for online safety are built into the all the programs.

And God remains at the center of it all.

"Our school's charism is 'Being Christ to Others,'" said Mr. Arnold.

"That's what we're trying to emphasize here," he said. "Even remotely, we can still be Christ to others."

### Reshaping the future

Alan Lammers, principal of Ss. Peter & Paul School in Boonville, said the schools educators and families are doing a "tremendous job."

"They are planning lessons, delivering instructions and finding ways to interact with their students," he said.

They set this up in a manner

of days and -are continuing to evolve and innovate.

"Our teachers are reshaping what Catholic education will look like when we can all finally be back together as a faith community," he said.

## Vatican: huge growth, engagement online for Holy Week, Easter

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Holy Week and Easter events broadcast and shared by Vatican media reached millions of people around the world, attracting new viewers, followers and fans inspired by Pope Francis' words and gestures.

"We have been struck by the many emails we have received, comments and posts on our social media from people, even agnostics and nonbelievers, who say they have been moved by the words and gestures of the Holy Father during this very difficult period," Alessandro Gisotti, vice-editorial director of Vatican media, told Catholic News Service (CNS) by email April 14.

Huge spikes in online visitors, views, follows and com-

The school has 182 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

Mr. Lammers noted that nothing can replace the Eucharist "as the center of our faith and learning community."

ments on their numerous platforms showed that "many people, not just the Catholic faithful, were able to follow and 'encounter' the Holy Father and, through him, the Word of God thanks to this technology and especially to streaming services and social media," he said in a response to a request for information about online engagement during Holy Week and Easter.

Gisotti told CNS that Vatican media outlets tried to put into practice that "creativity of love that the Pope asks of us in order to overcome the isolation caused by the pandemic." Their Vatican News site saw its number of visitors and page views quadruple from the same liturgical period last year.



# The very stones below the Church of the Holy Sepulchre give testimony to Christ's passion, death and resurrection

A lifelong Catholic scholar and historian offers the following photos and recollections from his visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem:

By Edward Bode  
*"A m o r  
 Christi Cru-  
 cifixi Traxit  
 Nos."*

For almost 1,700 years, worldwide pilgrims have been validating the inscription on an official papal medal.

Below the word "Jerusalem," followed by a ribbon



This is the entrance through which pilgrims pass on their way to the place of Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

Latin:  
*"The Love  
 of Christ  
 Crucified  
 Attracts Us."*

That love is expressed with medieval splendor throughout the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which surrounds the place where Jesus was crucified, died, and



A pilgrim visits a small room outside the chapel.

attracted to Jerusalem. Many of their accounts still exist in ancient texts.

One memorable record that I recall but cannot find now concerns a German mother of 14 children; she visited the Holy Land between the First and Second Crusades; she had lost a son in the First.

I do have the record of another German woman, Sophia von Looz, wife of Heinrich von Schwalenberg, who made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1159 after the Second Crusade (1146-48) before Saladin had threatened the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem.

with an artistic depiction of a palm branch, is a 3.73-inch badge affixed to a metal cross with four equally branched crosses, with text stating in

was buried.

The pilgrims arrive through a relatively simple entrance.

Rising prominently from the center of the domed, circular main floor of the church is the Chapel of the Tomb of Jesus.

The chapel stands right above the grave where Jesus died and rose from the dead.

The chambers below end at a marble cover dating from fourth-century Emperor Constantine of Rome.



A pilgrim man prays while touching his forehead to the stone covering the place of Jesus's burial and resurrection.

For centuries, Roman Catholics together with Orthodox, Byzantine and Coptic rites have divided the times and places for their respective liturgies.

In the third small room of the "chapel" is a stone atop the burial site. The location allows for the offering of prayers directly above the place where Jesus Christ, divine Savior and Redeemer of the human race, rose from the dead.

From a side of the chapel, a shaft leads down to the Constantinian marble, allowing for the lowering of religious articles to the top of the tomb.

### Sorrowful Mother

Pilgrims entering the Church pass a 17-step staircase on the right, leading to the top of Mount Calvary.

The first altar, for Roman Catholic Masses, commemorates where the Blessed Mother stood as she watched the slow, tortuous death of Jesus.

The second altar to the left has a circular opening, through which one can lower a religious article to touch the top rock of Calvary.

### Let there be light

Concerning the stone rolled to close Jesus's tomb: some preserved tombs from the time of Jesus in Jerusalem have a huge round stone about 6 feet in diameter and about 1 foot in width.

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See PILGRIMAGE, page 13



# PILGRIMAGE

From page 12



This artwork near the place of the crucifixion depicts Jesus's mother watching the passion and death of her Son.

These two altars adorn the portion of the church that is built over the place of Jesus's crucifixion. The one on the left, used for Roman Catholic Masses, marks the place where the Blessed Mother stood. The other has an opening below it that leads to the top rock of Mount Calvary.

an inclined plane, to open the entrance would be a nearly impossible task.

When Jesus arose, a real light at least flashed in the tomb. The proof lies in a positive image of the face of Jesus on the napkin that covered Jesus's face (John 20:6-7).

That folded napkin, commonly referred to as "True Icon," is now preserved in a shrine near the village of Manoppello, about 100 miles eastward from Rome.

It is noteworthy that a detectable flash of light also occurs at the moment of human

conception, signaling the beginning of life.

The napkin and the burial shroud of Jesus, preserved in Turin, have detailed matches on the same type of cloth found in Judea at that ancient time.

**We shall surely follow**

Hopefully, these remembrances about Jerusalem help to attract you to the empty tomb of Jesus during a joyful season in which we remember the

Christ's passion, death and resurrection in our liturgies, family gatherings and even our secular customs.

"I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for He has been raised just as He said. Come and see the place where he lay," (Matthew 28:5-6).

*Mr. Bode is a member of Cathedral of St. Joseph parish in Jefferson City.*

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This 2.5-inch crucifix, on a rosary belonging to Ed Bode, touched Calvary and the Tomb in 1963.



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## FOOT WASHING

From page 1

### Love stories

Father Gregory Meystrik believes the pause created by the pandemic will have a positive effect in his parishes and beyond.

"I think we will be more community-oriented, a bit more aware of outreach and keeping in contact with the vulnerable, those who are homebound, people with compromised immune systems," said Fr. Meystrik, pastor of St. Patrick parish in Rolla, Immaculate Conception parish in St. James and St. Anthony of Padua parish in Rosati.

The COVID-19 crisis is bringing forth thoughtful, strategic and collaborative responses in parishes throughout the diocese.

Rolla parishioner Scott Smith said it's strengthening bonds within families, the parish and the community.

"I think we're being called back to a core understanding of Who God is, who our family is, who our neighbors and friends are, who we are as people," he said.

"People are praying more," he stated. "Months from now, we'll look back and recognize great stories of beautiful love. And we all know that God is love."

He noted that different people are experiencing varying degrees of difficulty and anxiety, depending on their

own circumstances.

"We need to be reaching out to those people with our abilities and skills and certainly the grace that's been given to us by God," he said. "We know God is in control."

In addition to the parishioners who have signed up online to volunteer in various ways, about 15 members of the Rolla Knights of Columbus council make themselves available for moving and heavy lifting.

Several Knights who are more susceptible to COVID-19 have stepped up to contact people at home.

