

## An answer to Carmelite prayers

The Muenks family of Frankenstein are giving thanks to God and to their Carmelite prayer partners for the gift of a new family member.

Page 4



Safe environments . . . . . Page 3

Fr. Hoi retirement . . . . . Page 6

Prepared to save a life . . . . Page 7

New school leaders . . . . . Page 10

Aquinas Academy . . . . . Page 12

Eddie at the bat . . . . . Page 13

# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

August 6, 2021 • Vol. 65 No. 3

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Stewardship mindset helping Catholic schools thrive



Melinda Osentowski, the new principal of Holy Cross School in Cuba, gathers with a few of the students.

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

By Jay Nies

Many hands make for an incredible community, especially when Christ is in the middle of it all.

Whether joined in prayer or engaged in the work of ministry, those hands are an extension of God's hands for the students and families of the diocese's 37 Catholic grade schools and three Catholic high schools, along with the countless parishioners and benefactors who help make it all possible.

"How blessed are we to live and work in a diocese built on the spirituality of stewardship!" stated Dr. Erin Vader, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Jefferson City diocese.

As families enjoy their remaining days of summer vacation, the administrators are hard at work laying the groundwork for another successful year.

"All of us involved in the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Jefferson City are grateful to serve, blessed by our bishop and our pastors, delighted with our students and alumni, and proud to partner with the first and best teachers of our students: their parents," she wrote in a State of the Schools report to the people of the diocese.

In that report, available at [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org), Dr. Vader recounts the past year's successes in carrying Catholic education and faith formation through the pandemic and into the future.

She noted that according to last year's standardized tests, students continued learning and moving ahead through distance learning.

Administrators of all the diocese's Catholic schools have continued working together to review and update the standard curriculum for all of the schools, including faith formation,

See SCHOOLS, page 17

## Catholic parishioner finds joy, affirmation in serving students, families in public schools

By Jay Nies

"What do You want of me, Lord?"

Rhonda Allen weaves Donna Marie McGargill's "Servant Song" into her daily prayer.

"Where do You want me to serve You? Where can I sing Your praises? I am Your song."

Ms. Allen, a lifelong member of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City, is a newly-appointed assistant principal at Lewis and Clark Middle School in the Jefferson City Public School District.

"One of the things I've been taught since a very young age is that God is everywhere and He loves us all," said Ms. Allen. "He's in the child that you see on the playground when people are doing something nice for someone else, or the one standing up to a bully."

She commits herself daily to recognizing the face of Christ in everyone she meets — students, parents and fellow administrators and educators.

"For me, that's the bottom line, to love everyone as Jesus did," she said. "That's what God wants us to do: to be kind and loving to everyone."

She's also committed to setting a good example for the children and adults she encounters.

"Our parents need so much guidance and love as well as their children," she said. "If I can plant those seeds of love in what I'm doing and saying and what I'm teaching, then I'm doing the work of God."

### A great example

Ms. Allen holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Lincoln University in Jefferson City and recently completed a master's degree in educational administration from Grand Canyon University in Arizona.

See SERVANT SONG page 14

Find us online at  
**CATHMO.COM**

and  
  **@DIOJEFFCITY**



**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](mailto:dbarnes@diojeffcity.org). Allow two weeks.

NEW ADDRESS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NEW PARISH \_\_\_\_\_

OLD PARISH \_\_\_\_\_

08/06/21

## Mass in Cedron

**DATE:** August 14  
**TIME:** 2 pm

Mass will be offered at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14, in historical Assumption Church in Cedron.

The church stands at the site of one of Jesuit Father Ferdinand Helias's original seven missions in Central Missouri.

It is located on Cedron Road, off of Highway D, near Jamestown and Prairie Home in Moniteau County.

## Pray for deceased priests

Aug. 20 — **Fr. Frederick J. McEvoy**, Chaplain, St. Francis Hospital, Marcelline (1961)

## 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](mailto:HRDir@diojeffcity.org).

## 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](https://www.indeed.com) and complete the skills assessment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Cursillo pilgrimage to Perryville

**DATE:** September 13  
**TIME:** 8:30 am

The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Jefferson City will lead a pilgrimage on Monday, Sept. 13, to the grotto at the National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal, 1811 W. St. Joseph St. in Perryville.

Father Gregory Oligschlae-

ger, spiritual advisor for Cursillo in this diocese, will meet pilgrims at the grotto at 8:30 a.m. to give a brief presentation and prayer.

All are encouraged to visit this beautiful Shrine and seek the Blessed Mother's powerful intercession for the revival of the Cursillo Movement in this

diocese.

It is suggested that interested pilgrims carpool to Perryville.

Contact Susan Stolwyk at [s.stolwyk@gmail.com](mailto:s.stolwyk@gmail.com) or 573-607-0435 for information.

[diojeffcity.org/cursillo](http://diojeffcity.org/cursillo)

[amm.org](http://amm.org)

## WURLITZER ORGAN

A family in Hermann wishes to give an electronic organ in good condition away to a parish that can put it to good use: Wurlitzer Concert Organ, Model 4700, with 2 manuals, full pedalboard and bench; 62 inches wide/48 inches tall. Photos available upon request. For info, email [krusedon63@gmail.com](mailto:krusedon63@gmail.com) or call 573-486-2633.

### The Catholic Missourian

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

"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."

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

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight  
Publisher

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

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

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



THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN (ISSN 1083-6977 or USPS 556940), August 6, 2021, volume 65, number 3. Published biweekly at 2207 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. Subscription price \$14 a year through parish plan. Periodical postage paid at Jefferson City, Mo. and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to The Catholic Missourian, 2207 W Main St, Jefferson City MO 65109-0914.

## CCCNMO offering online mental health support through "Sister Hope"

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO), the charitable services outreach of the Diocese of Jefferson City, has partnered with Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) and technology provider X2AI to provide easy, immediate and free access to mental health support through a chatbot named Hope.

Built by clinical psychologists, the chatbot connects clients through AI-driven text conversations that are available in both English and Spanish 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Research studies indicate using the chatbot led to sig-

nificantly reduced symptoms, on average by 28 percent for depression, and 18 percent for anxiety.

If warranted, a connection with a Catholic Charities or other licensed therapist can be made. If someone's response suggests that they are contemplating suicide or are at immediate risk of domestic violence, they will receive an immediate call from a crisis counselor.

To access the free, confidential Hope service, users can text "Hi" to 1-202-949-7249, or visit [facebook.com/HopeCCUSA](https://www.facebook.com/HopeCCUSA), and use the start code: CCCNMO.



Find us online @ [CATHMO.COM](http://CATHMO.COM)

# Parents of students at Catholic elementary schools are important part of child and youth protection protocols

**“Virtus: Protecting God’s Children” training required by the start of school for all who are not already certified**

By Jay Nies

As Catholic schoolchildren count down the remaining days of summer vacation, their parents are being reminded to ensure their own compliance with the diocese’s updated policies for protecting children and young people.

Effective this new school year, the parents or guardians of all kindergarten through eighth-grade students in Catholic schools in the Jefferson City diocese must complete an online or in-person training module on recognizing and reporting signs of the abuse of minors.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight announced the requirement last October, following a yearlong reevaluation of the diocese’s safe environment policies.

“Full cooperation among caring, trusted adults is our most effective line of defense against abuse and exploitation of young people,” the bishop stated in an article in the Oct. 29, 2020, edition of *The Catholic Missourian*.

“We need every adult to be able to recognize the signs of

abuse and follow appropriate protocols when ministering to young people,” he said.

Compliance for Catholic-school parents includes participation in a VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” training workshop, available in person or online.

The online workshop takes about an hour and a half to complete. The in-person version takes about two hours.

Under the revised policy, volunteers who work with minors must also consent to a background check, and sign an affirmation of the Diocesan Code of Pastoral Conduct.

These changes went into effect Oct. 31 for priests, deacons, religious, volunteers, seminarians, deacon candidates and adult diocesan employees.

Parents of Catholic grade-school students who are not currently serving as volunteers or employees of the Church must complete the requirements of volunteers who work with minors before the start of school.

“This policy will not impact all of our parents — many are already trained and able to volunteer freely in our schools,” Dr. Erin Vader, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Jefferson City diocese, noted in

a March 5, 2021, letter to parents.

“Please know this is not an arbitrary requirement,” Dr. Vader wrote. “It is actually tied fundamentally to who we are as stewardship-model Catholic schools.”

She said requiring Catholic school parents to complete the safe environment training is part of the diocese’s move toward a stewardship model in which all parishioners and school families pledge time, talent and treasure toward advancing the mission of the Church.

“We all appreciate the level of commitment our parents make to our Catholic schools,” Dr. Vader wrote. “We have done everything we can to make this process as convenient and easy as possible.”

## “We do it together”

Bishop McKnight worked for over a year with diocesan staff and various advisory groups before updating the policy.

Among them were the Presbyteral Council, with priest representatives from each region; the Diocesan Review Board, a group of mostly laypeople that review allegations of abuse of a minor by an agent of the Church; the Hispanic Advisory Committee; and the members of his cabinet.

Connie Schepers, diocesan chancellor and director of child and youth protection, emphasized that united vigilance among all the faithful is an essential part of keeping children safe.

“Many parents simply don’t know how to recognize the behavior patterns of people who are seeking to abuse children,” she stated. “The training we provide helps them identify that.”

Mrs. Schepers noted that when everyone agrees to learn and abide by a clear set of sensible rules, the people who think the rules do not apply to them tend to stand out.

“It’s up to all of us to identify the people who continue to do things that put children

ing God’s Children” workshop.

She said she was upset at first about having to attend the workshop in order to continue serving as a lector or cantor at the parish.

“I thought I knew everything I needed to know,” she stated.

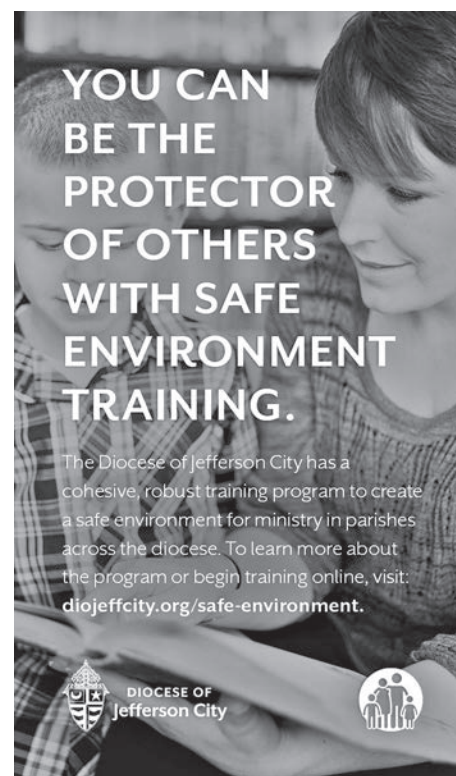
She changed her mind after watching the two videos and recognizing behavior she had seen out in public.

“I learned a lot today,” she said. “I don’t have children, but I have plenty of nieces and nephews.

“It turned on a lightbulb for me,” she said. “This is important. Anytime you can make people aware of something dangerous out there, I’m on board with it.”

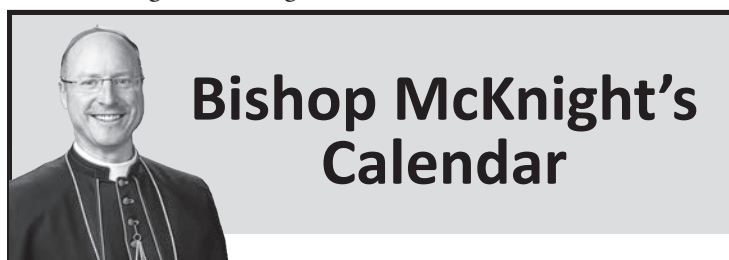
Participants in another “Protecting God’s Children”

See PROTECT, page 23



at risk,” she said. “We do it together.”

Cathedral of St. Joseph parishioner Edith Vogel recently attended a “VIRTUS: Protect-



### AUGUST

- Aug 6** Diocesan Building Commission Meeting, 11 am, Chancery
- Aug 9** Catholic Charities USCCB Review Meeting, 10 am, Virtual
- Aug 10** Very Reverend Dean’s Meeting, 11 am; Presbyteral Council Meeting, 1 pm, Chancery
- Aug 13** President Harvey James of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Meeting, 1 pm, Chancery; St. Peter Parish’s 175th Celebration, 5 pm, Jefferson City
- Aug 14** Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, 9:30 am, Chancery
- Aug 17** Missionary Priests Luncheon, noon, Bishop’s Residence
- Aug 19** Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, 11 am, Chancery; Priests’ Mutual Benefit Society Board Meeting, 1 pm, Chancery
- Aug 21** St. Pius X 150th Anniversary Mass, 5:15 pm, Moberly
- Aug 22** St. Brendan Catholic School 100th Anniversary Mass, 9 am, Mexico
- Aug 24** Hispanic Ministry Meeting, 10:30 am, Chancery; Catholic Rural Life Sustainability Committee Meeting, 2 pm, Virtual

## Bishop McKnight’s August prayer intention for our Local Church

As we begin this school year, may all recognize our shared mission to hand on our Catholic faith to the next generation.

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

Al comenzar este nuevo año escolar, que todos recordemos nuestra misión común de transmitir nuestra fe católica a las próximas generaciones.

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

MORE CONVENIENCE THAN EVER

— with over —

**100** BRANCHES  **200** ATM’s

THROUGHOUT MISSOURI.



**Central Bank**

Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™

CENTRALBANK.NET | 634.1111 | MEMBER FDIC



## Carmelite Nuns bolster Muenks family's prayers for a baby

By Eddie O'Neill

Amy and Kenny Muenks were no strangers to fertility problems.

Married in 2014, the couple had struggled through two difficult pregnancies but the outcomes were well worth the pain.

Six-year-old Nolan and 3-year-old Marcy were the joy of their lives, and mom and dad were ready for them to have a brother or sister.

The couple, who are members of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Frankenstein, had suffered through a miscarriage along the way, and the thought of conceiving a baby and losing him or her was a risk that they weren't sure they wanted to take.

However, they knew God was in control. They prayed, and so did a special group of nuns.

In June of 2019, upon the suggestion of her hairdresser, Mrs. Muenks sent an email to the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of the Carmel of the Sacred

Heart and St. Joseph, explaining their fertility issues and their desire to grow their family.

This group of Carmelite sisters has been praying for the needs of the Church, especially the Diocese of Jefferson City, since 1960.

"I thought we could use all the help we could get," said Mrs. Muenks. "The nuns replied the next day that they would be happy to pray for us."

A few months later, the couple found out they were pregnant.

"However, we then found out a few days later that the pregnancy was ectopic and we lost (the baby)," she recalled. "So we began the grieving process once again."

Fast-forward two months to November 2019, when Mrs. Muenks got a "prophetic word" from her good friend Julie.

"(Julie) told me quite frankly that I was going to conceive next month, and I just went with it," Mrs. Muenks told *The Catholic Missourian*. "And sure

enough, it happened in December."

Mr. Muenks was at work when he got the good news.

"At first, I couldn't believe it," he said. "I was excited but a little timid, given the struggles we had had before."

Mrs. Muenks notified the Carmelites that she was pregnant, and they kept praying. She related that the pregnancy was a relatively smooth one.

"Everything went fairly well," she noted. "We did have a scare in the spring around Holy Week, and the pandemic made it difficult.

"But in September of 2020, Colin Patrick came into our arms!" she said.

The Muenkses are waiting for the pandemic to subside in order to introduce their beautiful family to the Carmelite



Kenny and Amy Muenks spend time outside with their children, Colin Patrick, 10 months; Marcy Jolee, age 4; and Nolan John, age 6 on Aug. 9.

— Photo by Jessica Renae Photography, used with permission

nuns in person.

