

An imposing reminder of salvation's great cost

A newly-created mural depicting the Crucifixion of Jesus emphasizes the connection between the Mass and Christ's total sacrifice on Calvary.

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Counselor of the Year . . . Page 10

The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

May 1, 2020 • Vol. 63 No. 22

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Public Masses set to resume under certain conditions



A banner outside the Cathedral of St. Joseph greets passers-by with an image of Pope St. John Paul II and one of his favorite verses from Scripture.

Statewide stay-at-home order scheduled to expire May 3

Local orders may remain in effect

Social distancing, other safeguards to be vigorously observed

Part of community-wide efforts to protect the vulnerable

By Jay Nies

Public Masses are set to resume after May 3 in the Jefferson City diocese, but it will take time for things to "get back to normal."

Important safety measures will be required in order to help protect congregants from infection and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight handed down official decrees on March 31 and April 17 regarding the pandemic and released specific instructions on April 28 for implementing those decrees after Gov. Mike Parson's statewide stay-at-home order expires.

Bishop McKnight released the instructions after consulting with fellow bishops in Missouri and with the diocese's Presbyteral Council, a representative, advisory body of priests.

He said the purpose of the April 28 instruction is to "clarify, elaborate and determine the methods to be observed in fulfilling the current decrees on pastoral activity during the pandemic as we open up our churches to public Masses and other liturgies or devotions."

The bishop dispensed until June 30 the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for all the faithful of the diocese and all who are present within the diocese's territorial boundaries.

See CELEBRATIONS, page 15

New bridges among Catholic groups, agencies to help people in need during COVID-19 crisis

By Jay Nies

"Siendo discípulos misioneros — testigos del amor de Dios."

Deacon Enrique Castro, diocesan director of intercultural and marriage ministries, described the best response for the Church to the COVID-19 pandemic: "Being missionary disciples — witnesses to God's love."

The COVID-19 crisis is opening new avenues for cooperation among Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) and other agencies of the Church, including El Puente-Hispanic Ministry and Hispanic communities throughout the diocese.

CCCNMO is the charitable arm of the Catholic Church in the 38 counties that make up this diocese.

Dan Lester, the agency's executive director, called this a time for Christian solidarity.

"We're talking about helping our neighbors — people who live in our communities and go to our churches and work in our local businesses and send their children to our schools," he stated.

"When Jesus said, 'What you did for the least of these, you did for Me,' He didn't restrict it those you know or are related to or who you like or who you agree with or who you look like," Mr. Lester stated. "He just said do it."

By any other name

The diocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry translated into Spanish the online form for requesting direct assistance from Catholic Charities.

See DISCÍPULOS, page 14

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WWW.CATHMO.COM

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MOVING? If you are moving or changing parishes, please fill out information below. Clip and mail to THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914. Or email changes to dbarnes@diojeffcity.org. Allow two weeks.

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Bishop to lead prayers online during May 7-15 Rural Life novena

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight will lead the prayers on two days of a national Novena to St. Isidore, patron saint of

farmers and Catholic Rural Life (CRL).

The novena will begin on Thursday, May 7, and con-

clude on Friday, May 15, the feast of St. Isidore, with virtual Mass on a ranch in Texas.

Bishop McKnight will lead the novena on at 10 a.m. central time on Wednesday and Thursday, May 13 and 14.

Given the essential nature of farmers, farmworkers, and all who are involved in food production and distribution, especially during this global pandemic, CRL is hosting the novena virtually this year.

Each day, a bishop from the CRL board of directors will lead the novena, lifting up all the intentions of rural communities throughout the United States.

For more information and the full schedule, please visit:

[CatholicRuralLife.org/
VirtualNovena](http://CatholicRuralLife.org/VirtualNovena)

Regarding the prayer for a Communion of Desire

While many are using a prayer attributed to St. Alphonsus of Ligouri, the brief section of his writing being used does not provide the depth and breadth of St. Alphonsus' teaching on a "spiritual communion," and, taken out of that context, can be confusing regarding the teach-

ing of the Church that the Eucharist is intended to build-up and deepen our spiritual relationship with Christ.

The Sacrament is a primary, though not exclusive, means to

the real goal of spiritual union with Christ and with His Body, the Church.

The following prayer is offered as an alternative to provide that missing context:

Prayer for a Communion of Desire

My Jesus, I believe You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, renew my heart now with the power of Your Spirit. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Unite me more closely to Your Body, the Church. And never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Oración para la Comunión de Deseo

Jesús mío, creo que estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento. Te amo por sobre todas las cosas y deseo recibirte en mi alma. Como no puedo recibirte en este momento sacramentalmente, renueva mi corazón con

el poder de tu Espíritu. Te recibo y me uno completamente a ti. Úneme más a tu cuerpo, la Iglesia y nunca permitas que me separe de ti. Amén.

Pray for deceased priests

May 6 — **Msgr. Charles H. Patterson**, St. Joseph Home, Jefferson City (2010)

May 11 — **Msgr. Francis E. Hagedorn**, St. Joseph, Pilot Grove (1981)

May 15 — **Fr. Norman J. Ahrens**, St. Joseph, Martinsburg (1990)

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 and send a letter of interest to Fr. Anthony Viviano at pastor@stjosephwestphalia.org.

Positions Available



St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City, Mo., is looking to fill the following positions for the 2020-21 school year:

ST. JOSEPH
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

After School Care Director: With hours from 2:30-5:30 pm every day, this supervisor position would oversee staff, plan and implement activities and coordinate supervision. Successful applicants will have prior experience in supervising youth. This position can be combined with other available positions for additional hours. Contact sallen@sjcsmo.org.

SCRIP Coordinator: SCRIP is a fundraising program through which patrons buy gift cards from among a selection of businesses and vendors. From these cards, sold at face value, a portion of the proceeds supports school operations. The coordinator of this program will work with local businesses, maintain the in-school inventory of gift cards, and coordinate sales to our patrons. Contact Spencer Allen at sallen@sjcsmo.org.



The Catholic Missourian

Official newspaper — Diocese of Jefferson City
Mailing address: 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City,
MO 65109-0914. Phone: (573) 635-9127

"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."
— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
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Position Openings



Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Jefferson City is looking to hire for the following positions beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Please

send your resume to Mrs. Heather Schrimpf if you are interested in either position. (hschrimpf@icangels.com)

School Administration Assistant (Secretary): Part-Time position working 20-25 hours weekly during the school year. The applicant must have a positive attitude and great communication skills; strong computer skills, with proficiency in Microsoft Office. The applicant must be highly motivated with strong organizational skills; able to coordinate multiple tasks simultaneously. Wages dependent on experience and qualifications.

School Librarian: Full-Time position during the school year. The applicant MUST have a love for reading and foster an atmosphere that encourages student usage. The applicant will provide for organization, circulation, and maintenance of library media; maintain inventory of library materials; assist and collaborate with teachers on curriculum; manage the Accelerated Reader program; organize and facilitate fundraising efforts for the library; and maintain program records. Wages dependent on experience and certification.

Art Teacher (PK-8): Full-Time position for grades PreK-8. Certification or working toward certification in Art preferred.

**WWW.
cathmo.com**

Deadline for ‘Better Together’ discernment reports for diocesan pastoral plan extended to May 31

The deadline for submitting discernment reports for Sessions 1 through 4 of the diocese’s “Better Together” pastoral planning process has been extended to Sunday, May 31.

Small group and/or individual discernment reports are to be submitted directly to the pastor or via online entry by visiting:

[diojeffcity.org/
better-together-pastoral-
planning-process](http://diojeffcity.org/better-together-pastoral-planning-process)

All parishioners are encouraged to take this opportunity to share their thoughts and vision for their parish, providing insight into what will become a pastoral plan for the diocese.

After the reports are submitted, the pastor and parish pastoral council from each parish will discern two to four activities that address all three of the priority areas for the process: cultivating a spirituality of stewardship; fostering co-responsibility among laypeople and the ordained; and

positioning parishes to be recognized as centers of charity and mercy for everyone within their territorial boundaries.

One activity can pertain to more than one priority, but all priorities must be addressed.

This plan should cover three years, with the understanding the parish pastoral council and pastor will be reviewing progress on a regular basis.

“These are concrete things — programs that we can put in place in the parish — that are attainable and manageable and can be carried-out on a continuing basis,” said Father Jason Doke, diocesan Moderator of the Curia.

The deadline for submitting parish pastoral plans to the Chancery will be Aug. 1.

Pastors will receive an invitation to file their parish’s plan through a password-protected web form.

The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) will review parish pastoral plans to help

determine overall themes for discussion regarding the diocesan pastoral plan on Aug. 22.

“It will be our job — my job as bishop, the job of the Chancery — to assist the parishes in fulfilling their specific plans for what they want to have accomplished over the next three years,” stated Bishop W. Shawn McKnight.

The DPC, pastors, parish life collaborators, parish pastoral council representatives, and small-group facilitators will gather at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia on Sept. 12 to affirm the diocesan pastoral plan.

The priests of the diocese will affirm the diocesan pastoral plan at their Priests Institute during the first week of October.

Bishop McKnight will then promulgate the Diocesan Pastoral Plan to become effective the First Week of Advent.

In that way, said Bishop McKnight, the diocesan pastoral plan will be “from the ground up, something that’s very much a part of the whole Church and not just from one individual’s perspective.”

Fr. Doke said building a pastoral plan from the bottom up can be daunting and intimidating. But the materials provided for the faith-sharing groups for each of the four sessions offer an effective way to accomplish it, one step at a time.

“We’re breaking it down to: What are our strengths? Where do we need to grow? And how are we going to accomplish that?” he said.

Youth, Hispanic input

In lieu of a diocesan youth summit, parish leaders will arrange a day and time to meet virtually with their teen delegates as part of the process.

John DeLaPorte, diocesan director of youth ministry and religious education, will facilitate pre-recorded video-based small-group sessions for teens.

The video and guided handouts will be posted online for parish leaders to access.

The content of these discussions will be gathered by the adult leader and used to

compose the teen discernment report. This report will also be shared with their pastor.

Parish leaders will be encouraged to complete this project by June 5.

Deacon Enrique Castro, diocesan director of intercultural and marriage ministries, will host a Hispanic Sum-

mit at two or three locations around the diocese. These meetings will take place in July and August.

For further information, contact LeAnn Korsmeyer, diocesan director of parish and charitable services, at lkorsmeyer@diojeffcity.org or (573) 690-2882.

Action alert regarding vaccines for COVID-19

Recently, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, along with 20 healthcare, bioethics, and pro-life organizations, sent a letter urging the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that any vaccine for COVID-19 be developed ethically and with no connection to abortion.

Among the dozen vaccines being developed, some are being produced using old cell lines from the cells of aborted babies.

People of faith and goodwill are encouraged to sign an online petition asking the Trump Administration to ensure vaccines for COVID-19 are developed ethically and with no connection to abortion.

[votervoices.net/USCCB/Campaigns/
73486/Respond](http://votervoices.net/USCCB/Campaigns/73486/Respond)



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

MAY

The following appointments are tentative, depending on the pandemic:

- 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 7** Confirmation service outside 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 service outside Mass, 10 am, Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Columbia; Confirmation service outside Mass, noon, St. Thomas More Newman Center parish, Columbia
- May 10** Confirmation Mass, 9:30 am, St. Andrew Church, Holts Summit
- May 13-14** St. Isidore Novena sponsored by Catholic Rural Life, 10 am livestream, led by Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- May 14** Fr. Tolton Cause for Sainthood meeting, 11:30 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- May 15** Diocesan Finance Council teleconference meeting, 11 am, Catholic Center, Jefferson City
- May 20** Confirmation service outside Mass, 6:30 pm, Our Lady of Snows Church, Mary's Home

Bishop McKnight's May prayer intention for our Local Church

As we honor the Mother of our Lord as the “Queen of May,” may there be a greater respect and appreciation for all women on earth who nourish us in mind, body and soul.

Intención del mes de mayo del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Al honrar a la Madre de nuestro Señor como la “Reina de Mayo”, que haya un mayor respeto y aprecio por todas las mujeres en la tierra que nos nutren en mente, cuerpo y alma.



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

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“Dear Savior, Please”

Cheryl Schulte, a member of Sacred Heart parish in Eldon, composed the following prayer:

The routine of our lives has changed
as sickness pours over the globe
together apart in scary times
in effort to fight a microbe
now the world is so very small
Dear Savior, please help us all

Sheltered at home with whom we live
Lord, give us eyes so we may see
the beauty that was always there
that all of value is from Thee
in this time of uncertainty
be our bastion of stability

Jesus, replace this shroud of doom
with a cloak of confident trust
dress us with a gown of hope
as You lovingly protect us
You know how it will turnabout
Lord, heal us from the inside out

When the burden of it presses on
and feels like more than we can bear
give us strength to push on through
give us your peace and tender care
quiet our worries and our fears
Jesus, in Your hands, catch our tears.

Food is now the focus of Fr. Bermejo's mission of mercy to sugarcane plantation workers

By Jay Nies

Father Donardo “Dandi” Bermejo, founding director of the Works of Charity Center and the St. Joseph the Worker Clinic for the sugarcane plantation workers in the Occidental Negros region of the Philippines, has been distributing food to people in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fr. Bermejo spent nine years ministering in the Jefferson City diocese.

With support from the diocesan Mission Office, his Catholic outreach ministry serves some of the poorest people in his homeland.

His region of the Philippines was placed under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) on March 30.

The sugarcane plantation workers could not work and were obliged to stay at home during the ECQ.

“They barely survive with their very low income from working in the sugarcane field,” Fr. Bermejo stated. “And still worse, they will lose that very meager pay, their only source of subsistence, these coming days.”

Fr. Bermejo and the staff of the Mercy Center in Barangay Purisima, Manapla, spent a week before quarantine preparing food packages for the people.

The Works of Mercy Center is allowed to stay open during



Fr. “Dandi” Bermejo helps distribute food to people in need during the COVID-19 pandemic, through the Works of Mercy Center in Occidental Negros in the Philippines.

the quarantine, distributing more than 1,000 packages of rice in the first week alone.

Fr. Bermejo's St. Joseph Charity Clinic has also remained open for emergencies during the quarantine.

As the two-week quarantine continues to be extended, the Works of Mercy Center staff has headed out into local villages to distribute more food.

Their fourth wave of rice distribution took place during the third week of April.

“As the community quarantine period continues being extended, more people are starving, to the point that seemingly people's main concern now here has shifted from the coronavirus infection to the most basic: food supply acquisition, in order to survive,”

said Fr. Bermejo.

He said he begins distribution with a simple prayer.

“Let us pray for one another, for all those working in the frontlines sacrificing their lives for us, for the healing of those infected with coronavirus, and for the complete defeat of the coronavirus pandemic the soonest possible time on the face of the earth,” said Fr. Bermejo.

“I encourage everyone to double or triple our prayers for this very urgent and important intention — for with God nothing is impossible,” he stated.