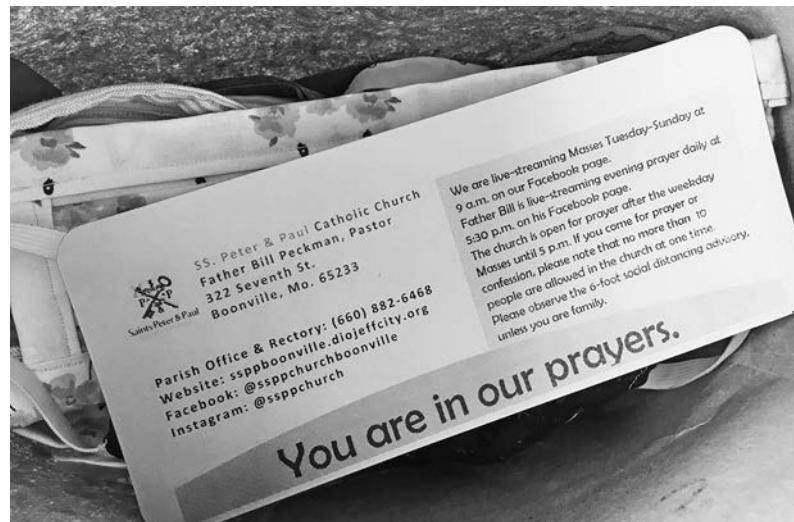
"We're not asking, 'Are you Catholic?' We're asking, 'Do you need help?'" Mr. Smith pointed out.

Some people need basic necessities such as food and medication picked up and delivered to them.

Others are happy just to hear a friendly voice and have someone to talk to.

He said the Rolla area has a strong faith foundation, with many Christian congregations committed to putting their faith into practice.

"By and large, I think we've been pretty successful at setting aside what causes us division and focusing on what's best about us and our community as a whole," he said.



**Cloth masks for healthcare workers and first-responders made by volunteers from Ss. Peter & Paul parish in Boonville come with contact information and a promise of prayers.**

### "It's beautiful"

Rolla parishioner Kandi Woessner helps facilitate donations, pick-up, storage and distribution of food for Feeding Phelps Families.

This volunteer effort involves assembling ingredients for home-cooked meals and delivering them to people who need them.

"It gives them something to eat and something to do while they're sheltering-in-place," said Mrs. Woessner.

People leave food donations on their porch, and she helps arrange to get it picked up.

"My specialty is brokering connections between people in order to get things where they need to be," she said.

The effort draws people from many backgrounds, faith traditions and political persuasions.

"It's beautiful to see how our overall sense of community has increased through all of this," she said.

She believes the "normal" that emerges after the crisis can be filled with joy if people continue to stop and look for hidden goodness in every moment, pray for guidance, and represent God well to their

families and community.

"Listen to God speak to you through the people around you," she suggested. "There's always a need. There are always people you can help."

### "Wide net"

Father William Peckman has been amazed at his parishioners' energy and ingenuity during the COVID-19 crisis.

"I'm flabbergasted by how people have risen to the occasion," said the priest, who is pastor of Ss. Peter & Paul par-

the sheriff's department, with the police department and the health department, just making sure everybody is covered."

The Boonville and Fayette parish disaster response teams have been making wellness calls to people who live alone, are homebound or are otherwise vulnerable during the pandemic.

Volunteers run errands such as grocery shopping and medicine pick-ups for people who are homebound due to increased risk for COVID-19.

"One volunteer came and changed a person's furnace filter because they couldn't go downstairs and do it themselves," said Fr. Peckman.

He believes parishes that choose to follow Bishop McKnight's directive to be centers of mercy and charity for their entire communities will emerge vibrant and energized at the end of the pandemic.

Many people are frustrated and scared and are looking for "a rock" to give them strength and stability.

"Right now is the time to cast the wide net," said Fr. Peckman. "If ever there were a time where charity and mercy should be found at a parish, it needs to be now."

### "Come to my assistance"

The Boonville parish has been working with other local organizations and

the county health department to test people for COVID-19.

Young parishioners have volunteered to help with distribution of food at the local food pantry.

"All of this is helping us deepen our commitment to the local homeless shelter and work more closely with local

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**St. Pius X parish in Moberly, the parish's St. Vincent de Paul conference and the United Way of Randolph County sent out a pre-printed postcard as part of their efforts to identify needs during the COVID-19 crisis.**

ish in Boonville and St. Joseph parish in Fayette.

Once parishioners recognized the need for cloth masks, volunteers got the production line going.

"We've been making the masks by the hundreds," said Fr. Peckman. "We've got orders from all the local nursing homes and a rehab center. We're working with the prison,



## UBI CARITAS

From page 14

nursing homes and residential facilities,” said Fr. Peckman.

Sunday collections in both parishes have remained close to their normal levels since Sunday Masses were suspended.

Livestreamed Sunday Masses have been drawing 1,200 to 1,500 online participants.

Fr. Peckman has also been livestreaming Vespers, also known as Evening Prayer, from

the Liturgy of the Hours, at 5:30 p.m., six days a week.

Between 200 and 400 people typically log in to participate.

He times Vespers to compete with network TV news, which he believes is frightening people into inertia.

### “Washing feet”

Father Christopher Cordes, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes

parish in Columbia, pointed out that there could be no ritual foot washing — symbolizing a commitment to selfless love in imitation of Christ — at Mass on Holy Thursday.

“But we are putting it into practice daily by our charitable and respectful honoring of social distancing, by our patience and kindness toward those we are isolated with or enduring

the loneliness if we are separated from loved ones or all others, and by the ways in which we are helping those in our families, our parish and our community who are most vulnerable during this time,” he said.

He believes the greatest example of “foot washing”

is from those who take care of people who are suffering from the coronavirus, “putting their own health and lives at risk and bringing stress and hardship to their families.”

### “Not in chains”

“Our church services may be closed to the public,” said Bishop McKnight, “but Christ is not quarantined and His Gospel is not in chains.”

Fr. Meystrik observed that families are now spending

more time together and partaking of meals in common.

He noted that in the context of the domestic Church, which is the manifestation of the Church in each home, “the family meal is the greatest extension of the Eucharist.”

“They are certainly not the same, but in both, a ritual feeding of body, mind and soul takes place,” he said. “And that helps us be aware of our hunger for the Eucharist.”



A student from St. Brendan School in Mexico completes her sidewalk artwork in chalk in time for Holy Week.

— Photo from St. Brendan School's Facebook page

## EASTER MERCY

From page 1

at home through livestream on social media and made a communion of desire in anticipation of the eventual return of public worship and the sacraments.

“May we look forward with firm hope and great anticipation to the celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy

Spirit,” Bishop McKnight proclaimed, “as we move from fear and isolation to gathering again as the whole Church, to celebrate the Eucharist of our Risen Lord!”

In the meantime, he reminded the people that throughout history, the Church has grown and thrived

through times of persecution, martyrdom and suffering.

“Even the plagues afforded the early Church the opportunity to shine like the stars in the night sky, manifesting to many unbelievers tangible signs of God’s mercy through their charitable works,” he said.

Just as Jesus’s physical Body rose to new life on the first Easter Sunday, His Body of disciples that had been scattered by His arrest and crucifixion “was reconstituted and reestablished as the community of faith, hope and charity.”

And with the gift of the Holy Spirit 50 days later at Pentecost, “they would be reborn as a vibrant, thriving and growing Church.”

They would pass “from fear to fortitude, from discouragement and disappointment to joy, and from desperation and confusion to a bold proclamation of the many wonderful works of God,” said Bishop McKnight.

