

Seeking God's glory

At retirement, Pat Lehr, reflects on her 36-year journey as a pastoral associate and director of religious education for Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville.

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The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

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Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Discernment continues as pastors settle into new assignments



This magnificent art-glass window in St. Anthony Church in Camdenton depicts the Eucharist as the source and summit of the Christian life and the focal point of Christian community.

— Photo by Jay Nies

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Mo. providing disaster case-management after floods

By Jay Nies

Recent flash-flooding in central and northeastern Missouri probably wasn't of a significant magnitude to trigger a federal disaster declaration.

Nonetheless, Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) will work with a network of local agencies to get people who were affected the short- and long-term help they need in order to recover.

"We see it as our call to care for and serve and help individuals who are vulnerable," said Alissa Marlow, director of community services for CCCNMO.

"It's not enough to stand by and watch," she stated. "We have to commit ourselves to providing long-term assistance."

Mrs. Marlow spoke of how CCCNMO's work is fitting into the larger network of disaster-response efforts.

Catholic Charities specializes in providing long-term disaster case-management and the sharing of important information to help people while they wait for the flood water to

recede.

She described long-term disaster case-management as "helping households walk the long road to recovery — understanding how to make a claim for insurance, leveraging other resources, working with other partner agencies to leverage assistance, and helping people figure out how to mitigate their risk in the future."

She noted that Catholic Charities is the only agency in the area that specializes in this sort of long-term disaster case-management.

Coordinated efforts

Mrs. Marlow pointed out that flooding is a particularly challenging disaster because it often takes days if not weeks for the water to recede.

"Until the waters recede and it is safe to venture out into

By Jay Nies

Priests throughout the Jefferson City diocese are settling into new or modified assignments, following a large round of pastoral appointments that took effect July 1.

Many of them are entering important discussions with parishioners on how best to meet the spiritual needs of their communities, which are changing along with the nation and world around them.

"This is anything but business as usual," Bishop W. Shawn McKnight insisted. "We're answering the call to be different and do things differently."

It will mean applying new levels of creativity and cooperation toward tending to the spiritual and temporal needs of all people within each parish's boundaries.

While only 8 percent of the population in the 38 counties of the diocese is Catholic, canon law defines the parish as being a community of the Christian faithful responsible for the mission of the Church in its territorial boundary (Canon 515).

It's a big responsibility and calls all parishioners to higher levels of accountability in helping, welcoming and ministering to their neighbors, both seen and unseen.

It will require working to reverse the recent steep declines in Mass attendance (approximately 30 percent since 2000) and participation in the sacraments.

It will likely mean drawing communities more closely together in carrying-out the essential ministries of forming lifelong followers of Christ and providing regular sacramental encounters with Him for all the faithful.

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See FLOODING page 17

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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Pray for deceased priests

July 12 — **Fr. Henry J. Figge**, Immaculate Conception, Owensville (1978)

July 14 — **Fr. John P. Walsh**, St. Joseph, Westphalia (1992); **Msgr. Raphael P. Keyes**, St. Anthony, Camdenton; Our Lady of the Snows, Climax Springs; and St. Bernadette, Hermitage (2010)

July 24 — **Msgr. John F. Kenny**, St. Anthony of Padua, Folk (1981); **Fr. Joseph B. Boland**, Holy Guardian Angels, Brinktown (1998); **Fr. Arthur J. Mersinger**, St. Cecilia, Meta (2003)

Administrative Assistant



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City is seeking an experienced Administrative Assistant to support the Director of Parish and Charitable Services. This position not only provides administrative support, but is closely aligned with direct ministry; therefore, the individual will need to have a good knowledge of the Catholic faith in order to be successful.

In addition to excellent organizational and Microsoft Office skills, the ideal candidate will need to be available for occasional evening and weekend work, estimated to be approximately 12 times per year.

This is a full-time, year-round position.

The Diocese of Jefferson City offers a comprehensive benefit package including paid holidays, paid vacation and sick days; group health, dental and vision insurance; flexible spending account and matching 403(b) retirement plan.

Qualified candidates should apply on **Indeed.com** and complete the skills assessment.

Wellness Case Coordinator



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City has an opening for a part-time Wellness Case Coordinator.

The Wellness Case Coordinator serves as an advocate for priests and deacons within the Diocese of Jefferson City. This individual is responsible for educating priests and permanent deacons so that they can take care of their own health, and if needed, can act as an advocate and liaison between the priest/deacon and their medical provider(s).

This is a part-time, virtual position with some travel within the diocese.

The ideal candidate will be a RN, LPN or Nurse Case Manager with a Missouri state nursing license, or a social worker with healthcare experience.

Qualified candidates should send a resume to **HRDir@diojeffcity.org**.

2021 Special Legislative Session Opening Prayer for the Missouri House of Representatives

Monsignor Robert A. Kurwiczki, chaplain of the Missouri House of Representatives, led the members in prayer at the opening of their 2021 Extraordinary Special Session on June 30, 2021:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
— Matthew 5:3

O God, the Creator and Sustainer of all people, the Strength of those who labor and the Guide of all who put their trust in You, in reverence we bow before You this moment in this House Chamber.

You are ever with us and we pray that we may always be aware of Your presence and

keep our lives open to the power of Your word.

By Your Spirit may we become conscious of our own stress and shortcomings, our own limitations and liabilities.

May we not mistake error for principle nor conceit for confidence, but in all humility depend upon You alone for guid-

ance and grace for daily living in our Missouri.

Cleanse our hearts of any pettiness, or narrowness and create in us a new spirit — a new faith in You, a new joy in living, a new courage for life, and a new enthusiasm for political cooperation for our people.

And the House says, "Amen!"

Carmelite Nuns' prayer ministry email

The Carmelite Nuns' ministry is to pray for the intentions of the people and Church of Jefferson City. Please email them at: carmelofjc.prayers@gmail.com.

The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is Friday, July 16.

Sexual Risk Avoidance Instructor

PhC
of Central Missouri

Sexual Risk Avoidance Instructor wanted starting in August 2021 for an established program in the Central Missouri area. Must connect well with middle school students and enjoy interacting and communicating with students at the 6th through 8th grade level. Travel to participating school districts for a four-to-five day program. Curriculum meets state standards. Flexibility in scheduling with each school district. If interested, please call Leslie at 573-644-6635.

Administrative Professional Needed

The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, Laurie, Mo. is seeking an Administrative Professional to manage the Shrine's office administration and programs. Programs include 4 pilgrimages, plus our summer Masses. This person is the Ambassador for the Shrine; spreading the joy of our beautiful surroundings and wonderful celebrations of the Eucharist; greeting and communicating with our pilgrims, supporters and volunteers; and sharing our devotion to Mary as Mother of the Church. The position handles our database of donors and supporters, coordinates all Shrine activities, and provides administrative support to our Chairman of the Board, plus participating in marketing and distribution of our marketing materials. Skills are needed in Word, Excel and Publisher; training is provided for our database entry and management. The person must be a self-starter and work with minimal supervision. Communication skills are a must. Please submit a resume to Don D. Drake at dondrake@yahoo.com.

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— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
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SUMMER CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Monday, July 26
Resurrection & St. Peter Cemeteries
Jefferson City

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

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

info@rccjc.org — www.rccjc.org

Laurie pilgrimage speaker can relate to “bored” young Catholics

DATE: July 24
TIME: 8 am - 5:30 pm

By Jay Nies

Maggie Craig grew up Catholic, went to Catholic school and got terribly bored with it as a teenager.

“It didn’t seem to relate to me, and I couldn’t understand why it was so important,” said Ms. Craig, who’s now a prominent Catholic speaker and retreat leader.

A powerful experience with the Sacrament of Reconciliation changed her life when she was 15.

“My eyes were opened to the reality of God: He was real, He loved me, and I had to do something about it,” she said.

Ms. Craig will be the featured presenter at a Youth Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church in Laurie on Saturday, July 24.

The shrine is located on the grounds of St. Patrick Church,

176 Marian Drive, off Highway 5 in Laurie.

It is about 20 miles north of Camdenton and 17 miles west of U.S. Business Route 54 at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Ms. Craig is committed to presenting Catholicism to young people in a relatable and approachable way.

Equipped with humorous personal stories and dynamic authenticity, she delights in bringing the message of the joys of the Gospel to parishes, schools, youth groups and college campuses around the country.

“I became a speaker because I fell in love with God and wanted to share that love with other people,” she said.

“I delight in sharing the faith with young people who are also bored with religion, who don’t understand why it’s important or how it relates to them,” she said.

The pilgrimage will include

two sessions with Ms. Craig, along with small-group discussions, games and personal reflection.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

Lunch will be served.

The pilgrimage will close with Mass at 4:30 p.m.

In both talks, Ms. Craig will highlight the meaning of courage, which is derived from the Latin word for heart.

“Being courageous requires the whole heart, the whole self,” she said, noting that the most frequent command in the Bible is “Do not fear.”

“God is intensely interested in us being brave and turning to Him for courage,” she said.

She echoed Venerable Bishop Fulton Sheen’s observation that “there are millions of people who hate what they think the Church is, but there aren’t 100 people who hate what the Church actually is.”

“So many young people have truly no concept of what the Church actually is, and because of that, they reject it,” said Ms. Craig.

She hopes to open the eyes of young people to the reality of the Church, in which they belong.

“The Church is the Body of Christ, and Christ is a God of love and joy and freedom and peace,” she said.

“The closer you get to God and the more you grow in relationship with Him,” she stated, “the more you absorb His qualities and become so much more loving and joyful and free and peaceful. I don’t know anyone who doesn’t want those things.”

Ms. Craig holds a bachelor’s degree in catechetics and a master’s degree in theology, both from Franciscan Univer-



Maggie Craig

sity of Steubenville, Ohio.

Testimonials from past audience members speak for themselves:

•“Maggie has impressed me with her artistic creativity, professional approach, and ability to engage people of all ages, from senior citizens to middle school students.”

•“She gets right to the heart of what teens and pre-teens need to hear in remaining true to the Christian values in today’s culture. She is hilarious and we can’t wait to have her back again.”

Ms. Craig acknowledged that fear is understandable with so many frightening things going on in the world today.

“But God is with us in our hardship and encourages us to take heart and to be courageous regardless,” she said. “He will give us the grace of cour-

age if we ask.”

She’s “100-percent hopeful” about reversing the trend of young Catholics walking away from the Church.

“The devil wants us to despair, and I’m not giving into that,” she said. “As Christians, we rejoice in the victory Christ has already won.”

She noted that while some young people are turning against religion, “there are also other young people who are diving head-first into religion and embracing their call to be

members of the Body of Christ and finding true freedom and peace.”

Wherever sin increases, grace increases all the more.

“I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that God is raising up great saints in this generation,” she said. “I know this to be true in my own life, in the lives of so many of my friends, and in the lives of young people I’ve met across the country.”

More information about Ms. Craig can be found on YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok under “Maggie Craig Ministries” and at Maggie-craig.com.

Registration for the pilgrimage will be from 8 to 8:45 a.m.

Register by email at info@thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com or call 573-374-MARY (6279), or visit mothersshrine.com.

Bishop McKnight’s July prayer intention for our Local Church

We pray for our country at this moment in history, that the dreams of life, liberty and happiness remain in our hearts as well as the desire that we will always be one nation under God.



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

Oramos por nuestro país en este momento de la historia, que los sueños de vida, libertad y felicidad se arraiguen en nuestros corazones, así como el deseo de que siempre seamos una nación ante Dios.

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



Bishop McKnight’s Calendar

Appointments are not normally scheduled in the month of July.

JULY

- Jul 9** Catholic Rural Life Sustainability Committee Meeting, 9 am, Virtual, Catholic Center
- Jul 10** Installation Mass of Reverend Monsignor Gregory L. Higley, JV, as Pastor, 4:30 pm, Sacred Heart Church, Columbia
- Jul 11** Installation Mass of Reverend Monsignor David D. Cox, as Pastor, 10:30 am, St. Stanislaus Church, Wardsville
- Jul 13** Tour of Catholic Charities Renovation, 1 pm, Jefferson City; Deacon Formation Class, 6:30 pm, Catholic Center
- Jul 18** Mass, Immaculate Conception Church, 9 am, Jefferson City; Camp Maccabee, 4 pm, Camdenton



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Fr. Patrick Dolan: 50 years of missionary Priesthood

By Jay Nies

Father Patrick Dolan took the role of St. Peter one Holy Thursday during an unusually long foot-washing at the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

"Master," he eventually called out, "I will help You wash the feet."

That impromptu amendment to the rite was not out of character for Fr. Dolan, who was ordained a priest of the Jefferson City diocese 50 years ago this summer.

For him, service in union with Christ was the core of priestly ministry.

"The heartbeat of our Catholic faith is really vocation," said Fr. Dolan. "The Priesthood is one very special vocation within the Church, with a sense of mission to nurture all other vocations.

"The image of shepherding is very strong for me when I speak of representing Christ through the gift of Priesthood — either in pastoral leadership, in formation, which takes many forms, and above all through witnessing," he said.

Fr. Dolan is a missionary. He grew up in Ireland while it was dispatching thousands of priests and sisters to minister throughout the English-speaking world and beyond.

"There was a profound sense of leaving on mission that was very much a part of the Priesthood in Ireland at that time," he said. "There were constant reminders of people you knew who were out on mission."

He followed his older brother, Thomas, into priestly discernment at All Hallows Missionary College in Dublin and then into priestly service for the Diocese of Jefferson City.

They came from a family of nine siblings, five boys and four girls.

"I am the youngest of the boys, and I have three younger sisters," Fr. Dolan noted.

Priestly and religious vocations were looked upon favorably in his and most other Irish Catholic families.

"It's not that I was forced or encouraged that strongly to be a priest," he said, "but my parents were very open to it."

By the time he was in high school, he was ready to give the seminary a try.

He suspects that he might



Father Patrick Dolan (second from left) helps prepare a communal meal for people affected by a devastating earthquake in Pisco, Peru, in 2007. As pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City at that time, he helped establish a sister parish relationship with San Francisco de Asis Parish in Pisco Playa.

—Photo by Mark Saucier

have taken up teaching or law-enforcement had the Lord not called him to be a priest.

He had never visited the United States until the year before his ordination, when he spent part of the summer in this diocese.

On June 20, 1971, in the chapel of All Hallows College, Archbishop (later Cardinal) Timothy Manning — "he, too, was a missionary" — ordained Fr. Dolan and 12 other men to the Holy Priesthood.

"It was a very warm and exciting day," Fr. Dolan recalled, "a day when family and friends came to be present."

He remained in Ireland for almost three months while his U.S. visa was being processed.