However, Mrs. Muenks recently posted her families gratitude to them on the Diocese of Jefferson City's Facebook

page:

"I sent a request for prayer in the summer of 2019 that God might bless us with another child. I'm staring at our sweet baby boy sleeping right now! God is so very good and we are so thankful for the prayers of the Carmelite nuns."

The Muenks family and their friends in Carmel proposed, and God disposed with lavish grace.

"I know that it was through the heavenly help of the Carmelites that we got Colin," Mrs. Muenks stated. "He is a happy little boy. He wakes up smiling and smiles before bedtime and is just happy to be here."

The Carmelite Nuns continue to pray for the people and Church of the Jefferson City diocese.

Please email them at: [car\\_melofjc.prayers@gmail.com](mailto:car_melofjc.prayers@gmail.com).

**James O'Donnell**  
A Life Celebration® Home

*The mark of excellence for five generations.*

302 South Fifth  
Hannibal, Missouri

573.221.8188 • [www.jamesodonnellfuneralhome.com](http://www.jamesodonnellfuneralhome.com)  
© 2018 The James O'Donnell Funeral Home, Inc.

**GEOHERMAL HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING**

**BOSCH**  
Invented for life

Stieferman Heating Company 573-635-3547  
**100% GREEN, 101% COOL**

**Religious Gifts**  
For All Occasions:  
Baptism - Confirmation - First Communion - RCIA - Wedding

**The I. DONNELLY Co., Inc.**  
6601 TROOST AVE. • KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64131

Phone: (816) 363-2828  
Nationwide Toll Free Order Desk: (800) 821-5372  
Visit our online catalog at: [www.idonnelly.com](http://www.idonnelly.com)

## Reflections after a hot day in the Moberly Correctional Center

*The following was posted July 28 on Facebook by a corrections case manager and corrections officer at the Moberly Correctional Center in Moberly, Missouri.*

*She is a member of St. Mary Parish in Shelbina.*

By Jenni Rash

I work in a place where there are some not-so-nice people that purposely hurt others, but that same place has some good people that made bad decisions.

Some made the same decisions that some of us have made but were fortunate enough to not get caught.

Some didn't grow up in a place like us that showed them right from wrong.

Some were forced to grow up and make grown-up decisions that no child should ever have to make.

Some of them lost family members and spiraled into a place they couldn't get out of.

Some grew up in extremely bad houses and

thought that was the way everyone lived.

Some grew up in wonderful homes but still couldn't get things right.

Some walk around with undiagnosed mental health issues, and treatment would help them be successful.

My job is to help them know there's a better way.

My job is to show them that there are people who want them to succeed and come out of our institution a better human. Maybe the one they were actually destined to be.

But some days are hard. Some days I forget.

We are short-staffed. We are frustrated. We are tired. We are HOT!

Sometimes, I forget how blessed I am. Today was one of those days.

Tomorrow will be better and I will remember. Or at least I hope I do.

Always count your blessings and say a prayer for those around you that don't have the same blessings.



# PROMISE TO PROTECT



# PLEDGE TO HEAL

**BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HELP AND HEALING. THERE IS HOPE.**

Your local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you. We will help you make a formal complaint and arrange a personal meeting with the bishop, or his delegate, if desired. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

To report abuse, call the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline:

**1-800-392-3738 or 1-844-CAN-TELL**

Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-0210

Any known or suspected abuse or neglect of children or adults should be immediately reported to the appropriate legal authorities.

**To report concerns or suspected abuse by diocesan personnel, also contact:**

**Jacqueline Baldwin, Victim Assistance Coordinator**

**reportabuse@diojeffcity.org | 573-694-3199**



**DIOCESE OF  
Jefferson City**



# Father Joseph Hoi adjusting to retirement from pastoral duties

By Jay Nies

Father Joseph Nguyen viet Hoi has spent the past month easing into a slower priestly pace.

The former pastor of St. Theresa Parish in Dixon and St. Cornelius Parish in Crocker retired from active ministry for health reasons on July 1.

"I'm beginning a new phase in my life," he said on July 31. "I realize am no longer a public person in a parish setting. I'm at my own home. No one is around."

He said he's grateful to God for the Holy Priesthood and for the opportunity to serve the people in Jesus's name.

One of Fr. Hoi's main priorities now is to attend to his health, including nerve pain caused by shingles.

"I realize that this will be a long process," he said.

A native of Vietnam, Fr. Hoi came to the United States from Saigon (now Ho Chi Min City) in August 1975 as a member of the religious Congregation of Mary, Co-Redemptrix (CMC).

He was known then as Brother Peter.

The congregation is now

based in Carthage, Missouri.

Fr. Hoi studied at Conception Seminary College in Conception from 1976-80, then received a dispensation from his vows as a religious brother in order to discern a call to the Priesthood for the Jefferson City diocese.

Father Thomas Alber, senior associate pastor of St. Brendan Parish in Mexico, was in the seminary with Fr. Hoi.

"I recall that Fr. Joseph was a dedicated student of philosophy," Fr. Alber stated. "He completed a double major in philosophy and theology upon graduating from Conception Seminary College."

Fr. Hoi completed his priestly formation at Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis. During his studies, he also spent time working at Alexian Brothers Hospital (now St. Alexis Hospital) and St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, both in St. Louis.

Bishop Michael F. McAuliffe of Jefferson City, now deceased, ordained Fr. Hoi to the Holy Priesthood on April 14, 1984, in St. Peter Church in Jefferson City, where Fr. Hoi had served as a deacon.

Fr. Hoi spent the summers

of his years in formation with John and Henrietta Gentges of St. Martin Parish in St. Martins. Out of appreciation for their kindness, he celebrated his Mass of Thanksgiving — his first Mass after ordination — in St. Martin Church.

A year later, Fr. Hoi preached the homily at Fr. Alber's Mass of Thanksgiving in St. Michael Church in Kahoka after Fr. Alber's priestly ordination.

"He said that a vocation to Priesthood was like a rose: precious and beautiful to behold, but also with thorns," Fr. Alber recalled. "You have to be careful how you hold it."

## "Peace I give you"

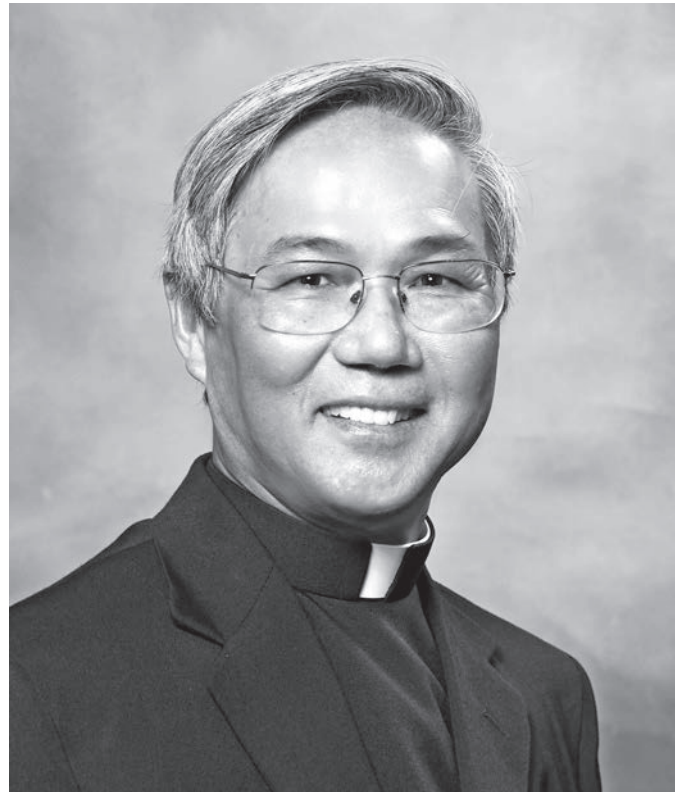
Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Russellville and vicar general of the Jefferson City diocese, said it was a privilege to attend the seminary with Fr. Hoi as well as to serve with him as a priest of this diocese.

"Despite the trauma of living through the Vietnam War, Fr. Hoi has always maintained an aura of calm, patience, and a good sense of humor," Msgr. Kurwicky observed.

He added that Fr. Hoi's experiences helped him minister to many families here who had lost sons during the Vietnam War.

Fr. Hoi served as associate pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Moberly, followed by Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish in Jefferson City, and St. Peter Parish in Marshall.

He also ministered as a



Father Joseph Hoi

hospital chaplain in Jefferson City.

He then served as pastor of St. Bernadette Parish in Hermitage and Our Lady of Snows Chapel in Climax Springs and associate pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Camdenton.

He then became pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James and St. Anthony Parish in Rosati.

He then served as pastor of St. Mary Parish in Milan and the Mission of St. Mary in Unionville; Church of the Risen Savior Parish in Rhineland and St. Jude Thaddeus Parish in Mokane; Immaculate Conception Parish in Owensville and St. Alexander Parish in Belle; then St. Joseph Parish in Edina, St. John Parish in Memphis and the Mission of St. Aloysius in Baring.

He helped oversee the restoration of historical St. Joseph Church in Edina following a fire in August 2013.

He became pastor of the Dixon and Crocker parishes in 2015.

## "Familiar faces"

Fr. Hoi said what he'll miss most about being a pastor are

the people and their example of living out the gift of baptism.

"I've learned so much from them and have gained so much from their generosity," he said.

As a servant of Christ, he takes to heart Jesus's proclamation that "the Son of Man comes not to be served but to serve," (Mark 10:45).

He said that since becoming a priest 37 years ago, he has noticed a shift in the responsibilities that come

with being a pastor.

"A priest must be not only a pastoral person but also an effective administrator," he noted. "I do not miss one bit of this second expectation."

Fr. Hoi has taken up residence in a home he owns in St. James.

"I was a priest at St. James from the early to late 1990s," he noted. "At the stores, I saw familiar faces. They were young when I was their priest. Now, they are leaders of their local church. Their parents were active and even served as members of the parish council."

Occasionally, when Fr. Hoi asks about people he remembers from his early days there, the answer is, "he died" or "she died."

Fr. Hoi said he's grateful to diocesan personnel, especially diocesan benefits coordinator Gala Wolfmeier, for helping him make the transition to retirement.

He maintains steadfast devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ.

"I also seek the intercession of St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother," he stated. "I remind myself of the obligation to pray for the Church."

"Now, I add a special prayer for good health and for being faithful to God until the end," he said.

## CASTROP PLASTERING CO. INC.



PLASTERING - DRYWALL  
ACOUSTICAL TILE  
STUCCO & THIN WALL  
PLASTERING

4915 Hwy. 50 West, Jefferson City (573) 893-4111



## The Wedding Place

Groom's Tux FREE  
(with 6 paid rentals)

236 East High Street,  
Downtown Jefferson City  
573-634-7267

www.samuelstuxedos.com



Rentals  
starting  
at \$89<sup>95</sup>  
complete



Find us  
online @ CATHMO.COM



## Two Tolton Catholic students see God's guidance in hindsight

### Put Scouting skills to the test in answering a call for help

By Jay Nies

Two Tolton Trailblazers found themselves at the right place at the right time to save a life this summer.

They didn't stop and pray when they heard a young woman screaming for help from the middle of a flash-flooded creek.

They just jumped in and pulled her to safety, instinctively relying on God and each other to do the same for them if necessary.

"The woman needed help and there wasn't anyone else there to help her," said Joseph Diener.

"We knew it was the right thing to do, and if we didn't, she could have potentially died," said Dominic Viet.

Summoned or not, God was in their midst.

They know that now.

Joseph and Dominic are members of Boy Scout Troop 6, sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia, and will be sophomores at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School this fall.

They were riding their bikes along rain-swollen Hinkson Creek near Scott Boulevard after a storm on June 25.

Both were scheduled to work at the Diamond Council concession stand but got called off because of the weather.

"If we hadn't been there, this might have a different ending," said Dominic. "There had to be a reason that we ended up there at the moment that she needed us most."

Neither had ever saved a life before.

Joseph got into the water and made sure Dominic was right behind him, "because there was no way I could do this myself," he said.

Dominic's parents had warned him against riding his bike into any flooding water, so he had second thoughts.

"But I knew my parents would want me to help this girl if I could," he said.

Joseph believes the initial burst of courage "probably came from God."

"Yes," said Dominic. "God helped guide us and give us the confidence to get into the

floodwater and save the girl."

While someone on the bank called 911, Joseph and Dominic swam out to the young woman and dragged her to the bank.

She was breathing and alert but was still coughing up water when first responders from the Columbia Fire Department arrived.

"The police came next and the ambulance after that," said Joseph. "They made sure she was stable. They took her to the ambulance, and we rode off on our bikes."

Dominic's mother was worried and had been trying to get ahold of him for half an hour.

"She was very scared that something had happened to me," he said.

He sent her a text message that he and Joseph had saved a girl's life.

"She couldn't believe it at first but was so thankful that I was okay," said Dominic.

He is confident that God allowed them to hear and respond to a cry for help "and guided us throughout the whole thing."

"Looking back, I know that God was there with us," he said. "My mom was praying at home the whole time that she could not get ahold of me, so her prayers were with us."

Joseph was amazed at how quickly the story got around — first locally, then nationally.

"Two things I'll probably remember most about this are the whole jumping into the water, and how everybody knew about it in a matter of two days," he said.

He and Dominic wound up getting interviewed on NBC's "TODAY" show website, the Weather Channel, *CNN.com*, *People.com* and in local media.

"It was pretty crazy, I thought," said Joseph.

Neither was particularly comfortable with the publicity.

"I don't like being in the spotlight, so I didn't like all the media attention," said Dominic. "But it felt really good to help save someone and know that I can."

Both believe their story will be good for the Boy Scouts of America. After all, Scouting is where they learned the skills that let them wade into troubled waters without reser-

vation.

"Boy Scouts taught us how to carry her out of the water, to be prepared and how to be ready fast," said Dominic. "Having that in my head already, gave me the confidence to know that we could help her."

### Helpful, brave and reverent

On July 7, Dominic and Joseph received a Citizen Heroism Award from the Columbia Fire Department, a Lifesaving Ribbon from the Columbia Police Department and a Lifesaving Award from the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

"The firemen told us at our award ceremony that they were worried about having to go into floodwaters because it is not always a good ending, and there was a strong current from the water rushing through the tunnel under Scott Boulevard," Dominic noted.

"Listening to them made me really thank God that we were able to successfully save the girl," he said.

He was quick to caution anyone from going into floodwaters without lifesaving training.

"You should be confident in your ability to swim before you try to save someone from drowning," he said.

Joseph noted that using a rope or a branch or some other long object to pull someone to safety is safer than jumping



Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School students Dominic Viet and Joseph Diener display the honors they received from the Columbia Fire Department, Columbia Police Department and Missouri Department of Public Safety on July 7 for saving a woman from a flooding creek on June 25.

— Photo from the Columbia, MO Fire Department Facebook page

about that," he said.

### "Be prepared"

Dominic and Joseph have had several discussions about the day they were put to the test.

"We will always remember it," said Dominic. "The feeling of knowing that we saved someone will carry with us forever."

He and Joseph said they'd risk their lives again if they ever needed to.

Both enjoy being Boy Scouts and students of Tolton Catholic.

"I like the outdoors stuff and the camping with the Boy Scouts," said Joseph. "I like going to a smaller school. I'm there with most of my friends and can know pretty much everybody there."

Both are working on becoming Eagle

Scouts.

"My family has supported me and encouraged me to grow closer in my faith and to continue in Boy Scouts," said Dominic. "I love being outside and being a leader and am excited to be finishing up earning my Eagle Scout."

into the water after them.

"In this case, she was too far out in the water, and we didn't have anything long enough to reach her," he said.

Because of how debris was floating in the water, Joseph was confident that there weren't any violent currents.