Such is the transformation for all who are baptized into Christ’s death and share in His resurrected life.

While the fullness of resurrected life will come only with the general resurrection of the dead at the end of time, “even now, the light of God’s mercy is given to us through the preaching of Christ’s Gospel, in the celebration of the sacraments and in our charitable and loving care for one another.”

“Our lives are different because of the mercy we have experienced!” said Bishop McKnight. “And living the resurrected life means living Christ’s peace with God and one another.”

## Catholic Home Missions Collection April 25-26

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Home mission dioceses are those dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help.

Basic pastoral services include Mass and other sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and laypeople.

Right now, over 40 percent of dioceses are considered home missions.

The Diocese of Jefferson City is largely a rural diocese that bears the face of the rural poor. The Hispanic population continues to increase over the years, and poverty disproportionately affects this community.

Through your support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, our diocese is able to expand and provide a robust Hispanic ministry program.

Last year, the Diocese of Jefferson City collected over \$85,000 through the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. Because of your generosity, we received a \$70,000 grant from the appeal to support our Hispanic ministry office. The remaining funds went to help other rural dioceses throughout the United States.

Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in our local diocese and the United States.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal this year. To learn more about the appeal and those who benefit from it, visit [usccb.org/home-missions](http://usccb.org/home-missions).

Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Jefferson City



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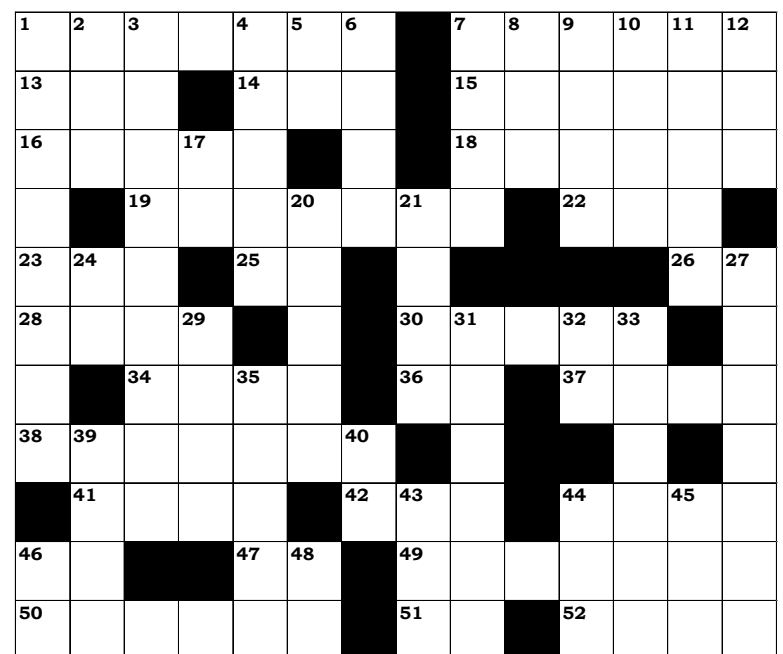
### ACROSS

1. Joplin, Mo. may have the only city hall in the country with an original Thomas Hart Benton mural. In 1972, Benton painted the 14 by 5.5 ft. mural titled "Joplin at the Turn of the \_\_\_\_" for the city's centennial.
7. In 1933, Bonnie & Clyde hid out in Joplin after a series of robberies there and in neighboring states. The Joplin Police found and raided their apartment over a \_\_\_\_ (which is still there). They killed two policemen in their escape.
13. The strategy in the first Iraq war was called "shock and \_\_\_\_" (i.e., attack with overwhelming force).
14. Mimicking wrestling as a competitive sport, \_\_\_\_ wrestling calls itself performance art.
15. "If this activity is of human \_\_\_\_, it will destroy itself. But if it comes from God...you may even find yourselves fighting against God," (Acts 5:38-39).
16. The famous \_\_\_\_ and Clark expedition is commemorated in a sculptured 5-figure monument in a park at Capitol and Jefferson Sts. in Jeff. City.
18. The folk hero \_\_\_\_ of Jesse James was largely fostered through the particular efforts of one man, former Confederate John Edwards, founder of the *Kansas City Times*.
19. The TV actor Dennis Weaver was born in Joplin, Mo. From 1964-1984, he was in several TV series — as Chester in the long-running *Gunsmoke*; a game warden on *Gentle Ben*; a western \_\_\_\_ in NYC in *McCloud* (nominated for 2 Emmys); and also starred in the first movie directed by Steven Spielberg, called *Duel*.
22. King of Judea; Godly reformer (2 Chronicles 15).
23. Cleo's killer.
25. \_\_\_\_ be or not to be...
26. Letters for the continent from which Pope Francis hails.
28. To eat a burrito, \_\_\_\_ or gyro with your hands is accepted by etiquette experts, but whatever falls to the plate must be eaten with a fork.
30. Follow the \_\_\_\_; catch phrase suggesting the basic motivation of corruption is always financial gain.
34. Joplin, Mo. is the birthplace of Langston Hughes (d. 1967). He was a \_\_\_\_, social activist, novelist, playwright and columnist. As a young man in NYC he was part of the African-Am. literary movement of the 1920-30's celebrating African-Ams. and voicing their struggles.
36. The prefix "ex" becomes \_\_\_\_ when used before a word starting with the letter "F" (e.g., the prefix before the word fort).
37. The \_\_\_\_ Clinic in Rochester, Minn. (with major facilities in Ariz. & Flori-

- da) is one of the largest not-for-profit academic health systems in the U.S. It specializes in patients with serious complex medical problems.
38. "...but what it \_\_\_\_ was wild grapes," (Isaiah 5:2).
41. The Univ. of Mo. Office of Research and Economic Dev. (\_\_\_\_) supports and oversees eight campus-wide research centers (e.g., Life Sciences, Medicine, Animal & Veterinary, etc.), while building connections with business and direct public service.
42. Mo. based farm cooperative company.
44. If my son was good in the grocery store I would reward him with his favorite, \_\_\_\_ Kat bar (2 wds.).
46. Letters for Information Technology, an inclusive overused term denoting anything or anyone connected with computers, internet, hardware, software, etc.
47. Innermost moon of Jupiter, with volcanic plumes rising 190 miles above its surface.
49. Mickey Mantle invested in Joplin's first sports bar in 1957 called the Dugout, where display cases showed his 1956 Professional \_\_\_\_ Award, 1956 Silver Bat batting championship, a 600 ft. tape measure for a home run, and the baseball from his 1,000th hit on July 2, 1957.
50. "Abba, \_\_\_\_, all things are possible..." (Mark 14:36).
51. Prefix for new or doubt.
52. "...have faith the size of a mustard \_\_\_\_..." (Matthew 17:20).