To learn more about Fr. Bermejo's work, follow him on Facebook at Father Dandi's Connections.

[#fatherdandisconnections](#)
[#worksofmercycenter](#)

Pope composes prayers for end of pandemic to be recited after Rosary

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service
Vatican City

Pope Francis asked Catholics to make a special effort in May to pray the Rosary, knowing that by doing so they will be united with believers around the world asking for Mary's intercession in stopping the coronavirus pandemic.

“Contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary, our mother, will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial,” the Pope said in a letter addressed to all Catholics and released by the Vatican April 25.

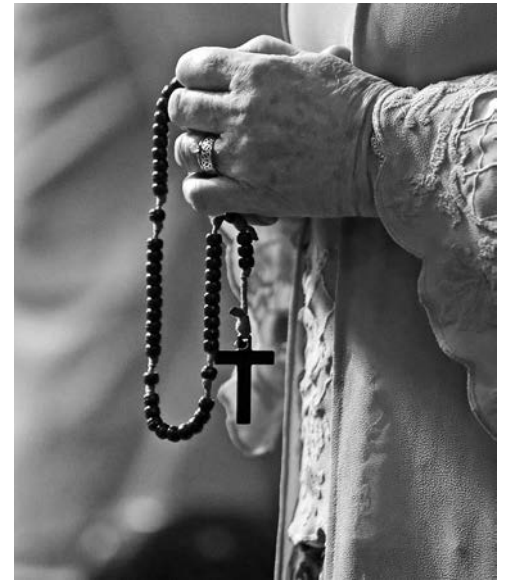
The month of May is traditionally devoted to Mary and many Catholics already are in the habit of praying the Rosary at home during the month, he noted. “The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this ‘family’ aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.”

“You can decide according to your own situations” whether to pray individually or in groups, he said, noting that “it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.”

Pope Francis wrote two prayers to Mary that can be recited at the end of the Rosary prayers. He said he would be reciting “in spiritual union with all of you.”

Both prayers acknowledge Mary's closeness to her Son's followers and ask for her protection and for her intercession just as she interceded with Jesus on behalf of the newlyweds at Cana who had run out of wine for their wedding feast.

“We know that you will



A woman prays with a rosary in 2019 at Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit. In an April 25, letter, Pope Francis asked Catholics to make a special effort in May to pray the Rosary, knowing that by doing so they will be united with believers around the world asking for Mary's intercession in stopping the COVID-19 pandemic.

— CNS photo/Kirthmon F. Dozier,
USA TODAY NETWORK via Reuters

provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial,” one of the prayers read.

Pope Francis' prayers also include specific intentions for those who are sick, for those who care for them, for those who have died and those who mourn for them, for scientists seeking cures and vaccines and for government leaders who must find a way to protect their people.

“Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future,” one of the prayers said.

“Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need,” it continued. “Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.”

Hail storm damages Central Missouri church buildings

By Jay Nies

Less than 15 minutes of severe weather caused about \$5 million worth of damage to Catholic Church property in Central Missouri March 27.

Hailstones as large as grapefruits landed on the roofs of parish buildings of the Cathedral of St. Joseph and St. Peter in Jefferson City, Most Pure

Heart of Mary in Chamois, St. Jude Thaddeus in Mokane, Church of the Risen Savior in Rhineland/Starkenburg and St. Martin in St. Martins, as well as the Alphonse J. Schwarze Memorial Catholic Center in Jefferson City.

Most of the repair costs are covered by insurance.

Brad Copeland, diocesan director of buildings and properties, along with insurance adjusters inspected the damaged roofs and will work with parishes on repair and restoration.

Bids for repairing several properties are already being sought.

The cathedral's copper and rubber roof will have to be replaced, as will the roofs of the parish school and rectory.

Skylights over the cathedral vestibule, sacristy and cry room were also damaged.

Across town, the roofs of St. Peter Church, the school, rectory and parish hall were all compromised by the hail and will have to be replaced.

"All of the roofs on our parish buildings received significant impacts from the hailstorm," said Father Jeremy Secrist, pastor. "Four windows



TOP: Layers of roofing from the St. Peter Rectory in Jefferson City show the depth of the hail damage. **BOTTOM:** Father Jeremy Secrist picked up these pieces of broken roofing tiles in the alleys beside St. Peter Church the morning after the hailstorm. **RIGHT:** Fr. Secrist displays one of the hailstones.

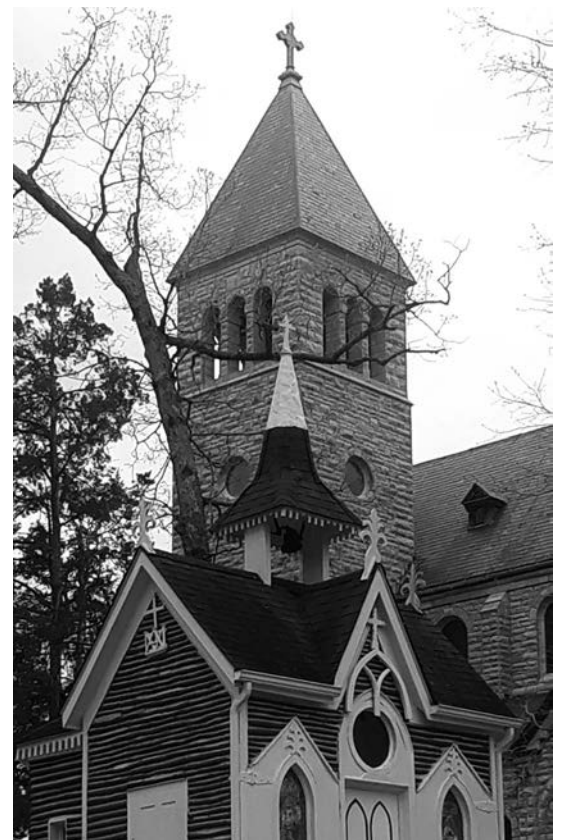


ABOVE: Hail damage to roofing tiles at St. Peter Church in Jefferson City is plainly visible from the roof of the rectory next door.

— Photo by Father Jeremy Secrist

RIGHT: Both the roofs of the 1910-vintage, Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows and the little "log shrine" that was built before it sustained roof damage in the March 27 hail storm.

— Photo by Jay Nies



on the apse of the church were broken, and the church tower received further damage."

Pieces of broken clay roofing tiles fell into the alleys next to the church during the storm. The alleys remain off-limits to visitors.

"All of the church and the entire steeple will have to be scaffolded" for the repairs to take place, Fr. Secrist noted.

Near the cathedral, the Catholic Center's roof will require replacement, which will include lifting two heavy heating and air-conditioning units, according to Mr. Copeland.

Rhineland parishioner and parish secretary Brenda Van

Booven said the hail heavily damaged the roofs of all Church of the Risen Savior parish's buildings, including the church and rectory in Rhineland and the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows, the log shrine, the St. Martin Church Museum and Valentine Hall in Starkenburg.

The roofing tiles on the shrine, which was completed in 1910, are original, she said.

She said the shrine's parking lot was covered in evergreen branches the morning after the storm.

"It smelled beautiful, but there was widespread damage to the trees," she said.

Father David Means, pastor of Most Pure Heart of Mary parish in Chamois and Assumption parish in Morrison,

said his rectory in Chamois had sustained some hail damage.

Likewise, "metal roofs on the church, parish hall, and fry shack were dented and dinged," he said.

Two stained glass windows appear to have been hit by hail, he stated.

"The hall and fry shack's gutters were damaged," he added. "Some hail even went right through some weak, thin metal."

Mr. Copeland said it's essential for the roofs to get repaired in order to keep rainwater from seeping in and causing further damage.



Residents Encounter Christ for the incarcerated lifts up “inmates,” “outmates” alike

Residents Encounter Christ (REC) is an interdenominational encounter movement for men and women in prison, rooted in Catholic spirituality. It is open to anyone who is in prison.

A resident of the Northeastern Correctional Center (NECC) in Bowling Green shared the following reflections on his REC experience:

By Michael Etchison

On a cool Saturday afternoon in February, over 80 inmates gathered inside the gymnasium at the Northeastern Correctional Center in Bowling Green.

They were not there for a basketball game or any other recreational activity, they were there for a Residents Encounter Christ (REC) weekend.

Put on by volunteers (known as “outmates”) from around the state, REC weekends are held at adult correctional institutions around Missouri and Illinois.

The three days of the retreat — Die Day, Rise Day and Go Day — reflect the Paschal

Mystery of Jesus.

It is a simple formula that goes all the way back to Christ’s ministry on earth: love people, accept them where they are, and they will respond to the Gospel.

Someone once said that you don’t have to convince sinners that they are sinners, they already know. You only have to convince them that God loves them anyway and they will eagerly respond to the Gospel message.

It’s a message that transforms the lives not only of those who hear it, but those who carry it, as well.

I know for a fact that these retreats have changed the lives of hundreds of inmates and positively affected the culture of Missouri’s prisons.

Some said they were more open to encountering God through other expressions of faith because of it.

Others said they encountered God through the conversations they had and friendships they made during the weekend.

Still others experienced a renewal of their faith, and at least one said he converted to Catholic Christianity because of his weekend.

They all agreed that the love they felt kindled a response in their own hearts to be more loving.

Not only the inmates are affected by the weekends. I have heard several outmates remark that the weekends have positively impacted their lives.

Even the corrections staff benefits from the retreats.

One staff member commented that he looked forward to the weekends because of the peace he felt during them.

Another staff member noted that they didn’t have to write a single conduct violation for any of the candidates during the entire weekend.

I can truly say my REC experience has changed, if not saved, my life. My first REC was #42 in Jefferson City, about 10 years ago. To tell you the truth, I don’t actually remember signing up for it. At the time, I was at a crossroads in my faith.

I was slowly sinking into depression and overwhelmed by the time in front of me. I believed that I had committed a sin that was unpardonable.

When I got the notice that I had been approved to attend, I was actively considering ending my life.

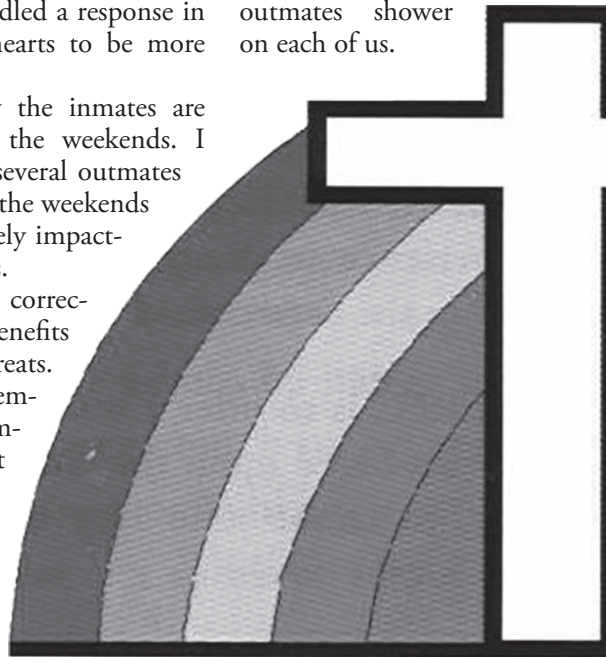
I have been a Christian for most of my life, however the majority of my experience has been Christianity as a religion of rules, laws, and trying to “measure up” — and I knew that I didn’t.

I had had enough of religion but decided to go anyway because I heard they had good snacks. (The outmates constantly remind us to talk about our experience and not the snacks. I’m glad someone didn’t listen.)

I knew as soon as I walked in that REC was something

different.

REC stresses the relationship aspect of Christianity. One of the things that impresses me the most about the weekends, is the love that the outmates shower on each of us.



special planned.

That REC, I served as a “wheatie.” For those of you who are not in the know, “wheaties” are the team that make sure the candidates have the things they need to enjoy the weekend.

Their name comes from Jesus’s words in John 12:24: Amen, amen,

I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

From coffee and snacks, to the materials needed for each session and clean restrooms, wheaties make sure it gets done.

I’ve always had a “servant heart,” so I found that appealing, but there was something deeper. I was able to see Christ in each of the men at the weekend and felt that I had been given the opportunity to serve Christ Himself.

The last spoken meditation on each REC weekend is called “Beyond REC.” It is an invitation to continue in the growth and fellowship that began on the retreat.

Candidates are encouraged to sign up for and participate in the monthly REC fellowship meetings and to invite their friends to attend a REC weekend, in accordance with Jesus’ instructions to His disciples to “go and make disciples of all men,” (Matthew 28:19).

Although the REC weekends are currently on hold because of the coronavirus outbreak, the ministry continues. The community of faith here at NECC and throughout the Missouri Department of Corrections is alive and well, in part due to the influence of the REC weekends.

Whether you are an outmate or a resident of one of Missouri’s adult correctional institutions, we invite you to join us.

Visit mo-rec.com for information about how to help with or participate in a REC weekend.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

El Puente executive director committed to uniting communities

By Jay Nies

Cristhia Castro has set about fine-tuning ministry to the next generation of Hispanic immigrants and their families in Cole and Moniteau counties.

Mrs. Castro, a member of St. Peter parish in Jefferson City, is the new executive director of El Puente-Hispanic Ministry.

The organization is sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, the Diocese of Jefferson City, and local parishes.

It offers an array of services to the Hispanic communities in and near Jefferson City and California.

“El Puente” means “The Bridge” in Spanish.

“We are all brothers and sisters,” said Mrs. Castro. “We really do want to be a bridge between cultures, helping the two communities to become one community that serves God.”

Mrs. Castro succeeds Sister Barbara Neist of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who served as interim director after El Puente cofounder Incarnate Word Sister Peggy Bonnot was elected to the leadership team for her religious congregation.

The El Puente Board of Directors appointed Mrs. Castro late last year. She began work in January.

El Puente’s mission is “to make present the healing love of Jesus, the Incarnate Word, promoting human dignity through a ministry of presence and outreach to the Hispanic community.”

Mrs. Castro said her goal is to build on that mission and a long-established tradition of service, with the support of Nena Neal, Incarnate Word Sister Bertha Flores and Incarnate Word Sister Guadalupe Ruiz.

“I am humbled by and admire the work and legacy of all those who have responded to God’s will of serving our Hispanic sisters and brothers through El Puente,” she stated.

“I really believe that whenever you help your neighbor, you are helping God,” she said. “That’s what El Puente’s ministry is about: serving God through our neighbor.”

No excuses

Mrs. Castro holds degrees in marketing and small business management from the University of Arkansas in Little Rock.

She is married to Deacon Enrique Castro, diocesan director of intercultural and marriage ministries.

She grew up in Honduras and moved to the United States for college when she was 18.

She and Deacon Castro met as students in Little Rock. They got married in 2012 and moved to Columbia.

They relocated to Jefferson City three years ago.