"I'm glad I wasn't wrong



## BUTZER

"Dependable service since 1926"

HEATING ■ PLUMBING ■ AIR CONDITIONING

**573-636-4115**

24 Hour Service

721 Wicker Lane, Jefferson City, MO 65109

[www.hgbutzer.com](http://www.hgbutzer.com)

Find us  
online

@

**CATHMO.COM**



Like Us On  
**facebook**

Diocese of  
Jefferson City

## Divinity Religious Gift Shop



Open Wed-Fri 9:30-5:30 & Sat 10-4:30

320 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City  
(573) 636-5470



## QUESTION CORNER

## Funeral Mass for non-practicing Catholic? / Annulment questions

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



**Q. May a Mass of Christian burial be celebrated for a baptized person who has been, for many years, away from the Church? (East Springfield, New York)**

**A.** Yes, absolutely. The Church's *Code of Canon Law* states, in fact, that every Catholic has the right to a Catholic funeral, and the wording of the Canon is strong: "Deceased members of the Christian faithful must be given ecclesiastical funerals according to the norm of law" (No. 1176).

The few exceptions to that rule are stated specifically in a subsequent canon and include such categories as "notorious apostates, heretics and schismatics" and "other manifest sinners who cannot be granted ecclesiastical funerals without public scandal of the faithful" (No. 1184).

A person who has been away from regular church attendance could not, of course, receive Holy Communion without going to confession first. But it is always possible that the deceased, in the privacy of his own conscience, may not have realized the gravity of his offense or may have expressed repentance and been reconciled to the Lord.

The Church's rule on funerals gives a person the benefit of that doubt, and the funeral Mass commends the deceased to the tender mercy of God.

**Q. I am a cradle Catholic. I was divorced in 2019 and am now dating a woman who is not a Catholic. If I were to marry this woman in a civil ceremony or in her Christian church — without an annulment — is it true that I could not receive Holy Communion in a Catholic church as well as not teach religious education, be a godparent or coordinate our parish's Mass-server program — all of which I now do? Also, would my ex-wife have to consent to the annulment? What is her involvement in the process? (I would like it to be minimal.) (Norfolk, Virginia)**

**A.** Yes, it is true that if you married this woman without first obtaining an annulment from the Catholic Church you would not be permitted to receive Holy Communion. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that you would be "in a situation that objectively contravenes God's law" and "cannot receive eucharistic Communion as long as this situation persists" (No. 1650).

As to service in ministries that the Church offers, the standard requirement for such volunteers is that they be in full communion with the Church. As one U.S. archdiocese explains it on its website, those who serve as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, for example, must be "practicing Catholics, distinguished in their Christian life, faith and morals" and "if married, the marriage must be a valid Catholic marriage."

I applaud your willingness to offer valuable help in your parish's ministries, and I am pleased that you are thinking of an annulment, which would allow your work to continue. If you were to apply for an annulment, your ex-wife would be notified that you have done so, and she would be offered the opportunity to fill out a questionnaire including her "take" on the marriage and what contributed to its break-up.

For your annulment to proceed, it would not be necessary that your ex-wife complete that questionnaire or participate at all in the annulment process — only that she be offered the chance to do so. (Often enough, the former spouse is unwilling to be involved, and the process can still proceed.)



## Papal Audience August 4, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians, we now consider Paul's insistence on complete fidelity to the Gospel. For Paul, the proclamation of the Christian message was his very life.

What he preached to the Galatians was in fact the apostolic *kerygma*, which summarized the fulfillment of all God's promises in Jesus Christ, Who died for our sins, was buried, rose on the third day, and appeared to Peter (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:3-5). This explains why, at the beginning of the Letter, Paul urges the Galatians so forcefully not to turn away from the freedom brought by the Gospel. For that Gospel, entrusted to the apostles, offers to all — ourselves included — the assurance of new life and freedom flowing from the cross of Christ and the gift of His Holy Spirit.

I cordially greet the English-speaking faithful. I pray that the summer holidays will be a time of refreshment and spiritual renewal for you and your families. Upon all of you I invoke the joy and peace of the Lord. May God bless you!

## Philippine bishop appeals for food for poor ahead of strict lockdown

Catholic News Service

Manila, Philippines

The head of the Philippine bishops' conference has appealed to Catholics to give food to the poor so that they do not go hungry during a near-total lockdown Aug. 6-20.

Bishop Pablo Virgilio David of Kalookan said giving food now would cushion the lockdown's effect, as many people would suffer due to unemployment, reported *ucanews.com*.

"Lockdowns for the poor mean hunger, especially for those who are daily wage earners, those who live a hand-to-mouth existence," Bishop David said.

"I also foresee a lot of people being arrested for violating quarantine regulations," he said.

*Ucanews.com* reported that Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte ordered that an enhanced community quarantine — the term given to the strictest lockdown measures to curb the fast-spreading delta variant of COVID-19 — be imposed.

Some Manila churchgoers said they feared fewer people would donate food because the economic situation had worsened from last year.

Others said they would donate, but not as much as last year when strict social restrictions were also in place.



# LEGENDS

## BANK

MEMBER FDIC

Don't just live life...

## make it LEGENDARY!






HOME LOANS • COMMERCIAL LOANS • AG LOANS • AUTO LOANS • HELOC

Your town, your bank.

Member  
**FDIC**



## Dressing like a Catholic

By Dr. R. Jared Staudt



Is there a Catholic way to dress? Well, there's no Catholic uniform (at least apart from school plaid). An early Christian of the second century said as much when writing a letter to Diognetus: "With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, [Christians] follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign." I have heard people take this

sentiment too far, however, by saying, "God doesn't care about what I wear." To dress like a Catholic is not about dressing one particular way; it entails allowing faith to guide our choice in clothing.

Catholic culture is a way of life shaped by faith at the center, that allows it to permeate and transform everything that we do. Charity should form our choices to make them an offering to God and an opportunity to love our neighbors. Nothing, therefore, should be left out of how we live as Christians, including seemingly little details like how we dress. Even if there is no Christian uniform, we still communicate who we are by what we

wear. Our clothing can and should honor God, reflect our dignity, and convey respect and charity to others.

Following the customs of the surrounding culture, however, as the letter to Diognetus described, has become more and more difficult. Rather than dressing in one particular way, Christians have to discern carefully whether or not the clothing presented by our culture as fashionable or normal truly represents our human dignity and is appropriate to respect others. Although it is often uncomfortable to talk about modesty, it is a necessary conversation, because we need to dress with dignity to guard our own

purity and that of others. Certain fashions should be rejected as too provocative, casual, or attention-getting. We also have to think about setting — what is worthy of wearing to church or to create the right disposition for learning, work, or recreation?

The need for modesty does not take away the opportunity for clothes to express positively who we are and our state in life. A recent book caught my attention in this regard, and my wife, Anne, helped me to unpack it, as it is addressed particularly to women: Nicole M. Caruso's *Wor-*

See STAUDT, page 18

## Always have coffee ready

By Katie Prejean McGrady  
Catholic News Service



I asked my Grandma Libby what her best tip was for a happy marriage. As I got ready on my wedding day, five years ago this past June, I picked her brain. She and my grandfather were married for over 50 years, so surely she'd have something to share.

"What's the most important thing we need to know, Grandma?" I expected wise words that would anchor our newlywed life to come.

"Always have coffee ready," she said. I wondered if she'd heard me correctly.

"Marriage advice, Grandma? Do you have any?" I asked again.

"Yes. Always have coffee ready."

Confused, I asked her to clarify.

"Well, it's simple. You'll probably want a cup. He'll probably want a cup. So, just always have some coffee ready. Because then you always have something to drink while you sit together and just talk. Or you'll have coffee when friends come over, which you'll want them to do. Just have the coffee ready."

There it was. The real advice.

"Oh, so you mean take time to actually communicate and have a hospitable home," I said, nodding in agreement.

"That's what I said. Always have the coffee ready."

She was a bright and kind woman, my Grandma Libby. For over 50 years, she had done just that. She had coffee ready — a pot of Folgers, warm and ready for the serving, cream and sugar if you wanted it. She drank it black. Piping hot or ice cold, she didn't mind.

She had a decorative sign by the pot. "Don't criticize the coffee. You might be old and weak yourself someday," the sign read.

But her coffee was never weak. And her advice never unheeded.

We almost always have coffee ready. It gives my husband and I something to sip on early in the morning before our girls wake up, or in the afternoon as we tidy the house, prepare dinner and try to catch a moment's peace before the chaos of bedtime.

When friends come over, it's a pot of coffee we make. When dinner is finished, it's hot decaf we serve. When the day drags on, it's cold brew we pull from the fridge.

Always have the coffee ready.

A few weeks ago, my almost 4-year-old daughter Rose asked me about our Grandma Libby. She passed away in June 2020. Attending her wake and funeral made a mark on her.

Rose remembers praying at the casket. She remembers sitting in the living room, telling stories of our beloved Grandma. She talks about how Grandma Libby would give her a cookie while she served coffee to the rest of us.

"Is Grandma Libby in heaven?" she asked me.

"We hope and pray she is," I told her.

"With Jesus!" she confidently said.

"Yes, with Jesus."

A few moments passed and she asked, "When is Jesus coming back here?"

Not wanting to cause an existential crisis the summer before pre-K, I simply told her, "At the end of the age," my theology degree coming in handy.

Without missing a beat, Rose asked, "Is he going to ding-dong the door and come have a snack?"

I couldn't help but laugh. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock" translates to "Behold, I stand at the door and ding-dong" for a child.

Maybe that is what will happen. Maybe He will stand at the door — of our home and our heart — and want to come into our lives and be with us in the most ordinary, mundane ways. Like when we're preparing dinner, rushing kids out the door for school or vacuuming a carpet that will never be as clean as we'd like.

Maybe Jesus stands at the door and

ding-dongs because He wants to be close to us, not just at the end of the age, but in the age we're in right now and in the circumstances we find ourselves in at this moment. Where He just wants to come in, sit with us, live life with us and be with us.

And maybe He'll ask for a snack ... or

something else.

Let's hope we have the coffee ready.

*Katie Prejean McGrady is an award-winning author and host of The Katie McGrady Show on Sirius XM's The Catholic Channel. She lives in Louisiana with her husband and daughters.*

### REFLECTION

## To the end of the earth

By Mark Saucier

Another beautiful day — sunny, a gentle breeze and the ocean in mid-tide.

With neither the tumultuous swells of high tide, nor the languid waters of low, the sea was undulating and inviting.

My 5-year-old grandson looked like some miniature aquatic clown in his sunhat, goggles and a puffy lifejacket. His legs dangled off the boogie board I was towing through the waves.

He looked back to shore and the distance we were from the rest of the family. With a trusting smile, he asked, "Where are you taking me?"

"Out to the horizon," I told him. "What do you think is out there?"

"The end of the world," said my little flat-earther.

"And what happens if you go to the end of the world?" I asked.

"Well, there is no food, so I'd probably die," he said as a matter of fact.

"And what happens to you after you die?"

"I'd go to heaven," he said, grinning with the assurance of innocence.

"And where's heaven?"

He paused and then replied, "I think it's in the ground."

"Why do you think it's in the ground?"

With no hesitation he explained, "Well, when Brenda died, they buried her in the ground." Trying to understand the eschatology of a 5-year-old, I pointed out that the burial was "just her body."

"No," he corrected me. "They buried her head, too."

A couple of days later, I read a piece by Jack Thomas, a journalist with the *Boston Globe*.

With 70 years on my grandson, and news that he has inoperable cancer with just months to live, he had a somewhat different perspective.

In a measured but moving reflection, Thomas talks about the things he'll miss. His loving wife and children, of course, but sunsets off Vineyard Sound, sailing on Boston Harbor, friends he has known forever, and the newspaper business that he is so grateful to have been a part of for over 60 years.

In heaven, he hopes he can see his father, have dinner with Julia Child, and hear Bach's Brandenburg Concertos, but he also wants to listen to Bessie Smith's celestial rendition of "Nobody in Town Can Bake a Sweet Jelly Roll Like Me."

In neither earthly memories nor heavenly desires does Thomas mention God, yet there is a palpable Presence throughout.

St. Catherine of Siena said, "All the way to heaven is heaven."

The lessons of a life and a day at the beach confirm that for me.



# New school administrators: Servant leadership, deep devotion

*This is part of a series of articles on new Catholic school administrators in the Jefferson City diocese:*

By Jay Nies

“Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant,” Jesus said to those who would lead in His place (Matthew 20:26).

The new and returning administrators of the Jefferson City diocese’s 37 Catholic schools and three Catholic high schools take this to heart as they prepare for a new school year.

Nine are taking up new administrative roles in the diocese.

“Thank you for heading with us into the breach,” Dr. Erin Vader, diocesan superintendent of schools, said to them while introducing them to their Catholic school colleagues Aug. 4.

Here is what some of them have to say.

## “Armor of God”

Spencer Allen brings strong family connections to his new role as principal of Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City.

“My wife’s family all went to Helias, my five children will go there, and I sent students there for the past 14 years,” said Mr. Allen. “I’m overjoyed to have the culmination of my career be colored blue and gold.”

He brings 25 years of education, the previous 14 as principal of St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City.

Mr. Allen holds a Specialist in Educational Administration degree from Lincoln University and is the author of a book about the Catholic faith.

He and his wife Christy have five children.

He said his primary role will be as the instructional leader for Helias Catholic.

“Among other things, my job is to identify strong educators, work with them in cultivating their professional and personal gifts, and support them in their role as stewards of the young people entrusted to them,” he said.

He noted that this year’s theme at Helias Catholic will be communion, “because we need to continue growing back

together as a community after the damage of the pandemic.”

He believes the purpose of a Catholic school is to support parents in their role as the first and best educators of their children and as the first heralds of Christ to those children.

“We also serve as missionaries to help steer young people from the harmful messages within our culture that distracts their growth in holiness,” Mr. Allen stated.

He holds to author Frank Sheed’s assertion that the only sane way for a person to view the world is through the lens of God, Who created it.

“In addition to the sacramental offerings at our schools, Catholic education provides students with a quality education seen through the lens of divine revelation,” Mr. Allen noted.

He said students who graduate from a successful Catholic school are more mature in every aspect of their being and are also prepared to help transform the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ as stewards of their call to holiness.

He pointed to some advice he received from Alan Lammers, principal of Ss. Peter and Paul School in Boonville: “Seek first to understand before being understood.”

His favorite Scripture passage is Ephesians 6:11-12, which begins: “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

In his free time, he enjoys riding his bike and kayaking with his children, reading and writing and is about halfway finished with a Spanish language course.

When things get difficult, he turns to the Immaculate Heart of Mary to intercede for him.

He asks for prayers for him and the school staff to be able to be persons of influence in the lives of these young people and ambassadors of Christ in their formation.

## God is in control

Kara Nicole Higgins is the new principal of St. Andrew School in Tipton.

“I am looking forward to a great year, and I am excited to start in my new role as princi-

pal of St. Andrew School,” she said.

Ms. Higgins attended St. Peter Interparish School and Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Central Missouri and a Master in Education Administration from William Woods University.

She has taught in public and parochial schools ranging from first through fifth grade.

This will be her first year in administration.

“I believe this role is making sure students and staff are in a welcoming and safe, faith-filled environment,” she said.

She believes the purpose of a Catholic school is to ensure that students are equipped with a solid foundation of Catholic values that they can take with them through their education and into society.

“We want the students to develop more than just academically, but spiritually, emotionally and socially as well,” she said.

She is convinced that Catholic education is important because it allows students to strengthen and deepen their relationship with God.

For her, a Catholic school is successful if its graduates consistently live out their faith in their words, actions, and deeds.

She enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading books, watching movies, and gardening in the summer.

She has worked with many great educators who encouraged her to engage her mind.

“I always feel I did a better job when I wasn’t afraid to ask questions and try new things to better myself and education,” she said.