### DOWN

1. This county was named for a Daniel Boone grandson, killed by Indians at the age of 31 in 1815. In that same year, one of Boone's sons, Nathan Boone, began an official two-year survey of the county. Fulton is its County Seat.
2. A lamb's mom.
3. Benton agreed to do the mural for Joplin because he began his career there in 1906 as a \_\_\_\_ cartoonist.
4. In Superbowl LIV, the KC Chiefs pulled out a seemingly impossible \_\_\_\_ by scoring 3 touchdowns in the last 6 minutes.
5. The Union Pacific, e.g., \_\_\_\_ Berra, native of "The Hill" in St. Louis, was famous as a baseball player and manager and also an unintentional master of the malaprop.
7. The Lake of the Ozarks boasts 16 \_\_\_\_ courses carved out of the natural beauty of the area, designed by the likes of Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Weiskopf, etc.
8. "\_\_\_\_ you going to Scarborough Fair?" —1966 song by Simon & Garfunkel.
9. Capital of Latvia, one of the Baltic States.
10. "Rock of \_\_\_\_," —popular classic hymn written by Anglican Rev. Augustus Toplady in 1763.
11. 1950-60's actress Lolobrigida and movie star Carano.
12. Bonnie & Clyde escaped Joplin but left behind, for the first time, photos of themselves which helped to identify and eventually \_\_\_\_ the gang.
17. Letters for International Harvester; agricultural machinery manufacturer since 1902.
20. \_\_\_\_ 66, one of the first constructed roads in the national highway system, was known popularly as "the mother road."
21. Bob Cummings was born in Joplin, Mo.; active in TV & movies from 1931-1990. Was in two Alfred Hitchcock thrillers, earned five Emmy nominations



- and two stars on Hollywood's Walk of \_\_\_\_, one for TV and one for movies.
24. 4th year student in high school or college (abbr.).
27. Mo. did not have an official State flag until 1913 when a design by a lady from Cape Girardeau was \_\_\_\_.
29. Santa lives at the north one.
31. "Now is the dramatic moment \_\_ \_\_, Watson, when you hear a step upon the stair...and know not whether for good or ill," —Sherlock Holmes in *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (2 wds.)
32. Dorothy's Auntie.
33. The Joplin Miners was a New York \_\_\_\_ minor league team in Joplin for 49 seasons from 1902-1954. Mickey Mantle and Whitey Herzog both played for the team.
35. The \_\_\_\_ Bauer sports-wear and outdoor gear company has Missouri stores in Columbia, St. Louis and Osage Beach.
39. I don't care one \_\_\_\_ what he thinks!
40. On Twitter, letters for direct message.
43. "Press not so upon; stand \_\_\_\_ off," —from Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," Act III.
44. Weatherman Roker and politician Gore.
45. "\_\_\_\_ missa est" (i.e., "go, you are sent") in the Latin Mass.
46. \_\_\_\_ you only knew.
48. Letters for a surgical site in a hospital.

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# Sidewalk chalk

**LEFT:** Mark, Jonah, Amelia and Tanner Saucier, grandchildren of Mark and Carolyn Saucier, try their hand at "sidewalk catechesis" to encourage passers-by during the COVID-19 pandemic. **RIGHT:** Children left this artwork in chalk on Fairmount Court in Jefferson City. — Photos by Carolyn Saucier



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Dustin Dolce  
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## GOOD SHEPHERD

From page 10

words: "Though my heart and flesh fail, God is my rock and portion," (Psalm 37:76).

### House of the Lord

Fr. Merz said these newly created artworks are part of the Church's work of evangelizing people who pass by.

"You have the Good Shepherd, reminding us of His care for all of His flock," said Fr. Merz.

"Then you have the image on the shields of St. George overcoming the dragon, reminding us that evil is real, and with the power of the cross, we can overcome it," he added.

Above all of that is the steeple, with spotlights shining on it at night, drawing people's gaze toward the cross and beyond it toward heaven.

"Whether people are able to verbalize it in that way, they will see those images and be lifted up," said Fr. Merz.

He noted that these are worthy expenditures, because nothing is too good for God.

"When people objected to the woman pouring expensive perfume on Jesus's feet, He defended her, saying, 'The poor you will always have with you,'" the pastor stated.

"So we must do both," Fr. Merz insisted. "As

Catholics, we are committed to helping people in need, in God's name.

"At the same time, we don't just have a meeting hall," he said. "We have a temple that houses the Blessed Sacrament, that houses the Living God. It must reflect that purpose."

Fr. Merz pointed to Jesus's teaching that the greatest commandment is to love God above all other things, and the second is "to love your neighbor as yourself."

"If we get the devotion to God right, then we will do a good job of taking care of one another as well," he stated.

## CHRISM MASS

From page 6

parish in Linn and Our Lady Help of Christians parish in Frankenstein, and chairman of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

Deacon Tyler McClay assisted them.

Father Joshua Duncan served as master of ceremonies. Seminarian Ryan Bax served as acolyte and thurifer.

Ashley Wiskirchen, diocesan director of parish communications, set up and operated the equipment that sent the livestream out over several platforms.

Deacon McClay said it did feel strange to incense empty pews, "and yet at the same time, know people were watching the livestream."

Fr. Merz said he longed for the fraternity and fellowship of his brother priests and the people for whom they became priests: the lay faithful.

"It was prayerful, though I kept looking up and missing the faces of the people," said Fr. Merz. "And yet, the 'union of prayer' and the certainty of shared faith was still palpable."

He noted that the Greek word for Church, "*ekklesia*," means "being called together — being gathered."

"We are physically inhibited

today in our being Church," he stated, "but the bonds of our faith and communion in the Body of Christ are not broken!"

### "Unique times"

Each year at the Chrism Mass, the priests and bishops renew together the promises they made to God at their ordination, when their hands were anointed with Holy Chrism, and the Holy Spirit came down and made them priests.

They did so again this year, albeit somewhat differently.

"These are unique times for sure," said Fr. Nelen. "I'm willing to bet this was the first Chrism Mass that some of our priests have missed since the day they were ordained."

Bishop McKnight noted that this diocese usually holds its Priests' Day of Recollection before the Chrism Mass and honors the priests who are celebrating jubilees.

This year's priestly jubilarians include: Father Clarence Wiederholt, 65 years; Father Gerald Kaimann, Father Michael Quinn and Father Kenneth Steinhauer of the Jefferson City diocese, as well as Jefferson City native La Salette Father Dennis Meyer, 50 years; and Father Christopher Cordes and

Father William Debo, 25 years.

Fr. Cordes, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Columbia, said he would have preferred to take part in the Chrism Mass in person, "but it's all in the context of doing what we're called to do in a time when it's most important to do that."

"It was different, and I have to admit a bit sad not to be there in person," said Fr. Debo, pastor of Holy Family parish in Freeburg and Sacred Heart parish in Rich Fountain, "although I was grateful to connect electronically."

### "Where we need to be"

Fr. Merz said several priests called afterward to thank him for representing them and to comment on how beautiful the Mass was.

Fr. Cordes noted that as pastor of a large parish, he lives in community with three priests and two seminarians, "so I had that community to watch and celebrate with."

He said the bishop's words about the Church "being out where we need to be" put it all in perspective.

"Being Church is meant to send us out to live what we cel-

brate and receive," Fr. Cordes stated. "We can't be there (in the cathedral) right now, but we can be out here, and need to be out here."

**Photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, [www.cathmo.com](http://www.cathmo.com). Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.**

Participating from a distance, Father Paul Clark said he still "felt connected to the ministry that we have within the Church."

"I was reminded that if we are in communion with Christ

and His mission, we are in community; we are united regardless of where we are within time and space," said Fr. Clark, part-time associate pastor of

Our Lady of Lourdes parish and a chaplain at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School, both in Columbia.

Although being physically separated from one another and from the sacramental Body of Christ is a sacrifice, "the mystical Body of Christ remains because we remain in communion with God," he said.

He repeated the bishop's request to the faithful to pray for all the priests of the diocese, "so that our hearts may be conformed even more closely to the Sacred Heart of Christ, the Eternal High Priest."