The couple agreed that when they had children, Mrs. Castro would stay home to take care of them. Presently, they have been blessed with a girl and a boy.

Late last year, Sr. Bertha, who ministers at El Puente, encouraged Mrs. Castro to apply for the position of executive director.

“All along, I had been praying to be able to serve the Lord wherever I’m needed,” said Mrs. Castro. “But with Enrique being so dedicated to his job — his ministry — and especially with him becoming a deacon, I couldn’t see myself taking on any more responsibility.”

One Sunday at Mass, she realized that God had been trying to answer her prayer to know how best to serve Him.

“Sister was encouraging me to apply for this, and people were saying I can be of great help, and here I was with all of these excuses,” she said.

Welcome home

Three Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word founded El Puente in 1999, when large numbers of Spanish-speaking people from Central and South America had begun settling in Central Missouri.

At that time, many of the immigrants were young, newly married couples with children.

Raised in societies and cultures with traditionally strong family connections, they were living thousands of miles from parents and grandparents.

While navigating language barriers, economic instability and culture shock, these

immigrant families sought something better for their children.

Most had been raised Catholic and were looking for ways for their families to know, love and serve the Lord.

They wanted to learn about and worship God in the language they first learned to love Him in.

“Our goal all along has been for the Hispanic community to thrive in Central Missouri — in the Church and the community,” said Sr. Peggy.

“What we can give”

Mrs. Castro said she is happy to be helping El Puente keep up with the needs of the ever-diversifying Hispanic communities.

“Something that I really like,” she stated, “is that El Puente empowers women to do their best and reach their potential.”

She said El Puente must also continue providing transportation and translation services and offering information about finances and nutrition.

She is eager to advocate for the specific concerns of local Hispanics while helping the larger community appreciate Hispanic contributions to culture, the economy, society and the Church.

She is pleased to be collaborating with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) and other entities to help people get the emergency assistance they need.

She’s committed to helping Hispanics and non-Hispanic to work together and understand and appreciate more about each other’s cultures through the work of El Puente.

“When you know and appreciate somebody, you are willing to help them and ask them for help,” she said.

She’s looking forward to promoting opportunities for local Hispanics to offer their skills and time in service to others.

Mindful that there are many Hispanic cultures repre-



Cristhia Castro

sented here, she’s eager to help organize a robust observance of Hispanic Culture Month each September.

“Yes, we all speak Spanish, but we’re not all the same,” said Mrs. Castro. “We have so many nationalities, cultures, accents, dialects ... so many types of music, so many flavors of food.”

Somewhere in the middle

Early on, much of El Puente’s work involved interpreting and transporting people to doctor’s appointments.

The local Hispanic communities are now more settled and established, but many of

the same concerns persist for those who are newly arrived.

“Some come with minor children to a new place without a good command of English,” said Mrs. Castro.

While local hospitals have hired staff interpreters, adults often need translation services for doctor’s appointments and filling out documents.

It’s often difficult for the kids in terms of the new environment, new people, new food, a new culture.

“But learning the language tends to be easier for children,”

said Mrs. Castro. “With proper help, they will be able to speak English, even if their parents might not.”

Many of these young people experience a crisis of culture and identity by the time they reach adolescence.

“They are not any longer from Mexico or Honduras or El Salvador,” Mrs. Castro noted. “They don’t know where they’re from sometimes. They are a mixture of the two cultures.”

With friends, they often speak “Spanglish,” a fluid combination of both languages.

See EL PUENTE, page 11

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QUESTION CORNER

Anointing of the sick during the coronavirus / Bow or genuflect?

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service



Q. I am a recent (fervent) convert to the Catholic Church. I am also a registered nurse and have held many patients as they passed on to eternity. I am concerned over the issue of priests being “barred” from hospitals during the current coronavirus epidemic; I have heard many Catholics bemoan the fact that, as a result, the sick and dying are being denied the Sacrament of the Sick. So

my question is: Can this sacrament be done by intention? It seems to me that we could somehow comfort people — those who are denied the sacrament through the inaccessibility of priests — that Jesus can heal simply through His grace and the person’s faith. (Tallahassee, Florida)

A. Your perspective is right on target: Jesus can forgive and heal based on a person’s intention. In fact, in late March 2020, the chair of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship made that same point.

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair of Hartford, Connecticut, explained that what the Vatican had said the previous week about the sacrament of penance can be applied analogously to the anointing of the sick. The Vatican’s Apostolic Penitentiary had said:

“Where the individual faithful find themselves in the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution, it should be remembered that perfect contrition, coming from the love of God, beloved above all things, expressed by a sincere request for forgiveness (that which the penitent is at present able to express) and accompanied by *‘votum confessionis,’* that is, by the firm resolution to have recourse, as soon as possible, to sacramental confession, obtains forgiveness of sins, even mortal ones.”

Interestingly, Archbishop Blair issued his statement to clarify and correct a “solution” that had been proposed earlier that same week by another New England bishop. In an email to priests of his diocese, Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski of Springfield, Massachusetts, had said, “I am allowing the assigned Catholic hospital chaplains, standing outside a patient’s room or away from their bedside, to dab a cotton swab with holy oil and then allow a nurse to enter the patient’s room and administer the oil.”

Speaking to the U.S. bishops, after conferring with the Vatican, Archbishop Blair said, “With regard to the anointing of the sick, it is not possible for the anointing with oil to be delegated to someone else, such as a nurse or doctor.” Bishop Rozanski immediately rescinded the permission he had granted earlier.

Which brings us back to the questioner’s valuable insight: In a circumstance where a physical anointing is impossible, God can read a person’s soul.

Q. I am 80 years old, a “cradle Catholic,” a product of Catholic elementary and secondary schools and a Catholic university. I have a question that I think others of my generation might ask: When (apparently) did bowing become acceptable — versus genuflecting before a tabernacle with a lighted sanctuary lamp? (Wichita, Kansas)

A. The act of genuflecting — bending the right knee to the ground — is a sign of adoration and is meant to honor the Blessed Sacrament. Therefore, upon arriving in church, if

See DOYLE, page 19

Papal Audience

April 29, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Today we conclude our catechesis on the Beatitudes with the final Beatitude: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:10). All the attitudes contained in the Beatitudes, when lived for Christ, can lead to oppression by the world; yet ultimately this persecution is a cause of joy in heaven. The way of the Beatitudes is an Easter path, leading us from selfishness to a life guided by the Spirit. We see this in the saints who show that the experience of persecution can set the Christian free from worldly compromise. Tragically, today many of our brothers and sisters still face persecution, and we express our closeness to them. May we too always remain “salt of the earth,” lest by losing the “taste” of the Gospel we lead others to disdain it. By God’s grace, whatever trials we do face can draw us to become more like Christ, Who leads us to new life. In this manner, following the humble way of the Beatitudes, we will come to experience the kingdom of heaven: our greatest joy and happiness.

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!



Pending execution reveals priorities of Missouri’s justice system

Missouri plans to move forward with the execution of Walter Barton on May 19.

The Missouri Supreme Court on April 27 denied a request for a hearing to argue an innocence and competency claim and, at the same time, overruled a motion for a stay of execution.

This makes Missouri the only state in the nation moving forward with an execution during the COVID-19 pandemic, a declared state of emergency.

The execution of Nathaniel Woods was carried out in Alabama on March 5. Since then, 15 executions in Ohio and Texas have been stayed, rescheduled or given reprieves as officials are working overtime to protect staff and inmates from COVID-19, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

“Even Texas and Tennessee courts have recognized that executions are a drain on government resources,” stated Abraham Bonowitz, Co-Director of Death Penalty Action, a national group supporting activists opposing executions. “Especially as the COVID-19 pandemic is exploding in prisons across the country, we urge Gov. (Mike) Parson to grant an immediate reprieve to Mr. Barton.”

Given the possibility that this execution may go forward,

Death Penalty Action is working with Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (MADP) to mobilize an international response.

When the Missouri Department of Corrections reopens for visitation on May 14, Mr. Barton will have had no visitors, including his own attorney, for two months. Public defenders will not have had access to their office for those same two months, nor will mitigators and investigators have had opportunities for face-to-face visits.

These face-to-face visits are imperative to the work involved in order to save a man whose guilt has been called into serious question, and whose attorneys describe him as an innocent man.

With an unknown amount of prisoners and staff being tested for COVID-19, as well as risks related to transferring individuals between facilities, executing Mr. Barton at this time would be a display of the extreme faults in the priorities of the criminal justice system in Missouri.

MADP is a statewide organization working to repeal the death penalty in Missouri by educating and informing fellow citizens and legislators about the costs and consequences of capital punishment.

The Missouri Catholic Conference, public-policy agency of the state’s four Roman Catholic dioceses, upholds the Church’s teaching regarding the death penalty.

Paragraph 2267 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, revised in February 2008, states:

“Recourse to the death penalty on the part of legitimate authority, following a fair trial, was long considered an appropriate response to the gravity of certain crimes and an acceptable, albeit extreme, means of safeguarding the common good.

“Today, however, there is an increasing awareness that the dignity of the person is not lost even after the commission of very serious crimes. In addition, a new understanding has emerged of the significance of penal sanctions imposed by the state. Lastly, more effective systems of detention have been developed, which ensure the due protection of citizens but, at the same time, do not definitively deprive the guilty of the possibility of redemption.

“Consequently, the Church teaches, in the light of the Gospel, that ‘the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person,’ and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide.”

Faith and hope are for these times

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP



One of my favorite hymns is a recent addition to our Easter repertoire, “Three Days.” It begins with an expression of despair — “Three days our world was broken; the Lord of life lay dead,” but then builds to a triumphant conclusion: “Though still Christ’s body suffers, pierced daily by the sword, yet death has no dominion: the risen Christ is Lord!”

As the coronavirus death toll continues to rise, daily media coverage in our country is a mixed bag. Along with a preponderance of ominous and depressing news reports, there have also been many uplifting stories about human generosity and connectedness as well as the power of music, art and humor to uplift spirits.

As Christians, we should infuse the

national narrative with powerful stories of faith in God’s providential care and the hope flowing from Christ’s resurrection. In the midst of so much sickness and fear, our brothers and sisters need us to reassure them that “death has no dominion because the risen Christ is Lord” and really does walk among us!

I have been helping out at our Home in Delaware, which has been particularly hard hit by the coronavirus. By the end of Holy Week, we had lost 11 elderly residents to the virus.

I asked God how it was possible to maintain a spirit of hope in the face of so many seemingly untimely deaths. I say “seemingly” because through prayer I realized that these deaths were untimely only in our eyes — not in God’s. If God saw fit to take these individuals to Himself through this pandemic, He must have known that their lives had fulfilled His plan and they were ready to return to Him.

Our Christian faith assures us that

suffering always has value and that those who die believing in Christ will live with Him forever. It has struck me that these words must not remain mere platitudes. Christian faith and hope are meant for times such as these. As St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all” (1 Cor. 15:19).

I’ve been thinking a lot about the example of our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, in response to a situation not unlike our own. In 1857, five novices at our motherhouse died of typhoid fever in a short span of time. Those who remained were heartbroken.

Jeanne Jugan tried to help the novices overcome their sorrow and see their situation as a way of growing stronger in faith and more resolute in hope. After one funeral she comforted the novices, “Come along now, little ones, be brave! One of us has left for Glory; our own turn will come. We must be prepared.”

One of us has left for Glory; our own turn will come — generations of

Little Sisters have shared this unshakable faith in the reality of our heavenly destiny. It has sustained them through good times and bad.

The influenza epidemic of 1918, to which our present situation has been compared, came on the heels of World War I.

As 1918 came to a close, our Mother General spoke of “the cross of a universal illness added to the sufferings caused by the war.” She praised the Sisters for their generosity and spirit of sacrifice as they spared no effort in caring for the elderly despite the most precarious circumstances.

The Congregation also underwent severe trials during World War II. In 1944 our novitiate in Marino, Italy and a Home in France were destroyed during Allied bombings, killing 32 Little Sisters and 70 residents. A plan to evacuate the novices to a safer location in Rome fell through, and just hours later 28 Sisters were buried in the rubble when a bomb

The promises of Ordinary Time

By Lucia A. Silecchia



For so many obvious reasons, this Easter season is different from any I have known before. Yet, in one hopeful way, it is the same: Easter is and remains a season of great promise. In spite of gloom, signs of the renewing promise of spring lie just outside the window. This season of the Church year is subdued and yet exuberantly filled with the celebration of Christ’s promises fulfilled in the resurrection He foretold — and what those promises mean for our own eternities. Indeed, in these stormy times, it is those promises alone that may seem to be our only signs of peace and strength.

Promises have been on my mind lately since the quiet sacredness of the Easter Vigil. In what seems like a lifetime ago, on Ash Wednesday, the Gospel reading included an instruction from Christ on prayer. He said, “[W]hen you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to Your Father in secret.” Through events I did not foresee at the time, that was exactly where I found myself on the great Vigil of Easter. I was not in the joyful, expectant company of my parish family, or my friends, or my whole family, but in the “inner room” of home.

Watching this great Easter celebration unfold on broadcast television did not seem quite right. So, as I have throughout this unusual season, I turned to the Facebook page of my hometown parish

to watch the Vigil Mass livestreamed and pray at a distance while I could still see familiar faces, hear familiar voices speak and sing, and look at the familiar sanctuary where I hope to be again sometime soon. I was especially eager to celebrate, long distance, with my hometown parish, because it is in Queens, New York — a county which has suffered so much during this pandemic, and where my heart has turned so often during these difficult weeks.

The Vigil Mass was beautiful, as always. But, for the very first time, there was one part of the Mass that struck my heart in a new way: the renewal of Baptismal promises that came halfway through Mass, at the very heart of the liturgy.

The words of my own Baptismal promises were spoken by my parents and godparents on a July day that I do not remember. The words of my godchildren’s Baptisms are better remembered, but still obscured a bit by the joyous excitement of those days. The words of Baptismal promises made at other Easter vigils in other years certainly had my sober attention. Yet, there is something about responding with a community that both strengthens the promises made but also makes it easier to respond rotely because the questions, “Do you renounce . . .” and “Do you believe . . .” are directed to us all in unison.

However, this Easter vigil was different. There was no crowd and no company with whom I could make those promises. Instead, for the first time since my own unremembered Baptism itself, I heard

See SILECCHIA, page 18

REFLECTION

Heart of a pandemic

By Mark Saucier

The past weeks have been extraordinary and, by extraordinary I mean a singular time we hope never to repeat.

It’s not just the number of cases and COVID-19 deaths. There are the lost jobs, the missed classes, the canceled plans.

There is the loneliness and frustration. It has not been easy.

My brother-in-law had open-heart surgery. A deteriorated valve and clogged arteries couldn’t have cared less about a lockdown; they had their own deadline.

If John was going to see the end of the pandemic, he was going to have to have his chest spread and his heart repaired in the middle of it.

It wasn’t just the risk, it was the context. He went into the darkness and came out of it alone. My sister could only drop him off outside the hospital and wonder when, and if, he’d walk back out.