She often prays the Seren-



**New Catholic school administrators in the Jefferson City diocese include: (front row) Kelsey Emmerich, principal, St. Joseph School, Salisbury; Melinda Osentowski, principal, Holy Cross School, Cuba; (second row) Kara Higgins, principal, St. Andrew School, Tipton; Gina Bailey, principal, St. Joseph Cathedral School, Jefferson City; José María González, assistant principal, Sacred Heart School, Sedalia; Emma Williams, assistant principal, Helias Catholic High School, Jefferson City; Billy Cannon, principal, St. Stanislaus, Wardsville; (fourth row) Jacob Akin, assistant principal, St. Joseph Cathedral School; Spencer Allen, principal, Helias Catholic High School, Jefferson City.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

ity Prayer: “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.”

“It helps remind me that God is ultimately in control and everything happens for a reason,” she said.

She also turns to the Blessed Mother for powerful intercession when things get difficult.

“It helps keep me calm and going in tough situations,” she said.

She asks for prayers for the wisdom, knowledge and understanding she will need to make the best decisions for the school and students to help them grow academically and spiritually.

## “My Shepherd”

Gina Bailey went to school at St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City.

Now she’s the principal.

“I am very excited to take on this new challenge,” she said. “I look forward to continuing all of the great programs already in place.”

She was born and raised in central Missouri. She and her husband have two children who attend St. Joseph Cathedral School.

A graduate of Helias Catholic High School, she holds a bachelor’s degree in elementary education with a minor in math and computer science from Lincoln University, and a master’s degree in elementary education from William Woods University.

She taught third grade for 10 years at St. Joseph Cathedral School and served as assistant principal for the past six years.

“It’s really neat to continue my professional career here,” she said.

“I love to see how much the school has expanded and grown over the years.”

She believes a Catholic school administrator’s job is to provide leadership in curriculum and development, oversee all programs in the school, and give effective evaluations of all of the staff in order to ensure the school is running smoothly.

She pointed out that Catholic schools place a strong emphasis on the social and emotional well-being of all of the students.

“Teaching children about their faith at a young age only helps them strengthen their relationship with God so it will become a lifelong partnership,” she stated.

She said it’s important for students to learn about their faith so they can develop a strong religious foundation.

See ADMINISTRATORS, page 11



## USCCB Migration and Refugee Services among U.S. agencies helping resettle Afghan translators, interpreters

Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and its Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) “are proud to have the opportunity to welcome and assist those who have kept Americans safe in Afghanistan,” said the USCCB president and the chairman of the bishops’ migration committee July 30.

Other agencies resettling these newcomers include Catholic Charities USA and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).

“By working with the United States, each of these individuals has put their lives and those of their family and friends at risk. As they now leave everything behind to begin new lives here, the many sacrifices they’ve made should not go unacknowledged,” the two prelates said.

The statement was issued by Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB president, and Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Migration.

According to The Associated Press (AP), a flight landed just after midnight July 30 at Dulles International Airport in Virginia, in suburban Washington, with 221 Afghans who have been allowed into the United States under a special visa program. AP said an internal U.S. government document it had obtained said

the group included 57 children and 15 babies.

As of July 7, President Joe Biden’s order for the withdrawal of all troops from Afghanistan was essentially complete, about 20 years after troops were first deployed when President George W. Bush declared war on Iraq and Afghanistan.

Nationals who provided translation, interpretation, security, transportation and other vital services to the U.S. troops in the last two decades have feared reprisals from Afghanistan’s Taliban, even more so now as its fighters advance around the country in the absence of the U.S. military.

In 2006, the U.S. Congress first authorized a bipartisan humanitarian program to provide Special Immigrant Visas, or SIVs, for nationals from Afghanistan and Iraq that include resettlement services and legal permanent residence for the approved principal applicants, their spouses and children.

Since the creation of the program, a USCCB news release said, MRS has worked with the U.S. Department of State, the Office of Refugee Resettlement and other nongovernmental organizations to provide resettlement services to some of the over 73,000 Afghan SIV holders and their families.

The USCCB also has advocated periodically before Congress to extend and improve



**A translator and soldiers from 1st Platoon Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment take cover from a helicopter’s rotor wash in Demaiwand, Afghanistan, Jan. 18, 2013, while evacuating a 10-year-old girl injured by an improvised explosive device that detonated about 875 yards away.**

— CNS photo/Andrew Burton, Reuters

the program.

On July 14, the White House announced the emergency relocation of Afghan SIV applicants in their final stages of processing to the U.S., with the first of that group arriving July 30.

In addition, Congress passed a bipartisan emergency supplemental appropriations bill July 29, allocating over \$1 billion for humanitarian support and assistance; authorizing an additional 8,000 visas for the SIV program; and making some changes to streamline the application process.

The USCCB said it supported the measure and similar ones that Congress considered in recent weeks.

Archbishop Gomez and Bishop Dorsonville said in

their statement it is important for the USCCB and MRS to join with other faith-based agencies and NGOs “to ensure the warm welcome, safe relocation and resettlement of those who have already contributed

greatly to our nation.”

“We also applaud Congress for coming to an agreement on the emergency supplemental appropriations bill to help ensure that all Afghans who are in danger because they assisted the U.S. receive protection and welcome,” they said.

The prelates added the Catholic Church teaches that “each person is created in the image and likeness of God and that we must uphold the inherent dignity of every person.”

They quoted Pope Francis, who in emphasizing the faithful’s duty to welcome the newcomer, said this is “an invitation to overcome our fears so as to encounter the other, to welcome, to know and to acknowledge him or her. It is an invitation which offers the opportunity to draw near to the other and see where and how he or she lives.”

## ADMINISTRATORS

From page 10

“Giving them these skills at a young age will help them continue to grow their faith as they move on to high school,” she noted.

Mrs. Bailey enjoys spending time with her family, vacationing with them on the beach in Alabama, watching Netflix and reading books for enjoyment.

She is currently reading *What Great Principals Do Differently*, by Todd Whitaker.

Her favorite Bible passage is Psalm 23, which begins, “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.”

Jesus’s mother is her go-to intercessor in heaven.

Mrs. Bailey asks for prayers for strength to make the right choices and lead in the best way she can.

“The power of prayer is amazing,” she said. “Just asking God to help in a time of need is all you need to do.”

**FRED VOGEL**  
Insurance Inc.

301 Monroe  
Jefferson City  
**(573) 635-6101**

Charles Prather • Rick Prather  
Tom Kummer

## Congo’s bishops want end to attacks on Catholic Church, its leaders

Catholic News Service

Nairobi, Kenya

Catholic bishops in Congo called for an end to attacks on the Church and its leaders, acts they believe are linked to the Church’s persistent call for democracy and national cohesion.

The bishops said the Archdiocese of Kinshasa has been targeted as well as places of worship — including parishes, Marian grottoes, altars and sanctuaries — in the Diocese of Mbuji-mayi.

Bishop Bernard-Emmanuel Kasanda Mulinga of Mbuji-mayi had highlighted the saddest acts in a letter to the bishops’ conference July 26, saying the place had been desecrated.

The Congolese bishops’ conference, known by the French acronym CENCO, “strongly condemns these inadmissible acts of violence, which are a serious attack on freedom of religion and expression, but also a violation of democracy,” Father Donatien Nshole, conference general secretary, said in a statement Aug. 2.

“It is a big step backward on the road to the rule of law to which the Congolese people aspire,” he said.

In an incident July 31, Augustin Kabuya, general secretary of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress, accused Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo and Father Nshole of politicizing the Church, among other allegations.



**CATHOLIC SUPPLY**  
OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

Inspirational Gifts for All Occasions!  
Especially First Communion, Baptism, & Weddings

[www.catholicsupply.com](http://www.catholicsupply.com)

or Call Today for a Free Catalog 1-800-325-9026



# 97 Aquinas Academy participants pursue their potential

By Jay Nies

A motivated volleyball player got to work on her serving skills at this year's Aquinas Academy in Mexico, Missouri.

"Some of the girls weren't understanding the footwork, so I pulled them aside while other people were going and showed them how to do it and when it was their turn to go, they got it," the sixth-grader wrote to Amy Gundy, her sports and leadership instructor for the week.

"Before camp, I don't think I ever would've been able to step up like that," the student stated.

She was one of 97 sixth- and seventh-graders from Catholic schools in the Jefferson City diocese who took part in the 34th annual Aquinas Academy.

The week-long summer enrichment program, sponsored by the diocesan Catholic School Office and staffed by teachers, is held on the campus of the Missouri Military Academy.

Its purpose is to provide an environment of learning and experiences to inspire Catholic school students in the diocese to reach their full potential.

"The group of 97 completed the week with a high level of achievement, respect and enthusiasm that garnered many compliments from the adults they encountered," said Lois Van Boening, Aquinas Academy program coordinator.

Students who were accepted

into last year's Aquinas Academy, which had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, were given top priority this year, creating a slightly larger, somewhat older group of campers.

They stayed in residence halls and kept busy with a mix of organized academic, social and spiritual activities.

Course offerings vary each year depending on the expertise of the teachers on staff. This year, the seven teachers on staff offered: art, chemistry, communications, creative writing, drama, mathematics, music, sports and leadership, and physics.

One of the main messages for participants is that God presents every individual unique gifts, which are to be used to help other people.

Mrs. Van Boening said the academy consistently provides an enriching experience not only for the campers but also the counselors and teachers who make up its staff.

"Each teacher brings an area of expertise designed to enrich students' learning experiences during the school year,"

she said. "Although content is important, the true success of the week is measured by the relationships that are formed, and the growing awareness by campers of their leadership potential."

The week began with a prayer service with the theme of "Calling forth New Leaders."

"Students are told that they will be participating in a week celebrating their giftedness, reflecting on their gifts and talents and how they can use the gifts that God has given them," said Mrs. Van Boening.

Each day begins with Mass and includes academic time with each participant's chosen courses.

Daily communal activities are designed for campers to work together and have fun.

## First-class staff

Mrs. Van Boening said the Missouri Military Academy campus serves the campers'

needs very well, with access to a gymnasium, an indoor pool, a soccer field, a dining hall, dorms, an academic building, a multimedia facility and a chapel.

She noted that in addition to support from the diocese, Aquinas Academy owes its success to the dedication and talents of the teachers who recognize the value of the program, as well as the counselors who provide talent, enthusiasm and hard work to aid its mission.

Counselors are a team of 10 young men and women from the diocese who previously attended Aquinas as campers.

"They are a representation of the many students who recognize that Aquinas helped shape their lives going forward," said Mrs. Van Boening.

These counselors, ranging in age and experience from high-school juniors to college seniors, excel academically and in extracurricular activities.



**LEFT:** Students at this year's Aquinas Academy in Mexico, Mo. play miniature golf during a field trip to Hannibal. **RIGHT:** The sports and leadership class is ready for kickball.



— Photo by Amy Gundy

"They are strong leaders and excellent role models for the young people who attend the academy," Mrs. Van Boening stated.

## The long view

Mrs. Van Boening grew up in Bowling Green and attended and later taught at St. Clement School in St. Clement.

She and her family moved to the St. Louis archdiocese in 2006, "but I can't leave the Jefferson City diocese fully behind," she said.


This is her 17th year as an Aquinas Academy teacher and her fifth as director.

"Many of the teachers on the staff have worked at the academy for more years than that — so much so that they have lost count!" she said.

Over time, she has enjoyed witnessing the transformation of some Aquinas scholars from camper to counselor to teacher.

Among them is Father Paul Clark, associate pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish and a chaplain at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School, both in Columbia.

Fr. Clark attended Aquinas Academy as a camper, served for many years as a counselor, took time off to go to the seminary, and then became an exceptional chemistry teacher.



**CATHOLIC GIFT ANNUITY**  
Administered by Catholic Extension

**CREATE A LEGACY THAT LASTS A LIFETIME**


**WITH A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY**

With a Catholic Gift Annuity, you can secure the future for yourself and your loved ones, and give a lasting gift for your parish, school or our diocese.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS	AGE	ANNUAL PAYOUT RATE
• Fixed — rate annuity payments for life, one or two people	60-64	3.9-4.2%
• Immediate and future tax benefits	65-69	4.2-4.6%
• A payment schedule tailored to your needs	70-74	4.7-5.2%
• Knowing that you will help Catholics in need in our diocese	75-79	5.4-6.2%
	80-84	6.5-7.4%
	85-89	7.6-8.4%
	90+	8.6%

catholicgiftannuity.org

For a personalized proposal, contact:  
Jake Seifert  
Director of Development & Missions  
Diocese of Jefferson City  
2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City MO 65109-0914  
development@diojeffcity.org • 573-635-9127



**DIocese OF Jefferson City**

Supplying ice for parish picnics, weddings and any occasion you might have.



**Call us today!**  
**HILKE'S ICE**  
Freeburg, Mo.  
**573-744-5500**



# Group promotes diminutive ballplayer's legacy to celebrate his 70th anniversary

**DATE:** August 19  
**TIME:** 4:30 - 7:30 pm

By Jay Nies

The St. Louis Browns were on their way to finishing dead-last in 1951 when team owner Bill Veeck signed a player of most unusual stature.

At 3'7", Eddie Gaedel was destined to reign forever as the shortest player in the history of Major League Baseball.

He drew a walk in his only at-bat on Aug. 19, 1951 — 70 years ago — in St. Louis's venerable Sportsman's Park.

Deacon Thomas Whalen of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City was at the game and saw Mr. Gaedel claim his base before a crowd of delighted fans.

Deacon Whalen plans to share his memories of that balmy evening during this year's gathering of the Eddie Gaedel Society Chapter No. 10, on Thursday, Aug. 19, in Jefferson City.

It will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Park Pavilion, 111 Memorial Park Drive, across from the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

It will be "a family-friendly event to commemorate Eddie Gaedel Day with a simple meal, baseball stories, and fellowship," said Steve Meystrik, a member of Cathedral of St.

Joseph Parish, who is founding president of the society's Jefferson City chapter.

Hot dogs, chips, drinks and "Little Debbie" desserts will be provided.

Social-distancing and COVID-19 safety measures will be practiced.

Mr. Meystrik will preside over a colorful retelling of the Eddie Gaedel story at 6 p.m.

## Full count

St. Louis used to be a two-team baseball city.

Mr. Meystrik's dad, the late Jack Meystrik, grew up there and was a member of the Cardinals' and Browns' "Knothole Gang" for children, which got him free tickets.

"Dad and his cousin would ride the streetcar to Sportsman's Park for Saturday and Sunday games," said Steve. "He used to tell us about seeing guys like Roberto Clemente and Satchel Paige and Stan Musial play."

Jack once caught a foul ball of off Cardinal first-baseman Johnny Mize. It's now a family heirloom.

"We grew up hearing the stories," said Steve. "Dad would talk about Eddie Gaedel, along with Pete Gray, who batted and fielded with one arm. He remembered seeing Satchel Paige lounging in a

rocker between innings."

Steve's mother lived down the street from the old stadium and could see the flags above the grandstand from her house.

"So they both grew up amid the sights and sounds of the game," said Steve.

By the time he and his brothers were born, the Browns had moved to Baltimore to become the Orioles, and the Cardinals had renamed Sportsman's Park in honor of the Busch family.

Settling in Jefferson City, Jack and Mary Meystrik would teach their children to love St. Louis baseball and all aspects of its colorful history.

"We were raised as fans of the game and we appreciated it," said Steve. "We latched onto the stories of the Browns. That just naturally lent itself to founding a local branch of the Eddie Gaedel Society."

He obtained permission to establish the society's 10th chapter in 2018.

He said the group is an opportunity to rally around something fun and a little silly and offer joy and fellowship



John and Steve Meystrik staff the Eddie Gaedel Society table at the Jefferson City Renegades' July 18 baseball game.

when you think about kindness and hospitality and looking for ways to bring joy to others, that's something we need, especially during times like we're experiencing."