## DOERFLINGER

From page 9

Some Catholics nonetheless suggest that all this is an overreaction, based on a secular society's irrational fear of death as the ultimate evil. For Christians, they say, there are worse things than death, and our hope in the resurrection should transcend our fear of death. That much is true.

But the conclusion some might draw from this is especially untimely, as I write this on the 25th anniversary of St. John Paul II's magnificent encyclical "*Evangelium Vitae*" ("The Gospel of Life"). He urged "a general mobilization of consciences and a united ethical effort to activate a great campaign in support of life" (No. 95).

He based this call not on fear of death but on love and respect for the lives of other human beings made in the image and likeness of God — and on the insight that we live up to our own vocation through "the sincere gift of self" (No. 25).

To give up in-person gatherings with our friends and neighbors to protect their lives and health is a great sacrifice. That makes it an opportunity to live more fully our Christian calling.

*Doerflinger worked for 36 years in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He writes from Washington state.*

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 Kelly & Marilyn Elliott, 47 years  
 Russell & Cheryl Imhoff, 44 years  
 Dean & Mary Skelton, 40 years  
 Tony & Cindy Wesselman, 40 years  
 Eddie & Patty Smith, 39 years  
 Chris & Vicki Zeller, 38 years  
 Frank & Theresa Young, 35 years  
 Steve & Diana Huth, 28 years  
 Gary & Ginger Hook, 25 years

**Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels**  
 Jim & Irene Buechter, 50 years  
 Steve & Beverly Vineyard, 29 years

**Camdenton, St. Anthony**  
 Sam & Cindy Beckman, 51 years

**Chamois, Most Pure Heart of Mary**  
 Dennis & Lucille Lamb, 60 years  
 John & Evelyn Dudenhoeffer, 40 years

**Columbia, St. Thomas More Newman Center**  
 Tony & Linda Boes, 57 years

**Holts Summit, St. Andrew**  
 Jim & Susan Evers, 56 years

**Marshall, St. Peter**  
 Rich & Pam Whitney, 51 years

**Russellville, St. Michael**  
 Dave & Louise Hagenhoff, 45 years  
 Alan & Norma Lepper, 36 years  
 Eric & Loree Eynard, 30 years  
 Mitch & Becky Verslues, 26 years  
 Kevin & Melissa Brautigam, 24 years  
 Keith & Stacy Schrimpf, 19 years  
 Alan & Sandy Schrimpf, 18 years  
 Brad & Sarah Oligschlaeger, 17 years  
 Adam & Ginger Howard, 15 years  
 Rob & Tarin Gump, 10 years

**St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence**  
 Gene & Dianne Heckemeyer, 50 years

**Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul**  
 Deacon Chris & Patsy Wickern, 46 years

**Taos, St. Francis Xavier**  
 Norman & Brenda Forck, 47 years

**Unionville, St. Mary**  
 Ed & Shirley Brockmeyer, 39 years

**Vienna, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
 Leo Jr. & Susie Kleffner, 51 years  
 Mark & Joyce Weidinger, 45 years  
 Shane & Kelly Backues, 26 years

**Wardsville, St. Stanislaus**  
 Robert & Debby Hoelscher, 46 years

**Westphalia, St. Joseph**  
 Dave & Donna Hart, 55 years

**Wien, St. Mary of the Angles**  
 Bob & Karla Nanneman, 47 years  
 Charlie & Theresa Morrison, 37 years  
 Melvin & Tammy Sartain, 37 years  
 Dan & Debbie Minshall, 35 years  
 Stephen & Connie Meissen, 34 years  
 Eric & Kasie Stallo, 23 years

## Birthdays

**Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**, his 93rd on April 16

California, Annunciation — **Jeanne Miller**, her 96th

Tipton, St. Andrew — **Charles Bestgen**, his 90th

## Deaths

**Magdalen "Maggie" S. Schmitz**, 72 — wife of Deacon Fred Schmitz, parish life collaborator for St. Margaret of Antioch parish in Osage Bend, who served for 29 years as a cook at St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City — on April 5. A private/livestreamed Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on April 13 in St. Margaret of Antioch Church. A public Memorial Mass will be celebrated at a later date.

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul — **Gilbert R. Schwartz, Leroy Vollmer**

Bourbon, St. Francis Caracciolo — **Walter Reimers**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Meghanne Zimmerman**

Hermann, St. George — **Terry Kemper**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Dr. Steven J. Huber, Marcella M. Hollaway**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Marcel A. Gassen III**

Kahoka, St. Michael — **Marie White**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Loretta M. Kemna**

St. James, Immaculate Conception — **Anna Holman**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Jean Anderson**

Steelville, St. Michael — **Albert C. Engelbrecht, Jr.**

## Baptisms

California, Annunciation — **Chloe Raine Drinkard**, daughter of Curtis & Alyson Drinkard

Linn, St. George — **Quinn Eileen Miller**, daughter of Kory & Meredith Miller; **Emery Rose Sullentrup**, daughter of Joshua & Rachel Sullentrup

## Elections

Diocesan deanery deacon representative couples — **Deacon Joe & Mary Ann Puglis**, Columbia Deanery; **Deacon Mark & Kathy Dobelmann**, Hannibal Deanery; **Deacon Bruce & Jeanie Mobley**, Kirksville Deanery; **Deacon Ron & Sheri Deimeke**, Mexico Deanery; **Deacon Enrique & Cristhia Castro**, Hispanic Community; **Deacon Ken & Diane Wildhaber**, Jefferson City Deanery; **Deacon Rick & Susan Vise**, Rolla Deanery; **Deacon Bob & Lisa Reinkemeyer**, Sedalia/Lake Deanery; **Deacon Tony & Teri Valdes**, Westphalia Deanery

Sedalia, Sacred Heart School Foundation — **Kyle Herrick**, president; **Paul Beykirch**, vice president. The foundation's mission is to develop private resources to support the school's long-term growth and sustainability.

## FR. TOLTON

From page 3

Bishop Perry was answering a question about how Fr. Tolton's life and ministry can enlighten the faithful during the current pandemic.

In the prayer Bishop Perry composed for Fr. Tolton's sainthood cause, he acknowledges before God that "Fr. Tolton's suffering service sheds light upon our sorrows; we see them through the prism of your Son's passion and death."

The Missouri Compromise of 1820, which allowed the Missouri territory to enter the Union as a slave state, helped prolong the sickness of slavery that had infected all of society.

"Augustus Tolton was born in the midst of that national illness and walked through it as a Christian," Bishop Perry stated, "but not without grave personal suffering."

That national sickness eventually claimed the lives of 600,000 men from both sides on the battlefields of this country "and many more uncounted off the battlefield," he said.

Fr. Tolton was born into a family of slaves and baptized into the Catholic Church in northeastern Missouri a few years before the Civil War broke out.

He escaped as a child into Illinois with his mother and two siblings, while the war that would claim his father's life was still raging.

Even after the war ended and slavery was abolished in this country, Fr. Tolton faced massive obstacles toward becoming the Church's first recognizably black priest in the United States.

He prevailed with help from God,

his family, local priests, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Franciscan friars in Quincy, Ill. and the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in Rome.

Ordained in the Basilica of St. John Lateran in 1886, he was sent back to Quincy as a missionary to his own people.

He returned to Missouri several times to offer Mass and lead parish missions.

He was eventually reassigned to Chicago, where he ministered among some of the city's poorest and most vulnerable individuals.