"In the meantime, I enjoyed myself and took Masses on the weekend at different places, mostly at home," he said.

He believes farewells are echoes of the Paschal Mystery — Jesus's suffering, death and resurrection.

"There is a dying and a rising that we all have to do to be of service as a priest," he stated.

"My first important and difficult farewell came when I bade goodbye to my family and friends and travelled to Missouri to begin my priestly ministry," he said.

"Time to serve"

Fr. Dolan was assigned to St. Brendan Parish in Mexico, with Father Arthur Mersinger, now deceased, as his pastor.

"He had served a short time

in our diocese's missions in Peru," Fr. Dolan noted. "His sister was in Maryknoll and worked in the missions in Hong Kong."

Fr. Dolan later served as associate pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia, then as a teacher and spiritual director at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City.

He had been a priest for about 11 years when he volunteered to serve in the missions in Peru.

"I figured I was young and energetic enough to take a turn at the missions, which I wound up giving 10 years to," he said.

Since 1962, the diocese had been sending as many as 10 percent of its priests to serve in the Dioceses of Ica and Puno.

After learning Spanish in Cochabamba, Bolivia, he was appointed pastor of St. James the Apostle Parish in Nazca, Peru.

"It was certainly a learning experience for me," he said.

He worked with a mission team consisting of priests, sisters and laypeople to minister to thousands of Catholics spread out across many miles.

For him, it was very biblical. "To know what it is like to live in a desert, what wilder-

ness means, what mountains mean — that's what I experienced there," he said.

He learned how to make his parishioners' culture his own, so as to minister to them from within rather than imposing his own culture on them.

For instance, "they taught me to use time to serve people and not people to serve time," he said.

One of the mission team's goals was to help people in the parishes prepare to accept leadership roles in the Church.

"The whole idea of a missionary is to do himself out of a job," Fr. Dolan noted. "That was part of our effort, to train those who would continue the mission of the Church without the help of the religious communities from other countries."

He said going on mission is an adventure, "and I advise

gave him a greater sense of the "Catholicity" of the Church.

He believes that any number of things could make a person stand out as a great missionary, "but what really sets one apart is the love they have for people who very often are in great need."

"In the Psalm, we hear that God hears the cry of the poor," he noted. "For us to hear and respond to the cry of the poor is to enlighten and strengthen the Church throughout the world."

He called to mind the words of a Peruvian Christmas hymn: "*Todos los días nace el Señor*" — "Every day, the Lord is born."

"For that to be true, we all have to be missionaries," he stated. "If that ever ceases, we'll no longer be the Church."

"Inevitable joy"

Fr. Dolan returned to Missouri in 1995, ministering briefly at St. Patrick Parish in Rolla before being sent to lead St. Joseph Parish in Salisbury.

He then served as pastor of Ss. Peter & Paul Parish in Boonville, followed by Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City, and then St. Patrick Parish in Laurie and the Mission of St. Philip Benizi in Versailles.

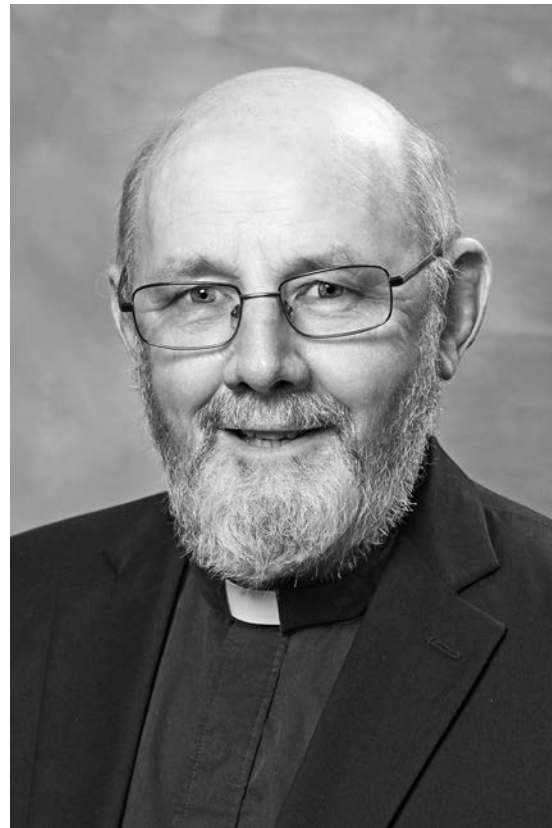
Since 2016, he has been offering weekend Masses in Milan and Unionville and ministering to Hispanic Catholics in several parishes in northeastern Missouri.

He recently took up residence in the St. Marceline Rectory in Marceline. He looks forward to helping locate and establish ministries to small

new communities of Hispanic immigrants in this diocese.

He pointed out that like generations of immigrants who settled here ahead of them, "many come to us in mourning for having left their home, and longing to have a place that's a Church home for them."

He said he has been blessed



Father Patrick Dolan

making it a prayerful one."

Perpetual mission

Fr. Dolan believes the very nature of being a follower of Christ is to have a missionary spirit that is in the habit of asking, "What can I do to share my faith in Christ with others?"

Working in Peru with people from all over the world

Taos native stopping in J.C. July 16 with Biking for Babies

Mass with cross-country pro-life cycling group at 5 p.m. in Cathedral

By Jay Nies

Taos native Erin Spengler was stuck in the mud in the support-crew vehicle during last year's Biking for Babies National Ride.

She didn't get halfway through her first decade of the Rosary before a passing motorist pulled over to help her.

Then, someone else arrived from another direction.

"I had these two complete strangers help to push my car out of the mud, just out of the kindness of their hearts," she recalled.

"It was a total God moment, a total blessing."

It later occurred to her that this was the kind of help she and the rest of her team of Biking for Babies missionaries were working to give pregnant women who are in crisis: A blessing. An answer to prayer.

"Our team believes in a world that respects the dignity of every single life, and we are chasing that vision," she said.

Ms. Spengler, a graduate of St. Francis Xavier School in Taos, a former teacher at St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City and currently a third-grade teacher at St. Francis Xavier School in St. Joseph, is part of the support crew for the western leg of this year's Biking for Babies tour.

Participating college-age and young-adult cyclists raise money and awareness for local Pregnancy Resource Centers (PRCs) by riding and praying together for about 100 miles a day for six or seven days.

The north-, south-, east- and west-traveling groups, each consisting of about a dozen riders, will converge for a Celebration of Life in St. Louis on July 17 after having propelled themselves a combined 2,700 miles.

Ms. Spengler's group, beginning in Colorado, will stop in Jefferson City on Friday,

July 16, in time for 5 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

A couple of Biking for Babies missionaries will give witness about their experiences and motivation for taking part in the National Ride.

The Pregnancy Help Center of Central Missouri will offer tours of its mobile unit, which allows the organization to give free ultrasounds to women who are pregnant or believe they might be.

All are invited to attend.

Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish also plans to livestream the event on its Facebook page.

Back for more

This is Biking for Babies' 12th annual National Ride and Ms. Spengler's second.

She describes Biking for Babies as "a pro-life nonprofit aiming to rebuild the culture of life by forming young adult missionaries and raising awareness and financial sup-



Erin Spengler, right, visits with Jane and Joseph Dalton of the Pregnancy Resource Center of Rolla in preparation for last year's Biking for Babies National Ride. The Taos native served as a support crew member on the 2020 ride and will do so again this year.

\$225,000 in donations this year for its PRC partners, including the Jefferson City-based PHC of Central Missouri.

That would bring Biking for Babies' 12-year total to over \$1 million raised to help pregnant women and their babies.

All of the biking and support missionaries take part in spiritual formation as part of their training for the National Ride.

The teams have been meeting monthly online since March, discussing their prayer lives, their fundraising progress, organization and logistics for the support crew, and physical training for the cyclists.

They've also learned about the work of pregnancy help centers, including their partner PRCs: to provide free support and resources to the women and families who are experiencing an unplanned, difficult or at-risk pregnancy.

Complete service

As a teacher, Ms. Spengler makes a point of spending some of her summer downtime serving God on some kind of mission trip and then sharing her experiences with her students and their families.

single person — the baby, the mom, everyone involved.

"And we're not just going to get you to say yes to having this baby and then leave you stranded and alone," she noted. "We're going to offer you this love and support so that you feel truly capable of being a mother."

That is the essence of what pregnancy resource centers give, free of charge, to their clients.

"So we as Biking for Babies are out there, making sacrifices to show the world the great help, love and support that these organizations are providing moms who are in crisis."

Teams for this year's National Ride are starting in Green Bay, Wisconsin; Columbus, Ohio; Natchez, Mississippi; and Holly, Colorado.

Ms. Spengler and another support-crew missionary will drive the support and gear vehicle for the Western Group, keeping the riders hydrated, fed, energized and on course while they cycle over 800 miles through Colorado, Kansas and Missouri.

"We kind of leapfrog with the riders, making sure they are staying on course," said Ms. Spengler. "Anytime they have to turn on a different road, we're marking the turn there ahead of them."

She is also coordinating the stops along the way and helping communities organize nightly events for the missionaries to share their mission.

She sees all of this through a Marian lens.

See BIKING, page 23

Heavenly Father,



We thank you for the gift of this day. May we use it for your glory as we fight this battle for women, children, and families across our nation. We pray that our presence on this earth may bring awareness to the gift and beauty of life. May all the PRCs that we support have their needs provided for and find encouragement to keep pursuing their mission. We pray for the many little souls who were not given the opportunity to take their first breath on this earth, especially those who will die today. May they all be in heaven cheering us on as we fight for their brothers and sisters. We pray also for their mothers, that they may be healed and have the desire to share their story so that we may all come to see an end to this genocide of Your children.

Amen.

port for pregnancy resource centers."

By pushing themselves to the limit each day on the road, "our missionaries give witness to the beauty of every human life and to spread the good news of life-affirming pregnancy resource centers who support women and families locally and nationally," she said.

The group aims to raise



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Pat Lehr has spent 36 years helping the faithful seek God's glory

By Judy Tritz

In celebrating her retirement as a pastoral minister in Kirksville, Pat Lehr traced moments of her unusual and pioneering role with participants, at a Mass and reception in her honor.

"Thirty-seven years ago, I was working on a master's degree in administration here at Northeast Missouri State University," she recalled, referring to what is now known as Truman State University.

"I'd been a teacher for a while," she noted. "I was going to become a principal, then a director of curriculum, and then I was going to teach in college.

"Of course, I was also going to meet Prince Charming and have a lot of kids and be the president of the Altar Society and PTA!" she added.

But there was a little glitch in all that.

When the job she had lined up in Quincy, Illinois, fell through, she met with the pastor of Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville.

"He helped me figure out what to do when your life does a flip-flop," she recalled.

The priest wanted her to become a pastoral minister and director of religious education (DRE) there at Mary Immaculate.

"Why not give God a year?" he suggested. "Just a year."

She drew inspiration from her parents' phenomenal example of faith, as well as all of the catechetical and Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat experience she had garnered in her home Diocese of Springfield, Illinois.

She also recognized: "I'm grieving. I'm free. I don't know what to do with my life."

The pastor impressed upon her the need for her to "pull things together so everybody in the parish feels a part of one family."

"It doesn't matter what school they go to," he told her. "It doesn't matter what program they are in. We are all one Body of Christ."

So Ms. Lehr came to Mary Immaculate for one year, "to hide out and to heal."

She freely admits that at that point, she didn't have a clue about what a pastoral minister or pastoral ministry is.

"I'd never been involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), which was a new program at that time," she said.

She had done a great deal of catechetical work, but in her home diocese, there were no laywomen serving in the role she was being asked to serve in.

"So I thought I'd give it one year," she said.

Her openness to God's plan stretched to 36 years.

Three fingers

Ms. Lehr employed a wealth of teaching techniques during her time as pastoral minister and DRE.

She was known to hand out stones with the word "First" painted on them.

"First" is an allusion to an utterance of Jesus' to a crowd poised to stone a woman caught in adultery in John 8:7: "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

She recalled that when she was a child, her mother always reminded her that if she ever pointed a finger at another person, three of her own fingers were pointing right back at her.

It was a good reminder to "check my own life first before judging others," she said.

That lesson stuck with her as she collaborated with priests, deacons, religious and parishioners of all temperaments and dispositions.

Rather than focusing on their faults or traits that might have annoyed her, she looked for the good — for the gifts they possessed, trusting that God has a way of sending someone with the gifts that are most needed at that particular time.



LEFT: Noelle Mputu, on the occasion of her Baptism and First Holy Communion, and her sister Sarah Vantoto, who received her First Holy Communion in 2015 at Mary Immaculate Church in Kirksville. The sisters, who are from the Democratic Republic of Congo, were supported and guided by Pastoral Minister Pat Lehr, (back) and Noelle's godmother, Emily Schwend (left). **RIGHT:** Pat Lehr, who recently retired from her ministries, recalled sharing joy with Bebey Anderson Vantoto on the occasion of his daughters' reception of the sacraments. Ms. Lehr served as pastoral minister and director of religious education for 36 years at Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville.



She witnessed with awe as God worked with and through her to draw people to Himself.

She recently recalled in a letter to parishioners: "I learned what it was to become more fully alive because of your faith journeys and your stories — returning to church, baptizing your children, preparing them for receiving Holy Communion, discovering things in a way I had never experienced, listening to the word of God, doing all kinds of services."

There were "a few roller coasters over the years, and God kept me here," she said, adding, "Thank You, God!"

Ups and downs

Among the rough rides for Ms. Lehr, the eldest of six children, were the loss of her little brother Michael and the deaths of her parents.

She said parishioners "loved her through it."

She recalled when Kevin Baiotto insisted on following her car when she drove on wintry roads from a hospital in Columbia, where Michael was being treated for cancer, to her home

in Kirksville, to ensure her safety.

She called to mind the times when Jakie Grgurich insisted on making arrangements for her to fill up her gas tank as she made the treks back and forth.

In all, she served the two Kirksville Catholic communities — Mary Immaculate Parish with its 505 registered households, and the Newman Center at Truman State University — as well as the Mission of St. Rose of Lima in nearby Novinger.

She worked alongside 11 priests, six deacons, three Sisters of the Charity of the Incarnate Word, one School Sister of Notre Dame, four principals, five coordinators of youth ministry, five religious education administrative associates, four parish secretaries, two bookkeepers and three bishops, as well as hundreds of parishioners and college students and countless volunteers.

She helped parishioners weather the roller-coaster "downdrafts" with calm and steady reassurance.

The numerous "updrafts" she experienced included the realization that a laywoman can make a profound impact

on the lives of parishioners.