## Little things

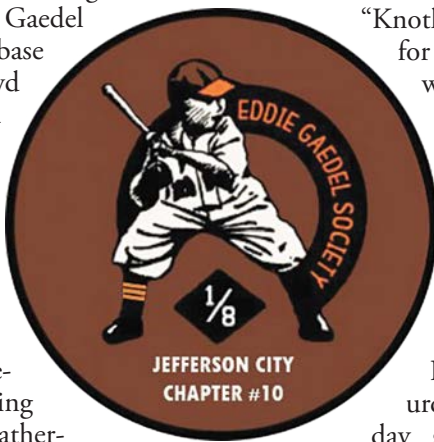
Steve's brother, Father Gregory Meystrik, pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Rolla, Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James and St. Anthony Parish in Rosati, is the chapter's chaplain.

Steve and fellow members have been leading efforts to

to people who might not otherwise cross paths with each other.

"It's all about bringing people together," said Steve. "And

See BALL FOUR, page 15



**COLUMBIA ORTHOPAEDIC GROUP**  
**Alan Anz, M.D.**  
Parishioner at Our Lady of Lourdes  
Specializing in adult hip & knee pain  
For an appointment call **(573) 876-8158**  
www.columbiaorthogroup.com

## Serving Generations of Catholic Families

From our care team to our dedicated staff, we all simply say **Thank you**. It is the greatest honor for all of us to be selected to serve your family in a time of need.

Proud to Serve Jefferson City, Columbia & Lake of the Ozarks

Funerals | Cremation | Pre-Planning

**MILLARD**  
Family Chapels, Inc.  
www.millardfamilychapels.com



**Jeff Hille**  
Funeral Director



**Charlotte Elsberry**  
Funeral Assistant



**Reid Millard**  
Owner, Funeral Director

**Planned Giving**  
LEAVING A LEGACY

Catholic education of our youth is essential to the foundation of your parish. Please consider making a provision in your will for your local parish school.

**Jake Seifert**  
Director of Development  
573-635-9127 x-227  
development@diojeffcity.org

DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY  
2207 W Main | PO Box 104900  
Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900  
diojeffcity.org

Have you already remembered your parish or school in your estate plans? Please let us know!



## SERVANT SONG

From page 1

Her mother, Sandra Allen, taught in Catholic and public schools for 37 years and set a convincing example for her.

Rhonda wasn't drawn right away to following in her mother's footsteps.

Intent on becoming a reporter, she headed to the University of Missouri in Columbia to study journalism.

"If I weren't teaching, that's what I'd be doing," she said. "I have a passion for writing and learning more about people."

But it just didn't feel right.

"I've always enjoyed working with kids," she said. "I did lots of summer camps."

She transferred to Lincoln and changed her major to education, "just to see where it would lead me."

It turned out to be a perfect fit.

"You know that feeling that 'this is the path I'm supposed to be on?' That's God leading you," she noted.

She wound up getting to teach with her mother for two years at East Elementary School in Jefferson City.

Together, they formed an after-school group called the SWAN Club, which stands for "Success We All Need."

"We started it for kids that needed some extra love," Rhonda Allen recalled. "We did service projects with them and they raised their own money to take themselves out to dinner. We performed a play at Christmastime."

### "What's most precious"

After teaching at East Elementary for two years, Ms. Allen transferred to Thorpe Gordon Elementary School in Jefferson City.

She served there for 17 years, most recently as the behavior interventionist.

In addition to teaching, she conducted student musical productions and searched for other ways to help children become active and engaged.

The Jefferson City Public School District honored her as its Teacher of the Year in 2017, just as it had done for her mother in 1997.

Rhonda Allen explained that as a behavior interventionist, "I was stepping out of the classroom and now I was a

classroom coach telling people how to run a classroom."

"I was holding social skills groups with kids of all ages — learning how to be kind to other people, how to get along, how to emotionally regulate," she said.

She also helped adults develop skills for working with students who struggle in their classrooms.

Building up trust with parents is essential, she said.

"We understand that they are sending us what's most precious to them, every single day," she stated.

This past year, after completing her second master's degree, she applied for a position as an elementary school assistant principal.

"My heart was really set on what I knew I was going to be doing," she said. "Until I interviewed and didn't get the job!"

Then she got a call to interview for an assistant principal role in a middle school.

"I'll tell you, when I walked into that school that day, something in me — I know it was God — said this is the place you're going to be," she recalled.

Two days later, she got the call, offering her the position.

"Over and over, I'm feeling God's reassurance," she stated. "It's like He's telling me, 'I'm not going to lead you this far to leave you behind now. I've given you everything you need to be successful. So go do it!'"

### "God is love"

Ms. Allen remains active in St. Peter Parish, serving as a cantor at Mass.

She said serving in a public school challenges her to serve God differently.

"I can't say outright what I'm praying or thinking," she said. "But I don't think I have to. Through my actions and my words and what I'm leading these children to learn and be, it should be clear that I'm a follower of the Lord and that I love Him so very much."

For her, it starts with understanding Who God is.

"God is love," she said. "He's magnificent. He's amazing. He's merciful and just."

"When I think about What He is and Who He is to me,

then I can take that and say, 'Now, how can I be like that with the people I meet and the students I teach?'" she said.

She cited many examples of God sending students and parents into her life in need of understanding and help.

"Again, it comes down to seeing the face of Jesus and doing His work, no matter who you're doing it for," she said.

"Even if it gets tough, I have to remember to keep my eyes on Him and keep saying to myself, 'What do You want me to do right now? What do You ask of me now?'" she said.

Often, He asks her to stay the course in helping vulnerable children and families.

"You can't give up on these kids," she said. "You never know what they're going to grow up to do. So every day needs to be a new day. Every day has to be a fresh start."

She is confident that God is answering her prayers and leading her to do His work.

"There's a peace that comes about me in the choices I'm making, the decisions I'm making, the words that come out," she said. "And it's also about what happens next, whether it's immediate or later."

### An inspiring conversation

One day, Ms. Allen was having lunch with her friend Elizabeth Huber.

Ms. Allen talked about how many students she has taught who have the ability and drive to succeed but are held back by chaotic aspects of their home lives.

"I said, 'If I ever had money — and that's never going to



Rhonda Allen

happen because I'm a teacher! — but if I ever had money, I'd build my own school," she said.

It would provide a live-in experience where the children have structure and learn important life skills in a community, in partnership with the parents.

"I felt like if you could get those kids and keep them in a program like that, then you could possibly see their real potential and then see what they could grow up to do in this life," she said.

Mrs. Huber took her words to heart.

Over time, the idea evolved into a boarding school that would offer the opportunity of an excellent Catholic education to families who could use the help.

Known as St. Nicholas Academy, in honor of the patron saint of children, it offers a three-way partnership among the child's family, the St. Nicholas staff and St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City.

### Beyond what's comfortable

For herself and all who carry out any aspect of educating children, Ms. Allen asks for wisdom, stamina, patience and openness to God's inspiration.

"Doing whatever it takes to help students succeed is what I believe in doing!" she recently stated online. "Students, parents and school staff working together as a team creates an atmosphere for students to do their best and

achieve great things."

She is quick to suggest that parents — whether their children are in public or private schools — go out of their way to lift them out of their comfort zone.

"Go to festivals and events where there are different people and cultures and where people don't look or think or believe the way you do," she advised.

"Just giving them those life experiences — you might have to make yourself uncomfortable sometimes, but that's how life is," she said.

She also recommended showing children how to recognize every person as someone to learn from.

"And definitely be open to having uncomfortable discussions and not shying away from talking about culture, socioeconomic differences, all of those things to help your kids understand that not everybody in this life is like us," she said.

It's difficult, but it goes a long way toward helping young people grow up to be kind and cooperative, she said.



Find us online @ **CATHMO.COM**



# Search for life beyond Earth is as theological as scientific

By Dennis Sadowski  
Catholic News Service

Cleveland

Are humans alone or are we one rational species among many in the universe?

It's a question both scientists and theologians are exploring.

And it is scientific discoveries that are energizing the queries not just about the possibility of rational, or intelligent, life, but also about God's role in life elsewhere and if there may be an incarnational experience beyond Earth.

Since 1992, over 4,000 exoplanets have been discovered orbiting stars light years beyond the solar system and are considered "confirmed by scientists, according to NASA.

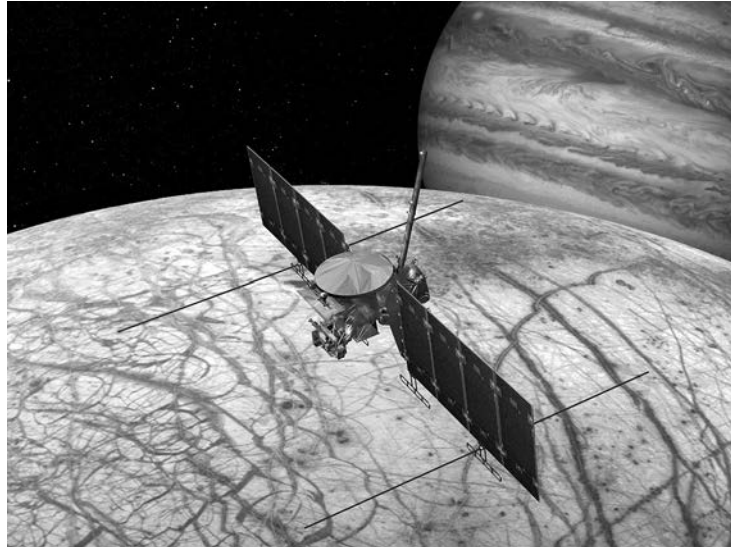
The most interest is in those exoplanets found to be similar to Earth and located in the "Goldilocks Zone" around stars — where it is likely to be neither too hot nor too cold for liquid water to exist and other condi-

tions appear to be just right for life as we know it to have developed.

"What we have found is what we think are biological essential ingredients for making a living planet — from a chemistry point of view water and organic molecules — are very common," Karin I. Öberg, who is Catholic and professor of astronomy at Harvard University, told Catholic News Service (CNS).

Her research focuses on how chemistry affects star and planet formation and the likelihood of forming habitable planets. She explored the work in a presentation at the Society of Catholic Scientists' annual conference in June in Washington.

Another Catholic scientist, Jonathan Lunine, director of Cornell University's Center for Astrophysics and Planetary Sciences, also studies planetary formation and evolution. He is playing a key role on NASA



**This artist's rendering shows NASA's Europa Clipper spacecraft, which is being developed for a launch sometime in the 2020s. The mission would place a spacecraft in orbit around Jupiter to perform a detailed investigation of the giant planet's moon Europa**

— CNS illustration/courtesy Johns Hopkins APL via NASA

space missions, including the Juno spacecraft that has been orbiting Jupiter since 2016.

During the society's meeting, Lunine reviewed the space missions to Mars as well as those

planned for the outer solar system.

It turns out, Lunine told CNS, that, beyond Mars, some of the most interesting places in the solar system to explore for the existence of life are satellites such as Europa in orbit around Jupiter and Titan and Enceladus orbiting Saturn.

Missions are either being planned or being considered to those far-off satellites with the intention of hunting for signs of life.

Outside of such the scientific quests lies the significant question about God's plan for creation. Theologian Christopher Baglow, director of the Science and Religion Initiative at the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame, addressed this in the opening presentation of the conference's first-day focus on extraterrestrial life.

He told the audience, and repeated later to CNS, that it is only possible to offer "faithful speculation" about what God has in mind for life elsewhere.

"Basically we have a situation where the Church has not taught anything definitively about that, so we have no doctrine to rely on," he said. "So how do we proceed in thinking about this?"

Baglow said the question comes down to trying to understand what God's relationship with creation and redemption might be with any rational species that may exist beyond Earth.

While some theologians and

even some scientists question the value of searching for life beyond Earth, Baglow said that in light of his Catholic faith, it's a worthwhile endeavor to explore the relationship God might have with all of life. It's "faith seeking understanding," he said.

Baglow suggested that other rational beings would have a history and that God's presence would be made known to them in some way. God's goal, he said, "would be to unite them to Himself" as God has done with humanity.

"Thinking about what God has done for humanity is for me at the heart of what it means to be a theologian," Baglow told CNS. "So to apply that to a new question like this would be spiritually rewarding."

Neither of the scientists ruled out the possibility of rational life elsewhere and said such a discovery would serve to further promote understanding and appreciation of God's creation.

Öberg said she hoped that there are other intelligent beings somewhere in the universe. If so, their existence would pose new theological puzzles about salvation and incarnation, but that such a finding certainly would be a strong indication that they are "very specifically created by God."

Lunine expressed doubt that rational or intelligent life would be as widespread as some science fiction writers have speculated in their work. His reasoning is rooted in evidence that it took 3.5 billion to 4 billion years for complex life to develop on Earth and then an additional 560 million years for intelligent life to develop.

Other questions revolve around stages of the evolution and whether rational beings elsewhere are as advanced as humans or more primitive than humans.

But that doesn't mean the quest for life elsewhere should be abandoned, he said, and that's why he's involved in the search with scientists worldwide.

Lunine told CNS that such order and beauty in creation, wherever it might exist, would further illustrate God's greatness.

"One would expect a superabundance of things. So why not (explore)? Why not in terms of finding life?"

## BALL FOUR

From page 13

efforts to have Mr. Gaedel inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

This year, the chapter became a sponsor of the Jefferson City Renegades baseball team.

Members held a fundraiser at the team's July 18 game at Vivion Field, to benefit the Miracle League, a baseball program for boys and girls with special needs.

The chapter has adopted two stretches of roadway in Jefferson City, picking up trash at least four times a year.

"We're trying to do something good for the community, and it's good exercise and a way for people to volunteer if they want to help," said Mr. Meystrik.

He was delighted to find out that Deacon Whalen was in the ballpark for Eddie Gaedel's first and only game.

"That's the beauty of this," said Mr. Meystrik. "It allows people to connect and get to know each other."



**Father Gregory Meystrik, pastor of the Rolla, St. James and Rosati parishes, and chaplain of the Jefferson City chapter of the Eddie Gaedel Society, and artist Parker Bourne display the window pane Ms. Bourne designed and painted for Steve Meystrik, the society's founding president.**

and trivia buffs still revel in the legacy of the Browns, a team better known for bigger-than-life characters than on-the-field success.

St. Louis was long known for being "first in shoes, first in booze and last in the American League."

Aside from one A.L. championship in 1944 and a few brushes with greatness in the 1920s, the Browns' 52 seasons in St. Louis were an exercise in futility for them and their fans.

"But the stories will live on forever if we have anything to say about it," said Mr. Meystrik.

### Grand illusions

The Browns ended up losing 102 games in 1951, finishing 46 games behind the reigning champion New York Yankees.





By Father Don Antweiler

**ACROSS**

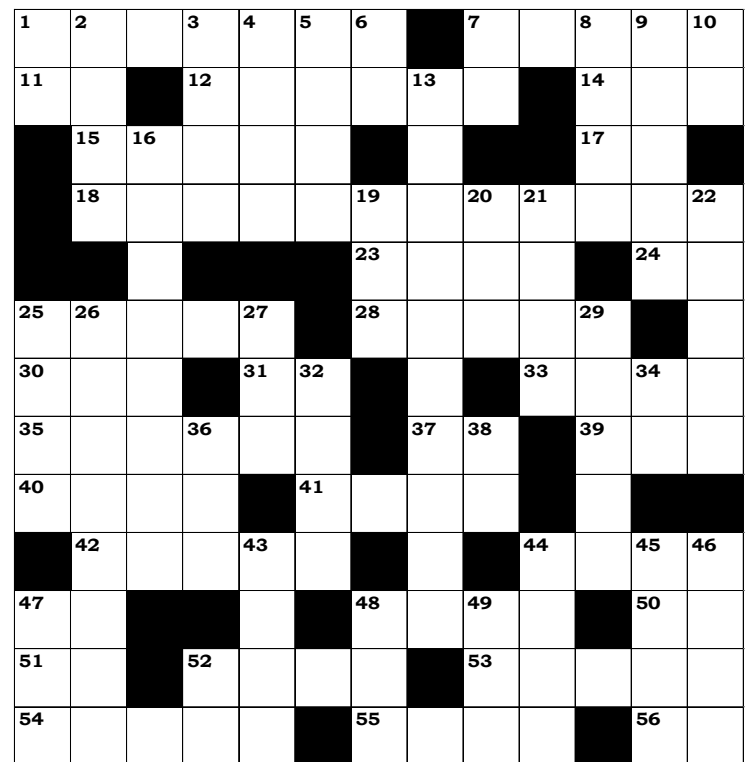
1. McClung Park in Jefferson City has a 105-year \_\_\_\_\_ which includes the State prison, the Civil War, and a U.S. President.
7. "In the past year or so I've made a number of decisions that make no \_\_\_\_\_ unless there is a God and I am His friend," —*Wild at Heart*, John Eldredge.
11. I am on several \_\_\_\_\_ hoc committees.
12. Hateful.
14. Telephone giant.
15. "The sky's the \_\_\_\_\_!" Phrase first recorded in the Syracuse N.Y. *Herald* newspaper in 1911, a time of great optimism before WW I.
17. This State hosted the first Olympic Games ever held in the U.S., the 1904 Summer Olympics (abbr.).
18. The landscape architect for the McClung Park project was a prison inmate from St. Louis serving two years for \_\_\_\_\_.
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Saarinen, architect of the Gateway Arch.
24. Trauma dept. in a hospital.
25. "I am not worthy to \_\_\_\_\_ and loosen the thongs of His sandals," (Mark 1:7).