He died of a heatstroke at age 43 and is now under serious consideration for beatification and possibly an official declaration of sainthood by the Church.

"He chose God and the message of the Savior, Jesus Christ, to combat that terrible sickness and came off in the end with his faith, hope and love intact," Bishop Perry insisted.

Nonetheless, "residuals of that national illness remain with us still."

Even today, "some refuse the vaccine of the Gospel that stays the illness and ultimately cures it," Bishop Perry stated.

<https://tolton.archchicago.org>

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## Names for the People Page

Information for the People Page comes from parish correspondents and individual parishioners, as well as bulletins and newspapers. Submissions for anniversaries (10 years or more), birthdays (90 years or more), and baptisms, deaths, marriages and initiations of local parishioners may be e-mailed to [editor@diojeffcity.org](mailto:editor@diojeffcity.org); faxed to (573) 635-2286; or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, P.O. Box 104900, Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900.

## Crossword puzzle answers

D	E	S	E	R	R	H	L	V	E
E	L	L	H	L	O	I	L	I	
L	I	K	V	A	D	E	R	O	
P	N	F	D	D	E	L	E	L	
O	L	V	M	E	L	O	P	V	
D	L	N	O	M	U	P	R	W	
V	S	V	F	V	O	J	P	S	
V	S	V	F	F	I	R	H	S	
D	N	E	L	G	O	S	I	S	
N	I	G	O	R	I	P	E	W	
E	G	A	R	V	L	U	R	N	



## Hopping down the bunny trail



Teachers at St. Andrew School in Tipton donned bunny ears to hide Easter eggs in the yards of students early on the morning of Palm Sunday, April 5. The students and their families were egg-static.

## Endangered species



"Rexie," mascot of the Bryan Jenkins State Farm Insurance Agency in Sedalia, dances along U.S. 50 in Sedalia March 26, with a sign lamenting extinction and urging people to stay home during the COVID-19 pandemic. Portrayed by Sacred Heart School sixth-grader Thomas Jenkins, Rexie has made frequent appearances at water stations during local 5K races. Thomas said he became "Rexie" last year as a way to have fun while promoting his dad's business. "I like to dance around and make people happy," said Thomas. "We recently saw other T-Rexes making appearances on Facebook, and I wanted to get in on the fun and show off my bad dancing moves." He said he's looking forward to going back to school, reconnecting with friends, fishing, swimming, and running a lemonade stand.

— Photo by Liz Suter-Van Leer

## Lead me on a level path

Students from Our Lady of Lourdes Inter-parish School in Columbia take part in one of several community-building projects to complement their at-home learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

— Photo by Elaine Hassemer, principal



## Loose Creek school teachers use parade to connect with students



LEFT: Dexter and Kayden Moore (right) wave to third-grade teacher Melinda Countryman, who organized the parade with help from Principal Rita Stieffermann. RIGHT: Laney, Kenyon and Ryan Jansen, talk while awaiting the April 1 parade organized by teachers at Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Loose Creek to help boost spirits and let students know they are missed.

— Photos by Neal Johnson, courtesy of the *Unterrified Democrat*

By Neal A. Johnson

### Loose Creek

With school out, teachers and students are missing what would otherwise be daily interaction, so teachers at Immaculate Conception School in Loose Creek decided to bridge the gap caused by the coronavirus.

"No teacher wants to be at home right now," said third-grade teacher Melinda Countryman, who organized a parade event with help from Principal Rita Stieffermann. "I'd much rather be with my kiddos, but that's not possible, so we decided to do something to show students we miss them and care about them."

Parents were sent a letter outlining the April 1 event, which began at the school and took a path past the Loose Creek Community Center, Lock's Mill, and

then along Route A, passing through several subdivisions on the way to Bonnots Mill.

"I saw something like this on Facebook, and thought it would be a great way to spread cheer," said Ms. Countryman. "It's a great way to stay connected beyond texts and social media."

Along the route, there were several children in each area, as well as some unexpected participants.

"We saw several elderly people in their yards, some with signs, cheering us on," said Ms. Countryman. "They didn't have any kids with them, and they thanked us for what we were doing. It really pulled on my heartstrings."

A total of 14 vehicles were involved in the parade.

Students were encouraged to participate in a virtual spirit

week, with different events each day. On Wednesday, for example, students were asked to wear a hat in a "Hats off to coronavirus workers," while Thursday's activity was to wear an I.C. Loose Creek Eagles shirt in solidarity. On Friday, students were encouraged to wear a crazy outfit or have a crazy hairstyle because the world has become a crazy place thanks to COVID-19.

"We'll continue to message our students and make sure they're doing okay," said Ms. Countryman. "It boils down to finding ways to keep our spirits up, stay connected, and love each other through this difficult time."

Mr. Johnson is editor of the *Unterrified Democrat* newspaper in Osage County. This article is republished with permission.



# Jesus appears to two of His followers

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

Two of Jesus' followers were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Along the way, they talked about Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and death.

Just then, Jesus began walking with them, although they did not recognize Him.

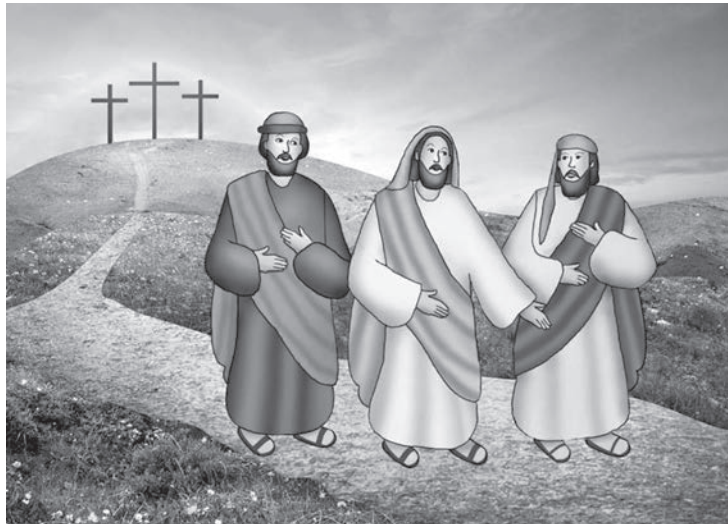
"What are you discussing as you walk along?" He asked.

The men looked very sad.

"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" asked one of the men.

"What sort of things?" Jesus replied.

"The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, Who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and



all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed Him over to a sentence of death and crucified Him," the men explained.

"But we were hoping that He would be the one to redeem

Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place."

The men then told Jesus that the women in their group had shared some amazing news. They were at the tomb that

morning and found it empty, and angels told them that Jesus was alive.

Jesus looked at the pair. "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!" He exclaimed. "Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into His glory?"

Then, beginning with Moses and the prophets, Jesus interpreted all of the Scriptures that pertained to Him, the Messiah.

As the trio reached Emmaus, it looked like Jesus planned to walk on.

"Stay with us," the men urged, "for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."

So, Jesus stayed with the

men and ate a meal. As Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it and shared it with them, the men's eyes were opened. They recognized Jesus, but He vanished from their sight.

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" the men said.

The men returned to Jerusalem and found the apostles.

"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" they said.

**Read more about it...  
Luke 24**

1. What village were the two men walking to?
2. What did Jesus interpret for the men?

## Bible Accent

Jesus appeared to His followers several times after his resurrection.