Early in her tenure, she had discovered a quote from St. Irenaeus: "The Glory of God is the human person fully alive."

"I didn't really quite know what that meant," she told the people at her retirement celebration. "But you taught me what the Glory of God looks like," she added.

Among those who congratulated her after her retirement celebration was a man who said having her serve in the role as a laywoman was so unique, it made him think more seriously about his own call as a layperson, as a father and a husband.

"That was very humbling," she stated.

Next chapter

Ms. Lehr plans to spend her retirement in Kirksville and will remain an active Mary Immaculate parishioner.

She is hopeful about the future of the Catholic Church, confident that the Holy Spirit will "purify our Church and keep us going."

"We must trust in God!" she said.

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Diocesan Mission Collection to be taken up July 17-18

Contributions help solidify mission partnerships around the world

By Jay Nies

These are the days of the year the sugarcane plantation workers in the Negros Occidental region of the Philippines call “*tiempo muerto*.”

That is “dead time,” when there’s nothing to harvest and no money to buy food.

“It is at this time of the year that they and their families have no choice but to weather the hunger brought about by this off-season until they can farm again,” said Father Donardo “Fr. Dandi” Bermejo.

He is founder and director of the Works of Charity Center and St. Joseph the Worker Charity Clinic for the indigent sugarcane plantation workers of that region.

“It is at this season that they need lots of help and assistance from people of goodwill,” he stated.

Much of that help and assistance comes from the people who contribute to the mission outreach of the Jefferson City diocese.

Parishes throughout the diocese will take up the annual Diocesan Mission Collection the weekend of July 17-18.

Contributions help the life-saving work of the diocese’s mission partners around the globe.

Countries such as India, Nigeria, Uganda and Ghana currently send missionary priests to minister in this diocese.

In turn, the Church in central and northeastern Missouri helps these missionary priests’ home dioceses by providing resources for projects such as building a chapel in an isolated village in India or digging a well to provide access to fresh water in several African locales.

Contributions also support ongoing mission projects in Latin America and the Philippines.

“We are nourishing families not only with the basic necessities they need,” Bishop W. Shawn McKnight stated in a letter to the people of this diocese, “but also by preaching the Gospel and empowering people to work together to change the world in which they live.”

Ministering to the vulnerable

Money from the Mission Collection helps the work of Father Cesar Anicama, a priest of the Jefferson City diocese who’s ministering among some of Peru’s poorest people in the midst of a global pandemic.

Serving as a Missionary of St. James the Apostle in his homeland of Peru, Fr. Anicama ministers at Nuestra Señora de la Paz (Our Lady of Peace) Parish in Villa El Salvador, about 20 miles south of Lima, the nation’s capital.

This coastal city is home to about 4 million people, many of whom resettled there after fleeing the poverty of the Andes Mountains almost a half-century ago.

“I have been able to distribute food packets and hygiene kits,” Fr. Anicama recently reported. “I’ve reached those affected by COVID-19, especially people living in poverty, those in isolation, and those who are unemployed.”

Each food basket — containing rice, sugar, milk, beans and tuna, among other items people may need — provides enough food for a family of three for a week.

He has also been providing spiritual support to families who are dealing with stress or the death of a family member.

He offers Mass online, leads Eucharistic Adoration and the Stations of the Cross, blesses homes, distributes rosaries, hears confessions, anoints the dying and comforts the grieving.

The diocesan Mission Office sent money from the 2020 collection and various other donations to provide assistance to children, teens, elderly, homeless, handicapped, disabled and low-income people in Villa El Salvador and other villages.

The pandemic has officially killed over 49,000 people across Peru and shattered the Peruvian economy, which relies heavily on tourism, leaving millions unemployed.

“In each Mass I celebrate, I pray for doctors, nurses and health workers because many of them have died around the world,” Fr. Anicama stated.

“I pray for those who suffer the loss of a loved one, or



TOP: Father Donardo “Fr. Dandi” Bermejo and employees of the Works of Charity Center in Manila pay a surprise visit and present bags of rice to about 30 sugarcane plantation workers in the sugarcane field at Hacienda Tinampaan, Barangay Riboton, Cadiz City, Negros Occidental, Philippines, this May. **RIGHT:** Father Cesar Anicama, a priest of the diocese who is serving as a Missionary of St. James the Apostle in his homeland of Peru, administers the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick to a patient who is seriously ill.

who suffer from the absence of work and all those who are suffering due to COVID,” he added. “I ask God to give me strength to continue working for His Church in this time of global pandemic.”

“A big blessing”

Sugarcane plantation workers in the Philippines suffer from generations of startling poverty and are among the worst paid and least respected in their country.

Compounding their misery this year were the COVID-19 pandemic, flooding in Negros Occidental this January and toxic pollution from a nearby chemical distillery.

COVID vaccines have been slow to arrive in Fr. Dandi’s region of the Philippines, so he and his staff have had to work cautiously.

Even so, “every time I visit sugarcane plantation workers in their communities or in the sugarcane plantation, I always feel the presence of Christ in each one of them and God’s

presence in our midst,” he stated.

“Yes, it is always a happy and grace-filled moment for each one of us when we come together,” he said.

Fr. Dandi and employees of the Works of Mercy Center have made several surprise visits to surrounding villages, distributing bags of rice.

On one such visit in May, they encountered workers earning about \$2 a day by pulling weeds.

“It was a big blessing for



them and for their family when we distributed rice packs to them,” said Fr. Dandi.

He noted that rice is a staple food in the Philippines and is not cheap, so to receive it as a gift is considered “a big blessing from God above.”

In each of these visits, “we spent some moments praying

See MISSIONS, page 23

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QUESTION CORNER

Back to sacraments? / Religious practice and parent's concern

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service



Q. A recent column of yours — about coming back to the sacraments — caught my eye. My husband and I were married 47 years ago by a justice of the peace. We were not able to be married in the Church because my husband had been married before. When he was 19 years old, he had married his 16-year-old girlfriend in a Catholic wedding. She had just told him that she was pregnant. Their marriage lasted about a year and a half; then she left him and went back home to live with her parents and her baby daughter. My husband and I have three children; all of them went to Catholic schools, graduated and now have children of their own. We are still in contact, too, with my husband's daughter from his first marriage. I have watched our children go through all the sacraments in the Catholic Church but have been unable to receive Holy Communion due to my husband's first marriage. Last year, my husband's first wife passed away, and I've been wondering how this affects the status of our marriage within the Catholic Church. Might there be an opportunity to rejoin the Church and receive the sacraments once again? (city and state withheld)

A. Yes, definitely. Since your husband's first wife is now deceased, the way is open for the two of you to return to the sacraments. What you should do is visit with a priest soon.

He will recommend that you go to the sacrament of reconciliation first, to return fully to the graces of the Lord, and then he will be happy to bless your present marriage.

What surprises me a bit is that your husband apparently never sought to have his first marriage annulled by the Church.

The circumstances — a 19- and 16-year-old rushing into marriage, impelled by a pregnancy — present a classic case of a marriage where one or both partners probably lacked sufficient maturity to make a binding lifelong commitment.

Q. I am a cradle Catholic, as are my children. My concern is that, since they reached adulthood, they started going to nondenominational Christian churches instead of to a Catholic church. When they visit me they go to Mass with me, but otherwise they don't. They are, however, very close to Jesus and read their Bibles regularly. But I can't help being concerned because I have always learned that not going to Mass is a mortal sin. It breaks my heart that only one of my grandchildren was baptized in the Catholic Church. One was baptized a Lutheran, three were "dedicated" to the Lord, and one was not baptized at all until she became a teenager and chose to be baptized as a Baptist. Most of them are active Christians in adulthood, but there is not a practicing Catholic among them. I keep wondering what I did wrong and what I can do now, but then again their faith is strong and active. Are my daughters living in mortal sin because they abandoned the Catholic Church? I am so worried about this and keep praying about it. (Kailua, Hawaii)

A. I, too, am saddened and disappointed that your children are no longer practicing Catholics. I believe that the Catholic Church offers the strongest and surest path to salvation — especially with the strength that comes from regularly receiving the Eucharist — and it bothers me a lot when people abandon that path.

But I think you can be at peace and leave it to the Lord to judge the state of your children's souls. From the circumstances

See FR. DOYLE, page 18

Learning God's will and learning how to live it

By Father Joseph S. Corel

For nine years of my Priesthood, I was the vocation director for the Diocese of Jefferson City.

That means I was blessed and honored to travel across 38 counties in rural Missouri to all Catholic churches, schools and any other place Catholics would gather to talk about God's calling for people in their lives.

For most, it would be to the great vocation of marriage; for some to the Priesthood or religious life (a religious brother or priest or a religious sister).

In the Catholic Church, we recently celebrated the Solemnity of Pentecost, the coming down of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles.

With the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles had more clear direction as to where to go, what to say and what to do in fulfilling God's plan for them and for His Church.

How did they receive and act upon the gift of the Holy Spirit? By being in constant communion, constant communication with the three persons in one God.

They prayed and in prayer asked God what they were supposed to do and say and where they were supposed to go.

Maybe at one point, Peter, James and John thought, "When I grow up, I want to be a fisherman."

Matthew might have thought, "I think when I get older I will be a tax collector."

God also had plans for them.

God, the Son of Man, Son of God came up to all three of them and said, "Come follow Me."

And they left their careers and followed Him.

We live on the other side of the resurrection; we live with the Holy Spirit as our advocate.

And God has a purpose and a plan for each one of us. We simply need to ask Him what it is and how he wants



Father Joseph S. Corel

us to live it.

Our young people are constantly asked how they want to make money when they get older; it comes in the form of "What do you want to do when you grow up?"

My guess is that young people are looking at their skills, what passions they have, and trying to line that up with a career path. Maybe they've seen someone do this type of work and they want to imitate



Vocations CALLED TO SAINTHOOD

them. I'm not sure.

What I do believe is that when we ask a young person, "What do you want to do when you grow up?" it's kind of like putting them in a boat in the middle of the ocean without a compass, oars, motor or sails and saying, "Find your way to shore."

Getting to shore can be done; it will be any shore that the currents and winds take them.

But, there are better ways to get to shore. There are better ways to ask the question,

"What do you want to be when you grow up?"

The question is, "What are God's plans for you as you grow in relationship to Him?"

The answer will always be the same: "Holiness; to be with Him. And, now fellow Church members, will you pray with me to help me discover how God is calling me to live this?"

Then, we ask the Lord what He is calling this young person to become by means of the skills, gifts, talents, true passions and true desires God placed within the person.

Remind them to pray for their future spouse. Ask them to pray about who they are to become in marriage and in raising a family. God will direct them toward their career, too.

Then, let's all help raise our young people to be focused on other people, to be helpful, to be of service. This is surely what God wants because it is what is said throughout the Bible: to be for others as Christ was for others.

Many believe the Priesthood shortage is because we don't marry and because only men are priests.

The truth is, the Priesthood shortage is a symptom of a problem; there is a shortage in all areas of service: other denominations need more to study to be ordained ministers; there is a shortage of nurses, teachers and almost all areas of the service industry.

We are all called to love and serve others; it's how we were created. First to love and serve our God, then to love and serve our neighbor.

Let's ask the Lord to help us and our young people know His will and show us how to live it.

Fr. Corel is pastor in solidum of St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County. This article was originally published in the June 4, 2021, edition of the Sedalia Democrat newspaper (sedalia democrat.com/).

Church & world no longer divided. Let's take 'Fratelli Tutti' seriously

By Isabella Guanzini

Catholic News Service

"Rescuing Fraternity — Together" is the title of a call written by an international group of 10 theologians, summoned by Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia and Msgr. Pierangelo Sequeri. This call has grown out of the provocation offered by Pope Francis' encyclical "Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social Friendship."

It is a call to the Church in all its components, to the intellectuals of our time and to all the men and women who care about the present and the future of the community.

Its goal is to create an atmosphere of

"intellectual fraternity" inside and outside the Church, inspired by a spirit of hospitality and openness in the name of care for creation and social friendship, in a sort of human and spiritual awakening from the labors of common living.

The call is an expression of the desire and need to build generative alliances with culture — theological and not — to write a new story together for the community, beyond any purely ideological conflict between the ecclesial community and the secular community, between the created world and the saved world.

Because, as the text states, the Church

is not a "spiritual aristocracy of the elect" but "a welcoming tent that shelters the rainbow of the covenant between God and human creatures."

The call to fraternity cannot be interpreted in the sense of a sentimental and rhetorical aspiration to the unity of the species, nor regarded as a romantic utopia of universal harmony.

Instead, it is clearly meant to be a public commitment to honor the dignity of human life, exhausted by the arrogance of economic technocracy and by the liberal values of efficiency and self-interest, which are indifferent to the ethics of sharing and its effects on the ecosystem and the social impoverishment.

Fraternity is therefore to be considered the unkept promise of modern liberty, and its salvation the dominant feature of the anthropological question of our time.

To "rescue fraternity" it is first of all necessary to understand that the time for a dull repetition of sacred formulas, which are empty and cold, and for the in-

tolerable clerical drift of the ecclesiastical apparatus, which has transformed the religious mission into the political government of the secular city, is over.

It is necessary to abandon not only the project of an ecclesiastical guidance of civil society, inevitably induced to make system with worldly powers, but also any hegemony over human knowledge.

The goal is to give a new possibility of hope for redemption for the shared world that arises from a manifestation of God conceived as a "common good" for the entire human community, and not as a "private property" of the ecclesial dimension thought of as a parallel world of a spiritual aristocracy of the elect.

Today more than ever, academic theology is called to leave the traces of its passage in the vast regions of human experience and knowledge, in a time of individual depression and collective agony.

It is called to conceive and announce the "popular" dimension of God's Gospel

See GUANZINI, page 18

Back to health in all things

By Maureen Pratt

Catholic News Service



Traffic is picking up and the stores seem busier than they have been in a long time. Friends and family are talking about vacations, long-delayed visits and other happy activities. Mass is

"back inside," and more people gather at more services.

Yes, the world is opening up, a very good thing! But we are not reentering, going "back," to life "as it was." Rather, we move ahead, and as we do, we bring experience of the past many months and the effects of what we have been through. By the very fact that each of us has lived through a long pandemic, the time ahead will be a "new" normal.

Physical effects might be the first indications that we are in a new "place." Besides taking our masks off and seeing one another face-to-face for the first time in ages, some of us might have gained weight, cavities or less stamina from lack of consistent exercise. We've focused so much on COVID-19 that other health considerations have been neglected.

So, part of reengaging with the world might very well include accommodating back-to-health gym, doctor and dentist visits so we can face the residual from months of stay-at-home with strength and determination!