28. Located adjacent to Lincoln Univ. in Jeff. City, a large \_\_\_\_\_ pavilion and shelter house were built. It was the only such indoor facility in the city and became a hub for civic and Church social events, including Statewide conventions, drawing up to 700 attendees.
30. In a psychiatrist's notes, short for ultra-high risk.
31. Stomach muscle.
33. "Love is patient. Love is \_\_\_\_\_," (1 Corinthians 13:4).
35. The tract of land for McClung Park was a hilltop property that overlooked Jefferson City where \_\_\_\_\_ trenches had been dug during the Civil War to protect the State Capital from the 1864 anticipated invasion by Gen. Sterling Price. They are visible in the park today.
37. Letters for European Union, a political and economic union of 27-member States with a population of 447 million, founded in 1993.
39. Christmas has one.
40. "When you wish upon a \_\_\_\_\_, makes no difference who you are..." —from Walt Disney's movie "Pinocchio," 1940.
41. "...whoever brings a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of \_\_\_\_\_," (James 5:20).
42. One of the conventions held at McClung Park was the Mo. Federation of Women's Democratic

- \_\_\_\_\_ in 1956 with Pres. Harry Truman as the guest speaker.
44. I don't care one \_\_\_\_\_ whether he comes or not.
47. Sound expressing surprise, pleasure or realization.
48. Paradise spot.
50. In a business plan, letters for Revenue Potential.
51. "My own good daughter, do not let your mind be troubled over anything that shall happen to \_\_\_\_\_ in this world. Nothing can come but what God wills," —letter from St. Thomas More imprisoned in the Tower of London to his beloved daughter Margaret, 1540.
52. A corrosive undesired type of rain.
53. Today McClung Park covers 45 \_\_\_\_\_. It received a Landmark Award from Jeff. City's Historic Preservation Comm. in 1995. With its many changes, it still maintains its historic character.
54. "Don't quack like \_\_\_\_\_, soar like an eagle," —Ken Blanchard, motivational speaker and author (2 wds.).
55. Adam & Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25).
56. Shoe width.

**DOWN**

1. That's a laugh!
2. When Dickerson Clark (D.C.) McClung became the new Mo. State Penitentiary warden in 1913, he found that prison work contracts were expiring leaving a large number of prisoners \_\_\_\_\_. D.C. decided to employ them beautifying a local tract of State-owned land. Later the State also developed two rock quarries on the land for use in construction at the prison.
3. Solders were first assigned to guard the \_\_\_\_\_ of the



- Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery in 1926.
4. Garfield's clueless dog friend.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ crackers.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ ho ho.
7. Letters for Sacred Scripture.
8. "At the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus, every knee shall bow," —hymn by Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877); based on Philippians 2:10-11.
9. A swimming pool and \_\_\_\_\_ bathhouse was built on the property in the 1920s but the pool was closed in 1946 because of filtration problems. The pool was filled in but the bathhouse was renovated and today is occupied by the Jefferson City Little Theater.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ *cum spiritu tuo*.
13. Type of bread eaten on the first Passover and every Passover after (Exodus 12:17).
16. "...(they) exchanged the glory of the \_\_\_\_\_ God for the likeness of mortal man..." (Romans 1:23).
19. In England, the last letter of the alphabet.
20. Suffix for west or east.
21. A \_\_\_\_\_ legislative session by teens to "learn by doing" is held every year in the State Capitol in Jeff. City.
22. Jefferson City purchased McClung Park in 1940 for \$3,000 and a \_\_\_\_\_ of some city-owned land deeded to the prison.
25. Foot long sandwiches.
26. Most of the \_\_\_\_\_ huts on the island were blown away by the storm.
27. Pay \_\_\_\_\_; an online payment system.
29. Part of the refrain to the "Old McDonald Had A Farm" song.
32. Harry's wife.
34. Although its nickname is The Silver State, this State is also known for its gold; 4th largest producer in the world (abbr.).
36. Author Truman Capote to his friends.
38. "God bless \_\_\_\_\_, everyone," —Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.
43. THE \_\_\_\_\_ STOPS HERE; sign on Harry Truman's White House desk signifying his willingness to make the tough decisions.
44. Give 'em an \_\_\_\_\_ and they'll take a mile!
45. "The just shall flourish like the palm \_\_\_\_\_" (Psalms 92:13).
46. Arched recess in a Church which usually contains the altar.
47. Largest doctors' organization in the U.S., founded in 1847.
48. Newsman Bradley and old movie star Wynn.
49. "The trouble with strong-spiced words of condemnation: they didn't taste very good if one had to \_\_\_\_\_ them," —Andrew, brother of Simon Peter in *The Big Fisherman* by Lloyd Douglas.
52. Short for air conditioner.

ANSWERS on page 19

## How much will you need to retire? Let's talk.



744 West Stadium Suite F  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
573-635-1454

**Brian D Johnson, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor



**Peter B Myren**  
Financial Advisor

**Edward Jones®**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
edwardjones.com

Member SIPC



Overhead Garage Doors & Openers — Installation



3012 S. Ten Mile Dr. Jefferson City  
**(573) 893-4998**



# SCHOOLS

From page 1

mathematics and language arts.

The process of reviewing curriculum will continue this year as pastors, administrators, families and staff work with diocesan personnel to provide the safest, most effective learning environment for students of all ages.

All the while, parishes, which are already committed to supporting their schools as part of their overall ministry,

are moving closing to a full stewardship model under the diocesan pastoral plan.

Pastors and parish leaders are learning about the importance of having all parishioners pledge to God a return on their gifts of time, talent and treasure as a necessary response to the call to discipleship.

This will influence all aspects of parish ministry, including Catholic education,

ensuring not only its long-term vitality but also its conformity to Jesus's Great Commission: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age," (Matthew 28:19-20).

At Mass Aug. 4 with 65

new Catholic school teachers of the diocese, Monsignor Robert A. Kurwicky noted that there will be challenges during this school year, as there are during any other year.

"Keep your eyes focused on the Lord and the mission He gives us, and He will help you," said Msgr. Kurwicky, vicar general for the diocese. "He will guide you, bless you and keep you."

Find us online @  **CATHMO.COM**

---

 Like Us On **facebook**

Diocese of Jefferson City



**Founded by a priest.  
Dedicated to the Church.  
Committed to ethics.**



**Here to protect you  
and your family.**

LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE  
LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

 <b>Larry Hoelscher</b> 573-645-4646	 <b>Stan Strope</b> 573-424-6172
 <b>Dan Bax</b> 573-694-5968	 <b>Dustin Dolce</b> 573-230-6902
 <b>Paul Oligschlaeger</b> 573-680-9800	 <b>Jeff Fennewald</b> 573-473-7590
 <b>Kevin Schubert</b> 573-480-1703	 <b>Matt Reel</b> 660-216-6383



Knights of  
Columbus®

 <b>George Spinelli</b> <i>General Agent</i> 573-836-5632 <a href="mailto:george.spinelli@kofc.org">george.spinelli@kofc.org</a>	 <b>Mike York</b> <i>Assistant General Agent</i> 573-230-9202 <a href="mailto:Mike.York@kofc.org">Mike.York@kofc.org</a>
 <b>Dale Logan</b> 573-644-3124	 <b>Doug Luetticke</b> 660-542-6500
 <b>Chris Bohr</b> 573-721-4613	



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

## Fundraisers & Social Events

Aug. 5-6

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; Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 13

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

Aug. 15

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish picnic, 11 am-7 pm

Aug. 19

Jefferson City, Eddie Gaedel Day Celebration, 4:30-7 pm, Memorial Park

Aug. 20

Cuba, K of C/Ladies Auxiliary trivia night, 6:30-10 pm, K of C Hall

Aug. 21

Fulton, St. Peter Parish golf tournament, 1 pm, Tanglewood Golf Course, for info email [smaupin@hgreprs.com](mailto:smaupin@hgreprs.com)

Aug. 22

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

Aug. 28

Jefferson City, K of C "Sk8 for Food" fundraiser, 4:30-6:30 pm, Sk8 Zone

Aug. 29

Jefferson City, St. Peter 175th anniversary celebration concert with Kevin J. Vaughn, 4-6 pm, St. Peter Church

## Pope: To feed the world, start with family farms

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

Rome

Restarting local economies with a focus on providing adequate food for all the world's people means governments must involve and listen to small farmers and farming families, Pope Francis said.

"Closed and conflicting — but powerful — economic interests have prevented us from designing a food system that responds to the values of the common good, solidarity and the 'culture of encounter,'" the pope said in a message read July 26 at a preparatory meeting in Rome for the U.N. Food Systems Summit in September.

"Our poorest brothers and sisters, and the earth, our common home that 'cries out for the damage we inflict on it through irresponsible use and abuse of the goods God has placed in it,' demand radical change," the pope said. Family farms and other small farming operations are a place to start.

The rural sector of the local and global economy provides so much of the food people consume, but people living in rural areas and working the land are rarely a priority in political and economic decision making, he said in the message read by Archbishop Paul R. Gallagher, the Vatican foreign minister.

In "the post-pandemic 'restart' process that is being

built," the pope said, "small farmers and farming families must be considered privileged actors. Their traditional knowledge should not be overlooked or ignored, while their direct participation allows for a better understanding of their priorities and real needs."

In addition, he said, "it is important to facilitate the access of small farmers and farming families to the services needed for the production, marketing and use of agricultural resources."

Pope Francis also asked governments to promote "policies and initiatives that fully meet the needs of rural women, promote youth employment and improve the work of farmers in the poorest and most remote areas."

A fundamental shift is necessary, he said.

The world continues to develop new technologies that increase the capacity to produce food, "yet we continue to exploit nature to the point of sterilizing it, thus enlarging not only external deserts but also internal spiritual deserts," he said. "We produce enough food for all people, but many go without their daily bread. This 'constitutes a real scandal,' a crime that violates basic human rights.

"We have a responsibility to realize the dream of a world where bread, water, medicine and work flow in abundance and reach the most needy first," Pope Francis wrote.

## Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

7-8 Agosto

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

## STAUDT

From page 9

*thy of Wearing* (Sophia Institute, 2021). Having worked in the fashion industry in New York, Caruso continued to deepen her thinking about clothing as a mother, reflecting on the innocence and joy of her daughter Cecilia. More than a book, she explains, "Worthy of Wearing is a mindset, a thought process that reminds us ... that we are precious in God's eyes and that we are worthy of wearing the things that make us feel beautiful. We owe it to ourselves to dress in a what fills us with joy, suits our body, and matches our vocation and lifestyle" (ix).

Caruso's book helps us to think about clothes in relation to faith but also goes deeper in exploring Catholic femininity. The reflection questions, focused on the themes of "Where am I called?" "Uncover your fears," and "Be set free," invite the reader to reflect back on past experiences and to imagine greater freedom and expression, including forming an action plan. The layout of the book itself provides additional inspiration with beautiful layout and photography capturing the author's family and friends. The book invites women into a process of discernment, guided by the author's own experiences, reflecting on who they are and how clothes fit into expressing themselves and their womanhood.

The book maintains the balance between seeing clothes as a personal expression and understanding the need for virtue to guide our choices. On the first point, Caruso explains: "That's what style is: the way you adorn yourself within various con-

texts to express who you are uniquely, boldly, and unapologetically. It is a method of getting dressed, presenting your appearance, and telling your story without speaking. Style means intentionally choosing clothing that speaks to your mission, fuels your confidence, and creates connections with others by offering a little peek of who you are. In this way, style is more edifying than fashion" (86).

Speaking of the difficult issue of modesty, Caruso also offers some commonsense guidance: "When it comes to modesty, I like to keep in mind a simple question: 'Is my behavior or my clothing distracting?' Our behavior and dress can amplify or detract from the wholeness of who we are in Christ: persons worthy of love, with unique gifts and talents, made to change hearts and spend eternity in Heaven. A low-cut dress can distract someone from your incredible talents, just as the way you gossip can distract someone from your virtue. Your unbridled anger might prevent someone from understanding the difficulties you face. We can even distract ourselves by wearing clothing that misrepresents who we are or simply does not fit our body or way of life" (99-100). She also gives practical tips, such as dressing for each season and for one's locale, tips for building a wardrobe, and shopping with intention.

Reclaiming our culture for Christ is a big task. For us, however, each day presents us with little opportunities to use all that we do to give glory to God. Clothing is no exception, as we make it an expression of our dignity and respect for others.

## Meetings & Conferences

Aug. 10, 17, 24 & 31

VIRTUAL, Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri Nutrition Education Class, 5-6 pm, for info or to register, contact Erin Perry at [eperry@cccnm.org](mailto:eperry@cccnm.org)

Aug. 11

VIRTUAL, Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri 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](mailto:dtwombly@cccnm.org)

## Liturgical

Aug. 14

Cedron, Mass for the Feast of the Assumption, 2 pm, Assumption Church

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](http://diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/engaged-encounter)

Aug. 13-15

Troy, Holy Family Fest weekend, sponsored by the Apostolate for Family Consecration, Sherwood Forest in Cuivre River State Park, for info email [holyfamilyfest.mo@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilyfest.mo@gmail.com)

Aug. 30-31

California/Tipton, Annunciation & St. Andrew Parishes mini-mission, with Tim Francis & Donna Cori, 6:30-9 pm each evening; Tim Francis at St. Andrew on Mon. and Annunciation on Tues; Donna Cori at Annunciation on Mon. and St. Andrew on Tues.