She couldn’t be in the waiting room during surgery, at his bedside in recovery, or help him with his first uncertain post-op steps.

It turned out well. He will carry the scar of that incision, and she the memory of that helpless separation, but when they look back to their experience of the COVID crisis, they will always see the blessing of his extended life.

Telling this story, I am drawn to another. Jacob was the grandson of the great patriarch Abraham. He colluded with his mother to trick his father Isaac and steal his brother’s birthright. Esau swore a lethal vengeance.

Jacob fled in fear. During his exile, there is a night in which Jacob wrestles with a man. They fought until dawn, when the stranger struck Jacob’s hip and dislocated it.

Jacob still refused to submit until the stranger agreed to bless him. The stranger changed Jacob’s name to Israel, and with it, changed his life.

I’m not big on conspiracy theories, especially if the suspect is divine. I don’t believe that the coronavirus was intended to punish or to teach us lesson.

That said, I do believe that there is something to be found in our suffering. It may not be a healed heart or a new name, but somewhere in the pain, there is a grace just waiting for our embrace.

It is an exceptional time, like nothing we’ve seen before. It would be a pity to come out on the other side with nothing to show.

So, while it may be odd to ask, how has this blessed you?

See VEIT, page 23

Mid-Missouri School Counselor of the Year honoree promotes a proactive approach to emotional health

By Jay Nies

"It's hard to give up control, and we have very little control over this current situation," Sara Garner said of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on families and all of society.

It helps to remember that God is still in charge.

"I pray for students, parents and teachers to focus on the things they do have control over and be able to let go of the things that they do not," said Mrs. Garner, a Catholic mother and school counselor for St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City.

Herself a St. Peter graduate, Mrs. Garner is this year's recipient of the Missouri School Counselor Association's Mid-Missouri Region Counselor of the Year Award.

She accepted the honor at a March 3 ceremony at Columbia College in Columbia.

St. Peter Interparish School Principal Gayle Trachsel nominated her with help from some parents, students and fellow St. Peter educators.

The selection committee for the award took four main factors into consideration: building up leadership at the school; promoting service among students; integrating a data-driven program; and incorporating innovation and innovative activities with school counseling.

This is Mrs. Garner's second year as the school counselor at St. Peter.

The school has more than 500 students.

"There are teachers who

have been here since I was a student," she noted. "It's kind of fun to work with the teachers who taught me!"

She relishes her role in helping children find their purpose.

"My job is to help them recognize their strengths and use those strengths to help fill-in those areas where they have some weakness," she said. "Even when things aren't going well, they can look at all those positive things and their strengths and pull from those."

She noted that Catholic schools work with families to educate and form the whole child — mind, body and spirit.

During a typical school week when in-person instruction is taking place, she spends some one-on-one time with students and leads classroom discussions about navigating the world of academics, extracurricular activities, family life and friendships.

"Social Emotional Learning' — that's the buzz word," she said.

Sometimes a teacher will recommend that a student have a discussion with Mrs. Garner. She often follows-up with those students about new approaches they can take to help make their classroom experience better.

By junior high, students are often comfortable signing themselves up to meet regularly with her.

Some visit with her in small groups so she can help them work through minor disputes.

Virtues and Fruits of the Spirit

Each month, the school focuses on a positive character trait and pairs it with one of the theological virtues (faith, hope and charity) and fruits of the Holy Spirit (charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity).

"We're always trying to make those connections so the kids are aware of what those words mean and how they can live them out every day," she said.

She spends time in each kindergarten through fifth-grade classroom every other week, teaching age-appropriate lessons that reinforce these character traits and virtues.

"I like to sort of vertically align the lessons," she said. "Whatever I do with kindergarteners — such as a lesson on self-control — when they get to first grade, they can hopefully say, 'I remember learning about that last year.' And then we can tell them, 'You've grown some since then. Let's take it to the first-grade level and see how it applies to you now that you're older.'"

Mrs. Garner also helps Mrs. Trachsel evaluate the data from the annual standardized tests for students in grades 3 through 8.

This helps identify potential candidates for accelerated learning programs and academic extracurricular activities.

The data also helps educators reinforce strengths and address weaknesses in the school's curriculum.

She works with the school's Student Leadership Team (SLT), a group of sixth-through eighth-graders who help plan and promote events to make the school a better place and more fun.

One of their favorite events is "Saints in the Schoolyard," held each year on a Friday



Sara Garner, school counselor for St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City, accepts the Missouri School Counselor Association's Mid-Missouri Region Counselor of the Year Award during a May 3 ceremony at Columbia College.

evening near All Saints Day. SLT members dress up as saints as students pass through the school with glow-sticks and toast marshmallows for s'mores outside.

"Here for a reason"

Mrs. Garner is committed to helping destigmatize concerns about emotional health.

"It's important for students and their parents to know that it's okay to ask the counselor for help at your school," she said. "It's like going to the eye doctor when you need glasses or getting a cast if you have a broken leg."

"We're here for a reason, and it's okay if you need us," she said.

She believes she's able to do her job well because of the support of parents and her fellow educators.

Especially with SLT events, student participation usually can't happen without parent participation "at the same or at an even greater level than the students."

It also helps when parents call and ask for help.

"When their child is having a concern and they do

reach out to me for support, that makes me feel supported by them," she said. "That lets me know that my message is getting out there and they feel comfortable coming to me and are confident that I can help them."

"God's got this"

Shortly after in-school instruction ended in mid-March due to the coronavirus pandemic, Mrs. Garner and Paula Wekenborg, director of the school's Vogelweid Learning Center special learning program, began contacting school families.

They asked about how online learning is going, whether families have adequate internet bandwidth and devices to do their work from home, and how the students are dealing with the anxiety of an unfamiliar situation.

Mrs. Garner also posts resources and practical information on her school website about promoting students' and families' emotional health.

She also makes herself available one-on-one by phone when needed.

"A lot of things figure into whether a student is stressed out or not during this time," she said. "Some parents are working from home, some are not working from home, and some are working outside the home. All of that figures into what each student is able to accomplish."

She believes her own doubling-down on prayer and reflection each morning is making a difference.

"Pretty much every day, my prayer has been to be inspired by the Holy Spirit," she said. "Whether it's for me to be inspired to do something that day, or for others to be inspired to do something kind for someone in their home or outside their home — just having that inspiration and knowing that 'God's got this' — that's what I'm taking to Him in prayer."

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United Way, Monroe City parishioner help feed the community

By Mike Thomas
Salt River Journal

Hannibal

The United Way of the Mark Twain Area is partnering with local food pantries and senior centers to help provide meals for those in need.

Many area food pantries have seen a shortage of food due to more people coming in during the past month because of the coronavirus crisis. The United Way of the Mark Twain Area has come up with a new program to help replenish local food banks.

Joe Kendrick, a member of Holy Rosary parish in Monroe City, is a Marion County farmer who reached out to United Way to participate in Aly's Project — an initiative where local youth can donate livestock after fair season to food pantries.

Mr. Kendrick contracts with JBS, a leading processor of beef and pork in the U.S., who currently is not taking cull hogs — hogs that may have a hernia or do not make market weight.

JBS then donated 100 cull hogs to the United Way to be distributed to local food pantries and senior centers. Each hog costs \$95 to be processed, with the processing costs being paid by a donation from Continental Cement to the United Way.

"This resulted in having hogs available for them to process and donated into the community, as long as we had the funding to pay for processing of these

hogs," said Mark Twain Area United Way Executive Director Denise Damron. "We are working with Central Missouri Meat and Sausage in Fulton to process the hogs."

The 100 donated hogs will total around 15,000 pounds worth of meat, which will be enough for 60,000 meals to feed individuals in Northeast Missouri.

After the hogs are processed in Fulton, the meat will be transported back to the area by Brian Gaines Trucking. It will then be distributed to food pantries and senior centers in Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Ralls and Shelby counties.

The Paris Senior Center is going to get one of the pigs donated by Aly's Project.

"Especially when it's tougher times than normal, to get this kind of donation means a lot to the clients that we serve — people who are struggling to make ends meet right now," said Paris Senior Center Executive Director Tara Garside. "It's just amazing, it's been a great experience and I'm glad that we've been able to be a part of it."

Ms. Garside said the meat donations have been a blessing and will make a big difference.

"With that pork, I was able to make my menus up to use it," Garside said. "Additionally, I was able to send pork to clients I knew were struggling to have enough to eat at their homes."

Prior to this donation, the Monroe City Food Pan-

try workers were worried about whether they would have enough food for their clients. They also will be receiving pork through Aly's Project.

Monroe City Food Pantry board member Melissa Hays said there has been an increase of people coming in for food due to COVID-19 related job cuts.

"We had been struggling to keep meat and protein in our food bank," Hays said. "We have spent around \$1,000 of our own money to order chicken and pork from local suppliers."

The Monroe City Food Pantry is anticipating around 250 families will come in for assistance. Normally, around 130 to 140 families come in each month.

Hays said it was nerve-racking last month as the Monroe City Food Pantry was worried about running out of food.

"When you are in there loading those grocery carts, you see those pallets so rapidly dwindling down. You're wondering how many carts are going to come through here (and I'm worried that) I'm going to have to tell somebody I don't have anything to put in their trunk," Hays said.

Mr. Thomas is the sports editor for the Hannibal Courier Post (hannibal.net), which published a version of this article April 15. It is published here in slightly modified form with permission.

EL PUENTE

From page 7

"They feel like they are from Jefferson City, but they are not," she said. "And many people don't see them as being from Missouri or the United States of America. But that's how they have been raised and that's all they know."

Importance of education

Mrs. Castro emphasized the importance of helping the children of Hispanic immigrants finish high school and continue their education.

"Education is the key to success," she said. "You're always better off making life decisions from an educated point of view rather than out of ignorance."

She wants El Puente to start a peer-based youth ministry that assists them academically and spiritually.

"For many of the Hispanic kids, their parents don't speak English very well," she said. "They don't know where to go to ask for help. We want to help them learn about and explore their options."

That might mean expanding El Puente's tutoring program and helping high school seniors apply for financial aid

for college, she said.

Making God's love visible

Sr. Peggy, who is currently serving in congregation leadership in San Antonio, Texas, said she was delighted to hear of Mrs. Castro's appointment.

"I think she'll bring a lot of energy and vitality and enthusiasm to the leadership," said Sr. Peggy.

She noted that two Incarnate Word sisters — Sr. Bertha and Sr. Guadalupe — continue to serve at El Puente, and that the CCVI congregation continues to sponsor the ministry.

The sisters' charism is "to make God's love visible in the world" — and one way we do that is by responding to suffering of humanity," she said.

Sr. Peggy said she's confident that El Puente will continue to help Hispanic people prepare to become leaders in the Church and the larger community.

She believes Mrs. Castro and the El Puente board have bought into that charism and made it a part of themselves.

"We started this ministry with the hope of helping the Hispanic community thrive

in Jefferson City and beyond," she said.

"That means seeing to it that the children are properly educated and fulfilling the dreams their parents had for them when they brought them here," she stated.

"Keep God close"

Deacon Castro gave Mrs. Castro some good advice when she accepted her new role.

"He said now more than ever, you have to keep God close to you and find out how you can grow in your faith," she recalled. "If you don't have that tight connection with God, you might get lost."

She insisted that God remains very much a part of the ministry.

"We don't focus on whether the people we serve are Catholic or not," she noted. "We help the entire Hispanic community. We want to give them the means to grow in their faith, but it will not stop us from helping them."

"That being said," she continued, "we are a Catholic institution. The sisters are supporting this organization.

When you encounter people from El Puente, you know we are Catholics and we seek to serve the Lord.

"We can only do what we do when we understand that when we serve the community, that is how we serve God," she said.

She is convinced that this is where God wants her to be.

"It's not only a job but a ministry for me," she stated. "It's a way to serve God in my faith in the Catholic Church."

She noted that El Puente always welcomes assistance — financial or otherwise.

"If you're a retired teacher and have some time, you can help with tutoring," she said. "If you've worked in an office, you can help with filing or anything you want to do."

She asked for prayers for wisdom and guidance as she helps promote El Puente-Hispanic Ministry's mission.

"It's very interesting how you tend to be afraid of taking over things when serving God," she said. "But once you're in it, you start to realize how much of a blessing it can be."



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Glasgow native Sr. Clarita Hackman, 86, served in Ghana, Kenya

Philadelphia

Sister Clarita Hackman M.M.S., 86, a Glasgow native and Medical Mission Sister, died on April 12.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated for her at her Community's North American Headquarters in Philadelphia at a later date.

Sr. Clarita and her twin sister were the last two children of eight born to Josephine and Henry Hackman in Howard County, Missouri.

After graduating from Glasgow High School, Sr. Clarita worked at her father's business and then in Kansas City for a year-and-a-half as a steno-secretary.

She entered the Medical Mission Sisters in 1954, making her First Profession of Vows in 1956 and professing Final Vows in 1962.

She studied bookkeeping at

Taylor Institute in Philadelphia before going to Our Lady of Coromoto Hospital in Maracaibo, Venezuela, where she worked in accounting for one year.

She also worked in accounting at the Government Leprosarium in Kokofu, Ghana, and at Holy Family Hospital (HFH) in Berekum, Ghana, for a combined total of seven years.

In 1966, she returned to the United States and went to St. Joseph's Hospital in San Francisco, California, where she studied to be an X-ray technician.

She later earned an associate's degree from Foothill College in Los Altos, California, before going to Holy Family Hospital in Techiman, Ghana, where she worked in accounting and admissions for one year.

After spending a year teaching an X-ray course at St. Patrick's Hospital in Ghana, Sr. Clarita served as hospital secre-

tary at Holy Family Hospital in Nangina, Kenya, for one year. She then went back to HFH Berekum to work in the X-ray department.

Returning to Philadelphia, Sr. Clarita earned a bachelor's degree in political science and international relations from Temple University in 1977.

She went on to work as a special projects coordinator for the Nationalities Resource Center, a position that allowed her to work with the city's non-English-speaking population.

She also did accounting and controller/management work for the Center.

From the late 1970s into the



Sr. Clarita Hackman M.M.S. (1933-2020)

'80s, Sr. Clarita shared her financial expertise as a volunteer and in a paid position for a variety of

organizations in Philadelphia.

She also served on many committees and held positions having to do with finance for the Medical Mission Sisters.

Sr. Clarita enjoyed politics and was always current on the topics of the day. A hard worker, she was down-to-earth, ecologically savvy, and very in-tune with nature.

Her feisty and fun-loving spirit, along with her loving heart, will be missed.

An older sister, Sister Albertine Hackman C.P.P.S. (1917-2001), a Sister of the Most Precious Blood, served in Russellville.

Sr. Clarita's private burial was held on April 16, 2020.

Helias Catholic H.S. receives donation for Accommodations Program

Helias Catholic High School is pleased to announce an anonymous donor contributed \$200,000 to establish an endowment fund to ensure the continuation of the school's Accommodations Program.