Depression, anxiety and other mental health issues are not uncommon effects of long-term crisis. For many, the pandemic exacerbated or fostered these challenges that can benefit from attention from professionals as well as all of us who will be moving about in the reopened world.

In the days ahead, treating one another with extra compassion, care and courtesy will be important, as will being patient and ready to encourage and support those who need counseling or other medical assistance.

During the pandemic, the Holy Spirit was not idle! For many, isolation from in-person church meant rediscovery or deepening of personal prayer, fresh ways to engage with others in virtual fellowship, expanded faith formation through online resources and personal time spent with Scripture and other sacred reading and reflection.

As we return to parish life, it will be very important to not expect that the "old" programs, volunteer opportunities and parish resources will feed the post-pandemic flock.

Some of the faithful might have tremendous suggestions about what might be brought into parish life from their time away, and we do well to spend time listening to these lessons gained so we can understand where our faith family members have been and are, as well as where we might go, together.

One more, obvious or perhaps not obvious consideration: The calendar did not remain fixed on February 2020. The reality of years is another part of our new normal and might come as a bit of a jolt to some.

The toddler we knew a year-and-a-half ago might not be so toddling now, and the teenager might be nearing college graduation! Family members who were engaged in work might have reached an age where retirement is a possibility (or reality).

And we, too, realize we are nearly two whole years older, time has passed "anyway," and what we thought we would be doing or wanted to do in the future has shifted or changed entirely.

Adjusting to these realizations and how we interact with others experiencing similar changes and shifts in life will be one of the greatest challenges, I think, as the world reopens. But these aspects of the "new normal" are also filled with promise, possibility, untold opportunity.

As we discover the newness in the new normal and reconnect with loved ones, new friends far and near, and in-person church, oh, the surprises, blessings and inspiration there will be, too!

REFLECTION

Relieved in the retelling

By Mark Saucier

Overhearing their conversation was unavoidable.

It was intense — not heated but genuine, not loud but impassioned. It was not what you would expect from two men standing at an ab machine.

One was relating the passing of his father, which like so many life-changing events came with little warning.

There weren't serious symptoms or high-tech tests to announce the end. There was only a psychic heads up — a vision in which his father told him he was leaving.

It terrified him at first, stopping him in his tracks, but a few days distance and he chalked it up to fast food or a flash of despair.

By this point, I was uncomfortable eavesdropping on something so personal, but also captured by his words. I looked at him until I caught his eye. I smiled a request to listen. He nodded and went on.

It wasn't long before his father was in the hospital, clinging to the thin thread of a respirator.

He lay there panting, labored gasps quickly using up his allotted breaths. His family gathered around his bed, this son holding onto his feet, trying to ease the last step.

"When he took his final breath," the man said, "I swear that I could physically feel something leave me. It was yanked out of my gut and he took it with him."

It was as real at that moment as when it had happened. The man's eyes watered and the hair on his arm stood on end.

He stopped there, didn't venture as to what that something was.

Was it a part of his soul the father had loaned his son at his birth? Could he have taken the grief his son no longer needed? Was he making room for another's love?

Maybe there is no left-brain logic, no theological decoding of what happened.

Maybe that man still does not know how the hand of heaven had touched his life through his father's death.

Still, he was telling the story and, as with so many stories of God, maybe there's meaning just in the telling.

This reflection was originally published in the June 20, 2006, edition of The Catholic Missourian.

Tolton Catholic H.S. students rescue woman from flood waters

By Hana Kellenberger

Columbia

Two Boy Scouts from Troop

6 in Columbia may get a hard-to-earn Lifesaving and Meritorious Action Award after they braved Hinkson Creek flood waters to rescue a woman late Friday afternoon.

Catholic Charities receives \$50,000 from Veterans United Foundation for health and social services center

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from Veterans United Foundation to help create a health and social services center for Mid-Missouri residents.

The money will go towards finalizing renovation of the former chapel and gymnasium of what was once the Missionaries of La Salette Seminary in Jefferson City.

The new space will include a client choice food pantry, universal use rooms for health services, community and classroom space for group education and training, as well as Catholic Charities' current programs.

These include Health and Nutrition Services; Community Services with Disaster Services and Housing Counseling; and Family Immigration Services.

A community garden will be on site for individuals and families facing hunger.

Veterans United Foundation has a long history of supporting the diverse needs within local communities, and recognizes the significance of this "Open Hearts, Open Doors" renovation project.

"Veterans United Foundation is excited to work with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri as they work toward the opening of their new Jefferson City home," said Veterans United Foundation Outreach Coordinator Piper Brintnall.

"Not only does the 'Open Hearts, Open Doors' program align with the core values of Veterans United, it also allows our employees to feel more connected to an essential organization within our community," she said.

Recently, Veterans United Insurance has expanded its presence by opening a new Jef-



Representatives of the Veterans United Foundation and present a \$50,000 check to Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri toward the renovation of the former La Salette Seminary building in Jefferson City into a state-of-the-art hub of ministry and charity, set to open later this year.

erson City office.

Catholic Charities is excited to have Veterans United Foundation join their efforts in improving the lives of the most vulnerable and in need within Mid-Missouri.

CCCNMO Executive Director Dan Lester said this new facility will allow Catholic Charities to expand its services to people in need, not just in Jefferson City but throughout the 38 counties of the Jefferson City diocese.

"We look forward to a long and fruitful partnership with Veterans United Foundation and are inspired by the generosity of the Veterans United employees," he said.

The renovation project includes transforming the historical building into one of the first near-net-zero energy buildings in Mid-Missouri.

It is located in the heart of what has been classified as a

"food desert" due to its lack of proximity to healthy food choices for people who don't have reliable transportation.

The facility will offer evening hours, weekend hours, and an array of services available under one roof.

Anticipated completion is early fall.

CCCNMO is the social services outreach arm of the Diocese of Jefferson City, which provides a range of programs and services to those in need in a 38-county service area regardless of faith, culture or situation.

To support the "Open Hearts, Open Doors: A New Home for Catholic Charities" renovation project, please visit cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give.

To learn more about Catholic Charities, visit cccnmo.diojeffcity.org.

To learn more about Veterans United Foundation, visit enhancelives.com.

Joseph Diener, 16, and Dominick Viet, 15, who are students of Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia, were riding their bikes near Jay Dix Station off Scott Boulevard when they heard a woman in distress.

"We were just going on a bike ride on the part of the park that wasn't flooded," Dominick said. "We heard someone screaming."

The boys heard the calls of an 18-year-old woman who Columbia Fire Department Assistant Fire Chief Jerry Jenkins said became distressed while voluntarily swimming in the flood waters of Hinkson Creek. She was clinging to a partially submerged post and was unable to swim to safety.

Joseph and Dominick decided to help the woman rather than waiting for firefighters to arrive.

"I don't think she could've lasted until they got there," Joseph said. "We definitely paused, but then we decided it was the right thing to do."

Together, the two boys swam about 10 yards to the woman.

"The water was about a quarter of the way up on a basketball hoop," Joseph said, "probably around 6 or 7 feet."

Despite a slight current and high water, the boys were able to reach the woman and have her grab onto their shoulders so they could bring her to shore. Other bystanders were there to help haul the woman from the water.

Dominick said a friend of the woman told him she had been in the water for around 30 minutes.

"She wasn't moving and couldn't talk," Joseph said. "She was just spitting up water."

The woman was conscious and speaking when first responders arrived. She was taken to University Hospital, but the Fire Department didn't know about her current condition.

Jeremy Diener, Joseph's father, said he heard about the event only after it was over with. Diener received a call from the father of one of Jo-

seph's friends after Joseph arrived at the friend's house.

"He called me up and told me about the adventure," Diener said. "I was proud but concerned, and we had a long talk afterwards about the dangers of flood waters."

Still, Diener was happy his son did what he did.

"It feels good to know he would think of others in that way."

Dominick's mother, Monica Viet, said she was worried about her son before she knew about the rescue.

"I was calling, and he wasn't answering," she said. Viet asked her husband, Dustin Viet, to drive to their son's location to make sure he was safe. When he got there and told her there was an ambulance at the scene, she became frightened.

When Dominick was finally able to call his mother, he explained why he didn't answer his phone.

"Hey, Mom," he said. "I just saved a life."

Scoutmaster Morgan Dailey of Troop 6, which is based at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, said both boys have their swimming and lifesaving merit badges.

"A big thing in scouting is being prepared," Dailey said. "They were prepared."

"I'm totally proud and excited for them," Dailey added, referencing the award the pair might receive.

As for how the two feel after saving a life, Joseph says he is "doing good" and Dominick is "not too bad."

A total of 6.98 inches of rain fell at MU's Sanborn Field weather station from midnight Friday to midnight Saturday, causing flash flooding and closing many roads. Hinkson Creek reached a new high flood stage level of 23.13 feet at 7:45 on Friday morning, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Hana Kellenberger wrote this article for the June 28, 2021, edition of the Columbia Missourian (columbiainmissourian.com) and is republished here with permission.

cathmo.com

PLANNING

From page 1

“What this will all look like has yet to be determined,” the bishop stated. “But it will most certainly look different. Because standing still while the world continues to change around us is impossible.”

The right questions

The discernment process is already well under way for the people in more than a quarter of the diocese’s 38 counties.

Last year, parishioners in Chariton, Cooper, Crawford, Howard, Monroe, Phelps, Pike, Pulaski, Ralls and Saline counties were invited to answer a 14-question survey about options for carrying-on and even expanding the work of the Church with fewer priests available to serve each county.

“Doing nothing is not an option,” Bishop McKnight told the people. “We have to ask the right questions, we have to listen, we have to pray and we have to act.”

A total of 1,777 adults took part in the survey, which was administered online and on paper, from a pool of approximately 10,000 registered parishioners.

Respondents represented the parishes and missions in Boonville, Bourbon, Brunswick, Clarksville, Crocker, Cuba, Dixon, Fayette, Glasgow, Hurricane Branch, Indian Creek, Indian Grove, Louisiana, Marshall, Monroe City, Paris, Perry, Pilot Grove, Richland, Rolla, Rosati, Salisbury, Slater, St. Clement, St. James, St. Robert, Steelville, Sweet Springs and Wien.

Renee Hanrahan, an adept analyst who loves the Church and wants it to thrive for many generations, tabulated and analyzed the survey results, along with data from the U.S. Census and other sources, and presented multifaceted reports to Bishop McKnight and his advisors.

Based on those reports, priest and lay representatives from each parish in the 10 counties worked together on plans for increased collaboration in anticipation of fewer available priests.

Their recommendations figured heavily into months of deliberations among Bishop

McKnight, the Diocesan Presbyteral Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Those informed discussions helped the bishop to give clear direction to the diocesan Priest Personnel Board, which advises him on making priest assignments.

“I am eternally grateful for all of your prayers and honest answers,” Bishop McKnight told the people who took part in the survey and in forging the recommendations for each county.

“It is evident to me and to everyone who helps me make important decisions that you care deeply about your faith and your community and are willing to go to great lengths to pass that along to those who come after you,” he said.

Something different

Father Gregory Meystrik, VF is pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Rolla, Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James and St. Anthony Parish in Rosati, and dean of the diocese’s Southeast Deanery.

He said that throughout the 10-county initiative, he’s been impressed with people’s flexibility and willingness to sacrifice, along with their desire to have the Holy Eucharist available locally at every parish.

“They know that something has to change,” Fr. Meystrik noted, “and there’s an element of mourning that goes with knowing they might have to experience the sacrificial loss of something they once had.”

However, being given a voice in the process and being asked how they can assist is a blessing and a consolation, he said.

Sarah Robinson, a member of St. Clement Parish in St. Clement, is a Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) representative for the Central Deanery.

She said that what she liked about this process is that people were invited into a conversation.

“Everybody knows that something different needs to happen,” she noted. “But when people are invited into the conversation, they take responsibility for the decisions that need to be made, and they are ultimately more accepting of them.”

Not every recommendation that came from the

and among ordained and lay people.

“It’s not just about making the most of our own parishes and our own resources,” she noted. “It’s about working together and combining the gifts each of us possesses in order to bring about a stronger Church.”

She believes this kind of collaboration

and preparation for marriage.

“In that way, the 10-county initiative has been very fruitful and enlightening, in that it has given us a greater understanding of the needs of the people,” she said.

Continuing conversations

Bishop McKnight called for continued prayers, openness and cooperation as the newly assigned pastors, their parishioners and collaborators in ministry become acquainted and continue refining and implementing the diocesan pastoral plan and the parish pastoral plans that flow from it.

There will be important discussions about scheduling weekend Masses and the sacraments, adopting new structures for parish organization and governance, helping and evangelizing more people and creating a deeper culture of welcome and encounter.

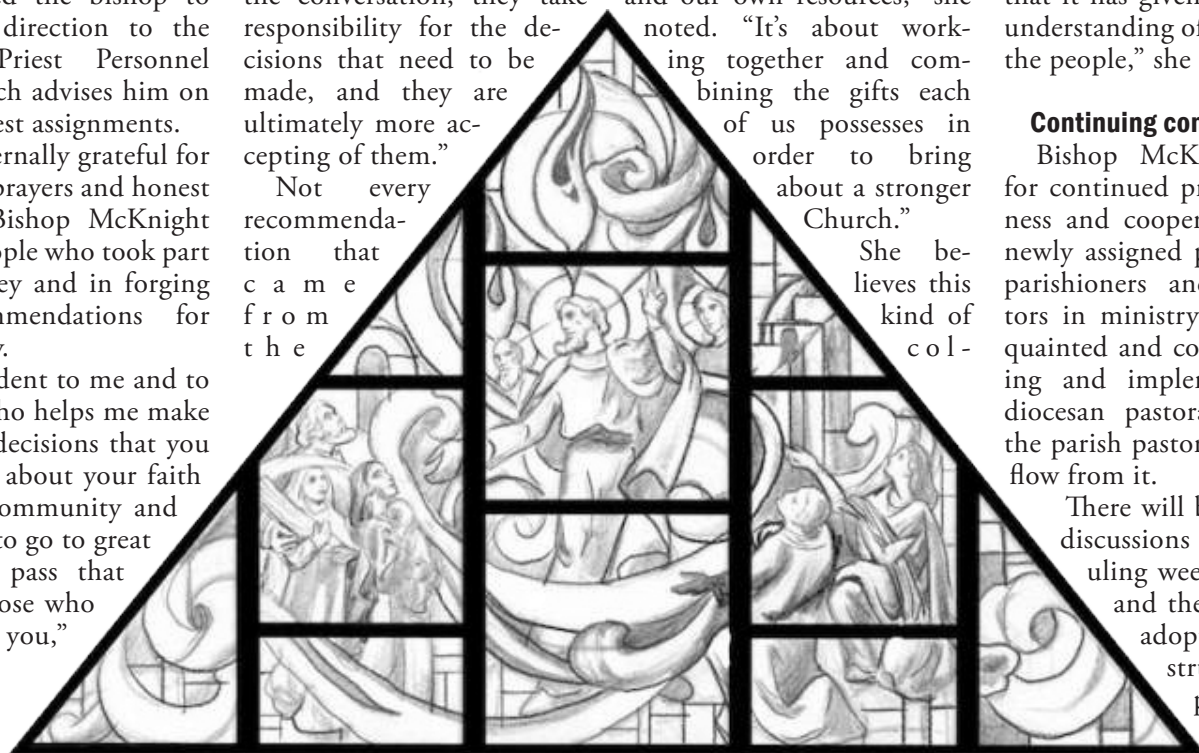
Mrs. Korsmeyer pointed out that the Church is constantly in discernment, and that these conversations are always going to be a movement of the Holy Spirit.