Find us online

@

CATHMO.COM



Like Us On facebook

Diocese of Jefferson City



## Anniversaries

**Sister Kate DuVal** of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who assisted with pastoral planning in the Jefferson City Diocese from 2012-18, celebrated the golden jubilee of her religious profession, on July 17 in Mankato, Minnesota

### Argyle, St. Aloysius

Jim & Kathy Otto, 34 years  
Chuck & Lisa Wieberg, 27 years

### Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul

Robert & Patricia Kempf, 63 years  
Dick & Danielle Blanck, 61 years  
Rich & Margie Moranville, 60 years  
Norman & Joyce Schwartz, 59 years  
Marvin & Patricia Greis, 58 years  
Gary & Joyce Ginter, 56 years  
Larry & Peggy Frederick, 52 years  
Vernon & Jacquelyn Day, 49 years  
Gary & Mary Belstle, 48 years  
Patrick & Melanie Oswald, 47 years  
Dale & Mary Bechtel, 46 years  
George & Linda Wassmann, 45 years  
Steven & Sarah Friedrich, 43 years  
John Jr. & Beverly Imhoff, 43 years  
Bill & Bev Brondel, 42 years  
Marvin & Tammy Eichelberger, 37 years  
Glenn & Teresa Grissum, 36 years  
George & Lisa Monk, 34 years  
Greg & Nancy Williams, 34 years  
Eddie & Lisa Hoff, 30 years  
Greg & Jean Hampton, 26 years  
Kevin & Dawn Lammers, 26 years

### Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels

Eddie & Betty Duggan, 55 years  
Darrell & Pam Hale, 49 years  
Paul & Linda Logan, 27 years

### Camdenton, St. Anthony

Bob & Angie Holmes, 65 years  
Darrell & Marj Taylor, 59 years  
Tom & Kathy Oppold, 48 years  
Tom & Mary Beth Otto, 46 years  
Dave & Lucy Welch, 44 years  
Dan & Mary Ann Overkamp, 42 years  
Art & Karen Zarky, 35 years  
Tim & Amy Hadfield, 28 years  
Bruce & Rene Magelky, 27 years  
Kyle & Patti Raithel, 19 years

### Centralia, Holy Spirit

Lonnie & Linda, Dowell, 50 years

### Freeburg, Holy Family

John & Judy Wieberg, 45 years  
Marlon & Cindy Stuecken, 44 years  
Bill & Linda Light, 37 years  
Bradley & Debby Gleason, 35 years  
Steve & Annette Poettgen, 35 years  
Randy & Rita Haller, 26 years

### Holts Summit, St. Andrew

Thomas & Jeanne Ferris, 28 years

### Kirksville, Mary Immaculate

Frank & Barbara Williams, 66 years  
Dave & Sharon Fleak, 58 years  
Robert & Jane Dager, 56 years  
James & Teresa Tichenor, 54 years  
Joe & Pam Zeigler, 53 years  
Gary & Evelyn Ledford, 52 years  
James & Rosemarie Klassen, 49 years  
Jim & Brenda Higgins, 44 years  
Dcn. Dave & Thérèse Ream OFSs, 43 years  
Joe & Judi Misale, 42 years  
Mark & Sharla Eagen, 39 years  
Adam & Andrea Davis, 38 years  
John & Lisa Dahlman, 37 years  
Bobby & Patty Rogers, 36 years  
Jim & Catherine McCormick, 35 years  
Dan & Becky Martin, 33 years  
John & Shawn Wichmann, 33 years

**Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake**  
Michael & Barbara Stimmel, 50 years

**Macon, Immaculate Conception**  
Tim & Jane Watts, 40 years

**Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows**  
Aaron & Roselyn Wood, 25 years  
Larry & LuAnn Kemna, 20 years

### Moberly, St. Pius X

Roy & Patty Skinner, 50 years

**Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus**  
Jeff & Terry Warrington, 50 years

### Palmyra, St. Joseph

John & Sue Thomas, 56 years  
John & Mary Lou Hawthorne, 50 years  
Dale & Cindy Gervais, 48 years  
Dennis & Teresa Brown, 47 years  
Loren & Michele Graham, 45 years  
Tim & Connie Schroeder, 43 years  
Charles & Jeanne Wigle, 41 years  
John & Angela Poppe, 40 years  
Kirk & Anna Bross, 38 years  
David & Tina Baxter, 35 years  
Lynn & Rita Smith, 35 years  
Frank & Judy Caldwell, 32 years  
Roche & Tammy Hudson, 32 years  
Sean & Stacey Webster, 22 years  
Aaron & Crystal Hudson, 18 years  
Matthew & Denise Thomas, 11 years

### Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart

Bill & Sylvia Frank, 53 years  
Mike & Mary Jane Perkins, 46 years  
Tim & Cindy Neuner, 41 years  
Tom & Karen Bax, 34 years

### St. Clement, St. Clement

Junior & Doris Moss, 65 years

### St. Martins, St. Martin

Bob & Kathy Jarman, 35 years

### Salisbury, St. Joseph

Bob & Norma Linneman, 55 years

### Vandalia, Sacred Heart

Allen & Sheila Ebers, 51 years  
Eric & Vicki Niemeyer, 50 years  
Chuck & Nancy Buchmeier, 37 years  
Thom & Diana Spradling, 37 years  
Mike & Debbie Ray, 25 years

### Vienna, Visitation

Mark & Mendy James, 35 years

### Wardsville, St. Stanislaus

Gary & Linda Sommers, 45 years

### Wien, St. Mary of the Angels

Steve & Karen Fischer, 45 years  
Gail & Debbie Bixenman, 44 years  
Joe & Rhonda Weimer, 43 years  
Donald & Christina Meissen, 31 years  
Brock & Candi Ervie, 19 years  
Josh & Bobbie Biere, 16 years

## Birthdays

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Beverly Elson**, her 91st on Aug. 8

Marshall, St. Peter — **Alice Markes**, her 90th on Aug. 16

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Leonard Kempker**, his 93rd on Aug. 12;  
**Evelyn Mormann**, her 94th on Aug. 18

## Marriages

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Sarah Stewart & Ryan Gelnar**

## Deaths

**Bernard C. Huger**, 76 — who served as legal counsel for the Diocese of Jefferson City for many years — on July 18. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 23 in St. Anselm Church in St. Louis.

**Sister Judith Marie Jung**, 96 — of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who previously taught at St. George School in Linn — on May 19 at Anna House at The Sarah Community in Bridgeton. A Funeral Mass was celebrated June 23 at Theresa Center, Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis.

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul — **Christian Sims**

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Shirley Severa**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Dick Anselm, Charles Jira**

Columbia, St. Thomas More Newman Center — **Marlene Duffield, Louis Studer**

Cuba, Holy Cross — **Joseph F. Bourbon**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Norma J. Duncan, Ivan L. Schlotterbeck**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Fred Szabados Jr.**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Danny Schaffer, Leland W. Schweiss**

Kirksville, Mary Immaculate — **Kibbie Broseghini**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **Dennis Wedding**

Laurie, St. Patrick — **James V. Neff**

Linn, St. George — **Lawrence "Butch" G. Nilges**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Fred Castle, Harold "Tack" Thompson**

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Anthony Becker, Lillian Becker, Joan DeTienne**

Mary's Home, Our Lady of the Snows — **Carol Puckett**

Palmyra, St. Joseph — **Arlene M. Veit**

Rich Fountain, Sacred Heart — **Louise D. Fick**

St. Elizabeth, St. Lawrence — **Shirley Luebke, Francis L. Struempf**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Robert E. Gartner, James R. "Rich" Meller**

St. Robert, St. Robert Bellarmine — **Francisco C. Frank**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Kenneth B. Schmitz, Michael D. "PeeWee" Forck**

Westphalia, St. Joseph — **Joseph H. Kever, Wilfred Kempker**

## Baptisms

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Liliana Curry, Ford Eichelberger, Anjolaoluwa Famutimi, Jacob Menghisteab, Jax Schiavo, John Shikles, Katherine Thrash, Beckett Wolters**

Cuba, Holy Cross — **Santiago Muñoz**, son of Beverly Muñoz

Fayette, St. Joseph — **Beckham and Miller Hilderbrand**, sons of Alex & Kaylynn Hilderbrand

Freeburg, Holy Family — **Hunter Ann Bax**, daughter of Logan & Jessica Bax

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Mary Ann Schlueter, Grace Elizabeth Marshall, Margot Jean Sheehan**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Christopher Glen Pitts**, son of Garrett & Stephanie Pitts

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Tessa Marie Deimeke**, daughter of Scott & Jina Marie Deimeke; **Violet Adele Williamson**, daughter of Robert & Valerie Williamson

Mary's Home — **Lynnox Fawn Boessen**, daughter of Sheldon & Erica Boessen; **Iven Curtis Lepper**, son of Devin & Olivia Lepper

Westphalia, St. Joseph — **Adaline Sue Luebbert**, daughter of Clifton & Abbey Luebbert

## Honors

Rolla, St. Patrick — **The Paul and Julie Hirtz family**, as the Knights of Columbus State Council's February-March 2021 Family of the Month Award, for their service to the parish, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other community organizations.

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Tony Dohman**, with the Knights of Columbus Fr. Helias Council 1054's Charles Kolb Award for outstanding service to the council and to the order of the Knights of Columbus.

### Crossword puzzle answers

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



## All aboard!



Young people take part in the Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School sponsored by St. Pius X Parish in Moberly the week of July 26-30.

— Photos from the St. Pius X Catholic Church Facebook page



## Summer of love



Youngsters enjoy this year's weeklong Totus Tuus Catholic summer experience at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Sedalia in July.

— Photo from the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Parish Facebook page

## LIFE Runners set high standard at Show-Me Games



Nine children and four adults who are members of the LIFE Runners team earned 22 track and field medals while proclaiming the sanctity of human life at this year's Show-Me Games in Columbia, Mo.

A group of 13 LIFE Runners sporting bright blue jerseys that asked spectators to "Remember the Unborn" won big at this year's Show-Me Games, July 23-25 in Columbia, Missouri.

The runners earned 22 track and field medals at Walton Stadium, while proclaiming Jeremiah 1:5, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."

The 13 runners came from Annunciation Parish in California, Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City, St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Ozark and St. Martin Parish in St. Martins.

Adding to the excitement, they competed in and won six relay races, demonstrating teamwork and dedication to each other.

They also won medals in individual events.

The adult team, composed of three brothers and a high school friend (Seth Frank, Josh Frank, Charlie Frank, and Jon Hathcock), won gold in the 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays (40-44 year old category).

Reportedly, a couple of



those runners may qualify for an even older age category.

Mr. Frank, assistant cross country and track coach at St. Martin School in St. Martins, coached his daughters' two middle school relay teams and his son as well.

He and the nine young athletes met weekly preceding the games to build speed and endurance as well as coordinate efficient relay hand-offs.

It was hard work, but it paid off.

The seventh grade team (Sophia Berhorst, Claire Bybee, Corynn Frank, and Brenna Schulte) won gold in the 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays (11-12 year old category).

The fifth grade team (Nicki Frank, Jocelyn Hamman, Olivia Kauffman, and Sophia

Riegel) also won gold in the 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays (9-10 year old category).

Hezekiah Frank competed in the 100 and 200 meter races (5-6 year old category) in his first official track meet.

While the young people will likely remember the teamwork or accomplishment and the adults may bask in recaptured youth or remaining fit into middle age, it is their hope that their testimony will be the thing remembered by anyone who witnessed or reads about the races.

"Wearing the LIFE Runners gear is a small thing we do to remind each other that He knew us before we were born, and that the unborn deserve our protection," said Mr. Frank.

Visit [liferunners.org](http://liferunners.org) for information or to sign up.



# Israel prepares to enter the Promised Land

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

When Moses died in the plains of Moab, the Israelites wept and mourned for him for 30 days.

When the period of mourning was over, the people gave their obedience to Joshua, son of Nun. Before Moses died, he laid his hands on Joshua. After the period of mourning, Joshua was filled with the spirit of wisdom.

God spoke to Joshua.

“Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know I am with you, as I was with Moses,” God said. “Now command the priests carrying the ark of the covenant to come to a halt in the Jordan when you reach the



edge of the waters.”

Joshua then spoke to the Israelites.

“Come here and listen to the words of the Lord, your

God,” he said. “This is how you will know that there is a living God in your midst, Who at your approach will dispossess the Canaanites. The ark of

the covenant of the Lord of the whole earth will precede you into the Jordan.

“When the soles of the feet of the priests carrying the ark of the Lord, the Lord of the whole earth, touch the water of the Jordan, it will cease to flow; for the water flowing down from upstream will halt in a solid bank.”

The Israelites took down their tents and prepared to follow the priests. The priests, who were carrying the ark of the covenant, walked in front of the people toward the Jordan River.

It was the harvest season, which was when the Jordan River overflowed its banks. But as soon as the priests bearing the ark of the covenant waded

into the waters at the edge of the river, the waters flowing from upstream stopped.

The waters backed up in a solid mass for a very great distance, while the waters flowing downstream toward the Salt Sea of the Arabah disappeared entirely.

While all Israel crossed on dry ground, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant remained motionless on the dry ground in the bed of the Jordan River until the whole nation had completed the passage into the Promised Land.

### Read more about it...

#### Joshua 1 & 3

1. Who led the Israelites after Moses' death?

2. How did the Israelites cross the Jordan River?

## Bible Accent

Although God did not allow Moses to cross into the Promised Land, He did let Moses see it before he died.

In Deuteronomy 34:1, we read that Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, the headland of Pisgah, which faces the city of Jericho.

From there, God showed Moses all the land He was going to give the 12 tribes of Israel.

“This is the land which I swore to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that I would give to their descendants. I have let you feast your eyes upon it, but you

shall not cross over,” God told Moses.

Then Moses died.

He was buried in a ravine in the land of Moab, but no one knows exactly where.

Moses was 120 years old when he died, yet he had the eyesight and the energy of a young man.

According to Deuteronomy 34:10-12, “Since then no prophet has arisen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face-to-face.

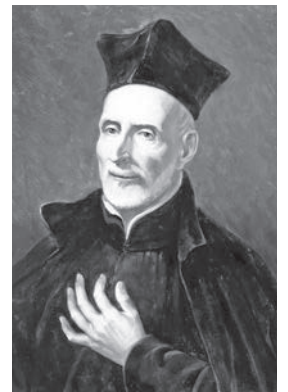
“He had no equal in all the signs and wonders the Lord sent him to perform in the

land of Egypt against Pharaoh and all his servants and against all his land, and for the might and the terrifying power that Moses exhibited in the sight of all Israel.”

## Essay

Describe a promise you made to God and how you kept or plan to keep it.

## Saint Spotlight



Joseph Calasanz was born in 1556 in Spain. His father wanted him to be a soldier, but instead he studied law and was ordained a priest in 1583. He became vicar general of a Spanish diocese. In 1592, he went to Rome, where he joined the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and worked with neglected children. In 1597, he and three other priests established the first free school in Rome. This work led him to found the Clerks Regular of the Religious (or Pious) Schools. He served as superior general of the order. Joseph died in 1648, and we honor him on Aug. 25.

## Puzzle

Using the hints provided, circle the correct answer to each question about the Book of Joshua.



1. The people set up 12 \_\_\_\_\_ to remember crossing the Jordan. stones/pillars (Joshua 4:20-22)

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was celebrated when Israel was encamped at Gilgal. Feast of Weeks/Passover (Joshua 5:10)

3. The wall around Jericho would fall when the people \_\_\_\_\_, walked around it/shouted loudly (Joshua 6:5)

4. Joshua built an altar on Mount \_\_\_\_\_, Ebal/Sinai (Joshua 8:30)



Answers: 1. stones; 2. Passover; 3. shouted loudly; 4. Ebal.

**FRANK SCHRIMPF**  
PLUMBING COMPANY, INC.

615 A Clark Ave  
Jefferson City

**573-636-9661**

www.SchrimpfPlumbing.com

Factory Authorized Dealer  
**BEAM**  
CENTRAL VACUUM SYSTEMS

BUILDING RENOVATION?

**ARSI**  
INCORPORATED

Contact Us  
1-800-769-5798  
www.arsi-mo.com

**Asbestos Inspection & Abatement**

Serving clients throughout the Diocese of Jefferson City since 1985  
with asbestos, lead, mold, and environmental services.

**W.D.**  
**WINTER-DENT**  
100% EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY

**Insurance • Bonds**  
**Employee Benefits • Financial Services**

Offices located in Jefferson City and Columbia  
**800-769-3472**  
www.winter-dent.com



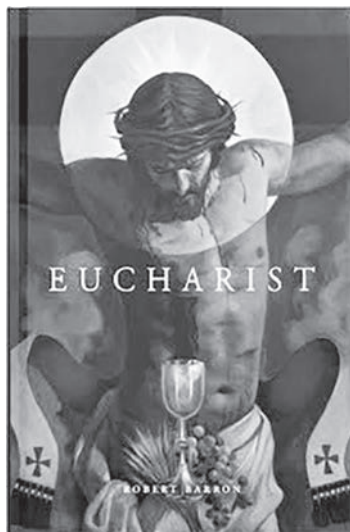
## Rediscover the source and summit of the Christian life through Bishop Barron's book, 'Eucharist'

Explore the profound theology of sacred meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence

Catholics are more and more reporting a decrease in belief about the Eucharist.