"I am profoundly thankful for the gift of these funds to establish an endowment for our accommodations program," said Father Stephen Jones, president of Helias Catholic.

"This ministry of serving and forming varied levels of learners is a hallmark of Catholic edu-

cation," Fr. Jones stated. "It is my hope our community gives generously to these endowed funds so that we can continue this ministry in our school for generations to come."

The proceeds from the endowed funds will be used to offset the costs of staffing and other needs for the accommodations program.

The accommodations staff at Helias Catholic is passionate about making sure every student is successful in reaching his or her full potential.

Currently, the program has a full-time coordinator/teacher, a full-time teacher and a part-time teacher.

Since its inception in 2015, when one faculty member served 32 students, the program has grown to help 91 students, and applied classes have been added for those who qualify.

In addition to those with diagnosed learning issues, the program's teachers also assist students who are struggling for a variety of reasons including those with illnesses and injuries that cause them to miss multiple days of school.

"It is heart-warming and affirming to know our community believes in supporting ALL our students academically and spiritually," said Elizabeth Twyman, the school's accommodations coordinator.

"With this generous donation our wonderful team can carry-on with the mission we began five years ago and continue collaborating with our faculty members to help students," she said.

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New Crucifixion mural in Westphalia highlights Christ's sacrifice

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."—John 15:13

By Jay Nies

The most loving gift of all time is rendered in radiant hues, high above the altar of St. Joseph Church in Westphalia.

A newly created Crucifixion mural atop the church's lofty chancel arch proclaims the perpetual link between the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Christ's eternal Sacrifice on Calvary.

"This is the most profound Catholic setting I have ever seen in a church," stated Father Anthony Viviano, pastor of St. Joseph parish in Westphalia and St. Anthony of Padua parish in Folk. "The sacred altar, where God mystically meets man at every Mass, is there to receive symbolically the blood of the crucified Jesus, which falls from above."

The 24-foot-wide mural is one of the capstones of the nearly completed two-year renovation of the inside and outside of St. Joseph Church.

Artist Stoyko Stoykov of Conrad Schmitt Studios created the mural in six pieces in

a temporary studio inside a building just down Main Street from the church.

Mr. Stoykov has helped redecorate and restore numerous churches in his nearly four-decade career, but never before had he created a Crucifixion scene quite like this one.

"It doesn't only include Jesus on the cross," said Mr. Stoykov. "There are also the two thieves who were crucified with Him. You see the two Marys and John and the angels. The kind of composition shown here has not happened in other churches we have worked on. This is different."

"God's great love"

St. Joseph parish was founded in 1835. The current soaring, limestone edifice replaced the original log church in 1848. The bell tower and steeple were completed in 1883. The chancel was made substantially taller in 1905, creating the space



This nearly 25-foot-wide, gilded mural depicting the Crucifixion adorns the chancel arch above the altar in St. Joseph Church in Westphalia. It is part of a nearly completed, massive renovation of the church. — Photos by Jay Nies

Conrad Schmitt artists created and installed near the front of the church a smaller reproduction of the image that had adorned the space above the chancel arch since the most recent renovation in 1959.

That mural, now embellished with a gilded background, depicts Jesus ministering to children.

No room for mistakes

Based on preliminary designs approved by Fr. Viviano and

the committee, Mr. Stoykov created a small drawing of the mural, followed by a full-size, color rendering on paper.

"It takes a little time," he said. "You have to make sure everything else is proportionate in size and color and light."

Once the final rendering was approved, Mr. Stoykov began transferring it to the front of stretched and primed canvases.

The images of the crucified Christ and the angels are over 7-and-a-quarter feet tall. The other figures are nearly 6 feet tall.

He started with a charcoal drawing and then began apply-

above the altar where the new mural has been installed.

Several artists from Conrad Schmitt Studios of New Berlin, Wisconsin, worked with Fr. Viviano and the parish's renovation committee to develop a renewed decorative scheme and prospective renderings for the various artworks that were to be restored or newly created.

They combined themes and images gleaned from historical photos with the 21st-century needs of the parish.

Fr. Viviano passionately advocated for a more prominent depiction of the crucifixion.

"The Crucifix is a powerful, undeniable sign, which tells the world that we are Catholic," he

stated.

He pointed out that "the Catholic Church reveres, honors and venerates the crucifix, as it is the symbol of God's great love for us."

"The Father sent the Son, and the Son accepted to die upon the cross to redeem us and to open the gates of heaven," the priest stated.

He noted that at every Mass, the unbloody sacrifice upon the altar makes all who participate, present at Christ's total Sacrifice on Calvary.

"The Mass is the sacred event in which Christ mystically gives Himself to us, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist," he said.

See CRUCIFIXION page 17



Planning for death is as natural for the Christian as planning for life. Having a will is good stewardship and planning of your assets. Remember to always take care of your family, and consider taking care of your parish family long after you are gone.

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DISCÍPULOS

From page 1

Since then, Cristhia Castro, executive director of El Puente-Hispanic Ministry in Jefferson City, her staff and some trained volunteers have been helping review applications and distribute assistance grants to Spanish-speaking families throughout the diocese.

The online request portal, located on the Catholic Charities website at ccnmo.diojeffcity.org/covid-19, asks those seeking assistance to enter basic demographic details and contact information, as well as a description of their COVID-19-related need.

They are also prompted to select if their need is financial or volunteer related, such as needing assistance with obtaining groceries or needed medical supplies while quarantined.

Deacon Castro has identified deacons and other parish representatives throughout the diocese to distribute Catholic Charities grants locally.

Much of the funding came from a \$10,000 disaster response mini-grant CCCNMO received from Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA).

"This is very similar to how Catholic Charities USA responds to a natural disaster," said Mr. Lester. "It shows that our national network and here up close, we really are looking

at the pandemic as a form of a natural disaster."

That understanding affects how the local Catholic Charities affiliate deploys caseworkers and volunteers and sets priorities for long-term recovery efforts.

"The outreach efforts might look different, but the economic effects of this pandemic on families is very similar to that of a tornado or flood," said Mr. Lester.

"Taking the initiative"

Crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic cause hardships across the socioeconomic spectrum, but immigrant and minority groups are usually hit the hardest.

Deacon Castro noted that the shutdowns from the pandemic have sent many Hispanic families in central and northeastern Missouri to the brink.

Many are employed in the hospitality and food processing industries, both of which are reeling due to COVID-19.

If anyone in a family is undocumented, no one in that family is eligible for assistance under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act — even if everyone else in the house is a U.S.-born or naturalized U.S. citizen.

In addition, parents who



Nena Neal, who has been working at El Puente-Hispanic Ministry for over 14 years, helps assemble packages of personal-hygiene items donated by Unilever in Jefferson City for distribution to people in need through Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri.
— Photo by Cristhia Castro

are not yet fluent in English have to take a more active role in their children's education due to the suspension of in-class instruction at schools throughout the state.

St. Peter parish in Marshall, St. Vincent de Paul parish in Sedalia and St. Mary parish in Milan are strongly represented among the employees of several local meat processing plants.

Many are immigrants from Hispanic countries and have been living and working there for years.

Deacon Castro said shutdowns and the unfortunate consequences due to the pandemic have created opportunities for parishioners to assist one another.

"The people of God are taking the initiative and organizing themselves to help others," he reported to Bishop McKnight on April 24. "I'm trying to connect local organizations with our parishes and people."

Needs could increase

Father Mark Smith, pastor of the Marshall parish and the Holy Family mission in Sweet Springs, said plant shutdowns and family health concerns are prompting employees to use up their paid leave.

As of April 26, sources indicated that 37 families reg-

istered in the Marshall parish had at least one member who tested positive for COVID-19.

That number was likely to increase as widespread testing had gotten under way in anticipation of employees at some of the plants returning to work.

In addition, according to Fr. Smith, "several restaurants are closed with others having much reduced staff. Motels have let almost all housekeeping staff go, and several other employers have reduced staffing somewhat."

St. Peter parish's Hispanic leadership has reallocated \$2,000 previously raised for activities such as retreats that have had to be cancelled.

They intend to use the money for food assistance and then other needs that may arise.

The pastors of Ss. Peter & Paul parish in Boonville and St. Pius X parish in Moberly have offered assistance from their parish treasuries and St. Vincent de Paul Society conferences.

"I am deeply grateful for their offers of charity," said Fr. Smith. "For the immediate future, I believe we have the funds to take care of our active parishioners."

However, he said, "if this drags on and our major em-

ployers do not continue to pay their employees, we will most likely be swamped with assistance requests, for our parishioners and for the wider community."

Difficult choices

Language and other barriers often stand between people and the assistance they need.

Father Thomas Alber, senior associate pastor at Marshall and Sweet Springs, who is bilingual, is helping Hispanic families sign up for assistance at the local food pantry.

Mr. Lester said the requests for emergency assistance continue to highlight the broader issues of stagnant wages and the rising cost of living.

"We've seen a similar pattern to what we have seen outside the pandemic: people having to make difficult choices based on limited resources," he said. "Folks are often forced every month to make a choice between paying the utility bill or getting enough food for a given week."

"So the trends we're seeing are people who have lost work and now are having to make tough choices," Mr. Lester stated. "That unemployment check might get them through the rent, but not the utilities for the month."

He pointed out that when people request assistance, a case manager helps them assess their finances to see if there's anything they can do to improve their situation.

"We absolutely want to provide assistance but do it in a way that's reasonable and is a good use of our resources and also empowering those folks," he stated.

"It's really important to us to be wise stewards of the resources and help people see they can help them allocate those resources as well," he said.

Response and recovery

Mr. Lester likened unemployment benefits and the one-time economic stimulus

See RECOVERY, page 23



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CELEBRATIONS

From page 1

People who are infected with COVID-19 must not attend Mass or other gatherings at the diocese's parishes and other entities.

People who are over 60 or are at risk because of an underlying health issue are strongly encouraged not to attend public Masses or other public gatherings at their parish until further notice.

All people, including children, who enter a church must have a face mask or other face covering for their mouth and nose. It must be worn at all times except when they are seated in a pew.

Six feet of distance must be maintained at all times between members of different households, including children. This will mean leaving one or two pews vacant between congregants.

People who cough or sneeze while in church must do so into the elbow of their shirtsleeve.

Celebration of public Masses and other liturgies and devotions cannot take place until after the statewide stay-at-home order expires, scheduled for May 3, and will remain forbidden whenever prohibited by legitimate local governmental authorities.

Once the state's restrictions are lifted, Masses and other liturgical or devotional activities, as well as public gatherings, may resume within each specified county or region of the state in which such gatherings are allowed, and only when abiding by that authority's social distancing requirements.

Further safeguards

No one who has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to the virus is permitted to enter a church or any parish or school property for 14 days.

Seating at Mass will be limited due to social distancing. Separate doors are to be used for entering and leaving the church.

The Offertory Procession, the Sign of Peace, the holding of hands at the "Our Father," and the reception of Holy Communion from the chalice will continue to be suspended until further notice.

Hymnals are to be removed from the pews and stored. All frequently touched surfaces are to be sanitized before and after

each Mass.

One or more stationary collection baskets are to be used rather than the passing of baskets or having ushers take up the collection, and holy water fonts are to remain empty.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to sanitize their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion.

Sacramental life

Easter time is a season of sacraments.

Candidates and catechumens throughout the diocese have been preparing to be fully initiated into the Church.

Children have been preparing for their First Holy Communion, and young people have been preparing to be sealed with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation.

These sacraments have been on hold since the COVID-19 crisis began.

As of May 4, pastors, administrators and parish life collaborators will begin arranging for the elect and candidates who were anticipating sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil to receive those sacraments, unless legitimate local authorities restrict the possibility of public worship services.

"Preference is to be given to celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at a parish Sunday or Saturday Vigil Mass, following the requirements of social distancing and adapting them as appropriate," Bishop McKnight stated in his instructions.

First Holy Communions that have been postponed because of the pandemic may be scheduled according to the judgment of the pastor, administrator or parish life collaborator.

No receptions after any Masses are allowed.

Confirmation

Bishop McKnight delegated to all pastors the faculty of administering the Sacrament of Confirmation on candidates in their parishes who have been properly prepared for the sacrament in accordance with diocesan policy, if the scheduled Confirmation by the bishop has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Confirmation may only be administered at publicly celebrated Masses and in compli-

ance with proper social distancing regulations.

Bishop McKnight encouraged pastors to whom this provision applies to schedule Confirmation at one or more Masses on Pentecost Sunday or its Vigil or at any Sunday or Saturday Vigil parish Mass thereafter.

Other sacraments and gatherings

Bishop McKnight left the possibility of distributing Holy Communion outside of Mass to the judgment of each pastor, administrator or parish life collaborator.

In all cases, the requirements for distributing Holy Communion — such as the use of masks or other face coverings and the sanitizing of hands before and after Holy Communion is distributed — must be observed.

Adoration chapels may be reopened if the pastor, administrator, or parish life collaborator determines that the requirements of social distancing and sanitizing of the facilities can be observed.

In-person parish meetings may take place at the discretion of the pastor, administrator or parish life collaborator, as long as either the six-foot distancing requirement or the use of masks or other face coverings and gloves or frequent handwashing can be observed.

All pastors, administrators and parish life collaborators must continue following the requirements of legitimate state authorities with regard to the pandemic.

Subject to change

If at any time, a legitimate county or state authority resumes a stay-at-home order, "the public celebrations of Mass, liturgies or devotions shall again be expressly forbidden for as long as the legitimate governmental authority determines," the bishop stated in his decree.

Whenever public celebrations of the Mass and other liturgies

and devotions are suspended, private celebrations may take place with no more than the number of people allowed by the county health director or legitimate state official, and only in accordance with social distancing regulations.

When the public celebration of Mass is prohibited, the Anointing of the Sick and the

He believes those efforts in this area have been largely successful so far and that various degrees of behavior modification will need to continue into the foreseeable future.

He urged people whose health keeps them from Sunday Mass to participate from home, through the internet, television or radio.

To find links to local parishes' livestreamed Masses, visit diojeffcity.org and click on "Masses Being Livestreamed."

The bishop invited all people who are prevented by these circumstances from receiving Holy Communion to receive a Communion of Desire and to continue offering up their temporary loss of this sacrament for

all who are sick and all who have died from this pandemic.

"God's work has continued"

Bishop McKnight's prayer intention for April was "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."

God has been answering that prayer through the engagement of the priests and laypeople of this diocese in ministering to one another and to the community at large through individual and collective works of service.

In coordination with the diocesan Office of Parish and Charitable Services, parishes have organized disaster response teams to work with Church and community organizations to help people affected by COVID-19 and by stay-at-home orders — especially people who are elderly, alone, sick or in need.

Churches throughout the diocese have remained open for private prayer and devotion throughout the suspension of public Masses.