“There’s always going to be a movement of the Holy Spirit as long as we’re walking in the will of God,” she said. “So just because we have a conversation once, that doesn’t mean we’re going to come to a conclusion and move on.”

“The Church will always be having these conversations as long as they lead us to goodness and truth and holiness and a closer relationship with God,” she said.

Bishop McKnight said all of these decisions must be made with humility, openness and a prayerful focus on God, Who knows what’s best for today’s parishioners, for all who are yet to be born and for all still waiting to be welcomed.

“Not our will be done, but God’s, with His help and our grateful, enthusiastic ‘yes!’” he said.



Preliminary design for “Teaching of the Apostles: St. Peter Preaching at Pentecost,” one of the stained-glass windows proposed for the renovation of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City.

— Image from Associated Crafts, Willet & Hauser Architectural Glass

discussions could be put into action, but all were taken into serious account and will influence future pastoral assignments in the years to come.

This will become increasingly consequential as more current pastors reach retirement age in the next few years.

“What’s important is that we continue to plan for what is to come, confident and even joyful in our ability to meet the challenges we face with God’s help,” said Bishop McKnight.

“Fruitful and enlightening”

LeAnn Korsmeyer, diocesan director of parish and charitable services, has been part of the discussions surrounding the 10-county initiative since they began.

She said she’s impressed with the level of engagement people have maintained throughout the process.

“What people are telling us is, ‘We want to collaborate, to work with our priests, to become a stronger Church,’” she said.

She believes the process has opened up new doors to collaboration among parishes

laboration with a common goal — namely, the salvation of souls and the desire to spend eternity with Christ — leads to a mindset of people accompanying one another on life’s journey.

“The 10-county process is helping us enter that mindset more effectively,” she said.

It has given parishioners occasion to ask who the people are who come to church, why they come, what they need, whether their immediate and long-term needs are being met in the parish, and most importantly, if they’re being drawn closer to God and His Church.

“Everyone comes to us for different reasons,” Mrs. Korsmeyer noted. “The more we concern ourselves with meeting people where they’re at, the more we’ll be inclined to make sacrifices and work more closely with our neighboring parishes.”

She pointed out that the bishop’s staff in the Chancery is available to help parishes find and develop the resources required to minister to people where their needs are, such as youth ministry, Hispanic ministry, stewardship,

A personal welcome



Signs in the churchyard welcome families by name back to Mass at St. Louis of France Church in Bonnots Mill on June 6, the first weekend after Bishop W. Shawn McKnight lifted the general dispensation from in-person Mass attendance in the diocese.

— Photos from the St. Louis of France Catholic Church, Bonnots Mill, MO Facebook page

Rockets' red glare



Fourth of July fireworks bloom in the sky near St. Peter Church in Jefferson City during the Salute to America celebration on and around grounds of the State Capitol.

— Photo by Jay Nies

Decorations of Independence



Deacon Jim Hankins, who assists the pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Lake Ozark, and his grandchildren, Hugh and Caroline, assemble a Fourth of July wall display in the Fellowship Hall at Our Lady of the Lake Church.

— Photos from the Our Lady of the Lake, Lake Ozark, Missouri Facebook page




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World Day for Grandparents and Elderly: A time for small acts of kindness

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Try a little tenderness. That's basically how Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, 73, summarized Pope Francis' vision for what older people, their grandchildren and friends should do to change the world after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The cardinal, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, used the word "tenderness" nine times when he presented to the press the pope's message for the celebration July 25 of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

Pope Francis did not use the word at all in his 1,800-word message, but it came through as he acknowledged the suffering, loneliness and fear many older people experienced during the worst of the pandemic, and also when he reminded older Catholics that, like him, they still have a vocation to share the faith and care for others.

The Vatican as a whole, not just the pope or Cardinal Farrell's office, are making a big deal out of the world day. Pope Francis will celebrate Mass with older people, his message — as a text and as

a video — was available in eight languages by June 23 and the dicastery has published a 43-page pastoral kit with suggestions for homilies, for prayers of intercession and for action.

The action focus is all about tenderness, too: Visit your grandparents and any older person living alone. Offer them a ride to Mass. Take them a flower. And, for those who cannot go to church, take them the Eucharist.

"In places where health emergency measures still make it impossible to visit in person, love can use imagination to find ways of reaching lonely elderly people by phone or social media," the pastoral kit says.

That is precisely what Maria Sofia Soli has been doing since March 2020 when Italy initiated its first COVID-19 lockdown.

Soli, who is 88, volunteers with the Community of Sant'Egidio in monitoring the situation of about 6,500 people who are over 80 and living alone in Rome. The project involves regular telephone calls and home visits, but also organizing outings and celebrations. Since Soli could not make her regular phone calls



An elderly woman reacts as she meets Pope Francis during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican in this March 22, 2017, file photo. The pope has chosen the theme "I am with you always," for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to be celebrated July 25.

— CNS photo/Paul Haring

from the Sant'Egidio offices during lockdown, she told reporters June 22, younger community members set up her computer so she could keep track of the calls from home.

At the presentation of Pope Francis' message, Soli said she and her peers are on board with the pope's focus on helping humanity come out of the pandemic better off.

"We must try to direct humanity toward a better future with less selfishness and conflict and more fellowship. Yes, the future," she said. "The elderly do not only look to

the past. Neither fatigue nor frailty can prevent us from dreaming for the sake of our grandchildren and for the generations to come."

Calling Catholics around the world to mark the day after "dramatic months of difficulty," Cardinal Farrell told reporters, Pope Francis invites people to embrace tenderness, especially toward the elderly, who suffered so much during the pandemic.

But, he said, the day also is about "the tenderness that grandparents show toward their grandchildren, of the solid guide that the elderly can be for many disoriented children, especially in a time like the one we are living in, in which personal interaction has become rare."

"Tenderness is not just a private feeling, one that soothes wounds, but a way of relating to others, which should also be experienced in

See GRANDPARENTS, page 15

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II Corinthians 8:12 (Phillips)

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Philadelphia archbishop: 'Pioneering priest Fr. Tolton a model for healing racism'

By Gina Christian

Philadelphia

Some 175 faithful gathered on June 26 to honor a pioneering African American priest now on the path to sainthood, whose heroic virtues are a model for modern times.

Archbishop Nelson Pérez of Philadelphia was the principal celebrant and homilist at the Mass in honor of Venerable Augustus Tolton, the first widely recognized Black Roman Catholic priest in the United States.

The Liturgy, which took place at the Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia, was sponsored by the archdiocesan Office for Black Catholics and the Philadelphia Tolton Ambassadors, part of a national network dedicated to advancing the priest's canonization cause.

Music for the Mass was provided by the Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Mass Choir, a multi-parish ensemble under the direction of composer Tonya Taylor Dorsey.

Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver, dressed in order attire, were also in attendance, with the knights providing an honor guard for the archbishop and his concelebrants.

Fr. Tolton's extraordinary life — during which he countered relentless racism with Christ-like virtue — affirms that "God will do what God will do," said the archbishop in his homily.

Born into a family of enslaved people on April 1, 1854, in what is now part of the Jefferson City diocese, Augustus Tolton was raised as a Catholic, the faith held by the Missouri-based families who had purchased his parents.

In 1862, his father escaped to serve the Union Army during the Civil War, but soon died of illness.

Young Augustus's mother thereafter fled with him and his two siblings, rowing them across the Mississippi River and eventually reaching



Archbishop Nelson Pérez of Philadelphia gathers with members of his archdiocese's chapter of the Tolton Ambassadors, a group dedicated to promoting Venerable Father Augustus Tolton's sainthood cause, after a June 26 Mass in Fr. Tolton's honor in the Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia.

— Photo from Archbishop Nelson Pérez's Facebook page

Quincy, Illinois, where they settled.

After working in a factory and attending Catholic schools (often facing harassment in the process), the future priest moved to Rome in 1880 to enter the seminary, since "no seminary in the United States would accept him, probably including our own," said Archbishop Pérez in his homily.

Monica Parish on Chicago's South Side, and his reverence, humility, pastoral zeal and exceptional singing voice drew both Black and white Catholics from all economic classes.

Mother (now Saint) Katharine Drexel provided financial support for the establishment of St. Monica, and in his post-Communion remarks, concelebrant and Cathedral rector Father Dennis Gill announced

a portrait of Father Tolton would be installed near Drexel's tomb in the Cathedral nave.

Fr. Tolton's poverty, combined with his strenuous schedule, likely hastened his untimely death from heat stroke and uremia in 1897.

"This man ... literally died of exhaustion in giving himself to people, probably some of the very people that rejected him," Archbishop Pérez said.

Chicago Cardinal Francis George (now deceased) announced the cause for Fr. Tolton's canonization in 2010; nine years later, Pope Francis declared Fr. Tolton "Venerable."

Under the leadership of Chicago Auxiliary Bishop

Joseph Perry, the diocesan postulator for Fr. Tolton's cause, Tolton Ambassadors are working diligently to raise awareness of their patron's legacy.

Currently, the Philadelphia archdiocese's ambassadors hail from a number of the city's parishes, including St. Athanasius, St. Barbara, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Our Lady of Hope and St. Charles Borromeo.

The chapter's presiding governor Eugene Frasier, a St. Athanasius parishioner, said in his remarks at the Mass that Fr. Tolton's soul "was anchored in the Lord," enabling him to "endure the systematic indignities and rejection that he faced as he began his journey to become a priest."

Amid such suffering, Fr. Tolton committed himself to the Lord, said Fr. Gill, citing the priest's own words: "As I look back on my life, I realize that every time I thought I was being rejected from something good, I was actually being redirected to something better."

With his courage and confidence in God, Fr. Tolton "speaks to the Church today," said Tolton Ambassador Cynthia Brown.

"He tells us to persevere, to keep our eyes on the prize," she said, adding that prayers to end racism and other forms of discrimination — which "have a long history in the Catholic and all other churches" — will be answered "in God's time."

Part of that answer was taking shape while the Mass in honor of Fr. Tolton was being celebrated, said Archbishop Pérez, noting members of the archdiocesan Commission on Racial Healing were participating that morning in a retreat at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood.

Immediately after the Mass, the archbishop delivered a talk to the group.

The work of dismantling racism must be founded in prayer, said Tolton Ambassador Madeline Tymes, who along with her husband (and Knight of St. Peter Claver) Ernest have been longtime supporters of the priest's cause.

Tolton "serves as an inspirational model for all Christians on how to handle persecution and hardship on life's path," she said.

For that and a number of other reasons, "wouldn't it be fitting if the first African American priest also becomes the first African American saint?" asked Mr. Frasier.

Yes, said Archbishop Pérez, especially since "the way Tolton internalized and processed hurt, rejection and injustice" shows "a way that we can do so ourselves."

"Rather than shrink his heart," such intolerance "made it bigger," said the archbishop, who is confident that Fr. Tolton's path to sainthood is a sure one.

"There will be a day ... that this Cathedral will be filled, celebrating the canonization of Tolton," he said. "Because God will do what God will do."

Ms. Christian is a senior content producer for CatholicPhilly.com, the online publication of the Philadelphia archdiocese. A version of this article was posted June 30, 2021, and is republished here with permission.

"This man ... literally died of exhaustion in giving himself to people, probably some of the very people that rejected him."

— Archbishop Nelson Pérez of Philadelphia

Upon his 1886 priestly ordination, Fr. Tolton expected to be assigned to pastoral work in Africa, but was instead sent back to the United States, first to Quincy and then later Chicago.

Despite repeated rejection, he "persevered because what was in his heart was love," said the archbishop.

Such divinely inspired charity enabled Father Tolton to "love even when (he was) not loved," exemplifying the forgiveness Christ extended even to those who crucified Him, he said.

Fr. Tolton founded St.

Pope makes 'satisfactory' recovery; histology report confirms diagnosis

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Pope Francis continued to have a "satisfactory" recovery from colon surgery, and by July 7 doctors had removed his intravenous drip, the Vatican press office said.

After undergoing the surgery late July 4 at Rome's Gemelli hospital, "the post-operative progress of His Holiness Pope Francis continues to be regular and satisfactory," the July 7 statement said.

"The Holy Father has continued to eat regularly, and infusion therapy has been suspended," it added.

Announcing that the pope had arrived at the Rome hospital July 4, the Vatican had said he was to undergo "a scheduled surgical intervention for a symptomatic diverticular stenosis of the colon."

The next morning, the Vatican had said the

surgery lasted three hours and included "a left hemicolectomy," the removal of the descending part of the colon, which can be recommended to treat diverticulitis, when bulging pouches in the lining of the intestine or colon become inflamed or infected.

Three days after surgery, the Vatican said, "the final histological examination has confirmed a severe diverticular stenosis with signs of sclerosing diverticulitis," a hardening of the tissue.

"Pope Francis is touched by the many messages and the affection received in these days, and expresses his gratitude for the closeness and prayer," the Vatican message said.

Pope Francis is expected to remain in the hospital at least until July 11. Since the pontificate of St. John Paul II, the Gemelli hospital, part of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, has maintained a suite of rooms on the 10th floor for use by the pope.

Miami archbishop, Boston cardinal, pastor offer prayers, comfort at site

Catholic News Service

Surfside, Florida

After spending time at Surfside's informal Wall of Remembrance memorial for the victims of the Champlain Towers South collapse, Miami Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski told CBS4 Miami July 2, "It's quite shocking to see."

He made the comments during his visit to the memorial with Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley and Father Juan Sosa, pastor of St. Joseph Church, which is close to the site.