Many no longer believe in Christ's real and true presence, and some understand the Mass as merely a gathering of individuals in collective fond remembrance.

*Eucharist*, a book by Bishop Robert Barron being republished as a new and beautifully designed second edition by Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, seeks to clarify the strange and beautiful truth of what is made present on the altar, and what the faithful dare to receive into their bodies and souls.



Bishop Barron, auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles and founder of Word on Fire, proposes a threefold analysis of the Eucharist as sacred meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence — distinct but tightly

interwoven motifs grounded in Scripture.

He draws readers into the profound truth flowing out of Jesus's words at the Last Supper: "Take, eat; This is My Body." ... "Drink from it, all of you; for This is My Blood of the covenant."

Word on Fire's second edition of *Eucharist* includes a comprehensive bibliography, helpful index, and accessible notes, all encased in a handsome hardcover with dust jacket.

Catholics and Christians of all traditions will learn from this insightful cultural, historical, and philosophical analysis of Holy Communion.

[books.wordonfire.org/eucharist](http://books.wordonfire.org/eucharist)

## 'Connected: Catholic Social Teaching for This Generation' aimed at teens

Gives Christ-centered answers to questions about creation, the dignity of human life, racial reconciliation, poverty and more

In *Connected: Catholic Social Teaching for This Generation*, Catholic evangelists Father Josh Johnson and Mari Pablo present Jesus Christ's healing message as the antidote to all social division.

The co-hosts pull from Scripture, Catholic Church teaching, the lives of holy men and

women, and interviews with Catholic social justice leaders to cast a vision for human society steeped in both God's justice and His mercy.

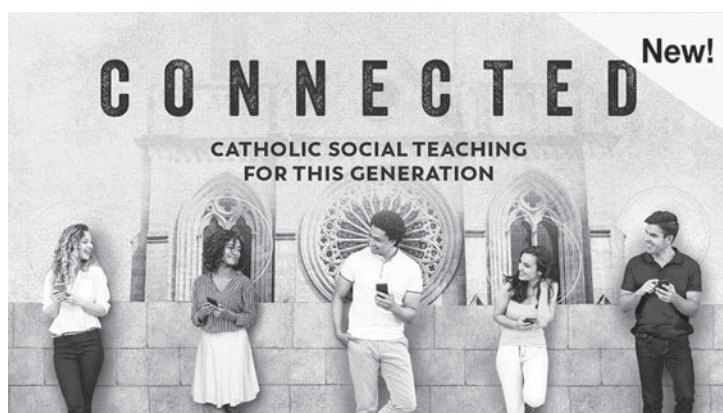
Fr. Johnson and Ms. Pablo are joined in their presentations by an incredible team

of evangelists and Catholic leaders including Chika Anyanwu, Bob Lesnfsky, Paul J. Kim, the Sisters of Life, and more.

*Connected* focuses on five different aspects of Catholic social teaching, each a challenging and complex topic close to the heart of many teens:

- God's Creation and Stewardship
- The Dignity of Human Life
- Solidarity, Race, and Responsibility
- Poverty and the Dignity of Work
- Family: The Foundation of Society.

"This program is meant to



### The Butcher Shop L.L.C.

Inspected, Custom Butchering and Processing  
Smoking & Curing  
We Sell Fresh & Frozen Meats,  
Whole, Half, or Quarter Beef,  
Whole or Half Pork



Located between Freeburg and Vienna on Highway 63

Jim & Debbie Dudenhoeffer  
Owners

**(573) 744-5888**

**YOU CALL US  
WE'LL WIRE YOU**

**STOKES  
ELECTRIC COMPANY**

226 MADISON  
JEFFERSON CITY

**636-2167**

## Movie Ratings



Luca (PG)

General  
Patronage



The Boss Baby: Family Business (PG)  
Space Jam: A New Legacy (PG)

Adults and  
Adolescents



Black Widow (PG-13)  
Escape Room: Tournament of Champions (PG-13)  
F9: The Fast Saga (PG-13)  
The Green Knight (R)  
Jungle Cruise (PG-13)  
Old (PG-13)  
Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins (PG-13)  
Stillwater (R)

Adults



Joe Bell (R)

Limited Adult  
Audience



The Forever Purge (R)  
Zola (R)

Morally  
Offensive

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for current reviews.

help us fulfill the desires of Jesus that He gave to us in the Gospels," said Fr. Johnson. "Namely, to love God and neighbor — especially in the poorest of the poor and the most vulnerable."

"Then, what the teens learn from the program can be shared with others," adds Ms. Pablo. "That will spark fruitful conversation, and through the guidance of the Holy Spirit they will use their own voices, go out, take action, and evangelize."

Young people are passion-

ate about making the world a better place. *Connected* shows teens that the Catholic Church can be a trustworthy leader in the social justice conversation, offering the clarity and truth they are craving.

### On air

**Mustard Seed  
Sunday Scripture readings  
and reflections**

Sundays, 10:06 am, KWIX-AM 1230, Moberly  
Sundays, 8 am, KRLL-AM 1420, California

**EWTN and other  
Catholic programming  
Covenant Radio Network  
broadcasts**

KHJR 88.1 FM, Jefferson City  
KBKC 90.1 FM, Moberly  
KEFL 91.5 FM, Kirksville  
94.7 FM, Columbia  
103.3 FM, Fulton  
K216GM 91.1 FM, Canton



## AQUINAS ACADEMY

From page 12

“We have been blessed with his continued presence on our staff after his ordination to the Priesthood,” said Mrs. Van Boening. “His presence has strengthened our ability to integrate our faith and the recognition that God is the source of all our gifts and talents.”

### Impressive qualifications

Preparations for Aquinas Academy begin months before the camp takes place.

Principals in each of the diocese’s 37 Catholic schools nominate students in December, based on standardized test scores and high academic performance.

In late January or early February, invitation letters are sent from the diocesan Catholic School Office to nominated students, who then choose whether or not to apply.

Students who apply must also submit two letters of reference, one from their principal and one from a teacher of their choice.

Applications are generally due in mid-March.

“Since we do not have the resources to accept all students who qualify, we employ a set of selection criteria,” said Mrs. Van Boening.

Each school in the diocese is allocated at least two spots in the camp, with factors such as current grade level and prior attendance influencing selection.

“In a typical year, over 200 invitations are extended and over 100 apply. Based upon available resources, about 95 are accepted each year,” said Mrs. Van Boening.

### Staying healthy

The lingering pandemic complicated preparations for this year’s Aquinas Academy.

“First and foremost was determining that we would be able to conduct the camp at full ca-

capacity,” said Mrs. Van Boening. “The next challenge was to ensure the safety of our students and staff while continuing to provide the opportunities that we typically offer.”

Organizers initiated several important protocols, including the wearing of facemasks indoors except in camper’s own dorm rooms; holding as many activities, including instruction time, outside; and having campers stay with the students in their class as much as possible.

“The response to these safety measures was very positive,” Mrs. Van Boening noted. “Despite the rise in the Delta variant, none of the campers had to be sent home because they were displaying symptoms.”

### Supporting success

Mrs. Van Boening knows of no other diocese that offers anything quite like Aquinas Academy.

After Mass at the end of the week, students are invited to share what they’ve learned during the week about their gifts and talents.

“The majority of the responses convey that they have learned that they can make friends easily, that a smile can make someone’s day, that they are a good listener, or that they should not be afraid to use their gifts and talents,” she said.

“They are able to be themselves in an environment that is safe and nurturing,” she added. “They are allowed to nurture their potential without worrying about what others will think.”

She remains on the lookout for good teachers to take part in this worthy enterprise.

“Although it’s a lot of work and responsibility, seeing the kids become more outgoing and confident during the week is evidence that it is a worthwhile and valuable experience,” she said.

## PROTECT

From page 3

workshop in the diocese wrote that the videos and discussions were helpful.

“I felt the entire workshop was eye-opening,” one participant stated, adding that the most helpful part was “insight into how abusers plan and exploit.”

“Very relevant,” another participant wrote, “as children of volunteers are often present” while their parents are volunteering.

Another said the most useful part of the workshop was “help in protecting our children’s future.”

“I really don’t deal with children, but the information is very helpful,” another stated.

### A door to grace

The “Protecting God’s Children” workshop helps adults

recognize inappropriate behavior whenever they see it, making them not just better parishioners but also better overall members of society.

The revelations can be difficult, even jarring, but are a necessary part of building up and strengthening a network of safety for children and young people.

Monsignor Marion Makarewicz, pastor of Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville and the Mission of St. Rose of Lima in Novinger, recently referred to the taking of these extra steps as a discipline and “a penitential practice that the Church has introduced to fight the evil of abuse.”

“We must develop the habits and dispositions of self-denial that create the best possible environment for our children to

grow and flourish, free from abuse and neglect,” Msgr. Makarewicz recently wrote to his parishioners. “It is central to a personal and social response to hearing the Gospel.”

Such penance and discipline presents an opening to grace, through which God helps people achieve good in the face of sin and evil, the priest wrote.

“No one can be exempt from the responsibility of caring for the safety and security of others,” he stated. “The Catholic Church is committed to protecting God’s children. As members of the Body of Christ, we, too, are called to embrace the wounds that sin has caused.”

### Well worth it

Bishop McKnight said the People of God can settle for nothing less than the safest

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, Aug 8

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kgs. 19:4-8  
Ps. 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Eph. 4:30-5:2  
Jn. 6:41-51

### Monday, Aug 9

*St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin and martyr*  
Dt. 10:12-22  
Ps. 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20  
Mt. 17:22-27

### Tuesday, Aug 10

St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr  
2 Cor. 9:6-10  
Ps. 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9  
Jn. 12:24-26

### Wednesday, Aug 11

St. Clare, virgin  
Dt. 34:1-12  
Ps. 66:1-3a, 5 and 8, 16-17  
Mt. 18:15-20

### Thursday, Aug 12

*St. Jane Frances de Chantal, religious*  
Jos. 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17  
Ps. 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Mt. 18:21-19:1

### Friday, Aug 13

*Ss. Pontian, pope, and Hippolytus, priest, martyrs*  
Jos. 24:1-13  
Ps. 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24  
Mt. 19:3-12

### Saturday, Aug 14

St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest and martyr  
Jos. 24:14-29  
Ps. 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11  
Mt. 19:13-15

### Sunday, Aug 15

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Rv. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab  
Ps. 45:10, 11, 12, 16  
1 Cor. 15:20-27  
Lk. 1:39-56

### Monday, Aug 16

*St. Stephen of Hungary*  
Jgs. 2:11-19  
Ps. 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44  
Mt. 19:16-22

### Tuesday, Aug 17

Jgs. 6:11-24a  
Ps. 85:9, 11-12, 13-14  
Mt. 19:23-30

### Wednesday, Aug 18

Jgs. 9:6-15  
Ps. 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
Mt. 20:1-16

### Thursday, Aug 19

*St. John Eudes, priest*  
Jgs. 11:29-39a  
Ps. 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10  
Mt. 22:1-14

### Friday, Aug 20

St. Bernard, abbot and doctor of the Church  
Ru. 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22  
Ps. 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10  
Mt. 22:34-40

### Saturday, Aug 21

St. Pius X, pope  
Ru. 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17  
Ps. 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5  
Mt. 23:1-12

### The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for August:

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Sponsored by

Expert Care Close to Home



**SSMHealth**  
St. Mary’s Hospital  
JEFFERSON CITY

environments for children and young people.

“Any sacrifice or inconvenience we as adults accept together is worth it,” he stated. “Jesus Himself identified with the least among us. In doing so, He held us to the absolute highest standard for youth protection.

“Only by knowing what to look for and speaking up when

we see the warning signs of abuse can we create a truly safe environment for our children and young people to thrive in and grow in their knowledge of Christ,” he said.

*The full text of the diocese’s updated Policy on the Protection of Children and Young People can be found online at: [diojeffcity.org/safe-environment](http://diojeffcity.org/safe-environment)*



# Annual Retired Religious Collection to be taken up Aug. 14-15

## Appeal assists elderly sisters, brothers, priests in religious orders

The Diocese of Jefferson City will take up the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection the weekend of Aug. 13-14.

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) coordinates this annual appeal and distributes the pro-

ceeds to assist eligible U.S. religious communities with their retirement needs.

Some 26,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests benefit.

Last year, the Diocese of Jefferson City donated \$129,446.73 to the collection.

“We are humbled and overwhelmed by the generosity of U.S. Catholics dur-



ing such difficult times,” said Presentation Sister Stephanie Still, the NRRO’s executive director.

The 2020 collection raised more than \$20 million, and in June of this year, the NRRO disbursed financial assistance to 321 religious communities across the country.

Throughout the year, ad-

ditional funding is allocated for resources and services that help communities improve eldercare delivery and plan for long-term retirement needs.

Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests served for little to no pay. Today, many religious communities lack suffi-

cient retirement savings.

Of 531 communities providing data to the NRRO, only 27 are adequately funded for retirement.

Rising healthcare costs and a growing number of senior members compound the challenge to meet retirement expenses.

The Catholic bishops of the United States initiated the Retirement Fund for Religious collection in 1988 to help address the deficit in retirement funding among U.S. religious congregations.

Each congregation is responsible for the care and support of its members.

Financial distributions from the collection are sent to a congregation’s central house and may be applied toward immediate expenses — such as medications or nursing care — or invested for future eldercare needs.

“We know the best way to support senior religious is to help their communities address retirement and eldercare challenges,” said Sr. Stephanie. “Our grateful prayer is with all whose love and generosity sustain this mission.”

Visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org) to learn more.

**Sacred Heart**  
**CHURCH PICNIC**

**THIS WEEKEND!** Sunday, August 8

**Rich Fountain**

**Golden Fried Chicken & German Pot Roast Dinners**  
From 11 am to 7 pm

**ALPINE EUROPE**  
*Featuring the Passion Play of Oberammergau*  
11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 12-22, 2022

HEIDELBERG • RHINE VALLEY • LUCERNE • INNSBRUCK • SALZBURG  
ALTÖTTING • MARKTL AM INN • MUNICH • ROTHENBURG

HOSTED BY  
**FR. MIKE QUINN**  
**\$4699 FROM ST. LOUIS\***  
\*Air/land tour price is \$4129 plus \$570 gov't taxes/airline surcharges

For more information, please contact:  
Fr. Mike Quinn at  
573-629-5490 or [frquinn4419@gmail.com](mailto:frquinn4419@gmail.com)

**SPACE IS LIMITED - SIGN UP TODAY!**

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE **HOLY LAND**

with Spiritual Director Fr. Anthony Rinaldo  
12 days: July 15-26, 2022  
Bethlehem - Jerusalem - Tiberias - Nazareth - Jericho - and more!  
\$3,914 round trip from St. Louis  
For more info, call Holy Land Travel Center  
402-507-7067

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH**  
**PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 15**  
11 am-7 pm  
**ST. THOMAS, MO**

**Fried Chicken & Gluten Free Roast Beef Dinners**  
**SERVED CAFETERIA STYLE**  
with real mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, corn, kraut, homemade bread & desserts  
credit cards accepted at dine-in only

**Drive-thru & carryouts also available**  
cash or checks only

**Adults \$14 • Kids 6-12 \$7 • Kids 5 & under free**

*5 pm Quilt Auction (view online @ [stthomasapostle.net](http://stthomasapostle.net))*  
*Refreshments - Sandwich Stand*  
*Kettle Corn - Country Store*  
*Prizes - AND MORE!*

Please follow responsible social distancing practices. Hand sanitizing stations available.

Find us online @ **CATHMO.COM**

Like Us On **facebook**

Diocese of Jefferson City