For example, in Matthew 28:1-10, we read that Mary Magdalene and another woman found Jesus' empty tomb. An angel told them Jesus had risen. As the two women rushed back to inform the apostles, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. The woman embraced His feet and did Him homage.

In John 20:19-29, Jesus

twice appeared to the apostles. The first time, the Apostle Thomas was not there and did not believe that his friends had seen Jesus.

The second time, Jesus appeared to the apostles, Thomas was there and believed.

And in John 21, Jesus appeared to seven of His followers, who were at the Sea of Tiberias fishing. The men saw Jesus on the shore but did not recognize Him.

Jesus asked His friends

if they had caught any fish. When they said that they had not, Jesus told them to cast their net to the right of the boat. The men caught so many fish that they could not pull the net into the boat.

The disciple whom Jesus loved then recognized Jesus.

"It is the Lord," he said as he jumped into the sea and rushed to shore toward Jesus.

## Trivia

How many miles was it from Jerusalem to Emmaus? (Hint: Luke 24:13)

Answer: Seven



## Saint Spotlight

St. Rose Venerini was born in Viterbo, Italy, in 1656. She entered a convent when her fiancé died, but she returned home for a time to take care of her widowed mother. St. Rose became a teacher and opened a free school for girls in 1685. An Italian bishop asked her in 1692 to train teachers and oversee a school. She soon was setting up schools all over Italy. Despite opposition, the order she founded, the Venerini Sisters, was recognized as a congregation after her death in 1728. We honor her on May 7.

to train teachers and oversee a school. She soon was setting up schools all over Italy. Despite opposition, the order she founded, the Venerini Sisters, was recognized as a congregation after her death in 1728. We honor her on May 7.

## Puzzle

Unscramble the words and arrange them to form a quotation from the children's story.



rou eh runbing su reew

skope ton sthrea tinwih liehw

Quote:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_?



Answers: Our hearts were burning within us while he spoke? — Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke?



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## Catholic history of Civil War era blends scholarship, storytelling

*Faith and Fury: The Rise of Catholicism During the Civil War*, by Father Charles P. Connor. EWTN Publishing (Irondale, Alabama, 2019). 258 pp., \$19.95.

Reviewed by Nancy L. Roberts  
Catholic News Service

For those unacquainted with Catholic history in the Civil War era, *Faith and Fury* is an excellent starting point.

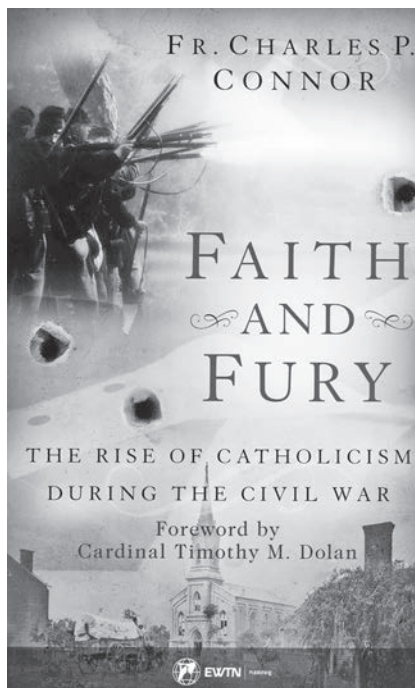
Well researched and engagingly written, it shows both the strengths and weaknesses of Catholicism in this difficult phase of American history.

The book's title aptly describes the atmosphere that 19th-century American Catholics must have experienced. Then, waves of Irish and German Catholic immigrants invigorated the Church and also encountered nativist rage and violence from the Protestant majority.

Debates about slavery's morality swirled everywhere, not only in the halls of government but also in the churches. There was no respite from sharply divisive conflicts and moral soul-searching.

When war finally came in 1861, Catholics on both sides, convinced of their righteousness, implored God to grant them victory.

These are just a few of the fascinating strands that this



readable introduction to 19th-century U.S. Catholic history weaves together.

The author, Father Charles P. Connor, is a professor of theology and Church history at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, who has written many well-received books about U.S. Catholic history. He adroitly balances storytelling and scholarship in his account of this most turbulent period.

Then, the United States was a Protestant nation and many considered Catholics to be inferior. While some, such as New England Unitarians, had a more favorable view of Catholics, they were not the norm.

As Fr. Connor explains, "Catholics belonged to a church intent on destroying individual freedom; they were thought to be anti-intellectual, filled with superstitious beliefs, and, on the whole, an alien and foreign presence."

Anti-Catholicism reached a fever pitch in 1834, when an angry mob burned down Mount Benedict Catholic girls' school in Charlestown, Massachusetts (near Boston).

Anti-Catholicism, directed at the growing number of Catholic immigrants, eventually led to political activism, as nativists sought to limit immigration and naturalization of foreigners (Catholics).

As the number of Catholic immigrants soared, Fr. Connor writes, "they were seen only as the strange Catholic foreigners whose ecclesial body was set upon depriving America of her rights and liberties, and whose Pope was all too ready to assume command either from Rome or perhaps from America's own shores."

On the eve of the Civil War, despite such opposition, Catholics had succeeded in establishing a strong foothold in the United States, "developing institutions and producing notable bishops, priests, religious and laity."

In the sectional differences that seethed over the issue of slavery, Catholics figured

## Movie Ratings



Adults and Adolescents

The Call of the Wild (PG)  
I Am Patrick (not rated)  
I Still Believe (PG)  
Sonic the Hedgehog (PG)



Adults

Bloodshot (PG-13)  
Brahms: The Boy II (PG-13)  
Burden (R)  
Emma (PG)  
Fantasy Island (PG-13)  
Gretel and Hansel (PG-13)  
Impractical Jokers: The Movie (PG-13)  
Les Miserables (R)  
Onward (PG)  
The Photograph (PG-13)  
The Rhythm Section (R)  
Slay the Dragon (PG-13)  
The Way Back (R)



Limited Adult Audience

Corpus Christi (Not rated)  
Downhill (R)  
The Invisible Man (R)



Morally Offensive

Birds of Prey (R)  
The Hunt (R)  
Never Rarely Sometimes Always (PG-13)

prominently on both sides.

It was a practicing Catholic, Chief Justice Roger Taney of Maryland, who handed down the decision in the 1857 Dred Scott case, one that was cheered by Southern slaveholders.

Yet, as early as 1815, St. Elizabeth Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity, noted in her

diary her efforts to give First Holy Communion instruction to poor black children in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

And Father Stephen Badin, the "apostle of Kentucky" and the first priest ordained in the United States, was ministering to slaves on the frontier as

See CIVIL WAR, page 23

## R.I.P., Antoinette Bosco, retired CNS columnist

Catholic News Service  
Cleveland, Ohio

Writer Antoinette Bosco used life's lessons, both the difficult and the rewarding, to inspire others to find hope in God throughout her long career as a journalist and columnist.

From confronting the tragedy of losing her son and daughter-in-law to murder at the hands of an 18-year-old gunman, to the simple joys of parenthood, Bosco also rooted her work in the teachings of the Catholic faith in the hope

that her readers would come to know that they are called to persevere.

Bosco died March 20 at her Brookfield, Connecticut, home at age 91.

A columnist for Catholic News Service for 37 years, Bosco was featured regularly in *The Catholic Missourian* for many years. She also had her work appear in such other publications as *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Woman's Day*, *Reader's Digest*, *Guideposts*, *Catholic Digest*, *The New York Times* and *The Hartford Courant* in Connecticut.