"The people in the building represent so many different religious and cultural backgrounds. ... One of the things that struck me really

is when I've been reading the names of the families, survivors and the missing of how much this building represents a microcosm of all of South Florida," the archbishop said.

The memorial sprung up following the tragic partial collapse of the Champlain Towers South condo building near Miami Beach, Florida.

It has been so popular that at one point local law enforcement had to close the area due to hundreds gathering on the streets there.

As of July 6, 32 people were confirmed dead; 113 others remained unaccounted for since the collapse early June 24.

The evening of July 4,

crews demolished the remaining part of the building.

FR. DOLAN

From page 4

with many challenging assignments, "each and every one of them calling forth prayerful adjustment and the inevitable joy of the resurrection."

He is grateful to the bishops and priests both here and in Peru who by their example and encouragement "inspired me to be hardworking and committed, to put a good effort into preaching, and to be welcoming."

Fr. Dolan continues to be inspired by the daily witness of people whose faith commitment demands more of them than his own.

"Let's just say it's easier to preach on a Sunday when people have already spoken to you through their witness of the faith and living of the faith," he said.

He noted that much of the missionary spirit in the Church has come from various renewal movements.

"A lot of the religious communities we know today, like the Jesuits or the Franciscans, originally came out of a movement that started with a certain spirit and charisma," he said.

"It begins with one or two people, and others are moved by their witness and their calling, and it continues from there," he said.

He pointed to more recent movements of the laity, such as Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), Cursillo, Christ Renews His Parish, and Engaged Encounter.

He also noted that the Catholic Charismatic Renewal is invigorating Hispanic communities in the Church.

Renewed fervor

In his spare time, Fr. Dolan enjoys fishing,

New heraldry



Ginger Borlinghaus, executive administrative assistant to Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, and Constance Schepers, chancellor for the Jefferson City diocese, hang a framed image of Bishop McKnight's new diocesan Coat of Arms in the reception area of the Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center in Jefferson City July 1. After extensive consultation, the diocese updated its Coat of Arms and the new symbols were carried over into a new version of the bishop's Coat of Arms.

— Photo by Jay Nies



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GRANDPARENTS

From page 13

public," Cardinal Farrell said. "We have become accustomed to living alone, to not hugging each other, to considering the other as a threat to our health. Our societies, the pope tells us in *Fratelli Tutti*, are now fragmented."

"Tenderness has a social value," the cardinal insisted. "It is a remedy we all need, and our elderly are those who can provide it. In a frayed and hardened society emerging from the pandemic,

not only is there a need for vaccines and economic recovery — albeit fundamental — but also for relearning the art of relationships. In this, grandparents and the elderly can be our teachers. This is also why they are so important."





By Father Don Antweiler

ACROSS

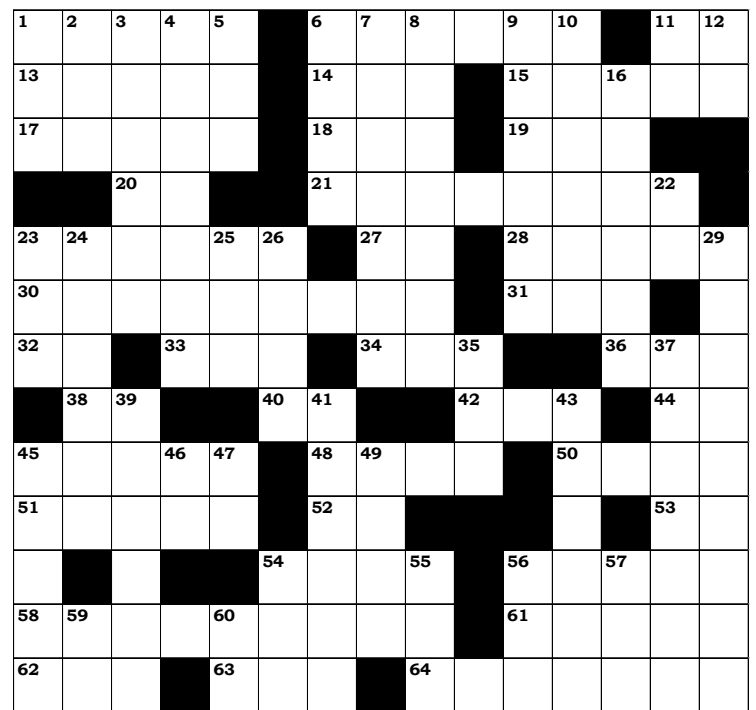
1. Aptly named "The Big Muddy," the Missouri river was said to be "too thin to cultivate and too ___ to drink," —*Steamboat Disasters of the Lower Missouri River*, Vicki Berger Erwin and James Erwin.
6. She was upset because she only got an ___ on her test (2 wds.).
11. Stomach muscle.
13. Mountain on which God gave Moses the 10 commandments (Exodus 31:18).
14. On the Mo. River side of the State Capitol is a ___ relief bronze sculpture by Karl Bitter depicting the signing of the Louisiana Purchase.
15. Acronym for Neonatal Pain, Agitation and Sedation Scale, a reliable assessment tool for neonatal pain & sedation.
17. "Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set ___ for the gospel of God..." (Romans 1:1).
18. Letters indicating an address for a web page.
19. Charged particle.
20. Letters for *Consumer Reports*, a magazine founded in 1936 to provide unbiased product testing for consumers.
21. The Mo. River was more

23. The Mo. River ___ 500,000 sq. miles — 1/6 of this nation, 1/4 of all agricultural land in the U.S.
27. ___ the name of the Father, and of the Son...
28. In ___; in the womb; before birth.
30. The Mo. River's ___ includes parts of 10 States and two Canadian Provinces.
31. Letters for the escape key on a keyboard.
32. Pope St. John Paul ___ was a major player not only in the Church on many levels, but also in the world history of his time.
33. This Spanish word meaning saint precedes a slew of U.S. cities, esp. in Calif.
34. Fast flier.
36. Ernie ___; former world #1 champion golfer (74 professional wins); called "The Big Easy" because of his size (6' 3") and fluid golf swing; has autistic son and is promoter of autism research.
38. Letters for Salvation Army.
40. Initials of this puzzle's author.
42. Baseball pitcher stat.
44. Precedes NT.
45. The Mo. River was always dangerous for river travel. It could run deep and fast and narrow but never straight or down the middle. ___ and sand bars were always treacherous and changed even day to day.
48. I asked my grandmother if

- she knew how to ___ my socks.
50. Wedding site where Jesus in Gospel of John worked His first miracle.
51. Paradise-like places.
52. Dorothy's Auntie ___.
53. In text, letters for Good Call.
54. Prophetic old testament book following the book of Joel.
56. Raphael, for example (see book of Tobit).
58. The Mo. River's current moved the river around. Brunswick, Mo. for ex. was once a ___ but is now three miles from the river.
61. "Unless the Lord build the ___, they labor in vain who build," (Psalms 127:1).
62. Abbr. before the name of a French female saint.
63. Nursing degree.
64. "...the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of ___ were becoming obedient to the faith," (Acts 6:7).

DOWN

1. Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration (___) supplies screeners and security personnel at airports.
2. Because of his ___ replacement, he always set off the beeper at airports.
3. I love dogs because they are friendly and faithful. I don't see that ___ (3 wds.).
4. The Mo. River ___ more sediment than any other river on this continent, 120 tons per million gallons of water.
5. He got out his tool ___ to fix the leak.
6. Border on or adjoin.
7. "Whoever divorces his wife and ___ another commits adultery against her," (Mark 10:11).
8. Coming down the Mississippi in 1673, Fr. Jacques Marquette described the sight & sounds of a great river coming from the west: "We heard the noise of a rapid into which we were about to fall; frightful; a mass of large trees entire with branches, real floating ___; so impetuous we could not without great danger pass across,



- the agitation was so great," —*Steamboat Disasters of the Lower Mo. River*.
9. "...we stand with this couple on the day they intend to form a home of their own. For them this is a moment of ___ importance," —from the Catholic Marriage Ritual.
10. He ___ off a lot when he gets tipsy.
11. ___ I was saying...
12. Bachelor of Science degree.
16. I am so grateful for nephews and ___ who were so attentive to me during my long recovery from surgery (2 wds.).
22. Chemical letters for lawrencium, a synthetic radioactive metal.
23. What you might get arrested for if stopped while drinking and driving.
24. "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill Him, and He will be ___ on the third day," (Matthew 17:22-23).
25. Gun club.
26. Letters after the name of a Notre Dame nun.
29. Floods, ice and esp. snags (uprooted trees that got implanted in the river) were common and often deadly ___ for traveling on the Missouri River.
35. "I wished to be made just as certain of things that I could not see as I was certain that seven and three make ___," *Confessions*, book six, St. Augustine.
37. The Mo. River is the ___ river in North Am.; 2,465 miles (Lewis & Clark); 2,341 (Encyclopedia Britannica); 2,285 miles (Corp. of Engineers, 1879-91). River miles can change, sometimes quickly. Channelization also is a factor.
39. Her biting remark struck ___ in me and made me furious (2 wds.).
41. "John the Baptist came neither eating nor drinking wine and you said, 'He is possessed by ___,'" — Luke 7:33 (2 wds.).
43. In ___ with friends on the Current River on a sunny summer day: wonderful (2 wds.)!
45. ___ continue to migrate north into Missouri with 75% of them still south of I-44 but there have been sightings farther north, even in the city limits of Jeff. City.
46. Abbr. for the Old Testament book that follows Ezekiel.
47. Short for Sacred Scripture.
49. Love in Madrid.
54. The ___ Store by Apple opened in 2008 with 500 applications available for phones & computers. As of 2020, 1.8 million are offered.
55. Fuel additive.
56. A type of tuna which is less expensive than Bluefin but similar in flavor & texture.
57. Fr. ___ was Fr. Tolton's nickname during his ministry in Chicago.
59. Doggone ___!
60. Letters for Ralph Loren, clothier.

ANSWERS on page 19



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FLOODING

From page 1

into communities, we are not able to assess damages which is necessary to secure disaster-related resources," she said.

Now that the water has mostly rolled back and disaster assessments are being submitted, representatives of the various cooperating agencies are communicating regularly and coordinating their response.

"This is a critical step to avoid duplication of efforts and to minimize gaps in services," she noted.

CCCNMO has been contacting parishes and local emergency-management and other nongovernmental agencies in the affected counties, to provide CCCNMO contact information and ability to offer disaster case-management services.

Mrs. Marlow has also been in touch with Catholic Charities USA as well as the Catholic Charities affiliates in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau about the possibility of interdiocesan collaboration.

She noted that the persistence of COVID-19 poses obstacles to a coordinated response among agencies, "but that doesn't mean that we as Catholic Charities aren't going to reach out."

"We will wear masks and maintain proper social distance," she stated. "We will figure out how to provide services in-person in a way that's safe."

Giving and seeking help

With the likely lack of a disaster declaration, which would bring additional funding for relief, Catholic Charities will need to rely more on its own contributors.

"Federal money probably won't be there this time," she said, "and we know homeowners insurance does not cover floods. So people are left to recover on their own."

As of July 1, the Central and Northern Chapter of the American Red Cross had reported identifying 99 households in Boone, Cole, Howard and Saline counties that were affected by flooding triggered by heavy rain during the last two weeks of June.

"Those are just the ones we've been made aware of," said Mrs. Marlow. "We know there will be more coming in."

She encouraged people whose homes have been affected by the flooding to contact their local emergency-management agency or the Red Cross.

"Time is of the essence, in order for us to leverage resources with other agencies and find out what kind of assistance will be available," she said.

To find a local contact, she suggested visiting the Missouri Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MOVOAD) website at movoadd.org.

MOVOAD helps coordinate all phases of disaster response, prompting efficient collaboration among agencies while reducing duplication of services.

Could happen to anyone

For anyone whose property has been affected by the flooding, Mrs. Marlow recommended taking photos of the damage and holding onto receipts for anything related to offsetting the disaster.

"Keep any documentation with any insurance, water-restoration and foundation companies, carpet cleaning companies and that sort of thing,"

she said.

If there's water in the basement, keep it cool, pull up any affected carpet and use dehumidifiers, "shop-vacs" and pumps to remove as much water as possible.

"Of course, if it's high and standing, you want to turn off your electricity," she said. "In fact, if you have standing water in your basement, you probably need to find other living arrangements. It's not safe to live there."

She recommended calling the local emergency-management agency and Red Cross in order to set up a damage assessment, and the company or companies that issued any homeowners' insurance policies.

"Even if you don't have flood insurance, there might be an off-chance that we get a declaration and it was caused by straight-line winds or that it came in through your roof and your gutters," she said.

Noting that nine inches of rain had fallen in 30 hours on parts of Columbia that hadn't seen flooding in well over a generation, she advised everyone to plan ahead for future flash floods.

"With that kind of rainfall happening in such a short time, it could affect anybody, even if you don't live in a floodplain," she said. "So look around. Is your house prepared?"

"Why we're here"

Mrs. Marlow requested



in their communities contact Catholic Charities for help finding an agency that specializes in early response.

As with past disasters, she recognizes God's steady hand at work in the recovery process.

"He's working through all of us who are here to serve people in need," she said.

"That's why we're here," she stated. "And that's where I see God in all of this."

To help with these efforts, visit cccnmo.diojef-city.org/give and select "Disaster Fund 2021 - Catholic Charities" from the dropdown menu, or make a check payable to "CCCNMO" and mail to P.O. Box 104626 Jefferson City, MO 65110-4626.

continued donations and prayers as CCCNMO embarks on yet another round of long-term disaster assistance.

She suggested that anyone willing to volunteer to help with post-flood clean-up

continued donations and prayers as CCCNMO embarks on yet another round of long-term disaster assistance. She suggested that anyone willing to volunteer to help with post-flood clean-up

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Need more info about an event or want to see more events?
Visit the diocesan EVENT CALENDAR at diojeffcity.org/events.
Want your event listed?
Fill out the ONLINE FORM at diojeffcity.org/event-listing.