See RESUME, page 23



Images of parishioners adorn the empty pews inside Holy Family Church in Hannibal during a private Mass celebrated by Father Michael Quinn, pastor, on April 26. Bishop W. Shawn McKnight on April 28 issued instructions for how public Masses are to resume in the diocese once the statewide stay-at-home order has expired.

— Photo from the Holy Family Catholic Church - Hannibal Facebook page

Sacrament of Confession may be offered on an individual basis, as long as the proper protocols communicated in previous decrees are followed.

Wherever and whenever the county health director or legitimate state authority issues a stay-at-home order, Funeral Rites may be celebrated with no more than the number of people allowed by the legitimate state official and only in accordance with the social distancing regulations.

Weddings should be rescheduled to a later date in cases in which the county health director or legitimate state authority issues a stay-at-home order.

However, the bishop stated, "wedding liturgies may take place with no more than the number of people allowed by the legitimate state official and only in accordance with the social distancing regulations."

Sacrifice and desire

Bishop McKnight pointed out that the purpose of stay-at-home orders, social distancing and other regulations has been to slow the spread of COVID-19 in order to keep it within the capacity of local hospitals and healthcare personnel.



By Father Don Antweiler

ACROSS

1. Arthur Frommer, born in Jefferson City, Mo., is a pioneer and gold standard for travel guides; a publisher with over 75 million ____ of Frommer guidebooks sold.
6. At only 10 years old, as WW II began, Frommer did a stint on Jefferson City's KWOS radio as the "____ of the Cole County Civilian Defense," reading statements about various local drives for the war.
11. The first ____ bomb fell on Hiroshima, Japan on Aug. 6, 1945.
12. Possible ending for fundamental or sensational.
15. "The One Who is coming ____ me ranks ahead of me..." (John 1:15).
16. Hairdresser offering.
17. Title letters of a hit TV series standing for Naval Criminal Investigative Service, now in its 16th season generating two successful spin-offs.
19. The Mo. State ____ has been in Sedalia, Mo. since 1901. It offered 150 acres of donated land, outbidding Centralia, Marshall, Mexico and Moberly.
20. When Frommer was 14 yrs. old, his parents followed a job to Brooklyn, NY with Arthur "____ and screaming. It was quite a wrenching experience."
21. "It was (Mary's) brother Lazarus who was ____," (John 11:2).
22. ____ what point will I start feeling better?
24. On his return to Jefferson City in 2009 on his 80th birthday, he visited his old schools but found his childhood home on Clark Ave. taken by a highway, his only disappointment. Nevertheless, "it was quite an emotional return. I felt my life complete to ____ where I had been brought up."
25. 103 in old Rome.
27. One in ____ travel guides purchased is a Frommer publication.
28. Gun club.
30. Letters for the Evangelical Church of North Am., a Wesleyan Protestant denomination headquartered in Oregon with 12,475 members in 133 local Churches.
31. ____ shucks, ma'am. It weren't nothin'.
32. Short for Staff Sergeant, the first level of NCO in the Air Force with supervisory responsibilities.
33. Prefix for port or pair.
34. Nostril.
37. Cornhusker State (abbr.).
39. Frommer attributed his success to his foundational education in Jefferson City where he remembers kindergarten and attending Moreau Heights School, studying ____ in the 5th grade (required at the time).
40. Second word of the Apostles and Nicene Creeds.
43. "If you want a picture of ____ town America, you couldn't do better than Jefferson City, Missouri, my very first hometown," said Frommer.
45. "I ____"; possible wedding words.
46. The Dodge ____ Heavy Duty truck is this year's *Motor Trend Magazine* pick for Truck of the Year.
49. As a boy in Jeff. City, Frommer spent ____ in the history museum in the Capitol and in the library in the Andrew Carnegie building.
53. Second biggest city in America (abbr.).
55. Lessen, diminish; (e.g., "The forces that are driving people from their homes — none are likely to ____ soon," —David Miliband).
57. St. ____, feast day: Jan. 21, is an early martyr in the Church, one of seven women, who along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, are remembered by name in the first Eucharistic Prayer.
58. Ancestral home of Abraham.
59. First book of the Bible.
61. ____ the name of the Father...
62. Abbr. for amount.
63. Common degree at Missouri S&T in Rolla.
64. Largest continent.
65. Frommer has 350 book ____ in 14 different series (e.g., *Complete Guides*, *Easy Guides*, *Portable Guides*, *Irreverent Guides*, *Memorable Walks*, *Driving Tours*, etc.).

DOWN

1. He proudly wore his Royals baseball ____ to every game.
2. Ending for coy or prom.
3. To piggy-back on the appeal of turkey and to ensure good swine production, the Mo. ____ Producer's Assn. advertised their product as "the other white meat."
4. Frommer was the son of European and Asian ____ who got their citizenship in Jefferson City.
5. "Instead of the weight that ____ us, consequences are often the life preserver that saves us," —Craig Lounsbrough.
6. The Dept of Veterans Affairs (____) employs nearly 400,000 people and, among many things, oversees 135 national cemeteries, including those in Jefferson City, Springfield and St. Louis.
7. "Most state capitols, like New York's Albany, are boring beyond measure, a dreary collection of ____." But the capitol building of Missouri is breathtaking, exalting," said Frommer.
8. A word in ____ is a word typed in slanted letter font used for emphasis. Called the print equivalent of underlining.
9. The ____ of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican is one of the most famous paintings in the world. This fresco by Michelangelo portrays the history of creation with scenes from the Bible.
10. To ____ is human, or so they say.
13. "I was raised on the ethics of Jeff. City but that's not how it was in New York." Nevertheless, Frommer adapted and thrived. He earned a political ____ degree from NYU and graduated from Yale Law School with honors.
14. Mascot of Mo. S&T in Rolla.
18. The internet country code for Singapore.
22. Too shy to approach her, he loved her from ____.
23. I just feel like throwing in the ____ (i.e., give up). Originally, a symbol of defeat in boxing.
26. Acronym for Intern'l. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. It has been the Union for the behind-the-scenes stagehands in plays and movies, going all the way back to 1893. Who knew?
29. Mother of Mary.
35. Without direction, purpose or focus.
36. DNA's genetic messenger.
38. ____ Capitan, a Yosemite sheer granite cliff popular with rock climbers.
40. Frommer writes a travel column, has a weekly syndicated radio show and a website where he maintains a travel _____. In 2017, his company celebrated its 60th anniversary.
41. Newsman Bradley or showman Sullivan.
42. Control button on the TV remote.
44. ____ Apso; breed of dog.
46. "Why do the Gentiles ____ and the peoples entertain folly?" (Acts 4:25).
47. She had ____ in her bonnet about the teacher giving her child a failing grade (2 wds.).
48. That's one small step for ____, one giant leap for mankind," —Neil Armstrong.
50. We put my deceased aunt's belongings in a storage ____.
51. Prefix related to kidneys.
52. Letters for Sacred Scripture.
54. The fine ____ are usually defined as those done for beauty and aesthetics rather than for decoration or function.
56. Earl Grey or Lipton.
60. Pope St. John Paul ____.
62. Initials of a Mt. Rushmore President.

ANSWERS on page 19



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CRUCIFIXION

From page 13

ing layers of color.

He said working with acrylic is very different from oil-based paint.

"Once you start painting, you have to be absolutely clear," he said. "You work in layers. The paint dries fast. You don't have time to make it blend mechanically. You have to make optical blending. There's no room for mistakes."

On a grand scale

Mr. Stoykov grew up in Bulgaria and studied for four years at the National High School of Fine Arts and six years at the National Academy of Arts in Sofia, the nation's capital.

He completed the mural and decorative painting program at the Academy in class under Professor Ilia Iliev.

"I left my family's house at age 15 and never moved back," he said.

He went to work as an artist's apprentice after graduating in 1984 and has been working in the field ever since.

"Murals are my specialty," he said — although he sometimes does marbling or decorative stenciling or applies the gold finish.

Creating a large mural requires a mix of mathematical precision and artistic creativity.

"You've got to be able to see it as it will look after it's installed,"

he said. "You have to be scientific and measure everything. You have to make sure it fits seamlessly with what the people you're working with are doing."

One thing that sets murals apart from other artforms is the size and scale.

"You have to start out thinking pretty much like an architect," said Mr. Stoykov. "You have to communicate with the architects and people who build the scaffolding. You have to work well with the other artists."

Precision is essential.

"You can't see the whole thing at once with the scaffolding up," he said, "so you have to be able to know it's exactly

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, www.cathmo.com. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.

right before you get it there. When the scaffolding is gone, everything has to be smooth, it has to be perfect."

Working in the studio, he must anticipate the effects of light and shadow that will come into play once the work is installed in church.

"You need good light and

a constant temperature while you're working," he said.

The walls in church were treated with fiberglass to ensure that they're solid, flat and straight for final application of the murals.

The gilding and the border were added after the mural was fitted into place.

A face like no other

Due to space constraints, Mr. Stoykov could only work on four parts of the six-section mural at a time.

He did not base the faces of the figures on any living models.

"John has sort of a Roman face," he said. "The angels have to be nice looking. You have Mary and the others in shade."

He said it's very difficult to find a living model who looks like Jesus.

"He's not like any other," said Mr. Stoykov. "You use a particular type of face of Jesus over the sanctuaries — particular for Jesus."

Because of tight deadlines and 10-hour work days, Mr. Stoykov



From a temporary studio in Westphalia, artist Stoykov of Conrad Schmitt Studios works on a mural depicting the Crucifixion for the area high above the altar in historical St. Joseph Church. The artwork is part of a comprehensive renovation of the church's inside and outside.

and the other artists didn't get to spend much time visiting with St. Joseph parishioners.

Nonetheless, they were made to feel kind of like celebrities.

"You're never done learning until death," he said. "You always need to be learning something new. Whatever you did yesterday, you have to say, 'Today, I can do better.'"

"Westphalia is a small community and everybody knows each other," he said. "They all knew us but unfortunately, we didn't get to know them."

Lift high the cross

Fr. Viviano has been offering Mass in the school gymnasium since work inside the church began earlier this year.

He and the parishioners are eager to return to the renovated church after the COVID-19 crisis subsides.

Mr. Stoykov enjoyed working with the people of St. Joseph parish and helping to enhance the beauty of a historical church.

He's confident that his and the other artists' workmanship will last for decades.

He said he learns something from every project, which he carries forward into his future work.

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 mantle 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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Pope approves Foundation promoting example, works of Pope John Paul I

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Pope Francis approved the establishment of the Pope John Paul I Vatican Foundation to preserve and promote the writings, thinking, example and study of “the smiling Pope.”

The Pope also appointed as the Foundation president Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, who, like Pope John Paul, is from Italy’s northern Veneto region.

The Vatican made the announcement April 28.

Born Albino Luciani in 1921, Pope John Paul I served

only 33 days as Pope. He died in 1978 at the age of 65, shocking the world and a Church that had just mourned the death of St. Paul VI.

St. John Paul II said his predecessor’s importance was inversely proportional to his brief pontificate, and Cardinal Parolin said this Pope “was and remains a point of reference within the history of the universal Church.”

Much about the Pope, his life and work has been gathered over the course of his sainthood cause, which Pope Francis furthered in 2017 with the recognition that Pope John

Paul lived the Christian virtues in a heroic way.

Cardinal Parolin said in a written commentary in the Vatican newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, April 28 that assembling all the sources of information for the sainthood cause has spurred on new research and important details from a historical point of view.

“Therefore, a necessary reclaiming of the memory of Pope (John Paul I) is now possible so that his historical significance may be fully restored” and new prospects be opened to greater study into his work, the cardinal wrote.

Having this new Foundation, he added, would allow for the needed preservation of all of the late-Pope’s works and writings, and would help promote his thinking and spirituality, particularly since his example and message are “extraordinarily timely” today.

This Italian Pope, born into poverty in a small mountain village, was “a pastor near to his people, focused on the essentials of the faith, including an extraordinary social sensitivity,” the cardinal wrote.

“Being close, humility, simplicity, insisting on God’s mercy, love for one’s neighbor and



Pope John Paul I is pictured at the Vatican in 1978. The Vatican announced April 28, that Pope Francis approved the establishment of the Pope John Paul I Vatican Foundation to preserve and promote the writings, thinking, example and study of “the smiling Pope.”

— CNS photo/Arturo Mari, *L’Osservatore Romano*

solidarity are some of his major characteristics,” he wrote.

Cardinal Parolin said Pope John Paul applied the Second Vatican Council throughout his brief pontificate, emphasizing the Gospel, renewed missionary spirit, collegiality, the search for Christian unity, interreligious dialogue, dialogue with the modern world and the promotion of justice and peace.

The Foundation will sponsor various initiatives, including conventions, meetings, seminars and study sessions and will eventually offer schol-

arships and other types of awards. It will also publish research and be a point of reference throughout the world for people who wish to further their studies regarding Pope John Paul I.

According to the Vatican communique, Cardinal Parolin named six members to the Foundation’s administrative board. With each serving a five-year term, the members include: Cardinal Beniamino Stella, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy, who was a young priest in the Diocese of Vittorio Veneto when Pope John Paul was its bishop and is postulator of the Pope’s sainthood cause; Stefania

Falasca, a journalist and vice postulator of the cause; and Lina Petri, one of the Pope’s nieces.

The six members of the foundation’s scientific committee had yet to be named.

Mother has second thoughts after taking ‘abortion pill’ — Rolla PRC helps save the baby



By Jay Nies

“Did you know that it is possible to save a baby after the mother has taken the ‘abortion pill?’”

Joe Dalton posed this intriguing question to Facebook followers of the Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) of Rolla on April 23.

Mr. Dalton, a member of St. Patrick parish in Rolla and executive director of the PRC, said the center is currently

working with its first such case.

“It’s been two-and-a-half weeks since we first started treating her and the baby is doing great!” Mr. Dalton stated. “We are so very proud of this brave mother!”

He said that by looking closely at the ultrasound image, “you can see his little hand waving at her in the picture!”

Mr. Dalton asked for continued prayers for the baby, the mom and the PRC staff.

SILECCHIA

From page 9

these questions, quietly, addressed to me alone in that “inner room.” The questions of renouncing what was evil and believing in what was good were posed directly to me. “Do you reject . . .” and “Do you believe” had a new emphasis on “you.”

My mind wanders, sympathetically, to the plight of St. Peter when he was asked who Christ was. He answered quickly while he reported what others were saying about the identity of Christ. But, then, when he was asked, “Who do you say that I am?” the question took a deeply personal, intimate tone.

And so it was for me on the great Vigil of Easter this year. The “you” in the Baptismal promises did not start questions that I could answer relying on the responses of those who surrounded me. It

was, instead, the start of more personal, intimate questions that, on that night, felt addressed to me alone.

I hope that it will be alongside others that I renew these promises at the great Easter Vigil of 2021. For now, I am grateful for these questions asked in the quiet of home, and pray for the grace to live out these promises through ordinary times.