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## Prayer for a Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You in my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if you were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.

## NEW YORK

From page 4

### Trust in Him

Mrs. Abbott believes this experience is helping her become a better person and a better professional.

"I think this is kind of a worst-case scenario as far as the medical community is concerned," she said. "Seeing that and being a part of it makes us all vulnerable and brings humility to all providers."

She believes God is using this experience to draw her closer to Him.

"My relationship with God has only grown and gotten stronger," she said.

For those who are experiencing spiritual doubts through all of this, she suggests resting in the knowledge that God has a plan for everyone.

"Place your trust in Him and continue to talk to Him, even if you feel He's not there or not watching over you," she said.

### Anything you can do

Mrs. Abbott visits with her husband and her parents every day by phone or videoconferencing to let them know she loves them and misses them and is taking every precaution to safe-

guard her health and safety.

"We remind ourselves that it's just for a short time and that I'm hopefully making a difference, which I think makes it easier," she said.

She's been working with and learning from people from all over the world, with an array of different backgrounds and specialties.

"I'm thankful for all of the knowledge and experience I'm getting here, and I hope to take all of that home with me," she said.

She hopes the people back home will keep praying for strength and safety for all the people who are fighting the coronavirus.

"Pray for the patients to fight harder and do their best to overcome this illness that's taking such a toll on them," she said.

She believes everyone can help God answer those prayers by "just being helpful and using your God-given talents, whatever they are, to help people in the community in this time of need."

She advised everyone to take the government's stay-at-home order seriously and "don't leave home unless it's totally necessary."

"Trying to keep that peak number of patients as low as possible is important," she said.

## CIVIL WAR

From page 22

early as 1805. Fr. Connor cites a letter the evangelist wrote in which he lamented that slaves were treated "almost like animals," and fed and clothed "meagerly."

Popes had long and vigorously decried the institution of slavery, as did Pope Eugene IV in 1435 in a papal bull, "*Sicut Dudum*." But as Fr. Connor shows, the American bishops themselves succumbed to social mores and indeed, many themselves owned slaves, as did prominent lay Catholics.

Still, both clergy and laypeople also made efforts to manumit their slaves. In his will, Archbishop John Carroll of Baltimore directed the manumission of his "black servant

Charles" and bequeathed him the sum of \$50.

When the shooting war began, Catholics took an active role on both sides, sometimes in direct conflict with their coreligionists.

One of the more dramatic examples given is of the "Montgomery Guards" of the First Virginia Infantry. Before they went to battle, they had the pikes they carried blessed by Bishop John McGill at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Richmond. They went on to Bull Run to battle New York's Irish Catholic 69th Regiment.

Dedicated chaplains both North and South ministered to the fighting men. In one of the book's most compelling chap-

ters, Fr. Connor recounts the stories of several priests who volunteered to serve the soldiers' spiritual needs.

One was the "priest poet of the South," Father Abram J. Ryan. Born in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1838 to Irish immigrant parents, he tended the sick and dying in New Orleans, La., Knoxville, Tenn., and Augusta, Ga., eventually settling in Mobile, Alabama. He became well known for his poems, especially "The Conquered Banner."

No less heroic were religious sisters, who could often be found nursing the wounded and dying right on the battlefields. The communities of the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Mercy,

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, Apr 19

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

Acts 2:42-47  
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24  
1 Pt 1:3-9  
Jn 20:19-31

### Monday, Apr 20

Acts 4:23-31  
Ps 2:1-9  
Jn 3:1-8

### Tuesday, Apr 21

St. Anselm, bishop, doctor of the Church  
Acts 4:32-37  
Ps 93:1-2, 5  
Jn 3:7b-15

### Wednesday, Apr 22

Acts 5:17-26  
Ps 34:2-9  
Jn 3:16-21

### Thursday, Apr 23

St. George, martyr; St. Adalbert, bishop, martyr  
Acts 5:27-33  
Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20  
Jn 3:31-36

### Friday, Apr 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest, martyr  
Acts 5:34-42  
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14  
Jn 6:1-15

### Saturday, Apr 25

ST. MARK, EVANGELIST  
1 Pt 5:5b-14  
Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17  
Mk 16:15-20

### Sunday, Apr 26

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11  
1 Pt 1:17-21  
Lk 24:13-35

### Monday, Apr 27

Acts 6:8-15  
Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30  
Jn 6:22-29

### Tuesday, Apr 28

St. Peter Chanel, priest, martyr;  
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, priest  
Acts 7:51-8:1a  
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab  
Jn 6:30-35

### Wednesday, Apr 29

St. Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor of the Church  
Acts 8:1b-8  
Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a  
Jn 6:35-40

### Thursday, Apr 30

St. Pius V, Pope  
Acts 8:26-40  
Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20  
Jn 6:44-51

### Friday, May 1

St. Joseph the Worker  
Acts 9:1-20  
Ps 117:1bc-2  
Jn 6:52-59  
or, for the Memorial:  
Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24  
Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16  
Mt 13:54-58

### Saturday, May 2

St. Athanasius, bishop, doctor of the Church  
Acts 9:31-42  
Ps 116:12-17  
Jn 6:60-69

### The Holy Father's prayer intentions for April:

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

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the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of the Holy Cross all took a major role in addressing the human cost of war.

Not only did these sisters alleviate suffering, they also demonstrated the value of the Catholic faith to those who had lapsed, sometimes inspired new

converts, and broke down entrenched hostility that for some soldiers had been lifelong.

Roberts directs the journalism program at the University at Albany, SUNY, and has written/co-edited two books about Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker.



# Church leaders call for aid, prayers following deadly tornadoes

By Rhina Guidos  
Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

Two U.S. archbishops are asking for prayers, but also for help for those affected by a series of storms and tornadoes that tore through several states beginning on Easter and going

into the following day, leaving more than two dozen dead.

Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the USCCB Committee on

Domestic Justice and Human Development, issued a joint statement April 13.

"This Easter Monday began with the sad news that storms swept through multiple states in the South overnight, killing at least 19 people at the time of this statement across Missis-

issippi, Georgia, Arkansas and South Carolina," they said. "The weather also inflicted significant damage in Texas, Louisiana and West Virginia. Many people have suffered damage or loss of their homes."

The death toll had climbed to 30 by mid-afternoon April 13.

"In the midst of these tragedies, we must reach out and offer assistance to those affected, especially those who are grieving the loss of loved ones," the prelates' statement said. "This situation is made even more difficult by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

"We pray for those who are suffering, for those who have died, and for the first responders who are courageously offering help. We also pray for those who remain in the path of these storms and for their safety and well-being."

The tornadoes uprooted homes, damaged airports and affected social distancing efforts in the middle of a pandemic as people were left homeless and were forced to seek and share shelter with others who had nowhere to go. Authorities urged those heading to shelters to use whatever they could find to protect themselves and to seek distance as much as they could to prevent spread of the coronavirus.

Mississippi was one of the hardest-hit states with a death toll of 11. The National Weather Service said at least 40 tornadoes were reported. The storms were moving east where authorities worried about the effect they could have on efforts to contain the coronavirus.

Even in the middle of destruction, the prelates' statement expressed wishes for hope, one found in the Gospel readings telling of Christ's resurrection.

"In the midst of disasters from weather and illness, we cling to this hope, that God can redeem our suffering and loss, that God is present to us even now," they said, "and that the Lord has conquered death for all time, inviting us to see him face to face in eternal life."

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