Fundraisers & Social Events

Jul. 9

Montgomery City, K of C drive-thru fish fry, 4:30-6:30 pm

Jul. 11

Meta, St. Cecilia Parish picnic, 11 am-6 pm, Citizens Civic League Park; St. Martins, St. Martin Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Jul. 15-18

Hermann, St. George Parish rummage sale, Thurs. & Fri. 7 am-7 pm, Sat. 7 am-4 pm, Sun. 7 am-noon

Jul. 18

Indian Creek, St. Stephen Parish annual Swinkey Picnic, 11 am-5 pm; Wardsville, St. Stan-

islaus Parish drive-thru picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Jul. 25

Bahner, RESCHEDULED St. John Chapel annual ice cream social, 5:30 pm; St. Elizabeth, St. Elizabeth Community Picnic, 11 am-6:30 pm, Community Center

Jul. 31

Centralia, Holy Spirit Parish St. Anne Sodality garage sale, 8 am-noon

Aug. 5

Holts Summit, St. Andrew NCYC rummage sale, 7:30 am-6 pm

Aug. 7

Freeburg, Holy Family K of C seafood shindig, 5-8 pm

Aug. 8

Belle, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am

Aug. 13

Montgomery City, K of C drive-thru fish fry, 4:30-6:30 pm

Aug. 22

Eldon, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-6 pm

Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

29 Julio-1 Agosto

Sedalia, Cursillo de Mujeres, Sagrado Corazón, favor de inscribirse llamado a Luis Osvaldo Diaz al 660-829-5213

7-8 Agosto

Marshall, Retiro de Jovenes, Iglesia de San Pedro, favor de inscribirse llamado a Marcelino Chavez al 660-631-3748

Meetings & Conferences

Jul. 14

VIRTUAL, Catholic Charities refugee resettlement program orientation, 5:30-6:30 pm, for info or to register, contact Diana Twombly at 573-442-7568 or dtwombly@cccnm.org

FR. DOYLE

From page 8

you indicate, I think it's doubtful that they are living in mortal sin. (Remember that for something to be seriously sinful, it demands that the person realize that it is.)

It's much more likely, I would think, that your children are sincere in their faith journey — reading the Bible, praying, attending religious services — and seeking to do what God wants.

Maybe what you might do is ask them sometime, in a quiet conversation, "Do you ever miss receiving Jesus in Holy Communion?" But don't be forceful or confrontational, lest you drive them farther away. Meanwhile, I will pray for them, too.

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

Aug. 11

VIRTUAL, Catholic Charities refugee resettlement program orientation, 5:30-6:30 pm, for info or to register, contact Diana Twombly at 573-442-7568 or dtwombly@cccnm.org

Jul. 18-22

Henley, Camp Siena for high school girls, Camp MoCoMi, for info visit diojeffcity.org/youth-ministry/camp-siena

Jul. 18-23

Jefferson City, "Knights of North Castle" Vacation Bible School for children ages 3-9, from 6-8 pm each evening, Immaculate Conception Parish's Kertz Hall; St. Robert, Camp MacCabee for high school boys, for info visit diojeffcity.org/youth-ministry/camp-maccabee

Jul. 24

Laurie, "Courage" youth pilgrimage with Maggie Craig, 8 am-5:30 pm, National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, for info visit thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com

Jul. 31

Jefferson City, JP2 Young Adults Summer BBQ, 5-11 pm, Memorial Park Pavilion, for info email alloch92@gmail.com

Aug. 2-6

Jefferson City, Ancient Rome "Summa Camp" for grade school students, 7:30 am-5 pm each day, St. Peter Interparish School, for info or to register mrehagen@heliascatholic.com

Health & Wellness

Jul. 21

Rich Fountain, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, Sacred Heart cafeteria

Jul. 25

Columbia, Blood drive, 8 am-1 pm, St. Thomas More Newman Center MPR

Liturgical

Jul. 25

Mexico, Sung Latin Mass, noon, St. Brendan Church

Jul. 31

Columbia, Profession of candidate Terrie Foltz to the Secular Franciscan Order, 5 pm Mass, St. Thomas More Newman Center

Aug. 15

Mexico, Sung Latin Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, noon, St. Brendan Church

Retreats & Spiritual Renewal

Aug. 6-8

Moberly, Engaged Encounter weekend, St. Pius X Parish, for info or to register visit diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/engaged-encounter

Youth & Young Adults

Jul. 11-17

Jefferson City, CHRISTpower service retreat for high school teens, Helias Catholic High School, for info visit diojeffcity.org/youth-ministry/christpower

GUANZINI

From page 9

revelation, making the universal dimension of grace persuasive, intelligible and salvific.

The call is also addressed to the secular intellectuals of our time, asking them to "purify the dominant culture of any facile concession to the conformist spirits of relativism and demoralization" and of any subjection to monetary ideology.

In the time of return of the ghosts of racism, xenophobia, elitist selection and demagogic manipulation, which are eroding the democratic spirit and the dignity of individuals, intellectuals have the responsibility to ponder the reasons why ties and meaning in life are so important and to be vigilant regarding any perversion of the sacred, together with the theological thought.

This dialogue and this meeting are a necessary legacy for generations to come. Because, as the document states, "before being a history of governments and administrations, empires and wars, technologies and achievements, human history is the story of alliances of life and fraternity on our journeys."

Isabella Guanzini is professor of fundamental theology at the Catholic Private University Linz in Austria and a member of the drafting committee for the Pontifical Academy for Life's statement, "Rescuing Fraternity — Together."

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Camdenton, St. Anthony

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Dennis & Marie Crowley, 54 years
Chris & Jana Agniel, 43 years
Don & Barbara Mans, 42 years
Keith & Cheryl Schuster, 37 years
Steve & Diane Brennaman, 34 years
Mike & Tammy Wilde, 22 years
Tyler & Jenna Bishop, 16 years
Jack & Lois Wiley, 15 years

Fayette, St. Joseph

Roger & Kathy Dorson, 46 years

Holts Summit, St. Andrew

Gary & Judy Arnold, 45 years

Jefferson City, St. Peter

Cornelius & Alice Westerman, 65 years

Kahoka, St. Michael

Mike & Debby Whiston, 49 years
Gary & Alice Morehouse, 45 years
Stanley & Kathy Welker, 43 years

Kirkville, Mary Immaculate

John & Mary Schlepffhorst, 68 years
John & Debbie Lechner, 48 years
Bob & Beverly Compton, 45 years
Glenn & Judy Neuweg, 45 years
Charlie & Janet Cooper, 39 years
Vincent Prosko & Kathleen Kelly, 35 years
Eddie & Bonita Schmitz, 34 years
Michael & Evonne Bird, 28 years
John & Kimberly Moore, 28 years
Deacon Chris & Katy Korte, 24 years
Ken & Lori Shook, 23 years
Jerod & Shelly Wood, 16 years

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake

Dr. Clem & Carolyn Haggerty, 58 years
Brian & Kelly Hamrin, 30 years

Linn, St. George

Hugo & Reta Brandt, 68 years

Louisiana, St. Joseph

Leon & Rita Reeves, 67 years

Martinsburg, St. Joseph

David & Kristan Kleinsorge, 22 years

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows

Fred & Margaret Evers, 69 years
Kenneth J & Norma Runge, 64 years
Josh & Laura Vandike, 15 years
Shane & Nikki Jo Belt, 10 years

Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus

Bob & Joann Mealy, 64 years

Palmyra, St. Joseph

Charles & Joyce Erwin, 54 years
Carl & Debbie Bock, 49 years
Tom & Tammy Schroeder, 42 years
Jeffery & Becky Kroeger, 39 years
Steve & Brenda Bland, 32 years
Jeffery & Michelle Merkel, 32 years
Kevin & Diane DeHaan, 31 years
Edward & Peggy Meyers, 29 years
Steve & JoAnn Conoyer, 25 years
Luke & Michelle Richardson, 24 years
Jason & Marie Shafer, 23 years
Tim & Andrea Barnes, 16 years
Ryan & Sarah Taylor, 13 years
Steven & Triston Jones, 11 years

St. Clement, St. Clement

Ralph & Markie Niemeyer, 57 years
Al & Marge Himmelsbach, 53 years
Ryan & Stacey Bibb, 19 years

St. Patrick, Shrine of St. Patrick

James & Laura Gray, 33 years

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle

Norman & Catherine Schroeder, 60 years

Vandalia, Sacred Heart

Crisanto & Thelma Gualberto, 52 years
Frances & Gayle Stuart, 49 years
Kerry & Connie Hesse, 41 years
Robert & Nancy Stotler, 22 years
Norman & Andrea McBride, 18 years

Baptisms

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul — **Wells Fehling**, son of Ryan & Paige Fehling

Canton, St. Joseph — **Archer Dye**, son of Zachary & Courtney Dye

Centralia, Holy Spirit — **Emma Sue Benoit**, daughter of Mitchell & Jennifer Benoit

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **John Cordia, Kate Cordia, Crews Meyer, Alexander Rhodes**

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Duke Reynolds Allen**, son of Taylor & Tori Allen; **Emma Lynn Christine Zimmer**, daughter of Shane & Jessica Zimmer

Fulton, St. Peter — **Alice Christine Collins**, daughter of Philip & Chandra Collins

Hermann, St. George — **Magnolia May Allison**, daughter of Daniel & Nicole Allison

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Grace Catherine Ocampo**, daughter of Edward & Kristen Ocampo; **Theodore James Smith-Vandergriff**, son of Mark & Michelle Smith-Vandergriff; **Cooper Ford Zumwalt**, son of Taylor & Katelyn Zumwalt

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Emmett Jay Brower**, son of Daniel & Sarah Brower; **Charlotte Joy Jones**, daughter of Dylan & Taylor Jones; **Henley Ann** and **Thatcher Ray Woods**, children of Tyler & Ashley Woods

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Benjamin Frances Shanley Hansen, Charlotte Michaela Hansen**

Kirkville, Mary Immaculate — Owen

James Munn, son of Blake & Hannah Munn

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake —

Aliana Rose Bargfrede, Adley Grey Rockelman

Marceline, St. Bonaventure — Tatum

Rae Ewigman, daughter of Adam & Julie Ewigman

Marshall, St. Peter — Hannah Browning,

Hunter Browning, Walker Hart, Elian Linares, Jason Magaña, Juliet Magaña, Jazlyn Romero, Ariana Turcios

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows —

Greyson Michael Basler, son of Corry & Morgan Basler; **Lynden Jade Kirkweg**, daughter of Logan & Brittany Kirkweg

Moberly, St. Pius X — Ezra Wade Arand,

son of Benjamin & Roseanna Arand; **Leo Wayne Sharp**, son of Brian & Claudia Sharp

Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus — Cooper

Favignano Hall, son of Dr. Cameron & Dr. Jamie Hall

Russellville, St. Michael — Grace

Catherine and **Elizabeth Coots Alemann**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — Callen

Lee Holtmeyer, son of Mike & April Holtmeyer; **Tate Christopher Wilde**, son of Chris & Renee Wilde

St. Martins, St. Martin — Vivian Krieger,

daughter of Tyler & Kaylene Krieger

Vandalia, Sacred Heart — Rowan

Epperson, son of Jordan & Kylie Epperson

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — Cameron

John Armstrong, son of Bradley & Molly Armstrong; **Easton David Grothoff**, son of Devin & Nicole Grothoff; **Bentlee Joseph Lepper**, son of Timothy & Megan Lepper; **Slate Steven Luebbert**, son of Matthew & Megan Stockman; **Wayde Michael VanderFeltz**, son of Justin & Madison Stockman

Marriages

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Megan Steinman & Preston Schanzmeyer**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Hanna Dorrell & Shawn Cook**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Maura Shimmens & Andrew Gentry**

Sacraments of Initiation

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul — **Chris Studley**

Fayette, St. Joseph — **Donnie Barnhill, Jennifer Barnhill**

Deaths

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Debra Guerra**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Judith A. Keller**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Tanna R. Henson**

Jonesburg, St. Patrick — **Jeff Turpin**

Laurie, St. Patrick — **Lucy Macek**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Louise Coleman, Anna M. Davidson, Marjorie Coleman, Digma Velasquez**

Mexico, St. Brendan — **Lester Blackshaw**

Osage Bend, St. Margaret of Antioch — **Michael J. Wolken**

Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart — **Elizabeth Temmen**

St. Anthony, St. Anthony of Padua — **Randy Voss**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Bernard Luetkemayer**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Joseph E. Schulte**

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Gene Ferguson, Jane Gray, Anthony Menefee, Dan Staus, Pat Wagner Sr., James Westermier**

Slater, St. Joseph — **Maggie Leimkuehler**

Tipton, St. Andrew — **Winnie Fancler**

Westphalia, St. Joseph — **Marie Altheuser**

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Brad Atterbury, Anthony J. Marek Jr., Wesley Weimer**

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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 or mailed to: *The Catholic Missourian*, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914.

Crossword puzzle answers

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

At the scene of the crime



Youngsters take part in Life Sciences Day during the STEM Camp at St. Peter School in Marshall on June 15. They started out by examining forensic evidence from a “crime” scene in their classroom. They learned how to analyze blood splatter and handwriting, collect and inspect finger prints, and measure and compare shoe prints. The rest of the day was filled with plant dissection and identification, an edible science experiment (ice cream in a bag), learning about DNA and creating a double helix out of licorice and gum drops.

— Photos from the St. Peter School Facebook page

Hail, Mary, full of grace



Fifth- through seventh-graders at Fr. McCartan Memorial School in Marceline participate in a Rosary walk with parishioners on May 13, during the Month of the Rosary.

— Photos from the Fr. McCartan Memorial School Facebook page

Having a terrific time at ‘Totus Tuus’



Young people from St. Mary of the Angels Parish in Wien and surrounding parishes take part in “Totus Tuus” (“All Yours”) Catholic summer activities — including gathering in church and cruising down a makeshift waterslide in the churchyard. A team of college students has been facilitating weeklong “Totus Tuus” events at parishes throughout the diocese. “All the students were excited to come back each day,” parish organizers stated. “It was a great time growing in their faith.”

— Photos from the St. Mary’s-Wien, MO Facebook page



School’s out!



Faithful food donors



Students from Holy Cross School in Cuba deliver food to the Cuba Ministerial Food Pantry on May 28, near the end of their school year. “We sincerely appreciate your faithful and continuous donation to our pantry,” representatives of the pantry stated.

— Photo from the Cuba Ministerial Food Pantry Facebook page

This proud award recipient joins his fellow students at Holy Cross School in Cuba in celebrating their last day of school with outdoor activities on May 21. Awards were distributed, hamburgers and hotdogs were prepared and served by members of Knights of Columbus Monsignor C.J. Hornsey Council 8920, and desserts were supplied by Jessica Stringer from her Food Truck “Sugar High”!

— Photo from the Holy Cross Catholic Church Cuba Missouri Facebook page

Moses is adopted by Pharaoh's daughter

By Jennifer Ficaglia
Catholic News Service

Ten of Jacob's 12 sons were jealous of their brother, Joseph, so they sold him into slavery in Egypt. But God was with Joseph, who eventually came to work for Pharaoh and ruled all of Egypt for him.

When there was a terrible drought, some of Jacob's sons went to Egypt to find food and reunited with Joseph. Jacob and the rest of his family moved to Egypt, where they had a good life because of Joseph.