May God bless you and yours with good health and comfort in the days ahead.

Silecchia is a Professor of Law at the Catholic University of America. “On Ordinary Times” is a biweekly column reflecting on the ways to find the sacred in the simple. Email her at silecchia@cua.edu.

Find us online
@
cathmo.com

Anniversaries

Argyle, St. Aloysius

Mark & Roxie Loehner, 39 years
Paul & Sandy Falter, 34 years
James & Joyce Brunnert, 33 years
Paul & Laura Baumhoer, 32 years
Kevin & Jennifer Wieberg, 28 years
David & Jennifer Brooks, 22 years
Scott & Jackie Reichel, 16 years

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul

Leo & Rosemary Kraus, 60 years
Joe & Joyce Zey, 55 years
Larry & Sherri Kempf, 54 years
Bill & Peggy Weber, 52 years
Larry & Joyce Schuster, 49 years
Randy & Jean Reynolds, 46 years
Randy & Pam Oswald, 45 years
Louis & Shirley Imhoff, 44 years
Ed & Becky Thomas, 44 years
Mike & Mary Beth Conway, 40 years
Danny & Sharlene Kammerich, 40 years
Tony & Jeanette Babbitt, 38 years
Mike & Kathy Lang, 36 years
Wes & Kathy Davis, 34 years
James & Pam Lenz, 34 years
Chris & Roylene Kempf, 33 years
Robert & Connie Gerling, 32 years
Kelly & Lynn Vest, 32 years
Mark & Jane Tribsch, 31 years
Jim & Francine Edwards, 26 years
Russell & Selena Weaver, 26 years
Darrell & Nancy Harris, 25 years
Dewayne & Julie Murray, 25 years
Bill & Pam Rapp, 25 years

xBrinktown, Holy Guardian Angels

David & Donna Haller, 41 years
Nicholas & Cindy Raitel, 10 years

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception

John & Clarita Casey, 53 years
Tully & Mary Ann Reed, 50 years
Bill & Deb Brockman, 48 years
Bruce & Melanie McElfresh, 38 years
Michael & Jill Fowler, 13 years

Camdenton, St. Anthony

Michael & Bonnie Kufskie, 55 years

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes

Tobin & Marcia Doll, 35 years

Cuba, Holy Cross

William & Catherine Mullen, 69 years

Fayette, St. Joseph

John & Nan Geha, 21 years

Freeburg, Holy Family

Dave & Patty Phelps, 33 years
Patrick & Kathy Bliss, 24 years
Scottie & Misty Bastion, 18 years
Gary & Rosalyn Welschmeyer, 11 years

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; faxed to (573) 635-2286; or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914.

Hannibal, Holy Family

Dick & Janice Rupp, 50 years

Hermann, St. George

Kerry & Marie Hunolt, 40 years

Hurricane Branch, St. Joseph

Bob & Sandy Gladbach, 49 years

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception

Bill & Claudia Borgmeyer, 50 years
Dan & Sally Bernskoetter, 49 years

Jefferson City, St. Peter

William & Mary Ann Kramer, 68 years

Kahoka, St. Michael

Terry & Jean Oberman, 49 years
Robert & Ginger Schreck, 37 years

Linn, St. George

Leonard & Rose Voss, 66 years

Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception

Bernard "Ben" & Constance "Connie" Haslag, 65 years
Glenn & Kathy Robertson, 50 years

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows

Charlie & Jeanne Hammond, 45 years

Meta, St. Cecilia

David & Wanda Sturtz, 31 years

Milan, St. Mary

Dan & Margaret Hatcher, 42 years
Leodegario & Irma Garcia, 41 years

Palmyra, St. Joseph

Joe & Terry Barnes, 51 years
David & Regina Hastings, 46 years
James & Connie Browning, 38 years
John & Jacque Hess, 38 years
Deacon Robert & Lisa Leake, 36 years
Ross & Karen Dames, 35 years
Russell & Teresa Hettinger, 35 years
Peter & Denise Dames, 34 years
Michael & Tammy Wolfmeyer, 34 years
Jeff & Amy Massman, 30 years
Greg & Kathy Tierney, 29 years
John & Cathy Fohey, 28 years

Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart

Norbert & Carol Rudroff, 62 years
Bob & Jean Fick, 37 years
Dale & Tammy Pope, 35 years
Eric & Roxie Mebruer, 18 years
Brian & Edie Reichel, 18 years

Russellville, St. Michael

Johnny & JoAnn Saunders, 52 years
David & Laurice Stevens, 52 years
Steve & Carolyn Baker, 41 years
Fred & Becky Kolb, 41 years
Jeff & Diane Thompson, 28 years
Bob & Martha Francis, 27 years
Mike & Janice Loesch, 22 years
Mitch & Andrew Koetting, 20 years
Brian & Jessica Deschu, 13 years

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence

Alice & Kenny Oligschlaeger, 50 years

Taos, St. Francis Xavier

Frank & LaVerne Twehous, 60 years
Joe & Mary Ann Schollmeyer, 59 years
Dan & Paula Sanning, 38 years

Vandalia, Sacred Heart

Robert & Karolyn Green, 53 years
Carl & Karen Daffron, 47 years
Joe & Debbie Salois, 40 years
Daryl & Debbie Hopke, 39 years
Stephen & LuAnn Nilges, 35 years
Mike & Leila Cole, 27 years

Vienna,

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Brian & Becky James, 45 years
Don & Robin Stratman, 35 years
Duane & Donna VanScoy, 35 years
Mark & Valerie Haller, 29 years
Justin & Amy Harker, 25 years
William & Jodi Nichols, 16 years
Glen & Allison Rowden, 15 years
John & Beth Wulff, 13 years

Marriages

Linn, St. George — **Brooke Scheulen & Colby Peters**

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Bonnie Kempker & Joshua Hood**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Amber Sturtz & Austin Rehagen**

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Claire Schanzmeyer & Christopher Callan**

Birthdays

California, Annunciation — **Jo Wolken**, her 90th

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Lillian Veit**, her 93rd on April 20

Deaths

Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels — **Mary Lorah**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Greg Pezold**

Cuba, Holy Cross — **Sergio Navarro**

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **JoAnne Woolley**

Hannibal, Holy Family — **Bill Dannenburg, Shirley A. Gierke, Marion Miller, Bob Mulvihill, Bill Shaw**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **xRosemarie Schoessler**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Steve Melies, Bill Vogl**

Mexico, St. Brendan — **Phillip D. Becker**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Lyda Versluis**

St. Clement, St. Clement — **Aloys A. Deters, Alan L. Salfen**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Marcella A. "Marcie" Reinkemeyer, Janet L. Schroer**

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Sherry McQuitty**

Slater, St. Joseph — **Richard Drummond**

Tipton, St. Andrew — **Dale Bestgen**

Vienna, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary — **Mary Comer**

Ordination Anniversaries

Deacon Kenneth Berry, who assists the pastor of St. Joseph parish in Edina, his 25th

Deacon Mark Chaplin, who serving in the Diocese of Rockford, Illinois, his 25th

Crossword puzzle answers

S	E	T	I	L	L	V	I	S	V	E	E
L	M	V	N	I	S	I	S	E	N	E	G
R	U	S	N	G	A	E	I	V	A	B	V
V	T	S	R	U	O	H	I	M	V	R	
O	D	T	L	S	M	S	M	V	A		
E	V	E	I	E	I	B	I	I	V	L	
S	N	E	N	E	N	V	R	E	N	R	
L	G	S	S	N	C						
V	C	N	A	V	R	U	R	O	V		
I	I	I	I	G	S	E	G				
L	I	L	L	G	I	C	K	C	I	K	
R	I	V	I	S	I	C	N	I	M		
R	E	T	E	V	S	I	S	I	M	O	
E	C	I	O	A	S	I	E	I	P	O	

DOYLE

From page 8

there is a tabernacle containing the consecrated hosts, one should genuflect toward it. (This assumes that one is able physically to do so.)

If, instead, the Eucharist is reserved in a side chapel, it would be proper simply to bow toward the altar. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes that the priest genuflects when he arrives at the altar and departs from it, and three times during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. "Otherwise," says the

General Instruction, "all who pass before the most Blessed Sacrament genuflect, unless they are moving in procession" (No. 274). (Ministers carrying the processional cross, candles or the Book of the Gospels bow their heads instead of genuflecting.)

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

Friday night lights



The time on the scoreboard at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School was set to 20:20 the evening of Friday, April 24, in honor of this year's graduating senior Trailblazers.

— Photo by Father Mike Coleman



More than 1,000 Helias Catholic High School Crusader fans took part in the Friday Night Lights Drive Thru on April 17 at the Crusader Athletic Complex to support the Class of 2020. #saderstrong

— Photo from the Helias Catholic High School Facebook page

Celebrating spirit



Two siblings who are students of Our Lady of the Snows School in Mary's Home celebrate the school's Social Distance Spirit Week by displaying their favorite Bible verse. (Philippians 4:13) The school set up a Facebook page for students to post photos of their observance of the various theme days throughout the week.

— Photo by Shannon Nicole

Diocesan Catholic summer camps

Summertime brings several opportunities for Catholic, high school teens to grow in knowledge and relationship with God:

•**Camp Maccabee** for young Catholic men in grades 9 through 12 — June 28-July 3 or July 26-31, at St. Robert Bellarmine parish, St. Robert.

Camp Maccabee was founded in 2009 with the purpose of forming bold, Catholic, masculine leaders.

Since then, the camp has evolved into a much-anticipated summer event for many young Catholic men across the Diocese of Jefferson City.

campmaccabee.com

•**CHRISTPower** for young men and women who were in high school during the 2019-20 school year — July 12-18, Helias Catholic High School, Jefferson City.

This authentically Catholic service retreat gives teens an opportunity to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

During the day, retreatants are sent out in teams to serve in a variety of nonprofit and social service agencies around Jefferson City.

In the evening, retreatants return for meals, fellowship, and dynamic evenings filled with games, discussions, praise/worship, sacraments and more.

diojeffcity.org/christpower

•**Camp Siena** for young Catholic women in grades 9 through 12 — July 19-23, St. Patrick parish, Laurie.

Camp Siena is a summer camp experience committed to helping young women deepen their relationship with God and others by exercising, understanding, and living their unique feminine spirituality and becoming the woman God is calling them to be.

campsiena.com

For more information about any of these activities and more, check out the diocesan youth ministry page at

diojeffcity.org/youth-ministry/

Flatly speaking at OLLIS Columbia



Some teachers of Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School in Columbia, playing off the *Flat Stanley* children's book, have mailed images of themselves to students with a challenge to do things together. **LEFT and CENTER:** Students display images of first-grade teacher Katlyn Cowell hearing a story and taking a walk. **RIGHT:** Middle school Spanish teacher Gema De La Rocha is sending students her version of "Flat Stanley."

— Photos from OLLIS parents

Many say late Minnesota teen's intercession has impact on vocations

Catholic News Service

Andover, Minnesota

Priesthood was a natural calling for Charles Untz, but he would never realize that dream because a tragic car accident took his life March 20, 2000.

But the faith, piety and spirit-filled joy the beloved son of Steve and Ellen Untz of Andover exhibited throughout his 18 years on earth has had an impact on people across the globe,

including Father Steve Hansen, pastor of the Cathedral St. Joseph in St. Joseph, Missouri.

He personally experienced Charles' intercession and credits it for saving his priestly vocation.

"Kids who want to live purity, who want to obey their parents and who want to love the church, they imitate Charles," Fr. Hansen told *The Catholic Spirit*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. "They

ask about him. They memorize his prayer."

The prayer, written for teens by Father David Engo, an Untz family friend from Massachusetts, calls upon Charles' intercession.

That prayer card has been widely circulated, and Fr. Hansen has been tireless in telling Charles' story, having now shared it with thousands of people.

The followers of Jesus choose a new apostle

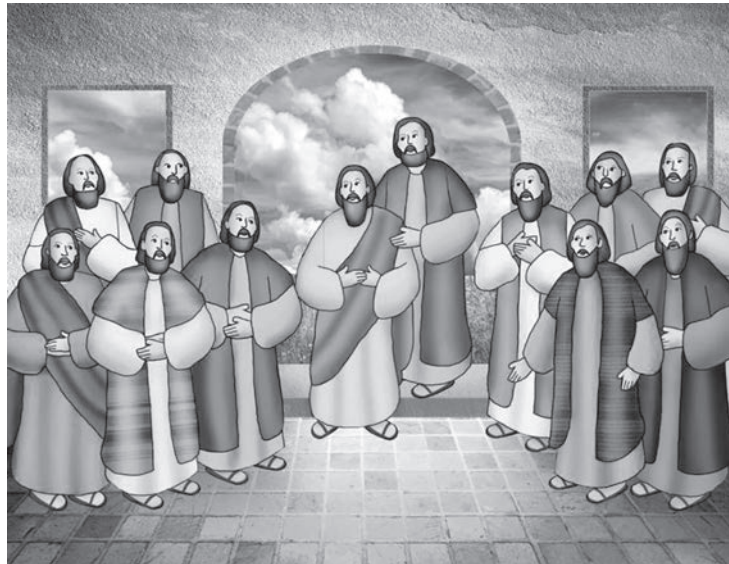
By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic News Service

After Jesus died on the cross and resurrected, He visited His friends several times before ascending to His Father in heaven.

After watching Jesus return to heaven, the apostles returned to Jerusalem to the upper room where they had been staying. There were now 11 apostles in all, because Judas Iscariot, who had betrayed Jesus, was dead.

The apostles who were left were Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas son of James.

The apostles all devoted themselves to prayer, along with some other people, including Jesus' mother, Mary.



One day, when about 120 followers of Jesus were gathered in one place, Peter stood and spoke.

"My brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled

which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David, concerning Judas, who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus. Judas was numbered among us

and was allotted a share in this ministry," Peter said.

Based on a passage in the Book of Psalms, which said, "May another take his office," Peter said it was necessary to replace Judas with another man who had followed Jesus during the entire time of Jesus' earthly ministry.

"Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which He was taken up from us, become with us a witness to His resurrection," Peter said.

The people then proposed two men to replace Judas: Joseph called Barsabbas, who was

also known as Justus, and Matthias.

"You, Lord, Who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two You have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place," everyone prayed.

The apostles then gave lots to the people, and the lot fell upon Matthias.

After that time, Matthias was counted with the 11 original apostles and shared in their ministry.

Read more about it...

Acts 1

1. Who had betrayed Jesus?
2. Who was chosen to be the new 12th apostle?

Bible Accent

In Acts 1, we learn more about the ascension of Jesus.

In Verses 6-12, we read that Jesus and the apostles were outside Jerusalem on a mount called Olivet.

"Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" the apostles asked.

"It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by His own authority," Jesus answered. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon

you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When Jesus finished speaking, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him from the apostles' sight.

As the apostles were looking skyward to see where Jesus had gone, two men dressed in white suddenly were standing beside them.

"Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing there

looking at the sky? This Jesus Who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen Him going into heaven."

Afterward, the apostles left Olivet and returned to Jerusalem, which was about a day's journey away. They returned to the upper room and prayed with those who were gathered there.

Essay

Describe how you would feel if you had witnessed Jesus' return to heaven.

Saint Spotlight



St. Rita of Cascia was born near Spoleto, Italy, around 1381. She wanted to be a nun, but she married instead because her parents wanted her to. Rita's husband mistreated her during their nearly 20-year marriage. After he died, she entered an Augustinian convent in Cascia and spent the next 40 years there. She was known for devotedly caring for sick nuns and for a deep wound she had on her forehead for 15 years, which she said was from Christ's crown of thorns. Rita died in 1457, and we remember her on May 22.

Puzzle

Using the hints provided, choose the correct word to complete each sentence about the coming of the Holy Spirit.



1. When the time for _____ was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. (Acts 2:1)
2. Then there appeared to them _____ as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. (Acts 2:3)
3. But others said, scoffing, "They have had too much new _____." (Acts 2:13)
4. "Repent and be _____, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. (Acts 2:38)



Answers: 1. Pentecost; 2. tongues; 3. wine; 4. baptized.

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Book on Catholic comedian Colbert both entertaining, academic

America's Most Famous Catholic (According to Himself): Stephen Colbert and American Religion in the Twenty-First Century, by Stephanie N. Brehm. Fordham University Press (New York, 2019). 256 pp., \$30.

Reviewed by Loretta Pehanich
Catholic News Service

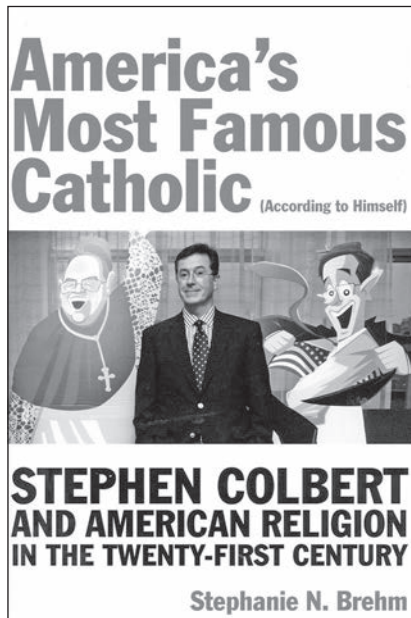
Anyone interested in religious comedy's recent history in America will enjoy Stephanie Brehm's book whose long subtitle better describes her work.

America's Most Famous Catholic (According to Himself): Stephen Colbert and American Religion in the Twenty-First Century, is a treatise on Catholic humor and its impact in the United States today.

Simultaneously entertaining and academic, the book is part of a series of publications on "the historical and cultural study of Catholic practice in North America" at Fordham University.

It "springs from a pressing need in the study of American Catholicism for empirical investigations and creative explorations and analysis of the contours of Catholic experience."

Of course, Stephen Colbert's cover shot and name in the title will attract more readers than an academic work normally would.



Using the popular Colbert (both the character he portrays and the man himself) as the unifying factor, the author covers Catholics in comedy and media prominence in recent history, from radio pundit Father Charles Coughlin, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, and even Bing Crosby to Mother Angelica.

Brehm includes Catholic (and formerly Catholic) comedians such as Don Novello (aka Father Guido Sarducci), Jim Gaffigan, Bill Murray, Jimmy Fallon, Louis C.K., Conan O'Brien, George Carlin and Jay Leno.

According to the author, "Colbert breaks all molds" as a master of satire, "an artistic

form that 'makes fun of human folly and vice by holding people accountable for their public actions.'"

This book highlighted for me the value of a celebrity whose deep faith doesn't allow him to take himself too seriously nor claim to have all the answers.

I enjoyed the brief biographical material (wished for more), which explained humor's importance amid Colbert's life traumas. His goal is clearly to entertain and make people laugh. These tools gave him perspective in his own suffering.

Brehm pointed out that Colbert's comedy breaks down stereotypes of Catholicism as a rigid, somber, traditional institution and illustrates the intellectual, moral and pragmatic diversity it possesses. While multiplicity and dissent have always existed in Catholic life and we no longer live in times of unquestioning obedience, Colbert's comedy mocks the deep polarization and vitriolic dialogue so evident in our country today.

With a quarter of the U.S. population considering itself Catholic, Colbert helps us laugh at ourselves. Like a family member granted license to critique from the inside, Colbert uses humor to question hypocrisies and incongruities in our Church.

Brehm describes how Colbert walks a tightrope of poking fun without deriding the

Movie Ratings



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



Bloodshot (PG-13)
Brahms: The Boy II (PG-13)
Burden (R)
Emma (PG)
Fantasy Island (PG-13)
Impractical Jokers: The Movie (PG-13)
Onward (PG)
Slay the Dragon (PG-13)
The Way Back (R)



Corpus Christi (not rated)
The Invisible Man (R)



The Hunt (R)
Never Rarely Sometimes Always (PG-13)
We Summon the Darkness (R)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit www.usccb.org for current reviews.

Church he loves.

The author explains how the comedian also helps us better understand ourselves and the complexity of the Church, which is based on faith and reason despite disunity of thought. "Colbert puts that paradox onstage," Brehm writes.

It's a modern behavior, the author contends, for a comedi-

an to encourage self-reflection about religion through humor. We can relate to Colbert because he is like us: struggling, questioning, saying things we wish we'd dared to say, and wanting more accountability and collaboration with the hierarchy.

See COLBERT, page 23

A "desolate drama" promotes abortion

Catholic News Service

To avoid her home state's legal requirement that she obtain her parents' permission to have an abortion, a 17-year-old high school student (Sidney Flanagan) from rural Pennsylvania travels to New York City seeking the procedure, in the movie "Never Rarely Sometimes Always."


She's accompanied by her cousin (Talia Ryder) with whom she bonds, and the pair meet a lad (Theodore Pellerin) along the way who, despite an initially amiable appearance, later turns out to be fully prepared to take advantage of their vulnerability when they are

forced to spend a longer time away from home than they had expected and run out of money.

Misguided values permeate writer-director Eliza Hittman's desolate drama, the message of which is that it ought to be easier for the protagonist to have her child killed.

The drama contains a benign view of abortion and theft, a non-graphic aberrant sexual act, brief medical gore, partial nudity, mature references, including rape and physical abuse, at least one use each of profane, rough and crude language.

The Catholic News Service classification is O — morally offensive.

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94.7 FM, Columbia
103.3 FM, Fulton
K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton

RECOVERY

From page 14

payment to the flood assistance that is immediately available after a natural disaster.

It's helpful but can't last very long.

"Disaster response is usually a short-term process, but disaster recovery is often a much more extended proposition," he noted.

"What we're trying to think through is: what does disaster recovery from coronavirus look like, not just disaster response?" he said.

One thing is certain: the response and the recovery will both involve more robust collaboration among local service and relief agencies.

For instance, said Mr. Lester, "it's been wonderful to see this new blossoming relationship with The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri and the United Way of Central Missouri's mobile food pantry and Catholic Charities and our parishes."

Catholic Charities has also been working with El Puente to distribute personal hygiene products donated by Unilever Home & Personal Care in Jefferson City.

All the while, God's people are finding new ways to put their faith into action.

"There are so many united and independent efforts that are happening now," said Mr. Lester. "I think a lot of people throughout the diocese are rec-

ognizing in this crisis a real opportunity to be of service."

New Evangelization

Deacon Castro has been helping Spanish-speaking parishioners stay connected through a Facebook page — Ministerio Hispano - Diócesis de JC — and a text-messaging app.

He believes the COVID-19 pandemic has opened people's eyes to the vast mission field before them.

"It has forced us to change our understanding of evangelization — finding new ways

to evangelize, exploring new forms of evangelization, and pursuing these with renewed ardor," he said.

He's confident that these factors will continue well beyond the current crisis.

"And we need to continue exploring and implementing good strategies for assisting people in need and helping all people get to know Christ better," he said.

"That's what being missionary disciples and witnesses to God's love is all about," he added.

RESUME

From page 15

Priests have made themselves available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

"Although our church buildings and schools have been mostly quiet during this time of pandemic, God's work has continued with great energy and creativity," Bishop McKnight stated.

"The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has continued to be offered," he said. "The sacred ministries of charity, education and faith formation have been carried-out in new, unique and often ingenious ways in our communities.

"As individuals, as parishes, as a diocese and in communion with the Church throughout the world, we continue to look out for and minister to those around us in ways that are both lawful and appropriate," he said.

All the while, "we all must continue, to the extent we are able, to provide material support for the work of our parishes and to plan for the continued flourishing of our collaborative outreach and concrete charitable ministries, now and beyond this time of pandemic," the bishop stated.

For more information about the diocese's response to COVID-19 and to read Bishop McKnight's decrees and instructions, visit diojeffcity.org/public-health.

COLBERT

From page 22

The secret of his success, Brehm says, is that he "does not diminish other's search for meaning in different systems."

At its heart the book is about comedy in the digital and social media age, which questions truth, connects us impersonally, blurs divisions and provides unlimited data via computers and phones.

Brehm uses Colbert to "provide insight into the mechanisms behind lived religion: the processes of meaning making and identity creation." Thankfully, she also includes some of Colbert's jokes. Brehm says that by delivering religious information in an entertaining way, audiences are covertly evangelized through his "stage as pulpit." People may not be in the pews, but they catch "Church of Colbert" clips online.

Chapters cover Colbert as character, Catholic authority, catechist and culture warrior. His humorous personality, vacillating between silliness and influence, offers a serious take on Catholicism that has greatly influenced public perception.

The entertainer is considered by many to be

more trustworthy than contemporary politicians or world leaders, and Colbert is their leading source of news. She contends that Colbert anesthetized Americans to extremism, blatantly making up facts that paved the way for President Trump's election.

Brehm clearly did extensive reading and research on this entertainer, evidenced in 28 pages of footnotes. Expect some \$10 words as the author provides a "digital media ethnography and rhetorical analysis" of Catholic comedy.

Despite being repetitive at times, the book is a worthwhile "case study of the intersection between lived religion and mass media" via Colbert.

If you want to study how humor, social media and entertainment inform and mold our Church and public opinion today, this book will be a good choice for you.

Pehanich is a Catholic freelance writer, blogger, spiritual director and former assistant editor for the Diocese of San Jose, California.

Daily Readings

Sunday, May 3

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Ps. 23:1-6
Pt. 2:20b-25
Jn. 10:1-10

Monday, May 4

Acts 11:1-18
Ps. 42:2-3; 43:3-4
Jn. 10:11-18

Tuesday, May 5

Acts 11:19-26
Ps. 87:1b-7
Jn. 10:22-30

Wednesday, May 6

Acts 12:24-13:5a
Ps. 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Jn. 12:44-50

Thursday, May 7

Acts 13:13-25
Ps. 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27
Jn. 13:16-20

Friday, May 8

Acts 13:26-33
Ps. 2:6-11ab
Jn. 14:1-6

Saturday, May 9

Acts 13:44-52
Ps. 98:1-4
Jn. 14:7-14

Sunday, May 10

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 6:1-7
Ps. 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Pt. 2:4-9
Jn. 14:1-12

Monday, May 11

Acts 14:5-18
Ps. 115:1-4, 15-16
Jn. 14:21-26

Tuesday, May 12

Ss. Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs;
St. Pancras, martyr
Acts 14:19-28
Ps. 145:10-13ab, 21
Jn. 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 13

Our Lady of Fatima
Acts 15:1-6
Ps. 122:1-5
Jn. 15:1-8

Thursday, May 14

ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
Ps. 113:1-8
Jn. 15:9-17

Friday, May 15

St. Isidore
Acts 15:22-31
Ps. 57:8-10, 12
Jn. 15:12-17

Saturday, May 16

Acts 16:1-10
Ps. 100:1b-3, 5
Jn. 15:18-21

The Holy Father's prayer intentions for May:

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

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VEIT

From page 9

fell on them during the community's lunch.

One of the survivors later wrote, "We came to realize that what God wanted was not a few departures for Rome, but numerous departures for Heaven."

As we mourn the loss of our dear residents, I've tried to think of their deaths as departures for heaven, their passage to glory.

During this Easter season I pray that the contemplation of Christ's victory over sin and death will help us to rise above the cloud of tragedy hanging over us and renew our faith in the power of the resurrection to lift us all to glory.

Sister Constance Veit is the director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Derek Hooper ordination to diaconate on May 30

Attendance to be limited; Mass to be livestreamed

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight of Jefferson City announces the upcoming ordination of seminarian Derek Hooper to the Order of the Diaconate.



Derek Hooper

The ordination Mass will

take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 30, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Out of an abundance of caution, physical attendance will be limited. However, the ordination will be livestreamed from the cathedral at diojeffcity.org/ordination.

Mr. Hooper is a fourth-year theology student at Mundelein Seminary in Chicago.

A feature article about him will be published in an upcoming issue of *The Catholic Missourian*.

Vatican donates ventilators to hospitals in Syria, sets up fund

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

In the name of Pope Francis, the Congregation for Eastern Churches said it is sending 10 ventilators to Syria and three to St. Joseph's Hospital in Jerusalem to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

The donations were among the first items announced by the congregation as it launched an emergency fund in response to the pandemic.

The congregation's announcement April 18 said the 10 ventilators sent to Syria would be shared by three hos-

pitals run by Catholic orders of women religious: the Salesians in Damascus, the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition in Aleppo and the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul in Damascus.

In addition to the ventilators for the Jerusalem hospital — also run by the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition — the congregation said it would purchase and supply diagnostic kits for people in Gaza and would make an “extraordinary contribution” to Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem, West Bank, which specializes in maternity and neonatal critical care.

The Congregation for Eastern Churches supports the Eastern Catholic churches throughout the world and also looks after the needs of Catholics of all rites in Egypt, Eritrea and northern Ethiopia, southern Albania and Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Jordan and Turkey.

Stay-at-Home FertilityCare Instruction

FertilityCare Instruction continues to be offered by Zoom.

The Introductory Session is always complimentary and follow-up fees have been waived until June 1.

This class is of interest for marriage preparation, infertili-

ty, medical applications, regular or irregular cycles, breastfeeding and fertility appreciation from adolescence to menopause.

Contact FertilityCare of Columbia, Phyllis A. White, CFCE, at (816) 550-8789 or FertilityCare.CoMo@gmail.com

Jesus said to them, "Come away by yourselves ... and rest a while."

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Wardsville/Osage Bend Knights of Columbus Home Association

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Retrovaille for married couples facing challenges

The Retrouvaille Program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship.

A Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, for couples of all faiths or no faith background, it is primarily a practical program to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect.

Presenters are not trained marriage counselors. They are couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

The next session is scheduled for May 29 in Kansas City, Kansas.

For more information and registration go to: helpourmarriage.org/

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