As time went by, Jacob's descendants greatly multiplied. Eventually, their good life turned bad when a new Pharaoh who had not known Joseph came into power. He did not look favorably upon the Israelites, so he enslaved them



and ordered all of their male babies killed.

During this time, a Levite woman had a baby boy, and she hid him for three months. When she could no longer

hide him, she took a papyrus basket, coated it with bitumen and pitch, put the baby in the basket and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the Nile River.

The baby's sister stationed herself at a distance so she could see what happened to her brother.

Just then, Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe. She noticed the basket among the reeds and told her handmaid to retrieve it.

Pharaoh's daughter opened the basket and looked in. She was surprised to find a crying baby inside.

"It is one of the Hebrews' children," she said with pity.

The baby's sister saw what was happening, so she went up to Pharaoh's daughter.

"Shall I go and call one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" she asked.

"Yes, do so," Pharaoh's daughter said.

The girl went home and

brought back her mother, who also was the baby's mother.

"Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will repay you," Pharaoh's daughter told the baby's mother.

The woman took the baby and nursed him.

When the child grew and no longer needed to be nursed, the woman brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, who adopted him.

Pharaoh's daughter decided to name the child Moses because she drew him out of the water.

Read more about it... Exodus 1 & 2

1. Who drew the basket out of the water?
2. What name was the baby given?

Bible Accent

Even though Moses had been adopted by Pharaoh's daughter and was raised as an Egyptian, Pharaoh eventually sought his death.

In Exodus 2:11, we read that when Moses grew up, he went out to see his kinsmen the Hebrews and witnessed their forced labor. When he noticed an Egyptian striking a Hebrew, he slew that Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

When Pharaoh heard what had happened, he wanted to kill Moses. Moses fled to the land of Midian, where he sat

down by a well.

The priest of Midian had seven daughters who used the well to water their father's flock. They came to the well when Moses was there, but some shepherds drove them away.

Moses defended the daughters and helped them water their flock.

When the daughters returned to their father, Reuel, he was surprised by how quickly they had accomplished their task.

"An Egyptian delivered us

from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock!" the daughters said.

"Where is he?" he asked his daughters. "Why did you leave the man there? Invite him to have something to eat."

Moses accepted Reuel's invitation and agreed to stay with him. Reuel then gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage.

Essay

When have you seen something that was wrong and tried to make it right?

Puzzle

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

noe denchril ti websHer fo si het

Sentence:



Answers: one; children; it; Hebrews; of; is; the; Sentence; It is one of the Hebrews' children.

Saint Spotlight

St. Kunigunde, or Kinga, was born in 1224 and was the daughter of Hungarian royalty. At age 16, she married King Boleslaus IV of Poland. Kunigunde and her husband ruled together for 40 years. She was very generous, and she helped the poor and sick, supported the Friars Minor and ransomed Christian prisoners. After she was widowed, she entered a Poor Clares convent that she had founded in southern Poland. She died in 1292, and we remember her on July 24.



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Books explore intersection between spirituality, sexuality

Sex and the Spiritual Life: Reclaiming Integrity, Wholeness and Intimacy, edited by Patricia Cooney Hathaway. Ave Maria Press (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2020). 185 pp., \$18.95.

The Fire Within: Desire, Sexuality, Longing and God, by Ronald Rolheiser. Paraclete Press (Brewster, Massachusetts, 2021). 96 pp., \$15.99.

A Catholic Woman's Guide to Relationships, by Rose Sweet. Tan Books (Gastonia, North Carolina, 2020). 188 pp., \$19.95.

Reviewed by Kathleen Finley
Catholic News Service

When it comes to sexuality and relationships, both our culture and at times our Church do a poor job of helping us form healthy attitudes. And linking these realities to our spirituality is something that many of us can't imagine.

These three books help us to make healthy connections between sexuality and spirituality in unique and complementary ways.

Rose Sweet sets the tone for this conversation through an interesting combination of storytelling, common-sense advice and an occasional Scripture passage that will be helpful for some women.

For example, she comments,

"It's no mystery that we crave relationship. God has revealed Himself to be a loving relationship between divine persons. And from that relationship, we were created to be in sweet, perfect relationship with Him — and all others who end up in that embrace — forever. We belong there. And we don't have to wait for heaven to begin to experience the safety, comfort, joy and blessings of that relationship."

Oblate Father Ronald Rolheiser, in his own inimitable style, powerfully invites the reader to consider the full range of the human experience and how and where we experience God's presence.

He explains, "Sexuality is inside us to help lure us back to God, bring us into a community of life with each other and let us take part in God's generativity. If that is true, and it is, then given its origin and meaning, its earthiness notwithstanding, sex does not set us against what is holy and pure. It is a Godly energy."

He notes that his book consists of fragments, largely taken from his newspaper columns, meant to inspire readers to see deeper connections in their lives, rather than a systematic treatment of the topic.

Whether Fr. Rolheiser is talking about sex as sacrament (one of his chapters) or about

the hidden gift of our pain and loneliness at times, he does indeed make us think.

He observes, "We aren't persons who live in habitual spiritual awareness who occasionally get distracted. We're persons who live in habitual distraction who occasionally become spiritually aware. We tend to be so preoccupied with the ordinary business of living that it takes a hurricane of some sort for God to break through."

While Sweet and Fr. Rolheiser help the reader with attitudes and openness to relationships and sexuality, Patricia Cooney Hathaway and her essayists help us to see a breathtaking view of the variety of life situations in which to address the beauty and complexity of human sexuality.

Unlike many collections, the essays are all excellent in looking at most aspects of lived sexuality today. In the introduction Hathaway states that the Church has not given us a healthy and robust approach to sexuality.

She observes, "When an energy as powerful as our sexual drive is not given constructive outlets or guidelines, other than being viewed as an occasion of sin, it tends to go underground and emerge in ways that are hurtful to us, to others and to our relationship with God: sexual trafficking and abuse, hookups (sex disconnected from love and relationship), and a wide variety of sexual addictions, including

Movie Ratings



General Patronage

Luca (PG)
Spirit Untamed (PG)



Adults and Adolescents

The Boss Baby: Family Business (PG)
Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (PG)



Adults

The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It (R)
Cruella (PG-13)
F9: The Fast Saga (PG-13)
A Father's Legacy (not rated)
In the Heights (PG-13)
A Quiet Place Part II (PG-13)



Morally Offensive

The Forever Purge (R)
The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R)
Zola (R)

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

pornography addiction."

Hathaway explains what she calls spiritualistic dualism, seeing the spirit as good and the body as bad, which is not how Jesus lived but has had a big impact on Christian thinking about sexuality, which she defines as "being in the world as gendered persons."

In the essay on sexual integrity, defined by Pope St. John Paul II to mean that "a person knows the truth about the meaning of sexuality, can abide by that truth and joyfully acts in accord with that truth," the topics of pornography and addiction are dealt with in clear and specific ways.

There also are honest and frank essays on marriage — "As long as we saw our sexual desire as a disordered biological urge, and not a God-given gift, this conflict led to a downward spiral that was marked by mutual resentment and frustration" — and single and gay lifestyles.

From the latter essay: "Individual sexual integrity rests on the assurance that no one is single — all of us have a Lover who is more faithful than we could ever hope. ... No one lives individual sexual integrity perfectly. Our communal sexual integrity is even rarer, requiring an even deeper surrender to

God. It is also, for this reason, more precious."


Other essays look at sexuality for vowed religious, deacons and seminarians.

There is even an essay here about the diocesan Priesthood, written by a bishop who tellingly observes, "When I have had to remove a priest from active ministry for the sexual abuse of a minor or a vulnerable adult, I find that none of these priests are receiving direction from a spiritual director who holds him accountable. Consequently, these priests wind up doing priestly functions without a priestly heart that is fixed in the heart of Jesus Christ."

Hathaway concludes with several recommendations about the intersection between sex and the spiritual life, especially the importance of friendship and community, as well as prayer and the sacraments. She has given the Church a valuable resource indeed.

Finley is the author of several books on practical spirituality, including The Liturgy of Motherhood: Moments of Grace, and Savoring God: Praying With All Our Senses, and has just finished teaching in the religious studies department at Gonzaga University.

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K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton

MISSIONS

From page 7

tighter, thanking God for the many blessings, big or small, that we received, and the grace to be a source of blessing, too, to everyone we meet," he said.

The St. Joseph the Worker Charity Clinic in Barangay Purisma has been providing essential healthcare for nearly six years.

"It has been a huge blessing in terms of giving healthcare without charge for the community and the surrounding communities in the town of Manapla," Fr. Dandi noted.

The clinic had to close for 16 days in May when an employee tested positive for COVID.

In the interim, "we took time to make some renovations and especially to clean and disinfect the building and the entire place," said Fr. Dandi.

Hope for justice

Fr. Dandi has also been working with the people to convince the government to shut down the VMC Distillery, which pollutes their air and water with foul-smelling toxic waste.

"Because of the pollution caused by this distillery plant, life has become very, very difficult for so many poor people," he stated. "They get sick, and some die, little by little."

Furthermore, the land on which the distillery stands does not even belong to the company that's using it. Under the Government Comprehensive Land Reform Program, the land actually belongs to the poor farmers



TOP: People from miles around fill the waiting area of the The St. Joseph the Worker Charity Clinic in Barangay Purisma, founded by Father Donardo Bermejo. **BOTTOM:** Father Cesar Anicama presides over a funeral service in the village where he is stationed in Peru.

of the region.

"The land which VMC stole from the people has to be given back to the poor farmers who are the rightful owners," Fr. Dandi insisted.

"This land is going to be a big help to the landless poor sugarcane farmers and their families, as they can use it for cultivating crops and farming

purposes for their food supply and livelihood, and thus help them break the cycle of poverty which they and their forebears have suffered for decades and generations," he said.

"I really believe that through God's help, we will win this hard battle in the end," he stated.

BIKING

From page 5

"My role is to be of complete service to the riders, just as Mary served Jesus throughout her lifetime," she said.

The support crew also joins the riders in hours of personal prayer.

"The riders offer up a ton of prayers while they're on the bike and pushing through the pain of all that cycling," Ms. Sprenger noted.

"As support crew members, we pray for the safety for the riders, but also for our pregnancy resource centers that we're partnered with, and their prayer intentions, the prayer intentions of

our mission partners, those who are donating to the cause and helping us reach our fundraising goals," she said.

"We also pray for pregnant women in crisis who haven't found a PRC yet, who haven't found help, who are seeking an abortion — for them to have a change of heart and find loving support," she stated.

Joyful Jesus

At the end of last year's National Ride, Ms. Sprenger was reflecting on the week's experiences when a vivid image of Jesus entered her mind.

"He was on a bicycle, in His sandals," she recalled. "He was leading the draft line and was in front and just pulling the team along. He was exuding absolute joy in taking the hardest spot on the team."

That reinforced for her once again that God is at the center of this mission.

"Together, we serve as Jesus's hands and feet by offering up the time, the preparation and all of the sacrifices in order to give life to those who are the most vulnerable,"

she said.

She asked for prayers for agreeable weather, safety for the riders throughout the National Ride, "and for the success of the mission — a change in the culture for the better, for the one that respects the dignity of human life at every stage."

Find information about getting involved, donating or helping at bikingforbabies.com, by searching "Biking for Babies" on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, or texting "give" to 636-303-1003.

Daily Readings

Sunday, Jul 11

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Am. 7:12-15
Ps. 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
Eph. 1:3-14 or 1:3-10
Mk. 6:7-13

Monday, Jul 12

Ex. 1:8-14, 22
Ps. 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8
Mt. 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, Jul 13

St. Henry
Ex. 2:1-15a
Ps. 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34
Mt. 11:20-24

Wednesday, Jul 14

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin (USA)
Ex. 3:1-6, 9-12
Ps. 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7
Mt. 11:25-27

Thursday, Jul 15

St. Bonaventure, bishop and doctor of the Church
Ex. 3:13-20
Ps. 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27
Mt. 11:28-30

Friday, Jul 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Ex. 11:10-12:14
Ps. 116:12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18
Mt. 12:1-8

Saturday, Jul 17

Ex. 12:37-42
Ps. 136:1, 23-24, 10-12, 13-15
Mt. 12:14-21

Sunday, Jul 18

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Jer. 23:1-6
Ps. 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6
Eph. 2:13-18
Mk. 6:30-34

Monday, Jul 19

Ex. 14:5-18
(Ps.) Ex. 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6
Mt. 12:38-42

Tuesday, Jul 20

St. Apollinaris, bishop and martyr
Ex. 14:21-15:1
(Ps.) Ex. 15:8-9, 10, 12, 17
Mt. 12:46-50

Wednesday, Jul 21

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, priest and doctor of the Church
Ex. 16:1-5, 9-15
Ps. 78:18-19, 23-28
Mt. 13:1-9

Thursday, Jul 22

St. Mary Magdalene
Sg. 3:1-4b or 2 Cor. 5:14-17
Ps. 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Jn. 20:1-2, 11-18

Friday, Jul 23

St. Bridget, religious
Ex. 20:1-17
Ps. 19:8, 9, 10, 11
Mt. 13:18-23

Saturday, Jul 24

St. Sharbel Makhluf, priest
Ex. 24:3-8
Ps. 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15
Mt. 13:24-30

The Holy Father's prayer intentions for July:

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

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St. Elizabeth
Community Picnic
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 All you care to eat from 11 am - 6:30 pm
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 Adults \$12 — Children 6-10 \$6 — 5 & under Free
 Carryouts Available / Air Conditioned Dining



Sunday, July 25

- * Quilt Auction (5pm)
- * Live Music (evening)
- * Refreshments
- * Games & Prizes
- * Country Store

View the quilts online at www.stetv.net

Secular Franciscan Order Candidate profession in Columbia

DATE: July 31
TIME: 5 pm

Candidate Terrie Foltz will profess vows and be formally received into the Joyful Servants Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS) during the Saturday evening Mass at 5 p.m. on July 31 in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel, 602 Turner Ave. in Columbia.

Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish, and Franciscan Father Pio Jackson spiritual assistant for the St. Clare Region of the OFS, will concelebrate the Mass.

joyfuleservantsofs.wordpress.com



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Silent Quilt Auction - Prize Drawing
 Country Store

6418 Highway W, Wardsville MO

Sung Latin Mass in Mexico

DATE: July 25
TIME: noon

Father Dylan Schrader, pastor of St. Brendan Parish in Mexico, will offer a Sung Mass in the Extraordinary Form in Latin, at noon on Sunday, July 25, in St. Brendan Church, 615 S. Washington St.

Worship aids in English will be provided.

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